

Northern Virginia Federal Workforce

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nvrc
Northern Virginia Regional Commission

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Fairfax County Economic Initiatives Committee

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

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)

Overestimates

CB ACS

4.4M USA

2023

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

Northern Virginia Federal Civilian Jobs – At-Place

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.

Northern Virginia Federal Civilian Jobs – Residence

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%**

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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.

Federal Share of Total Civilian Employment

Federal Civilian Employment Share

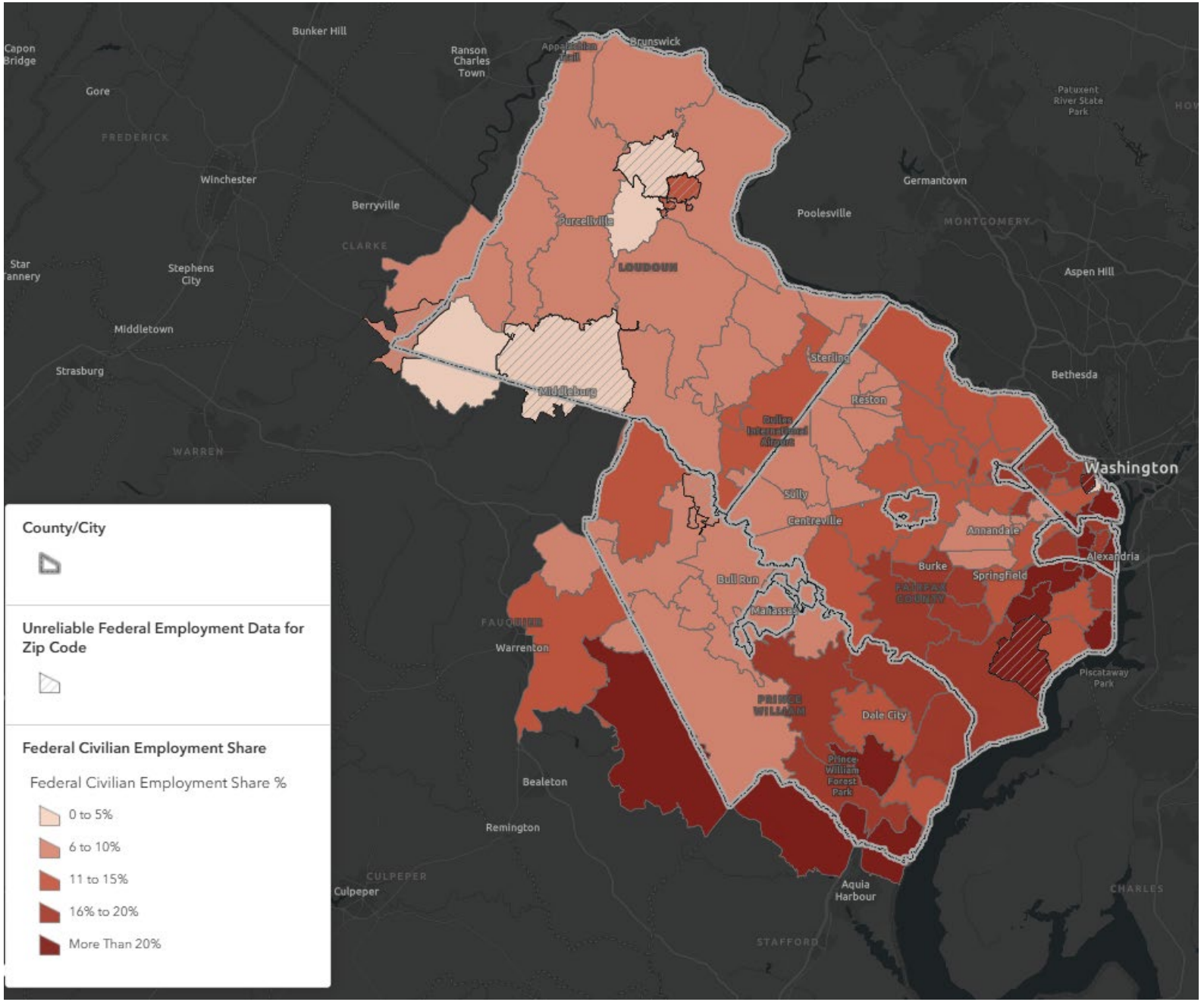
19.4% (+/- 4.1%)

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
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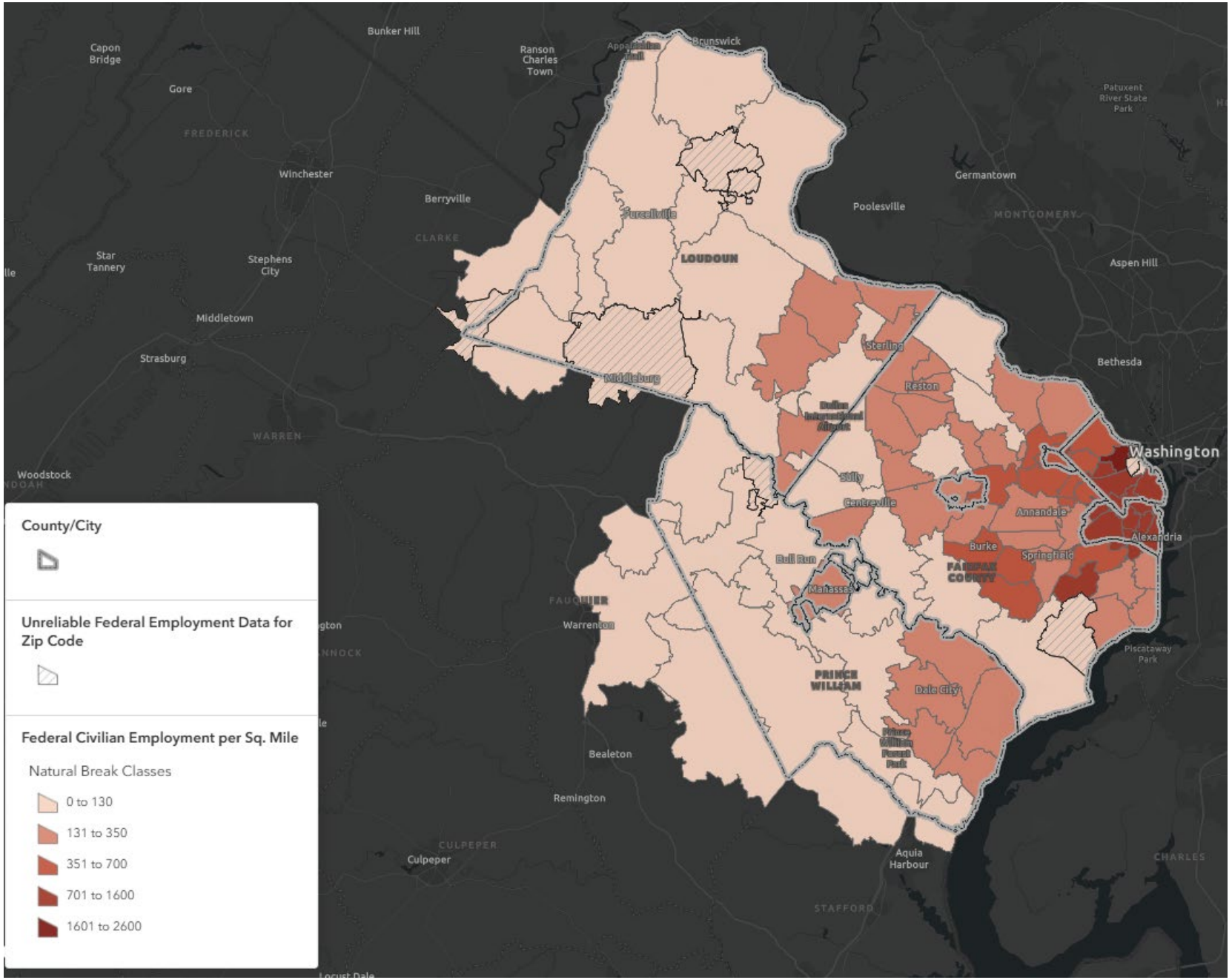


Unemployment Claims

NVRC

- Weekly unemployment claims tracked for MD, VA, and DC in interactive chart on NOVA Dashboard using DOL data
- Monthly unemployment initial and continued claims for the region and each of its jurisdictions tracked on NOVA Dashboard using VA Works
- Regional Economic Tracking Report published monthly - available on NOVA Dashboard

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
- 2-week lag from week of filing for data comparable to historic data, and it is by place of residence
- 2-week lag from week of filing for federal unemployment

Virginia Works

- Weekly initial claims
  - Data by county now 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

Labor Force and Unemployment Claims - NOVA

Labor Force and Claims, Non-Seasonally Adjusted

Labor Force Statistics	Nov-24	Dec-24	Monthly Change		Dec-23	Dec-24	Annual Change	
			#	%			#	%
Labor Force	1,463,269	1,461,606	-1,663	-0.1%	1,460,273	1,461,606	1,333	0.1%
Employed	1,424,534	1,428,724	4,190	0.3%	1,426,488	1,428,724	2,236	0.2%
Unemployed	38,735	32,882	-5,853	-15.1%	33,785	32,882	-903	-2.7%
Unemployment Rate	2.6%	2.2%	-0.4	--	2.3%	2.2%	-0.1	--

Claim Statistics	Dec-24	Jan-25	Monthly Change		Jan-24	Jan-25	Annual Change	
			#	%			#	%
Unemployment Initial Claims	1,672	2,446	774	46.3%	2,569	2,446	-123	-4.8%

Source: Virginia Employment Commission, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), released February 5, 2025; Virginia Employment Commission, Monthly Unemployment Initial Claims, retrieved March 5, 2025.

View Monthly Economic Tracking Report for Labor force data updates

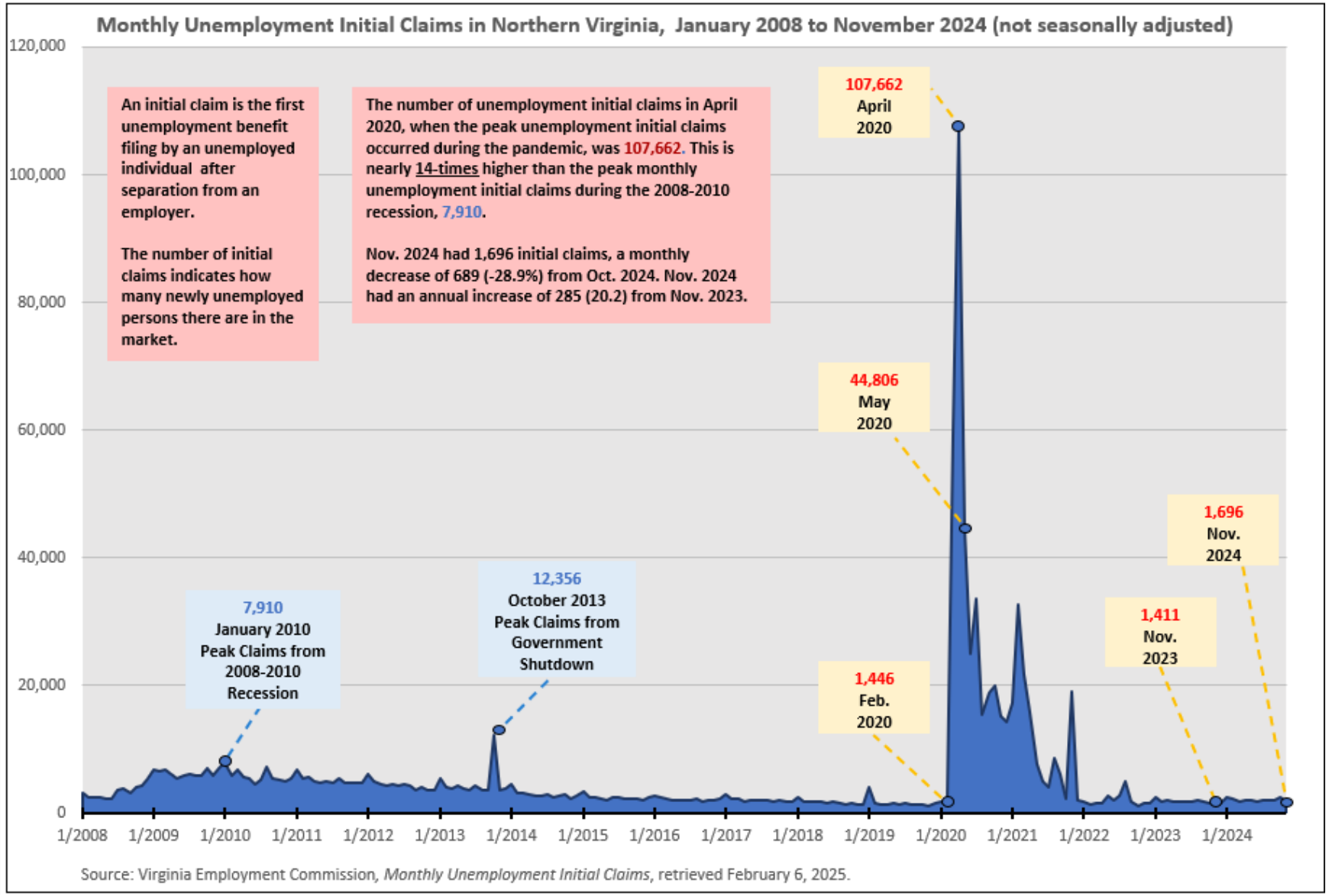
Updates will occur within 3 business days of scheduled releases:

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

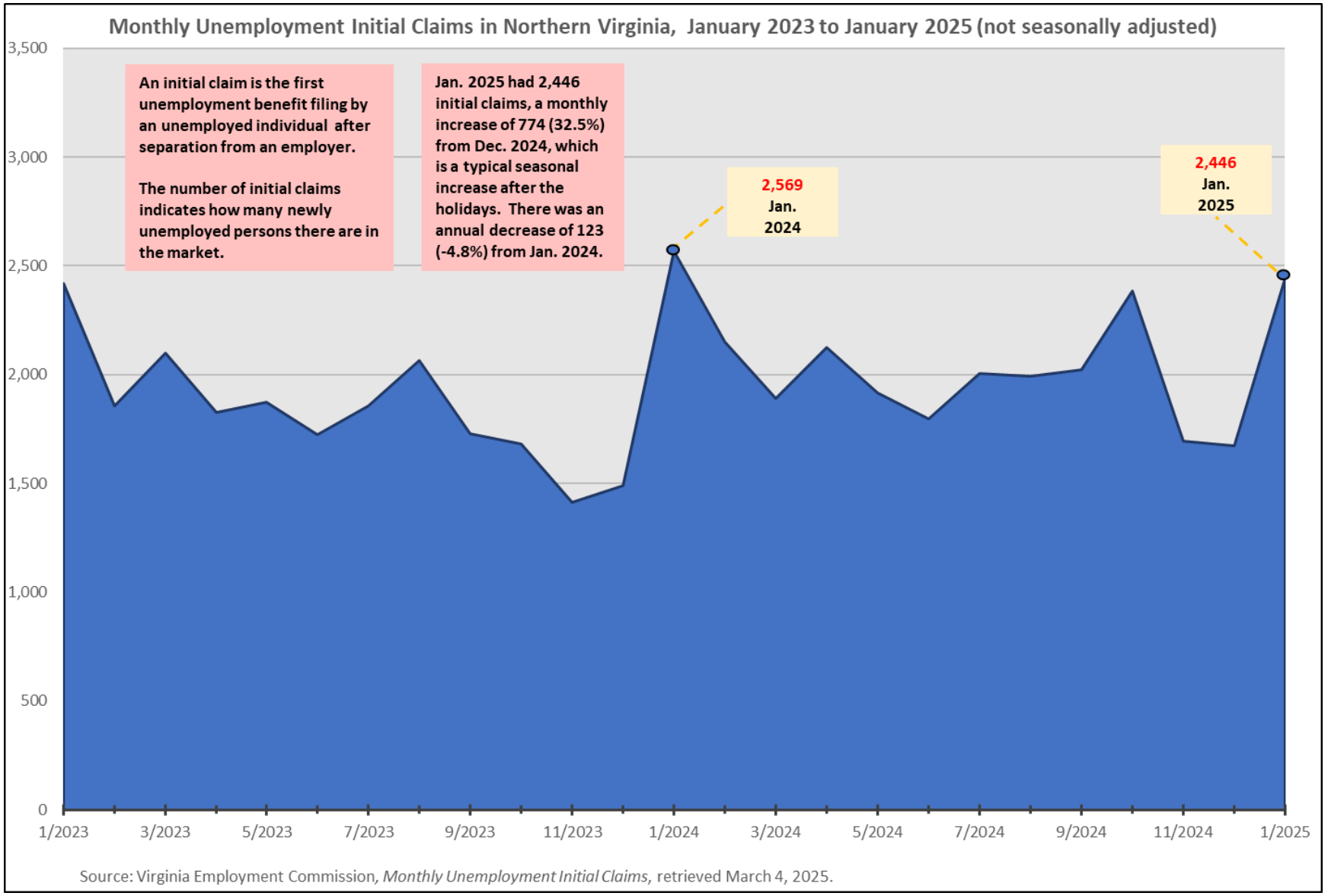
NOVA Region Dashboard: Reports/Resources
www.novaregiondashboard.com

Link to Monthly Economic Tracking Report

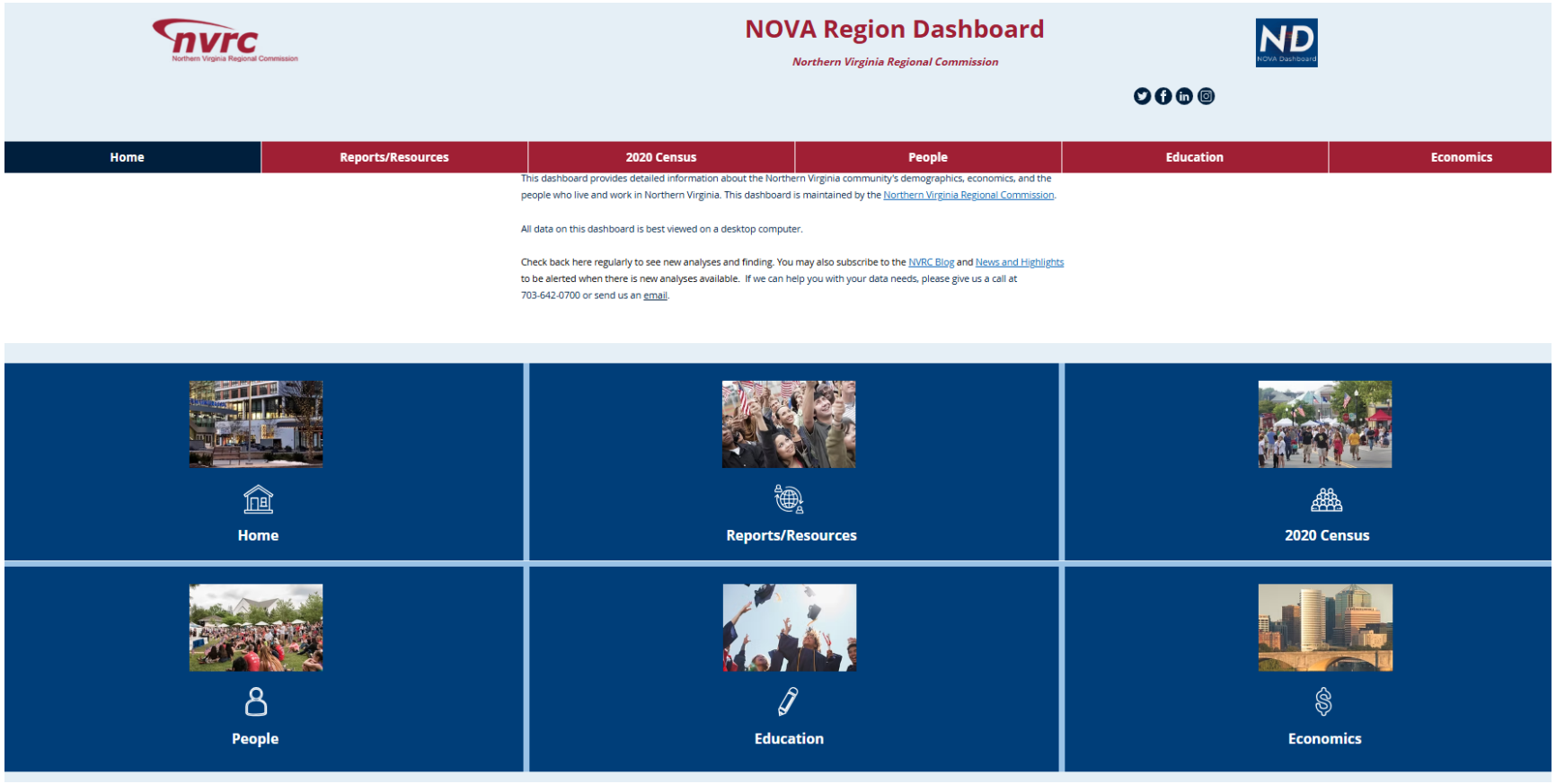
Initial Unemployment Claims – NOVA Long-Term



Initial Unemployment Claims – NOVA Short-Term



Federal Monitoring



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