

## ARLINGTON COUNTY PROFILE

### OVERVIEW OF ARLINGTON

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.

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 2006 population of 200,226, an increase of 5.7 percent over the 2000 population. Additionally, Arlington is home to an estimated 199,731 jobs in 2006.

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 2006 about 28 percent (or about 56,000) 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 2006 estimate is that 18.5 percent of total employment (about 37,000 jobs) is in the professional and technical services sector. An additional 31% of total employment (about 59,8000 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 three Deputy County Managers, four 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.

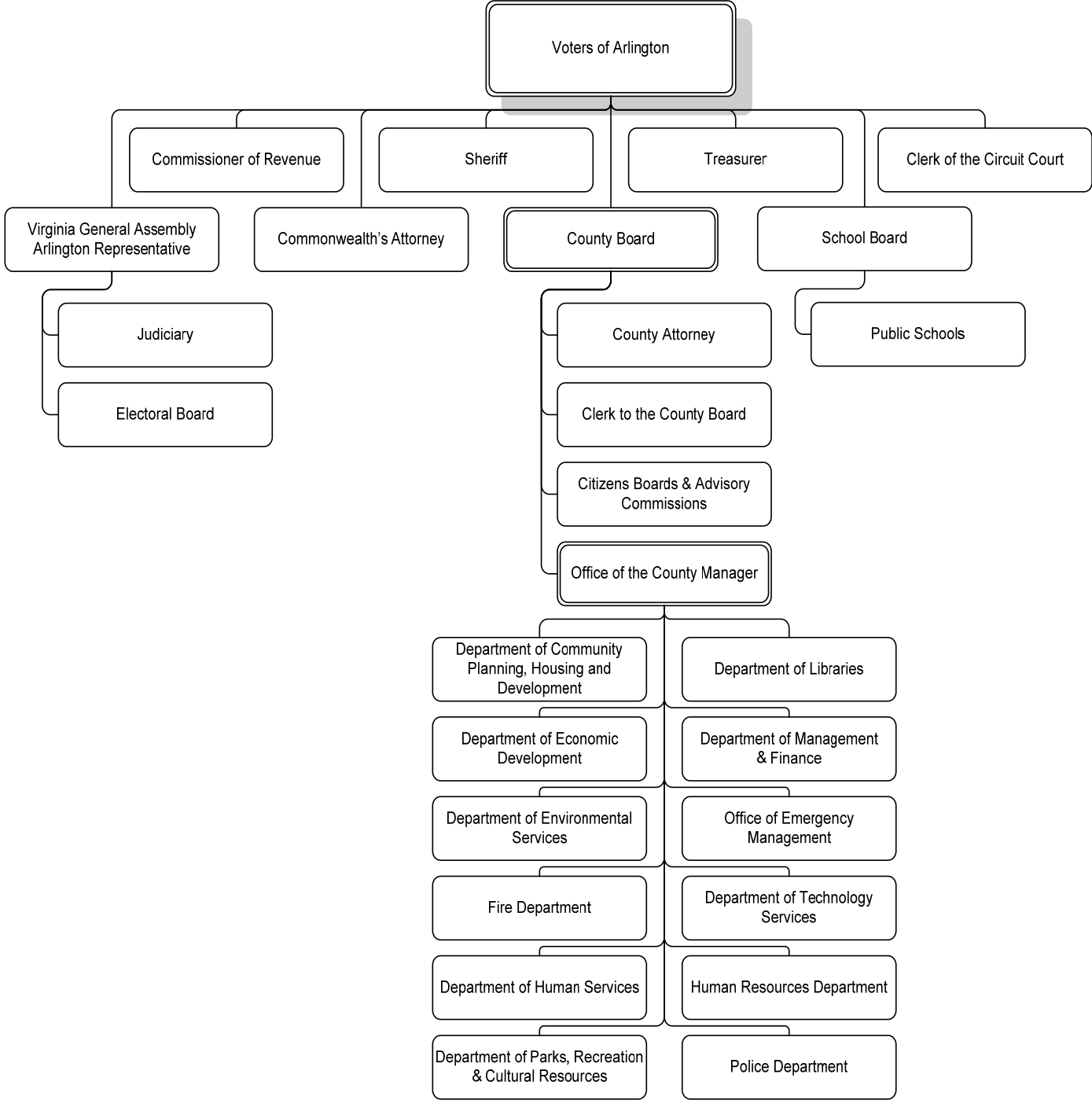
A 1992 revision of the State Code provided a local option to elect the School Board; Arlington voters chose to exercise that option via a November 1993 referendum. As of November 1994 and continuing each year thereafter, School Board members are elected.

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.

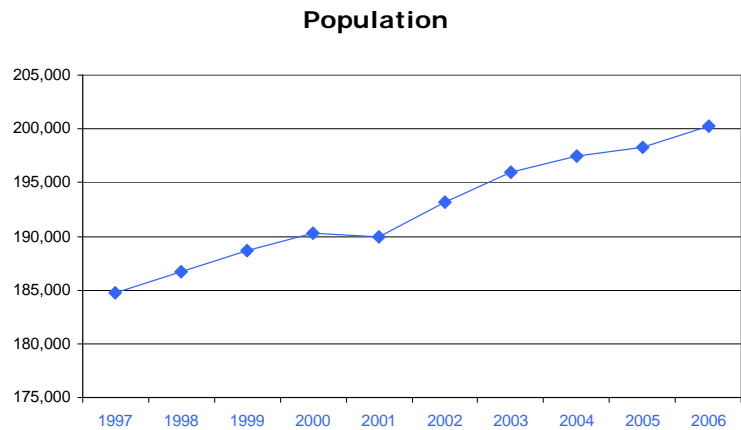
ORGANIZATION OF ARLINGTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT



**DEMOGRAPHICS**

The Planning Division of the Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development (DCPHD) estimates Arlington County’s 2006 population to be 200,226. It continues to be 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 2006 population estimates indicate that pre-school children (ages 0-4) make up 5.7 percent of the total population; school-age children (ages 5-17) constitute 10.7 percent; career and family forming adults (ages 18-44) constitute 49.6 percent; established family and career adults (ages 45-64) account for 24.1 percent; the younger seniors (ages 65-84) constitute 8.2 percent; and the 85 and over population is 1.6 percent of the total population.

The population figure for 2000 in the adjacent chart is a DCPHD revision of the U.S. Census 2000 number. Population estimates for 1997-1999 are from the U.S. Census Bureau. Estimates for 2001-2006 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 2006 population estimates, 56.8 percent of Arlington residents are white, 21.2 percent are Hispanic, 9.1 percent are black or African-American, 9.8 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.

The Planning Division estimates that the aggregate population of Arlington increased by 5.7 percent between 2000 and 2006. (Note that staff believes the Census 2000 figure to be a bit lower than the actual population). The largest increase in population among the racial/ethnic groups was an increase of 7,218 among the Hispanic/Latino population. While the non-Hispanic/Latino population increased by only 2.3 percent between 2000 and 2006, the Hispanic/Latino population increased by 20.5 percent. Among other minority groups, the Asian-Pacific Islander population also increased substantially, by 3,246 persons. The African-American population increased by 959 persons between 2000 and 2006. The following table shows the change in population among various racial/ethnic groups from 2000 to 2006. The 2000 figures are from the 2000 Census while the 2006 figures are Planning Division estimates based on Census data.

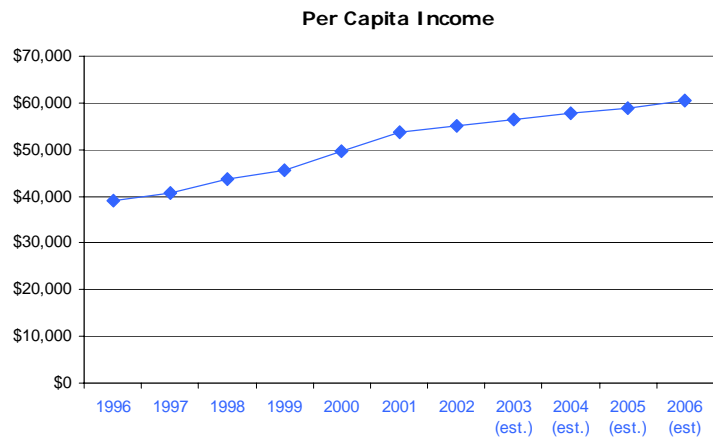
Racial/Ethnic Group	2000	2006	% Change
Non-Hispanic/Latino			
White	114,489	113,704	-0.70%
African-American	17,244	18,203	5.60%
Asian-Pacific Islander	16,346	19,592	19.90%
American Indian	418	422	1.00%
Other/Two or More Races*	5,688	5,944	4.50%
<b>Total Non-Hispanic/Latino</b>	<b>154,185</b>	<b>157,865</b>	<b>2.30%</b>
Hispanic/Latino	35,268	42,486	20.50%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>189,453</b>	<b>200,226</b>	<b>5.70%</b>

**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, 61 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 expected to be \$16,464 in the 2006 fiscal year.

**PERSONAL INCOME**

The educational achievements of Arlington’s population are reflected in the County’s income statistics as well. In 2003, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Arlington’s per capita personal income was \$58,888. 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 2006 is \$73,265 and median family income is \$91,728. (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 2005 Annual Survey of Buying Power as having an effective buying power of \$6.52 billion.

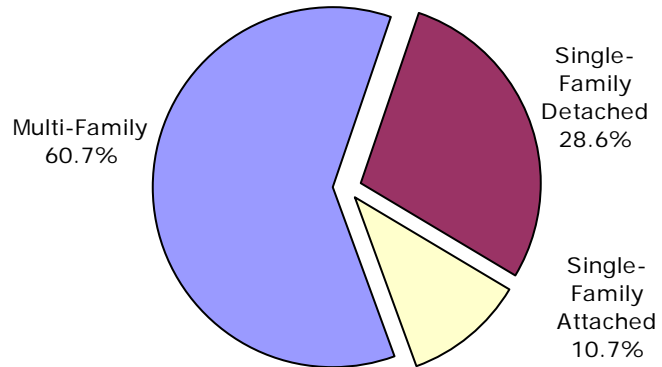


The Per Capital Income graph above shows the growth in per capita personal income since 1996. Income figures for 1996 through 2003 are from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the figures for 2004 through 2006 are estimated by the Arlington County Planning Division.

**HOUSING**

According to Planning Division estimates, there are 97,246 total housing units in Arlington as of January 2006. 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 (60.7 percent or 59,027) of housing units in Arlington are multi-family. In addition, there are an estimated 27,766 single-family detached (28.6%), and 10,405 single-family attached housing units (10.7%) in Arlington. Since 2000, growth in housing units has been largely due to multi-family development. Between 2000 and January 2006, 6,404 new multi-family units have been completed (an increase of 12%), compared to 74 single family attached units. There has been a net loss of 29 single family detached units during the same time span. Of the 93,172 occupied housing units in 2006, the Planning Division estimates that owners occupy 41.2 percent and renters occupy 58.8 percent.

**Arlington County Housing Stock**



**HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION**

All persons living in a housing unit are termed a household. As of January 2006, the DCPHD Planning Division estimates that there are 93,172 households in Arlington County. The number of people living in households is estimated at 195,821. An estimated 4,405 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 2006 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	1,296	▪ Theatres	5
▪ Miles of Bicycle/Jogging Trails	86	▪ Outdoor Amphitheaters	1
▪ County Parks and Playgrounds	212	▪ Senior Centers	7
▪ Tennis Courts	87	▪ Nature Centers	2
▪ 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**

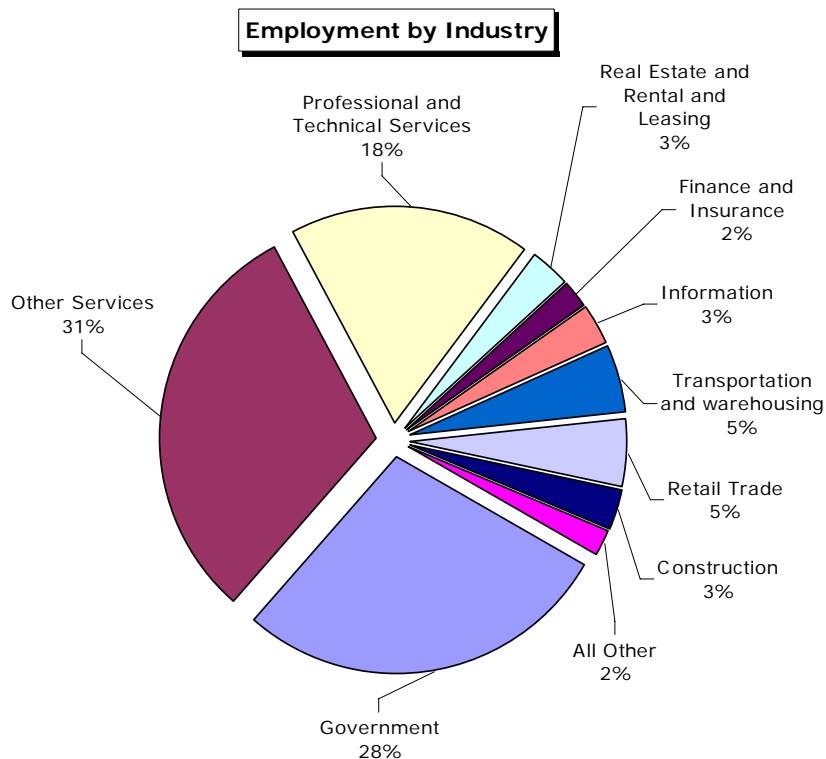
The Actor’s Center, American Century Theatre, Arlington Arts Center, Arlington Dance Theatre, Arlington Historical Society Museum, Arlington Players, Arlingtones Barbershop Quartet, Asian Stories in America (A.S.I.A.), Bowen-McCauley Dance, Center Dance Company, Children’s Theater of Arlington, Classika 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 Quentzales 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**

According to Arlington County estimates, the total number of jobs in the County increased by about 9 percent between 2000 and 2006. The service sector comprises a significant share of jobs in Arlington. About 18% of all jobs are in the professional and technical services sector. Another



31% 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 28% (52,150 jobs) of the County's 2006 employment is estimated to be in government. The percentage of jobs in the government and business services sectors is likely to change in the short term as the County adjusts to employment moves associated with relocation of Department of Defense facilities (at least 17,000 jobs) to other jurisdictions due to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) recommendations of 2005. In March 2006, the unemployment rate in Arlington was 2.1 percent.

Sector	Jobs
Construction	5,176
Retail trade	10,657
Transportation	9,708
Information	6,787
Finance and insurance	4,109
Real estate and rental and leasing	6,684
Professional and technical services	36,933
Other services	59,801
Government	56,201
All other	3,676
<b>Total</b>	<b>199,731</b>

- Source: Sector employment are Arlington County Planning Division 2006 estimates based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis for the year 2003 (most current available). Unemployment data is from the Virginia Employment Commission.
- Note 1: Sectors are based on the NAIC classification system and are may not be comparable with previous reports.
- Note 2: 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. Although the BRAC recommendations will decrease Arlington employment in the short term, anticipated upgrades to Arlington's office stock in Crystal City, and the proximity of the County to Washington D.C. indicate that a quick recovery is likely and even job gains will increase in the not to distant future.

TOP 20 PRINCIPAL PRIVATE EMPLOYERS

	COMPANY	NATURE OF BUSINESS	ARLINGTON EMPLOYEES
1	Virginia Hospital Center	Healthcare	1,991
2	Verizon	Telecommunications	1,850
3	SAIC	Technology Consulting/Computer Systems	1,689
4	Marriott International, Inc.	Hotels	1,680
5	US Airways	Airline Transportation	1,466
6	Lockheed Martin Corporation	Air Transportation Equipment/Defense Systems	1,300
7	CACI	Technology Consulting/Computer Systems/Defense	1,085
8	Hecht Company	Department Stores/Headquarters	1,027
9	SRA International, Inc.	IT Services/Defense/Strategic Consulting	910
10	Booz Allen Hamilton	Consulting Services	870
11	Marymount University	Higher Education	645
12	Friedman, Billings, Ramsey Group	Financial Services	638
13	Nordstrom	Department Stores	627
14	The Boeing Company	Air Transportation Equipment/Defense Systems	592
15	Computer Sciences Corporation	Technology Services	580
16	Anteon Corporation	Technology Services/Defense	563
17	Watson Wyatt Worldwide	Consulting Services	535
18	NRECA	Association Headquarters	525
19	Hyatt	Hotels	442
20	E*Trade Financial	Financial Services	440
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>19,455</b>
	<b>TOP 20 AS PERCENT OF COUNTY TOTAL</b>		<b>9.7</b>

- Source: Arlington County Department of Economic Development
- Note: US Airways has merged with America West in Tempe, Arizona and transferred 600 of its Arlington based employees to Arizona. Also, the Hecht Company (and its parent, Federated Department Stores, Inc.) was purchased by the May Department Stores Co. The Hecht Company Arlington headquarters gradual phase out began in March, 2006.

**SELECTED SERVICE INDICATORS**

	<b>FY 2005 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2006 Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2007 Estimate</b>
General Obligation Bond Rating	Aaa/AAA/AAA	Aaa/AAA/AAA	Aaa/AAA/AAA
New Voters Registered by Electoral Board (Calendar Year)	8,164	8,000	8,000
Inspections Conducted for Fire Code Enforcement	1,163	1,200	1,200
Percentage of Fire Emergencies Reached Within Five Minutes	76%	78%	80%
Fire/EMS/Public Service Responses	25,197	24,500	24,891
Refuse Collected on County and Contracted Routes (Tons)	44,959	46,800	47,000
Total Curbside and Drop-Off Materials Recycled (Tons)	11,003	11,000	11,200
Licensed Child Care Facilities (Family Day Care Homes)	200	275	275
Children Adequately Immunized by age 2	76%	78%	79%
Participants in the Senior Adult Travel Program	1,237	1,250	1,300
Number of Recreational Summer Camps Offered	79	79	79
Calls for Police Patrol Service	89,450	96,750	96,750
Calls Processed at the Emergency Communications Center	534,762	540,000	540,000