

**For Release:** Thursday, January 09, 2025

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## Virginia's Latest Unemployment Insurance Weekly Initial Claims at 2,314; Continued Claims at 15,983

**RICHMOND**— Virginia Works announced today that 2,314 unemployment insurance weekly **initial claims** were filed during the week ending January 04, 2025, which is 57.6 percent higher than last week's 1,468 claims and 16.8 percent lower than the comparable week of last year (2,782). Nearly 81 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (58 percent) were Administrative and Support and Waste Management (224); Construction (217); Accommodation and Food Services (207); Manufacturing (192); and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (188).

**Continued weeks claims** (15,983) were 1.7 percent higher than last week (15,712) and were 24.6 percent higher than the comparable week of last year (12,827). Nearly 92 percent of claimants self-reported an associated industry; of those reported, the top five industries (57 percent) were Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (2,332); Administrative and Support and Waste Management (2,030); Manufacturing (1,447); Health Care and Social Assistance (1,369); and Retail Trade (1,159).

**Significant Layoffs and Announcements are available at the following websites:**

[WARN Notices | Virginia Employment Commission](#)

[Announcements | Virginia Economic Development Partnership](#)

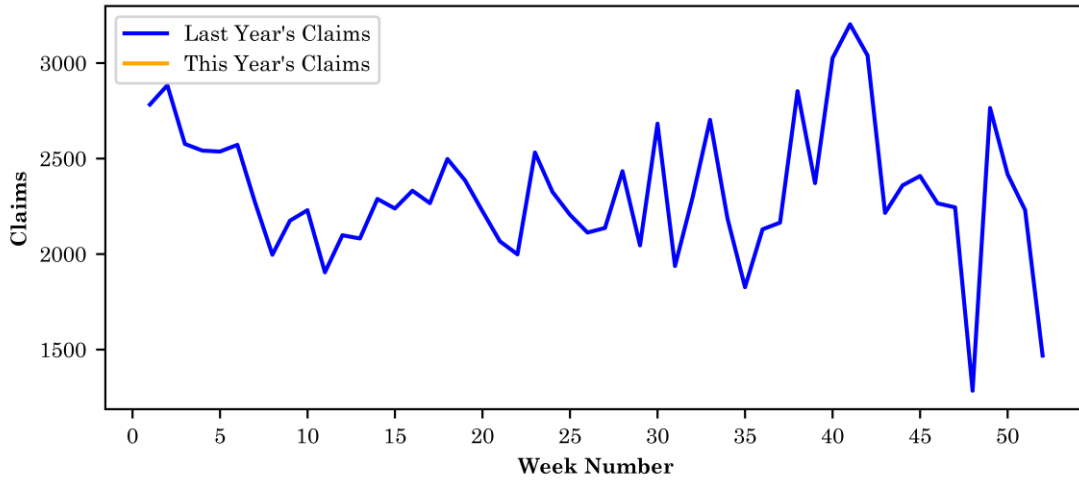
(more)

**Richmond, VA**

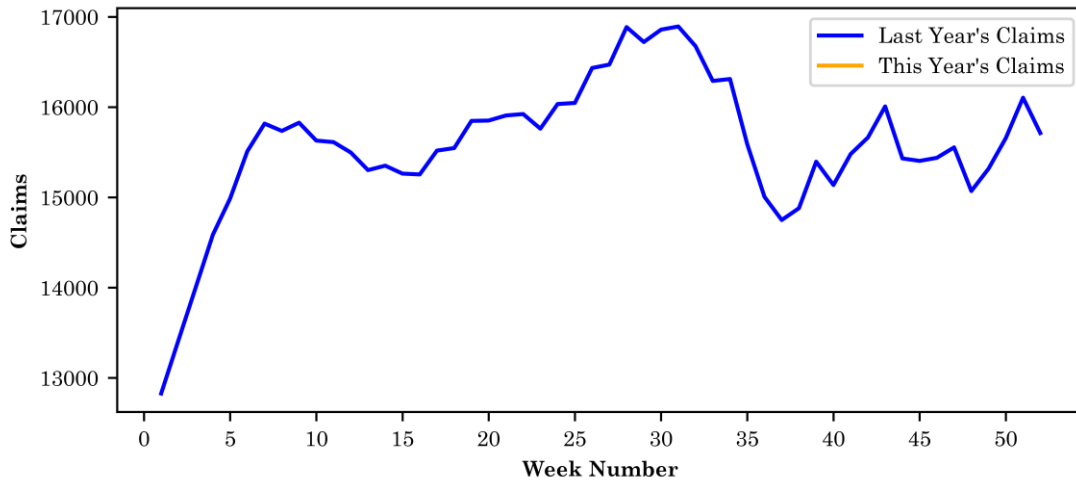
**Initial Claims – Comparison of Unemployment Insurance Activity**

	Week Ending 01/04/2025	Week Ending 12/28/2024	Week Ending 12/21/2024	Last Year 01/06/2024
Initial Claims	2,314	1,468	2,230	2,782
Initial Change (%)	+846 (+57.6%)	-762 (-34.2%)	-187 (-7.7%)	-468 (-16.8%)
Continued Claims	15,983	15,712	16,104	12,827

**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 January 4, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 201,000, a decrease of 10,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 211,000. The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 304,741 in the week ending January 4, an increase of 21,253 (or 7.5 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 35,647 (or 12.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 318,906 initial claims in the comparable week in 2024.

<b>Initial State Claims (5 largest decreases)</b> (Not Seasonally Adjusted)			
State	Initial Claims (this week)	Initial Claims (prior week)	Change
Michigan	12,280	19,420	-7,140
New Jersey	15,579	20,576	-4,997
Massachusetts	9,978	14,274	-4,296
Connecticut	5,478	9,135	-3,657
Illinois	13,341	16,722	-3,381

<b>Initial State Claims (5 largest increases)</b> (Not Seasonally Adjusted)			
State	Initial Claims (this week)	Initial Claims (prior week)	Change
New York	37,495	15,065	22,430
Georgia	11,812	4,372	7,440
Texas	12,575	6,987	5,588
Oregon	9,471	6,265	3,206
South Carolina	4,896	2,216	2,680

## 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.

