

Virginia Unemployment Claims Data Demographics

Week Ending August 15, 2020

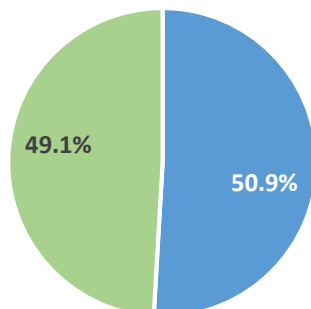
Prepared by EIA/VEC

The week of August 9th – 15th marks the 22nd week since the COVID-19 crisis began in the Commonwealth. This week there were 15,151 initial unemployment benefit claims, up 14.2% compared to the week prior. Initial claims increased this week following two consecutive weeks of decreasing claims. Despite the increase, initial claims are still 64.7% lower than the previous peak of 42,966 claims in the week ending 7/25. 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, 50.9% identified as male and 49.1% identified as female. According to a survey from the BLS, 53.0% of Virginia's workforce is male while 43.0% is female. Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, the gender breakdown of initial claims closely resembled the BLS estimates. However, since the crisis began in the week ending 3/21 approximately 54.2% of all initial claimants have identified as being female. This disparity was especially noticeable in the first 14 weeks of the crisis where female claimants accounted for 56.2% of all initial claimants. In the 8 weeks since then male claimants have been responsible for the majority of claims at 53.6%. 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.

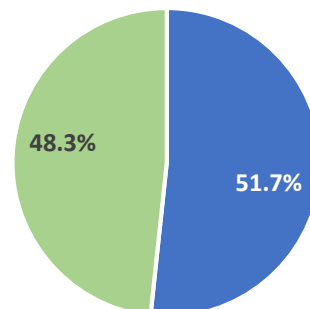
8/9 - 8/15 Claims by Gender

■ Male ■ Female



8/2 - 8/8 Claims by Gender

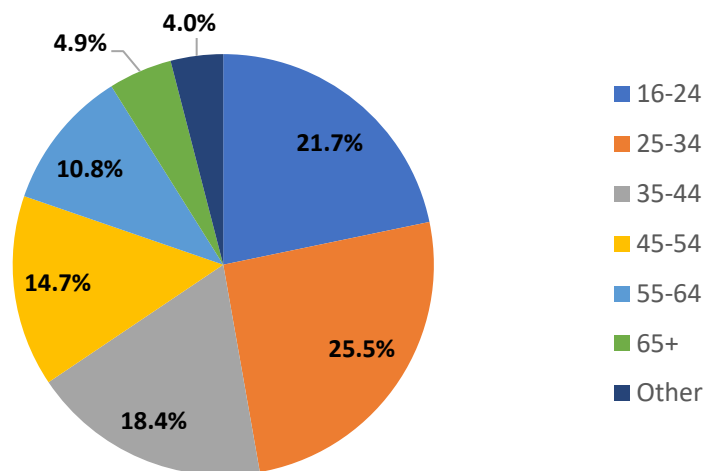
■ Male ■ Female



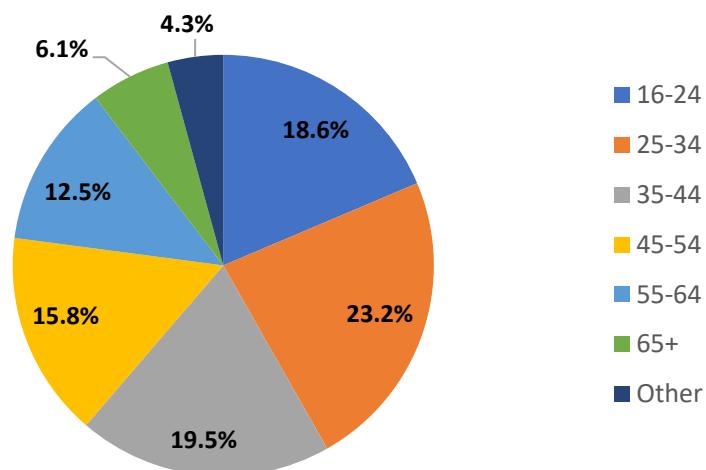
¹ When a participant is enrolled, they might receive benefits from a different location than that which is providing them with assistance. Those intermediary claims are considered agent claims.

Grouping 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, accounted for 21.7% of initial claims, 3.1 percentage points higher than the week prior. Additionally, workers in the next cohort, ages 25-34, made up 25.5% of initial claims this week, 2.3 percentage points higher compared to the previous week. As a whole, these two cohorts have accounted for the largest share of initial claims since the crisis began, representing 45.6% of all initial claims in that time period. Despite making up a large number of initial claims, the BLS estimates that workers in these two cohorts make up just 33.8% of Virginia's workforce. Contrarily, workers in the next two cohorts, ages 35-44 and 45-54, are responsible for 34.6% of initial claims, but make up 41.0% of Virginia's workforce according to the BLS. 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.

8/9 - 8/15 Claims by Age



8/2 - 8/8 Claims by Age



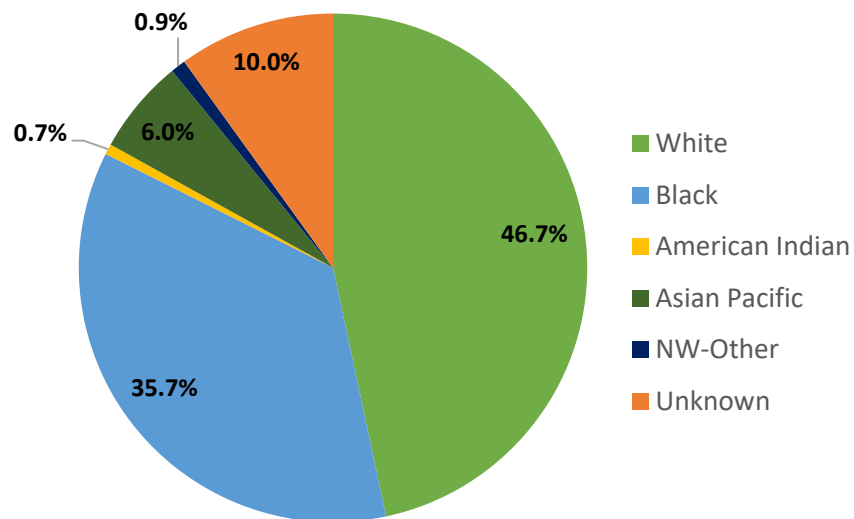
The occupation code of workers filing an initial claim is another important metric we should look at. This gives us a general idea of the types of jobs that workers are being laid off from. Overall the share of initial claims, which each two-digit occupation code was responsible for, didn't change greatly compared to the previous week. The largest change came from *Construction and Extraction Occupations* (47-0000) whose share increased 1.1 percentage points from 5.8% to 6.9%. Of the 23 two-digit classification codes, 19 saw an increase in the total number of initial claims compared to the week prior. The largest changes came again from *Construction and Extraction Occupations* (47-0000) which had 196 more filings than in the previous week. *Sales and Related Occupations* (41-0000) saw the second largest increase with 177 additional claims this week. 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	984	16	7.41%
13-0000	354	-16	2.67%
15-0000	388	17	2.92%
17-0000	206	11	1.55%
19-0000	82	-4	0.62%
21-0000	149	7	1.12%
23-0000	57	8	0.43%
25-0000	378	66	2.85%
27-0000	394	42	2.97%
29-0000	364	-12	2.74%
31-0000	496	97	3.73%
33-0000	190	17	1.43%
35-0000	875	6	6.59%
37-0000	614	10	4.62%
39-0000	851	47	6.41%
41-0000	1,269	177	9.56%
43-0000	1,383	86	10.41%
45-0000	57	7	0.43%
47-0000	914	196	6.88%
49-0000	451	39	3.40%
51-0000	696	39	5.24%
53-0000	966	91	7.27%
55-0000	8	-3	0.06%
Unknown	1,155	-6	8.70%

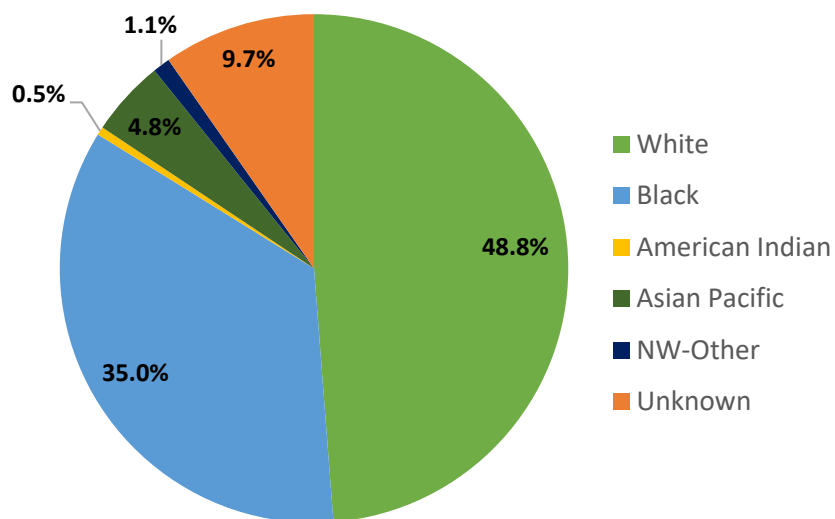
**This sample includes intrastate and interstate claims data, but not agent claims, totals will not equal reported state totals when aggregated.

Another important metric to analyze is the race of initial claimants. Over the last week 46.7% of initial claimants identified as white, a 2.1 percentage point change from the week prior. Additionally, 35.7% of initial claimants this week identified as black, a 0.7 percentage point increase. Since the beginning of the crisis, in the week ending March 21st, 50.3% of all initial claimants have identified as being white and 31.5% have identified as being black.

8/9 - 8/15 Claims by Race

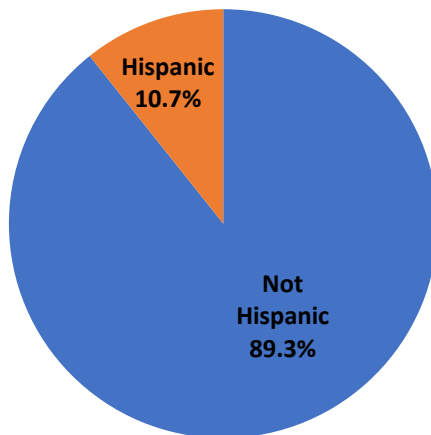


8/2 - 8/8 Claims by Race

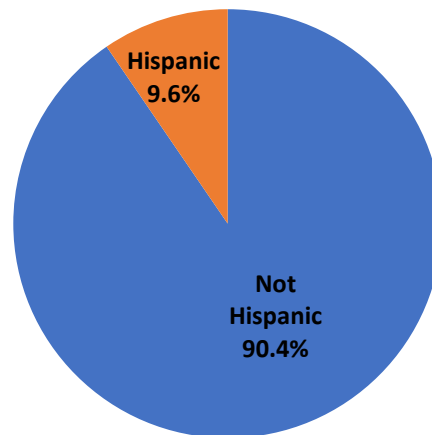


The ethnicity of initial claimants is yet another factor that is important to explore. According to the Census Bureau, approximately 9.6% of Virginian's identify as either Hispanic or Latino. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, 9.7% of initial claimants have self-identified as either Hispanic or Latino including 10.7% of claimants this week. This is a 1.1 percentage point increase in the share of Hispanic or Latino claimants compared to the week prior. Please note that the percentages above are calculated only from claimants who report their ethnicity and may be subject to revisions in the future.

8/9 - 8/15 Claims by Ethnicity



8/2 - 8/8 Claims by Ethnicity



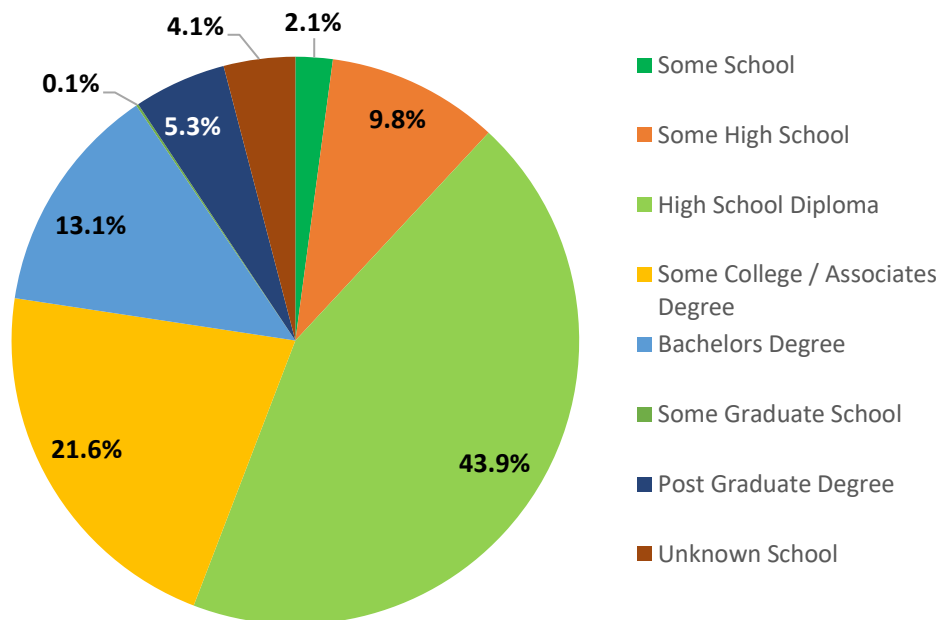
The citizenship status of initial claimants is also an important metric to look into. According to an American Community Survey report, approximately 94.2% of Virginians are citizens, either through birth or naturalization, and 5.8% are non-citizens. Throughout the crisis, roughly 7.2% of initial claimants have identified as being non-citizens. This week, 8.8% of claimants indicated that they were non-citizens, 2.4 percentage points higher than the previous week.

Citizenship Status	Number of Claims	Change from the previous week	Percentage of Initial Claims	Percentage of Population (ACS)
Citizen	12,110	562	91.18%	94.23%
Non-citizen	1,171	376	8.82%	5.77%

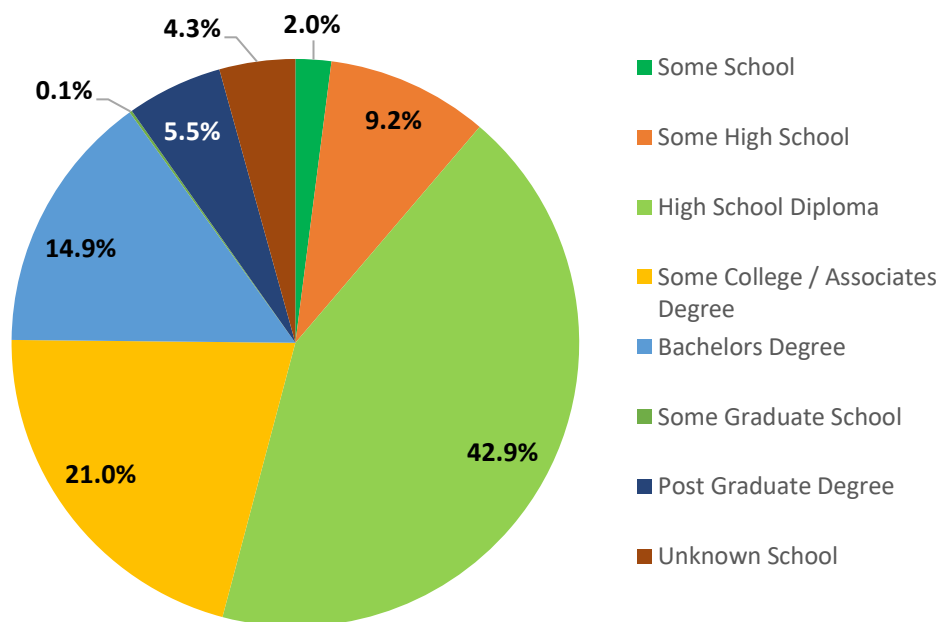
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The initial claimant's highest level of education attained is another useful data point to explore. This week 43.9% of initial claimants reported having a high school diploma, 1.0 percentage points higher than the week prior. The share of claimants who reported having at least some college experience rose by 0.6 percentage points, from 21.0% to 21.6% this week. The percentage of claims filed by workers with a bachelor's degree saw the largest drop this week, falling 1.8 percentage points to 13.1%.

8/9 - 8/15 Claims by Education Level



8/2 - 8/8 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 1,201 initial claims. Prince William County and Virginia Beach City followed with 658 and 611 initial claims respectively. Of the 133 localities in the Commonwealth, 83 saw an increase in the number of initial claims filed compared to the previous week. Prince William County had the largest increase in initial claims with 168 additional claims filed compared to the previous week. The other 50 localities in the Commonwealth saw either no change or a decrease in the number of claims filed.

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 1.3% of its labor force filing an initial claim. Greenville City and Franklin City followed, each with 0.8% of their respective labor forces filing an initial claim.

County/City	Number of Claims	Change from the previous week	Percentage of Initial Claims	Claims as a percentage of labor force
Accomack County	38	7	0.29%	0.23%
Albemarle County	78	6	0.59%	0.13%
Alexandria City	220	9	1.66%	0.21%
Alleghany County	7	-2	0.05%	0.10%
Amelia County	12	3	0.09%	0.19%
Amherst County	40	19	0.30%	0.26%
Appomattox County	15	2	0.11%	0.21%
Arlington County	193	-42	1.45%	0.12%
Augusta County	38	-7	0.29%	0.10%
Bath County	6	3	0.05%	0.23%
Bedford County	63	4	0.47%	0.16%
Bland County	6	-1	0.05%	0.21%
Botetourt County	22	-9	0.17%	0.13%
Bristol City	27	-1	0.20%	0.37%
Brunswick County	23	1	0.17%	0.38%
Buchanan County	28	6	0.21%	0.41%
Buckingham County	16	8	0.12%	0.24%
Buena Vista City	10	1	0.08%	0.27%
Campbell County	42	-4	0.32%	0.16%
Caroline County	27	-14	0.20%	0.17%
Carroll County	62	27	0.47%	0.47%
Charles City County	3	-2	0.02%	0.08%
Charlotte County	16	1	0.12%	0.30%

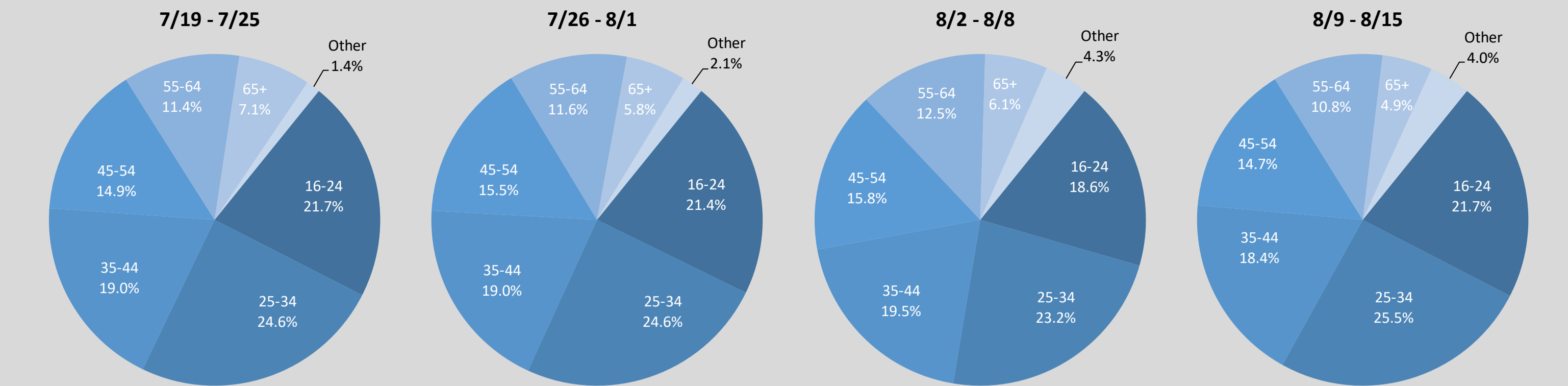
Charlottesville City	68	11	0.51%	0.25%
Chesapeake City	341	56	2.57%	0.28%
Chesterfield County	381	25	2.87%	0.20%
Clarke County	8	-2	0.06%	0.10%
Colonial Heights City	32	-13	0.24%	0.36%
Covington City	14	0	0.11%	0.57%
Craig County	7	3	0.05%	0.30%
Culpeper County	54	6	0.41%	0.22%
Cumberland County	4	-3	0.03%	0.09%
Danville City	140	22	1.05%	0.72%
Dickenson County	14	2	0.11%	0.29%
Dinwiddie County	12	-1	0.09%	0.09%
Emporia City	7	1	0.05%	0.31%
Essex County	18	8	0.14%	0.32%
Fairfax City	14	2	0.11%	0.10%
Fairfax County	1,201	60	9.04%	0.19%
Falls Church City	18	3	0.14%	0.21%
Fauquier County	67	19	0.50%	0.18%
Floyd County	15	5	0.11%	0.18%
Fluvanna County	16	-1	0.12%	0.11%
Franklin City	28	6	0.21%	0.78%
Franklin County	90	40	0.68%	0.34%
Frederick County	47	-10	0.35%	0.10%
Fredericksburg City	65	12	0.49%	0.45%
Galax City	3	-2	0.02%	0.10%
Giles County	19	2	0.14%	0.24%
Gloucester County	46	7	0.35%	0.23%
Goochland County	8	-3	0.06%	0.07%
Grayson County	14	5	0.11%	0.17%
Greene County	4	-7	0.03%	0.04%
Greensville County	34	-9	0.26%	0.79%
Halifax County	49	11	0.37%	0.31%
Hampton City	297	41	2.24%	0.46%
Hanover County	71	-5	0.53%	0.12%
Harrisonburg City	64	12	0.48%	0.25%
Henrico County	375	-9	2.82%	0.20%
Henry County	136	18	1.02%	0.57%
Highland County	1	1	0.01%	0.08%
Hopewell City	64	18	0.48%	0.65%
Isle of Wight County	39	-9	0.29%	0.20%
James City County	79	-7	0.59%	0.21%
King and Queen County	4	-5	0.03%	0.10%
King George County	30	9	0.23%	0.22%
King William County	24	4	0.18%	0.26%

Lancaster County	9	1	0.07%	0.16%
Lee County	19	1	0.14%	0.23%
Lexington City	2	2	0.02%	0.09%
Loudoun County	359	48	2.70%	0.16%
Louisa County	21	4	0.16%	0.10%
Lunenburg County	10	-4	0.08%	0.19%
Lynchburg City	178	44	1.34%	0.49%
Madison County	6	-5	0.05%	0.08%
Manassas City	64	4	0.48%	0.28%
Manassas Park City	2	1	0.02%	0.02%
Martinsville City	40	22	0.30%	0.72%
Mathews County	8	-1	0.06%	0.19%
Mecklenburg County	41	13	0.31%	0.33%
Middlesex County	11	1	0.08%	0.21%
Montgomery County	83	13	0.62%	0.17%
Nelson County	10	-4	0.08%	0.14%
New Kent County	14	-12	0.11%	0.11%
Newport News City	389	62	2.93%	0.45%
Norfolk City	523	56	3.94%	0.48%
Northampton County	18	6	0.14%	0.35%
Northumberland County	13	2	0.10%	0.24%
Norton City	9	-2	0.07%	0.56%
Nottoway County	13	-2	0.10%	0.18%
Orange County	40	3	0.30%	0.23%
Page County	37	5	0.28%	0.32%
Patrick County	18	-3	0.14%	0.26%
Petersburg City	158	21	1.19%	1.26%
Pittsylvania County	64	13	0.48%	0.22%
Poquoson City	13	6	0.10%	0.21%
Portsmouth City	281	45	2.12%	0.66%
Powhatan County	23	9	0.17%	0.16%
Prince Edward County	34	10	0.26%	0.35%
Prince George County	35	-8	0.26%	0.24%
Prince William County	658	168	4.95%	0.27%
Pulaski County	43	1	0.32%	0.28%
Radford City	38	3	0.29%	0.46%
Rappahannock County	3	0	0.02%	0.08%
Richmond City	585	11	4.40%	0.50%
Richmond County	12	1	0.09%	0.30%
Roanoke City	214	-1	1.61%	0.45%
Roanoke County	83	-14	0.62%	0.17%
Rockbridge County	18	-6	0.14%	0.17%
Rockingham County	51	13	0.38%	0.12%
Russell County	34	10	0.26%	0.31%

Salem City	28	-34	0.21%	0.22%
Scott County	26	10	0.20%	0.29%
Shenandoah County	46	10	0.35%	0.21%
Smyth County	54	23	0.41%	0.41%
Southampton County	12	-8	0.09%	0.14%
Spotsylvania County	166	52	1.25%	0.25%
Stafford County	165	-5	1.24%	0.23%
Staunton City	40	-13	0.30%	0.33%
Suffolk City	167	17	1.26%	0.38%
Surry County	8	6	0.06%	0.23%
Sussex County	13	1	0.10%	0.35%
Tazewell County	53	-1	0.40%	0.35%
Virginia Beach City	611	-15	4.60%	0.27%
Warren County	62	19	0.47%	0.31%
Washington County	46	-20	0.35%	0.18%
Waynesboro City	37	-5	0.28%	0.35%
Westmoreland County	23	-3	0.17%	0.25%
Williamsburg City	8	5	0.06%	0.12%
Winchester City	37	3	0.28%	0.25%
Wise County	56	-7	0.42%	0.44%
Wythe County	37	-9	0.28%	0.28%
York County	28	-10	0.21%	0.09%
Other	2,260	47	17.02%	N/A

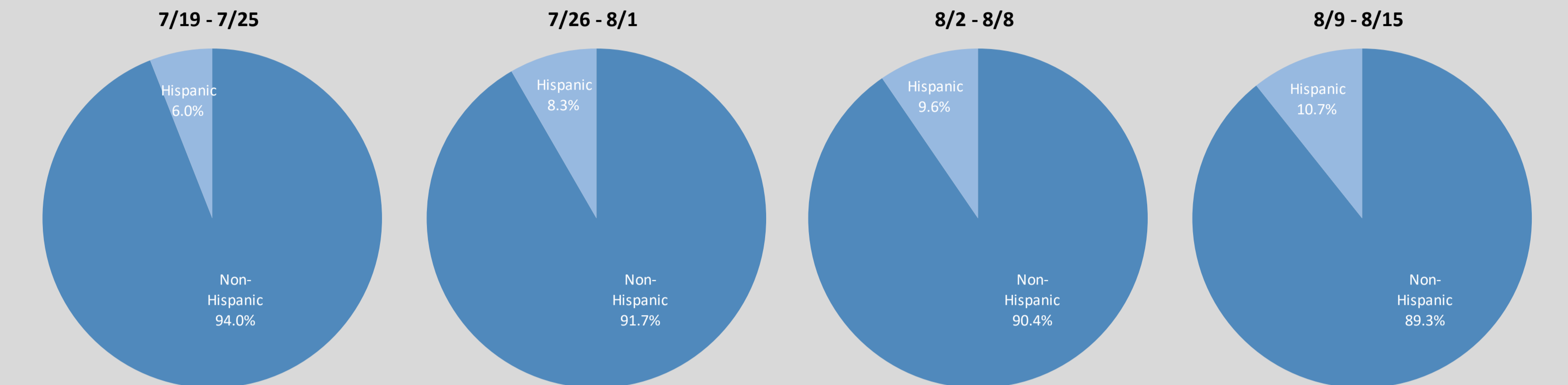
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Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Age



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

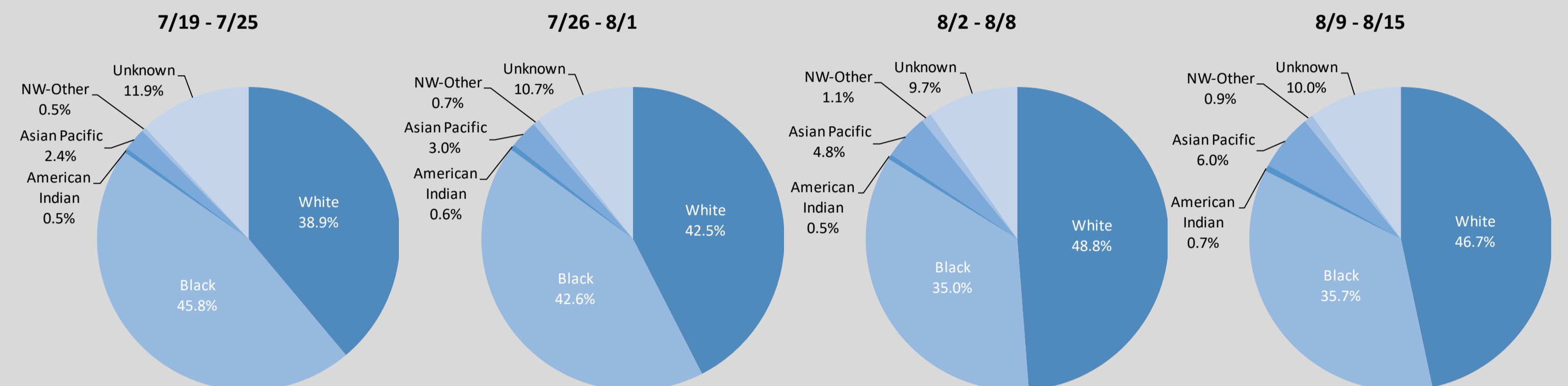
Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Ethnicity Composition



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

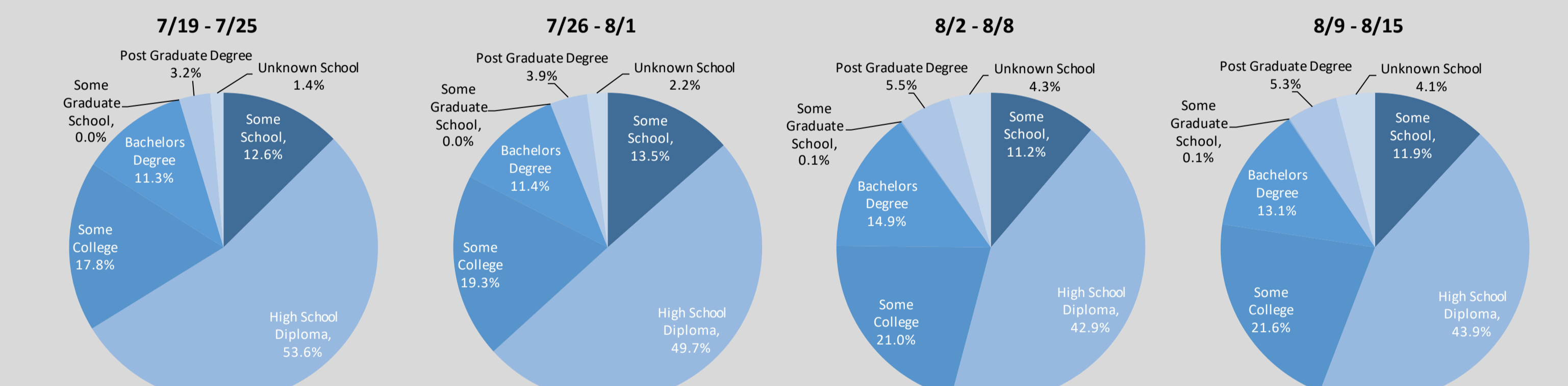
*Data self reported and subject to revision

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Race Composition



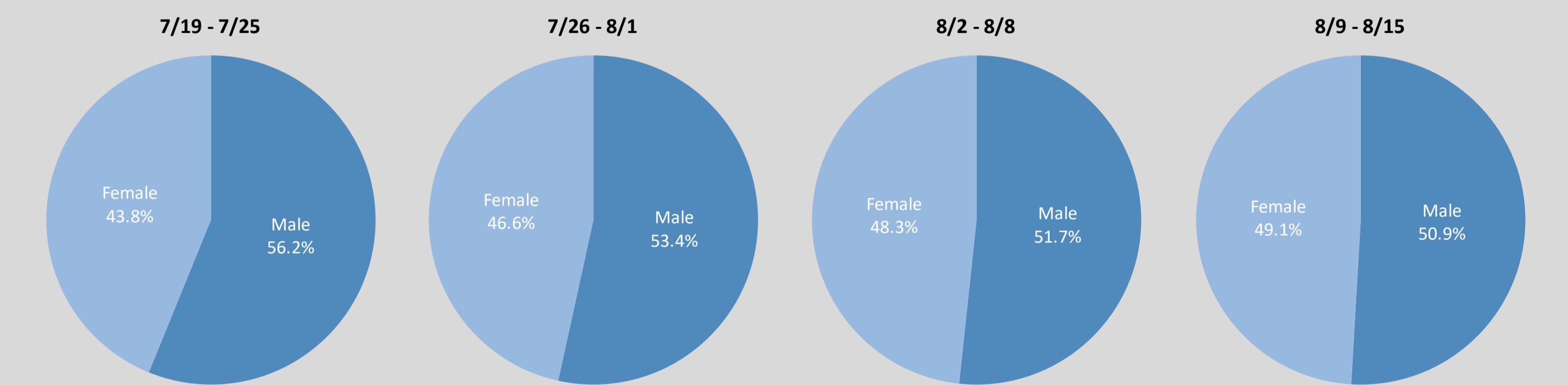
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Education Level



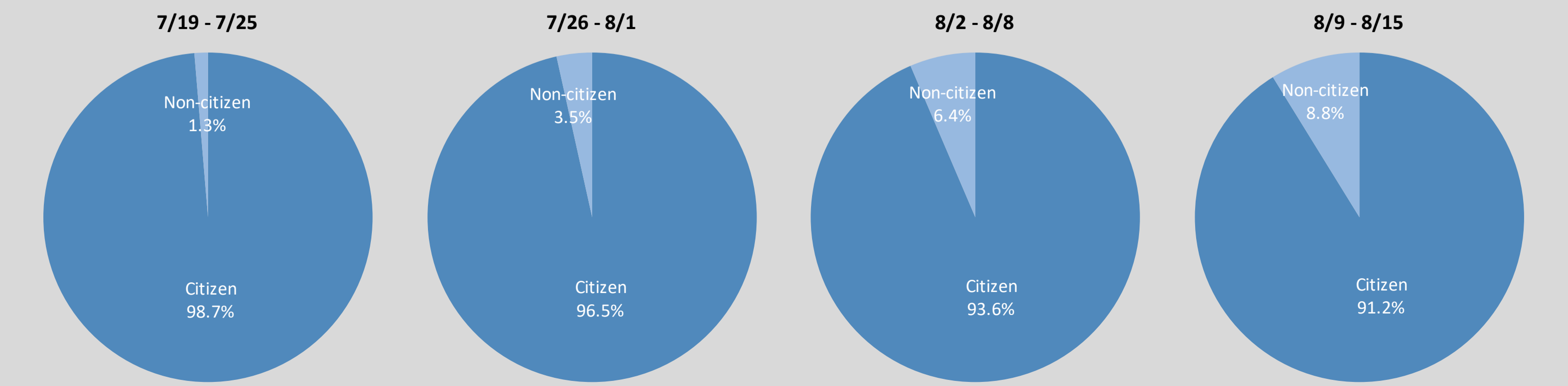
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Gender Composition



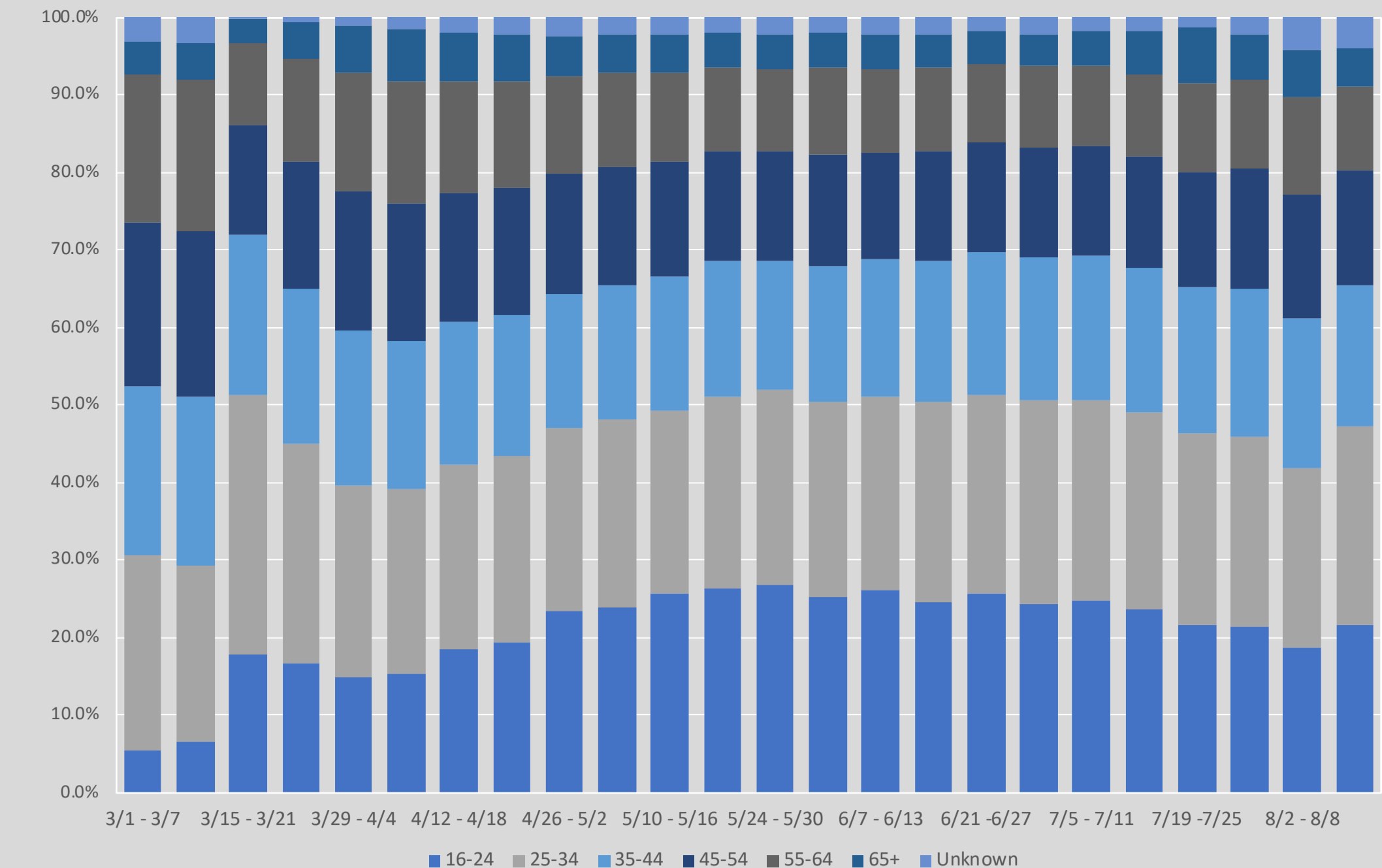
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Citizenship Status



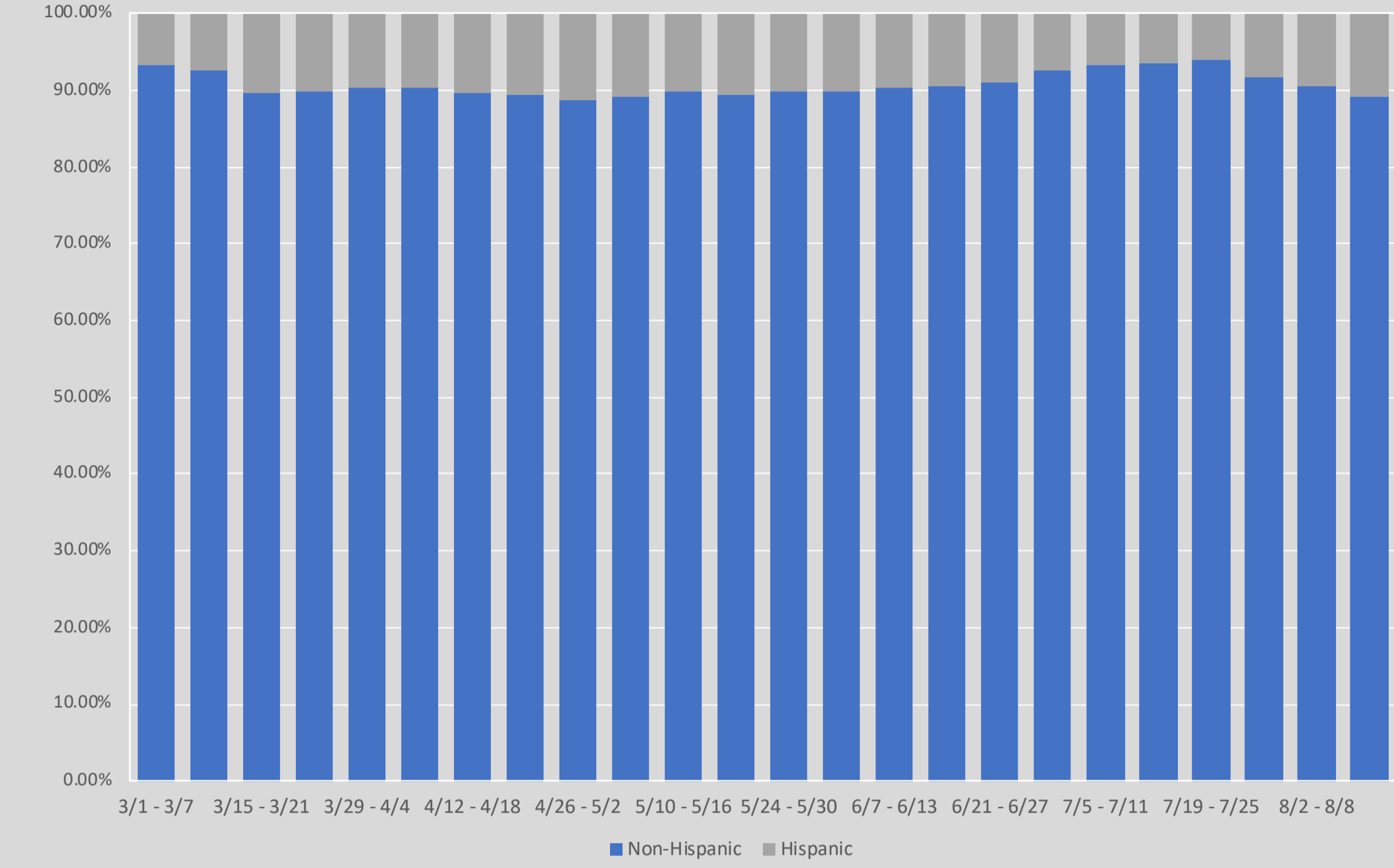
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Age



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

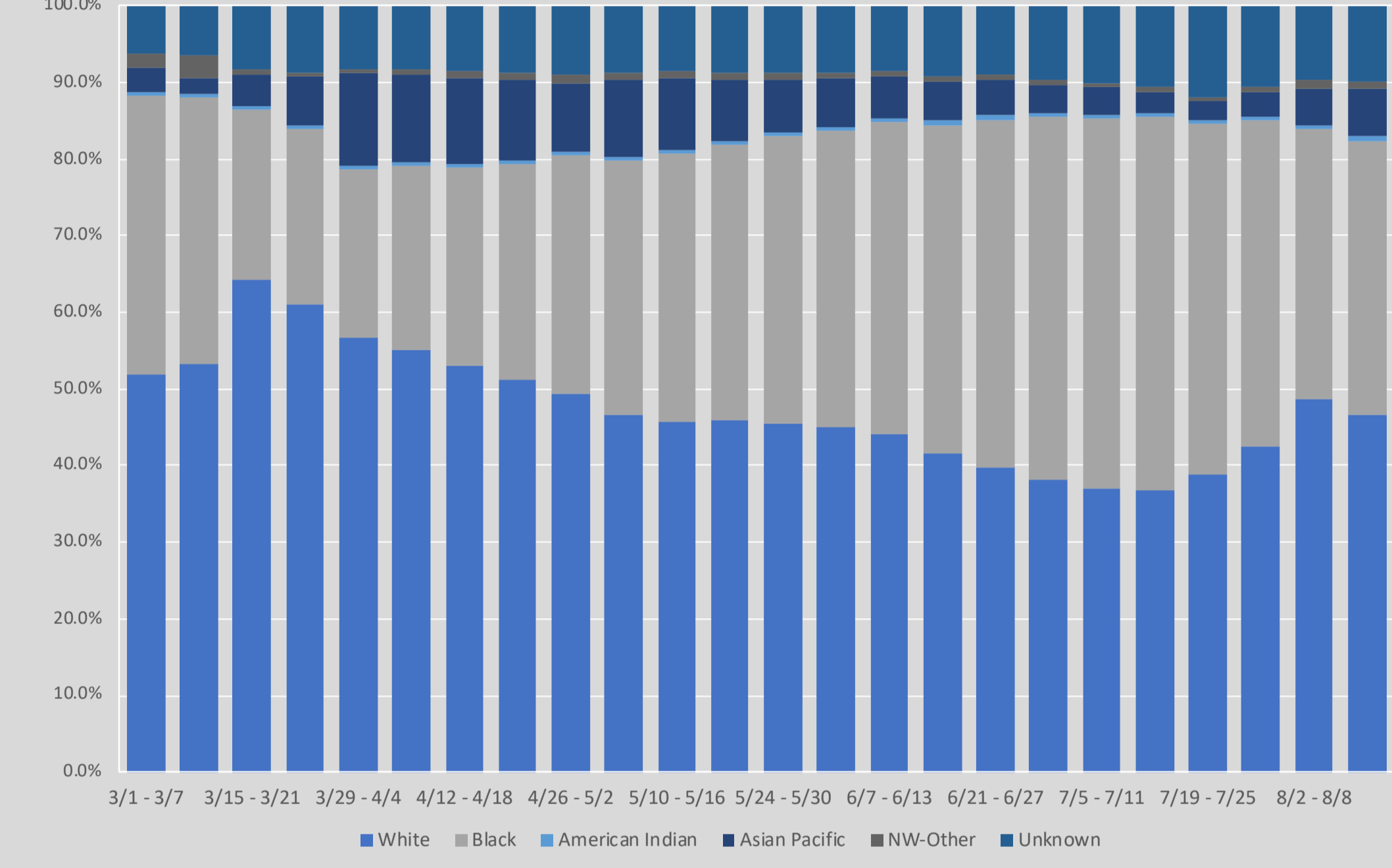
Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Ethnicity Composition



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

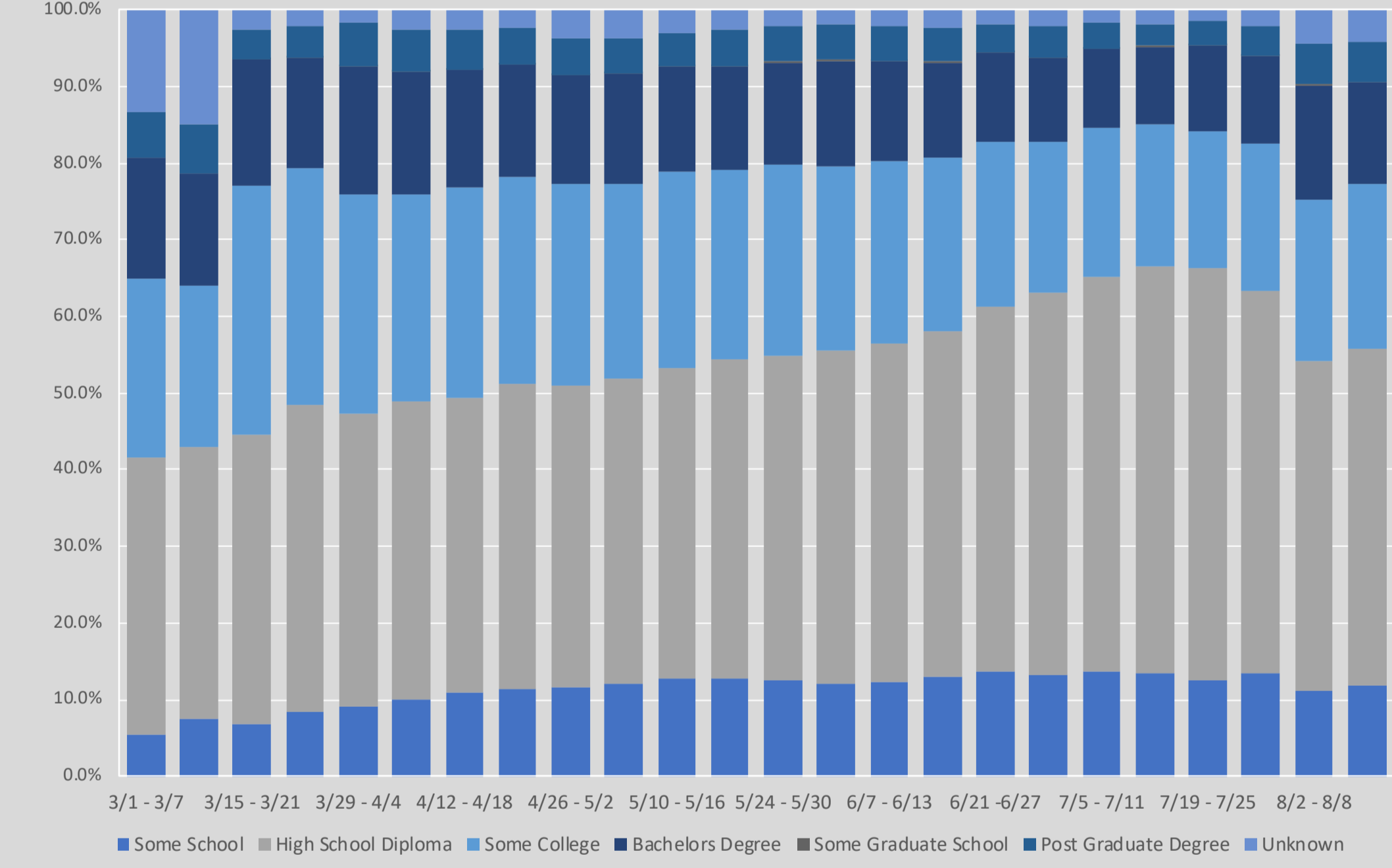
*Data self reported and subject to revision

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Race Composition



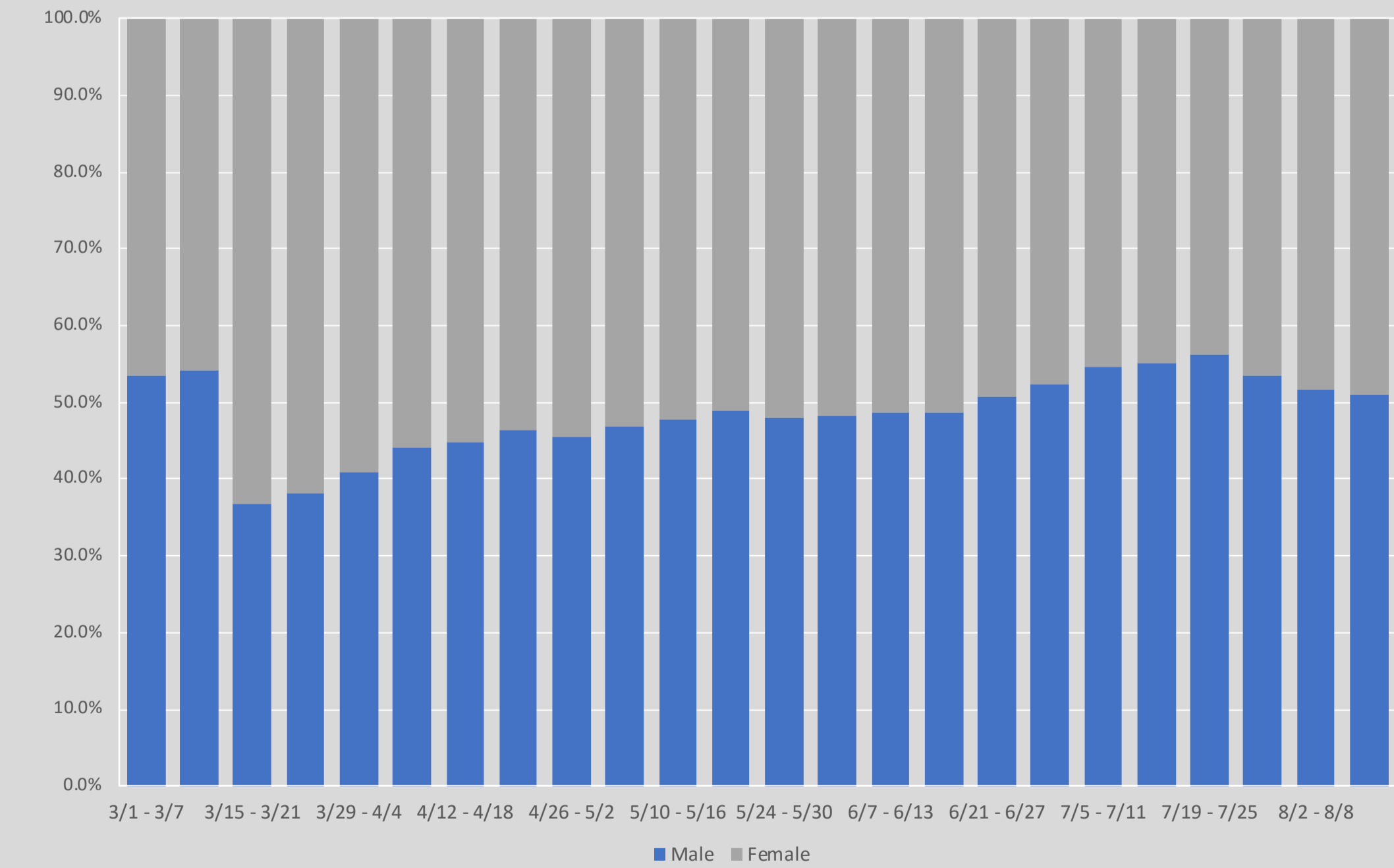
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Education Level



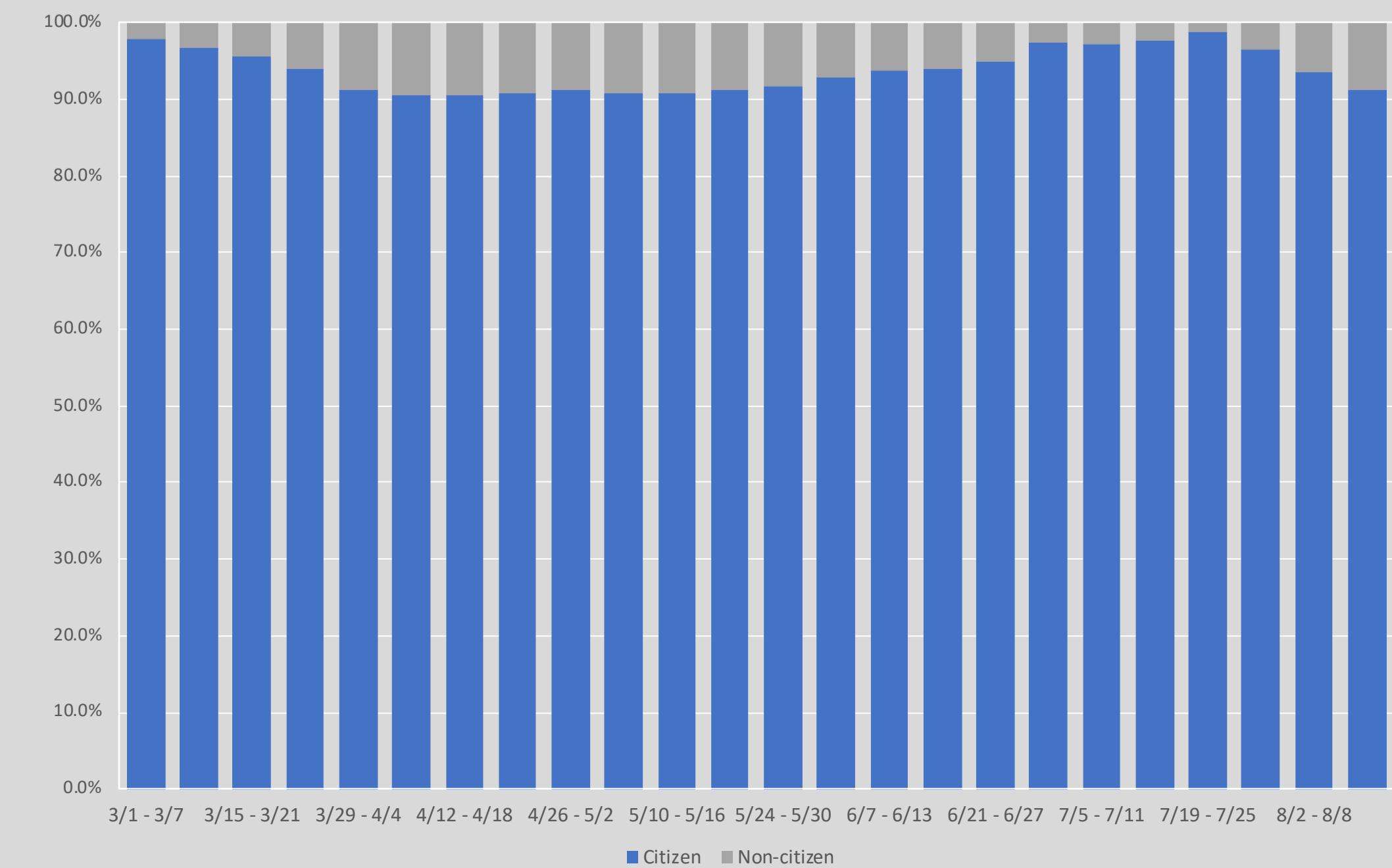
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

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