

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 16, 2001

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO #3: ALEXANDRIA EMPLOYMENT BASE

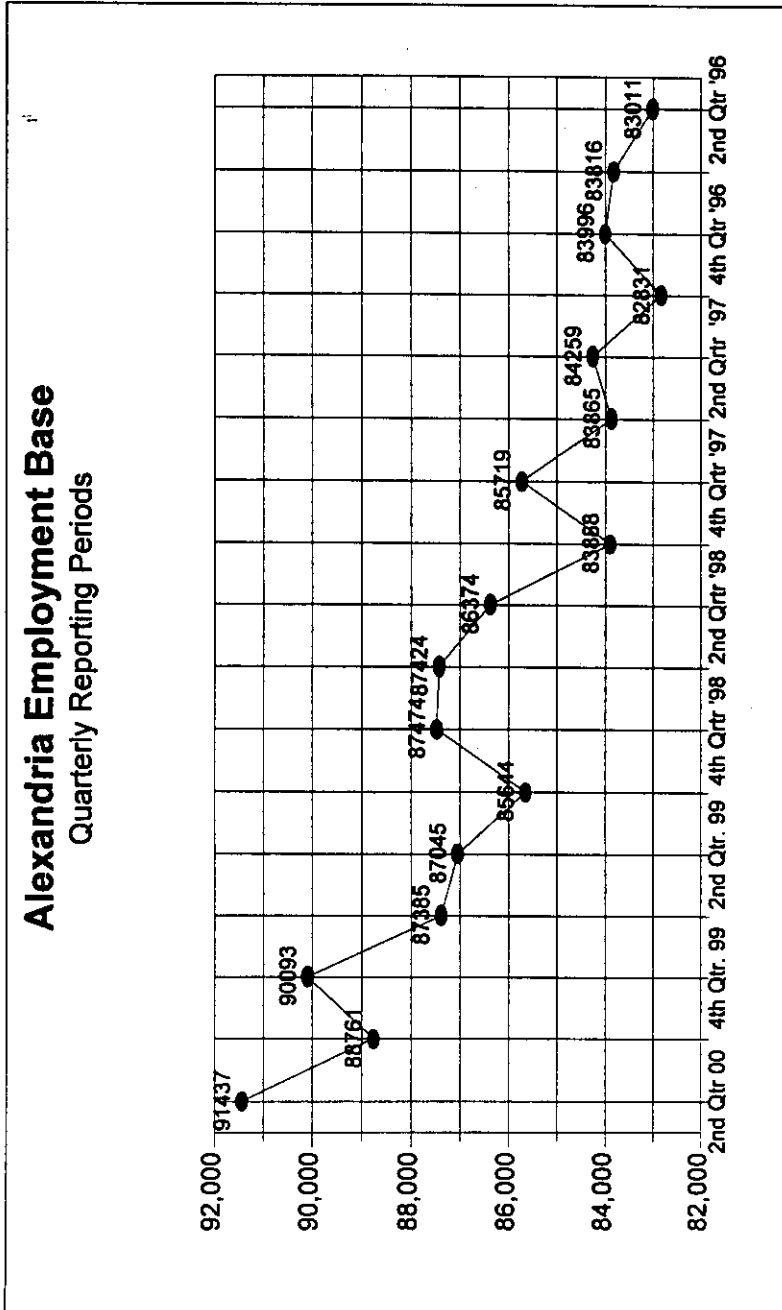
Because census data are now a current topic of public discussion, data on the City's employment base are also being discussed. Unlike census information, employment data are seasonal and fluctuate, and therefore need to be viewed over time, and as more than a one quarter snapshot. The data also lag, because they are finalized and released by the Virginia Employment Commission six months or more after the period they measure.

Attached is a graph that shows employment data for the City by quarter since the 2nd quarter of 1996. Note that 4th quarter data are the highest quarter of all of the years (primarily due to seasonal retail employment), with the first quarter of each year being the lowest quarter (primarily due to low retail employment and, due to weather, less construction employment).

While seasonal differences cause the quarterly employment numbers to fluctuate, the upward multi-year trend for the City is clear, with the 2nd quarter 2000 data (the most recent data available) showing a City employment base at a record 91,437 persons employed.

Attachment: Alexandria Employment Base

cc: Mark Jinks, Assistant City Manager



Compiled by Alexandria Economic Development Partnership
 Source: Virginia Employment Commission