

## Virginia Unemployment Claims Data Demographics

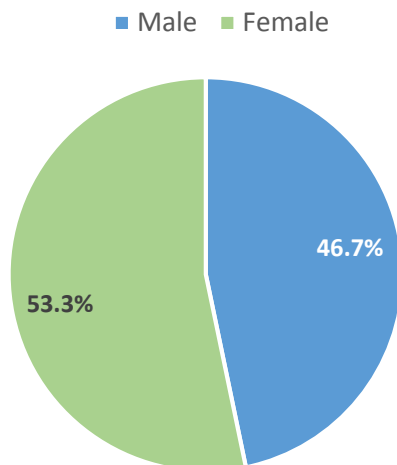
Week Ending May 9, 2020

Prepared by EIA/VEC

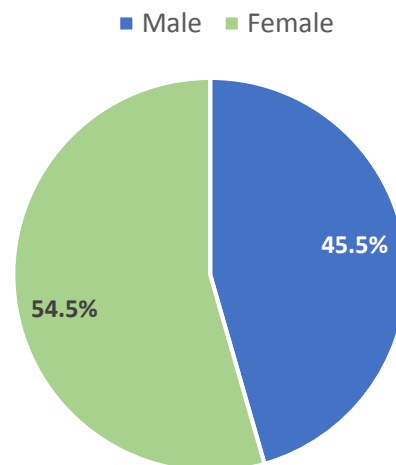
As the Commonwealth enters the 8<sup>th</sup> week of the COVID-19 crisis, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, we once again see a decrease in the number of unemployment benefit claims from the previous week. In the last week there were 52,139 initial unemployment benefit claims. This is down 12.6% from the previous week and 64.6% from the peak number of claims in the week ending April 4<sup>th</sup>. We expect this trend of decreasing initial filings to continue in the Commonwealth in future weeks. The following analysis was completed using intrastate and interstate claims data, but not agent claims<sup>1</sup>; therefore, the totals below will not match the state totals when aggregated.

Of the individuals who filed initial claims this week, 46.7% identified as male and 53.3% identified as female. This is a small change from the week prior but follows the same trend as previous weeks where there is a higher percentage of female claimants than male claimants. According to BLS estimates, 53.0% of Virginia’s workforce is male, so if both groups were affected equally we would expect to see roughly the same proportion of male claimants. This discrepancy in the gender of initial claimants leads us to believe that female workers have been more heavily impacted by this crisis than male workers.

5/3 - 5/9 Claims by Gender



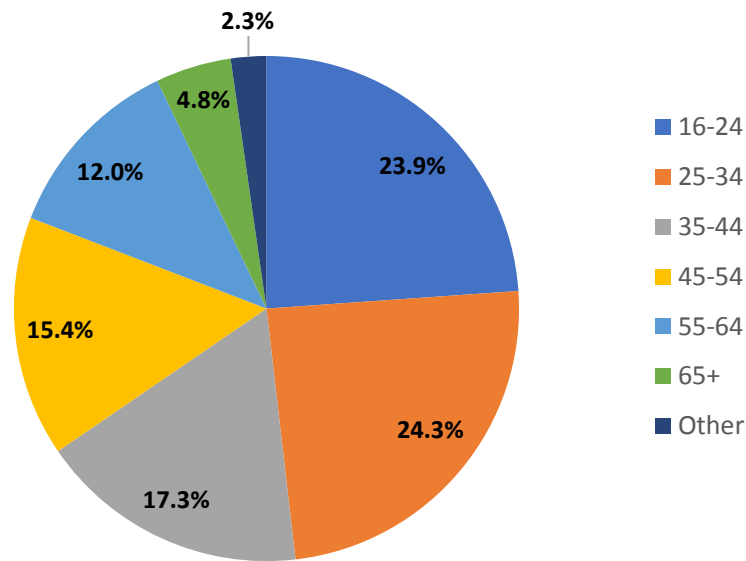
4/26 - 5/2 Claims by Gender



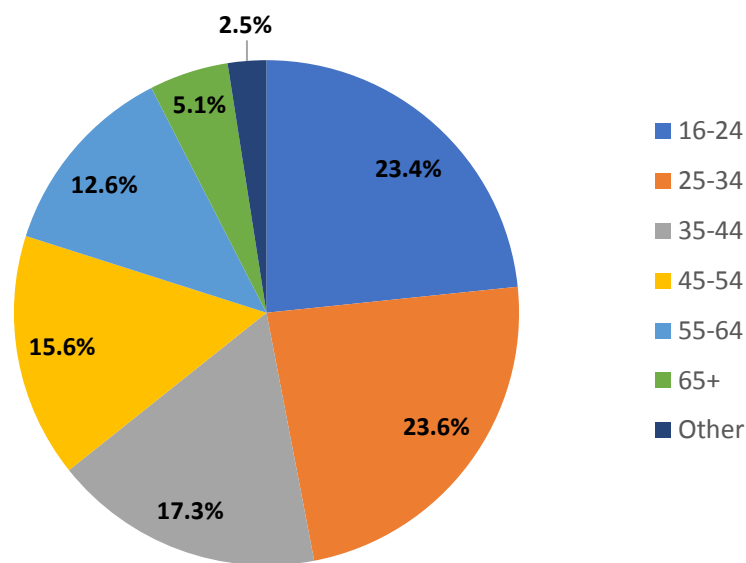
<sup>1</sup> When a participant is enrolled, they might receive benefits from a different location than that which is providing them with assistance. Those intermediary claims are considered agent claims.

Grouping initial claimants by age cohorts allows us to analyze the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on different segments of the workforce. This week, younger workers once again made up most of the initial claims with 23.9% of claimants being ages 16-24 and 24.3% being ages 24-34. According to BLS estimates, workers age 16-34 make up 33.8% of Virginia’s workforce, however since the beginning of the crisis these workers have accounted for roughly 45% of initial unemployment claims. Meanwhile, older workers age 35-54 make up 41.0% of the workforce but have accounted for only 35% of initial claims. This discrepancy suggests that, like female workers, the crisis has had a larger effect on younger workers rather than older workers.

5/3 - 5/9 Claims by Age



4/26 - 5/2 Claims by Age



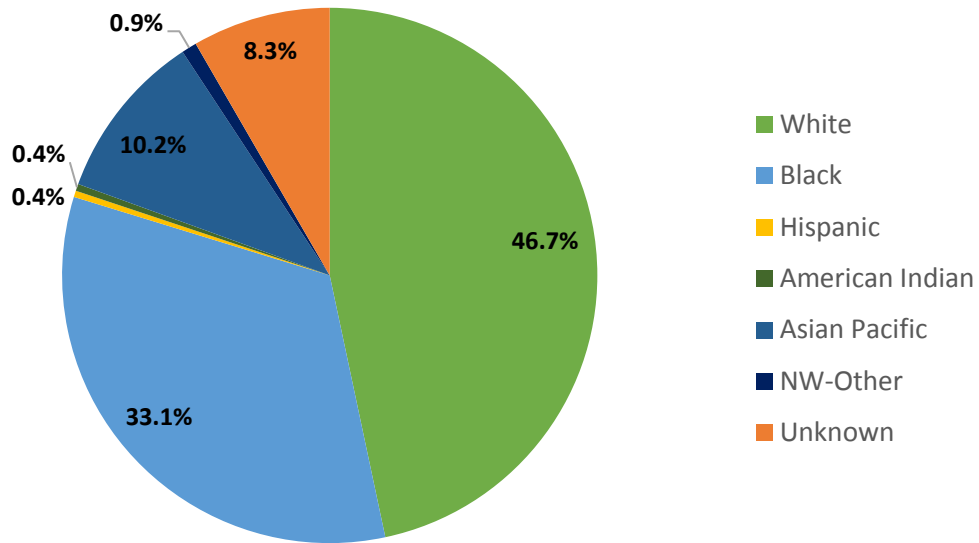
The occupation codes of workers filing for initial benefits is also a useful factor to examine. Overall, the breakdown between different occupation codes has remained similar to the week before. The largest change in the percentage breakdown was in *Personal Care and Service Occupations* (39-0000) which increased by 0.6 percentage points. Once again, almost all two-digit classifications saw a decreasing number of initial filings compared to the previous week. Only *Military Specific Occupations* (55-0000) saw a small increase of 4 initial filings. This suggests that the decrease in filings is spread across the economy, and not confined to a specific sector. Please note that the SOC codes are self-reported and 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	2,915	-653	5.83%
13	1,061	-137	2.12%
15	883	-143	1.77%
17	508	-63	1.02%
19	317	-41	0.63%
21	532	-23	1.06%
23	161	-58	0.32%
25	1,167	-372	2.33%
27	1,484	-181	2.97%
29	1,921	-248	3.84%
31	1,821	-283	3.64%
33	513	-128	1.03%
35	3,997	-1,089	8.00%
37	1,391	-202	2.78%
39	3,524	-220	7.05%
41	4,438	-695	8.88%
43	5,099	-868	10.20%
45	100	-25	0.20%
47	1,871	-271	3.74%
49	1,568	-328	3.14%
51	2,255	-371	4.51%
53	4,129	-361	8.26%
55	28	4	0.06%
<b>Unknown</b>	8,310	-1,227	16.62%

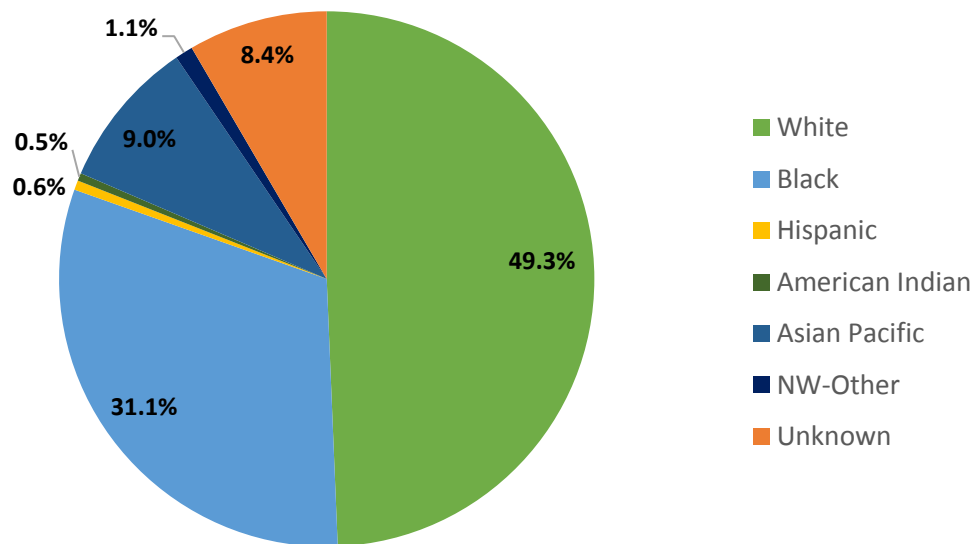
\*\*This sample includes intrastate and interstate claims data, but not agent claims, totals will not equal reported state totals when aggregated.

Another important factor to consider is the ethnicities of initial claimants. Over the last week, 46.7% of individuals identified as white and 33.1% identified as black. Furthermore, 10.2% of claimants identified as Asian Pacific. This is a change from the previous week where 49.3% of claimants identified as white, 31.1% identified as black and 9.0% identified as Asian Pacific.

5/3 - 5/9 Claims by Ethnicity

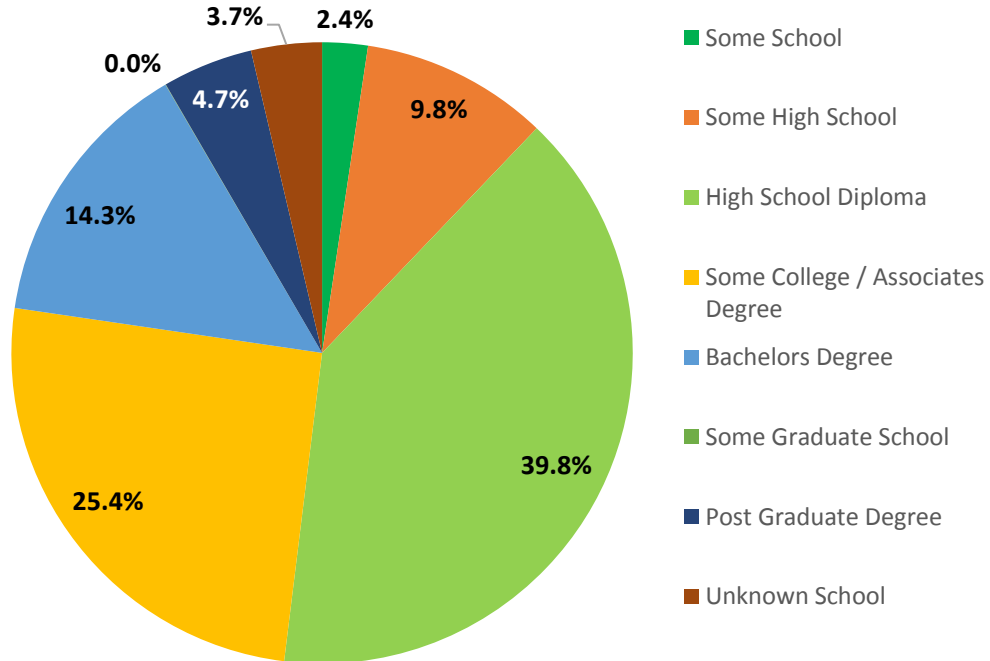


4/26 - 5/2 Claims by Ethnicity

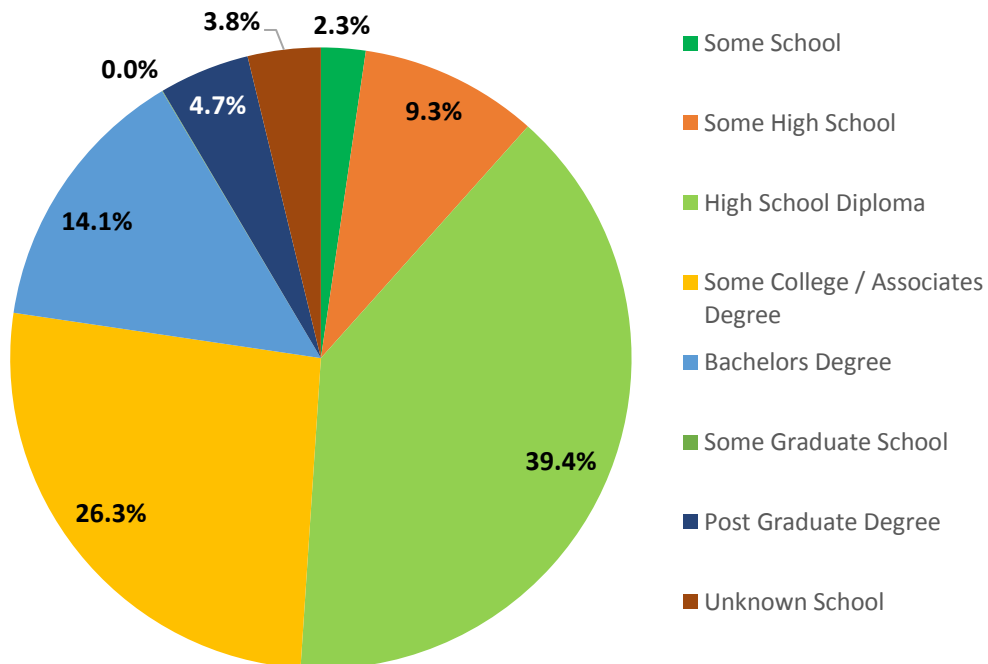


The education level of initial claimants can also be useful to examine. Over the last week, 39.8% of initial filers had a high school diploma, 25.4% had at least some college experience and 14.3% had a bachelor's degree. This is comparable to the week prior as there were no major changes in the percentage breakdowns.

5/3 - 5/9 Claims by Education Level



4/26 - 5/2 Claims by Education Level



The citizenship status of initial claimants is also important to analyze. According to an ACS survey from 2018, roughly 94.2% of Virginian’s are citizens, either through birth or naturalization, and 5.8% are non-citizens. Over the last week, 9.3% of initial claimants identified as non-citizens, an increase of 0.5 percentage points from the previous week. Since the COVID-19 crisis began, the percentage of non-citizen claimants has been higher than their proportion in the overall economy, suggesting that the crisis has impacted non-citizen workers more than workers who are citizens.

Citizenship Status	Number of Claims	Change from the previous week	Percentage of Initial Claims	Percentage of Population (ACS)
<b>Citizen</b>	45,355	-7,504	90.72%	94.23%
<b>Non-citizen</b>	4,638	-479	9.28%	5.77%

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

Finally, we must look at the counties and independent cities where individuals are filing initial claims. Looking strictly at the number of claims, Fairfax County once again saw the most initial claims with 6,314, followed by Prince William County and Virginia Beach City with 3,119 and 2,570 respectively. This is unsurprising as they are localities with some of the highest employment levels in the Commonwealth. Out of the 133 localities, 107 saw either no change or a decrease in the number of initial filings compared to the week prior. Fairfax County had the largest drop in initial claims, falling by 770 claims from the previous week.

Although it is important, the total number of claims does not give the best idea which counties and cities have been most affected by the crisis. Instead we should look at the number of claims as a percentage of the labor force in that area. This helps account for population size between different localities and gives us a better comparison of the affects felt in each area. By this metric, Petersburg City was the most heavily impacted with 4.9% of its labor force filing for unemployment benefits. Greensville City and Covington City followed with 2.8% and 2.4% of their respective labor forces filing for benefits.

County/City	Number of Claims	Change from the previous week	Percentage of Initial Claims	Claims as a percentage of labor force
<b>Accomack County</b>	223	-64	0.45%	1.35%
<b>Albemarle County</b>	656	151	1.31%	1.13%
<b>Alexandria City</b>	931	-129	1.86%	0.90%
<b>Alleghany County</b>	30	-2	0.06%	0.43%
<b>Amelia County</b>	57	-8	0.11%	0.89%
<b>Amherst County</b>	128	-46	0.26%	0.85%
<b>Appomattox County</b>	52	3	0.10%	0.72%
<b>Arlington County</b>	799	-194	1.60%	0.51%
<b>Augusta County</b>	210	-39	0.42%	0.55%
<b>Bath County</b>	12	-9	0.02%	0.47%

<b>Bedford County</b>	266	-104	0.53%	0.69%
<b>Bland County</b>	27	5	0.05%	0.95%
<b>Botetourt County</b>	147	-22	0.29%	0.84%
<b>Bristol City</b>	61	-7	0.12%	0.84%
<b>Brunswick County</b>	77	16	0.15%	1.27%
<b>Buchanan County</b>	44	-4	0.09%	0.65%
<b>Buckingham County</b>	58	-13	0.12%	0.88%
<b>Buena Vista City</b>	47	-87	0.09%	1.27%
<b>Campbell County</b>	161	-30	0.32%	0.62%
<b>Caroline County</b>	154	-25	0.31%	0.99%
<b>Carroll County</b>	162	-19	0.32%	1.22%
<b>Charles City County</b>	32	-5	0.06%	0.85%
<b>Charlotte County</b>	37	-8	0.07%	0.70%
<b>Charlottesville City</b>	486	77	0.97%	1.81%
<b>Chesapeake City</b>	1,404	-303	2.81%	1.14%
<b>Chesterfield County</b>	1,917	-285	3.83%	1.00%
<b>Clarke County</b>	56	-9	0.11%	0.72%
<b>Colonial Heights City</b>	146	-33	0.29%	1.63%
<b>Covington City</b>	58	0	0.12%	2.38%
<b>Craig County</b>	16	-3	0.03%	0.69%
<b>Culpeper County</b>	279	-41	0.56%	1.11%
<b>Cumberland County</b>	26	-4	0.05%	0.56%
<b>Danville City</b>	378	-28	0.76%	1.95%
<b>Dickenson County</b>	37	4	0.07%	0.77%
<b>Dinwiddie County</b>	70	-6	0.14%	0.50%
<b>Emporia City</b>	13	-1	0.03%	0.57%
<b>Essex County</b>	66	-4	0.13%	1.19%
<b>Fairfax City</b>	29	-20	0.06%	0.21%
<b>Fairfax County</b>	6,314	-770	12.63%	0.98%
<b>Falls Church City</b>	78	-4	0.16%	0.89%
<b>Fauquier County</b>	271	-77	0.54%	0.71%
<b>Floyd County</b>	59	3	0.12%	0.73%
<b>Fluvanna County</b>	161	6	0.32%	1.14%
<b>Franklin City</b>	83	12	0.17%	2.31%
<b>Franklin County</b>	233	-51	0.47%	0.87%
<b>Frederick County</b>	325	-51	0.65%	0.66%
<b>Fredericksburg City</b>	201	-52	0.40%	1.39%
<b>Galax City</b>	11	4	0.02%	0.38%
<b>Giles County</b>	58	-22	0.12%	0.74%
<b>Gloucester County</b>	163	-40	0.33%	0.83%
<b>Goochland County</b>	84	-7	0.17%	0.74%
<b>Grayson County</b>	53	-7	0.11%	0.64%
<b>Greene County</b>	115	24	0.23%	1.08%
<b>Greensville County</b>	118	8	0.24%	2.75%

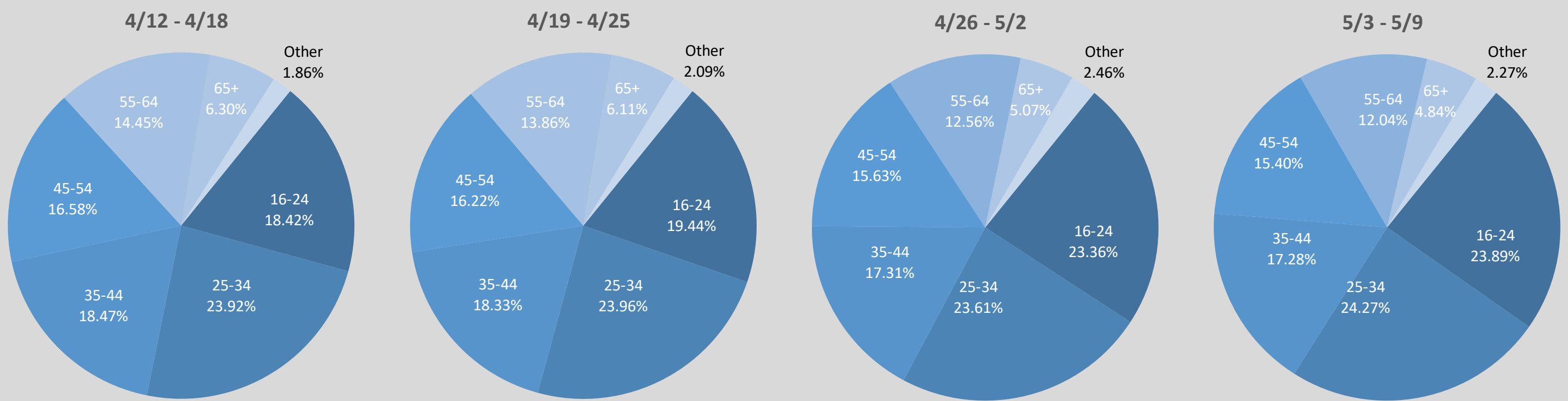
Halifax County	118	-15	0.24%	0.75%
Hampton City	1,099	-36	2.20%	1.69%
Hanover County	453	-120	0.91%	0.75%
Harrisonburg City	401	-113	0.80%	1.56%
Henrico County	1,884	-285	3.77%	1.01%
Henry County	447	15	0.89%	1.86%
Highland County	5	-5	0.01%	0.41%
Hopewell City	209	-23	0.42%	2.11%
Isle of Wight County	158	-4	0.32%	0.81%
James City County	467	-180	0.93%	1.26%
King and Queen County	24	-13	0.05%	0.62%
King George County	79	-22	0.16%	0.57%
King William County	84	-9	0.17%	0.90%
Lancaster County	46	-4	0.09%	0.83%
Lee County	48	10	0.10%	0.57%
Lexington City	3	-3	0.01%	0.14%
Loudoun County	1,992	-422	3.98%	0.88%
Louisa County	189	12	0.38%	0.94%
Lunenburg County	39	14	0.08%	0.73%
Lynchburg City	500	-82	1.00%	1.37%
Madison County	51	9	0.10%	0.68%
Manassas City	283	-95	0.57%	1.26%
Manassas Park City	4	-3	0.01%	0.04%
Martinsville City	31	-15	0.06%	0.56%
Mathews County	22	-13	0.04%	0.53%
Mecklenburg County	117	-27	0.23%	0.94%
Middlesex County	53	0	0.11%	0.99%
Montgomery County	303	-105	0.61%	0.61%
Nelson County	98	4	0.20%	1.34%
New Kent County	98	-1	0.20%	0.79%
Newport News City	1,472	-153	2.94%	1.71%
Norfolk City	1,703	-183	3.41%	1.57%
Northampton County	97	0	0.19%	1.90%
Northumberland County	49	-13	0.10%	0.92%
Norton City	24	5	0.05%	1.49%
Nottoway County	46	-9	0.09%	0.64%
Orange County	242	4	0.48%	1.42%
Page County	143	-17	0.29%	1.26%
Patrick County	46	-18	0.09%	0.67%
Petersburg City	617	78	1.23%	4.93%
Pittsylvania County	243	14	0.49%	0.83%
Poquoson City	36	-13	0.07%	0.58%
Portsmouth City	789	-26	1.58%	1.85%
Powhatan County	81	-63	0.16%	0.58%



Prince Edward County	97	-31	0.19%	0.99%
Prince George County	104	-43	0.21%	0.70%
Prince William County	3,119	-443	6.24%	1.28%
Pulaski County	118	-24	0.24%	0.77%
Radford City	97	-37	0.19%	1.18%
Rappahannock County	24	1	0.05%	0.66%
Richmond City	1,917	-383	3.83%	1.64%
Richmond County	35	-12	0.07%	0.88%
Roanoke City	761	-218	1.52%	1.59%
Roanoke County	459	-131	0.92%	0.95%
Rockbridge County	104	-127	0.21%	0.99%
Rockingham County	261	-11	0.52%	0.62%
Russell County	59	-7	0.12%	0.54%
Salem City	172	-52	0.34%	1.35%
Scott County	40	-23	0.08%	0.45%
Shenandoah County	207	-18	0.41%	0.94%
Smyth County	179	78	0.36%	1.34%
Southampton County	49	-11	0.10%	0.55%
Spotsylvania County	680	-146	1.36%	1.03%
Stafford County	622	-267	1.24%	0.87%
Staunton City	181	-55	0.36%	1.49%
Suffolk City	590	-56	1.18%	1.36%
Surry County	26	-8	0.05%	0.74%
Sussex County	47	-9	0.09%	1.27%
Tazewell County	115	-65	0.23%	0.77%
Virginia Beach City	2,570	-548	5.14%	1.13%
Warren County	182	-36	0.36%	0.90%
Washington County	197	5	0.39%	0.76%
Waynesboro City	204	-10	0.41%	1.93%
Westmoreland County	89	7	0.18%	0.97%
Williamsburg City	18	-5	0.04%	0.28%
Winchester City	157	-21	0.31%	1.08%
Wise County	94	-26	0.19%	0.74%
Wythe County	187	64	0.37%	1.42%
York County	191	-77	0.38%	0.60%
Other	3,469	-993	6.94%	N/A

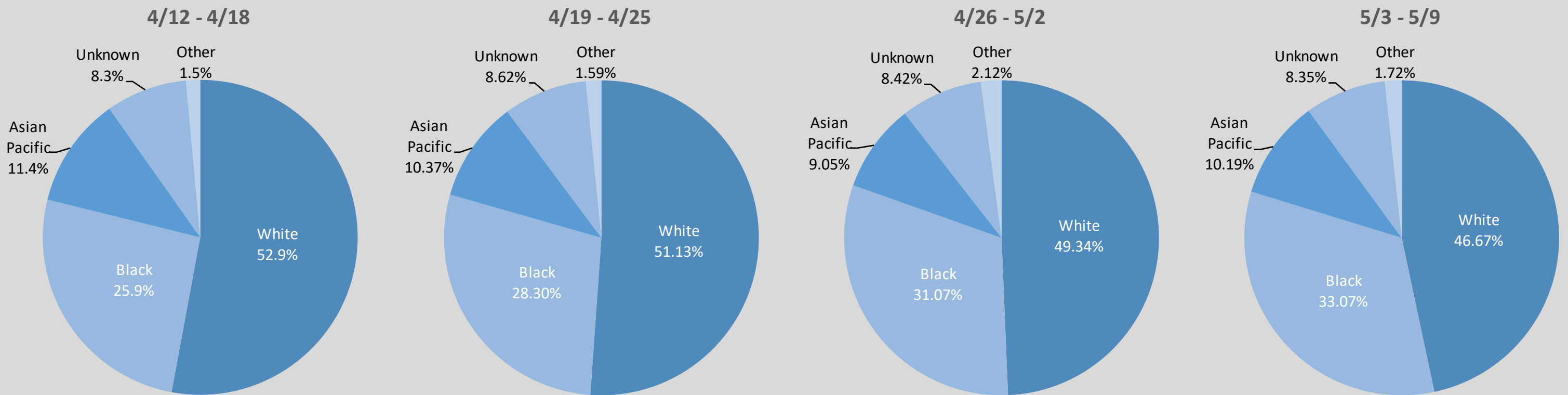
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## Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Age



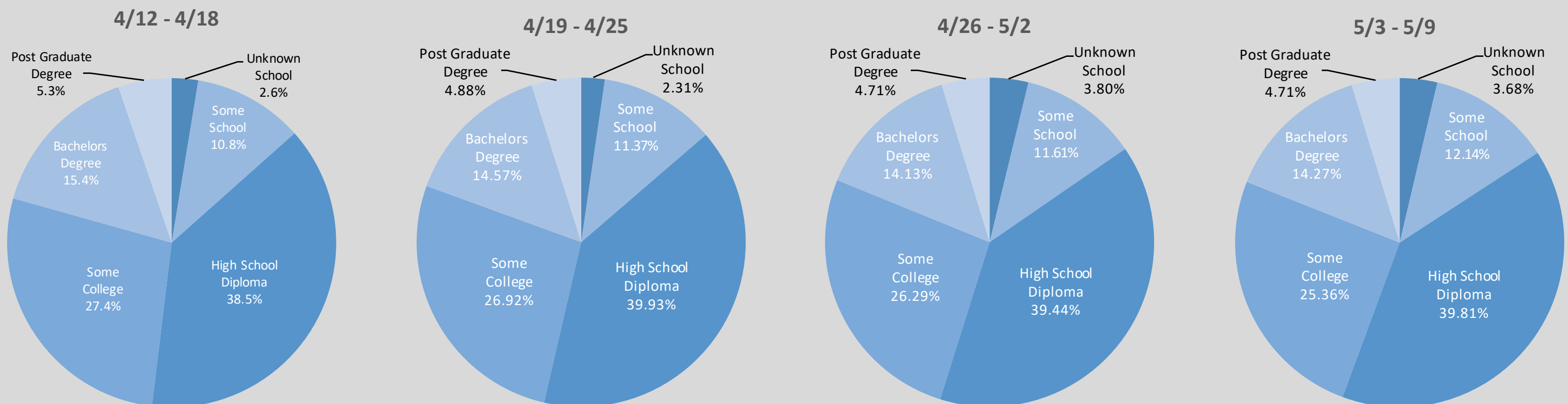
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

## Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Ethnicity Composition



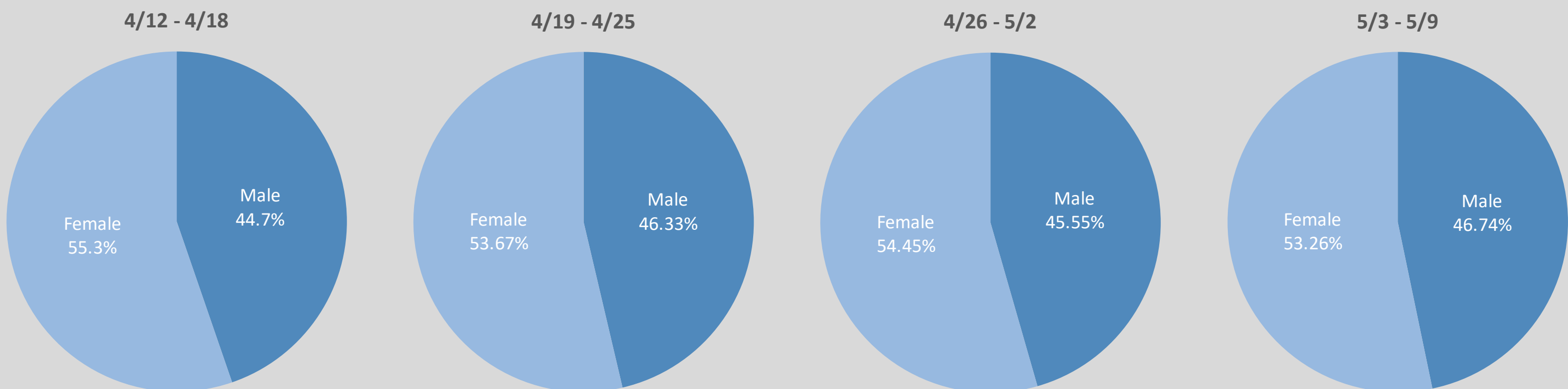
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

## Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Education Level



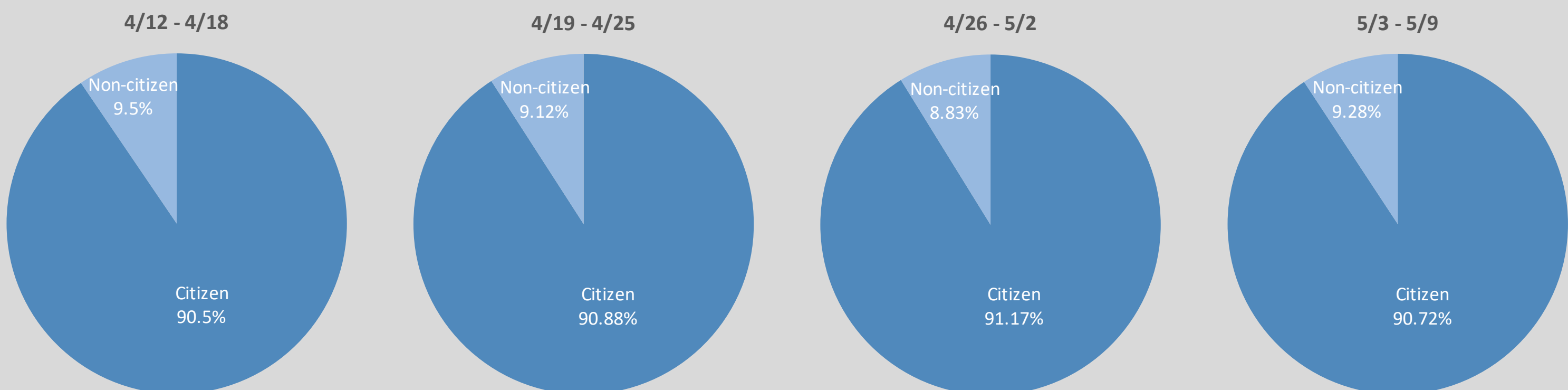
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

## Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Gender Composition



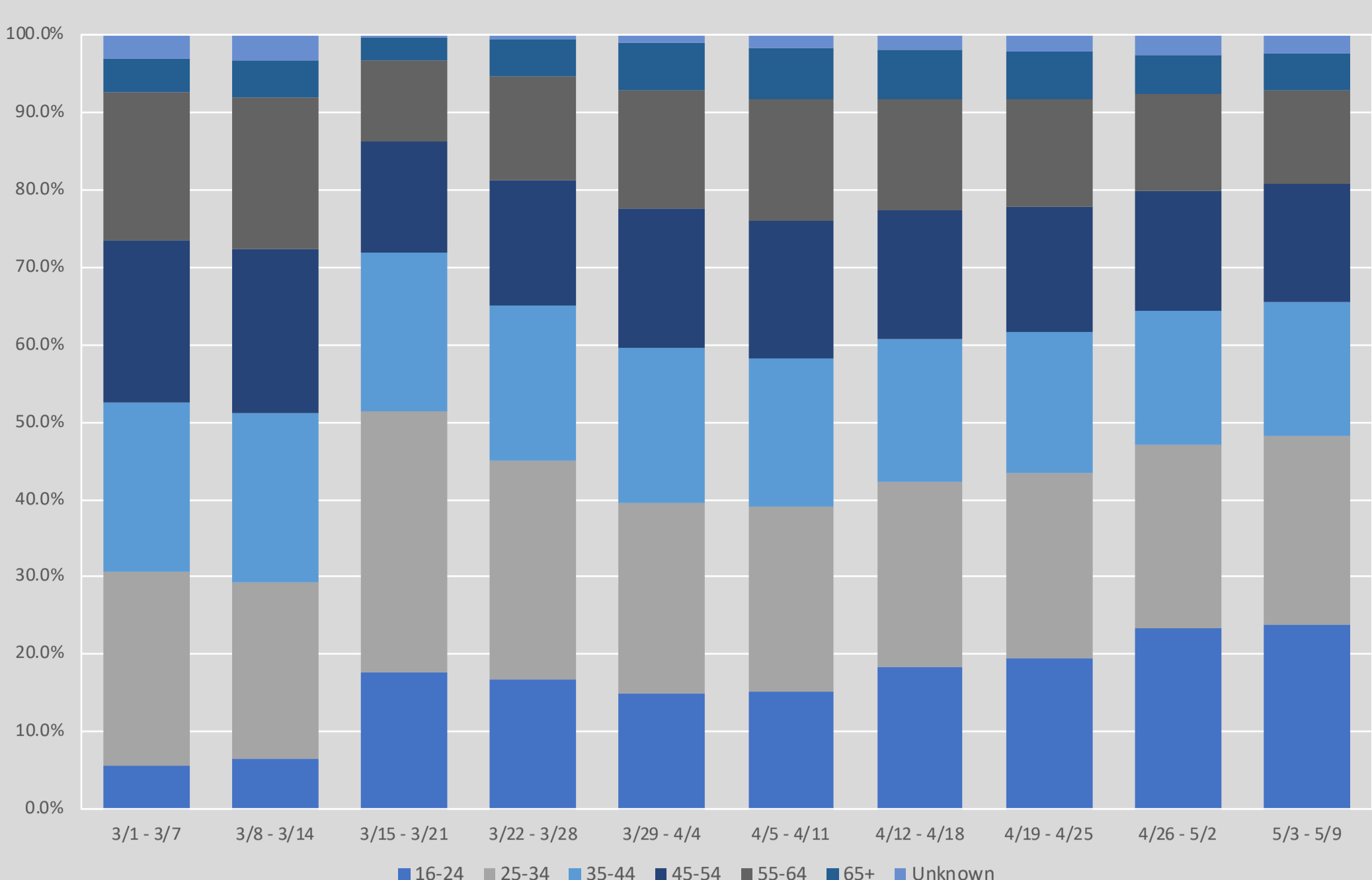
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

## Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Citizenship Status



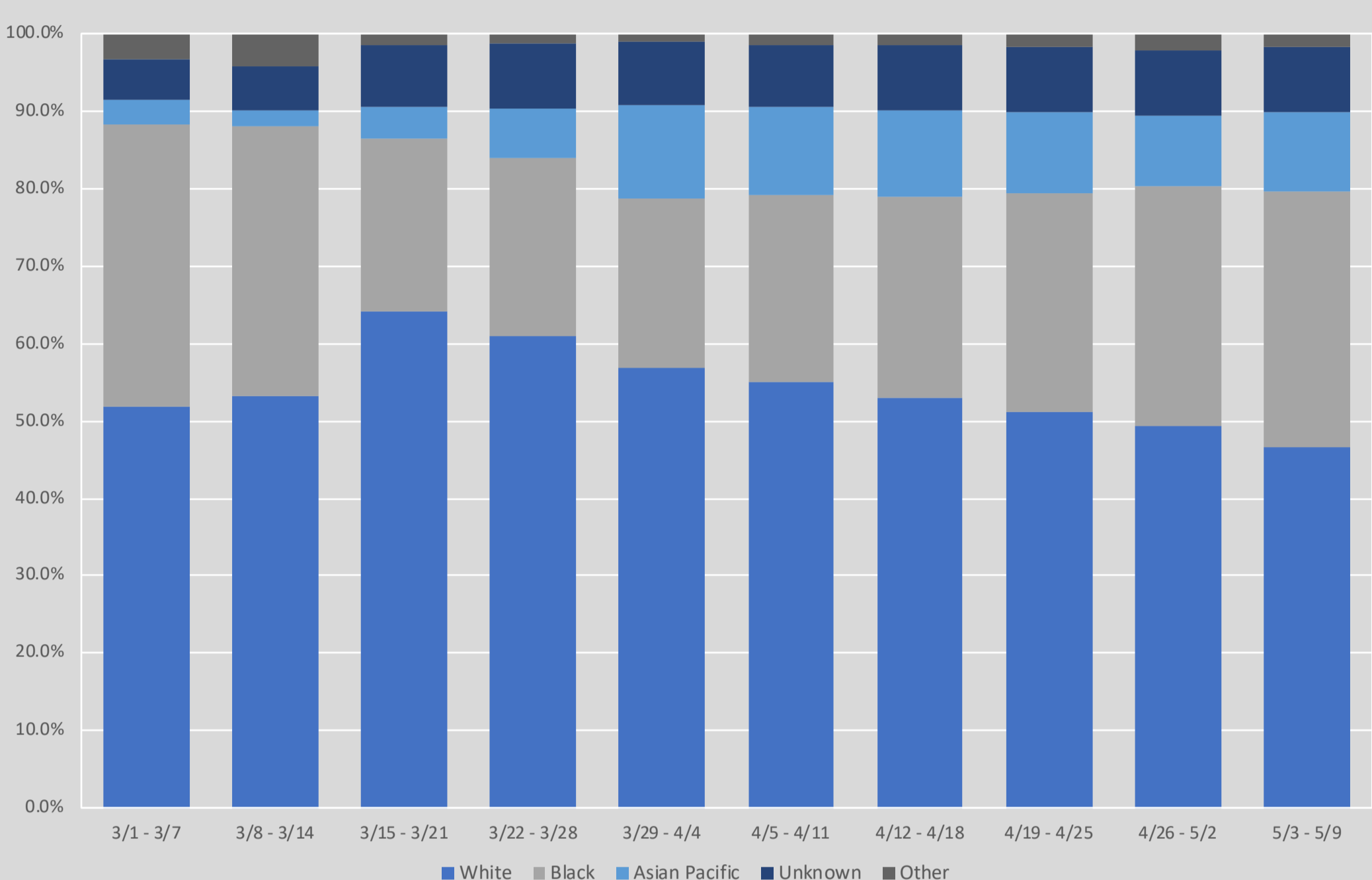
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## Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Age



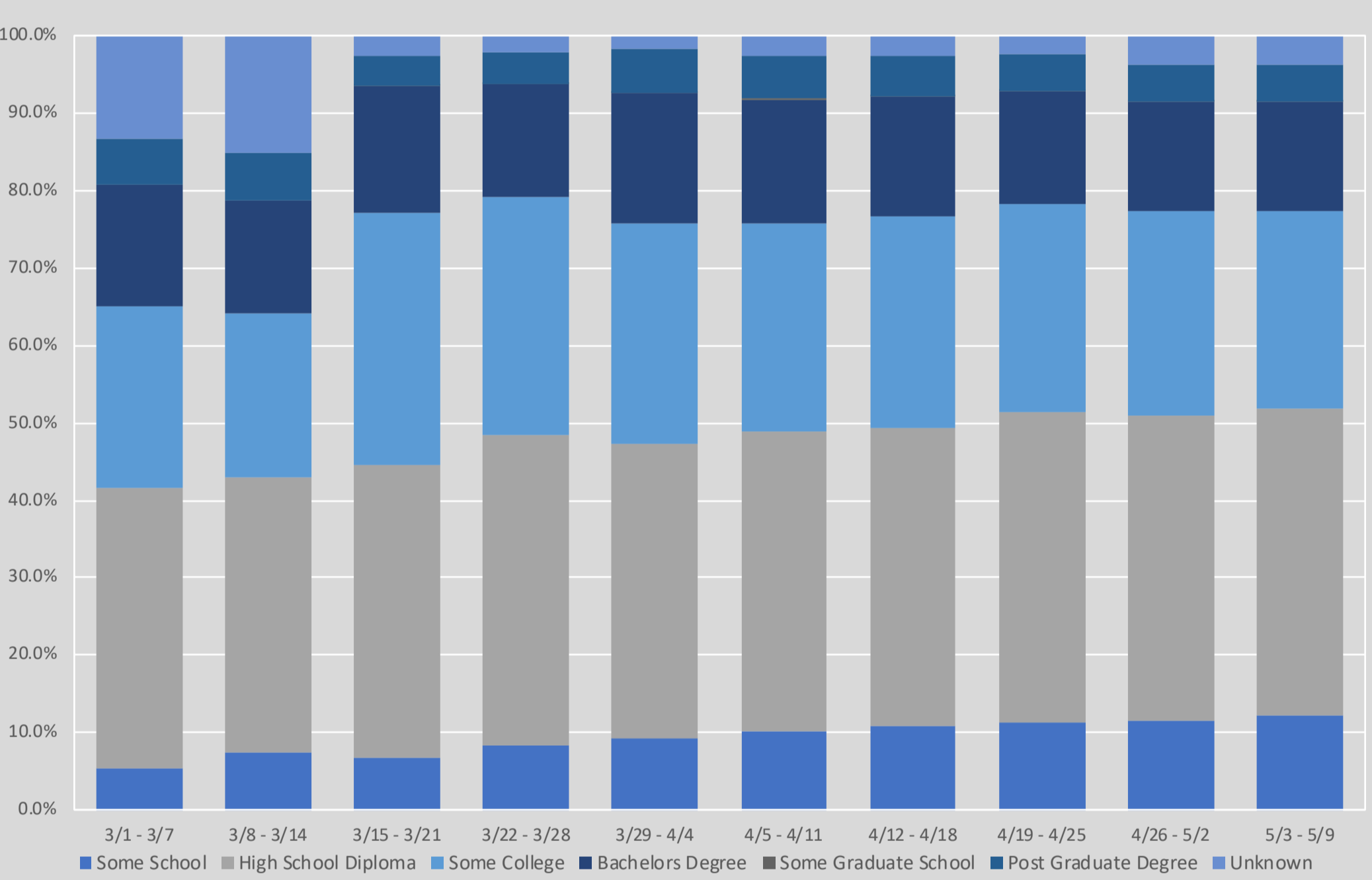
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## Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Ethnicity Composition



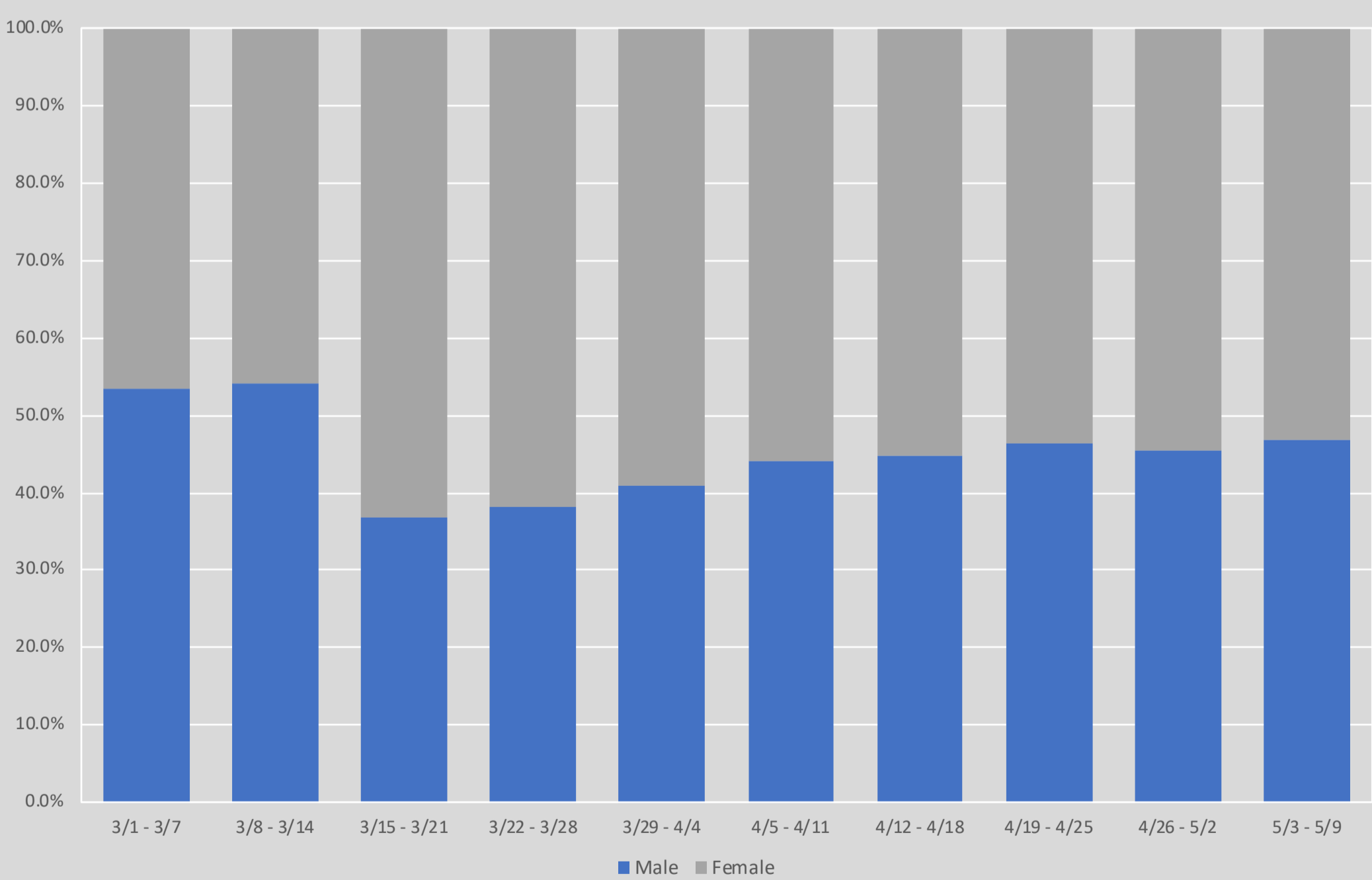
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

## Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Education Level



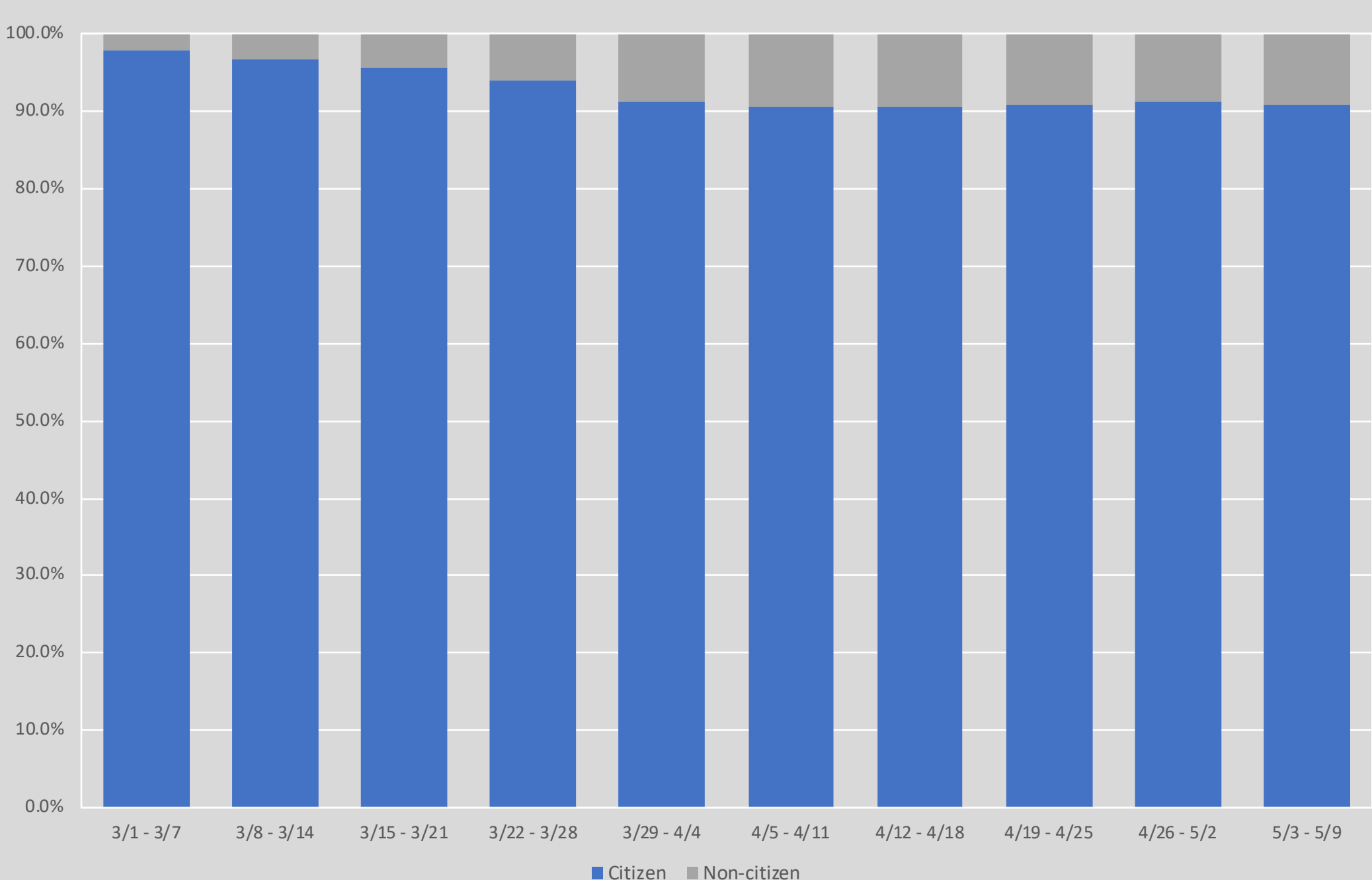
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

## 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