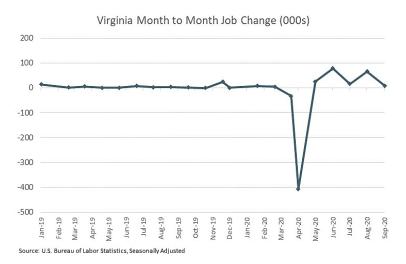
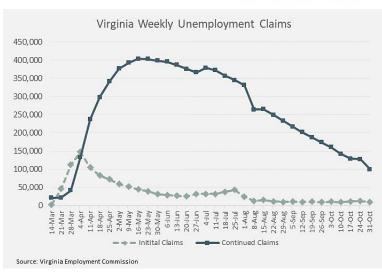
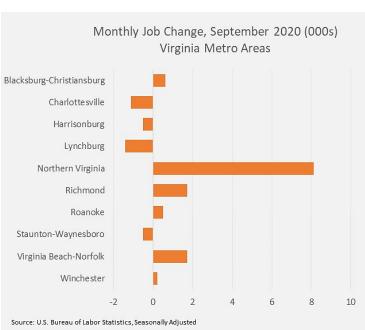
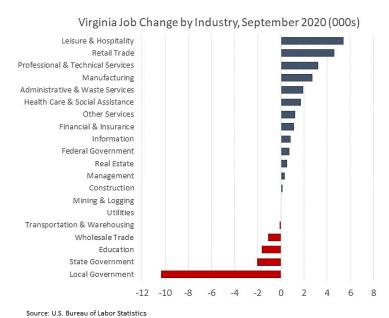
Monthly **Economic Snapshot**

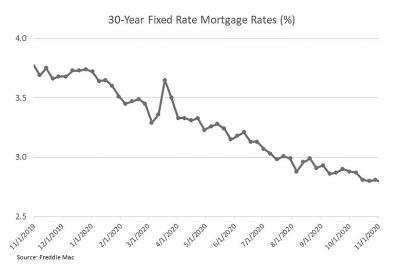


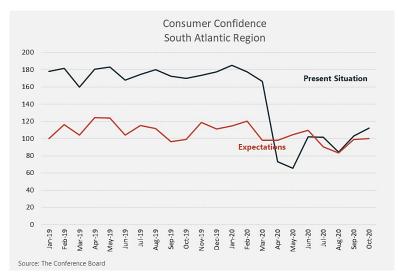












Five consecutive months of job growth in Virginia means the Commonwealth has added back half of the jobs lost this spring. The fastest job growth was in the state's largest metro areas. Unemployment claims continue to fall, with fewer than 100,000 Virginians receiving unemployment benefits at the end of October. The 30-year fixed rate mortgage rate has remained below 3% for 15 consecutive weeks. In October, consumer confidence continued its rebound.