



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Workforce Development and Advancement

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Virginia's Latest Unemployment Insurance Weekly Initial Claims at 2,331; Continued Claims at 15,254

RICHMOND— Virginia Works announced today that 2,331 unemployment insurance weekly **initial claims** were filed during the week ending April 20, 2024, which is 4.2 percent higher than last week's 2,238 claims and 26.8 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (1,838). Nearly 84 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (60 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (293); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (248); Health Care and Social Assistance (237); Retail Trade (228); and Manufacturing (142).

Continued weeks claims (15,254) were 0.1 percent lower than last week (15,263) and were 28.9 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (11,830). Nearly 93 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (58 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (2,281); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (2,125); Health Care and Social Assistance (1,327); Manufacturing (1,313); and Retail Trade (1,229).

Significant Layoffs and Announcements are available at the following websites:

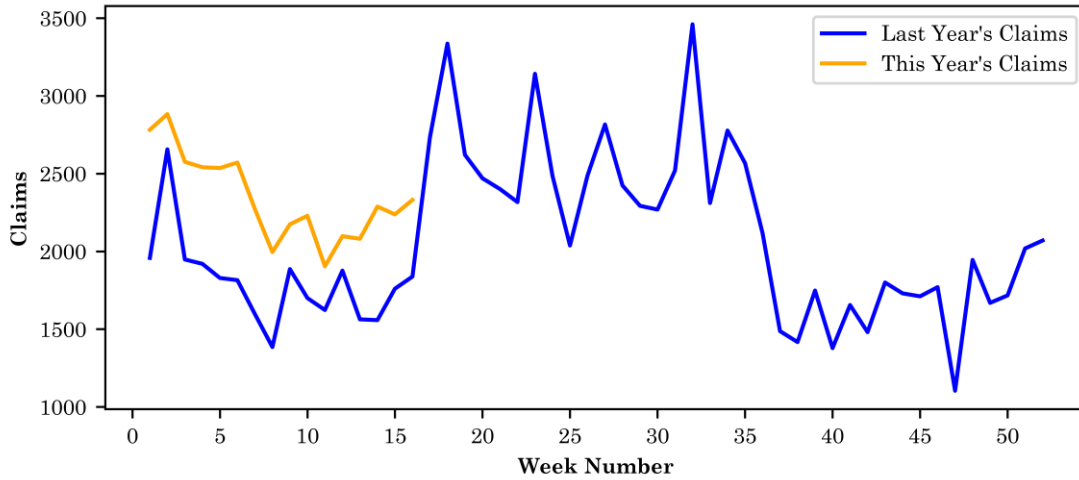
[WARN Notices | Virginia Employment Commission](#)

[Announcements | Virginia Economic Development Partnership](#)

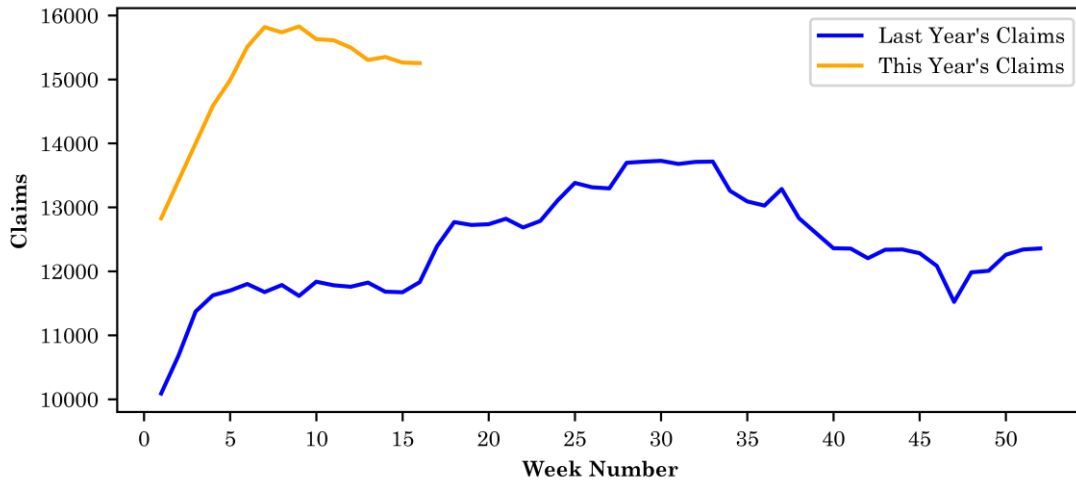
Initial Claims – Comparison of Unemployment Insurance Activity

	Week Ending 04/20/2024	Week Ending 04/13/2024	Week Ending 04/06/2024	Last Year 04/22/2023
Initial Claims	2,331	2,238	2,288	1,838
Initial Change (%)	+93 (+4.2%)	-50 (-2.2%)	+207 (+9.9%)	+493 (+26.8%)
Continued Claims	15,254	15,263	15,351	11,830

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 April 20, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 207,000, a decrease of 5,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 212,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 201,619 in the week ending April 20, a decrease of 7,363 (or 3.5 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 2,549 (or 1.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 203,233 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
New York	12,920	17,094	-4,174
Pennsylvania	8,794	11,590	-2,796
Oregon	5,457	6,801	-1,344
Georgia	4,570	5,867	-1,297
New Jersey	8,567	9,586	-1,019

Initial State Claims (5 largest increases) (Not Seasonally Adjusted)			
State	Initial Claims (this week)	Initial Claims (prior week)	Change
Massachusetts	8,103	4,538	3,565
Rhode Island	2,462	743	1,719
California	45,693	44,811	882
Colorado	3,310	2,803	507
Texas	15,436	15,075	361

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.

