

For Release: Thursday, May 01, 2025

Contact: Virginia Works
Economic Information & Analytics Division
(804) 786-7496
LMI@viriniaworks.gov

Follow us on X (formerly Twitter): [@VirginiaLMI](https://twitter.com/VirginiaLMI).

Virginia's Latest Unemployment Insurance Weekly Initial Claims and Continued Claims Up Slightly

RICHMOND— Virginia Works announced today that 2,516 unemployment insurance weekly **initial claims** were filed during the week ending April 26, 2025, which is 5.5 percent higher than last week's 2,384 claims and 11.0 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (2,266). Nearly 82 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (61 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (467); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (247); Health Care and Social Assistance (185); Retail Trade (170); and Manufacturing (145).

Continued weeks claims (17,638) were 1.0 percent higher than last week (17,457) and were 13.7 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (15,518). Nearly 92 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (61 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (3,606); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (2,210); Health Care and Social Assistance (1,582); Retail Trade (1,415); and Manufacturing (1,158).

Significant Layoffs and Announcements are available at the following websites:

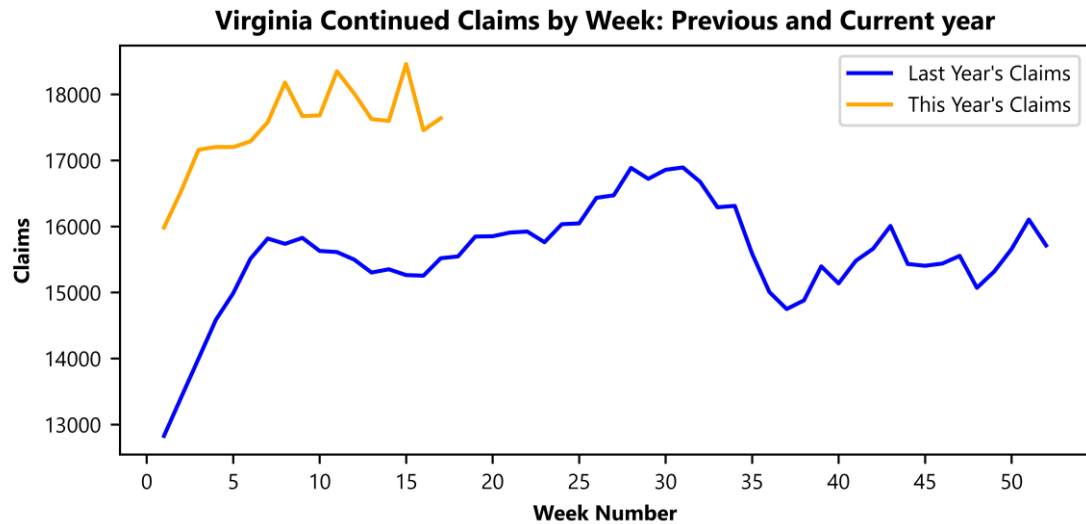
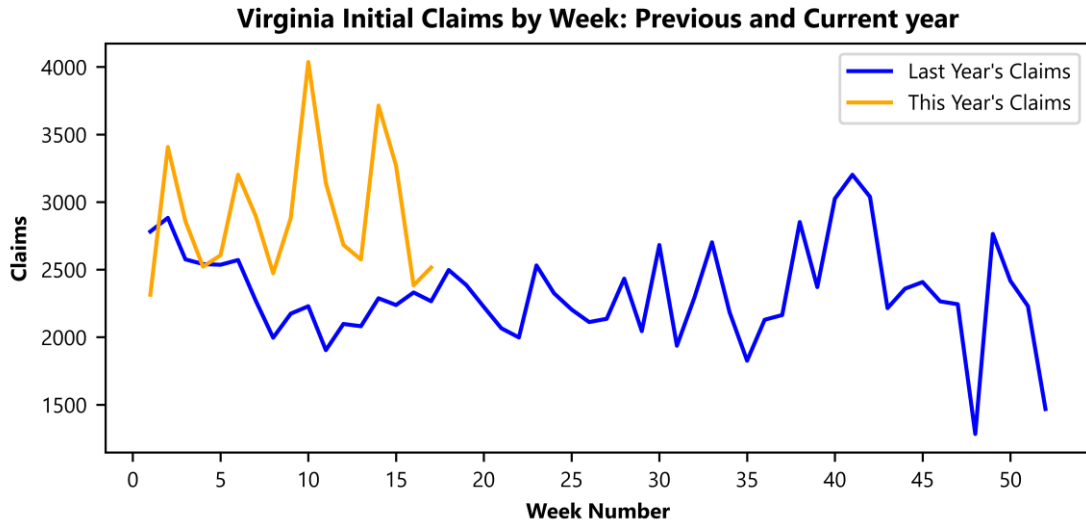
[WARN Notices | Virginia Works](#)

[Announcements | Virginia Economic Development Partnership](#)

(more)

Richmond, VA

| Initial Claims – Comparison of Unemployment Insurance Activity | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Week Ending 04/26/2025 | Week Ending 04/19/2025 | Week Ending 04/12/2025 | Last Year 04/27/2024 |
| Initial Claims | 2,516 | 2,384 | 3,270 | 2,266 |
| Initial Change (%) | +132 (+5.5%) | -886 (-27.1%) | -444 (-12.0%) | +250 (+11.0%) |
| Continued Claims | 17,638 | 17,457 | 18,459 | 15,518 |



Virginia Continued Weeks Claimed

A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment files a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment. On a weekly basis, continued claims reflect a good approximation of the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits, and are a good indicator of labor market conditions. While continued claims are not a leading indicator, they provide confirming evidence of the direction of the economy.

The color-coded map below shows the distribution of this week's continued claims in Virginia's counties and cities, expressed as a percentage of each locality's labor force. This approach provides a more meaningful comparison across areas by adjusting for differences in labor force size. Yellow represents a lower percentage of continued claims relative to the labor force, while progressively darker shades transitioning from yellow to green and dark green indicate higher percentages. The legend at the bottom shows the color spectrum and its corresponding percentage ranges.

