

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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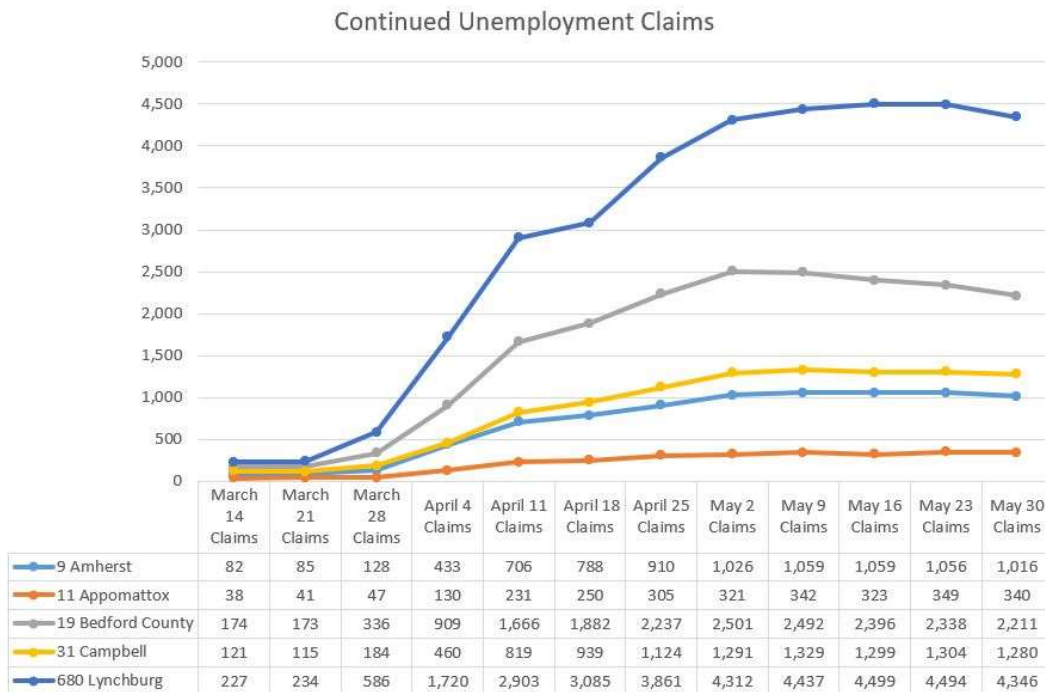
CONTACT: Tim Saunders
 Business Engagement & Outreach Coordinator
 Central Virginia Workforce Development Board
 (434) 845-5678, ext. 220

Continued Claims for Unemployment Insurance in the Lynchburg Area Decrease 3.6%

Continuing a trend that started in mid-May, the number of people filing first-time and weekly claims for unemployment insurance in the greater Lynchburg area declined according to the most recent figures made available by the Virginia Employment Commission.

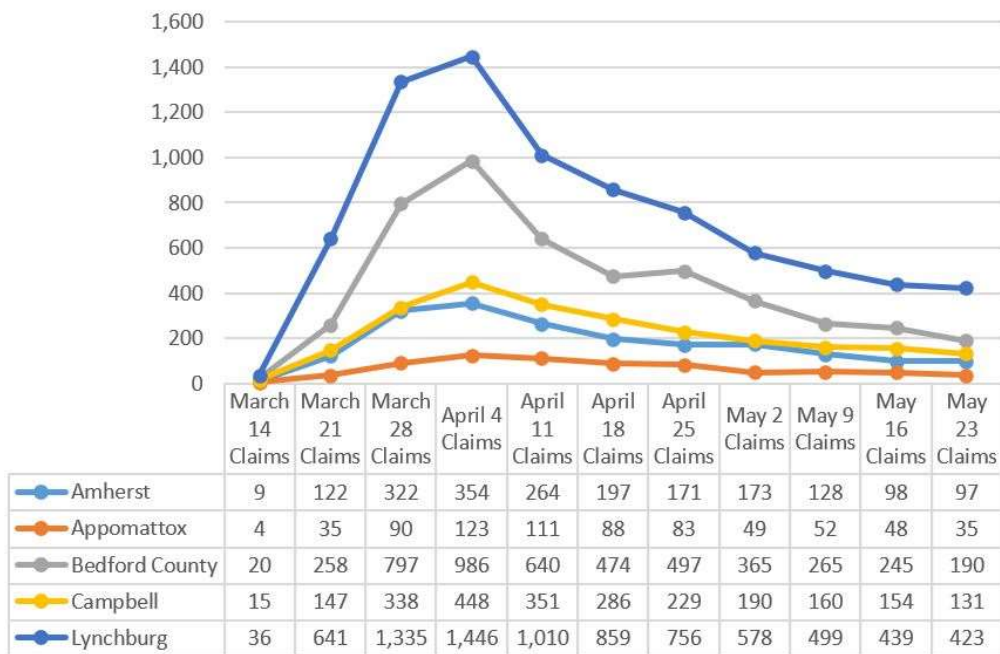
9,193 continued claims for unemployment insurance were filed in the Central Virginia Workforce Development Area during the week of May 30, according to VEC figures released Thursday, June 4; a 3.6% decrease from the 9,541 claims filed during the week of May 23. Continued claims are made by individuals who have filed an initial claim for unemployment and are now making weekly claims to continue receiving benefits. The Central Virginia Workforce Development area includes the city of Lynchburg, along with the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell. This area had an estimated civilian labor force of 115,434 in April of 2020, with 12,189 people or 10.6% of its workforce unemployed. By comparison, the Lynchburg area’s unemployment rate in April of 2019 was 2.7%.

The graphic below plots the number of continued unemployment insurance claims filed in individual localities of the Central Virginia Workforce Development Area since the week of March 14.

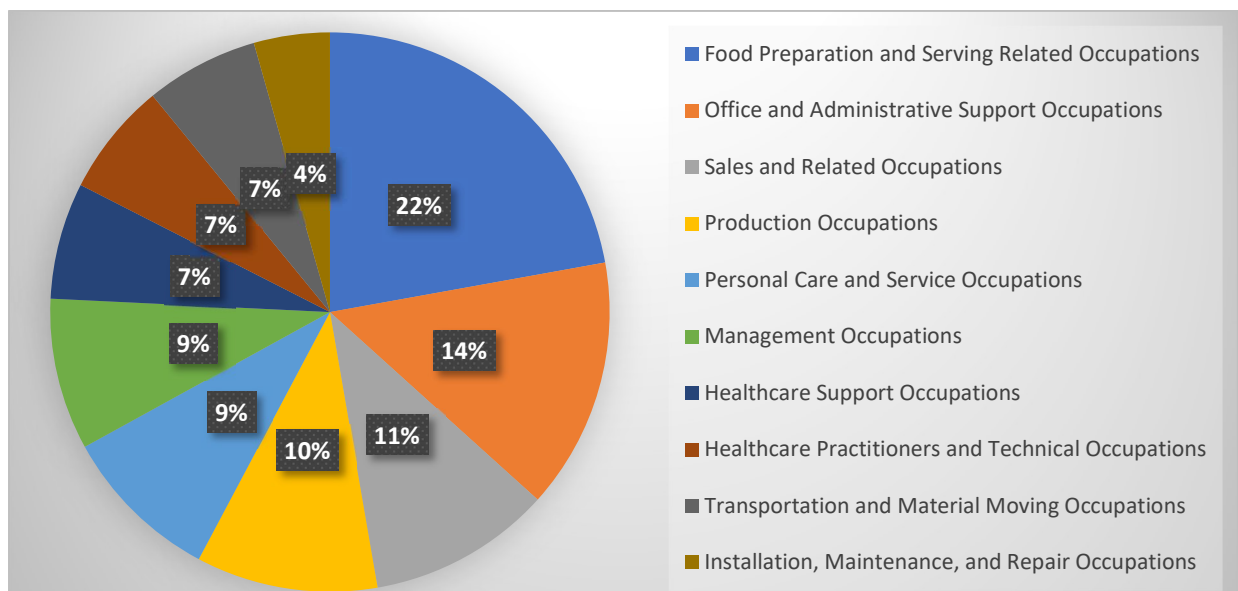


Initial unemployment insurance claims for the Central Virginia Workforce Development Area continue to trend down. Initial claims are made by those seeking unemployment insurance for the first time. An initial claim must be made before a worker can make weekly (continued) claims to continue receiving benefits. 680 initial unemployment insurance claims were filed in the Central Virginia Workforce Development Area during the week of May 30; an 80% drop from the high number of 3,357 initial claims filed during the week of April 4, but still well above the 84 initial unemployment insurance claims filed during the week of March 14.

Initial Unemployment Claims



Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations continues to be the largest industry sector impacted by unemployment in the Lynchburg area. The pie chart below illustrates the ten most impacted industry sectors in the Central Virginia Workforce Development Area, based on the percentage of people working in those professions who have filed initial unemployment claims.



ABOUT THE CENTRAL VIRGINIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The Central Virginia Workforce Development Board (WDB) is the designated regional convener and administrative entity that coordinates workforce training and career services through federal funding from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). We are charged with overseeing and implementing workforce development initiatives and activities throughout the Virginia Career Works – Central Region. Activities of Virginia Career Works - Central Region are supported in part with funds the from U. S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) award (#: AA-32183-18-55-A-51) awarded to the City of Lynchburg on behalf of the Central Virginia Workforce Development Board. The Central Virginia Workforce Development Board is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TDD-VA Relay 711.

Ben Bowman | EO Officer | ben.bowman@vcwcentral.com | 434-845-5678 ext 221