



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Workforce Development and Advancement

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Virginia's Latest Unemployment Insurance Weekly Initial Claims at 2,224; Continued Claims at 15,851

RICHMOND— Virginia Works announced today that 2,224 unemployment insurance weekly **initial claims** were filed during the week ending May 18, 2024, which is 6.8 percent lower than last week's 2,386 claims and 10.0 percent lower than the comparable week of last year (2,470). Nearly 84 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (65 percent) were Accommodation and Food Services (329); Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (239); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (208); Retail Trade (164); and Health Care and Social Assistance (163).

Continued weeks claims (15,851) were essentially unchanged from last week (15,847) and were 24.5 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (12,736). Nearly 93 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (59 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (2,462); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (2,176); Health Care and Social Assistance (1,466); Retail Trade (1,336); and Manufacturing (1,326).

Significant Layoffs and Announcements are available at the following websites:

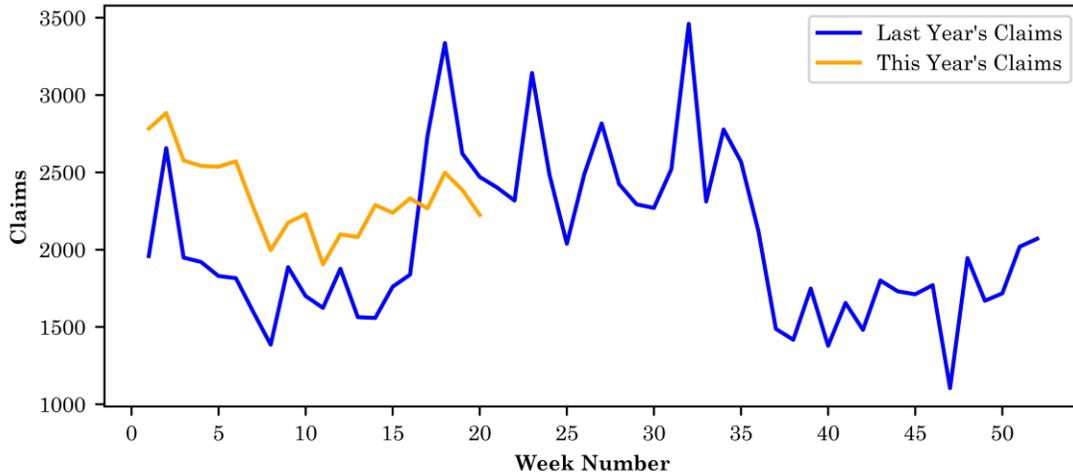
[WARN Notices | Virginia Employment Commission](#)

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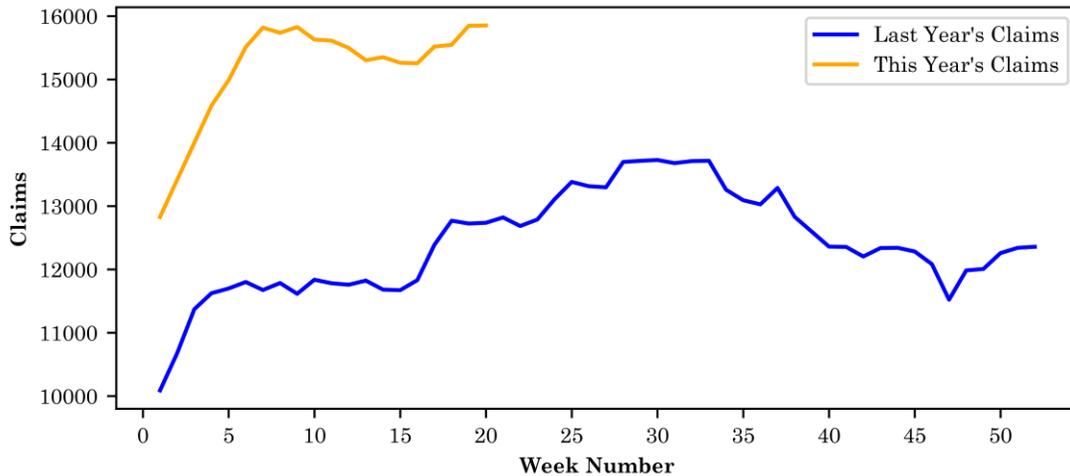
Initial Claims – Comparison of Unemployment Insurance Activity

	Week Ending 05/18/2024	Week Ending 05/11/2024	Week Ending 05/04/2024	Last Year 05/20/2023
Initial Claims	2,224	2,386	2,497	2,470
Initial Change (%)	-162 (-6.8%)	-111 (-4.4%)	+231 (+10.2%)	-246 (-10.0%)
Continued Claims	15,851	15,847	15,546	12,736

Virginia Initial Claims by Week: Previous and Current year



Virginia Continued Claims by Week: Previous and Current year



Initial Claims for All States

In the week ending May 18, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 215,000, a decrease of 8,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 222,000 to 223,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 192,017 in the week ending May 18, a decrease of 5,663 (or 2.9 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 1,114 (or 0.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 201,921 initial claims in the comparable week in 2023.

Initial State Claims (5 largest decreases) (Not Seasonally Adjusted)			
State	Initial Claims (this week)	Initial Claims (prior week)	Change
California	40,414	42,350	-1,936
Indiana	2,546	3,632	-1,086
Florida	6,436	7,224	-788
Georgia	4,230	4,947	-717
Ohio	5,116	5,694	-578

Initial State Claims (5 largest increases) (Not Seasonally Adjusted)			
State	Initial Claims (this week)	Initial Claims (prior week)	Change
Michigan	5,761	5,016	745
Texas	16,439	15,717	722
Iowa	1,850	1,525	325
Illinois	8,225	7,940	285
Missouri	2,893	2,619	274

All States Initial Weeks Claimed

An initial claim is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The count of U.S. initial claims for unemployment insurance is a leading economic indicator because it is an indication of emerging labor market conditions in the country.

Below is a color-coded map illustrating the percentage change in initial claims from last week to this week across all states nationwide, derived from the latest U.S Department of Labor Weekly Claims News Release (<https://www.dol.gov/ui/data.pdf>). Green denotes a reduction in continued claims from last week, thus showing improvement, with progressively darker shades of green signifying greater improvement. Purple denotes an increase in continued claims from last week, thus showing deterioration, with progressively darker shades of purple signifying greater deterioration. Very light green, purple or white indicates minimal change from last week. The legend at the bottom provides the color spectrum along with its corresponding percentage value.

