



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Employment Commission

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Virginia's Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims

— Seasonally unadjusted weekly initial unemployment insurance claims fell 19.8% from the previous filing week while continued claims rose during that period—

RICHMOND—The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) announced that the number of initial claims filed during the February 20 filing week resumed its recent trend toward lower, pre-holiday season levels, according to figures released today.

For the filing week ending February 20, the figure for seasonally unadjusted initial claims in Virginia was 11,944. While still elevated compared to recent months' trends, the latest claims figure was a decrease of 2,957 claimants from the previous week. Elevated levels in recent weeks may have, in part, reflected reapplications for benefits following the government's renewal of supplemental benefits until March 14 as part of the latest stimulus package.

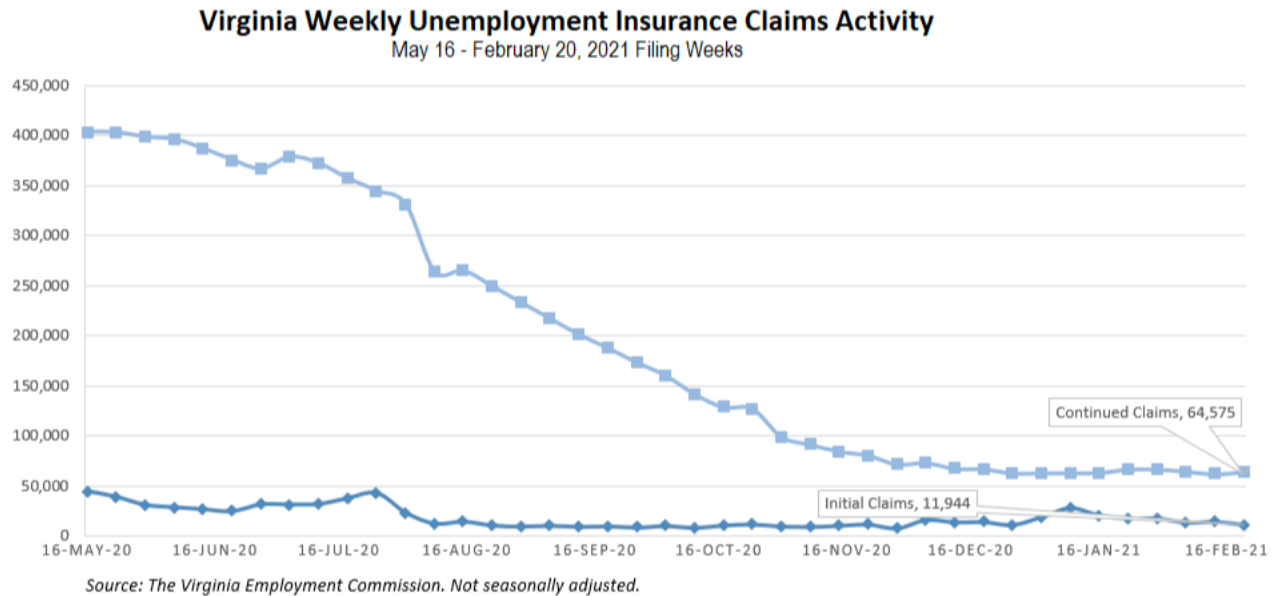
For the most recent filing week, continued weeks claimed totaled 64,575, which was a 3.1% increase from the previous week, and 42,082 higher than the 22,493 continued claims from the comparable week last year. Over half of claims that had a self-reported industry were in the accommodation/food service, administrative and waste services, retail trade, and healthcare/social assistance industries. 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.

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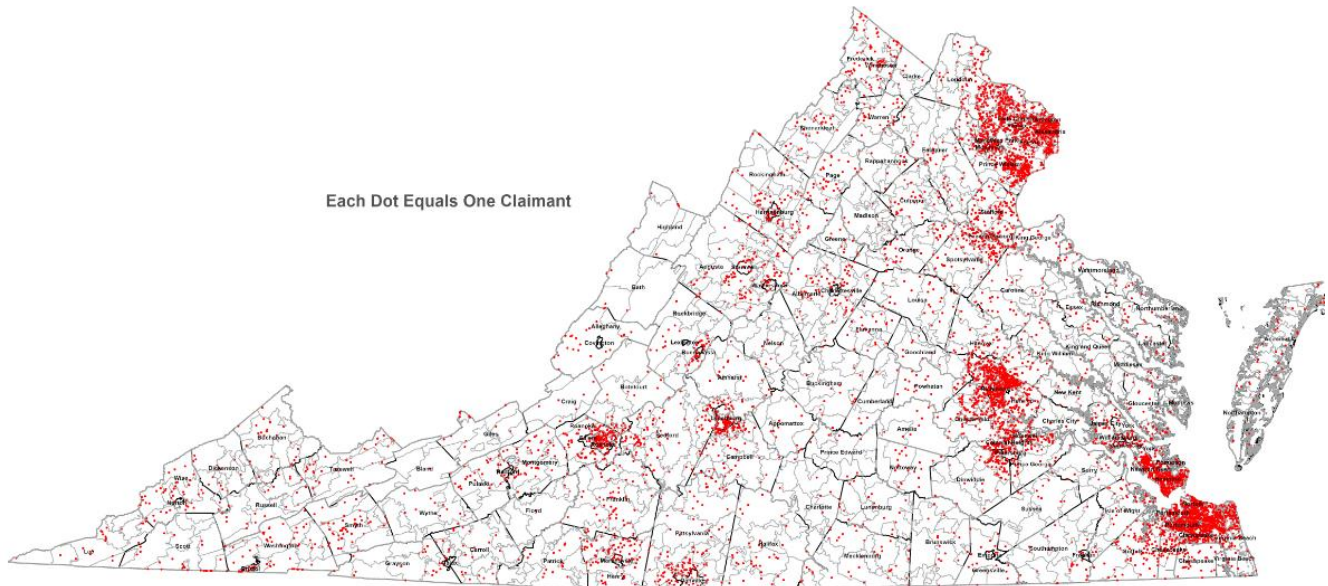
For additional information on who is claiming unemployment insurance in Virginia, access the VEC's [U.I. claims data dashboard](https://www.vec.virginia.gov/ui-claims-dashboard) (<https://www.vec.virginia.gov/ui-claims-dashboard>) that is updated no later than the following Monday after the weekly claims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



Nationwide, in the week ending February 13, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 730,000, a decrease of 111,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 20,000 from 861,000 to 841,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 710,313 in the week ending February 20, a decrease of 131,734 (or -15.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 199,278 initial claims in the comparable week in 2020. Looking at preliminary data, most states reported decreases on a seasonally unadjusted basis. California's preliminary weekly change (-50,130) was the largest decrease among states. Ohio's preliminary weekly change (-46,259) was the second largest decrease. New York's preliminary weekly change (-8,552) was the third largest decrease. Texas's preliminary weekly change (-7,433) was the fourth largest decrease. Virginia's preliminary weekly change (+406) was the tenth largest increase.

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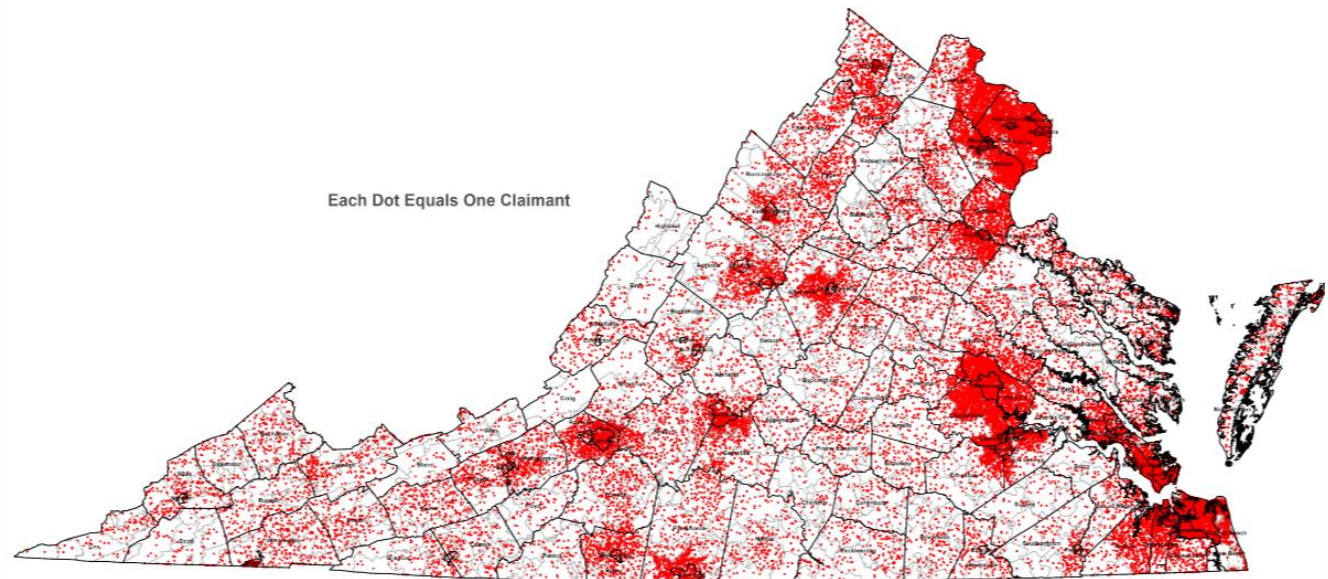
Initial Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Zip Code Area Week Ending February 20, 2021



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, February 2021

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Zip Code Area Week Ending February 20, 2021

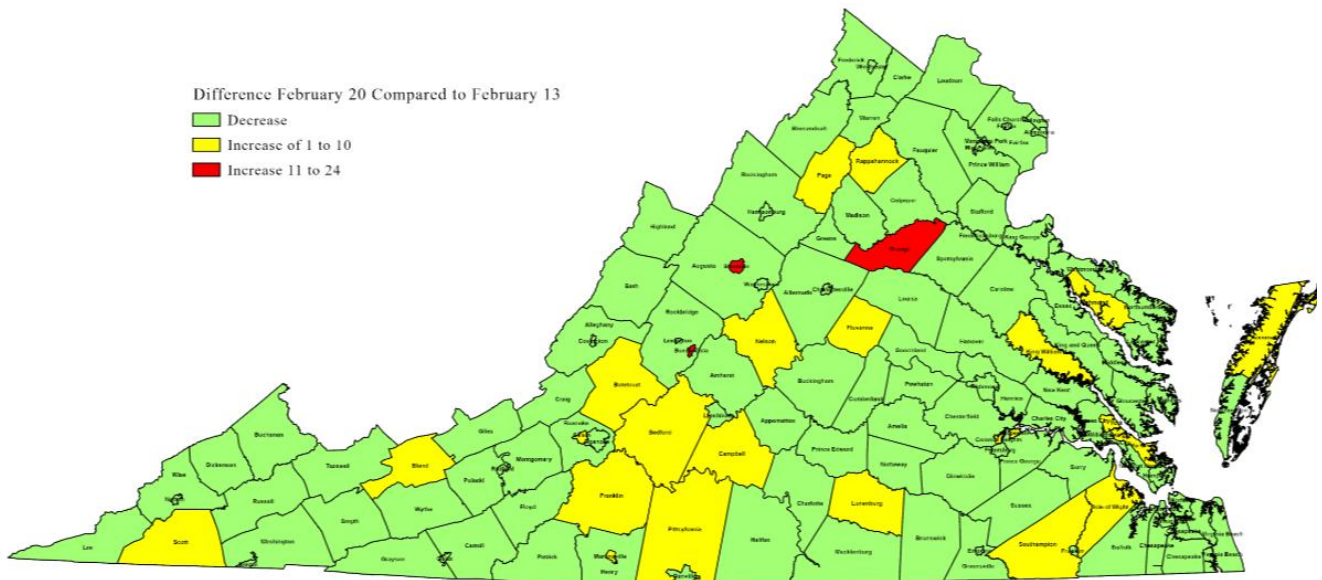


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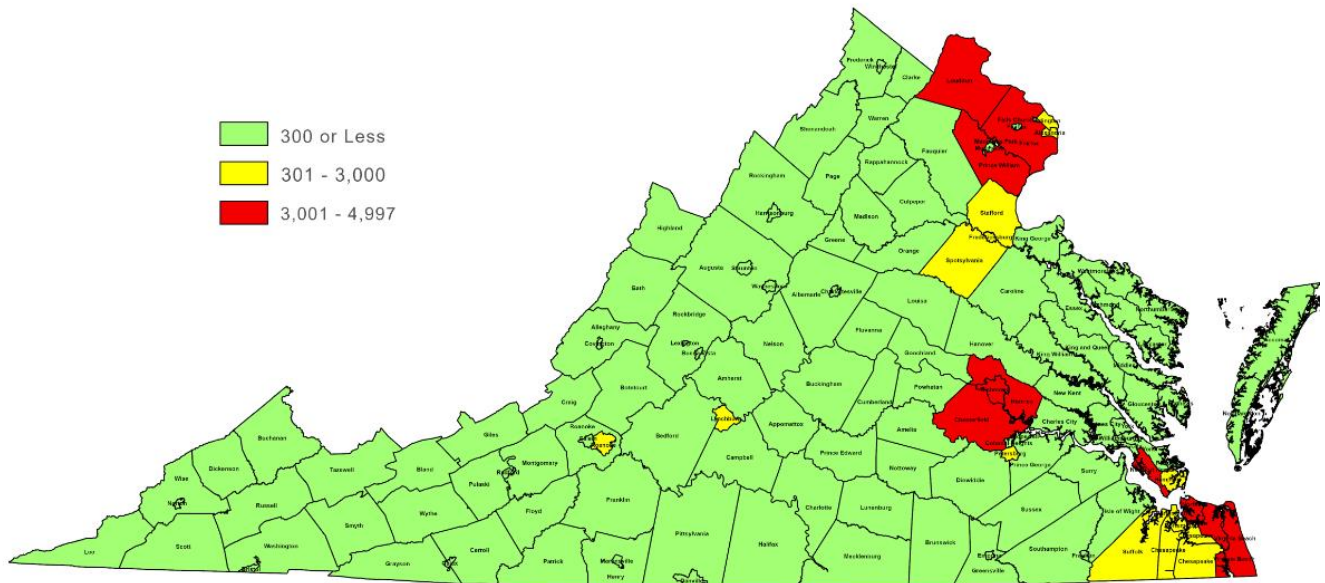
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Initial Unemployment Insurance Claimants by County and City Weeks Ending February 20, 2021 Over February 13, 2021 Change



Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, February 2021

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claimants by County and City Week Ending February 20 2021



Map produced by Virginia Employment Commission, Economic Information & Analytics Division, February 2021