

## 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 January 2008 population of 206,800, an increase of 8.7 percent over the 2000 population. Additionally, Arlington is home to an estimated 205,300 jobs, as of January 1, 2008.

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 2008 about 28.7 percent (or about 58,930) 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 2008 estimate is that 19.1 percent of total employment (about 39,150 jobs) is in the professional and technical services sector. An additional 28.9 percent of total employment (about 59,410 jobs) is in the accommodation, 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.

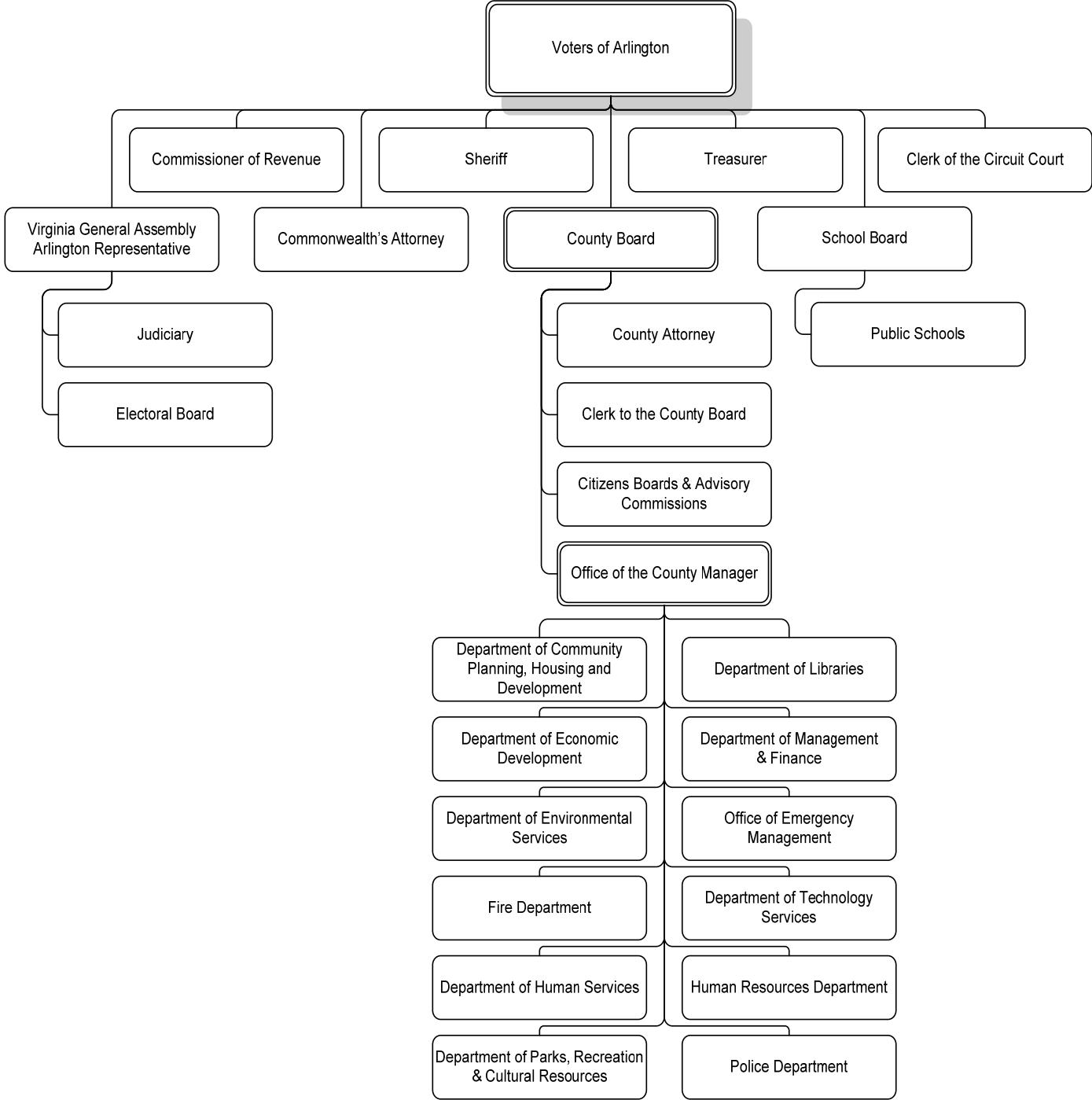
A 1992 revision of the State Code provided a local option to elect the School Board; Arlington voters chose to exercise that option via a November 1993 referendum. As of November 1994 and continuing each year thereafter, School Board members are elected.

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.

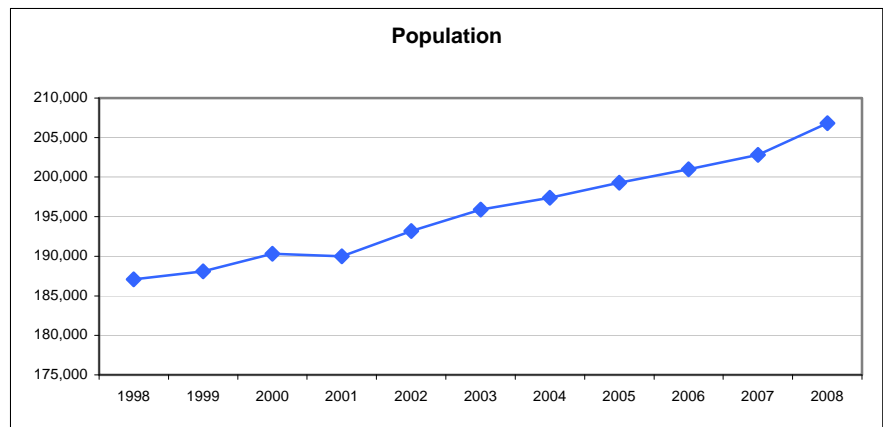
ORGANIZATION OF ARLINGTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT



**DEMOGRAPHICS**

The Planning Division of the Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development (DCPHD) estimates Arlington County’s 2008 population to be 206,800. 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 2008 population estimates indicate that pre-school children (ages 0-4) make up 7.2 percent of the total population; school-age children (ages 5-19) constitute 12.7 percent; career and family forming adults (ages 20-44) constitute 43.4 percent; established family and career adults (ages 45-64) account for 27.0 percent; the younger seniors (ages 65-84) constitute 8.0 percent; and the 85 and over population is 1.8 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 1998-1999 are from the U.S. Census Bureau. Estimates for 2001-2008 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 US Census Population Estimates, 65.3 percent of Arlington residents are white, 15.8 percent are Hispanic, 8.5 percent are black or African-American, 8.8 percent are Asian or Other Pacific Islanders, and 1.7 percent identified as another race or two or more races. (Note: percentages may not add due to rounding.)

The Planning Division estimates that the aggregate population of Arlington increased by 8.7 percent between 2000 and 2008. (Note that staff believes the Census 2000 figure to be a bit lower than the actual population.) From 2000 to 2006 the largest increase in population among the racial/ethnic groups was an increase of about 15,874 among the white population. Among other groups, the Asian-Pacific Islander population also increased substantially, by 1,214 persons. The African-American population decreased by 248 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 Decennial Census while the 2006 figures are from the Census Bureau’s Population Estimates Program.

Racial/Ethnic Group	2000	2006	% Change
<b>Non-Hispanic/Latino</b>			
White alone	114,489	130,363	13.9%
Black or African American alone	17,244	16,996	-1.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	16,346	17,560	7.4%
Other/MultiRacial	6,106	3,384	-44.6%
<b>Total Non-Hispanic/Latino</b>	<b>154,185</b>	<b>168,303</b>	<b>9.2%</b>
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	<b>35,268</b>	<b>31,473</b>	<b>-10.8%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>189,453</b>	<b>199,776</b>	<b>5.4%</b>

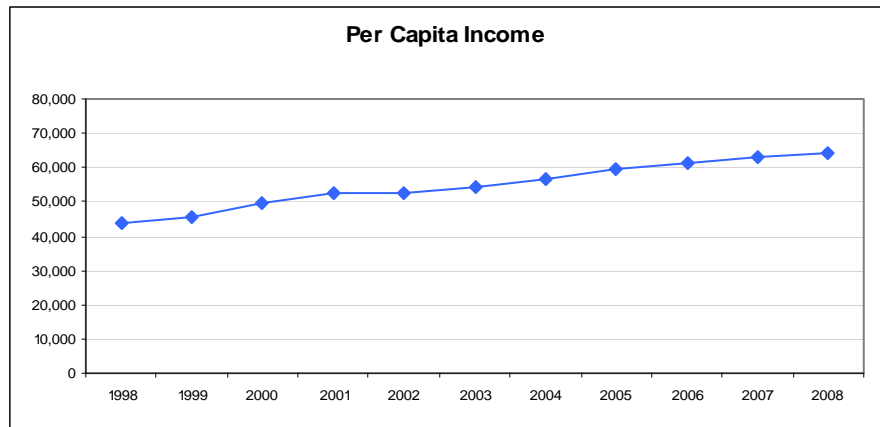
Note: Percentages may not add to the total figure due to rounding

### EDUCATION

Arlington’s population is among the most highly educated in the country. According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2006 American Community Survey, 92.3 percent of all household residents age 25 and older were high school graduates, 67.2 percent were college graduates, and 34.3 percent had graduate or professional degrees. Of the Arlington Public School (APS) class of 2006-2007, 88.4 percent planned to pursue higher education, and the average expenditure per pupil was expected to be \$18,563 in the 2008 fiscal year.

### PERSONAL INCOME

The educational achievements of Arlington’s population are reflected in the County’s income statistics as well. In 2005, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Arlington’s per capita personal income was \$59,389. According to the U.S. Census American Community Survey, the median household income in Arlington County in 2006 was \$87,350. The Planning Division estimates that median household income in 2008 is \$91,896. 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.

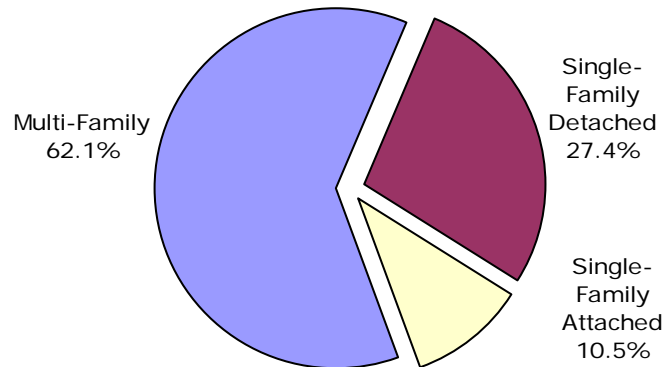


The Per Capital Income graph above shows the growth in per capita personal income since 1998. Income figures for 1998 through 2005 are from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the figures for 2006 through 2008 are estimated by the Arlington County Planning Division.

**HOUSING**

According to Planning Division estimates, there are 102,152 total housing units in Arlington as of January 2008. 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 (62.1 percent or 63,385) of housing units in Arlington are multi-family. In addition, there are an estimated 27,947 single-family detached (27.4 percent), and 10,719 single-family attached housing units (10.5 percent) in Arlington. Since 2000, growth in housing units has been largely due to multi-family development. Between 2000 and January 2008, 11,012 new multi-family units have been completed (an increase of 21 percent), compared to 435 single family attached units. There has been a net gain of 279 single family detached units during the same time span. In the 2007 fiscal year the Housing Division estimates that owners occupy 47.1 percent and renters occupy 52.9 percent of occupied housing units.

**Arlington County Housing Stock**



**HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION**

All persons living in a housing unit are termed a household. As of January 2008, the DCPHD Planning Division estimates that there are 97,100 households in Arlington County. The number of people living in households is estimated at 202,700. An estimated 4,200 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 2008 is 2.09 persons. According to the US Census 2006 American Community Survey, an estimated 45.8 percent of Arlington households were family households and 54.2 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 Amphitheatres	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**

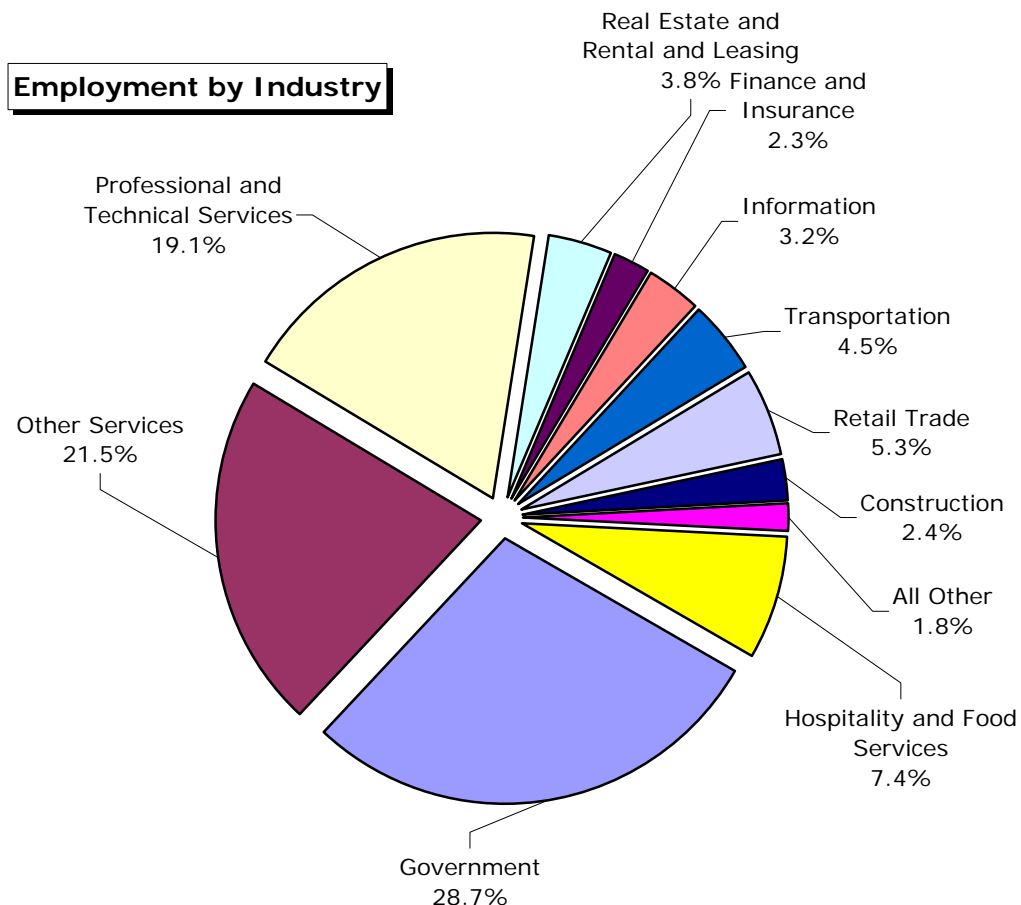
The Actor’s Center, American Century Theatre, Arlington Arts Center, Arlington Dance Theatre, Arlington Historical Society Museum, Arlington Players, Arlingtones Barbershop Quartet, Asian Stories in America (A.S.I.A.), Bowen-McCauley Dance, Center Dance Company, Children’s Theater of Arlington, Classika 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 12.4 percent between 2000 and 2008. The service sector comprises a significant share of jobs in Arlington. About 19.1 percent of all jobs are in the professional and technical services sector. Another 21.5 percent of jobs are in other service sectors, including administrative, education, and



health. The government sector also continues to comprise a large share of Arlington jobs. About 28.7% (58,930 jobs) of the County's January 2008 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 to other jurisdictions due to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) recommendations of 2005. In November 2007, the unemployment rate in Arlington was 1.9 percent.

Sector	Jobs
Construction	4,840
Retail trade	10,870
Transportation	9,340
Information	6,540
Finance and insurance	4,780
Real estate and rental and leasing	7,880
Professional and technical services	39,150
Hospitality and Food Services	15,270
Other services	44,140
Government	58,930
All other	3,560
<b>Total</b>	<b>205,300</b>

- Source: Sector employment are Arlington County Planning Division 2008 estimates based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis for the year 2005 (most current available). Unemployment data is from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS).

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.

TOP 20 PRINCIPAL PRIVATE EMPLOYERS

	COMPANY	NATURE OF BUSINESS	ARLINGTON EMPLOYEES
1	Virginia Hospital Center	Healthcare	2,127
2	Marriott International, Inc.	Hotels	1,720
3	Corporate Executive Board	Consulting Services	1,659
4	Lockheed Martin Corp	Air Transportation Equipment/Defense Systems	1,533
5	Science Applications International Corporation	Technology Consulting/Computer Systems	1,448
6	CACI	Technology Consulting/Computer Systems	1,246
7	Booz Allen Hamilton	Consulting Services	1,203
8	US Airways*	Airline Transportation	1,136
9	Verizon	Telecommunications	995
10	SRA International, Inc.	IT Services/Defense/Strategic Consulting	954
11	Marymount University	Higher Education	651
12	The Bureau of National Affairs	Publisher	600
13	Nordstrom	Department Stores	593
14	The Boeing Company	Air Transportation Equipment/Defense Systems	579
15	Macy's*	Department Stores	568
16	General Dynamics Information Technology*	Information Technology	565
17	E*Trade Financial*	Financial Services	550
18	National Rural Electric Cooperative Association	Association Headquarters	500
19	Watson Wyatt	Financial Services	500
20	Hyatt	Hotels	485
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>19,612</b>
<b>TOP 20 AS PERCENT OF COUNTY TOTAL</b>			<b>9.6</b>

\*2007 employment data. 2008 data are not yet available for these employers.

- Source: Arlington County Department of Economic Development

**SELECTED SERVICE INDICATORS**

	<b>FY 2007 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2008 Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2009 Estimate</b>
General Obligation Bond Rating	Aaa/AAA/AAA	Aaa/AAA/AAA	Aaa/AAA/AAA
New Voters Registered by Electoral Board (Calendar Year)	2,599	17,000	1,000
Inspections Conducted for Fire Code Enforcement	2,551	2,500	3,000
Percentage of Fire Emergencies Reached Within Four Minutes	57%	57%	57%
Fire/EMS/Public Service Responses	25,660	25,700	25,600
Refuse Collected on County and Contracted Routes (Tons)	45,524	45,000	45,000
Total Curbside and Drop-Off Materials Recycled (Tons)	11,467	12,000	11,229
Licensed Child Care Facilities (Family Day Care Homes)	207	207	207
Children Adequately Immunized by age 2	88%	90%	90%
Number of participants in camps	6,440	6,500	6,500
Number of individuals registered with the Office for Senior Adult Programs (OSAP)	4,021	4,025	4,100
Calls for Police Patrol Service	90,217	95,000	95,000
Calls Received at the Emergency Communications Center	458,906	456,569	461,234