

How the Counties Stack Up

No one factor determines what jurisdiction is best for a business. Instead, each county has its own profile, a mix of quality of life, tax rates, costs for real estate and wages, and geography that

help determine what kinds of businesses might logically choose it. Smaller independent cities in Virginia, such as Falls Church and Fairfax City, are not included. Tax rates do not reflect a

wide variety of incentives and discounts that lower rates in certain zones within some counties, and counties vary in how they assess land and equipment.

	BASICS				BUSINESS TAXES							
	2003 POPULATION	POPULATION GROWTH <small>2000-2003</small>	JOB GROWTH	% BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER	COMMUTE TO DOWNTOWN D.C.	DRIVING TIME TO AIRPORTS	2002 AVERAGE WAGE	WAGE CHANGE OVER 2000	CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATE	COMMERCIAL PROPERTY TAX RATE	BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RATE	SALES TAX
DISTRICT	563,400	-8,000 (-1.4%)	14,400 (2.2%)	39.1%	NA	National: 10 minutes Dulles: 33 minutes BWI: 45 minutes	\$57,700	\$5,000 (9.6%)	9.975%	\$1.85	\$3.40	5%
ARLINGTON	187,900	-1,500 (-0.8%)	-7,800 (-4.9%)	60.2%	00:12	National: 12 minutes Dulles: 33 minutes BWI: 51 minutes	\$57,900	\$4,800 (9.1%)	6%	\$0.98	\$4.40	
ALEXANDRIA	128,900	-200 (-0.2%)	-700 (-0.7%)	54.3%	00:14	National: 8 minutes Dulles: 38 minutes BWI: 51 minutes	\$47,100	\$5,000 (11.8%)		\$1.08	\$4.75	
FAIRFAX	1,000,400	25,100 (2.6%)	-4,700 (-0.9%)	54.8%	00:26	National: 28 minutes Dulles: 22 minutes BWI: 58 minutes	\$52,400	\$1,800 (3.6%)		\$0.92	\$4.57	
PRINCE WILLIAM	325,300	41,500 (14.6%)	10,700 (13.7%)	31.5%	00:42	National: 43 minutes Dulles: 26 minutes BWI: 74 minutes	\$34,000	\$3,200 (10.3%)		\$1.16	\$3.70	
LOUDOUN	221,700	47,800 (27.5%)	16,900 (19.4%)	47.2%	00:49	National: 50 minutes Dulles: 20 minutes BWI: 77 minutes	\$47,000	-\$6,700 (-12.5%)		\$1.11	\$4.20	
FAUQUIER	61,100	5,600 (9.7%)	2,200 (13%)	27.1%	00:56	National: 57 minutes Dulles: 41 minutes BWI: 88 minutes	\$29,800	\$2,500 (9.1%)		\$0.99	\$4.65	
STAFFORD	111,000	17,400 (18.6%)	1,900 (7.9%)	29.6%	00:47	National: 44 minutes Dulles: 58 minutes BWI: 83 minutes	\$30,700	\$2,600 (9.3%)		\$1.14	\$5.49	
SPOTSYLVANIA	107,800	16,300 (17.8%)	3,700 (15.6%)	22.8%	01:09	National: 66 minutes Dulles: 81 minutes BWI: 105 minutes	\$28,700	\$2,700 (10.5%)		\$1.01	\$5.00	
PRINCE GEORGES	838,700	35,100 (4.4%)	8,400 (2.8%)	27.2%	00:32	National: 33 minutes Dulles: 57 minutes BWI: 42 minutes	\$39,800	\$3,100 (8.5%)	7%	\$0.960	\$2.40	
MONTGOMERY	918,900	41,100 (4.7%)	2,200 (0.5%)	54.6%	00:31	National: 32 minutes Dulles: 33 minutes BWI: 40 minutes	\$46,600	\$3,300 (7.6%)		\$0.734	\$1.835	
HOWARD	264,300	14,700 (5.9%)	7,200 (5.6%)	52.9%	00:49	National: 51 minutes Dulles: 58 minutes BWI: 19 minutes	\$41,900	\$3,700 (9.7%)		\$1.044	\$2.61	
ANNE ARUNDEL	506,600	15,200 (3.1%)	12,000 (6.2%)	30.6%	00:47	National: 49 minutes Dulles: 70 minutes BWI: 33 minutes	\$38,400	\$3,000 (8.3%)		\$0.941	\$2.352	
CHARLES	133,000	11,800 (9.7%)	2,400 (6.5%)	20%	00:49	National: 48 minutes Dulles: 72 minutes BWI: 68 minutes	\$31,100	\$3,100 (11.2%)		\$1.026	\$2.565	
CALVERT	84,100	8,900 (11.9%)	3,000 (17.8%)	22.5%	01:05	National: 66 minutes Dulles: 90 minutes BWI: 73 minutes	\$32,600	\$2,900 (9.6%)		\$0.892	\$2.23	
ST. MARY'S	92,800	6,200 (7.2%)	3,600 (10.9%)	22.6%	01:23	National: 83 minutes Dulles: 107 minutes BWI: 102 minutes	\$40,100	\$3,800 (10.3%)		\$0.878	\$2.195	
FREDERICK	213,700	17,100 (8.7%)	9,000 (11.7%)	30%	00:58	National: 59 minutes Dulles: 50 minutes BWI: 53 minutes	\$34,000	\$3,200 (10.3%)		\$1.00	\$0	