

Virginia Unemployment Claims Data Demographics

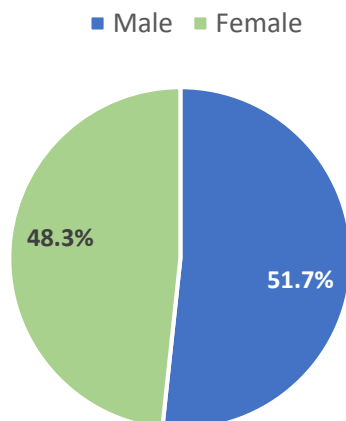
Week Ending August 8, 2020

Prepared by EIA/VEC

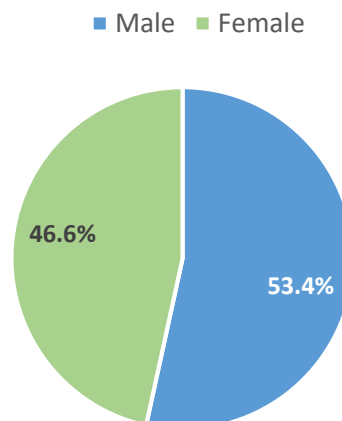
The week of August 2nd – 8th marks the 21st week since the COVID-19 crisis began in the Commonwealth. This week there were 13,265 initial unemployment benefit claims, down 44.5% compared to the week prior. Initial claims decreased for the second consecutive week. That is the first time we have seen back-to-back weeks of decreasing claims since the weeks ending 6/13 and 6/20. The following analysis was completed using intrastate and interstate claims data, but not agent claims¹, therefore, the totals below will not match the state totals when aggregated.

Of the individuals who filed an initial claim this week, 51.7% identified as male and 48.3% identified as female. According to a survey from the BLS, 53.0% of Virginia's workforce is male while 47.0% is female. Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, the gender breakdown of initial claims more closely resembled the BLS estimates of the Commonwealth's workforce. However, after the crisis began, we saw female workers make up more than half of the initial claims for the first 14 weeks. During these first 14 weeks female claimants accounted for 56.2% of all initial claims. Contrarily, in the weeks following, male claimants have made up the majority of initial claims, accounting for 53.8% of all initial claims in the last 7 weeks. This leads us to believe that in the beginning of the crisis female workers were disproportionately affected by the crisis, but in recent weeks the effects have begun to equalize.

8/2 - 8/8 Claims by Gender



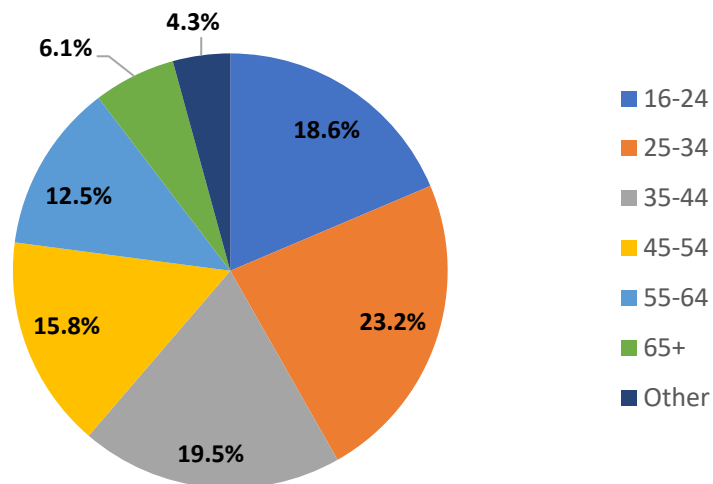
7/26 - 8/1 Claims by Gender



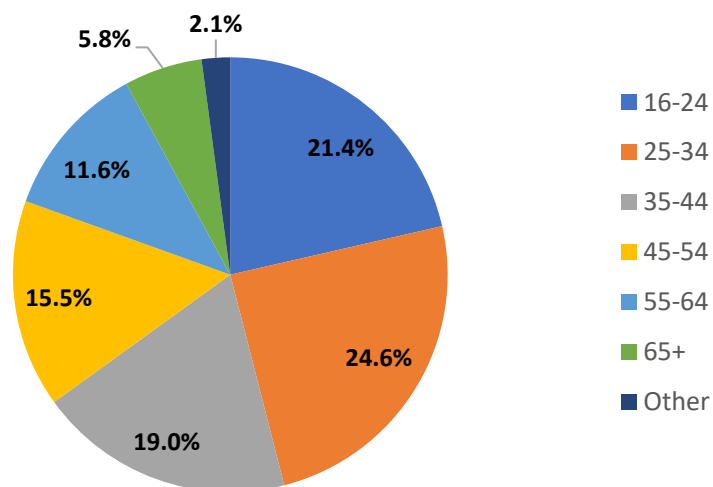
¹ When a participant is enrolled, they might receive benefits from a different location than that which is providing them with assistance. Those intermediary claims are considered agent claims.

Grouping initial claimants into age cohorts is another way to analyze initial claimant data. This allows us to see the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on different segments of the workforce. This week workers in the first cohort, ages 16-24, filed 18.6% of all initial claims, a 2.8 percentage point decrease from the week prior. Additionally, 23.2% of claims were filed by workers in the next cohort, ages 25-34, a 1.4 percentage point decrease from the previous week. Since the week ending March 21st, 45.5% of all initial claims have been filed by younger workers in the first two cohorts, ages 16-34. By contrast, in the same time period 34.6% of initial claims were filed by older workers in the next two cohorts, ages 35-54. According to a BLS survey, younger workers, ages 16-34, make up approximately 33.8% of Virginia's workforce and older workers, ages 35-54, make up 41.0%. This large discrepancy between the BLS estimates and the initial claims breakdown lead us to believe that the COVID-19 crisis has impacted younger workers more heavily than older workers.

8/2 - 8/8 Claims by Age



7/26 - 8/1 Claims by Age



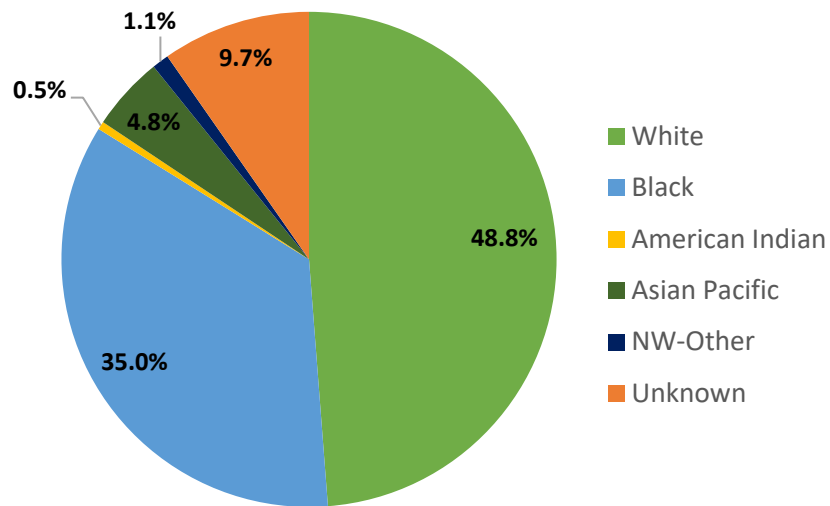
The occupation code of workers filing an initial claim is another important metric we should look at. This gives us a general idea of the types of jobs that workers are being laid off from. Looking at the two-digit classifications, a few occupations saw large changes in their share of initial claims compared to the week prior. *Personal Care and Service Occupations* (39-0000) and *Sales and Related Occupations* (41-0000) both saw a large decrease in their share of initial claims, down 3.0 and 1.9 percentage points respectively. *Management Occupations* (11-0000) and *Office and Administrative Support Occupations* (43-0000) saw the largest increases in their share of initial claims, rising 1.4 and 1.2 percentage points respectively. All of the 23 two-digit classifications saw a decrease in the total number of initial claims filed compared to the previous week. This tells us that the decrease in claims wasn't confined to one section of the economy, but spread throughout different occupations. Please note that the SOC codes are self-reported. To learn more about SOC codes or classifications visit <https://www.onetonline.org/>.

SOC Code	Number of Claims	Change from the previous week	Percentage of Initial Claims
11-0000	968	-510	7.84%
13-0000	370	-155	3.00%
15-0000	371	-66	3.01%
17-0000	195	-123	1.58%
19-0000	86	-41	0.70%
21-0000	142	-80	1.15%
23-0000	49	-21	0.40%
25-0000	312	-188	2.53%
27-0000	352	-410	2.85%
29-0000	376	-273	3.05%
31-0000	399	-262	3.23%
33-0000	173	-89	1.40%
35-0000	869	-852	7.04%
37-0000	604	-870	4.89%
39-0000	804	-1,394	6.51%
41-0000	1,092	-1,390	8.85%
43-0000	1,297	-842	10.51%
45-0000	50	-78	0.41%
47-0000	718	-961	5.82%
49-0000	412	-413	3.34%
51-0000	657	-492	5.32%
53-0000	875	-827	7.09%
55-0000	11	-4	0.09%
Unknown	1,161	-398	9.41%

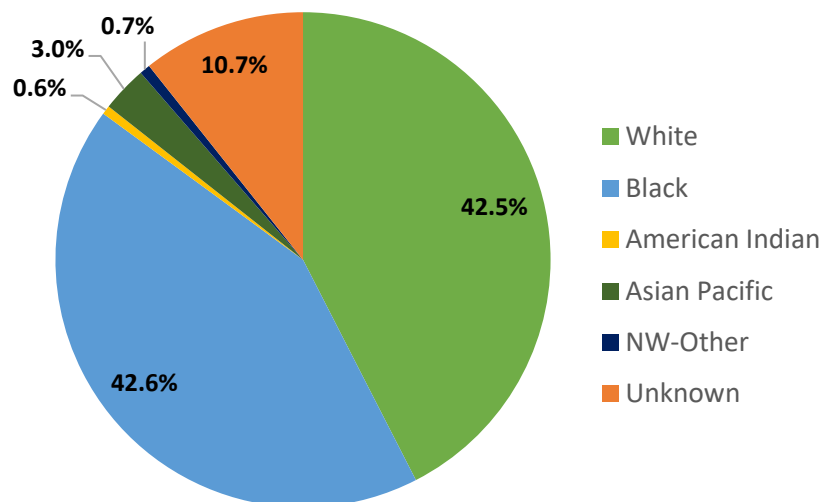
**This sample includes intrastate and interstate claims data, but not agent claims, totals will not equal reported state totals when aggregated.

Another important metric to analyze is the race of initial claimants. Over the last week, 48.8% of initial claimants identified as white, a 5.3 percentage point increase compared to the week prior. Additionally, 35.0% of initial claimants identified as black, a 7.6 percentage point difference from the previous week. Since the beginning of the crisis in the week ending March 21st, 50.3% of initial claimants have identified as white and 31.5% have identified as black.

8/2 - 8/8 Claims by Race

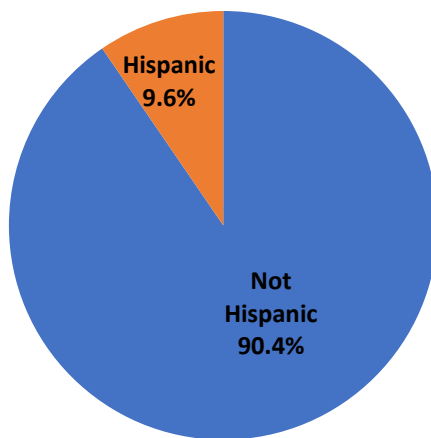


7/26 - 8/1 Claims by Race

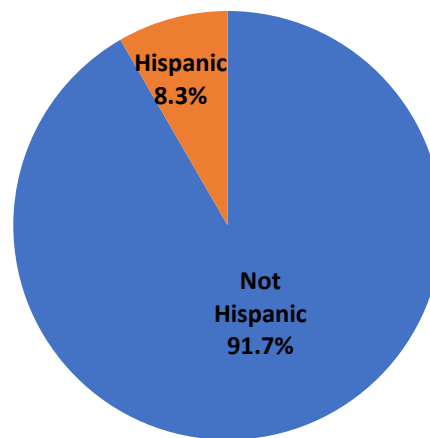


The ethnicity of initial claimants is yet another factor that's important to explore. According to the Census Bureau, approximately 9.6% of Virginians identify as either Hispanic or Latino. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, 9.3% of initial claimants have self-identified as Hispanic or Latino including 9.6% of claimants this week. The 9.6% of claimants identifying as Hispanic or Latino is 1.3 percentage points higher than in the previous week. Please note that the percentages above are calculated only from claimants who report their ethnicity and may be subject to revisions in the future.

8/2 - 8/8 Claims by Ethnicity



7/26 - 8/1 Claims by Ethnicity



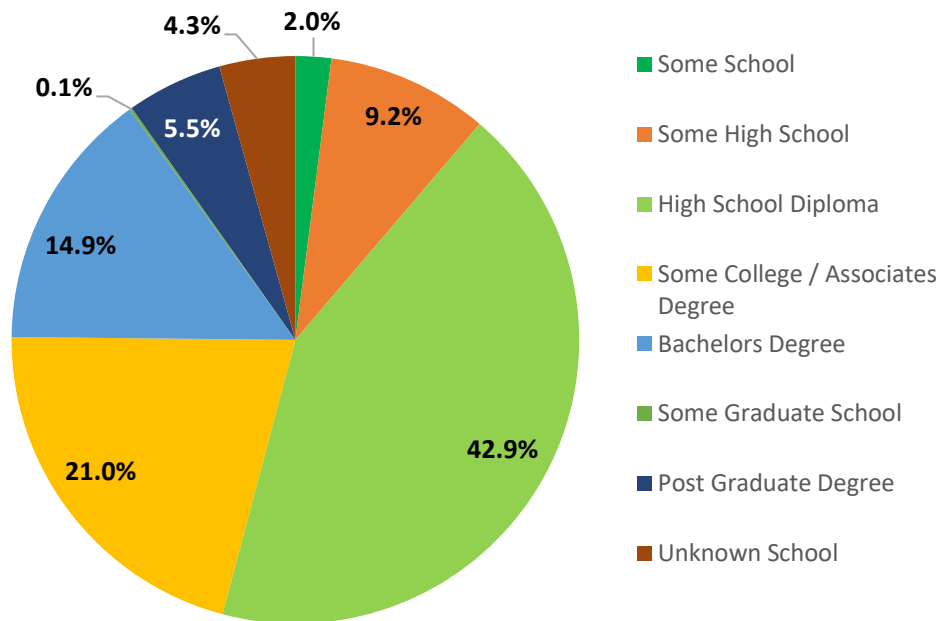
The citizenship status of initial claimants is also an important metric to look into. According to an American Community Survey report, approximately 94.2% of Virginians are citizens, either through birth or naturalization, and 5.8% are non-citizens. Throughout the crisis 7.2% of all initial claimants have indicated that they are non-citizens. The share of initial claimants identifying as non-citizens peaked in the week ending April 18th, making up 9.5% of all initial claimants that week. This week, 6.4% of initial claimants identified as being non-citizens, a 2.9 percentage point increase from the previous week.

Citizenship Status	Number of Claims	Change from the previous week	Percentage of Initial Claims	Percentage of Population (ACS)
Citizen	11,548	-10,731	93.56%	94.23%
Non-citizen	795	-8	6.44%	5.77%

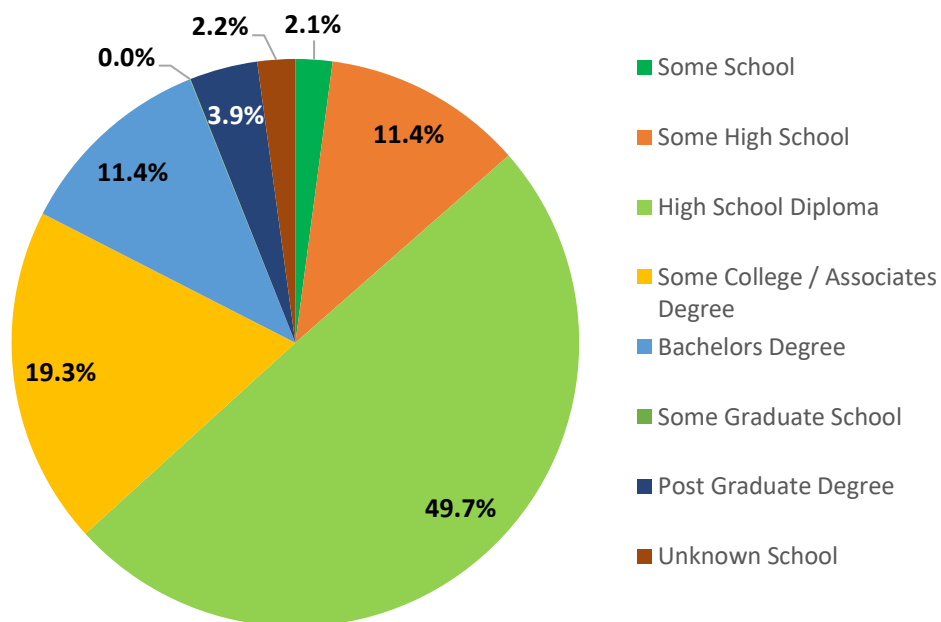
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The initial claimant's highest level of education attained is another useful data point to explore. This week, 42.9% of initial claimants reported having a high school diploma, 6.8 percentage points lower than in the previous week. The share of claimants who reported having some college experience or an associate's degree was 1.7 percentage points higher than the week prior and the share who reported having a bachelor's degree was 3.5 percentage points higher. Furthermore, the share of claimants who reported having a postgraduate degree, generally a master's degree or a doctorate, increased 1.6 percentage points to 5.5%.

8/2 - 8/8 Claims by Education Level



7/26 - 8/1 Claims by Education Level



Finally, we need to look at the counties and independent cities where individuals are filing initial claims. Looking strictly at the number of claims this week, Fairfax County had the most filings with 1,141 initial claims. Virginia Beach City and Richmond City followed with 626 and 574 initial claims respectively. Highland County and Lexington City were the only two localities this week with zero initial claims filed. This week 127 of the 133 localities in the Commonwealth saw either no change or a decrease in the number of claims filed compared to the previous week. Norfolk City saw the largest decrease in claims with 990 fewer claims compared to the week prior. Only six localities saw an increase in initial claims.

Although the total number of claims is important, it does not provide us with enough detail about the extent to which each locality has been affected by the COVID-19 crisis. Instead we should look at the total number of claims as a percentage of the labor force in that area. This helps account for differences in population sizes between localities and gives us a better comparison of the effects felt in each area. By this metric, Petersburg City once again saw the largest effect with 1.1% of its labor force filing for an initial claim. Greenville City and Norton City followed with 1.0% and 0.7% of their respective labor forces filing a claim.

County/City	Number of Claims	Change from the previous week	Percentage of Initial Claims	Claims as a percentage of labor force
Accomack County	31	-35	0.25%	0.19%
Albemarle County	72	-29	0.58%	0.12%
Alexandria City	211	-140	1.71%	0.20%
Alleghany County	9	1	0.07%	0.13%
Amelia County	9	-9	0.07%	0.14%
Amherst County	21	-40	0.17%	0.14%
Appomattox County	13	-12	0.11%	0.18%
Arlington County	235	-128	1.90%	0.15%
Augusta County	45	-33	0.36%	0.12%
Bath County	3	-3	0.02%	0.12%
Bedford County	59	-61	0.48%	0.15%
Bland County	7	1	0.06%	0.25%
Botetourt County	31	-5	0.25%	0.18%
Bristol City	28	-5	0.23%	0.38%
Brunswick County	22	-21	0.18%	0.36%
Buchanan County	22	-17	0.18%	0.32%
Buckingham County	8	-14	0.06%	0.12%
Buena Vista City	9	-5	0.07%	0.24%
Campbell County	46	-17	0.37%	0.18%
Caroline County	41	-20	0.33%	0.26%
Carroll County	35	-52	0.28%	0.26%
Charles City County	5	-9	0.04%	0.13%
Charlotte County	15	-8	0.12%	0.28%

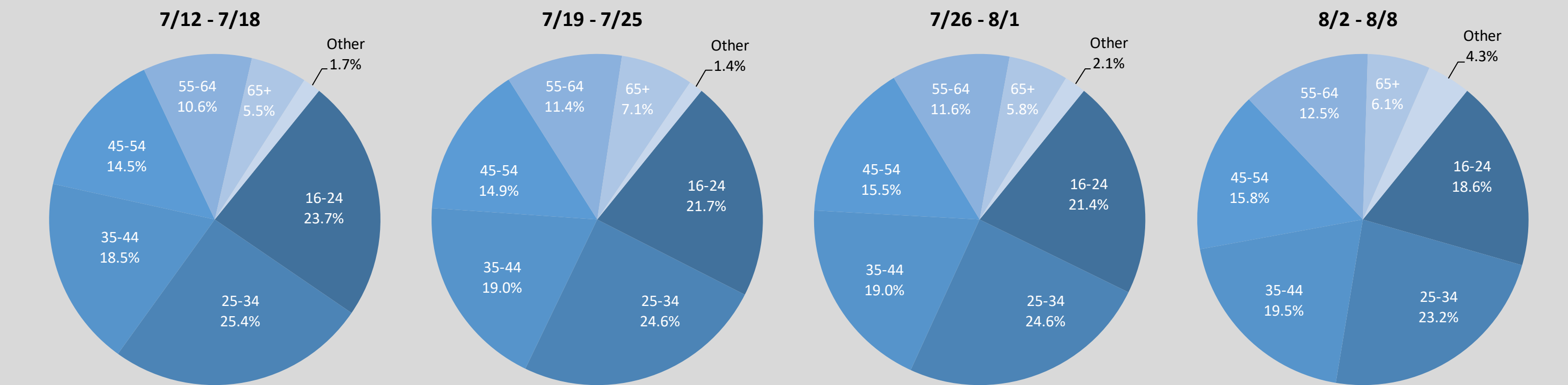
Charlottesville City	57	-74	0.46%	0.21%
Chesapeake City	285	-508	2.31%	0.23%
Chesterfield County	356	-295	2.88%	0.19%
Clarke County	10	-7	0.08%	0.13%
Colonial Heights City	45	-31	0.36%	0.50%
Covington City	14	0	0.11%	0.57%
Craig County	4	-7	0.03%	0.17%
Culpeper County	48	-29	0.39%	0.19%
Cumberland County	7	-3	0.06%	0.15%
Danville City	118	-152	0.96%	0.61%
Dickenson County	12	-4	0.10%	0.25%
Dinwiddie County	13	-27	0.11%	0.09%
Emporia City	6	-11	0.05%	0.26%
Essex County	10	-2	0.08%	0.18%
Fairfax City	12	-3	0.10%	0.09%
Fairfax County	1,141	-696	9.24%	0.18%
Falls Church City	15	-10	0.12%	0.17%
Fauquier County	48	-26	0.39%	0.13%
Floyd County	10	-17	0.08%	0.12%
Fluvanna County	17	-11	0.14%	0.12%
Franklin City	22	-38	0.18%	0.61%
Franklin County	50	-32	0.41%	0.19%
Frederick County	57	-26	0.46%	0.12%
Fredericksburg City	53	-58	0.43%	0.37%
Galax City	5	-3	0.04%	0.17%
Giles County	17	-12	0.14%	0.22%
Gloucester County	39	-33	0.32%	0.20%
Goochland County	11	-10	0.09%	0.10%
Grayson County	9	-16	0.07%	0.11%
Greene County	11	-11	0.09%	0.10%
Greensville County	43	-20	0.35%	1.00%
Halifax County	38	-47	0.31%	0.24%
Hampton City	256	-314	2.07%	0.39%
Hanover County	76	-54	0.62%	0.13%
Harrisonburg City	52	-36	0.42%	0.20%
Henrico County	384	-288	3.11%	0.21%
Henry County	118	-85	0.96%	0.49%
Highland County	0	-2	0.00%	0.00%
Hopewell City	46	-109	0.37%	0.46%
Isle of Wight County	48	-24	0.39%	0.25%
James City County	86	-53	0.70%	0.23%
King and Queen County	9	3	0.07%	0.23%
King George County	21	-4	0.17%	0.15%
King William County	20	11	0.16%	0.21%

Lancaster County	8	-18	0.06%	0.14%
Lee County	18	-12	0.15%	0.22%
Lexington City	0	-2	0.00%	0.00%
Loudoun County	311	-182	2.52%	0.14%
Louisa County	17	-29	0.14%	0.08%
Lunenburg County	14	-1	0.11%	0.26%
Lynchburg City	134	-109	1.09%	0.37%
Madison County	11	-1	0.09%	0.15%
Manassas City	60	-12	0.49%	0.27%
Manassas Park City	1	-2	0.01%	0.01%
Martinsville City	18	0	0.15%	0.32%
Mathews County	9	0	0.07%	0.22%
Mecklenburg County	28	-50	0.23%	0.23%
Middlesex County	10	-1	0.08%	0.19%
Montgomery County	70	-41	0.57%	0.14%
Nelson County	14	-12	0.11%	0.19%
New Kent County	26	-15	0.21%	0.21%
Newport News City	327	-463	2.65%	0.38%
Norfolk City	467	-990	3.78%	0.43%
Northampton County	12	-19	0.10%	0.23%
Northumberland County	11	-37	0.09%	0.21%
Norton City	11	1	0.09%	0.68%
Nottoway County	15	-21	0.12%	0.21%
Orange County	37	-5	0.30%	0.22%
Page County	32	-12	0.26%	0.28%
Patrick County	21	-1	0.17%	0.31%
Petersburg City	137	-204	1.11%	1.09%
Pittsylvania County	51	-31	0.41%	0.18%
Poquoson City	7	-6	0.06%	0.11%
Portsmouth City	236	-544	1.91%	0.55%
Powhatan County	14	-20	0.11%	0.10%
Prince Edward County	24	-44	0.19%	0.24%
Prince George County	43	-31	0.35%	0.29%
Prince William County	490	-405	3.97%	0.20%
Pulaski County	42	-19	0.34%	0.28%
Radford City	35	-6	0.28%	0.43%
Rappahannock County	3	-9	0.02%	0.08%
Richmond City	574	-753	4.65%	0.49%
Richmond County	11	-18	0.09%	0.28%
Roanoke City	215	-205	1.74%	0.45%
Roanoke County	97	-66	0.79%	0.20%
Rockbridge County	24	-14	0.19%	0.23%
Rockingham County	38	-26	0.31%	0.09%
Russell County	24	-26	0.19%	0.22%

Salem City	62	2	0.50%	0.49%
Scott County	16	-7	0.13%	0.18%
Shenandoah County	36	-23	0.29%	0.16%
Smyth County	31	-25	0.25%	0.23%
Southampton County	20	-12	0.16%	0.23%
Spotsylvania County	114	-119	0.92%	0.17%
Stafford County	170	-79	1.38%	0.24%
Staunton City	53	-7	0.43%	0.44%
Suffolk City	150	-194	1.22%	0.35%
Surry County	2	-13	0.02%	0.06%
Sussex County	12	-25	0.10%	0.32%
Tazewell County	54	-24	0.44%	0.36%
Virginia Beach City	626	-787	5.07%	0.27%
Warren County	43	-26	0.35%	0.21%
Washington County	66	-9	0.53%	0.25%
Waynesboro City	42	-40	0.34%	0.40%
Westmoreland County	26	-23	0.21%	0.28%
Williamsburg City	3	-10	0.02%	0.05%
Winchester City	34	-24	0.28%	0.23%
Wise County	63	-16	0.51%	0.50%
Wythe County	46	-4	0.37%	0.35%
York County	38	-20	0.31%	0.12%
Other	2,213	-35	17.93%	N/A

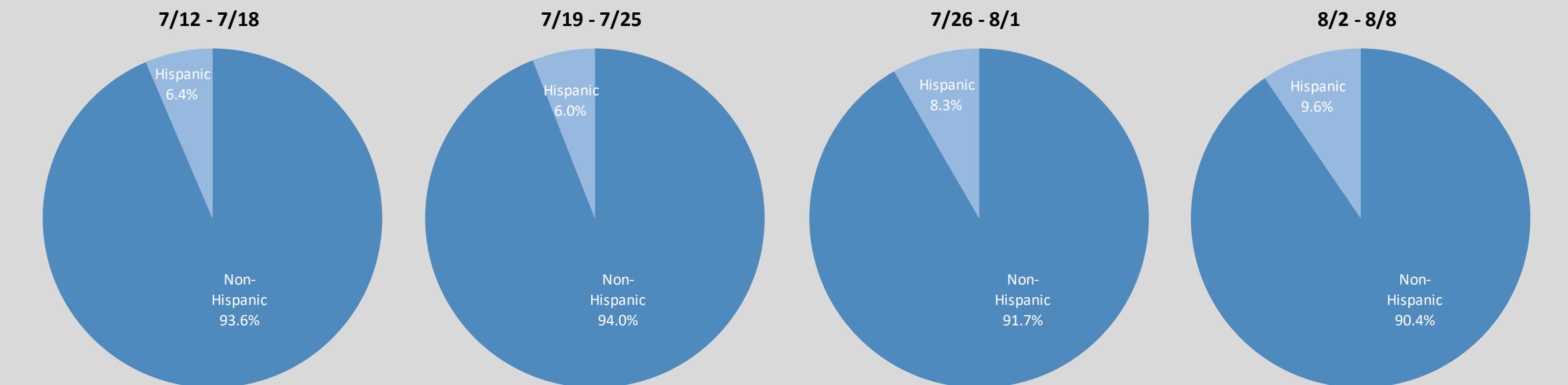
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Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Age



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

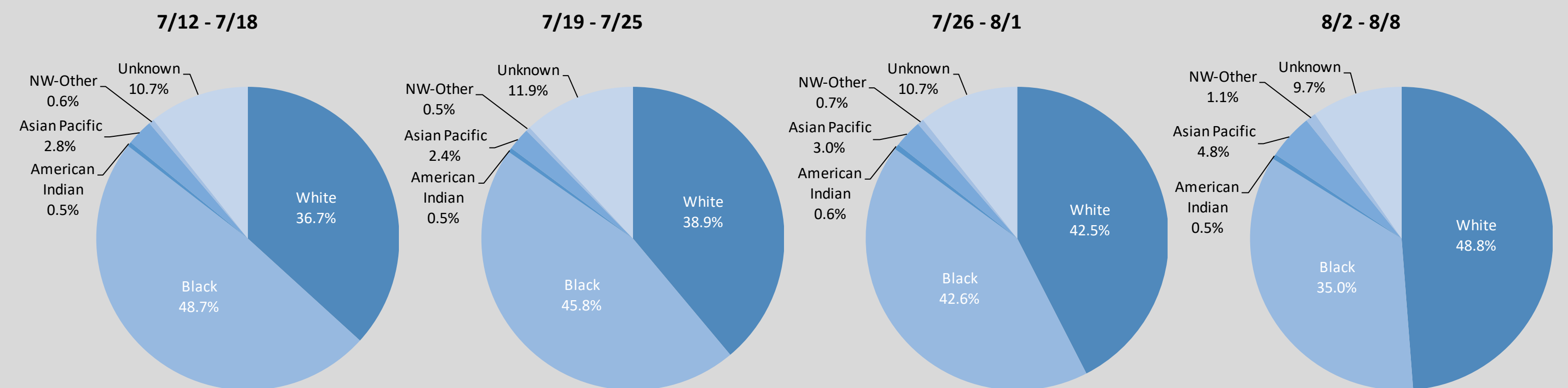
Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Ethnicity Composition



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

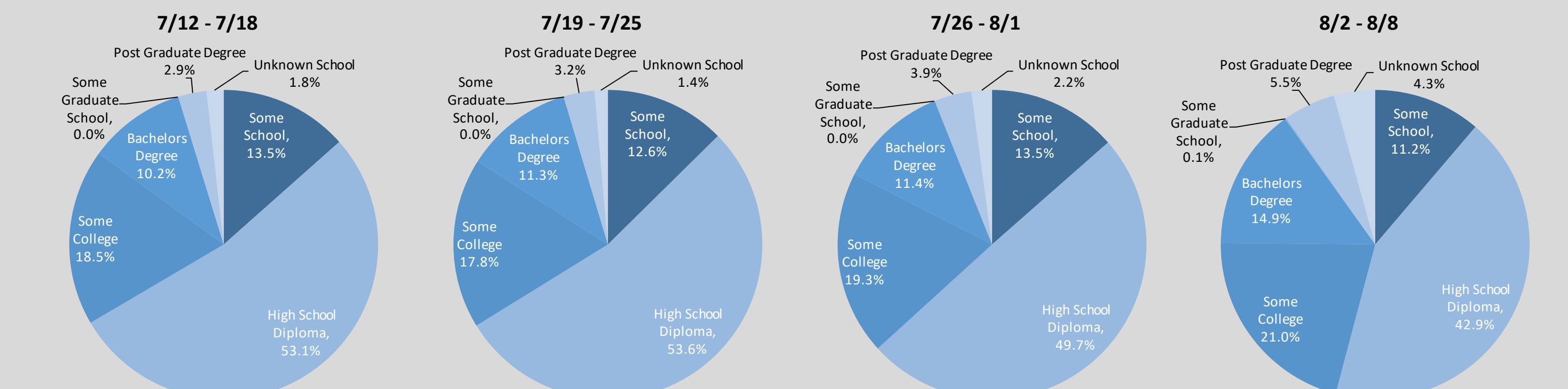
*Data self reported and subject to revision

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Race Composition



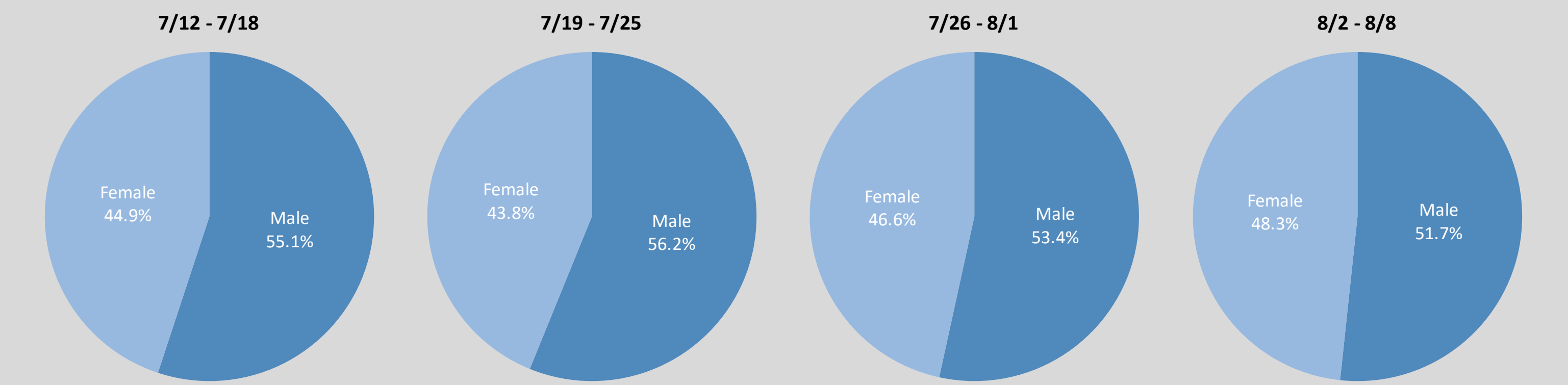
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Education Level



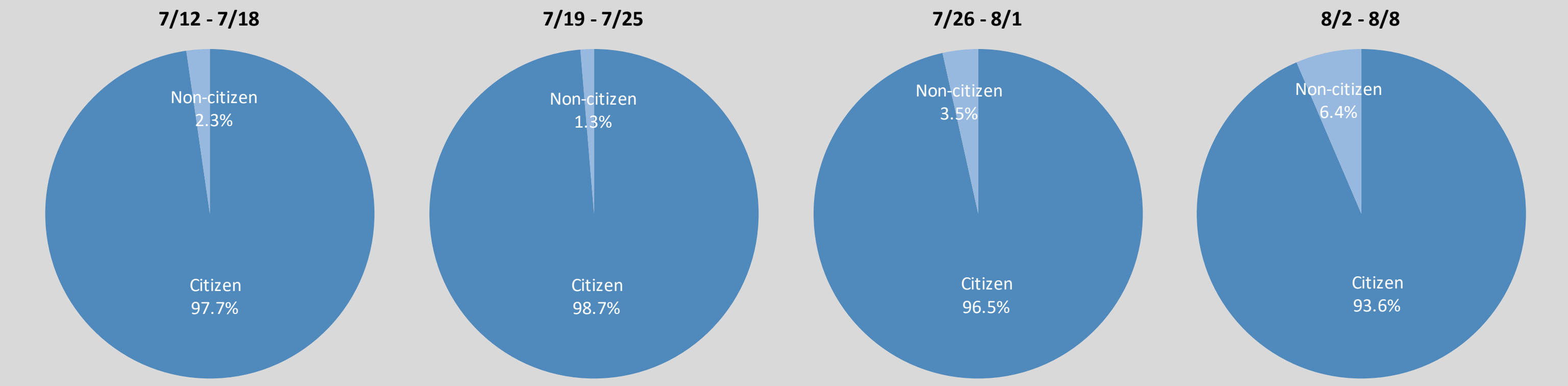
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Gender Composition



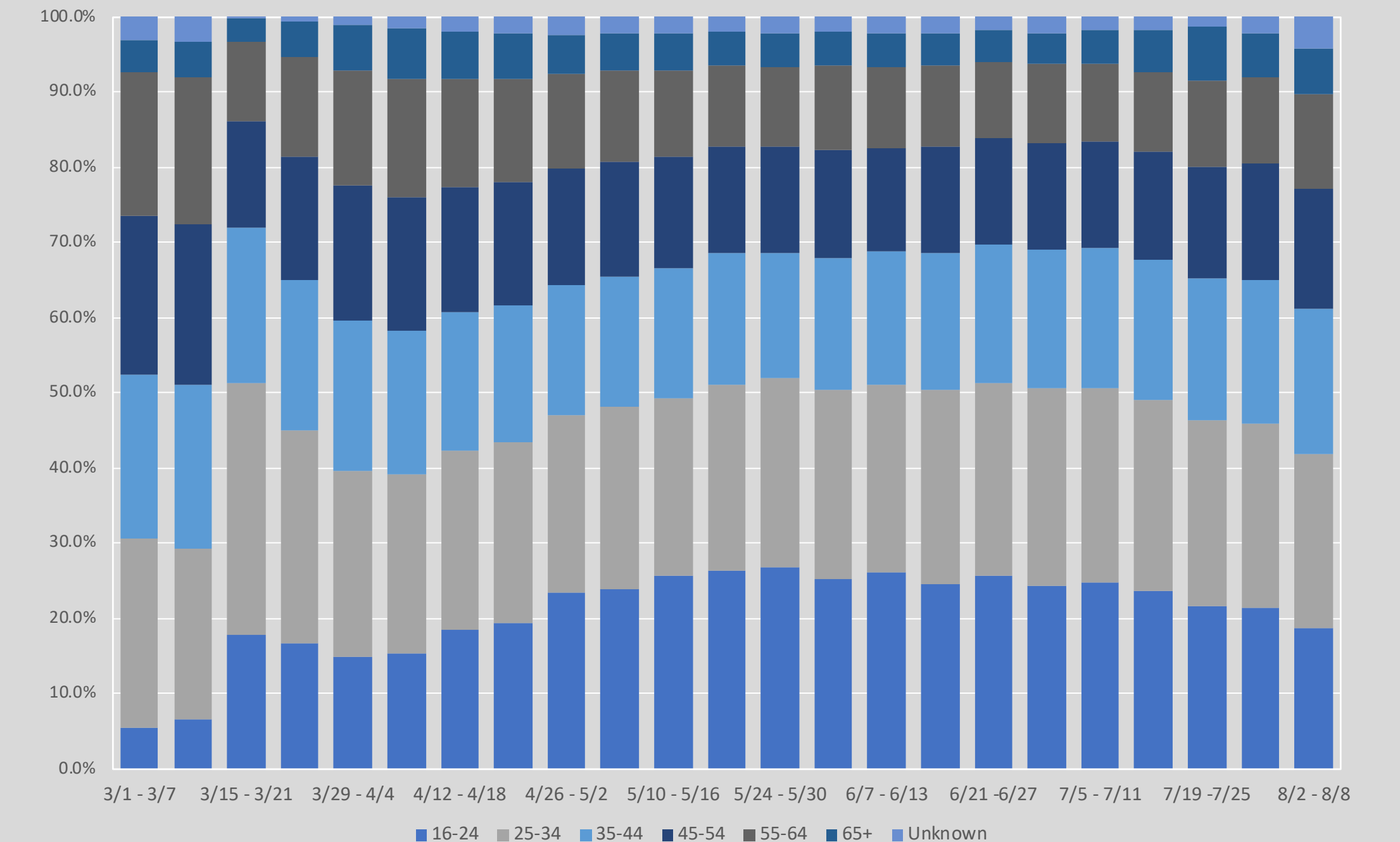
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Citizenship Status



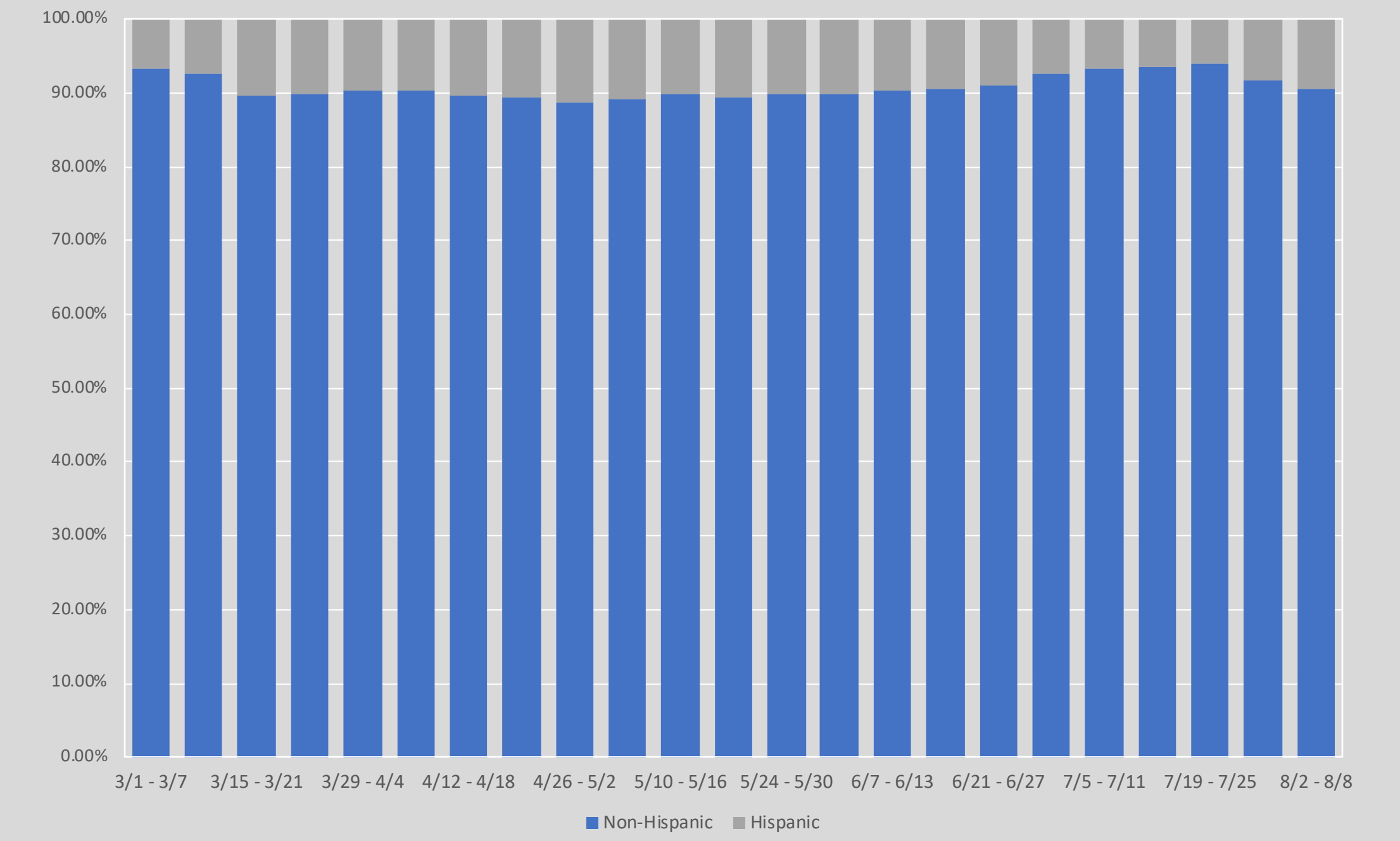
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Age



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

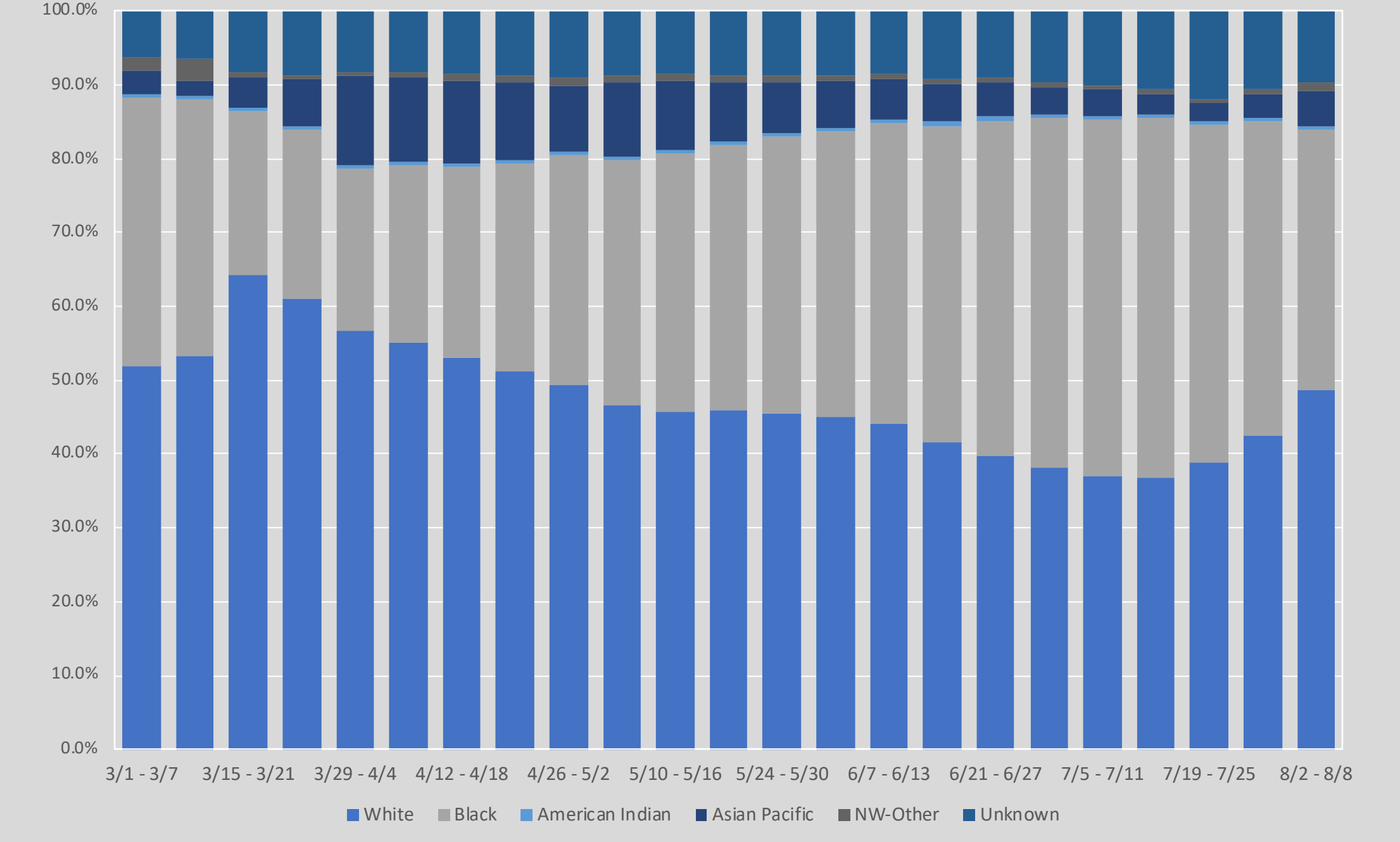
Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Ethnicity Composition



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

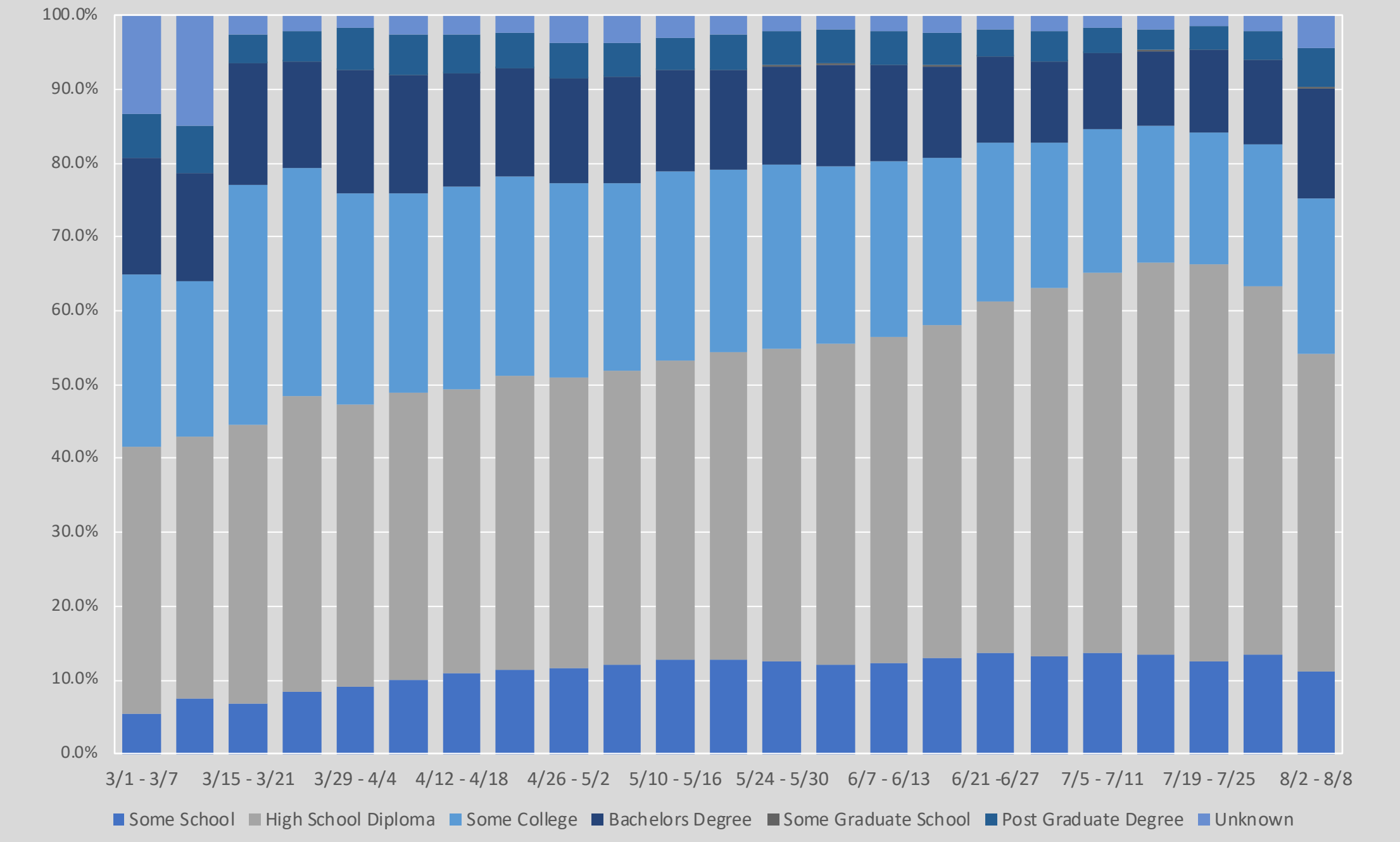
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Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Race Composition



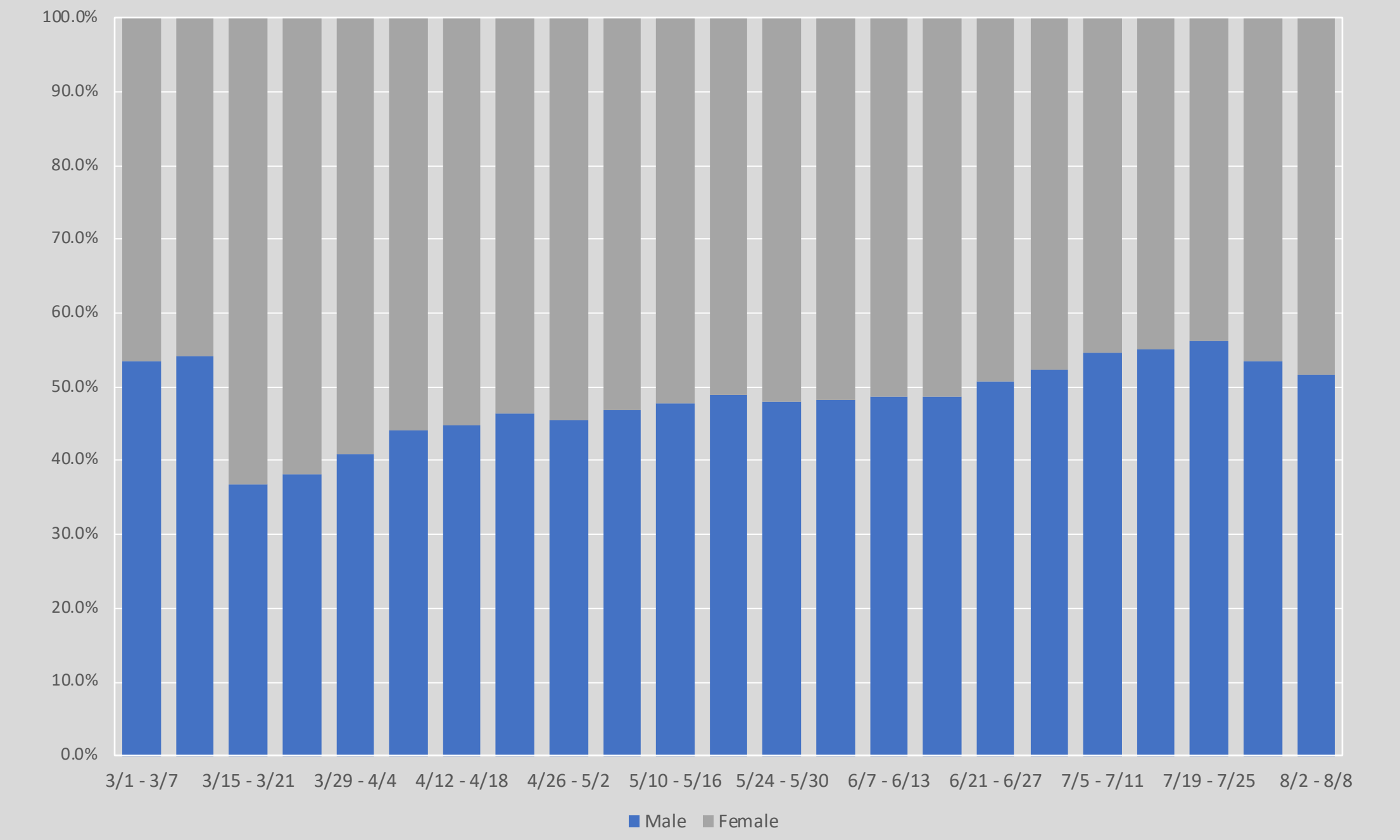
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Education Level



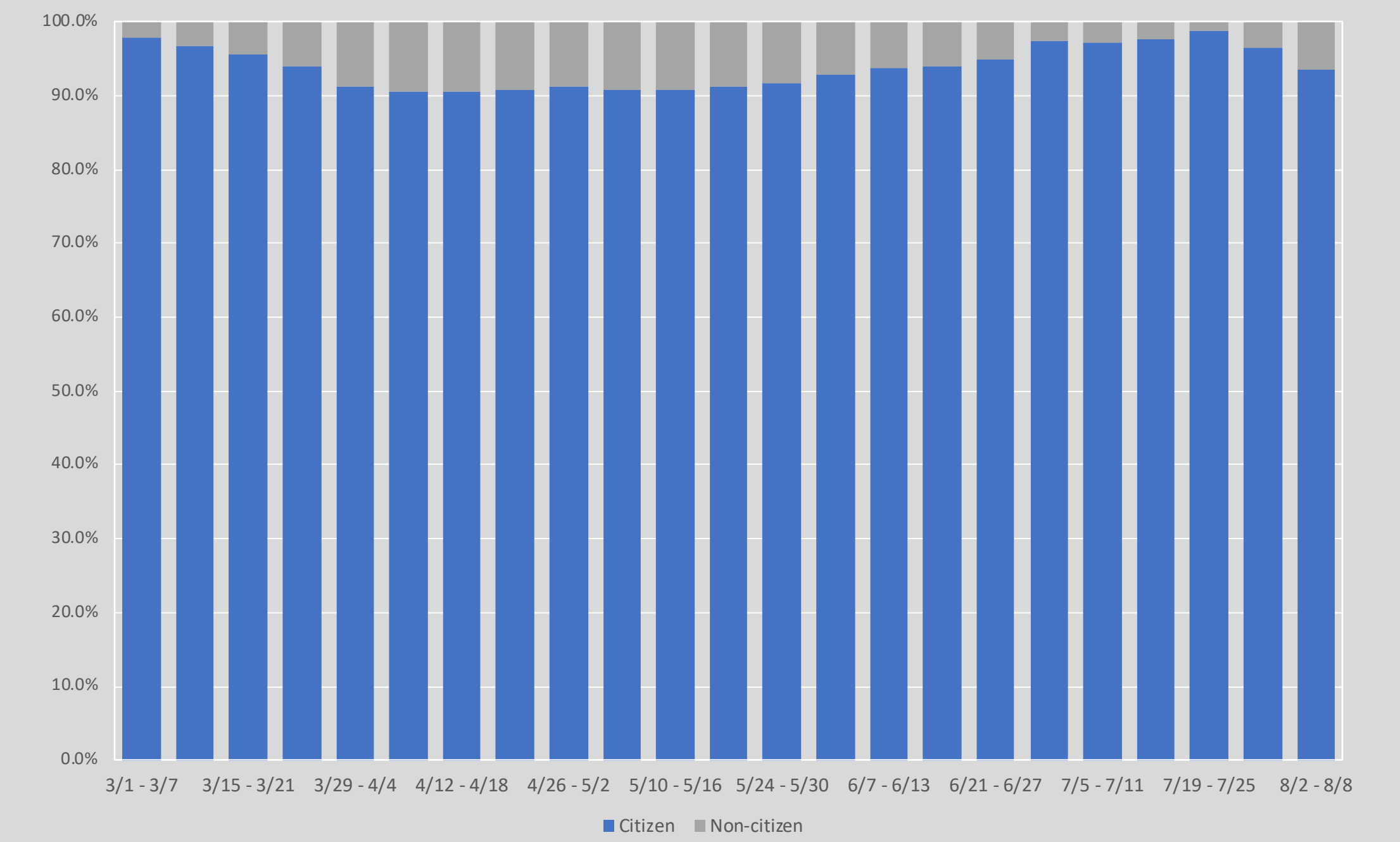
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Gender Composition



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Citizenship Status



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA