

Virginia Unemployment Claims Data Demographics

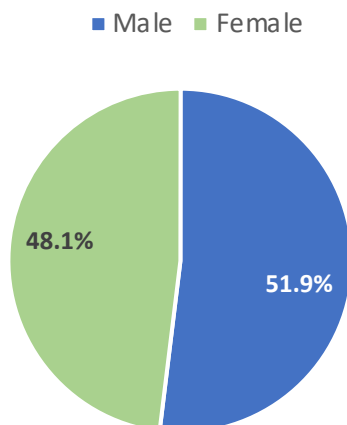
Week Ending September 12, 2020

Prepared by EIA/VEC

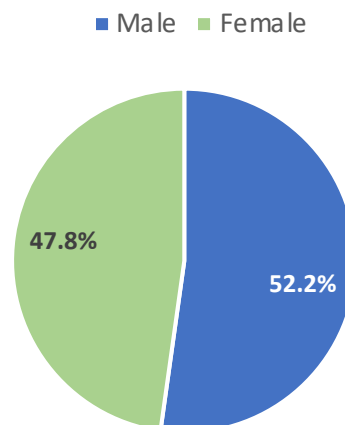
The week of September 6th – 12th marks the 26th week since the COVID-19 crisis began in the Commonwealth. There were 10,100 initial unemployment benefit claims this week, down 9.3% compared to the previous week. Monday September 7th was a national holiday, Labor Day, so no claims were processed that day. 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, 51.9% identified as male and 48.1% identified as female. This is a 0.3 percentage point change compared to the week prior. According to a survey by the BLS, approximately 53.0% of Virginia's workforce is male and 47.0% is female. Throughout the first 14 weeks of the COVID-19 crisis, female claimants accounted for 56.2% of all initial claims filed in the Commonwealth. In the weeks following, however, the gender breakdown in claims has more closely mirrored the BLS estimates. Beginning in the week ending June 27th, 53.4% of initial claimants have identified as male and 46.6% have identified as female. This suggests that in the beginning of the crisis, female workers were more negatively affected than male workers, but in recent weeks the affects equalized across the genders.

9/6 - 9/12 Claims by Gender



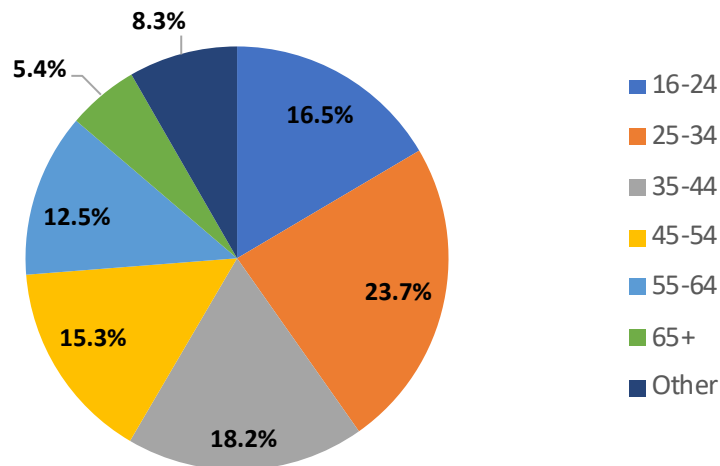
8/30 - 9/5 Claims by Gender



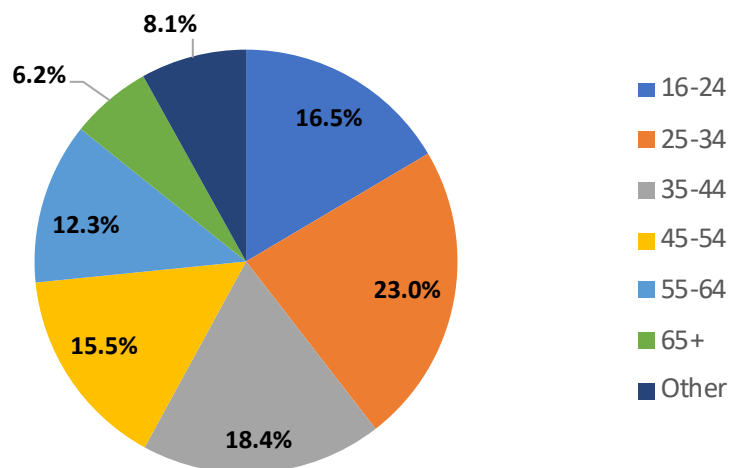
¹ When a participant is enrolled, they might receive benefits from a different location than that which is providing them with assistance. Those intermediary claims are considered agent claims.

Grouping initial claimants into age cohorts is another way to analyze their demographics. This allows us to see the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on different segments of the workforce. Compared to the previous week, the age breakdown in initial claims this week remained relatively unchanged. The share of claims filed by workers in the first cohort, ages 16-24, did not change at 16.5% and the share of claims filed by the next cohort, ages 25-34, increased by 0.7 percentage points to 23.7%. Since the beginning of the crisis, these two cohorts have made up the largest portion of initial filings, approximately 45.4% of all claims since the week ending March 21st. The next two cohorts, ages 35-44 and 45-54, have accounted for 34.6% of claims in the same time period. According to a BLS survey which estimated the age of Virginia's workforce, 22.8% of Virginia's workforce are between the ages of 16-34 while 41.0% are between the ages of 35-54. This disparity between the age breakdown in claims and the BLS estimates have led us to believe that younger workers have been more negatively affected by the COVID-19 crisis than older workers.

9/6 - 9/12 Claims by Age



8/30 - 9/5 Claims by Age



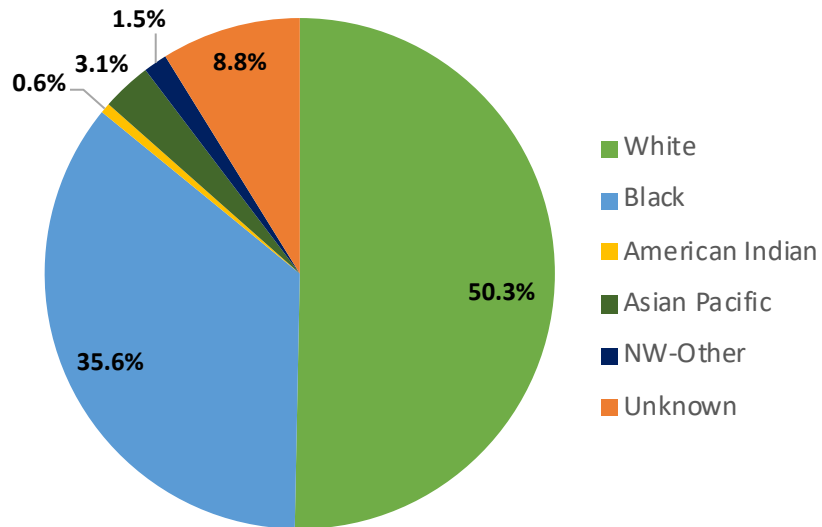
The occupation code of workers filing an initial claim is another important metric we need to examine. This gives us a general idea of the types of jobs from which workers are being laid off from. Overall, the breakdown in the share of initial claims filed by each occupation code was similar to the week prior. The largest increase came from *Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations* (35-0000) which saw their share of initial claims filings increase 0.9 percentage points to 6.5%. *Production Occupations* (51-0000) saw the largest decrease in their share compared to the previous week, falling 0.9 percentage points to 4.4%. Of the 23 two-digit occupation classifications, 15 occupations saw a decrease in the number of claims filed compared to the week before. The largest decrease came from *Office and Administrative Support Occupations* (43-0000) which had 140 fewer claims than in the week prior. 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	766	-99	8.02%
13-0000	297	-13	3.11%
15-0000	261	4	2.73%
17-0000	161	-17	1.69%
19-0000	56	-15	0.59%
21-0000	110	1	1.15%
23-0000	25	-10	0.26%
25-0000	187	-62	1.96%
27-0000	328	14	3.44%
29-0000	233	-23	2.44%
31-0000	264	-37	2.77%
33-0000	127	21	1.33%
35-0000	624	59	6.54%
37-0000	397	-21	4.16%
39-0000	649	14	6.80%
41-0000	939	37	9.84%
43-0000	957	-140	10.03%
45-0000	24	-14	0.25%
47-0000	567	-33	5.94%
49-0000	310	-26	3.25%
51-0000	415	-117	4.35%
53-0000	683	-35	7.15%
55-0000	11	3	0.12%
Unknown	1,155	-5	12.10%

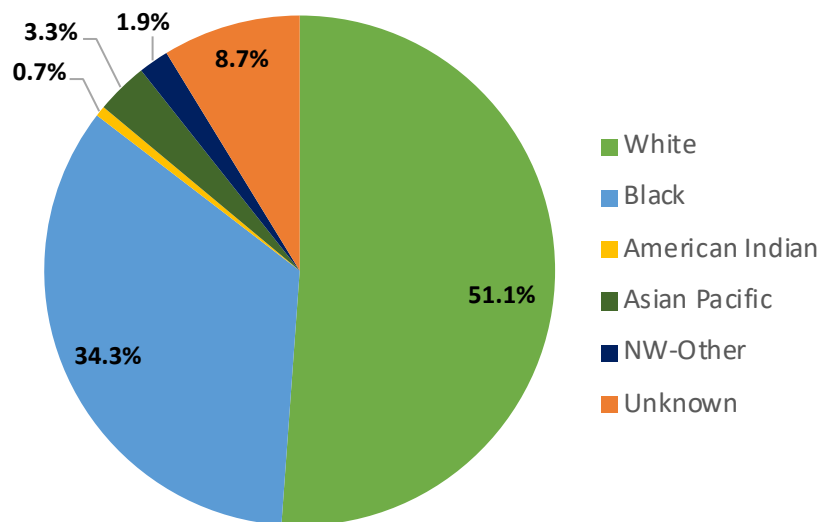
**This sample includes intrastate and interstate claims data, but not agent claims, totals will not equal reported state totals when aggregated.

Another important metric to analyze is the race of initial claimants. Over the last week, 50.3% of initial claimants identified as white, a 0.8 percentage point decrease from the previous week. The share of initial claimants who identified as black increased by 1.3 percentage points from 34.3% last week to 35.6% this week. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis in the week ending March 21st, 50.3% of initial claimants have identified as white and 31.6% have identified as black.

9/6 - 9/12 Claims by Race

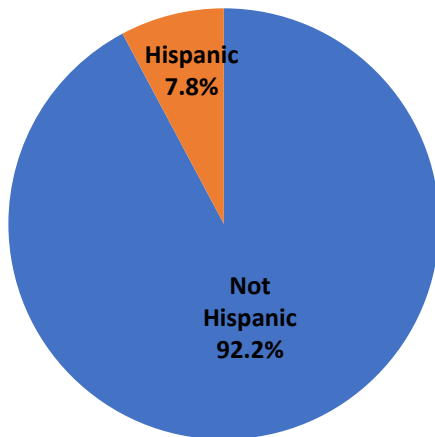


8/30 - 9/5 Claims by Race

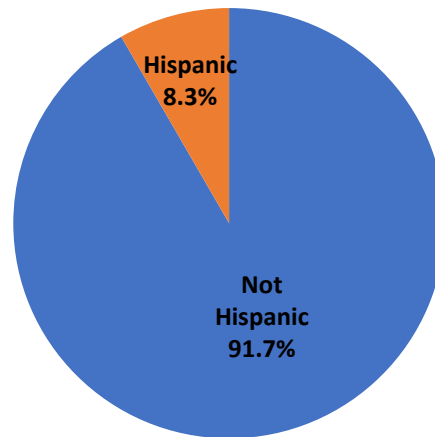


The ethnicity of initial claimants is yet another factor that is important to explore. According to the Census Bureau, approximately 9.6% of Virginians identify as either Hispanic or Latino. Since the beginning of the crisis, 9.6% of initial claimants have self-identified as either Hispanic or Latino. This week 7.8% of claimants identified as Hispanic or Latino, a 0.5 percentage point decrease from 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.

9/6 - 9/12 Claims by Ethnicity



8/30 - 9/5 Claims by Ethnicity



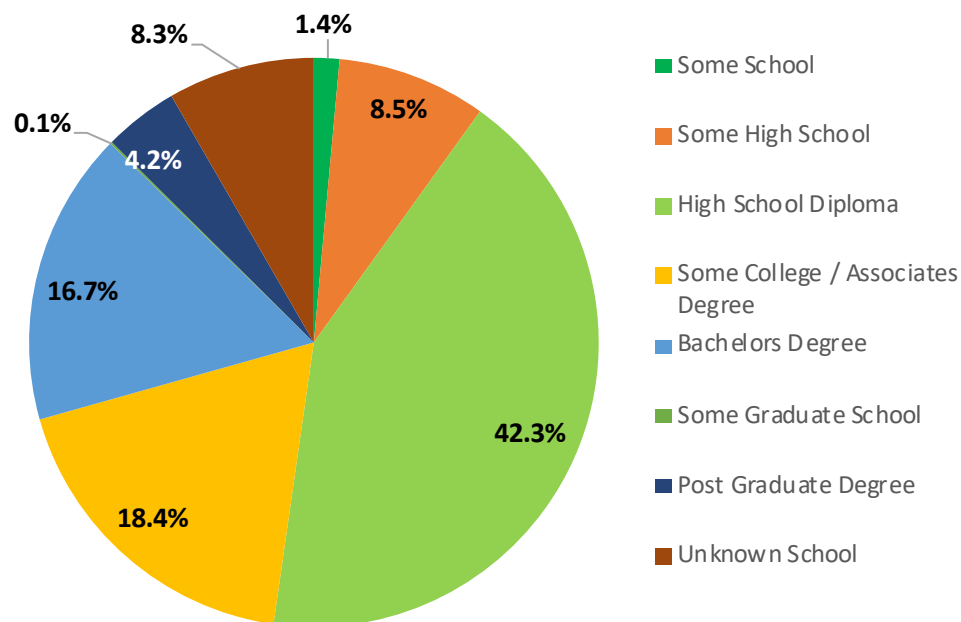
The citizenship status of initial claimants is also an important metric to look into. According to an American Community Survey report, approximately 94.2% of Virginians are citizens, either through naturalization or by birth, and 5.8% are non-citizens. Throughout the crisis, roughly 7.1% of initial claimants have identified as being non-citizens, including 3.8% of claimants this week. Compared to the previous week there was a 0.2 percentage point increase in the share of claimants identifying as non-citizens, increasing from 3.6% to 3.8%.

Citizenship Status	Number of Claims	Change from the previous week	Percentage of Initial Claims	Percentage of Population (ACS)
Citizen	9,184	-517	96.21%	94.23%
Non-citizen	362	3	3.79%	5.77%

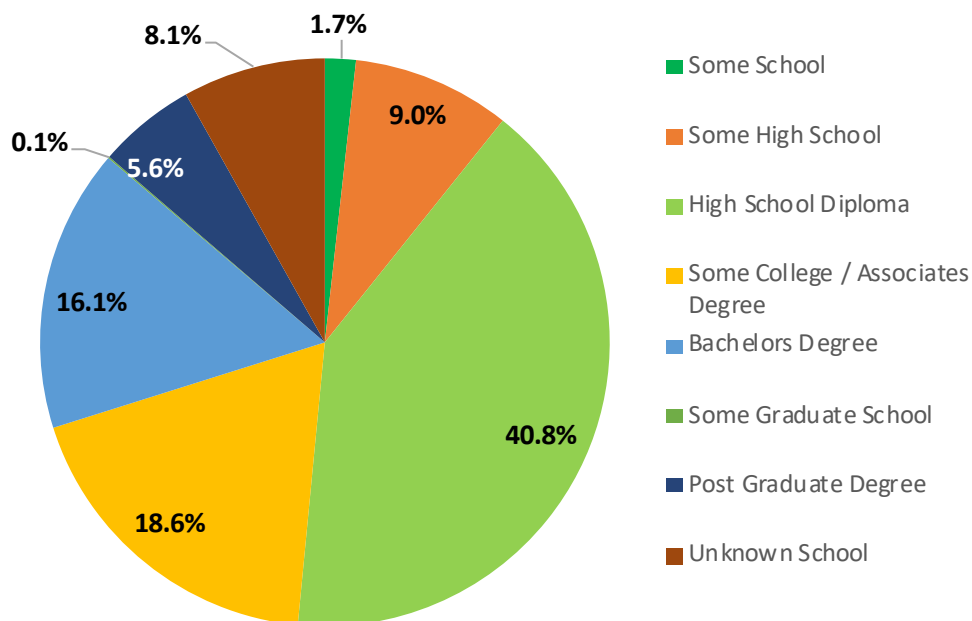
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The highest level of education attained by initial claimants is another useful data point to explore. This week 42.3% of claimants reported having a high school diploma, 1.5 percentage points higher than the week before. Additionally, the share of claimants who reported having some college experience of an associate's degree decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 18.4%. The share of claimants who reported having a bachelor's degree increased by 0.6 percentage points from 16.1% last week to 16.7% this week.

9/6 - 9/12 Claims by Education Level



8/30 - 9/5 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 once again had the most filings with 624 initial claims. Norfolk City and Virginia Beach City followed with 507 and 460 initial claims respectively. For the fourth week in a row Manassas Park City was the only locality with zero initial benefit claims. Out of the 133 counties and cities in the Commonwealth, 96 localities saw either a decrease or no change in the total number of claims filed compared to the previous week. The largest decrease came from Fairfax County which recorded 61 fewer initial claims than the week before. This week's largest increase came from Norfolk City, which saw 66 additional claims compared to the previous week.

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 was once again the locality most affected with 0.8% of its labor force filing an initial claim. Portsmouth City and Greenville County followed with 0.6% and 0.5% of their respective labor forces filing a claim this week.

County/City	Number of Claims	Change from the previous week	Percentage of Initial Claims	Claims as a percentage of labor force
Accomack County	27	1	0.28%	0.16%
Albemarle County	34	-14	0.36%	0.06%
Alexandria City	128	-35	1.34%	0.12%
Alleghany County	7	1	0.07%	0.10%
Amelia County	10	6	0.10%	0.16%
Amherst County	21	-9	0.22%	0.14%
Appomattox County	6	-10	0.06%	0.08%
Arlington County	134	9	1.40%	0.09%
Augusta County	36	12	0.38%	0.09%
Bath County	3	2	0.03%	0.12%
Bedford County	45	-17	0.47%	0.12%
Bland County	2	-3	0.02%	0.07%
Botetourt County	13	-7	0.14%	0.07%
Bristol City	24	-5	0.25%	0.33%
Brunswick County	19	-1	0.20%	0.31%
Buchanan County	8	-15	0.08%	0.12%
Buckingham County	7	-2	0.07%	0.11%
Buena Vista City	4	0	0.04%	0.11%
Campbell County	17	-25	0.18%	0.07%
Caroline County	25	-2	0.26%	0.16%
Carroll County	22	-28	0.23%	0.17%

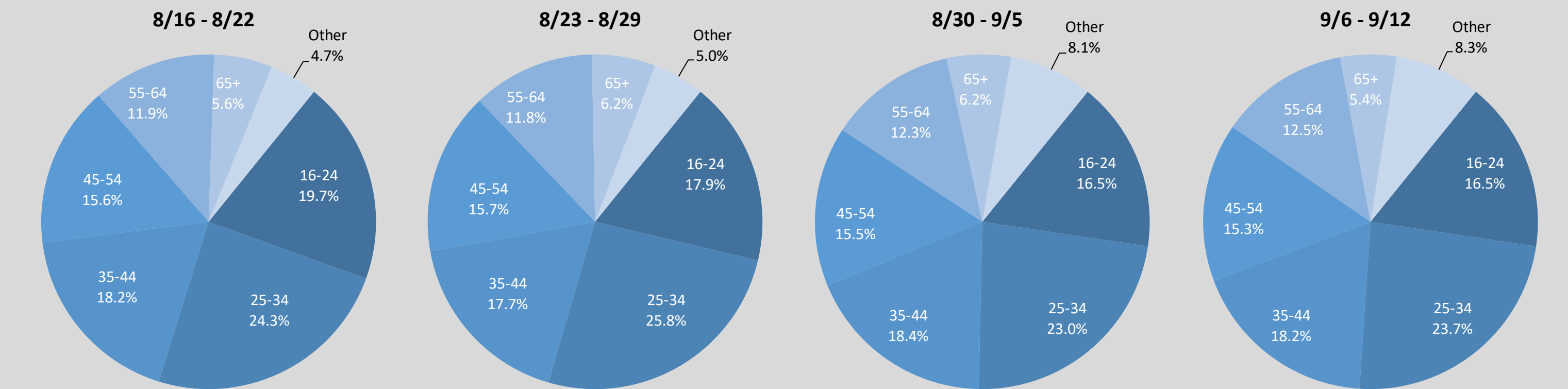
Charles City County	8	4	0.08%	0.21%
Charlotte County	9	-3	0.09%	0.17%
Charlottesville City	36	-2	0.38%	0.13%
Chesapeake City	215	-38	2.25%	0.17%
Chesterfield County	267	-2	2.80%	0.14%
Clarke County	2	-1	0.02%	0.03%
Colonial Heights City	19	-18	0.20%	0.21%
Covington City	8	-4	0.08%	0.33%
Craig County	3	1	0.03%	0.13%
Culpeper County	29	2	0.30%	0.12%
Cumberland County	6	0	0.06%	0.13%
Danville City	87	14	0.91%	0.45%
Dickenson County	8	-8	0.08%	0.17%
Dinwiddie County	8	-1	0.08%	0.06%
Emporia City	2	-3	0.02%	0.09%
Essex County	4	-5	0.04%	0.07%
Fairfax City	10	0	0.10%	0.07%
Fairfax County	624	-61	6.54%	0.10%
Falls Church City	14	4	0.15%	0.16%
Fauquier County	37	-5	0.39%	0.10%
Floyd County	9	-9	0.09%	0.11%
Fluvanna County	11	2	0.12%	0.08%
Franklin City	10	-11	0.10%	0.28%
Franklin County	38	-4	0.40%	0.14%
Frederick County	38	-6	0.40%	0.08%
Fredericksburg City	40	-14	0.42%	0.28%
Galax City	4	1	0.04%	0.14%
Giles County	16	-23	0.17%	0.21%
Gloucester County	25	6	0.26%	0.13%
Goochland County	6	-1	0.06%	0.05%
Grayson County	18	6	0.19%	0.22%
Greene County	10	0	0.10%	0.09%
Greensville County	22	-3	0.23%	0.51%
Halifax County	32	-14	0.34%	0.20%
Hampton City	215	24	2.25%	0.33%
Hanover County	64	3	0.67%	0.11%
Harrisonburg City	52	3	0.54%	0.20%
Henrico County	265	3	2.78%	0.14%
Henry County	69	-7	0.72%	0.29%
Highland County	1	-4	0.01%	0.08%
Hopewell City	45	6	0.47%	0.45%
Isle of Wight County	25	-7	0.26%	0.13%
James City County	60	-2	0.63%	0.16%
King and Queen County	6	-12	0.06%	0.15%

King George County	12	-4	0.13%	0.09%
King William County	7	-8	0.07%	0.07%
Lancaster County	3	-7	0.03%	0.05%
Lee County	17	0	0.18%	0.20%
Lexington City	1	0	0.01%	0.05%
Loudoun County	227	6	2.38%	0.10%
Louisa County	16	-10	0.17%	0.08%
Lunenburg County	8	-3	0.08%	0.15%
Lynchburg City	83	-16	0.87%	0.23%
Madison County	2	-4	0.02%	0.03%
Manassas City	35	2	0.37%	0.16%
Manassas Park City	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Martinsville City	9	-6	0.09%	0.16%
Mathews County	10	0	0.10%	0.24%
Mecklenburg County	26	-10	0.27%	0.21%
Middlesex County	8	-1	0.08%	0.15%
Montgomery County	49	-33	0.51%	0.10%
Nelson County	13	1	0.14%	0.18%
New Kent County	20	5	0.21%	0.16%
Newport News City	250	0	2.62%	0.29%
Norfolk City	507	66	5.31%	0.47%
Northampton County	14	-2	0.15%	0.27%
Northumberland County	11	2	0.12%	0.21%
Norton City	5	-5	0.05%	0.31%
Nottoway County	16	9	0.17%	0.22%
Orange County	23	-10	0.24%	0.13%
Page County	19	-8	0.20%	0.17%
Patrick County	8	2	0.08%	0.12%
Petersburg City	94	-25	0.98%	0.75%
Pittsylvania County	32	-10	0.34%	0.11%
Poquoson City	5	0	0.05%	0.08%
Portsmouth City	269	20	2.82%	0.63%
Powhatan County	8	-2	0.08%	0.06%
Prince Edward County	17	-6	0.18%	0.17%
Prince George County	28	10	0.29%	0.19%
Prince William County	409	53	4.28%	0.17%
Pulaski County	22	-36	0.23%	0.14%
Radford City	21	-15	0.22%	0.26%
Rappahannock County	3	-2	0.03%	0.08%
Richmond City	444	-18	4.65%	0.38%
Richmond County	11	0	0.12%	0.28%
Roanoke City	123	-32	1.29%	0.26%
Roanoke County	53	-9	0.56%	0.11%
Rockbridge County	18	5	0.19%	0.17%

Rockingham County	36	0	0.38%	0.09%
Russell County	31	10	0.32%	0.29%
Salem City	16	-11	0.17%	0.13%
Scott County	12	-6	0.13%	0.13%
Shenandoah County	27	-12	0.28%	0.12%
Smyth County	19	-23	0.20%	0.14%
Southampton County	8	-1	0.08%	0.09%
Spotsylvania County	77	-27	0.81%	0.12%
Stafford County	108	8	1.13%	0.15%
Staunton City	28	0	0.29%	0.23%
Suffolk City	111	-1	1.16%	0.26%
Surry County	4	2	0.04%	0.11%
Sussex County	9	-5	0.09%	0.24%
Tazewell County	38	9	0.40%	0.25%
Virginia Beach City	460	-52	4.82%	0.20%
Warren County	25	-2	0.26%	0.12%
Washington County	43	-1	0.45%	0.16%
Waynesboro City	19	-12	0.20%	0.18%
Westmoreland County	11	-3	0.12%	0.12%
Williamsburg City	4	-3	0.04%	0.06%
Winchester City	29	2	0.30%	0.20%
Wise County	29	-10	0.30%	0.23%
Wythe County	30	-13	0.31%	0.23%
York County	20	-5	0.21%	0.06%
Other	2,327	74	24.38%	N/A

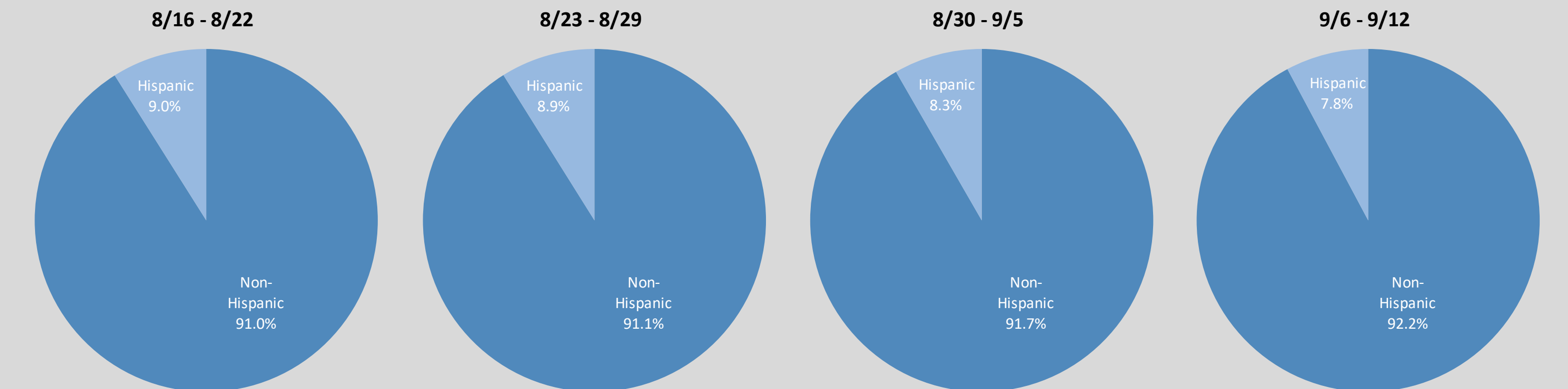
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Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Age



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

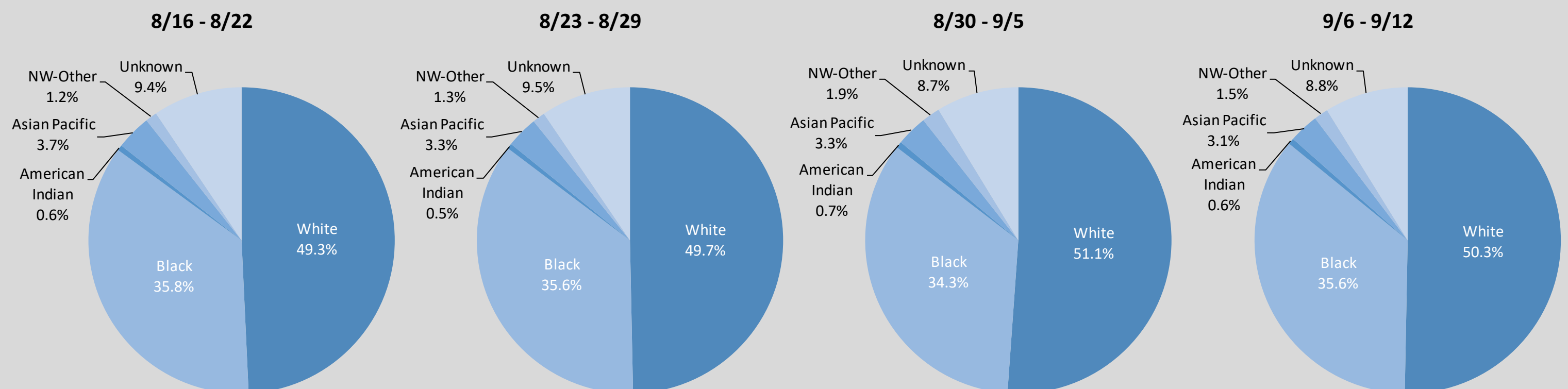
Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Ethnicity Composition



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

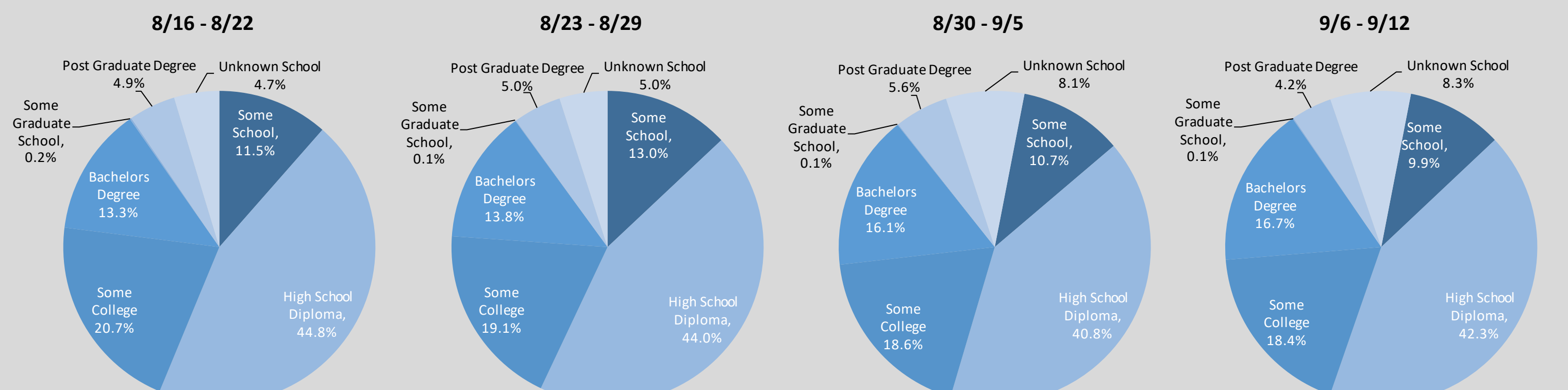
*Data self reported and subject to revision

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Race Composition



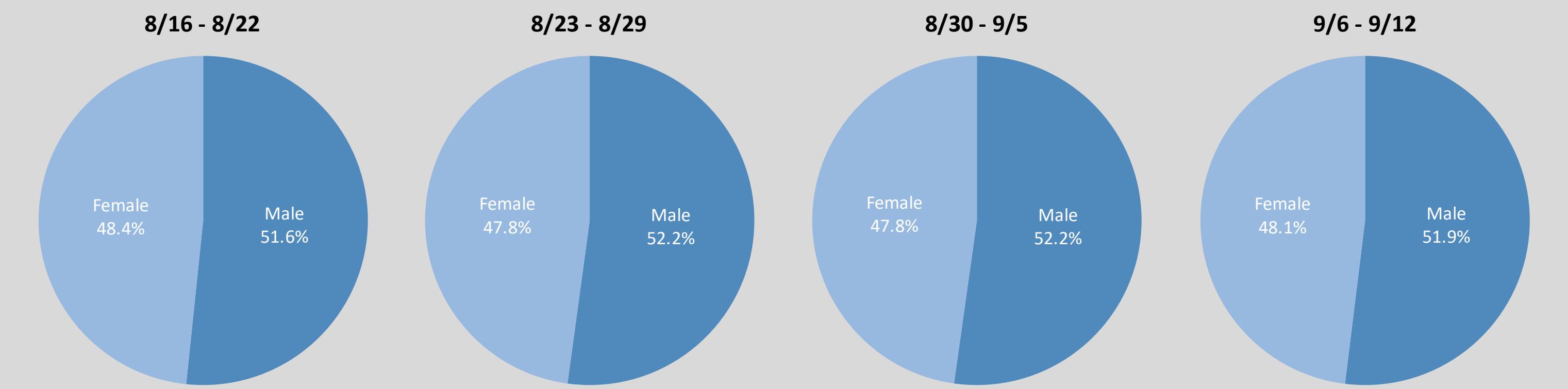
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Education Level



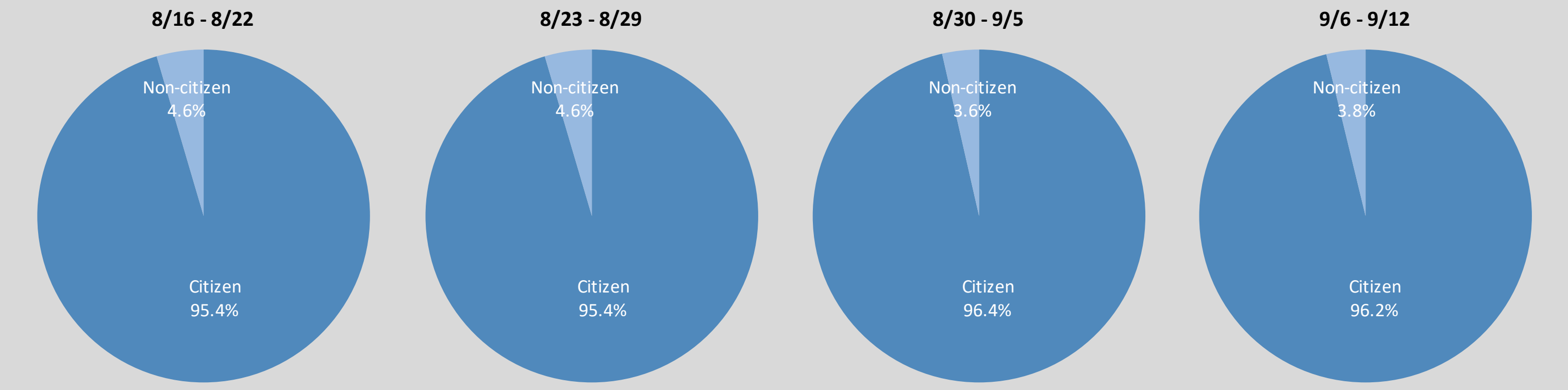
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Gender Composition



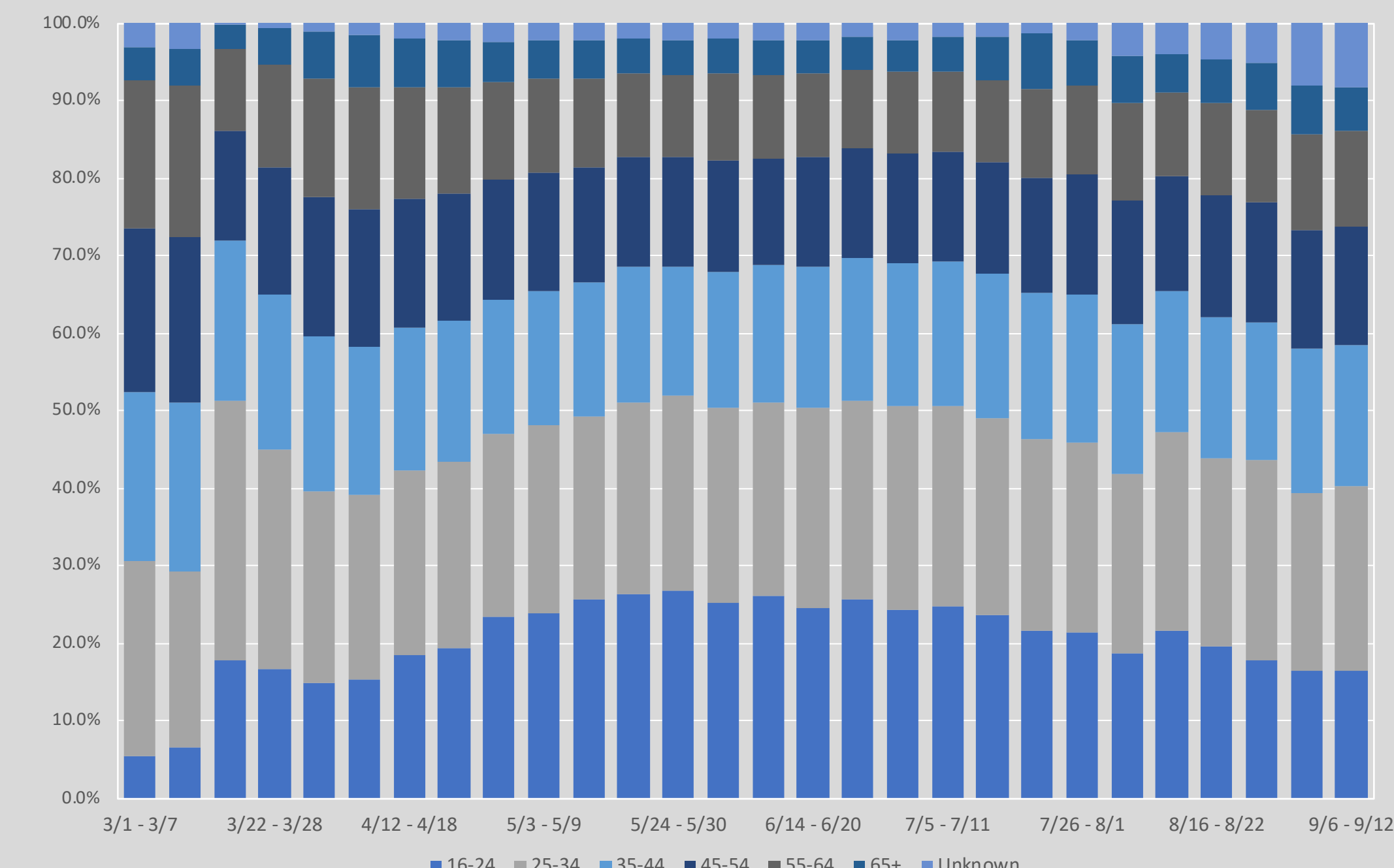
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Citizenship Status



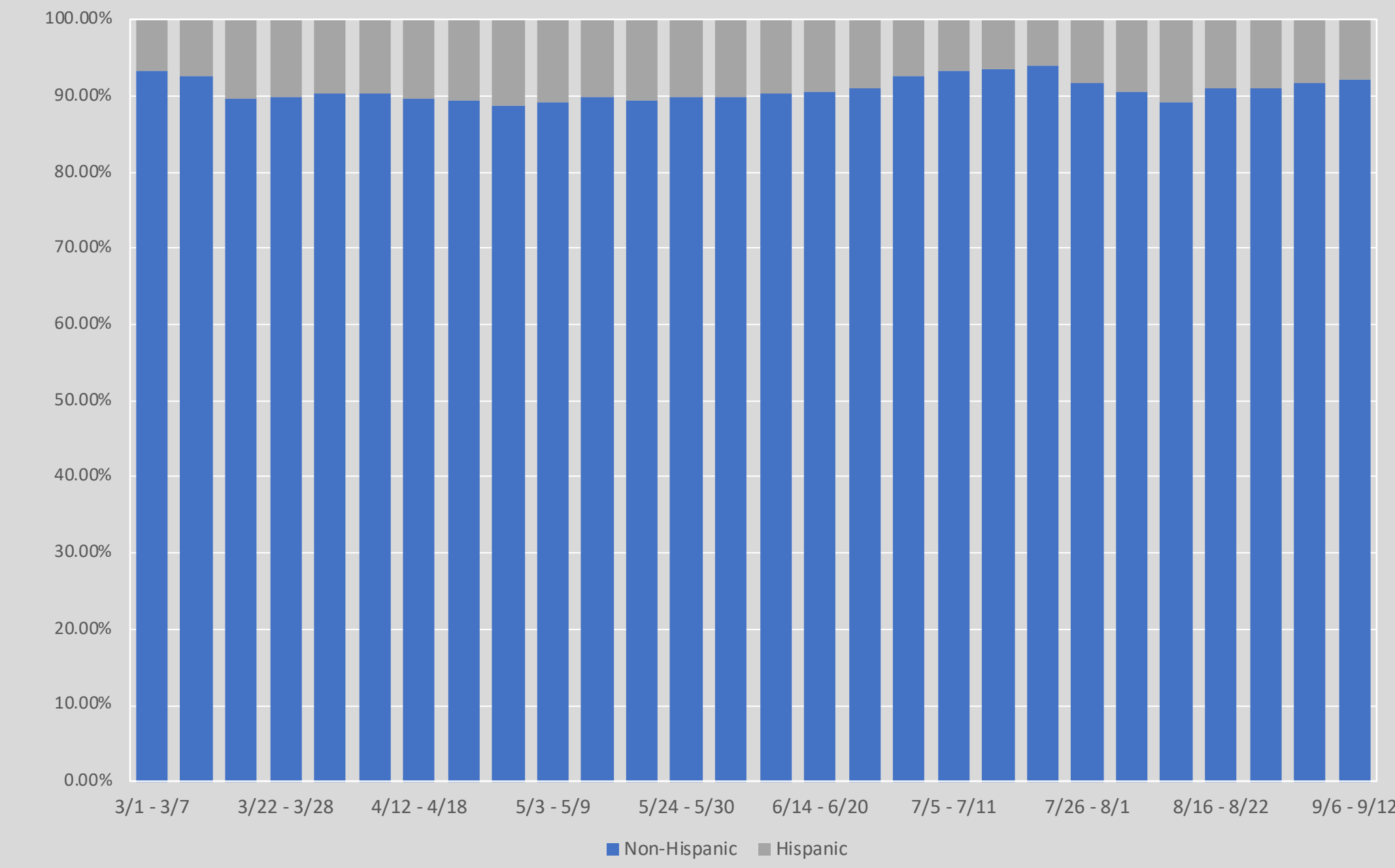
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Age



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

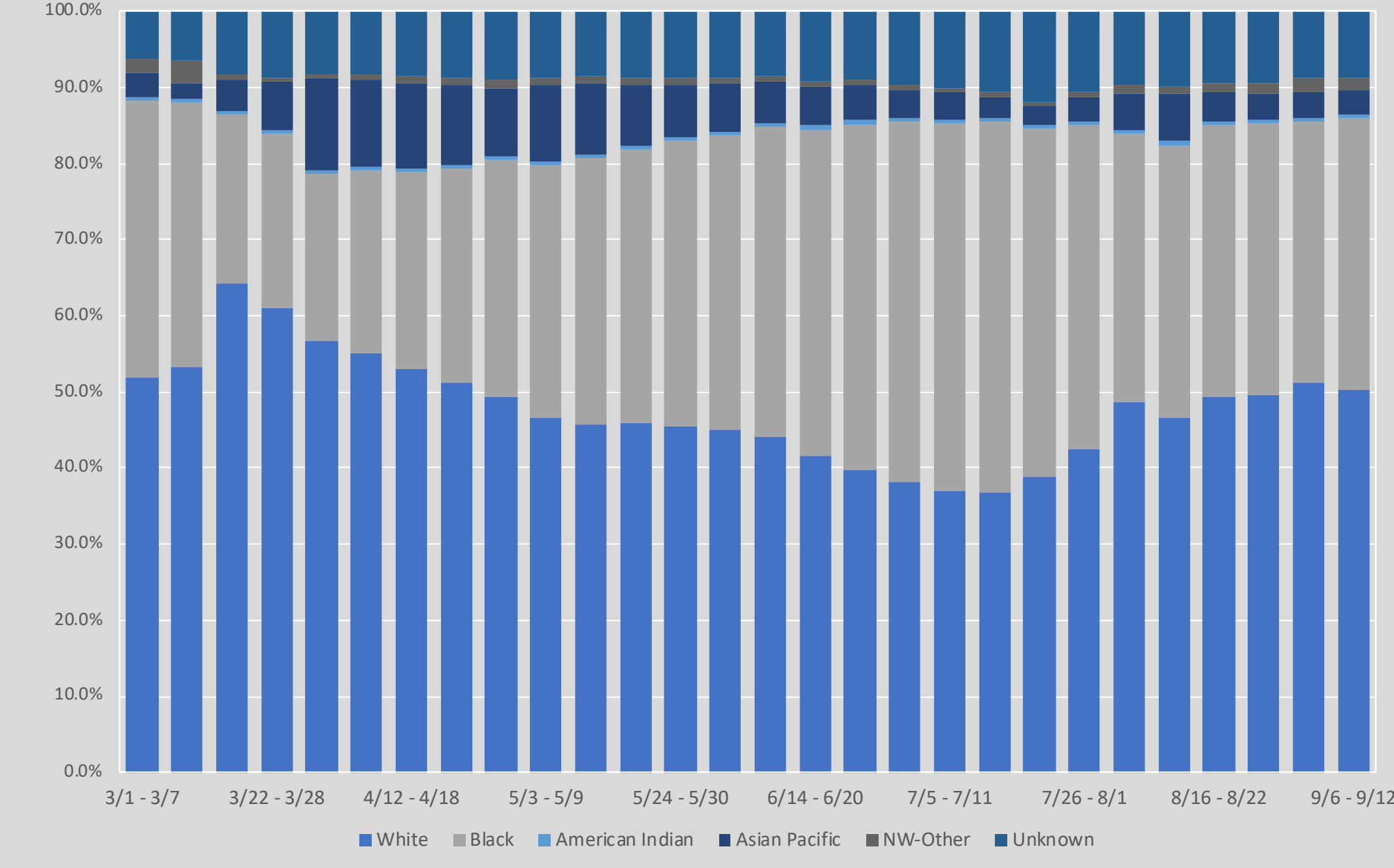
Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Ethnicity Composition



Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

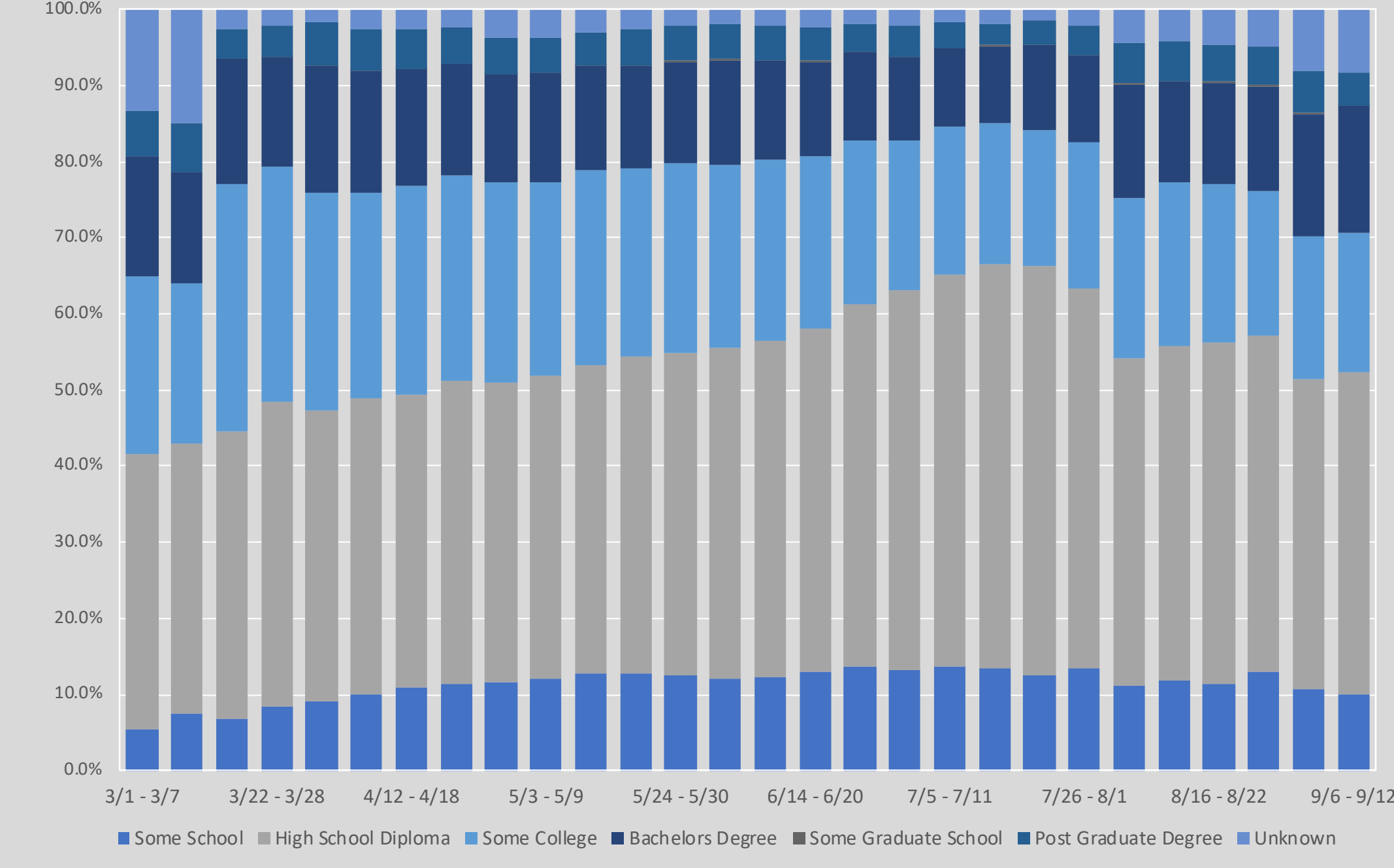
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Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Race Composition



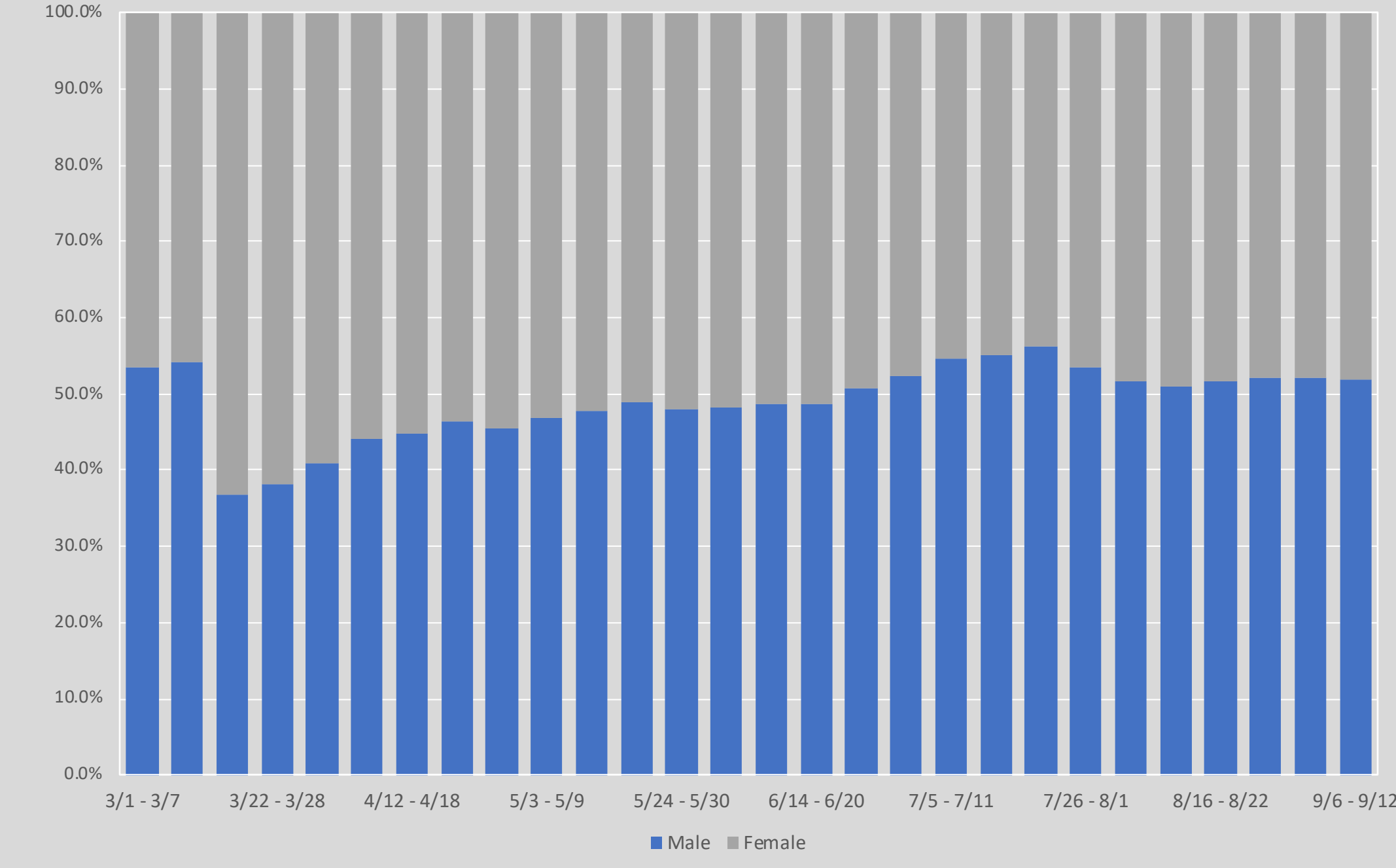
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

Virginia Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance: Education Level



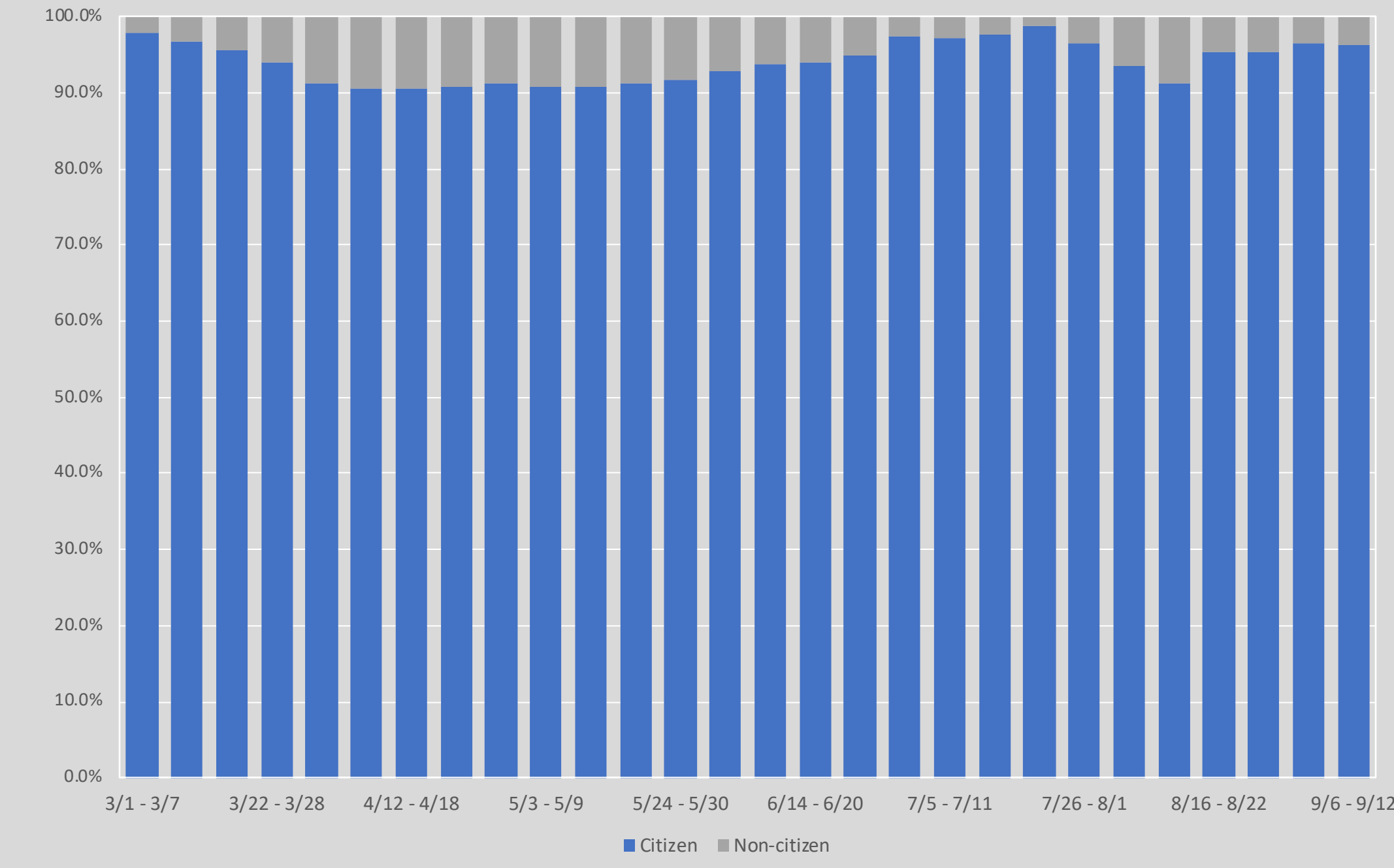
Source: Virginia Employment Commission - EIA

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