

Northern Virginia Federal Workforce

Jill Kaneff

Senior Regional Demographer

Northern Virginia Regional Commission



March 25, 2025

City of Alexandria

Federal Civilian Employment Data Source Limitations

Underestimates

OPM

145K Virginia

2.3M USA

May 2024

- Uses Enterprise Human Resources Integration (EHRI) Data Warehouse
- EHRI is not a governmentwide personnel accounting system
- Excludes security agencies
- Excludes postal service
- Represents place of work

BLS QCEW

193K Virginia

3.0M USA

2024 2Q

- Coverage is that of the unemployment insurance act
- Excludes security agencies
- Includes postal service, 607K USA (May 2024, BLS CES)
- Represents place of work

Overestimates

CB ACS

4.4M USA

2023

- Self-reported
- Does not have agency exclusions
- Many grant holders and contractors self-report as federal workers
- Represents place of residence

Federal Monitoring



nvrc
Northern Virginia Regional Commission

NOVA Region Dashboard

Northern Virginia Regional Commission



ND
NOVA Dashboard

An official website of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission
[How do you know?](#)

Home	Reports/Resources	Federal Monitoring	2020 Census	People	Education	Economics
------	-------------------	--------------------	-------------	--------	-----------	-----------



Reports/Resources



Federal Monitoring



2020 Census



People



Education



Economics

NOVA Region Dashboard:
Demographics/Economics
www.novaregiondashboard.com



Federal Civilian Jobs Located in Northern Virginia

Full-Time and Part-Time

Jurisdiction	2024 2Q Federal Jobs	2024 2Q Share of Total Jobs
Alexandria City	9,021	11.2%
Arlington County	25,360	14.5%
Fairfax City	726	3.1%
Fairfax County	28,388	4.5%
Falls Church City	2,016	16.4%
Loudoun County	6,622	3.5%
Manassas City	1,006	4.1%
Manassas Park City	25	0.7%
Prince William County	7,975	5.7%
Northern Virginia	81,139	6.3%
Other Virginia Jurisdictions	105,156	4.1%
Unclassified Virginia	6,360	2.8%
Virginia	192,656	4.8%
United States	2,998,135	2.0%

6.3%

Federal civilian
jobs share of
total civilian
jobs in NOVA

2.7%

Share of
country's federal
civilian jobs
located in NOVA

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment (QCEW), 2024 2Q.

Federal Civilian Jobs Held by North Virginia Residents: Full-Time and Part-Time

Jurisdiction	2023 Federal Jobs	2023 Share of Total Jobs
Alexandria City	15,916	17.1%
Arlington County	28,356	19.5%
Fairfax County	78,810	12.8%
Fairfax City/Falls Church City	2,088	9.6%
Loudoun County	17,596	7.4%
Manassas City/Manassas Park City	2,084	6.3%
Prince William County	30,586	12.0%
Northern Virginia	175,436	12.5%
Virginia	341,477	7.9%
United States	4,385,408	2.7%

1 of 8

NOVA residents
has a federal
civilian job

4.0%

NOVA residents
share of
country's federal
civilian workers

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, Table S2408.

Federal Share of Total Civilian Employment

Federal Civilian Employment Share

19.4% (+/- 4.1%)

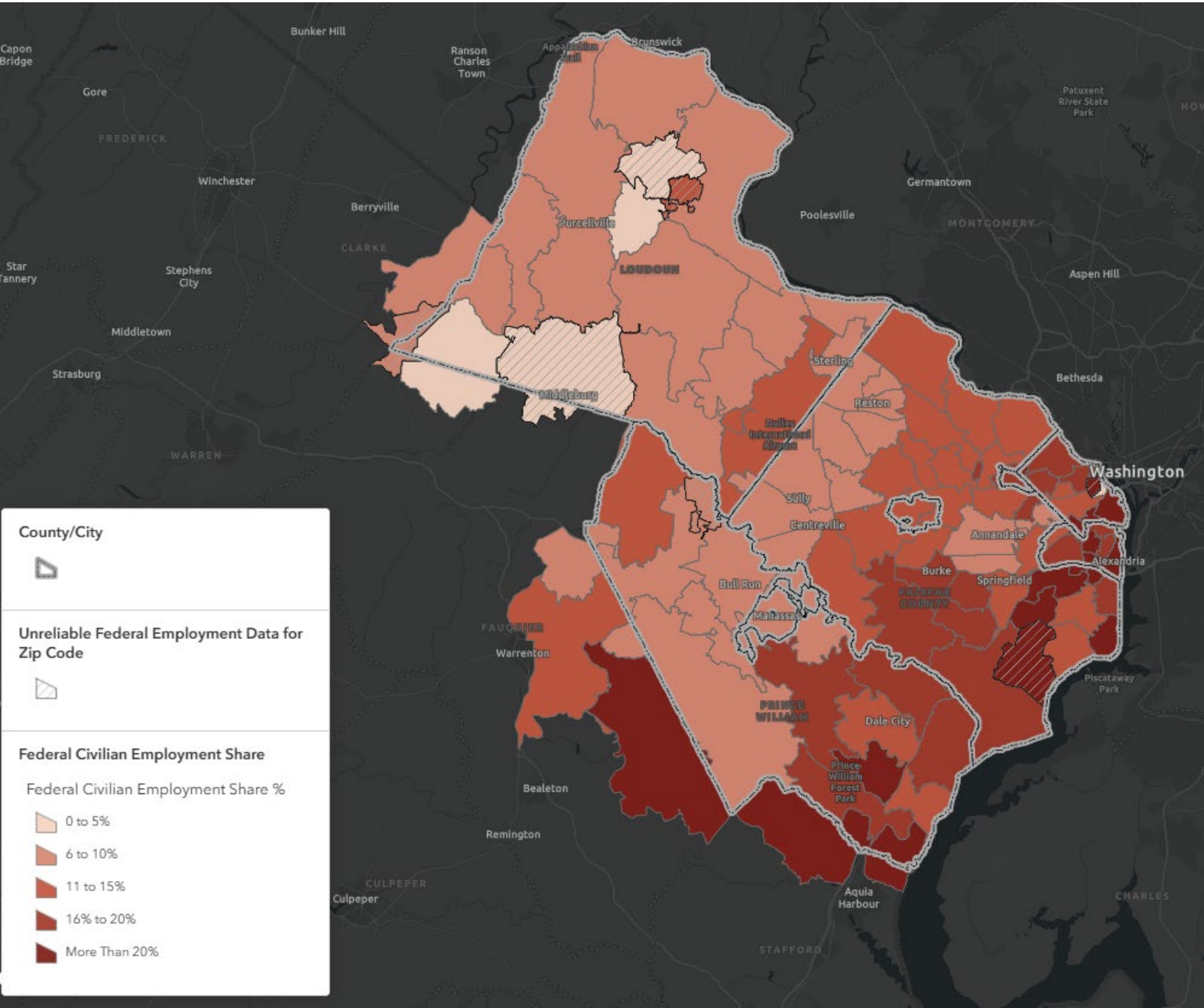
Zip Code - 22079

Zip Code	22079
Square Miles	35.05
Total Civilian Employment	19,051
Total Civilian Employment MOE (+/-)	1,349
Federal Civilian Employment	3,687
Federal Civilian Employment MOE (+/-)	774
Federal Civilian Employment Share %	19.4
Federal Civilian Employment Share MOE %	4.1
Federal Civilian Employment per Sq. Mile	105
Coefficient of Variation (CV)	12.8
Reliability of Zip Code's Data	Use With Caution

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S2408.



[Link to Map](#)



Density per Square Mile - Federal Civilian Employment

105 Federal Civilian Employees per Square Mile

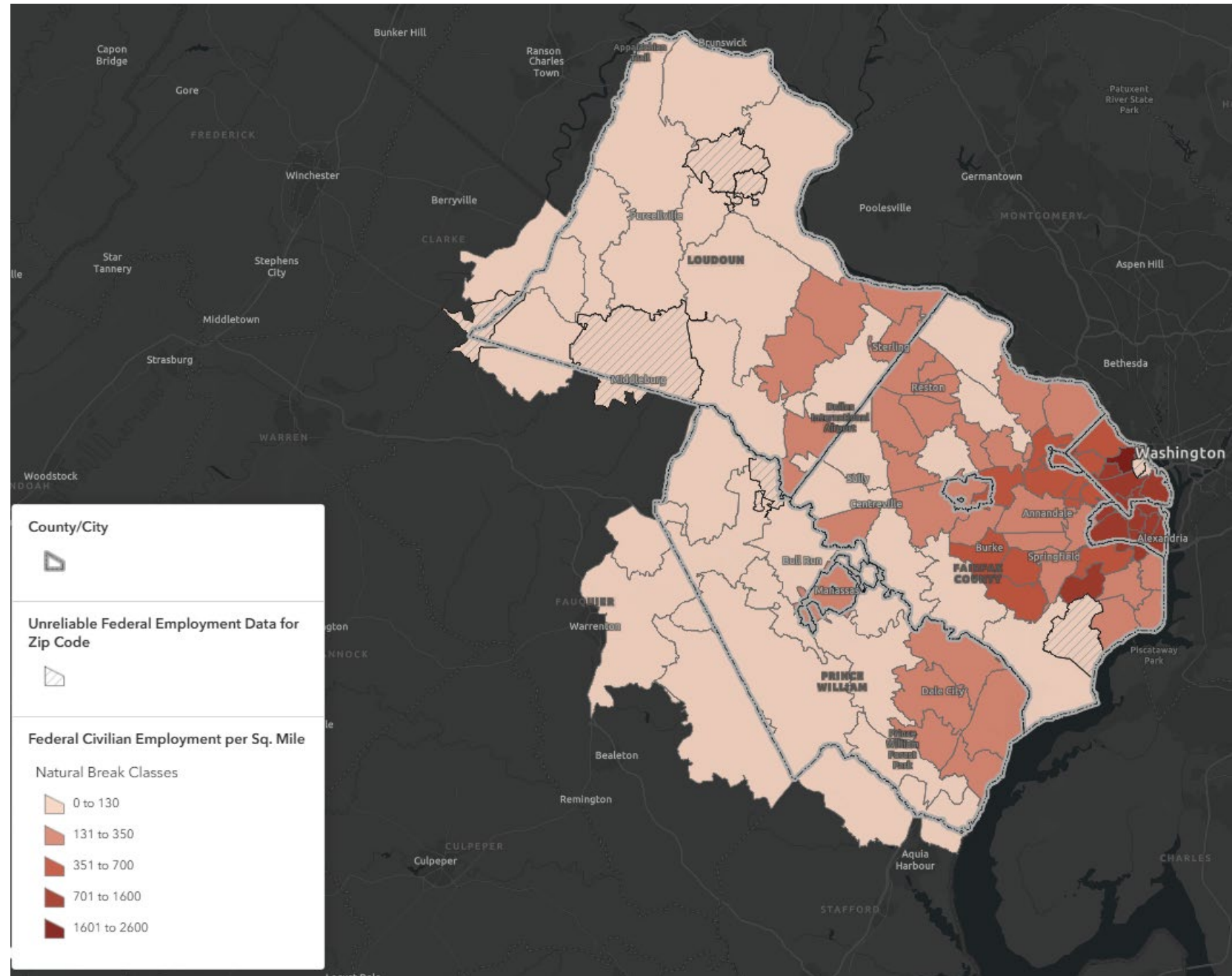
Zip Code - 22079

Zip Code Tabulation Area	22079
Square Miles	35.05
Total Civilian Employment	19,051
Total Civilian Employment MOE	1,349
Federal Civilian Employment	3,687
Federal Civilian Employment MOE (+/-)	774
Federal Civilian Employment Share %	19.4
Federal Civilian Employment Share MOE % (+/-)	4.1
Natural Break Classes	105
Coefficient of Variation (CV)	12.8
Reliability of Federal Civilian Employment Data	Use With Caution

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S2408.



[Link to Map](#)



Unemployment Claims

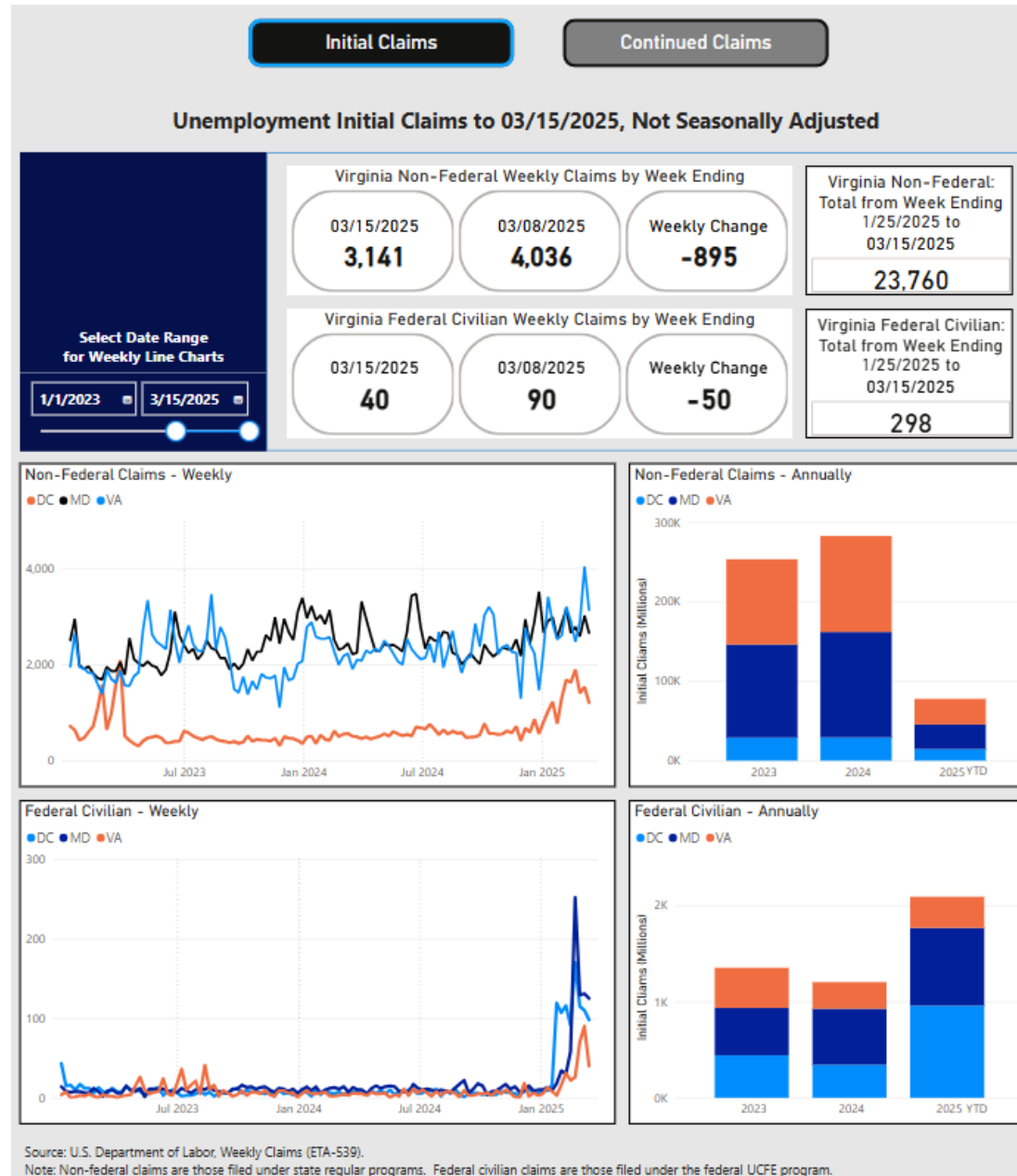
Virginia Works

- Weekly initial claims
 - Data by county soon to be available
 - Uncleaned - Virginia Works staff recommends sticking with monthly
- Monthly Initial claims
 - Filing data undergoes much quality control, unlike weekly data
 - Has recently lagged several months
 - COVID-19 pandemic – monthly data was more timely (approximately 1-month lag)
 - Per conversations with Virginia Works, the agency will likely start making data available with only a 1-month lag

U.S. Dept. of Labor (DOL)

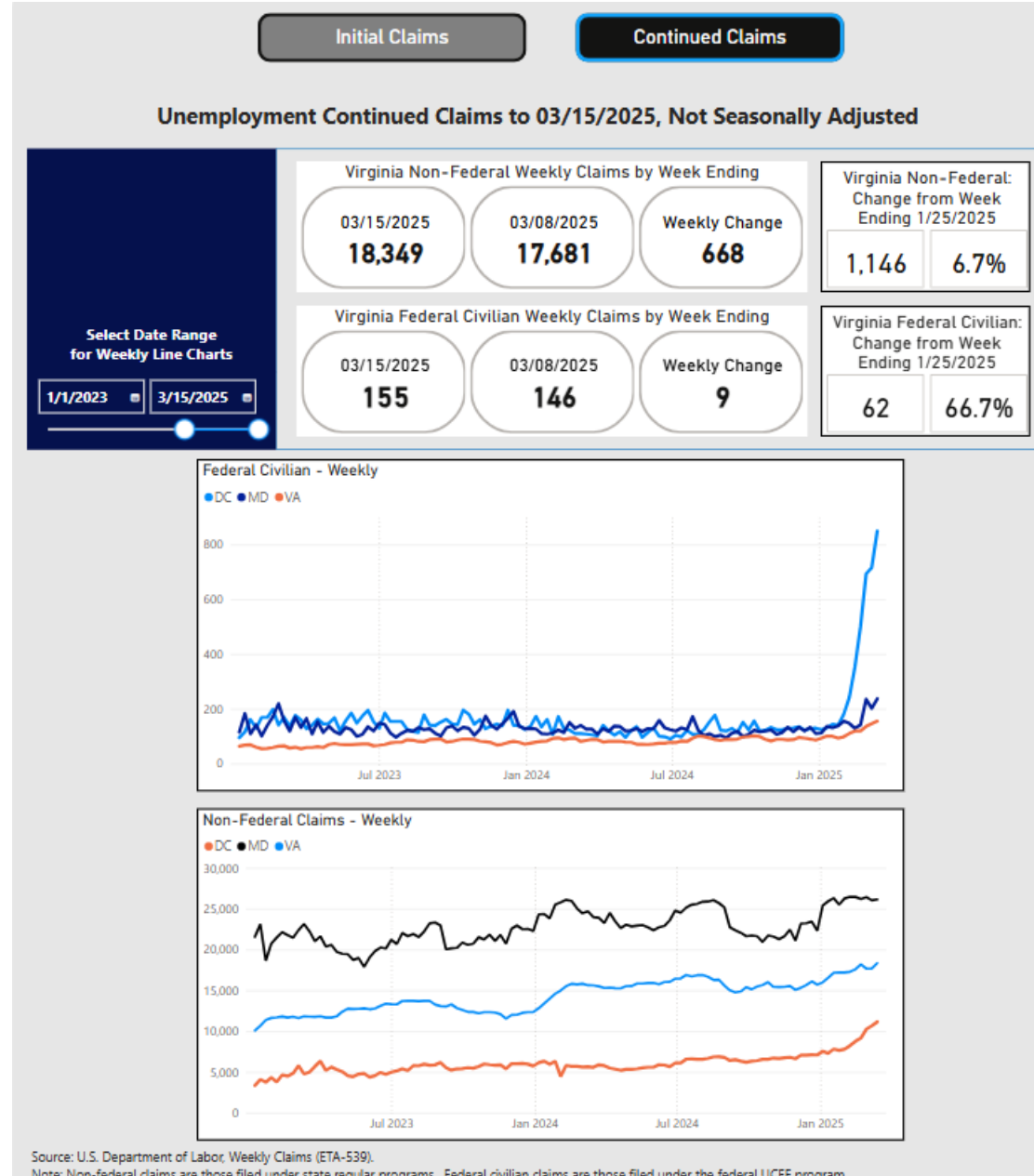
- Weekly initial claims from DOL provides data by state
- Data published in weekly news release is not an apple-to-apples to historic data, as it is by place of work. Published on Thursdays.
- Weekly data by place of residence is an apples-to-apples to historic. This is what NVRC tracks. Published on Fridays.
- Federally filed claims have reporting delays of several weeks or months because a claim is not classified as a federal (UCFE) claim until federal wages are confirmed.

Unemployment Initial Claims Dashboard



- Weekly unemployment initial and continued claims tracked for MD, VA, and DC using DOL data.
- Will track county level when available by VA Works.

Unemployment Continued Claims Dashboard



Additional Unemployment Claims Data

Unofficial Virginia Employment Commission Federal Data

- VEC is tracking claims where individuals have reported employment at a federal agency.

From Week Ending January 25, 2025 to Week Ending March 15, 2025

Total Claims Tied to Federal Employers	779
Total Claims Tied to Federal Contractors	337

These estimations are not part of official U.S. Dept. of Labor (DOL) reporting and are only used as early indicators of potential federal civilian (UCFE) and federal contractor claims.

NVRC Monthly Economic Tracking Report

Tracks Northern Virginia economic indicators

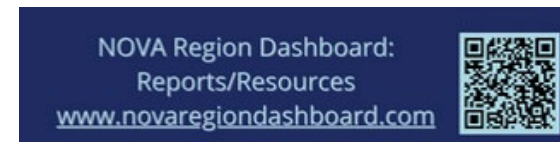
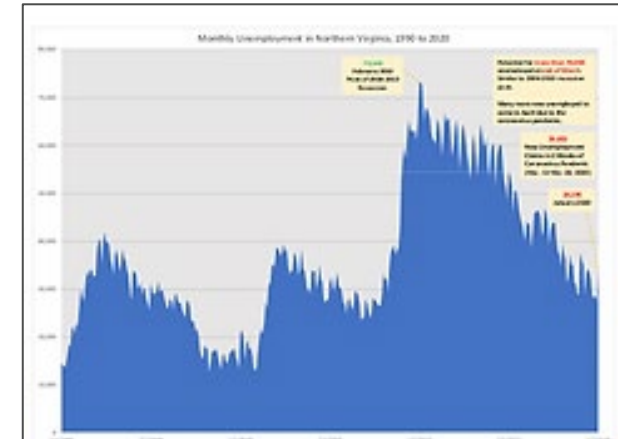
- Labor force
- Employed Persons
- Unemployed Persons
- Unemployment Rate
- Unemployment claims
- Industry sectors

View Monthly Economic Tracking Report
for Labor force data updates

Updates will occur within 3 business
days of scheduled releases:

- March 21, 2025 (Jan. 2025 data)
- April 9, 2025 (Feb. 2025 data)
- April 29, 2025 (Mar. 2025 data)
- May 28, 2025 (Apr. 2025 data)

Monthly Economic Tracking Report PDF report has
interactive dashboard under development. Coming
in April. Will include local jurisdiction data.



[Link to Monthly Economic Tracking Report](#)