

ARLINGTON COUNTY PROFILE

**BRIEF HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF
ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

Arlington County is located in northern Virginia, directly across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. The County encompasses 25.8 square miles of land, which was originally split off from Fairfax County in 1801 and ceded by Virginia to be included in the ten-mile square Federal District. In 1847, however, Congress allowed the land to return to the jurisdiction of Virginia following a vote in favor of retrocession by its members. This area was then known as Alexandria City and Alexandria County. In 1920, to avoid confusion, the county was renamed Arlington County.

In a 1923 decision by the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, the Alexandria County portion was determined to be a continuous, homogeneous community and, as such, could not be subdivided for the establishment of a town. This area was renamed Arlington.

Annexation of any part of Arlington County by neighboring jurisdictions is prohibited by present law unless the entire County is annexed with the approval of County voters. There are no jurisdictions with overlapping debt or taxing powers. The water and sewage systems are operated on a self-supporting basis by the County government.

Arlington's location in the center of the Washington metropolitan region, just five minutes from Washington by car or Metrorail, has made the County a highly desirable business and residential location. Arlington

has maintained high-quality residential neighborhoods while supporting well-managed growth. High-density commercial and residential development is focused around Metro stations in the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor and the Jefferson Davis corridor, which includes both Pentagon City and Crystal City.

Arlington County has an estimated 2005 population of 198,267, an increase of 4.2 percent over the 2000 population. Additionally, Arlington is home to an estimated 195,205 jobs in 2005.

Almost all of the land in Arlington County has been developed. This development consists of extensive single-family residential areas, as well as commercial, office, and multi-family residential structures.

Economic activity in Arlington County has historically been closely associated with numerous governmental activities of the Washington Metropolitan region. In 2005 about 26.7 percent (or about 52,000) of the jobs in Arlington County are with the numerous federal, state or local government agencies. In recent years, however, the private employment base, particularly in the service sector, has increased substantially. The 2005 estimate is that 18.5 percent of total employment (about 36,000 jobs) is in the professional and technical services sector. An additional 29.5% of total employment (about 58,000 jobs) is in the administrative, education, health, accommodation and food, and other services sectors.

ORGANIZATION OF ARLINGTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

The government of Arlington County has been organized according to the County Manager Plan of Government since 1932. Arlington County was the first jurisdiction in the United States to adopt a manager form of government by popular vote.

The five members of the County Board are elected at large for staggered, four-year terms. No more than two members are elected at one time. The Chairman of the County Board is elected annually by the members.

The County Board is responsible for several appointments. The County Board appoints a County Manager to serve as the chief executive and administrator of the County. The County Manager serves at the pleasure of the County Board, implements its policies, directs business and administrative procedures, and appoints department directors.

Assisting the County Manager are a Deputy County Manager, the five Assistant County Managers and the Directors of 12 departments: Fire; Police; Emergency Management; Environmental Services; Human Services; Economic Development; Community Planning, Housing and Development; Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources; Management and Finance; Libraries; Human Resources; and Technology Services.

The County Board also appoints a County Attorney. The County Attorney provides legal services to the County Board, County agencies, and personnel, elected County officials, independent County boards and commissions, and the Arlington School Board.

The operation of public schools in Arlington County is the responsibility of a five-member School Board. School Board members serve staggered, four-year

terms in a sequence similar to that of County Board members.

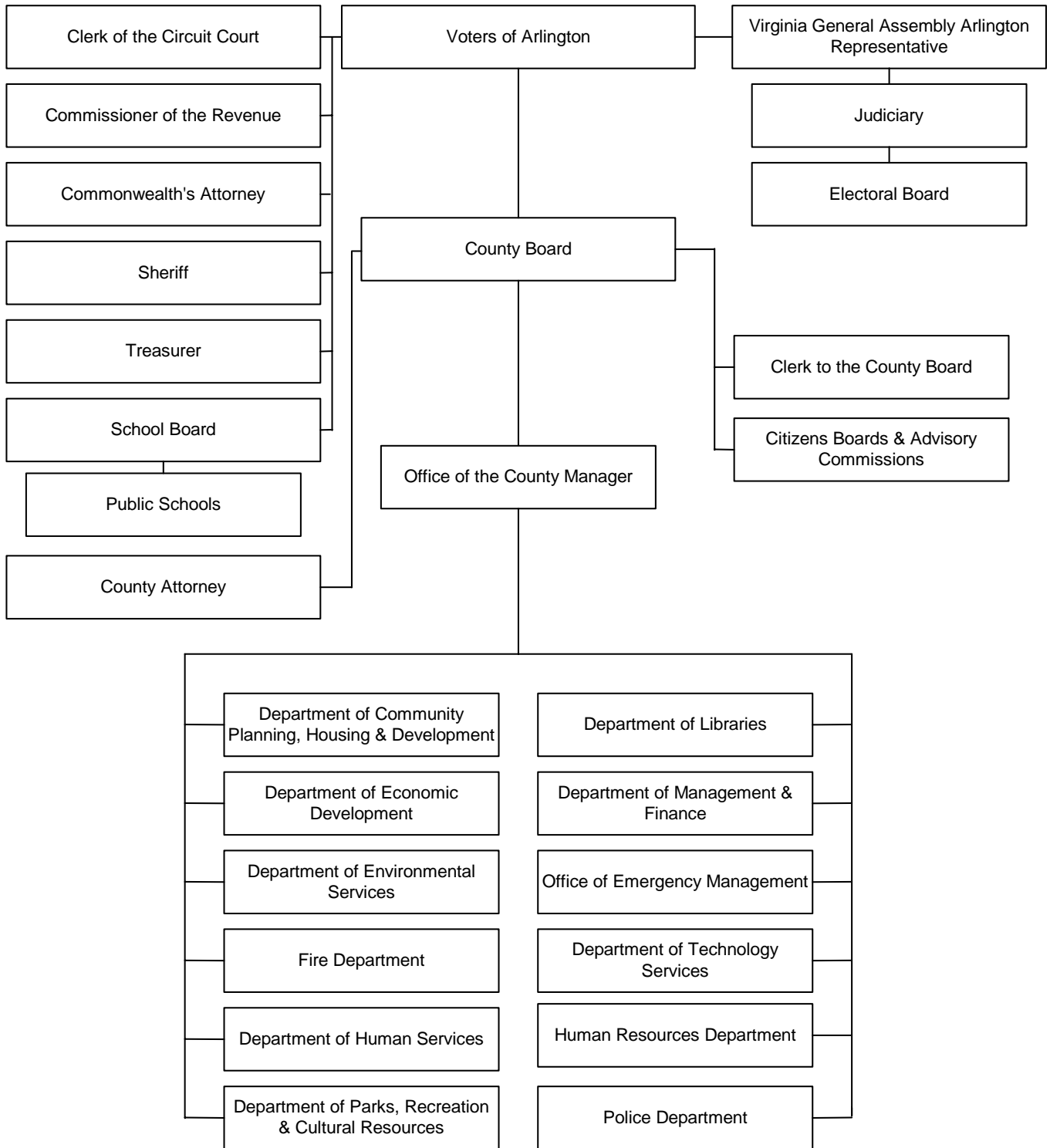
A 1992 revision of the State Code provided a local option to elect the School Board; Arlington voters chose to exercise that option via a November 1993 referendum. As of November 1994 and continuing each year thereafter, School Board members are elected.

The Superintendent of Schools is appointed by the School Board for a four-year term; the Superintendent administers the operations of the County's public schools. The local share of the cost of operating public schools in the County is met with an appropriation and transfer by the County Board from the County's General Fund. Operations of the School Board, however, are independent of the County Board and the County administration as prescribed by Virginia law.

In addition to the County Board, other elected County officials include the Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Commissioner of the Revenue, Treasurer, and Clerk of the Circuit Court. The Judges of the Circuit Court, the General District Court and the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court are appointed by the State legislature.

The structure of Arlington County's Government is depicted in an organizational chart on the following page.

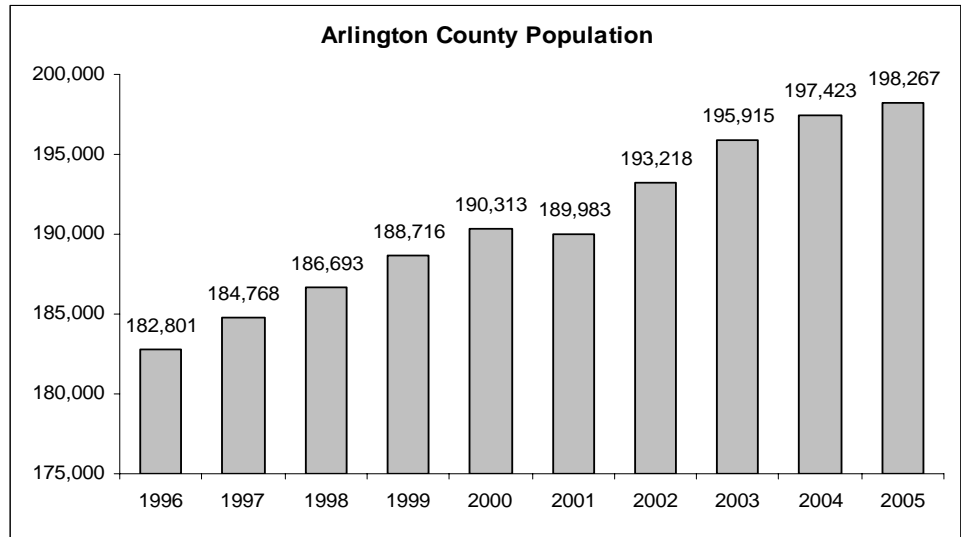
ORGANIZATION OF ARLINGTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT



DEMOGRAPHICS

The Planning Division of the Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development (DCPHD) estimates Arlington County’s 2005 population to be 198,267 making it among the most densely populated jurisdictions in the country. The County’s population has grown steadily over the past ten years, as shown in the chart below, and is projected to continue at a similar rate. (The exception is 2001, when the population dipped slightly.) The 2005 population estimates indicate that pre-school children (ages 0-4) make up 5.2 percent of the total population; school-age children (ages 5-17) constitute 10.9 percent; career and family forming adults (ages 18-44) constitute 50.2 percent; established family and career adults (ages 45-64) account for 24.0 percent; the younger seniors (ages 65-84) constitute 8.2 percent; and the 85 and over population is 1.5 percent of the total population.

The population figure for 2000 in the adjacent chart is a CPHD revision of the U.S. Census 2000 number. Population estimates for 1996-1999 are from the U.S. Census Bureau. Estimates for 2001-2005 are provided by the DCPHD Planning Division, and are based on new residential construction and estimates of average household size and vacancy rates.



RACIAL/ETHNIC COMPOSITION

Arlington County takes pride in, and gains vitality from, the diversity of its population. According to the 2005 population estimates, 57.3 percent of Arlington residents are white, 20.8 percent are Hispanic, 9.1 percent are black or African-American, 9.6 percent are Asian or Other Pacific Islanders, 0.2 percent are American Indian, and 3.0 percent identified as another race or two or more races.

Racial/Ethnic Group	2000	2005	Change
Non-Hispanic/Latino	154,185	156,976	1.8%
White	114,489	113,693	-0.7%
African-American	17,244	18,020	4.5%
Asian-Pacific Islander	16,346	19,052	16.6%
American Indian	418	420	0.5%
Other/Two or More Races*	5,688	5,893	3.6%
Hispanic/Latino	35,268	41,291	17.1%
TOTAL	189,453	198,267	4.7%

Note: FY 2005 figures do not sum to total due to rounding.
Source: US Census Bureau and Planning Division estimates.

The Planning Division estimates that the aggregate population of Arlington increased by 4.7 percent between 2000 and 2005. The largest increase in population among the racial/ethnic groups was an increase of 6,023 among the Hispanic/Latino population. While the non-Hispanic/Latino population increased by only 1.8 percent between 2000 and 2005, the Hispanic/Latino population increased by 17.1 percent. Among other minority groups, the Asian-Pacific Islander population also increased substantially, by 2,706 persons. The African-American population increased by 776 persons between 2000 and 2005. The adjacent table shows the change in population among various racial/ethnic groups from 2000 to 2005. The 2000 figures are from the 2000 Census while the

2005 figures are Planning Division estimates based on Census data.

EDUCATION

Arlington’s population is among the most highly educated in the country. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2000, 88 percent of all residents age 25 and older were high school graduates, 60 percent were college graduates, and 31 percent had graduate or professional degrees. Eighty-five percent of the Arlington Public School (APS) class of 2004 planned to pursue higher education, and the average expenditure per pupil was \$13,309 in the 2003-2004 school year.

PERSONAL INCOME

Year	Per Capita Income
1996	\$39,073
1997	\$40,830
1998	\$43,554
1999	\$45,703
2000	\$49,536
2001	\$53,830
2002	\$55,148
2003 (est.)	\$56,400
2004 (est.)	\$57,851
2005 (est.)	\$59,010

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and Planning Division estimates.

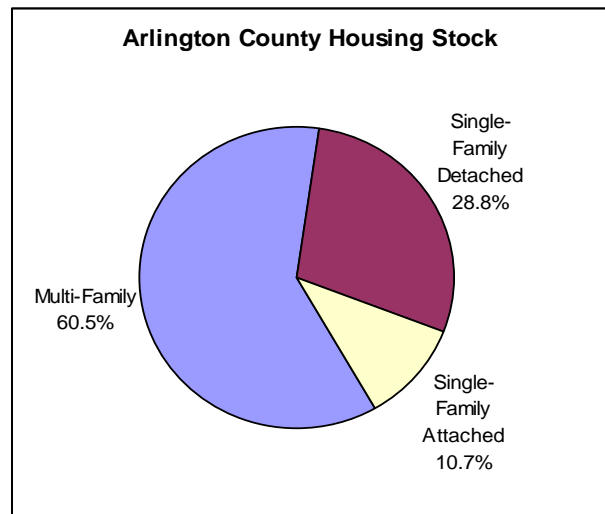
The educational achievements of Arlington’s population are reflected in the County’s income statistics as well. In 2002, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Arlington’s per capita personal income was \$55,148. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income in Arlington County in 1999 was \$63,001 and the median family income was \$78,877. The Planning Division estimates that median household income in 2005 is \$72,788 and median family income is \$91,130. (A family is defined as any household in which at least two members are related by birth, adoption or marriage.) Arlington County is listed in Sales and Management Magazine’s 2004 Annual Survey of Buying Power as having an effective buying power of \$6.35 billion.

The adjacent table shows the growth in per capita personal income since 1996. Income figures for 1996 through 2002 are from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the figures for 2003 through 2005 are estimated by the Arlington County Planning Division.

HOUSING

According to Planning Division estimates, there are 96,131 total housing units in Arlington as of January 2005. A housing unit is a multi-family dwelling or a single-family dwelling attached to other dwellings or a single-family detached dwelling. The majority (60.5 percent or 58,119) of housing units in Arlington are multi-family. In addition, there are an estimated 27,678 single-family detached (28.8%), and 10,286 single-family attached housing units (10.7%) in Arlington.

Of the 92,145 occupied housing units in 2005, the Planning Division estimates that owners occupy 41.4 percent and renters occupy 58.6 percent.



HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

All persons living in a housing unit are termed a household. As of January 2005, the DCPHD Planning Division estimates that there are 92,145 households in Arlington County. The number of people living in households is estimated at 193,905. An estimated 4,362 persons reside in group quarters, which includes dormitories, group homes of 10 or more, institutions such as jails, or other congregate housing such as the nursing home portions of retirement facilities. The estimated average number of people living in a household in 2005 is 2.10 persons. According to the 2000 Census, 45 percent of Arlington households were family households and 55 percent were non-family households.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN ARLINGTON

Acres of County Open Space	1,288	Theatres	5
Miles of Bicycle/Jogging Trails	86	Outdoor Amphitheaters	1
County Parks and Playgrounds	192	Senior Centers	7
Tennis Courts	106	Nature Centers	3
Indoor County Swimming Pools	3	Community Centers	14
Libraries	8	Fire Stations	10
Visual Arts Centers	3		

SELECTED ATTRACTIONS IN ARLINGTON

Fine Arts and History:

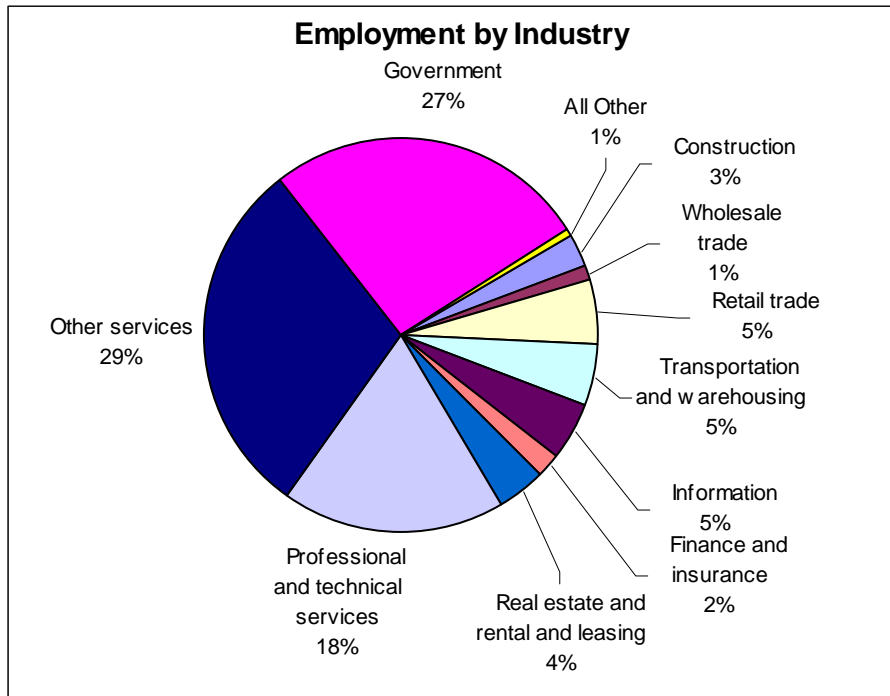
The Actor’s Center, American Century Theatre, Arlington Arts Center, Arlington Dance Theatre, Arlington Historical Society Museum, Arlington Players, Arlington Symphony, Arlingtines Barbershop Quartet, Asian Stories in America (A.S.I.A.), Bowen-McCauley Dance, Center Dance Company, Children’s Theater of Arlington, Classika Theatre, Crossroads Dance Project, Dominion Stage, Educational Theatre Company, Ellipse Arts Center, Gunston Arts Center, Hesperus, Horizons, Jane Franklin Dance, Keegan Theatre Company, Le Neon Theater, Los Quetzales Mexican Dance Ensemble, Metropolitan Chorus, New Polish Theatre, Old Dominion Cloggers, “Old Guard” Museum, Opera Theater of Northern Virginia, Potomac Harmony Chorus, Requeibros Spanish Dance Group, Signature Theater, Teatro de la Luna, Trumpet Vine Theatre Company, Washington Shakespeare Company, Youth Dancers of Arlington.

Major Parks, Recreational and Community Facilities:

Custis Memorial and Four Mile Run Bike Trails, Bon Air Memorial Rose and Azalea Gardens, Wild Flower Garden, Barcroft Sports and Fitness Center, Thomas Jefferson Community Center, Gulf Branch and Long Branch Nature Centers, Bluemont Tennis Complex, Powhatan Springs Skate Park, Fort C.F. Smith Park, Gateway Park, Crystal Park, Lubber Run Amphitheater, Farmers’ Market.

AT-PLACE EMPLOYMENT

The service sector comprises a significant share of jobs in Arlington. (The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis shifted to a new industry classification system. Therefore, industry data presented here are not comparable with previous reports.) About 18.5 percent of all jobs are in the professional and technical services sector. Another 29.5% of jobs are in other service sectors, including administrative, education, health and food and accommodation. The government sector also continues to comprise a large share of Arlington jobs. About 26.7%, or 52,150 jobs, was in government. The total number of jobs in the County increased by about 3.6 percent between 2000 and 2005. In November 2004, the unemployment rate in Arlington was 1.6 percent.



Jobs Per 100 Residents
98

Daytime Population
269,204

Sector	Jobs
Construction	5,220
Wholesale trade	2,303
Retail trade	10,236
Transportation	9,755
Information	9,319
Finance and insurance	3,884
Real estate and rental and leasing	7,560
Professional and technical services	36,027
Other services	57,537
Government	52,150
All other	1,214
Total	195,205

Source: Arlington County Planning Division estimates based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.
 Note: Sectors are based on the NAIC classification system and are not comparable with previous reports.
 Note: Daytime population figure is for calendar year 2005.

Arlington County has a solid economic base as evidenced by the presence of numerous major employers and the County's sophisticated blend of traditional commerce, such as health services and retail sales, and technological industries, such as telecommunications and software. These factors point to continued economic growth in Arlington County.

TOP 20 PRINCIPAL PRIVATE EMPLOYERS

(January, 2005)

COMPANY	NATURE OF BUSINESS	ARLINGTON EMPLOYEES
1 US Airways	Airline Transportation	1,924
2 Verizon	Telecommunications	1,850
3 Marriott Corporation	Hotels	1,640
4 SAIC	Technology Consulting/Computer Systems	1,557
5 Virginia Hospital Center	Healthcare	1,333
6 CACI	Technology Consulting/Computer Systems/Defense	1,270
7 Lockheed Martin Corporation	Air Transportation Equipment/Defense Systems	1,073
8 Hecht Company	Department Stores/Headquarters	1,027
9 SRA International, Inc.	IT Services/Defense/Strategic Consulting	903
10 Booz Allen Hamilton	Consulting Services	799
11 Computer Sciences Corporation	Technology Services	766
12 The Boeing Company	Air Transportation Equipment/Defense Systems	598
13 Anteon Corporation	Technology Services/Defense	575
14 E*TRADE Bank	Financial Services	508
15 Marymount University	Higher Education	502
16 Friedman, Billings, Ramsey Group	Financial Services	497
17 NRECA	Association Headquarters	493
18 Hyatt	Hotels	486
19 Qwest	Telecommunications	471
20 Nordstrom	Department Stores	465
TOTAL		18,737
TOP 20 AS PERCENT OF COUNTY TOTAL		9.6%

Source: Arlington County Department of Economic Development

SELECTED SERVICE INDICATORS			
	FY 2004 <u>Actual</u>	FY 2005 <u>Estimate</u>	FY 2006 <u>Estimate</u>
General Obligation Bond Rating	Aaa/AAA/AAA	Aaa/AAA/AAA	Aaa/AAA/AAA
New Voters Registered by Electoral Board (Calendar Year)	15,000	10,000	10,000
Inspections Conducted for Fire Code Enforcement	1,200	1,200	1,200
Percentage of Fire Emergencies Reached Within Five Minutes	77%	77%	78%
Fire/EMS/Public Service Responses	24,299	24,500	24,500
Refuse Collected on County and Contracted Routes (Tons)	47,896	46,800	46,800
Total Curbside and Drop-Off Materials Recycled (Tons)	11,328	11,000	11,000
Licensed Child Care Facilities (Family Day Care Homes)	245	290	300
Children Adequately Immunized by age 2 (Kindergarten Retrospective Study)	73%	74%	75%
Participants in the Senior Adult Travel Program	4,464	5,708	5,758
Number of Recreational Summer Camps Offered*	76	79	79
Calls for Police Patrol Service Dispatched	N/A	97,000	96,750
Calls Processed at the Emergency Communications Center	532,674	540,000	545,000

* Figures include the number of specialty sport camps managed by the County.