

# Leak Finders Details Slab Leaks and Water Leaks as Slab Foundations Dominate New Single-Family Construction

*November 24, 2026*

RICHMOND, VA - November 24, 2026 -
Leak Finders, a licensed plumbing company, explains how slab leaks differ from other water leaks, since most new single-family homes use concrete slab foundations. An analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau data shows 73% of new single-family homes started in 2025 used slabs. A pipe hidden under a slab can start leaking between routine yearly plumbing inspections.

The same data show that 85.7% of new single-family homes started in the South Atlantic division used slab foundations in 2025. The division, which includes Virginia, recorded 308,189 new single-family starts that year, about one-third of the national total. At that share, roughly 264,000 of the division?s 2025 single-family starts used slab foundations.

Slabs made up 46% of new single-family homes in 2000, and the National Association of Home Builders says warmer regions generally favor them for affordability and efficiency. Basements accounted for 16.4% of new

single-family homes in 2025, and crawl spaces accounted for 9.7%. In the East North Central division, slabs passed basements as the most common foundation.

The 2025 figures describe housing starts and do not show how many existing homes sit on slabs. The national share was also 73% in 2024, and the South Atlantic share was 85.7% in both years. These figures establish how common slab foundations are in new construction, not how frequently slab leaks occur.

The Census Bureau defines a slab as structural concrete poured directly on the ground. According to Leak Finders, the distinction between a slab leak and other water leaks comes down to where the pipe fails. A slab leak is a water leak from a pipe beneath the concrete foundation.

Other household water leaks occur at fixtures or along pipes elsewhere on the property. Leak Finders explains that a slab is thick, load-bearing concrete, so locating a pipe failure beneath it requires specialized techniques rather than a simple visual inspection. The company also warns that prolonged leakage can displace supporting soil beneath the slab.

According to Leak Finders, a warm spot on the floor at ground level might point to a leaking hot-water line. The company also points to an unexplained increase in the water bill and a damp spot on the floor as indicators. It suggests hiring a licensed plumber to pinpoint the source when any of these indicators are present.

Not every hidden leak sits under the foundation, according to the company. A break in the main water line between the meter and the house can also go unseen underground. Depending on the pipe's condition, trenchless repair can replace or line such a pipe through small access points instead of trenching across a lawn or driveway.

Leak Finders says that leaks can also develop beneath other concrete on a property, including driveways, garage floors, and patios. The company says that an underground water line break can cause pavement to collapse if it remains undetected. For leaks beneath these surfaces, pipe repair may be possible through a small opening.

A slab leak does not always mean cutting through the floor, the company says. A new line can be run through the walls or attic to bypass the damaged pipe, a method called rerouting. A home with several failure points may call for full repiping, which replaces the home?s plumbing lines.

Leak Finders serves residential and commercial properties across Central Virginia, including Short Pump and

Glen Allen. Its plumbing services include leak detection, water line and sewer line repair, drain cleaning, and gas line services. The company reports more than 40 years of combined plumbing experience among its team.

###

For more information about Leak Finders, contact the company here:Leak FindersDave Thompson+18042069149info@leakfindersva.com27 Labrook Dr Ste 200, Richmond, VA 23225, United States

## Leak Finders

*Founded in 2000, our fully licensed plumbers deliver dependable, affordable plumbing solutions for homes & businesses, backed by a strong commitment to quality & family-driven values.*

Website: https://leakfindersva.com/

Email: info@leakfindersva.com

Phone: +18042069149