

Virginia Employment Commission

Ellen Marie Hess Commissioner 6606 West Broad Street Richmond, Virginia 23230

Post Office Box 26441 Richmond, Virginia 23261-6441

For Release: July 9, 2020

Contact: Timothy Aylor, Senior Economist

Economic Information & Analytics Division

(804) 486-2624 or (804) 486-2473

Follow us on Twitter, http://twitter.com/VirginiaLMI.

Virginia's Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims

— Seasonally unadjusted weekly initial unemployment insurance claims were essentially unchanged from the previous filing week as continued claims rose by 3.2% during that period—

RICHMOND—The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) announced that the total number of initial claims filed in the four months from mid-March through the July 4, 2020 filing week totaled 938,559, surpassing all initial claims filed from mid-September 2014 to mid-March of this year.

For the filing week ending July 4, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 31,825. The latest claims figure was a decrease of 130 claimants from the previous week. The weekly growth was flat from the previous week and well below the weekly peak in unemployment insurance claims reached during the April 4 filing week.

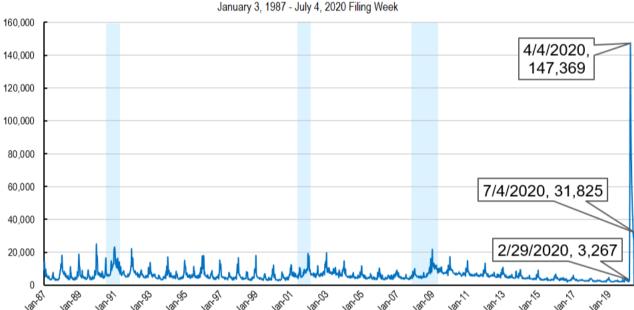
For the most recent filing week, continued weeks claimed totaled 378,607, up 11,893 from the previous week, and 359,637 higher than the 18,970 continued claims from the comparable week last year. The continued claims total is mainly comprised of those recent initial claimants who continued to file for unemployment insurance benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic. Continued claims during the July 4 filing week equaled 40% of all initial claims filed during the pandemic to this point. This percentage has leveled off in recent weeks.

(more)

Toll Free: 1 (866) 832-2363 VRC/TDD VA Relay 711 E-Mail: customerservice@vec.virginia.gov Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

For additional information on who is claiming unemployment insurance in Virginia, access the VEC's <u>U.I. claims data dashboard</u> (https://www.vec.virginia.gov/ui-claims-dashboard) that is updated no later than the following Monday after the weekly claims press release.

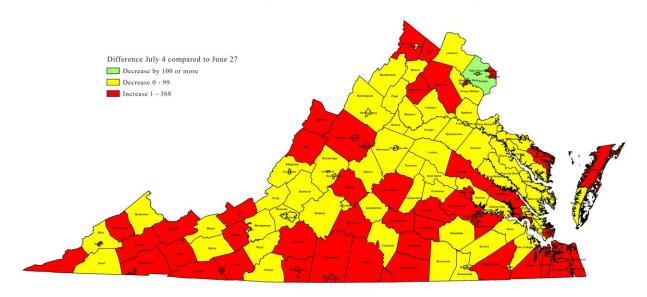
Virginia Weekly Initial Claims Activity



Source: The Virginia Employment Commission. Not seasonally adjusted. Shaded areas indicate economic recession.

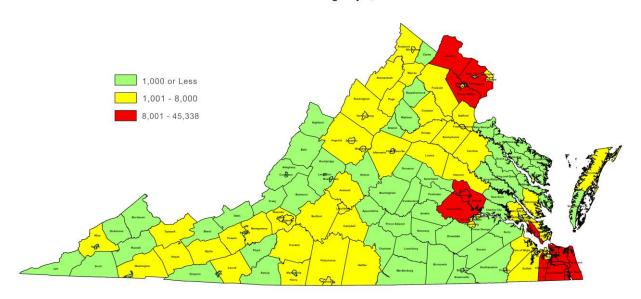
Nationwide, in the week ending July 4, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 1,314,000, a decrease of 99,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 14,000 from 1,427,000 to 1,413,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 1,399,699 in the week ending July 4, a decrease of 31,644 (or -2.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 231,995 initial claims in the comparable week in 2019. Most states reported decreases while five states reported weekly decreases greater than 10,000. These were in Indiana (-20,741), Florida (-17,300), Georgia (-13,895), Oklahoma (-10,843), and California (-10,239). Virginia's weekly change was the 13th largest increase among states.

Initial Unemployment Insurance Claimants by County and City Weeks Ending July 4, 2020 Over June 27, 2020 Change



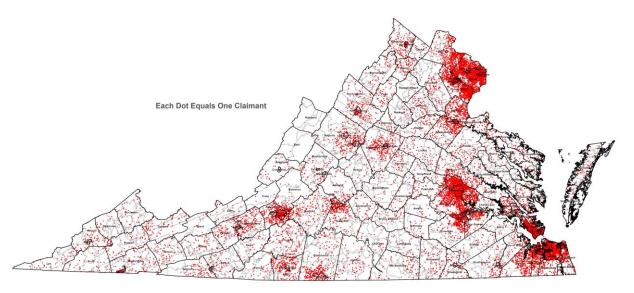
Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, July 2020

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claimants by County and City Week Ending July 4, 2020



Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, July 2020

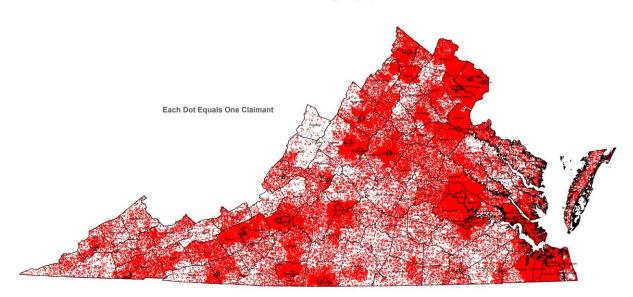
Initial Unemployment Insurance Claimants Week Ending July 4, 2020



Initial Unemployment Claims data were summed by zip code area. The dots do not show precise locations within the zip code area.

Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, July 2020

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claimants Week Ending July 4, 2020



Continued Unemployment Claims data were summed by zip code area. The dots do not show precise locations within the zip code area. Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, July 2020