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# REGIONAL HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

## PHASE II REPORT

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**GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN COMMISSION**

DOLPH BRISCOE  
GOVERNOR OF TEXAS

LAURO CRUZ  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR







DOLPH BRISCOE  
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN  
COMMISSION

LAURO CRUZ  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January, 1977

I am pleased to transmit the Regional Human Resource Development Project Phase II Report, made possible by a "capacity-building" grant from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. This report is the culmination of the human resource planning efforts by the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin (GSTCB) Commission and the five regional councils of governments (COGs) located in the forty-county Basin. The major part of the report is Chapter V, Goals, Objectives and Recommendations, which contains recommendations approved by the GSTCB Commission.

Together, the GSTCB Commission and the five COGs have developed a human resource planning and management process which has resulted in a comprehensive human resource plan for South Texas. The plan provides specific guidance and recommendations on how state and federal resources might be better managed to improve the quality of life in the Basin.

The GSTCB Commission commends the boards of directors, committee members, and staffs of the Alamo Area Council of Governments, Coastal Bend Council of Governments, Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, Middle Rio Grande Development Council, and the South Texas Development Council for making this report possible. Thanks also go to the many other local elected officials, State agency personnel, and private citizens participating in and contributing to the comprehensive human resource planning and management process in the Basin.

The recommendations to improve human services reflect locally-identified needs. How effective this planning and management process is will largely be determined by the number of recommendations implemented. A significant impact is possible if we will continue to work together for the people of South Texas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lauro Cruz".

Lauro Cruz  
Executive Director

LC/mta



REGIONAL HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

PHASE II REPORT

Office of the Governor

Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission

Austin, Texas

January, 1977





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission expresses special appreciation to the following parties who assisted in the preparation of this report.

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GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN COMMISSION

1976

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Council

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Middle Rio Grande Development Council

Judge H. T. Martinez, Hebbronville  
South Texas Development Council





## FOREWARD

South Texas has long been one of the most economically depressed regions of Texas and the nation. Recognizing this, the legislature created the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin (GSTCB) Commission to help overcome the socio-economic problems in a forty-county area of South Texas. In order to upgrade the quality of life in the Basin area, the GSTCB Commission has been concentrating on economic development and improved human service delivery.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) awarded a Partnership Grant to the GSTCB Commission to implement the Regional Human Resource Development (RHRD) Project. Under the terms of this grant, the GSTCB Commission proposes to develop greater capacity at the state and regional levels for the planning and management of human service programs. This "capacity building" effort is directed specifically at the GSTCB Commission and the regional councils of governments as a state/regional mechanism for integrated, comprehensive human resource planning and management.

This section describes the purpose and objectives, planning linkages, and first two year's activities of the RHRD project of the GSTCB Commission. It is intended to provide an understanding of the State and regional human resource planning process used in developing this report.

### Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the RHRD project is to link state and regional planning for more effective planning and management of human services in a forty-county area of South Texas, and to develop a Comprehensive Human Resource Plan that addresses locally identified needs, with particular emphasis on those in rural areas. There are five objectives:

1. Develop a comprehensive human resource plan for South Texas, linking state and regional planning for more effective input into state and federal programming and budgeting.
2. Develop a comprehensive human resource planning and management capability at state and regional levels that is responsive to locally identified needs, particularly in the rural areas.
3. Strengthen the A-95 review and comment process as a tool for comprehensive human resource planning and management.
4. Strengthen communication and cooperation among human service agencies at the state and federal levels, and among regional councils, community action agencies and other local human service provider groups, and the rural poor.
5. Enable regional councils of governments to serve as catalysts in the planning and management of human services.

## Planning Linkages

The GSTCB Commission serves as the umbrella mechanism to provide for local input and linkage to the federal and state levels. The Commission is made up of an alliance of federal agencies, state and local governments, and citizenry; it is chaired by the Governor of Texas. The Commission serves as an advisory body to the Governor and Legislature and makes policy recommendations on those programs of major importance to South Texas. These recommendations reflect interagency cooperation and focus on impacting state planning and budgeting.

Texas does not have a cabinet form of government. The GSTCB Commission enables the Governor, as Chairman, to direct interagency coordination and address problems that cut across agency and functional lines. The GSTCB Commission is a unique interagency organization in that it includes representatives of all levels of government -- local, state and federal -- plus the private sector. This partnership of governments provides an organizational framework for integrated, "vertical" or intergovernmental planning and policy development.

Since the passage of the state regional council enabling legislation in 1965 (Article 1011 m, V.A.C.S.), State policy has continued to encourage the use of regional councils as the focal points for sub-state planning and coordination activities. In 1968, the governor requested a study which would delineate Texas into state planning regions. The purpose of state planning regions was to establish geographic boundaries for membership in regional councils of governments and to serve "as a framework for the coordination of functional planning and as a guide to federal and State agencies in the delivery of services."<sup>1</sup> Presently, there are twenty-four state planning regions. The State has also assisted local governments in establishing a regional planning commission in each state planning region.

Regional planning commissions are known variously as councils of governments, associations of governments, area councils, regional councils and development councils. A council of governments (COG) is a voluntary association of local governments which promotes areawide coordination and planning. An important function of a COG is to provide technical assistance to its member governments. COGs also conduct review and comment on applications for federal financial assistance the (A-95 process), contract with local member governments for provision of services, plan for regional development, and assist member governments in carrying out regional plans.<sup>2</sup>

The GSTCB encompasses five of the state's 24 planning regions, and the Commission relies on the five regional councils as building blocks in its overall planning and policy development. The five regional councils are the Alamo Area Council of Governments, the Coastal Bend Council of Governments, the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, the Middle Rio Grande Development Council, and the South Texas Development Council.

Under GSTCB Commission's Regional Human Resource Development project, each of the five regional councils has organized a human resource committee as a standing committee to plan, coordinate, and review human service

programs in that region. The human resource committees are intended to provide the comprehensive overview necessary to develop the regional human resource plans and are representative of local human service providers--including local State agency offices and CAAs, local elected officials, and the rural poor.

### The First Two Years

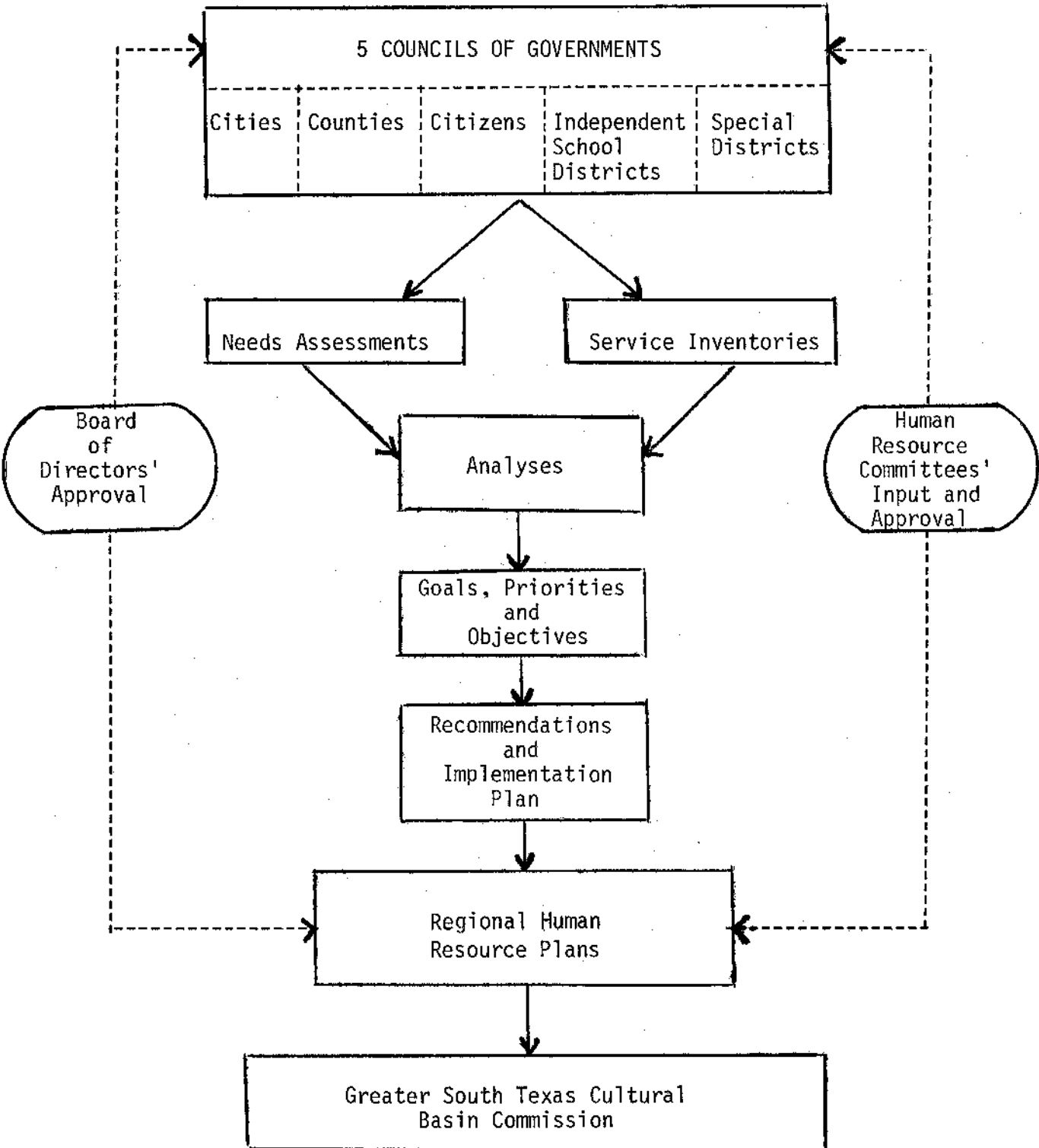
The RHRD's first year set in place the components of the planning process and laid the groundwork for the development of a comprehensive plan. The project's second year improved the planning process and developed a comprehensive human resource plan for each of the five COG areas comprising the GSTCB and for the Basin as a whole. This Phase II Report represents the integration of the regional councils' plans into a basinwide Comprehensive Human Resource Plan for South Texas.

<sup>1</sup>  
Division of Planning Coordination, Office of the Governor, Regional Councils in Texas, A Status Report and Directory, 1975 (Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 12.

<sup>2</sup>  
Ibid.

HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING IN THE  
GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN  
(Regional Human Resource Development Project)

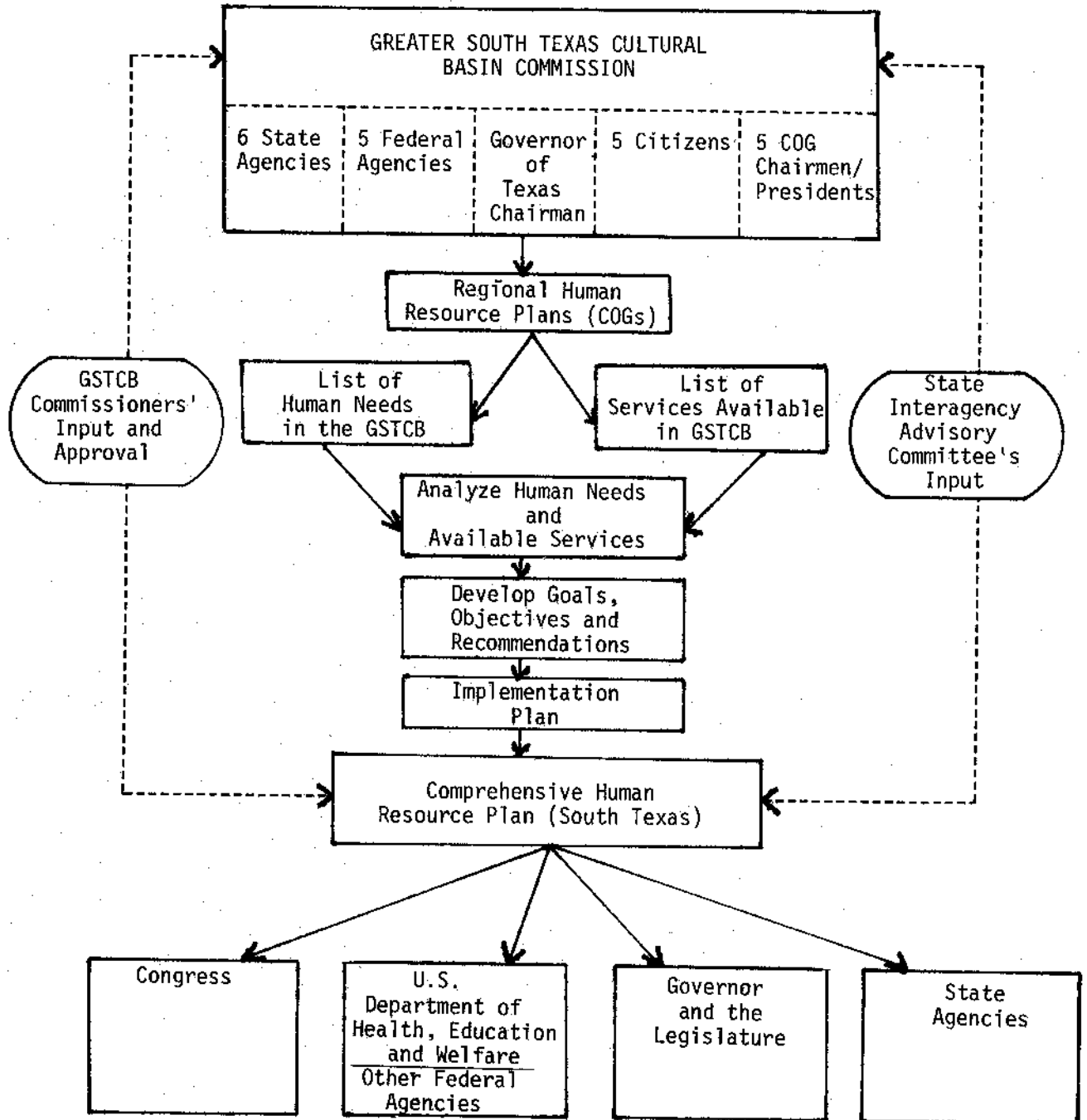
A. COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS' HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING PROCESS





HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING IN THE  
 GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN  
 (Regional Human Resource Development Project)

B. GSTCB COMMISSION HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING PROCESS





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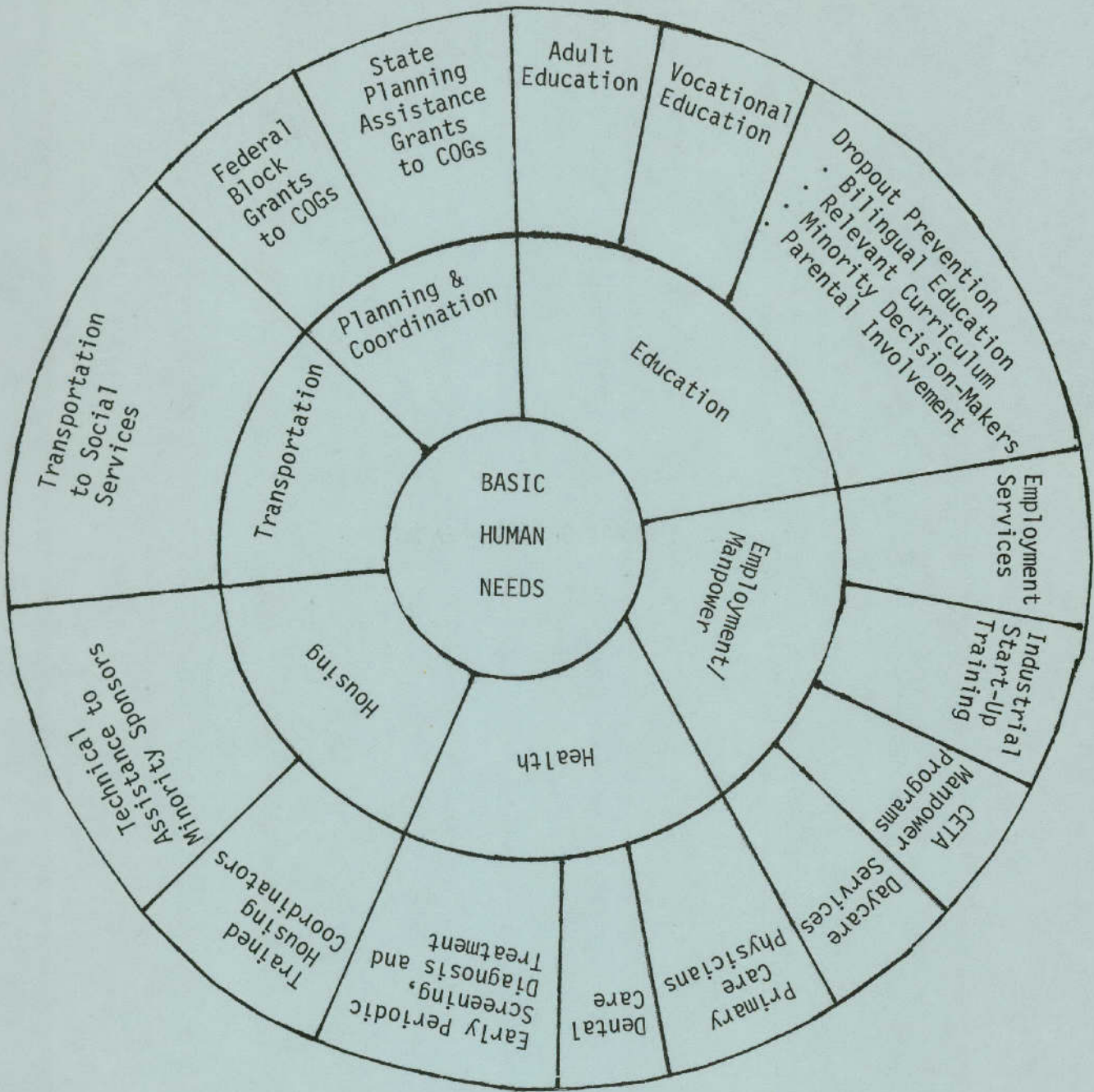
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- A. Alternative Techniques for a Needs Assessment
- B. Methodologies Used to Prepare Chart 1, "Human Needs in the Basin"
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I. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT IN THE  
GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN



## I. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

This list of findings and recommendations in the areas of education, employment/manpower, health, housing, transportation, and planning and coordination is a summary of the overall discussion found in Chapter V. The full discussion and justification for each recommendation can be found in the pages identified in parentheses after each recommendation.

### A. Education

#### 1. Adult Education:

- . 551,066 adults in the Basin do not have a high school diploma
- . 780,000 adults in the Basin need adult education
- . 53.5 percent of the Basin's population is Mexican-American
- . Median educational level of Mexican-Americans in Texas is 7.2 years

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE \$15 MILLION TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM FOR ADULT EDUCATION, \$1.5 MILLION OF WHICH IS TO BE ALLOCATED SPECIFICALLY FOR BILINGUAL ADULT EDUCATION. (pp. 48-49)

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD DEVELOP AN ALLOCATION FORMULA FOR THE \$1.5 MILLION FOR BILINGUAL ADULT EDUCATION WHICH EMPHASIZES THE NUMBER OF LIMITED ENGLISH-SPEAKING PERSONS IN EACH ADULT EDUCATION CO-OP AREA. (pp. 48-49)

#### 2. Adult Education--Staff Development:

- . Staff development for adult educators is a priority within TEA
- . Limited resources to provide staff development
- . 1,717 adult educators need staff development
- . Staff development is also necessary in bilingual adult education

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ALLOCATE \$250,000 FOR EACH YEAR OF THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM TO ENABLE ADULT EDUCATION AND BILINGUAL ADULT EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS TO COMPLETE AT LEAST 40 HOURS OF STAFF TRAINING. (pp. 49-50)

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD VIGOROUSLY PURSUE ITS GOAL OF CERTIFICATION OF ADULT EDUCATION TEACHERS BY 1980. (pp. 49-50)

### 3. Vocational Education:

- . Demand for 1.7 million skilled workers in 1985
- . 68 percent of available jobs in 1985 will be voc-ed related
- . Skilled workers earn 76 percent more than unskilled workers
- . Supply of skilled workers will not meet demand
- . Mexican-Americans have less vocational training than any other group
- . 30 percent of the Basin's school districts had course offerings in only one or two occupational fields
- . Underutilization of area vocational schools
- . 76 Basin school districts had no vocational counselor

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE A MINIMUM OF \$262.6 MILLION FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM. THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ALLOCATE A CONSIDERABLE SHARE OF THIS INCREASE WITHIN THE BASIN DUE TO ITS LARGE, UNSKILLED LABOR FORCE. (pp. 51-53)

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD UTILIZE ITS 1978-79 APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE DIVERSIFIED VOC-ED PROGRAMS IN THE SMALLER SCHOOL DISTRICTS. (pp. 51-53)

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ENCOURAGE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO MAKE BETTER USE OF AREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE MORE STUDENTS WITH VOC-ED OPPORTUNITIES. THE TEA SHOULD ASSIST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE ATASCOSA, DIMMIT, FRIO, LaSALLE AND McMULLEN COUNTY AREA AND IN THE BROOKS, JIM HOGG, AND ZAPATA COUNTY AREA IN OBTAINING FEDERAL FUNDS TO RENOVATE SCHOOL FACILITIES USED AS AREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS. (pp. 51-53)

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHOULD LOWER THE REQUIREMENTS THAT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS MUST MEET TO QUALIFY FOR ONE VOCATIONAL COUNSELOR FROM 300 TO 200 STUDENTS REGULARLY ENROLLED IN VOC-ED PROGRAMS. (pp. 51-53)

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ENCOURAGE SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO SHARE THE COST OF A VOCATIONAL COUNSELOR BY POOLING THEIR VOC-ED ENROLLMENTS TO MEET THE STATE REQUIREMENTS. (pp. 51-53)

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FOR EXPANDING VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION TO POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS, ADULTS, AND SPECIAL POPULATIONS. THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ALLOCATE A CONSIDERABLE PORTION OF THESE FUNDS WITHIN THE BASIN DUE TO ITS LARGE, UNSKILLED LABOR FORCE. (pp. 54-55)



#### 4. School Dropouts:

- . Median educational level in the Basin is 10.3 years--1.3 years below the State average
- . Mexican-Americans' median educational level is 7.2 years
- . Dropout rate in the Southwest is about 40 percent
- . Mexican-Americans are underrepresented in decision-making positions in education
- . Need for curriculum relevant to Mexican-American students
- . Need for increased parental involvement in school affairs

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY AND LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHOULD CONTINUE TO RECRUIT MEXICAN-AMERICAN TEACHERS, COUNSELORS, AND ADMINISTRATORS IN PROPORTION TO THEIR ETHNIC ENROLLMENTS. (pp. 56-57)

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY A MINIMUM OF \$15 MILLION FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM FOR BILINGUAL EDUCATION. (pp. 56-57)

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ENCOURAGE SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVING MEXICAN-AMERICANS COMPRISING ONE-FOURTH OF THEIR TOTAL ENROLLMENT TO INCORPORATE THE HISTORY, LANGUAGE, AND CULTURE OF MEXICAN-AMERICANS INTO THEIR PRESENT CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS. (pp. 56-57)

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD URGE ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO DEVELOP OR EXPAND PROGRAMS WHICH INVOLVE PARENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS. (pp. 56-57)

#### B. Employment/Manpower

##### 1. Employment Offices:

- . 63,518 unemployed persons in the Basin in September, 1976
- . 48 TEC or CETA-funded TEC offices in the Basin
- . The majority of these offices are concentrated in or close to urban centers
- . San Patricio, Guadalupe, Jim Wells, Comal, and Kleberg Counties had 400 to 1,000 unemployed persons and limited services from TEC
- . Incomplete data from rural areas used to determine unemployment rates

RECOMMENDATION: THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) SHOULD CONTINUE TO FUND THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION TO PROVIDE THE PRESENT EMPLOYMENT SERVICES IN THE BASIN. (pp. 61-63)

RECOMMENDATION: AS FEDERAL FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE, THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION SHOULD EXPAND THE SCOPE OF SERVICES AT EXISTING OFFICES IN SMALL CITIES LOCATED IN COUNTIES WITH HIGH EMPLOYMENT. PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SINTON, SEGUIN, ALICE, NEW BRAUNFELS, AND KINGSVILLE.  
(pp. 61-63)

RECOMMENDATION: THE GSTCBC SHOULD REQUEST THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS (BLS) TO AUTHORIZE THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION TO UTILIZE THE VARIOUS AGENCIES, COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS IN CONDUCTING UNEMPLOYMENT SURVEYS USING THE BLS FORMULA.  
(pp. 61-63)

## 2. Starr County Employment Services:

- . Approximately 1,000 unemployed persons in Starr County between June-September, 1976
- . Starr County is an area of substantial unemployment
- . Starr County is an area of high youth unemployment
- . TEC operation in Rio Grande City provides only unemployment insurance claims

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION SHOULD ALLOCATE FUNDS TO UPGRADE ITS OPERATION IN RIO GRANDE CITY TO FULL SERVICE OFFICE STATUS.  
(p. 63)

## 3. Industrial Start-Up Training:

- . 63,518 unemployed persons in the Basin in September, 1976
- . 10 counties in the Basin with over or close to 10 percent unemployment
- . 53.5 percent of the Basin's population is Mexican-American
- . Median educational level of Mexican-Americans in Texas is 7.2 years
- . Only \$76,400 out of \$1 million for industrial start-up training in the Basin
- . Four of the eight proposed programs in Basin completed have had an impact on the Texas economy of \$26,308,023 and 1032 new jobs

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE \$2 MILLION FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM TO EXPAND THE INDUSTRIAL START-UP TRAINING PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY AND THE TEXAS INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION. (pp. 64-65)

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE \$500,000 to the GSTCB COMMISSION FOR INDUSTRIAL ADVERTISING, PROSPECTING, AND INDUSTRIAL START-UP TRAINING FOR THE BASIN. FUNDS FROM THE INDUSTRIAL ADVERTISING AND

PROSPECTING WOULD BE CONTRACTED TO THE TEXAS INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION; FUNDS FOR THE TRAINING IN SOUTH TEXAS WOULD BE CONTRACTED TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY AND TEXAS INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION THROUGH THE GSTCB COMMISSION.  
(pp. 64-65)

#### 4. CETA Manpower Program:

- . 63,518 unemployed persons in the Basin in September, 1976
- . Number of unemployed persons in the Basin represented 21.7 percent of the total number of unemployed in the State of Texas
- . 10 counties in the Basin with over or close to 10 percent unemployment
- . Median educational level in the Basin is 10.3 years--1.3 years below the State average
- . Median educational level for Mexican-Americans in the State is 7.2 years
- . In fiscal 1976, CETA manpower programs served over 39,000 in the Basin; over 12,000 were placed in unsubsidized jobs

RECOMMENDATION: THE U.S. CONGRESS SHOULD CONTINUE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACT TO PROVIDE JOB TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO THE NATION'S ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED, UNEMPLOYED, AND UNDEREMPLOYED POPULATION. (pp. 67-68)

RECOMMENDATION: THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SHOULD REQUIRE PRIME SPONSORS TO PRESENT EVIDENCE THAT THEIR MANPOWER PROGRAMS ARE FULLY COORDINATED WITH BUSINESS, INDUSTRY, ADULT EDUCATION CO-OPS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. (pp. 67-68)

#### 5. Day Care Services:

- . An estimated 256,683 children five years of age and under in the Basin
- . An estimated 74,000 are at the poverty level
- . Many of these children need supervised care while their parents work
- . Present day care capacity in the Basin is for 27,652 children
- . DPW provides services to needy families, but the LBB has recommended a cutback in funds and number served.

RECOMMENDATION: THE U.S. CONGRESS SHOULD CONTINUE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE TO PROVIDE DAY CARE SERVICES TO NEEDY CHILDREN. (pp. 69-70)

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO PROVIDE DAY CARE SERVICES TO A MINIMUM OF 19,500 CHILDREN FOR EACH YEAR OF THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM. (pp. 69-70)

## C. Health

### 1. Physicians:

- . Texas' physician to population ratio was 1:755 in 1973
- . The GSTCB's physician to population ratio was 1:910 the same year
- . The AMA's suggested ratio is 1:556; only one Basin county met this standard
- . 75.8 percent of the Basin's physicians are concentrated in Bexar and Nueces
- . Shortages are greatest in the rural areas
- . PHS identified 10 Basin counties or portions of counties as critical shortage areas in 1975
- . Mexican-Americans are underrepresented in Texas' medical schools--4.1 percent of the total enrollment
- . Between 1976-85, there will be an increased demand for allied health manpower as well
- . Counseling and other programs can effectively promote health careers particularly among minorities

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE \$1.2 MILLION--\$450,000 FOR THE FIRST YEAR AND \$750,000 FOR THE SECOND YEAR--FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM TO THE STATE RURAL MEDICAL EDUCATION BOARD TO ESTABLISH A LOAN FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS WHO AGREE TO PRACTICE IN RURAL AREAS. (pp. 73-75)

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY AND LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHOULD INCREASE COUNSELING AND OTHER PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE HEALTH CAREERS, ESPECIALLY AMONG MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS AND STUDENTS FROM RURAL AREAS. (pp. 73-75)

### 2. Dentists:

- . State's dentist to population ratio was 1:2,433 in 1973
- . The Basin's dentist to population ration was 1:2,953 the same year
- . Nine Basin counties had no dentist
- . PHS identified 7 Basin counties or portions of counties as critical shortage areas in 1975
- . 70.7 percent of the Basin's dentists are in Bexar and Nueces Counties.

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE IS URGED TO ESTABLISH A STATE DENTAL EDUCATION BOARD WITH THE AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE LOANS, GRANTS, OR SCHOLARSHIPS TO DENTAL STUDENTS IN THE PRIMARY CARE FIELD WHO AGREE TO PRACTICE IN RURAL AREAS. (pp. 75-76)

### 3. EPSDT Program:

- . In FY '76, 120,615 AFDC children were screened and 34,288 required treatment

- . There is a substantial population between the poverty level and those meeting AFDC requirements not eligible for EPSDT program
- . This preventive health program can reduce the future drain on public funds
- . Approximately \$77 million would be added to the Texas' annual gross product by those treated under the program when they enter the labor force
- . Eventually, these persons could have a lifetime impact on the economy of \$3 billion and \$150 million in taxes to federal and state government

RECOMMENDATION: THE GSTCB COMMISSION REQUESTS THAT THE LEGISLATURE APPROPRIATE \$3,409,690 TO IMPLEMENT A TWO YEAR DEMONSTRATION PROJECT TO PROVIDE EARLY PERIODIC SCREENING DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT SERVICES TO APPROXIMATELY 52,000 POVERTY LEVEL CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 6 AND 15 IN CAMERON, HIDALGO, STARR AND WILLACY COUNTIES AND CENSUS TRACTS 1709 AND 1710 IN SAN ANTONIO. THE FUNDS FOR EPSDT WOULD BE ADMINISTERED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE. (pp. 77-78)

#### D. Housing

##### 1. Federally Subsidized Housing:

- . 37 Basin counties had a median home value of less than the State's \$12,000
- . Families with incomes under \$8,000 need assistance in meeting their housing needs
- . 106,631 families had incomes under the poverty level in the Basin
- . Approximately 36,000 federally subsidized units in the GSTCB-- leaves about 70,000 families in need
- . Need for trained housing personnel in the Basin to make use of available resources

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SHOULD PROVIDE ONE-DAY HOUSING SEMINARS IN EACH OF THE FIVE STATE PLANNING REGIONS IN THE BASIN. THE SEMINARS SHOULD BE FOLLOWED BY THE INTENSIVE TRAINING OF INDIVIDUALS FROM THE BASIN INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING EXPERTISE IN HOUSING. (pp. 81-82)

RECOMMENDATION: THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SHOULD PROVIDE \$513,540 TO THE GSTCB COMMISSION TO PROVIDE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO MINORITY, NON-PROFIT SPONSORS UNDER HUD SECTION 202 AND SECTION 8 MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING. (pp. 81-82)



## E. Transportation

### 1. Transportation to Social Services:

- . A large group of people do not have access to medical and social services
- . This problem exists among the poor, handicapped, and aging population, particularly in rural areas
- . Transportation services exist but serve only a select clientele
- . Federal programs have encouraged the development of parallel transportation systems

RECOMMENDATION: THE U.S. CONGRESS SHOULD CREATE A TRANSPORTATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (TSA) IN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ADMINISTER ALL FUNDS PRESENTLY APPROPRIATED TO FEDERAL AGENCIES TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO SOCIAL SERVICES. THE TSA SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE MERGING OF EXISTING AND FUTURE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, THROUGH INTERDEPARTMENTAL AGREEMENTS, TO FORM COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEMS TO MEET THE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF THE NEEDY, PARTICULARLY THE INDIGENT, HANDICAPPED, AND AGING POPULATIONS. (pp. 84-85)

RECOMMENDATION: THE ALAMO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, COASTAL BEND COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, MIDDLE RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE A LEADING ROLE IN COORDINATING WITHIN THEIR REGIONS THE RESOURCES TO TRANSPORT THE NEEDY TO MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES. (pp. 84-85)

## F. Planning and Coordination

### 1. Comprehensive Regional Planning:

- . Majority of the COGs' budgets is comprised of federal funds
- . Categorical grant funding has hindered comprehensive planning at the regional level
- . The State Planning Assistance Grants and HUD's Planning Assistance Grants are virtually the only flexible sources of funds for COGs
- . HUD's funds are primarily for physical planning
- . State Planning Assistance Grant amount has not been increased since 1973, while inflation has increased over 30 percent

RECOMMENDATION: THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING BY APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO MAKE BLOCK GRANTS TO AREAWIDE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS (REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS IN TEXAS). (pp. 87-88)

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE STATE OF TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE GRANTS AT LEAST TO \$2 MILLION FOR EACH YEAR OF THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDS TO REGIONAL COUNCILS TO CONDUCT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING. (pp. 87-88)

## II. INTRODUCTION



## II. INTRODUCTION

Because jobs are the key to upgrading the quality of life in South Texas, the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin (GSTCB) Commission has concentrated on developing the economy of the Basin. Simultaneously, the Commission has worked to improve human services recognizing that human resource development is essential for sustained economic growth.

"Human resources are people or individuals."<sup>1</sup> The greatest resource in the Basin is its people, and people have certain basic needs. "Needs represent a view of what an individual or group requires to play a role, meet a commitment, participate adequately in a social process, or retain an adequate level of energy and productivity."<sup>2</sup>

"Human services are specific acts of providing to an individual or groups an economic or social good"<sup>3</sup> that meets their human needs. Although most public services are provided to meet human needs, the term "human services" is generally used to describe a set of services provided primarily to meet the needs of poverty level or disadvantaged individuals. Examples of these services include<sup>4</sup>:

- Public Assistance
- Social Services
- Public Health
- Mental Health
- Mental Retardation
- Medical Care
- Aging
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Maternal and Child Health
- Manpower Programs
- Employment Services
- Alcoholism Services
- Drug Abuse Programs
- Youth Institutional Services

The purpose of the Regional Human Resource Development (RHRD) Project, Phase II Report was to identify the human needs of the people living in the Basin and to develop a plan of action to provide the human services to meet these needs. The development of this report was based on the local input provided by the five South Texas councils of governments' (COGs) planning process under the RHRD project.

During the RHRD's first year, the components of the planning process were set in place. Each of the regional councils hired a human resource coordinator and organized a human resource committee as a standing committee of the regional council to plan, coordinate, and review human resource programs in their respective regions.

During Phase II, the coordinators worked with their human resource committees in developing their respective regional plans. Utilizing a survey of service providers, a survey of political and community leaders, secondary data analysis, public hearings, and other techniques, each committee conducted a needs assessment and service inventory. Then, based on their analyses of the needs assessments and service inventories, the committees set goals and objectives for their regions. Each committee then proposed alternative service strategies and recommendations and included them in the regional human resource plans.

The COGs' human resource plans were then forwarded to the GSTCB Commission for integration into a basinwide plan to be submitted to the Governor, the Legislature, HEW, the Southwest Federal Regional Council, and appropriate State entities. The GSTCB Commission utilized a State Interagency Advisory Committee (IAC), comprised of the six major State

human resource agencies, in the development of a basinwide plan. The six State agencies are the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Employment Commission, the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, the Texas State Department of Public Welfare, the Texas Department of Health Resources, and the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. This Phase II Report represents the integration of the regional councils' plans into a basinwide Comprehensive Human Resource Plan for South Texas.

This report does not deal with every existing program and service in the Basin. The failure to mention a program or service does not mean it is not needed, but rather that it is probably meeting present demand or that it has additional service capacity.

The GSTCB Commission will use the findings and recommendations of this report to impact on the decision-making and budgeting processes of both State and federal agencies. Many of the findings and recommendations will be incorporated into the GSTCBC's Overall Development Plan for South Texas to be submitted to the Legislature for action. The GSTCB Commission is already working with State, federal, and local agencies and the Legislature to implement the recommendations in this report.

The RHRD Phase II Report contains six major chapters which are:

- Chapter I - Summary of Recommendations
- Chapter II - Introduction
- Chapter III - The Basin and Its People
- Chapter IV - The Need for Human Services in the Basin
- Chapter V - Goals, Objectives, and Recommendations
- Chapter VI - Councils of Governments' Recommendations

The first chapter is a summary of the major findings and recommendations which are discussed in detail in Chapter V. The second chapter describes the purpose of the report, what it covers, what it does not cover, and how the GSTCB Commission intends to use it. Chapter III provides a profile of the environmental, social, and economic characteristics in the forty-county Basin. A summary of the human needs and needed services and an analysis of the needs assessment and service inventory information are presented in Chapter IV. Chapter V contains human resource goals, objectives, and recommendations for the Basin. It also presents detailed documentation and analysis for the recommended actions in the report. The final chapter contains recommendations made by the five South Texas councils of governments to improve human service delivery within their regions.

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<sup>1</sup>Human Services Institute for Children and Families, Inc., Alternative Approaches to Human Services Planning (Arlington, Virginia, 1974), p. 6.

<sup>2</sup>Research Group, Inc., "A Workshop on Human Service Needs Assessment and Service Inventory For the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission" (Atlanta, Georgia, 1976), p. 9.

<sup>3</sup>Human Services Institute, Alternative Approaches, p. 6.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid., p. 5.

### III. THE BASIN AND ITS PEOPLE





### III. THE BASIN AND ITS PEOPLE

The Greater South Texas Cultural Basin (GSTCB) consists of forty South Texas counties which comprise five state planning regions: Alamo, Coastal Bend, Lower Rio Grande Valley, Middle Rio Grande, and South Texas. The area covers almost 47,000 square miles and had a population of nearly 2.2 million people according to 1975 provisional census estimates.

Historically, this area of Texas has been the most economically depressed. This fact resulted in the GSTCB's designation as the pilot area for implementation of the State's Cultural Basin Act of 1973. The severity and complexity of the region's socio-economic problems center around the lack of economic growth and related high unemployment caused by the low level of educational attainment, racial discrimination, language and cultural differences, the surplus of unskilled labor, the relatively isolated location of the region, the lack of water for industrial use, and the region's proximity to Mexico.

#### A. General History

The Basin, as well as Texas as a whole, has a rich and colorful history. Early Texans in the Basin were Indians, notably the Coahuiltecas, the Lipan Apaches, and later the Comanches. Spanish explorers and missionaries came to Texas in the Sixteenth century, but Spain showed little interest in colonizing the area until Spain feared it would be taken over by the French. After driving the French back into Louisiana, the Spanish began to actively establish missions and colonies strategically in East Texas. Recognizing a need for a "mid-way" settlement between Mexico and their East Texas colonies, a mission and presidio were established at San Pedro Springs (San Antonio) in 1718. San Antonio became the Spanish capitol of Texas in 1772. Laredo (1755) and Refugio (1795) are other early Spanish settlements in the Basin.

Anglo-American colonization began in 1821 with the Spanish government's permission. Shortly thereafter, Mexico gained independence from Spain, but the new government also allowed Anglo colonists. Under the "empresario" system, Texas' population grew from about 7,000 to 35,000-50,000 between 1821 and 1836. San Patricio and Beeville, settled by Irish immigrants in 1830, were two Basin colonies established during this period.

The Mexican government became alarmed with the number of "Anglos" (non-Mexicans) settling in Texas and with their increasing trade with the United States. As a result, the Law of 1830 was passed. This law prohibited further Anglo settlement and levied duties on all imports from the United States. This law and the Mexican government's denial of "Texian's rights" to trial by jury and the right of bail were important factors which led to the Texans fighting for and winning independence in 1836. The only major battle which occurred in the Basin was the siege of the Alamo in San Antonio.

The Republic of Texas continued to encourage colonization under the empresario system. Large land grants were made under the direction of the General Land Office which was created in 1837. The Homestead Law, protecting homesteads, was passed by the First Texas Congress. Colonists from the United States and many foreign countries moved into Texas. Castroville was founded when Henri Castro brought 600 Alsatian families together in an early socialistic experiment. Colonel H. L. Kinney bought land and placed offers

to sell it in United States and foreign newspapers. Corpus Christi came into being as immigrants answered his advertisement.

By 1858 most of the present Basin counties were created, in many cases carved out of larger, existing counties. Kenedy County, established in 1921, was the last. Counties and communities were named for founders, settlers, public officials, landowners, and landmarks. The invention of barbed wire in 1873 brought a new era to Texas. After 1884, when the barbed wire conflict abated, extensive fencing brought a change to cattle ranching. Emphasis was now placed on ranch improvement and cattle breeding. Established communities flourished and new ones sprang up as the railroads expanded throughout the State.

The Twentieth Century brought further prosperity to Texas in the form of increased agriculture and the burgeoning petroleum business. The State's population in 1900 was approximately 3.5 million people. Almost eighty-three percent of these people lived in rural areas. Two large meat-packing plants were built at Fort Worth in 1901 and the cattle industry became an even greater Texas resource. But the year 1901 was important for another reason, Spindletop, near Beaumont, was the first real oil gusher which led to the discovery of many huge oil fields. Subsequently, oil and its associated industries were to become synonymous with the word "Texas." The GSTCB has twelve major oil fields with an actual or estimated ultimate recovery of 100 million barrels or more. The first of these large fields was developed in Refugio County in 1920; the last was developed in Guadalupe County in 1960.

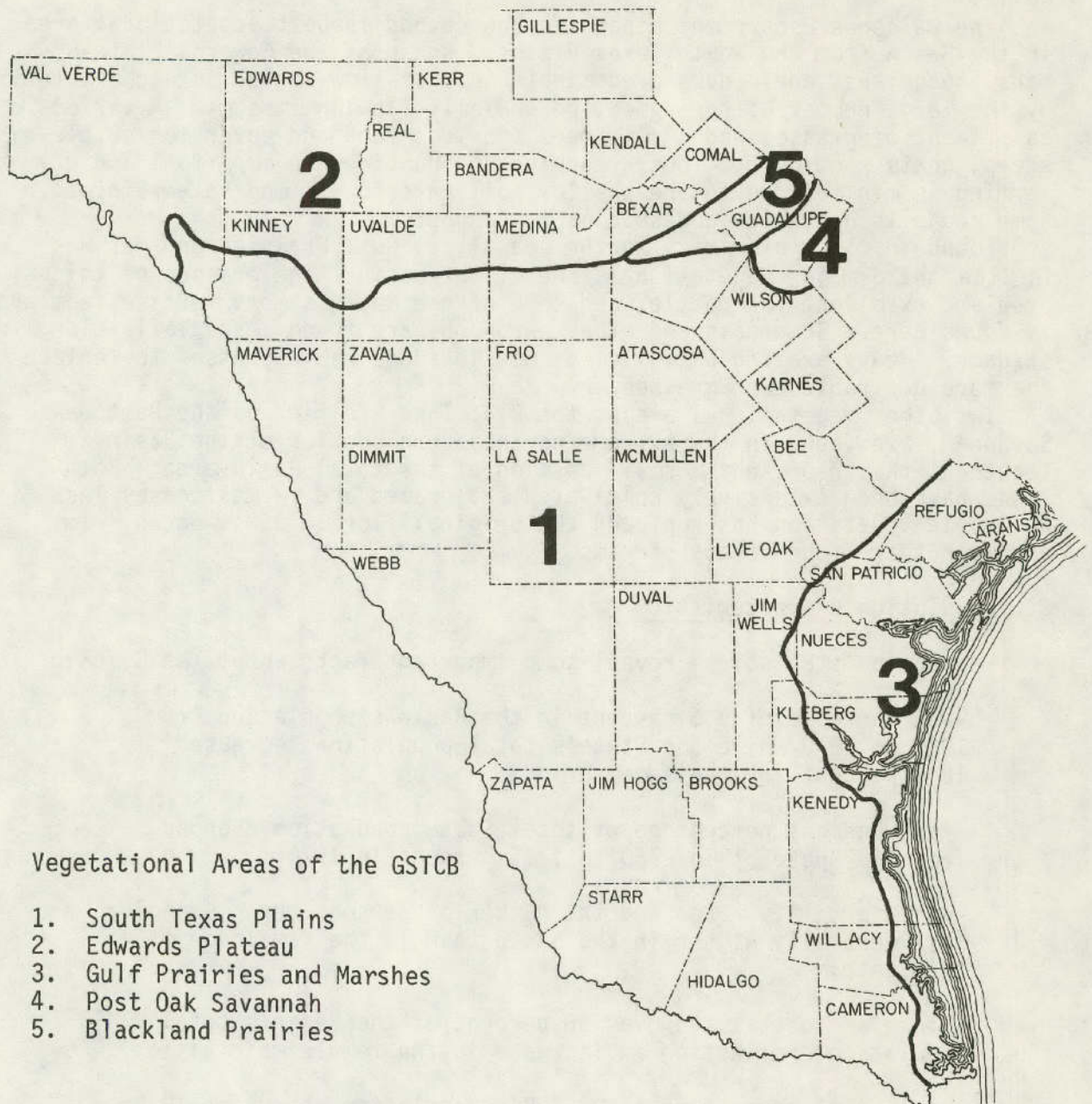
Texas and the Basin experienced increased growth and urbanization following World War II. By 1950, over half of the State's population lived in urban areas. Rapid growth and increased demands for government services placed a heavy burden on the State. The Texas Legislature submitted 124 amendments to the State Constitution between 1950 and 1970. The first State sales tax was passed in 1961. The year 1969 brought Texans their first minimum wage law, liquor by-the-drink, and the lowering of the age of majority from 21 to 18.

## B. Environmental Characteristics

The Basin presents a diverse environment. Various soils are found on elevations ranging from sea level in eight coastal counties to 2500 feet above sea level in Edwards County. Average annual rainfalls vary from a low of 16.88 inches in Val Verde County to a high of 33.76 inches in Refugio County. Average temperatures range from a January minimum of 32<sup>o</sup> F in Bandera County to a January minimum of 51<sup>o</sup> F in Cameron County, and a July maximum of 92<sup>o</sup> F in Aransas County to a July maximum of 100<sup>o</sup> F in Maverick and Zapata Counties. Growing seasons vary from an annual average of 216 days in Kerr County to an annual average of 341 days in Cameron County. Some areas of the Basin are well supplied with both surface and ground waters, while other areas are almost totally devoid of both. Four major rivers are found in the Basin. They are the Rio Grande, the Nueces, the San Antonio, and the Guadalupe. The Atascosa, Devils, Frio, Sabinal, Medina, and Pedernales are some of the minor rivers of the Basin. Major underground water sources are alluvial deposits, Carrizo-Wilcox Sands, Edwards Limestone, and a combination of Edwards Limestone and Trinity Sands.

The abundance and variety of vegetation is often considered when classifying an area environmentally. The GSTCB is comprised of five vegetational areas. The greater majority of the Basin's 46,780 square miles is classified vegetationally as the South Texas Plains (See Figure 1). Originally covered with bunchgrasses in post oak and mesquite savannahs, continued heavy grazing

Figure 1



Source: Texas Agriculture Extension Service,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Texas  
A & M University System, Publication  
L-492.



has allowed the encroachment of various species of brushes and cacti. Today, this semi-arid area is known as "the brush country" or in Spanish as "chaparral" or "monte." Desirable grasses still persist under the protection of brush and cacti. Cattle ranching is a major industry. Various crops are grown, chiefly with the aid of irrigation. Citrus crops are important in areas that lack extremely cold temperatures and contain fertile delta soils.

The Balcones Escarpment separates the second largest vegetational area in the Basin from the South Texas Plains. Known as the Edwards Plateau, oaks, mesquites, and cedars predominate in a shallow-soiled area characterized by the large number of springfed, perennially flowing streams. A varied assortment of grasses and small trees provides food and cover for cattle, sheep, goats, and deer. Thus, ranching and hunting are important and dry farming is minimal due to the shallow soils and low-to-moderate rainfall. Some cedar is harvested and sold as fence posts.

Found in close proximity to the coastline, Gulf Prairies and Marshes is the third major vegetational zone of the Basin. The grasses of this area are excellent for cattle, and some of the Basin's most fertile farmland is found here. Some oaks and other hardwoods are found, especially along streams. Heavy grazing has allowed some less desirable grasses to replace the more desirable bunchgrasses.

Two other vegetational areas, the Blackland Prairie and the Post Oak Savannah, are found in the extreme northeastern portion of the Basin. Together, they represent a small portion of the total Basin area. Both areas have been extensively cultivated and grazed and in most cases less desirable vegetation has replaced the original flora. Oaks, pecan, elm, and walnut are found along streams.

### C. Population Characteristics

Population statistics\* reveal some important facts about the GSTCB:

--an increase of 9.5 percent in the Basin's population from 1960 to 1970, while the State's total population increased 16.9 percent for the same period;

--the Basin's percentage of total State population dropped from 18.7 percent in 1960 to 17.5 percent in 1970;

--the fertility rates and the number of persons per household were generally higher in the Basin than in the remainder of the State;

--females constituted over 50 percent of the Basin's total population, reflecting an increase in the female/male ratio;

--that 41.3 percent of the GSTCB's population was under 19 years of age in 1970;

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\* Statistical data used are contained in or derived from the Tables which are found in Appendix F.

--that Spanish-surnamed Americans accounted for 53.3 percent of the Basin's two million population in 1970, while Blacks accounted for 4.3 percent and Anglos accounted for 42.2 percent;

--an approximate 5 percent shift in population from rural to urban areas of the state since 1960; the Basin's urban-rural distribution was similar to that of the State.

The population of the GSTCB grew steadily between 1960 and 1970, from 1,788,363 to 1,958,370, but the rate of growth was considerably less than that for the rest of Texas (see Tables 1 and 2). However, during this decade there has been a considerable amount of immigration from out-of-state and from Texas' rural areas into the State's industrialized metropolitan areas. For example, Houston's population for the 1960-1970 decade increased 31.4 percent, while San Antonio's increased 11.3 percent. The Bureau of Census provisional population estimates for 1975 indicate that the Basin's population has increased 10.3 percent since 1970, while the State's total population has increased 9.3 percent for the same period (see Table 2).

A good indicator of population growth potential is the fertility of the population. Fertility data from the 1970 Census indicates that 33 of the Basin's 40 counties had a higher fertility rate than that of the State. The fact that the Basin's female/male ratio has increased also indicates potential population growth.

The number of persons per household may be an indicator of population growth, a housing shortage, or two or more families living together. Ethnic customs can contribute to a larger household size. For example, parents and grandparents may live in the same home with their children, and children may live in the home until they marry. Texas had an average of 3.17 persons per household in 1970. Thirty-three counties of the GSTCB had an average higher than that of the State. The average number of persons per household ranged from a low of 2.64 in Bandera County to a high of 4.39 in Maverick County.

The age distribution of a population can also be revealing. A large number of young people in a population is both an indication of past fertility and an indication of future population growth as these young people begin their families. Over 41 percent of the GSTCB population was under 19 years of age in 1970, as compared to 37.7 percent for the State (see Table 5). In addition, the State's percentages for people in the age groups 19-29, 39-49, and 50 and over were higher than those comparable age groups in the Basin. This indicates the median age for the Basin was lower than the State's 26.4 years.

The Greater South Texas Cultural Basin has a substantial portion of the State's Mexican-American population. Because the 1970 Census does not use a Mexican-American classification, but rather Spanish language or Spanish-surnamed Americans, discussion of the ethnic composition will be restricted to Spanish-surnamed Americans. Most Spanish-surnamed Americans in South Texas who were counted in the 1970 Census are Mexican-Americans or legal aliens from Mexico.

In 1970, the GSTCB's population was divided ethnically as follows: Spanish-surnamed Americans accounted for 53.5 percent of the population, Blacks accounted for 4.3 percent, and Anglos (and the remaining groups) accounted for 42.2 percent (see Table 3). The Spanish-surnamed population in Texas was about 18.4 percent in 1970, in comparison to the GSTCB's 53.5 percent; that is, of the 2,059,671 Spanish-surnamed Americans residing in

Texas, 1,047,969 of them resided in the Cultural Basin. Within the GSTCB, there exists great diversity in the distribution of this group as illustrated by a low concentration of 9.2 percent in Bandera County to a high of 97.9 percent in Starr County. By State Planning Regions, Spanish-surnamed Americans represented 43.3 percent of the population in the Alamo, 47.0 percent in the Coastal Bend, 77.8 percent in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, 67.9 percent in the Middle Rio Grande, and 88.3 percent in the South Texas State Planning Region.

Of the 219,457 foreign born Texans, 193,143 were born in Mexico. Of the 563,877 native Texans of foreign or mixed parentage, 514,058 had one or both parents born in Mexico. A look at the GSTCB's Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs) in Chart 1 reveals that those SMSAs closer to Mexico have higher percentages of residents born in Mexico and native Texans with one or both parents born in Mexico.

Chart 1

SMSA	Miles from Mexico	Percent Foreign Born	Percent Native of Foreign or Mixed Parentage
Laredo	0	14.7	34.0
McAllen-Pharr-Edinburg	7-8-12	21.6	31.7
Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito	0-10-12	12.2	30.1
San Antonio	142	5.2	15.6
Corpus Christi	130	3.1	11.2
Texas		2.8	7.9

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Summary of Social Characteristics, 1970 Census Population, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

The 1960 population of Texas was 75 percent urban and 25 percent rural, with a 16.7 percent decrease in the rural population from the 1950 census. There was a 4.9 percent decrease in the rural population from the 1960 to 1970 census, resulting in a 79.7 percent urban and 20.3 percent rural distribution of the State's population.

In comparison, the GSTCB's population was distributed approximately the same as the State, with an urban population of 79 percent and a rural population of 21 percent. The Alamo, Coastal Bend, and South Texas State Planning Regions had urban populations accounting for over 80 percent of their total population, while the Lower Rio Grande Valley and Middle Rio Grande State Planning Regions had urban populations constituting 74.5 percent and 71.8 percent respectively, of their total populations (see Table 4). The 1975 provisional population estimates of the U.S. Bureau of Census show that 80 percent of the Basin's population reside in the eight metropolitan counties.

## D. Socio-Economic Conditions

### 1. The Economy and Employment

Traditionally, the Basin has had an agricultural economy. But with the rapidly occurring changes in technology resulting in the mechanization of that industry, the demand for agricultural labor has been reduced. This decrease in jobs has partially been offset by the ability of some of the major labor markets to diversify their economic base to include other industries such as light manufacturing, retail and wholesale trade, and services.

Overall, manufacturing employment in the GSTCB increased slightly from 1973 to 1974 (see Table 9). While non-manufacturing industries comprised a vast majority of the total employed workers in the Basin, manufacturing accounted for 13.8 percent of the total employment in 1973. Wholesale and retail trade accounted for 31.7 percent of the Basin's total employment, while the construction industry accounted for 8.8 percent, the federal government for 10.6 percent, and State government for an additional 3.1 percent.

These economic trends are expected to continue through the seventies. The shift from agricultural to service-related industries will place a demand on skilled labor that will add to the unemployment problems of low-skilled and unskilled workers. In 1975, the GSTCB's average labor force totaled 812,800 persons of which 62,498 were unemployed (see Table 6). While the average Basin-wide employment rate was 7.7 percent in 1975, the State's average 1975 unemployment rate was 5.6 percent. In July 1976 there were 11 Texas counties with unemployment rates greater than 10 percent. Nine of these counties were in the Basin.

### 2. Incidence of Poverty

According to Poverty in Texas, 1973, the incidence of poverty in the State of Texas was 18.8 percent in 1970, while it varied in the GSTCB from a low of 20.7 percent in the Alamo State Planning Region to a high of 48.6 percent in the Lower Rio Grande Valley State Planning Region. While the incidence of poverty among the Spanish-surnamed population in Texas was 35.9 percent in 1970, the incidence of poverty for this group was much higher in the Basin except for the Alamo State Planning Region. The incidence of poverty in the Basin for white population minus the Spanish-surnamed population was substantially greater than the State's 10.6 percent rate for the same group (see Table 15).

During 1970, the per capita income for the State was \$3,606, which was higher than the per capita incomes of each SMSA in the GSTCB (see Table 13). Only five counties in the Basin--Bandera, Comal, Kerr, Kenedy, and McMullen--had higher per capita incomes than the State's figure (see Table 14). According to the 1970 Census, each of the five SMSA areas in the Basin had higher percentages of families with incomes below the poverty level than the State's 14.6 percent rate.

### 3. Education

In 1970, the median educational level in the Basin for persons twenty-five years and over was 10.3 years, which is 1.3 years less than the State's 11.6 years. Of this group in the Basin, 34.6 percent completed less than eight years of education and 41.4 percent were high school graduates. Both

of these figures were below the State's percentages (see Table 17). The problem was compounded by the Basin's large Spanish-surnamed population as evidenced by the low educational attainment of the State's Spanish-surnamed males and females 25 years of age and over (7.6 median school years for males and 7.0 median school years for females). Although there is disparity among the educational attainment of people in the GSTCB as compared to those in the rest of the State, the problem is more pronounced among Mexican-Americans because of the language and cultural barriers they must overcome.

#### 4. Health

According to Allied Health Manpower in Texas, 1973, the GSTCB contained 76 hospitals out of 605 in the State, or 12.5 percent. The greatest concentration of these facilities is in the Alamo State Planning Region and the Coastal Bend State Planning Region. Within those two regions, the San Antonio and Corpus Christi metropolitan areas contained the majority of the hospitals. Generally, most of the hospitals in the GSTCB are located within the major cities. This distribution pattern is a good indicator of the unavailability of close hospital care in the rural areas in the Basin.

Similarly, there is a maldistribution of physicians and dentists in the GSTCB. The major urban centers (SMSAs) contain the greatest concentration of the Basin's physicians and dentists. Although there were three counties without a physician and nine counties without a dentist in 1973, the situation is more serious upon close review for a number of the physicians in the Basin are close to retirement age, and there is little chance they will be replaced.

In addition to the increased demand for health care providers and institutions, there has been an increased demand for "allied health manpower." One out of every eighteen workers in Texas was in this field in 1973. "Allied health manpower" is a broad field that covers workers who support the activities of physicians, dentists, and other health practitioners. These workers have occupations of a professional, technical, or supportive nature in areas such as nursing, therapy, pharmacy, radiology, and diagnostic services. The 1980 projections for allied health manpower in the Basin indicate a 25 percent increase in personnel over the present number. This would bring the number of full-time personnel in the Basin to 40,649.

#### 5. Housing

Housing conditions are significantly affected by social, economic, and geographic factors. In 1970, the quality of housing in the GSTCB was closely related to its economically depressed state. According to Poverty in Texas, 1973, over nine percent of the people in the State lived in overcrowded housing as opposed to 23.3 percent in the GSTCB. Seventeen percent of the people in the Basin lived in housing with inadequate plumbing as compared to 5.4 percent in the rest of the State. Both the overcrowded housing and inadequate plumbing conditions were significantly higher in the State Planning Regions bordering Mexico.

The number of persons per household is greater in the GSTCB than the State, and this factor coupled with the Basin's increasing population indicates that additional housing will be needed. Also, under current economic conditions, the number of substandard and overcrowded units will be difficult to reduce.



## 6. Transportation

Transportation resources within the GSTCB are related to its geographic location. The Basin does not contain principal air transportation routes because of its remoteness from major market centers. It does have adequate highway, railroad, and water transportation routes.

The highway system in the GSTCB is the principal transportation mode. It is one area in which transportation facilities comprise a system consisting of a network of interstate, U.S., State, and farm-to-market routes. The majority of the routes that traverse the Basin run in a north to south direction such as Interstate Highway 35 and U.S. Highway 281.

There are four railroads currently providing services to the GSTCB. According to the Texas Transportation Institute, the railroad system in the coastal area of the Basin operates far below its capacity, and railroad cars average a low 14 percent of their time in motion.

Water transportation is a key resource to the GSTCB. Port facilities, such as those in Corpus Christi and Brownsville, constitute important water transportation resources that make it an important industry in the Basin. In addition, the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway extends the length of the Basin's coast and is a major transportation mode for bulk goods.

The Basin's scheduled air transportation is limited to its several major cities. The GSTCB has inadequate facilities to maintain and handle large cargo planes. In addition, the Basin does not have major air routes other than those serving San Antonio.

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#### IV. THE NEED FOR HUMAN SERVICES IN THE BASIN



## IV. THE NEED FOR HUMAN SERVICES IN THE BASIN

### A. Purpose for Identifying Needs

The purpose of the RHRD project's second year was to link state and regional planning for more effective planning and management of human services in a forty-county area of South Texas and to develop a Comprehensive Human Resource Plan that addresses locally identified needs, particularly in the rural areas. The GSTCB Commission contracted with each of the five regional councils of governments (COGs) in the Basin to strengthen the planning and management system and to develop a regional human resource plan during Phase II. This process was to identify human service needs for each region, what services are available, and what actions are necessary to improve the service delivery system.

The first element of this planning process was the needs assessment. The purpose for conducting a needs assessment in each of the five COG regions was to determine the nature and degree of the human service needs in each area of the Basin. The needs assessments provided each COG with information on people's perception of need which assisted the regional coordinators and human resource committees in identifying the human services required to meet those needs.

The identification of each COG region's human services needs and the results of their service inventories served as the basis for the development of their respective regional human resource plans. Comparing the list of human service needs with the available services in each state planning region allowed the coordinators to identify gaps in services, duplication of services, and the need for increases or decreases in existing services. Based on the analysis of the needs assessment and service inventory information, each COG's human resource committee developed goals, objectives and recommendations to address the unmet service needs in the region.

Once the regional human resource plans were completed and approved by the COG's board of directors, the plans were forwarded to the GSTCB Commission for integration into a basinwide human resource report that addresses locally identified needs. The needs for human services identified in each of the five regional plans served as the basis for the development of this basinwide report's recommendations.

### B. Techniques Used by the COGs in the Needs Assessment

There is no perfect model available for conducting a needs assessment. Nevertheless, there are certain techniques that can be utilized to obtain insight into the social problems and needs of the population. Some of these include interviews with service providers, secondary data analysis, interviews with political and community leaders, surveys of service recipients, general population surveys, and the analysis of information from agencies' management systems. Even though the information gathered through the use of these methodologies is imperfect, it is still far better to base planning decisions on imperfect data than on no data at all.

The five councils of governments in the Basin employed various techniques of data gathering to assess the needs for human services within their respective regions. Basically three techniques were used by

all the COGs due to their ease of implementation. These included a survey of service providers, a survey of political and community leaders, and secondary data analysis.

Additional techniques were used by several COGs to further validate and verify the human needs identified through the other methods. These included public hearing testimony, a public hearing questionnaire, community workshops, a survey of service recipients, a survey of inter-agency councils, human resource councils and human resource committees, and an analysis of agencies' management information.

The selection of the needs assessment techniques used by the COGs was based on the type of data needed, the time constraint, and the available staff each COG had to meet the objectives of their respective planning process. Each technique chosen provided specific kinds of information, and each had its strengths and weaknesses. The survey of service providers documented service providers insight into the problems and needs of the service population. The survey of political and community leaders provided data on the human service needs that political and community leaders would support or oppose. The analysis of secondary data furnished information on the location and severity of certain social problems useful in planning service development or expansion. Public hearings and community workshops provided geographic areas and certain groups' perception of human needs. The survey of service recipients was an effective way of identifying the needs of the service population. The analysis of agencies' management information provided useful data on needs that are inter-related and require complex solutions.

In conclusion, all of the COGs in the Basin attempted to identify the human services needs in their respective region by using at least three techniques. The GSTCB Commission held three staff training workshops for the participants of the RHRD project which dealt with the methodologies used in administering the various techniques to conduct a needs assessment. These methodologies are presented in detail in Appendix A of this report.

### C. Results of the COGs Needs Assessments

This section presents the results of the needs assessments conducted by the five councils of governments in the Basin. Two charts are used to depict the results in summary fashion. The first chart entitled "Human Needs in the Basin" identifies needs by functional areas such as education and employment/manpower and by COG region. The second chart takes the needs from the first chart and translates them according to functional area by human needs, needed services, and expected results and outcomes.

The first chart was prepared by carefully reviewing the results of each needs assessment technique utilized by each COG. The Commission staff usually did not include every need identified in every technique mainly due to the infrequency of response. The needs that were included were those that had been mentioned frequently in one or more needs assessment techniques. For an explanation of the methodology used to prepare this chart see Appendix B. The chart shows which need was identified in which region; it also identifies if the COG gave this need a priority ranking. For example, an "X" followed by a "1" would indicate the need was a top priority identified within that COG region.

The needs assessments conducted by the COGs identified a combination of human needs, problems and service needs. In the chart "Human Needs in

the Basin," the staff attempted to list human needs. In the chart entitled "Human Needs, Needed Services and Outcomes," this combination of human needs, service needs and problems was separated into human needs, the services needed to meet these human needs, and the results or "outcomes" that could be expected by providing the services.



Chart 2

## HUMAN NEEDS IN THE BASIN

NEEDS BY FUNCTIONAL AREAS	COG REGION				
	AACOG	CBCOG	LRGVDC	MRGDC	STDC
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Higher Attainment Level	X		X		X
Opportunities for Students & Adults	X 4	X 1	X 1	X 4	X 2
Consumer Education	X		X	X 4	X
Dropout Prevention	X		X		
Community Support			X		
Vocational Schools					X
Bilingual Vocational Education					X
Improved School Curriculum					X
<b>EMPLOYMENT/MANPOWER</b>					
Technical/Vocational Training	X	X 1	X 3	X 1	X 1
Employment Assistance	X 8	X 1	X 2	X 1	X 1
Day Care	X	X 5	X	X	X
Job Opportunities	X		X 2	X 1	X
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Better Nutrition for Elderly	X 10		X 2	X 2	X 3
Family Planning	X 6		X	X	X
Emergency Medical Care	X 6	X	X	X	X
Substance Abuse Treatment	X 3	X 5	X	X	X
Medical Care & Facilities	X 6	X 3	X		X
Sheltered Workshops	X 6		X	X	
MH-MR Community Residential Care	X 6		X	X	
Pre-Natal Care		X 6	X		
Health Education			X		X
Financing Individual Health Care			X		

Chart 2 Cont'd.

HUMAN NEEDS IN THE BASIN

NEEDS BY FUNCTIONAL AREAS	COG REGION				
	AACOG	CBCOG	LRGVDC	MRGDC	STDC
Health Manpower			X	X	
Tuberculosis Control			X		
Dental Care				X	
HOUSING					
Public & Low Income Housing	X 2		X 2	X 3	X 4
Rehabilitation of Homes	X 2	X 2	X 2	X 3	
RECREATION					
Facilities & Programs	X 5	X 2	X	X	X
Day Activities for Youth	X 5		X		
Day Activities for Elderly	X 5		X		
TRANSPORTATION					
Transportation to Human Services	X 1	X 1	X 2	X 5	X 5
Public Transportation				X 5	X
School Transportation					X
CRIMINAL JUSTICE					
Prevent Drug & Alcohol Abuse	X				
Juvenile Probation Program				X 6	
Adult Probation Program				X 6	
Youth Shelters (Detention)				X 6	
Prevent Juvenile Delinquency			X	X 7	X

Chart 2 Cont'd.

HUMAN NEEDS IN THE BASIN

NEEDS BY FUNCTIONAL AREAS	COG REGION				
	AACOG	CBCOG	LRGVDC	MRGDC	STDC
<b>SPECIAL SERVICES</b>					
Home Care for the Elderly	X 7		X	X 7	X
Protective Care for Adults	X 9		X	X 7	X
Protective Care for Children	X		X	X 7	X
Adoption	X		X	X 7	X
Legal Assistance	X		X	X 7	X
Rehabilitation	X		X	X 7	X
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>					
Information & Referral	X	X 3	X 3	X	X
Counseling	X	X 4	X 3		
Flexible Regulations/Guidelines		X 5			
Interagency Coordination		X 6	X		
Centralized Services		X 6			

Chart 3

HUMAN NEEDS, NEEDED SERVICES, AND OUTCOMES

Human Needs By Functional Area	Needed Services (Translated)	Results/Outcomes
<p>EDUCATION</p> <p>Opportunities for students and adults (Basinwide)</p> <p>Keep students in school (Basinwide)</p>	<p>Adult and adult bilingual education</p> <p>Vocational education</p> <p>Bilingual education</p> <p>Dropout prevention</p> <p>Community involvement program</p> <p>Relevant curriculum</p>	<p>Higher educational attainment</p> <p>Lower unemployment</p> <p>More skilled labor force</p> <p>Higher educational attainment</p> <p>Reduced juvenile delinquency</p>

## HUMAN NEEDS, NEEDED SERVICES, AND OUTCOMES

Human Needs by Functional Area	Needed Services (Translated)	Results/Outcomes
<p>EMPLOYMENT/MANPOWER</p> <p>Employment Assistance</p> <p>Job Opportunities</p> <p>Supervised care for children</p>	<p>Job Placement and Referral</p> <p>Job Counseling</p> <p>Unemployment</p> <p>Proficiency and aptitude testing</p> <p>Manpower data, analysis, and research</p> <p>Attract and expand industry</p> <p>Industrial Start-Up Training</p> <p>CETA manpower services</p> <p>Rehabilitation and training for the physically and mentally handicapped</p> <p>Day care services</p>	<p>Lower unemployment rates</p> <p>Reduced unemployment rates</p> <p>Higher personal incomes</p> <p>Lower the welfare rolls/costs</p> <p>Enable parents to hold jobs</p> <p>Better care for working parents' children</p>

Chart 3 Cont'd.

HUMAN NEEDS, NEEDED SERVICES, AND OUTCOMES

Human Needs by Functional Area	Needed Services (Translated)	Results/Outcomes
<p>HEALTH</p> <p>Medical Care (Treatment)</p> <p>Health Care (Preventive)</p> <p>Facilities</p> <p>Manpower</p>	<p>Emergency Medical (EMS)</p> <p>Substance Abuse Treatment</p> <p><u>Public Health</u>: TB, VD, immunization, cancer, family planning, maternity, well baby, WIC, crippled children, dental, kidney, heart, speech &amp; hearing, EPSDT, hypertension, diabetic, nutrition, leprosy</p> <p><u>Education</u>: Communicable diseases, nutrition, family planning, substance abuse, personal health, community health and health resources</p> <p>Public Health Clinics</p> <p>Doctors and dentists providing primary care</p> <p>Allied health manpower providing patient care, public health services, and health research</p>	<p>Reduce deaths &amp; illnesses</p> <p>Improved availability of services</p> <p>Healthier population</p> <p>Increased availability of medical and health care</p> <p>Increased availability of medical and dental care, particularly in the rural areas</p>

HUMAN NEEDS, NEEDED SERVICES, AND OUTCOMES

Human Needs by Functional Area	Needed Services	Results/Outcomes
<p>HOUSING</p> <p>Public and Low-Income Housing</p> <p>Housing Information and Counseling</p>	<p>Public Housing Program</p> <p>Low Income Housing Program</p> <p>Rehabilitation of Homes</p> <p>State Housing Finance Agency</p> <p>Housing Coordinators Training Program</p>	<p>Adequate shelter for low and moderate income families and individuals</p> <p>Generate new taxes through homeownership</p> <p>Available low interest loans to rehabilitate low-income housing</p> <p>Increase in public and low-income housing units</p> <p>Provide potential homeowners with information on home budgeting and management, home maintenance, and funding resources</p>
<p>TRANSPORTATION</p> <p>Transportation to Medical and Social Services</p>	<p>Medical and Social Services Transportation Program</p> <p>Coord. of Transp. Services</p> <p>Rural Highway Public Transp. Projects Demonstration</p>	<p>Improved human services delivery system by providing increased access to needed medical and social services</p>

#### D. Analysis of the Needs Assessment, Service Inventory, and Secondary Data Sources

The information obtained from the needs assessment, service inventory, and secondary data sources was carefully analyzed to identify human services that are or are not adequately meeting human needs, gaps in services, or the duplication of services in the Basin. Needs identified in the needs assessment were compared to available resources addressing those particular problems.

An exhaustive analysis of all human needs and services might have been desirable, but it was not practical. Instead, special emphasis was placed on the needs in various functional areas receiving the highest priority, particularly those having the greatest impact on the "quality of life" in the Basin. While there were needs identified in other functional areas, they were mentioned less frequently and were not translated into goals, objectives, and recommendations. In many of these cases, the present level of services appeared to be meeting the need or there was insufficient information to analyze or to verify a preliminary finding.

##### 1. Education

One of the "root" problems among the people of South Texas is their low level of educational attainment. The median educational level in the GSTCB for persons twenty-five years and over was 10.3 years in 1970, 1.3 years less than the State's 11.6 years.<sup>1</sup> In addition, the GSTCB's Spanish-surnamed population comprises 53.5 percent of the region's total population plus 51 percent of the State's total Spanish-surnamed population. The median educational level of Spanish-surnamed Texans was 7.2 years in 1970.<sup>2</sup> The problem is more pronounced among the Mexican-American population because of the language and cultural barriers they must overcome. The lack of educational skills affects manpower and economic development in the Basin. The result is a large surplus of unskilled labor that cannot take advantage of skills training because of the current low level of educational attainment.

The two major human needs in the area of education are opportunities for students and adults and keeping students in school. The need for opportunities for students and adults in the Basin translated into these needed services: (1) adult and adult bilingual education, (2) vocational education, and (3) bilingual education. The need to keep students in school translated into these needed services: (1) dropout prevention, (2) community involvement programs, and (3) relevant curriculum.

Adult education services are provided by adult education co-ops funded by the Texas Education Agency. Eleven adult education co-ops serve the residents of the Basin; ten are located in the Basin.<sup>3</sup> (See Appendix C.) Primary adult education services include skill training, English as a Second Language (ESL), basic education (grades 0-8), high school credit, and the General Education Development Test (GED). The present adult education program is functioning well, but a tremendous unmet need still exists in the Basin.

In 1970, there were 551,066 adults 25 years of age and over in the Basin without a high school degree.<sup>4</sup> In 1975, an estimated 780,000 adults in the Basin were in need of adult education. In the 1974-75 biennium, approximately 70,000 persons in the Basin were served<sup>5</sup> and about 80,000 will be served by the end of the 1976-77 biennium.<sup>6</sup> Many of those presently



being served will continue to need these services according to their level of educational skills before they can be termed functionally literate.

The majority of the population in the Basin is Spanish-surnamed. A large percentage of the potential clients for adult education programs is Spanish-speaking, and bilingual adult education services could effectively meet the educational needs of this group. The Texas Education Agency in its 1977 Annual Program Plan for Adult Education Programs cited bilingual adult education as a priority,<sup>7</sup> but there has been little money channeled towards providing bilingual adult education services.

Vocational education for secondary students and adults was identified as a needed service in the Basin. In Texas, 27.7 percent of the males and 21.5 percent of the females between the ages of 16 and 64 had received vocational training in 1970, as compared to only 17.1 percent for Spanish-surnamed males and 12.5 percent for Spanish-surnamed females.<sup>8</sup> These statistics have a definite impact in the Basin when over half of its population is Spanish-surnamed.

Between 1976 and 1985, the State's labor force will increase by over 972,000 workers, and 68 percent of these jobs will be related to vocational education. A total of 1.7 million skilled workers will be needed during this period to meet the expansion of industry and for replacement. There will be a continuous demand for vocationally trained workers in the industrial, office, distribution, health, homemaking, and agriculture occupations.<sup>9</sup>

There are 160 school districts in the forty counties in the Basin. In the 1974-75 school year, 124 school districts in the Basin had 1496.5 vocational units as compared to the State total of 8844.75 units. Most of these units were in the urban area schools where a greater variety of courses is also available. Thirty-seven of the 124 school districts reporting had vocational course offerings in only one or two occupational fields--agriculture and homemaking. These 37 school districts were in rural areas of the Basin.<sup>10</sup>

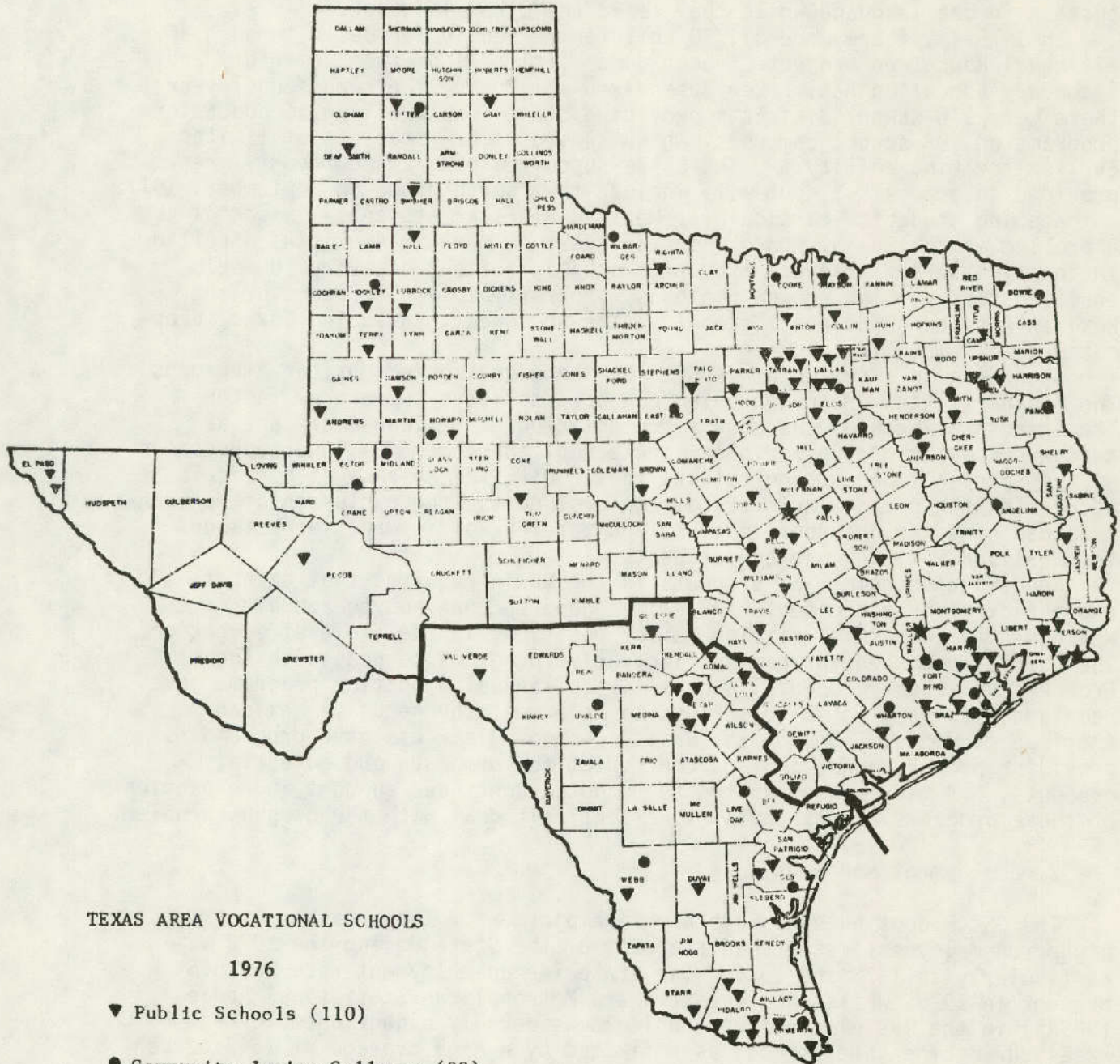
There are 24 area vocational schools in the Basin out of a statewide total of 111.<sup>11</sup> These schools can be utilized by neighboring school districts to provide their students with a wider variety of vocational education offerings, but they are not being effectively utilized.<sup>12</sup> There are eight counties in the Basin not in close proximity to an area vocational school. They are Atascosa, Dimmit, Frio, La Salle, McMullen, Brooks, Jim Hogg, and Zapata counties. Of the 14 school districts in these eight counties, only the Pleasanton Independent School District in Atascosa County offered a diversified voc-ed program in 1974-75.<sup>13</sup>

Counseling is a means to direct students into voc-ed related fields. But there is a lack of vocational guidance and counseling to inform students of the rewarding careers in voc-ed occupations. There were at least 76 school districts offering voc-ed programs in the Basin in 1974-75 that provided no vocational counseling or guidance to voc-ed students.<sup>14</sup> To provide additional vocational counselors to schools offering voc-ed programs, a change is required on how school districts qualify for vocational counselor units.

Vocational education is provided to adults through various institutions in the Basin. These include the public junior colleges (refer to page 54), the area vocational schools, and the adult education co-ops. The services provided by these entities operate well, except that area vocational schools should be utilized more effectively for adult vocational training.

Vocational education services are being provided to the residents of the Basin, but an increase is necessary to upgrade the skills of the area's

Figure 2



TEXAS AREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

1976

Source: Texas Education Agency



residents. To increase the amount of money for voc-ed in the Basin, an increase in the total State program is necessary because voc-ed is a statewide program.

Bilingual education programs are provided by local school districts and are funded by the federal government and/or the Texas Education Agency. These programs provide all students, particularly non-English speakers, an opportunity to develop their educational skills through instruction provided in Spanish and English. They also serve as an incentive to keep non-English speakers in school by allowing them to experience success in one language while they learn the other language.

In 1975-76, there were 37,770 children served in the Basin through 36 bilingual education projects funded under Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. (See Appendix D.) During the same school year, there were 176 school districts providing State-funded bilingual education programs on 798 school campuses, which served 71,624 students of limited English-speaking ability.<sup>15</sup> The State-supported programs currently are provided in grades K-3, but will include the fourth grade in September, 1977.

Keeping students--particularly Mexican-American students--in school is a problem in the Basin. Only 6 out of every 10 Mexican-Americans enrolled in the first grade graduate from high school, while 9 of every 10 Anglos enrolled receive high school diplomas. Approximately 40 percent of the Mexican-Americans who start school in the Southwest, including Texas, drop-out before completing high school.<sup>16</sup>

According to a series of reports on the education of Mexican-Americans in the Southwest, the dropout problem can be attributed to several factors. These factors included the underrepresentation of Mexican-Americans as teachers, counselors, principals, and school board members; the suppression of the Spanish language and culture in schools; the absence of curricula addressing the particular needs of these students; the exclusion of Mexican-American parents in school affairs; and the lack of interaction between teachers and Mexican-American students.<sup>17</sup>

Reducing the number of dropouts in the Basin requires that each of these factors be addressed. There is a need to continue to recruit more Mexican-Americans into decision-making positions in the field of education. There is also a need for new and innovative programs to deal with the problems of school dropouts. Currently, bilingual education programs have been added to many school districts to help meet the needs of Mexican-American students. Some of the Basin's school districts have programs providing proper counseling and curriculum for dropouts and potential dropouts, but many school districts do not. Continued support and expansion of these programs are essential to effectively deal with the dropout problem.

## 2. Employment/Manpower

The GSTCB continues to have high unemployment. The area has experienced higher unemployment rates than the rest of the State during the 1970's, particularly in 1975 and 1976. The statewide unemployment rate was 5.6 percent in 1975, while the five Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs) in the Basin were experiencing considerably higher unemployment rates during the same period, as reflected by a high average of 15.3 percent unemployment in the Laredo SMSA and a low of 6.5 percent in the Corpus Christi SMSA.<sup>18</sup> Between June and October of 1976, the average monthly unemployment rate in the Basin was 8 percent, and the average monthly number of unemployed persons was 66,908.<sup>19</sup>



The RHRD's needs assessment identified three major human needs in the functional area of employment. These were employment assistance, job opportunities, and supervised care for children. The services required to meet these human needs included job placement and referral; job counseling; unemployment insurance; proficiency and aptitude testing; manpower data, analysis, and research; attraction and expansion of industry; industrial start-up training; CETA manpower services; rehabilitation and training for the physically and mentally handicapped; and day care services.

The Texas Employment Commission (TEC) provides employment programs and services, an unemployment insurance program, and manpower data, analysis, and research. The purpose is to promote the well-being of the people in the labor force, serve employers, and encourage optimum utilization of manpower resources to reach maximum employment.<sup>20</sup>

There are two TEC district offices within the GSTCB, one in Corpus Christi and the other in San Antonio. There are an additional 46 offices in the Basin which serve its 2.2 million people. These 46 offices are TEC and CETA-funded offices and are concentrated in the principal cities which contain the majority of the Basin's population.

In the Alamo State Planning Region, there is a total of 22 offices (excluding the district office). Of these, 12 are in the City of San Antonio and 10 are in the outer counties. The entire range of TEC services is available in the San Antonio offices and in one outer county office (Pearsall). The other 9 outer offices provide limited services such as job order taking, job placement, and referral to CETA programs, but usually do not include job counseling, testing, unemployment insurance claims, etc., due to the lack of staff. Services are extended to all parts of the region from San Antonio and Pearsall, but are limited in nature.

In the Coastal Bend State Planning Region, there is a total of 10 offices (excluding the district office). Four of the 10 offices are in the City of Corpus Christi and the others are located in principal cities within the region. Full services are only available in the Corpus Christi and Beeville offices. Services are also extended to all parts of the region from Corpus Christi and Beeville on a limited basis.

There are nine offices in the Lower Rio Grande Valley State Planning Region. Full-service offices are located in Brownsville, Edinburg, Harlingen, McAllen, Weslaco, and Raymondville. A limited service office is located in Elsa, which is open four days a week. Services are also extended to Starr County from McAllen and to Kenedy County from Raymondville.

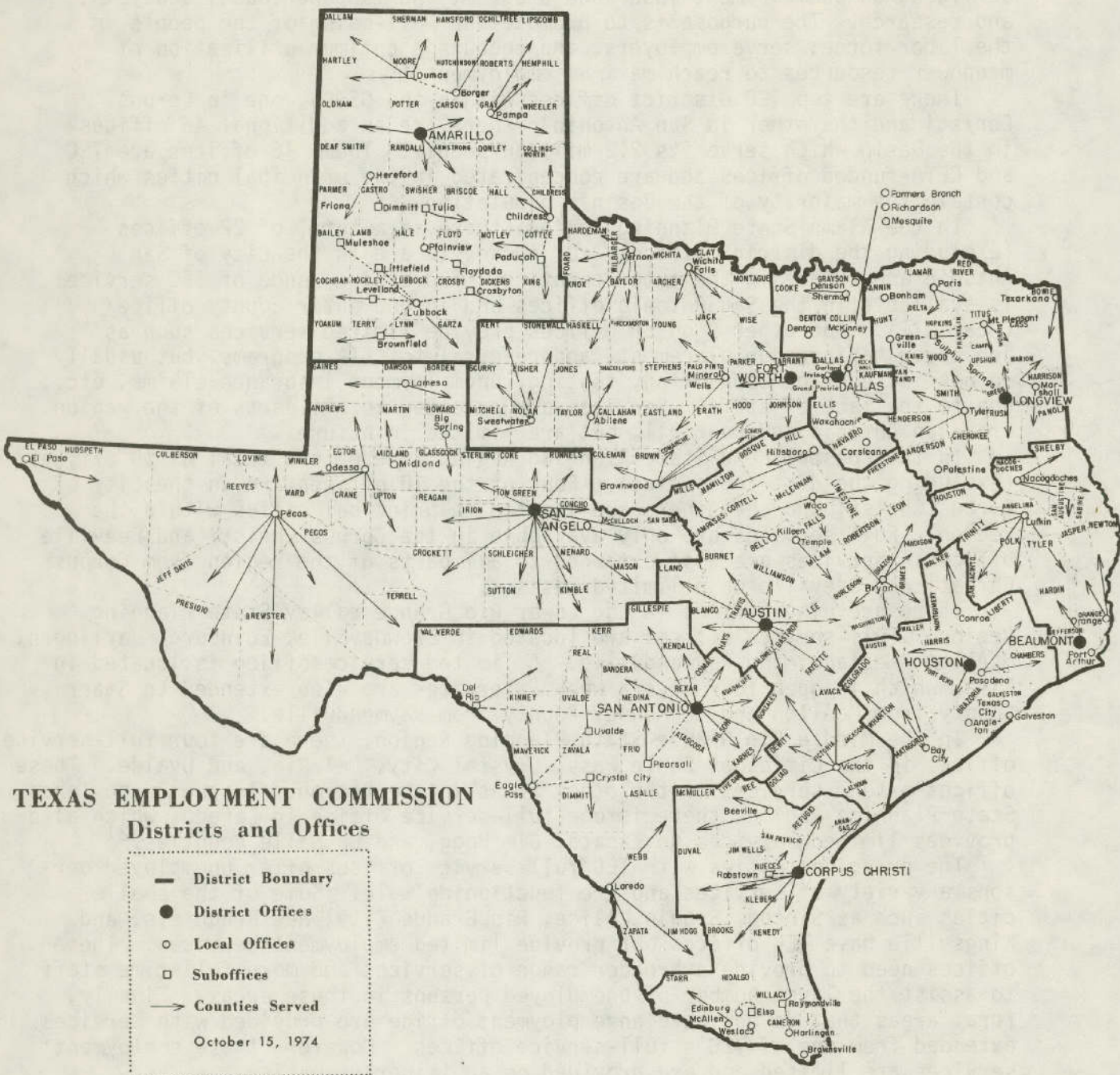
In the Middle Rio Grande State Planning Region, there are four full-service offices in the cities of Eagle Pass, Crystal City, Del Rio, and Uvalde. These offices extend services to the other areas in the region. In the South Texas State Planning Region, there is one full-service office in Laredo, which also provides limited services to Zapata, Jim Hogg, and La Salle counties.<sup>21</sup>

The principal cities with TEC full-service offices offer unemployed persons a variety of services and are functioning well. Some of the smaller cities such as Sinton, Sequin, Alice, Rio Grande City, New Braunfels, and Kingsville have TEC offices but provide limited employment services. These offices need to provide a broader range of services and more full-time staff to assist the large number of unemployed persons in these areas. Finally, rural areas that do not have an employment office are provided with services extended from one of TEC's full-service offices. However, these employment services are limited and are provided on an itinerant basis.

The creation of new jobs is one of the basic solutions for the socio-economic problems in the Basin. Because jobs are the key to upgrading the quality of life in South Texas, the GSTCB Commission is vigorously pursuing an economic development program. This program presently includes (1) documenting and validating recommendations made at a GSTCB Commission Economic



Figure 3



Development Conference, (2) developing a readjustment strategy for communities in South Texas in conjunction with Texas A & M University, and (3) working with the City of Laredo to convert its military air base into a commercial airport and industrial park. The results of these efforts will comprise an economic development component of the GSTCB Commission's Overall Development Plan (ODP). The ODP will be presented to the Governor and the Legislature in early 1977 for their consideration and action.

The Industrial Start-Up Training Program, a cooperative venture by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the Texas Industrial Commission (TIC), provides occupational training to equip Texans with the requisite skills to qualify for industrial job opportunities created by new or expanding industries. The program serves as an incentive to industries to locate in Texas by defraying the costs of training.

About 12,000 people will be trained through this program for identified jobs in new or expanding industries in Texas during the 1976-77 biennium. While the GSTCB has had higher unemployment rates than the rest of the State, only four industries utilizing this program had located in the Basin, generating 1032 new jobs, \$207,978 in State and local taxes, and a total annual economic impact of \$26,308,023. There were an additional four industries interested in using the training program in the Basin which could possibly be funded during the current biennium. The total funds committed to industries locating in the Basin--if these four proposed programs were funded--would be \$76,400 or only 7.6 percent of the \$1 million appropriated for the 1976-77 biennium.<sup>22</sup>

It is apparent that cities in the Basin are not successfully competing with cities outside the Basin in attracting industry through the program. South Texas is the most economically depressed area in the State and has had ten counties with 10 percent or greater unemployment between June and September, 1976.<sup>23</sup> Yet, only one industry using the Industrial Start-Up Training Program has located in these areas of high unemployment. The tremendous, positive impact this program has is desperately needed in the GSTCB if the quality of life is to be improved.

In 1973, the Federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) established a program which provides manpower services to the economically disadvantaged, unemployed, and underemployed population in the United States. Under Title I of CETA, governmental units or combinations of local governmental units with a population of 100,000 or more have been designated "prime sponsors" and receive funds to plan and provide job training and employment opportunities. In the GSTCB, there are five prime sponsors--the Alamo Area Consortium covering 12 counties in the Alamo State Planning Region, the Coastal Bend Consortium covering the 12 counties in the Coastal Bend State Planning Region, Cameron County and the Hidalgo-Willacy Consortium in the Lower Rio Grande Valley State Planning Region, and Webb County in the South Texas State Planning Region. The remaining counties in the Basin are "balance of state" counties and the State is the prime sponsor. The Texas Department of Community Affairs (TDCA) has the responsibility for planning and operating CETA programs in the balance of state counties.<sup>24</sup>

There are other prime sponsors in the Basin that receive funds under other titles of CETA to provide training and employment opportunities to special target populations such as migrants. These prime sponsors receive funding directly from the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C.<sup>25</sup>

Over 39,000 people in the Basin were provided with job training and employment opportunities by the five major prime sponsors and TDCA. Over 12,000 people were placed in unsubsidized jobs during the same period.<sup>26</sup> The allocation under Title I and Section 112 (supplemental vocational education

funds) of CETA for fiscal year 1977 is approximately \$18 million for the Basin.<sup>27</sup> The allocations under Titles II, III, and VI are still not available. These funds for manpower planning and development programs are a vital component of the strategy for developing the Basin.

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission, the Texas Commission for the Blind, and the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation provide services to rehabilitate and train the physically and mentally handicapped for jobs. The programs and services provided by these agencies are functioning well and continued support is necessary to meet the needs of the physically and mentally handicapped.

Many families, particularly those in which both parents work and those with only one parent, depend on day care institutions to take care of their children while they work. Most parents can afford the cost of day care services for their children, but some need free or low-cost day care.<sup>28</sup>

Day care services are provided by non-profit day care centers, commercial care centers, special care facilities, and family day homes. Many of the non-profit day care centers and special care facilities are funded through federal and/or local sources. Commercial care centers operate on a fee-for-service basis. In addition, the State Department of Public Welfare (DPW) contracts with non-profit day care centers and commercial care centers for fee or low-cost day care services funded through a combination of federal, state, and local monies.<sup>29</sup>

Most day care institutions provide supervised care for pre-school children under six years of age although many of them provide after school care for children over six years of age. In 1970, there were 233,690 children five years of age and under in the Basin who represented 11.9 percent of the Basin's total population.<sup>30</sup> Using 1974 Bureau of the Census population estimates and assuming the percentage of children under five years of age has remained the same, there were an estimated 256,683 children five years of age and under in the Basin in 1974.<sup>31</sup> A review of the 1970 census, the 1973 population estimates, and the 1974 population estimates shows that the Basin's population is increasing. As the population increases, the number of children under five years of age is expected to increase as well.

Currently, there are approximately 8,000 licensed child care facilities in Texas. These include day care centers, day homes, and other special facilities.<sup>32</sup> There are 390 licensed day care centers in the Basin with a total capacity for 22,550 children. There are an additional 427 licensed facilities such as kindergartens, nurseries, and family day homes in the Basin with a combined capacity for 5,102 children.<sup>33</sup> These day care facilities appear to be adequately meeting the demand for services and should continue to be financially supported by federal, State, and local sources. During the RHRD's third year, the GSTCBC and the five South Texas COGs will investigate day care services to determine if additional units of service are needed and where.

### 3. Health

One of the problems confronting the people of South Texas is the accessibility of health care. This is also a national problem but it is intensified in the Basin when considered along with other Basin problems such as low educational attainments and high rates of unemployment.

Each of the five South Texas COGs recognized and addressed health care problems. In some cases, specific health needs were examined.

On a basinwide level, the broad functional area of health was found to include four major areas: health manpower, health facilities, health care (preventive), and medical care (treatment).

Most of the health manpower and health facilities are concentrated in the metropolitan areas of the Basin. The 1975 Bureau of the Census provisional estimates indicate that 80 percent of the Basin's people reside in the Basin's eight metropolitan counties;<sup>34</sup> thus, it may be argued that health manpower and facilities are located in areas of greatest need. Such argument does little to alleviate the needs of the 20 percent of the Basin's people who reside in 32 non-metropolitan counties. For that matter city dwellers do not always have access to adequate health care. Many Texans find themselves with an income too low to purchase health care, yet cannot qualify for Medicaid or Medicare because they have too much income or because they cannot meet other eligibility criteria. These so-called "marginals" must either seek medical attention at charity hospitals or do without. Quite often they do without. And certainly, preventive health services are rarely sought by "marginals" as they often seek free services only when confronted with a serious medical problem. The issue of health care financing will hopefully be resolved by the creation of a National Health Insurance Program. The cost of establishing a basinwide or state program for health care financing would probably be prohibitive.

Other city dwellers who do not receive adequate health care are the aged, the infirm, and others who have no transportation to the facilities which are often concentrated in "medical complexes" within the city. Certainly the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) programs have made an important contribution towards reducing the problem of getting people to needed medical treatment. Again, however, such services are generally sought only for serious problems, and preventive health may be neglected. Transportation to health services is indeed a serious problem both within the city and from rural areas. While transportation to human services is a basinwide need, the development of an adequate transportation system might best be accomplished within each region. The subject of transportation to human services is covered under a separate heading in this report.

Attempts are being made to improve health care to the rural areas of the Basin. Recommendations are being made which should increase the number of primary care physicians and dentists in rural areas. Recommendations to expand vocational educational programs may lead more students into allied health professions which are supportive of physicians and dentists. These recommendations, however, will not immediately improve the shortage of health professionals in rural Texas due to the extended periods of education required to produce such professionals. In the interim, local and regional areas must take other measures to obtain the needed health manpower. Such measures might include offering inducements (i.e. office space) or actively seeking assistance from an agency such as the U.S. Public Health Service.

This report has no specific recommendations at this time concerning the establishment of health facilities. Most health care facilities--hospitals, out-patient clinics, and nursing homes--are located in metropolitan areas. Rural areas often lack such facilities because they would not be well enough used to justify the expense of building, operating, and staffing them. However, a need has been identified for



clinic buildings in which the Texas Department of Health Resources (TDHR) can provide all or some of its 17 clinical public health services. Architectural plans, rough costs, and ability to staff the clinics are now available. The GSTCBC staff is working with the TDHR to develop a method of financing construction of the facilities. Recommendations regarding the financing of these projects will be made in a subsequent report.

Preventive medicine, or health care, has become an important part of medical philosophy in recent years. The idea is to discover health problems or diseases in early stages of development and thereby more effectively control or cure such problems. Not only is suffering reduced but, in most cases, vast amounts of money are saved since treatment time and costs are generally higher for chronic cases than for acute ones. Also, a preventive program such as immunization can reduce the possibility of having to treat a disease at all. In short, preventive medicine means a healthier population mentally, physically, economically.

One successful program which concerns itself with preventive medicine is the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program available to children who are eligible for Medicaid. But there are many poor children in South Texas--those from families whose income is below the OEO poverty guidelines--who are not eligible for Medicaid due to strict eligibility requirements for the program. This report has recommended a pilot project to provide EPSDT services to poor children who do not qualify for Medicaid. The success of this project would hopefully lead to statewide implementation.

The Texas Department of Health Resources currently offers public health clinic services, many of which are oriented towards preventive health. These services include: tuberculosis screening and treatment, maternity, well baby clinic (ages 0-4), immunizations, family planning, crippled children, kidney disease, cancer, dental (ages 0-18), Hansen's disease (leprosy), speech and hearing, EPSDT, heart, hypertension, diabetes, women-infant-children (WIC), and nutrition. In some cases these services are offered from mobile units or other facilities that are often inadequate. As mentioned previously, plans for providing adequate facilities are forthcoming. Future health problems can be lessened by making a wide range of preventive health services available to all Texans.

Some health needs are not easily placed in the categories of health care or medical care. Substance abuse is a good example. Certainly those Texans who are currently abusing drugs or alcohol need treatment for their afflictions. But, just as important, there is a need to reduce the number of potential substance abusers and this can be considered preventive treatment.

There are no recommendations regarding substance abuse in this report even though each of the five COGs recognized it as a health problem. This lack is the result of an absence of exact data necessary to define the problem rather than a desire to overlook it. It is hoped that as environmental conditions improve, society's dependence on alcohol and drugs will decrease. The GSTCB Commission supports the efforts of the Texas Commission on Alcohol and the Texas Department of Community Affairs, which are actively seeking solutions to the problem of substance abuse.

The problem of nutrition was another health problem that was mentioned by the COGs. The problem needs to be more specifically defined. Is there a lack of education regarding proper nutritional habits, or a lack of services providing nutritional meals to those unable to prepare them, or both? Last year, the GSTCB Commission recommended that regional councils of government take the initiative in coordinating existing nutritional programs in their areas. The GSTCB Commission believes this is still a viable method of approaching this problem.

Finally, it might be said that many of the Basin's health problems are a direct result of an undereducated population. Nutritional problems, substance abuse, high incidences of diabetes, TB, and venereal diseases, high infant death rates, and high death rates in general could all be attributed in part to an unformed public. The Texas Education Agency has set requirements for health education that are to be followed by every school district in order to be accredited. Health information including nutrition is integrated with other activities in kindergarten through grade six. There is a requirement for 130 clock hours in middle schools, usually taught in grades 7 and 8. There is a high school requirement for two quarter units of health (in addition to 1-1/2 quarter units of physical education) to be taught by a teacher certified in health education.<sup>35</sup> The GSTCB Commission supports these requirements and suggests that each COG survey the school districts in their region to determine any additional needs in the area of health education.

#### 4. Housing

The five South Texas Councils of Governments (COGs) in the Basin identified housing as a high priority in their regional human resource plans. The need for additional low and moderate income housing, rehabilitation funds, and housing information was frequently mentioned in the COGs' needs assessments.

A survey of housing in Texas conducted in 1971 revealed that a larger portion of Mexican-Americans and Blacks than Anglos lived in marginal or inferior housing.<sup>36</sup> This has a direct impact on the Basin because of its large Mexican-American population. The survey also showed that Mexican-American families have lower incomes than Anglo families,<sup>37</sup> which accounts for the fact that 37 Basin counties have median home value less than the State's median home value of \$12,000.<sup>38</sup>

In 1970, there were 106,631 families in the Basin under the poverty level. This figure represented 23.5 percent of all families in the Basin.<sup>39</sup> Most of these poor families live in marginal or substandard housing and could qualify for federal subsidies to meet their housing needs. But even with the estimated 36,000 federally subsidized housing units in the Basin, approximately 70,000 poor families still need outside assistance to meet their housing needs.

The training of additional housing coordinators in the Basin could help to meet the area's housing needs. These coordinators would receive intense training from the Housing Division of the Texas Department of Community Affairs on available resources and how to utilize them. As a result of this training, the housing coordinators can provide valuable information to local governments interested in public and low-income housing and to potential homeowners on home budgeting and management,

home maintenance, and home financing. Presently, there are only 15 housing coordinators in the Basin. More are needed, particularly in the South Texas State Planning Region and the Middle Rio Grande State Planning Region.

## 5. Transportation

There is a large number of medical and social services in the Basin. The majority of the services is concentrated in the urban areas. There is limited access to these services from the rural areas. Access to needed medical and social services is oftentimes a problem within the urban areas as well. Making the human services delivery system accessible to everyone needing such services requires the strategic location of the services and efficient transportation services to those locations.

Transportation services to medical and social services were identified as a high priority in the regional human resource plans of the five South Texas Councils of Governments. Transportation to these services is needed by a large group of people having no personal transportation. The problem is especially severe among the indigent, handicapped, and aging populations in the rural areas of the Basin.

In 1970, the GSTCB contained 1,958,370 people of whom over 29 percent were at or under the poverty level,<sup>40</sup> approximately 6 percent were handicapped,<sup>41</sup> and more than 8 percent were 65 years of age and over.<sup>42</sup> Approximately 17.5 percent or 341,862 people resided in the rural areas of the Basin in 1970. The rural residents--particularly members of ethnic minorities--were more likely to suffer from poverty than were residents of urban areas. The age groups 0-14 and 60 and over constituted large portions of the rural poor.<sup>43</sup> Furthermore, a significant number of handicapped individuals were located in rural counties, according to the 1973 handicapped population estimates by the Bureau of the Census.<sup>44</sup>

A review of the service inventories of the five South Texas COGs revealed that many social service agencies in the Basin provide transportation services, but the clientele served and the geographic areas covered are limited by the program's guidelines. Often this results in the growth of parallel transportation "systems" in the same geographic area serving only select clientele. These systems need to be better coordinated to make maximum use of these resources. There is also a need for more flexibility in federal program guidelines and for federally funded projects that encourage the coordination/merger of existing transportation services from the federal level.

## 6. Planning and Coordination

Areawide and state planning could theoretically provide the coordinative approach necessary to address locally-identified needs in a comprehensive manner. But federal categorical grant programs hamper comprehensive planning from taking place, particularly at the council of governments' level. The majority of the councils of governments' (COGs) budgets come from federal funds which are either passed through by State agencies or received directly. Of these grants the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Planning Assistance Grants are virtually the only federal funds which have some flexibility and these funds are primarily for physical not human resource planning.

The State of Texas does provide the COGs with a flexible source of nonfederal funding. This source is the State Regional Planning Assistance Grants, which are block grants administered by statutory formula through the Governor's Budget and Planning Office. However, the total amount of these block grants, \$1.7 million annually since fiscal year 1974, has not kept pace with inflation. Moreover, this State money is often combined with local dues from member governments to meet local matching requirements for federal grants and thereby increase the total amount of federal funds for which a regional council is eligible. The net effect of the regional councils' dependence on federal financial support is that the federal government through categorical grant programs is influencing priorities of regional councils in a similar manner to the ways it influences those of other agencies.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, General Social and Economic Characteristics, 1970 Census of Population, PC (1)-C45 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office), pp. 431 and 928-949.

<sup>2</sup> Sam Schulman, J. Earl Williams, et. al., Mexican American Youth and Vocational Education in Texas (Houston, Texas: Center for Human Resources, University of Houston, 1974), pp. 20-21.

<sup>3</sup> Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, Report to the Texas Education Agency (Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 6 and Exhibit II.

<sup>4</sup> Department of Commerce, General Social and Economic Characteristics, pp. 928-949.

<sup>5</sup> Texas Education Agency, "Adult Education CO-OPS in South Texas" (unpublished material, 1973).

<sup>6</sup> Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, Report to the Governor and Legislature, 1974 (Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 42.

<sup>7</sup> Texas Education Agency, Annual Program Plan for Adult Education Programs for Fiscal Year 1977 (Austin, Texas, 1976), p. 6.

<sup>8</sup> Schulman, Mexican American Youth, pp. 20-21.

<sup>9</sup> Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas, Vocational Education...Gateway to the Future, 7th Annual Report (Two Parts, Austin, Texas, 1976), Part One, pp. 1-10.

<sup>10</sup> Texas Education Agency, Secondary Vocational Units, 1974-75 (Austin, Texas, 1974).

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Advisory Council, Vocational Education, Part Two, p. 3.

<sup>13</sup> Texas Education Agency, Secondary Vocational Units, 1974.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> Good Neighbor Commission, Texas Migrant Labor, Annual Report, 1975 (Austin, Texas, 1976), pp. 13-17.

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, Toward Quality Education for Mexican Americans, Report VI: Mexican American Education Study (Washington, D.C.: February, 1974), p. 1.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

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- 22 Texas Industrial Commission, Unpublished information on Industrial Start-Up Training Program, Austin, Texas, November, 1976.
- 23 Texas Employment Commission, "Labor Force Estimates for Texas Counties," Austin, Texas: June-September, 1976.
- 24 Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, Report to the Texas Education Agency, p. 4.
- 25 Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) of 1973, 87 STAT. 839 (1973).
- 26 Budget and Planning Office, "Titles I, II, III, and VI--Summary of Individuals Served by Prime Sponsor and Age Groups," Austin, 1976. (Mimeographed.)
- 27 Budget and Planning Office, "CETA Title I and Section 112, Supplemental Vocational Education Allocation--Texas, Fiscal Year 1977," Austin, 1977. (Mimeographed.)
- 28 State Department of Public Welfare, Annual Report, 1975 (Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 11.
- 29 Ibid.
- 30 U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Characteristics of the Population, 1970 Census of Population (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office).
- 31 U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Current Population Reports, 1975" (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office).
- 32 Department of Public Welfare, Annual Report, p. 12.
- 33 E. G. Dufour, telephone interview held on day care services in the Basin, Austin, Texas, December 10, 1976.
- 34 U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Population Estimates and Projections, Series p-25, No. 637, October 1976 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office).

35 Dorothy Davidson, Texas Education Agency, Austin, Texas, telephone interview, December, 1976,

36 Office of the Governor of Texas and the Texas Department of Community Affairs, Texas Housing Report (Austin, Texas, 1972), p. 15.

37 Ibid., pp. 22-24.

38 U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970 Census of Housing, General Housing Characteristics Texas, HC (1)-A45 (Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office), pp. 7 and 164-167.

39 Ibid., pp. 164-167.

40 Derived from the Texas Department of Community Affairs' Poverty in Texas, 1973, p. 203.

41 Texas Rehabilitation Commission, Handicapped Population-Provisional Estimates for Texas Counties, 1970 Census data adjusted to U.S. Bureau of the Census estimates, July 1, 1973.

42 U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970 Census of Population, Characteristics of the Population (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office).

43 Texas Department of Community Affairs, Poverty in Texas, 1973 (Austin, Texas, 1974), pp. 168-171.

44 Texas Rehabilitation Commission, Handicapped Population, July 1, 1973.

V. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS





## V. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter describes the culmination of the RHRD's human resource planning process--the establishment of goals, objectives, and recommendations. The development of goals, objectives, and recommendations for the Basin was based on the five South Texas COGs' needs assessments and service inventories and the GSTCB Commission staff's analysis of identified needs and available services presented in chapter four.

This report's goals, objectives, and recommendations serve as a guide for human resource development in the Basin. The goals address the basic human resource problems in the Basin; they describe what still has to be achieved to improve the quality of life in the Basin. The objectives describe the steps necessary to attain the goals and set forth "what will be accomplished, how it will be accomplished, and by whom."<sup>1</sup> The recommendations include an analysis of the needs assessment and service inventory information and the actions required to attain the goals and objectives.

Finally, the goals and objectives in this report can be used as a guide in reviewing State plans or programs. In A-95 or other reviews, the GSTCB Commission can determine whether proposed programs advance the goals and objectives developed to meet the needs in the Basin and complement existing service strategies.

<sup>1</sup> Research Group, Inc., "A Workshop on Goals, Priorities, and Objective Setting for the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission" (Atlanta, Georgia, 1976), pp. 26 and 27.

## A. Education

GOAL: TO ELIMINATE FUNCTIONAL ILLITERACY IN THE ADULT POPULATION OF THE BASIN THROUGH ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE 1: TO PROVIDE ADULT EDUCATION AND ADULT BILINGUAL EDUCATION TO 97,000 PERSONS THROUGHOUT THE BASIN DURING THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM AT A COST OF \$4,125,000 THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS IN THE BASIN.

DISCUSSION: In 1970, there were 940,413 adults 25 years of age and over in the GSTCB. Of this number, 325,367 persons had less than an eighth grade education and an additional 225,699 persons had more than an eighth grade but less than a high school education. By combining the two figures, there were 551,066 adults 25 years of age and over who were potential clients for adult education programs. This figure represented 58.5 percent of the Basin's population 25 years of age and over, and 18 percent of the statewide population 25 years of age and over.

A large percentage of the potential clients for adult education programs in the Basin are Spanish speaking. In 1970, there were 1,047,969 Spanish-surnamed persons in the Basin or 53.5 percent of the total population in the Basin.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, the median educational attainment level of Spanish-surnamed persons in Texas 25 years of age and over was only 7.2 (7.6 school years for males and 7.0 school years for females) --well below the statewide median of 11.6 school years.<sup>3</sup>

During the 1970's, the demand for adult education services has increased. In the 1974-75 biennium, approximately 70,000 persons in the Basin were served<sup>4</sup> and during the 1976-77 biennium about 80,000 will be served.<sup>5</sup> The needs assessment conducted by local education agencies in the summer of 1975 and used for the 1977 adult education plan identified over 4.3 million persons in Texas in need of primary adult educational services.<sup>6</sup> Primary adult educational services include skill training, English as a Second Language (ESL), basic education (grades 0-8), high school credit, and General Educational Development Test (GED). Of this figure it is estimated that the Basin contains at least 18 percent of the statewide total or 780,000 persons in need.

The five regional human resource plans identified the need to continue and expand adult education and bilingual adult education services. The need was a particularly high priority in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The Texas Education Agency in its fiscal year 1977 Annual Program Plan for Adult Education Programs cited bilingual adult education as a priority.<sup>7</sup> However, state agencies reviewing the plan noted that TEA gave limited mention of how and where bilingual adult education programs would be implemented.<sup>8</sup>

The adult education program in the 1974-75 biennium was funded by the State in the amount of \$4.3 million; in the 1976-77 biennium in the amount of \$11.1 million. The Texas Education Agency has requested a \$15 million funding level for the 1978-79 biennium.<sup>9</sup>

Adult education services for 37 of the 40 counties in the Basin are provided by ten adult education cooperatives funded by the Texas Education Agency. Karnes, Refugio, and Aransas Counties are served by a co-op outside the Basin. Independent school districts, regional educational service centers, and community junior colleges serve as prime sponsors for the co-ops.<sup>10</sup>

The present adult basic education program is functioning well, but a tremendous unmet need still exists in the Basin. The Texas Education Agency has recommended a statewide funding level of \$15 million for the biennium, while the Legislative Budget Board is reported to be recommending \$13.5 million. If the \$1.5 million difference between the TEA and LBB figures was appropriated specifically for bilingual adult education, there would be two important effects. First, the length of time needed to educate many Spanish-speaking persons could be reduced by conducting the classes in Spanish while they learn English, and secondly the cost of educating these adults would be reduced.

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE \$15 MILLION TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM FOR ADULT EDUCATION, \$1.5 MILLION OF WHICH IS TO BE ALLOCATED SPECIFICALLY FOR BILINGUAL ADULT EDUCATION.

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD DEVELOP AN ALLOCATION FORMULA FOR THE \$1.5 MILLION FOR BILINGUAL ADULT EDUCATION WHICH EMPHASIZES THE NUMBER OF LIMITED ENGLISH-SPEAKING PERSONS IN EACH ADULT EDUCATION COOPERATIVE AREA.

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE 2: TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, INSTRUCTORS IN ADULT EDUCATION SHOULD COMPLETE BY THE END OF THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM AT LEAST 40 HOURS OF SUPERVISED INSTRUCTION ON TEACHING METHODS, EDUCATIONAL CONCEPTS, AND CURRICULUM AND MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHING ADULTS.

DISCUSSION: The instructors teaching adults through the adult education programs must be well qualified to effectively help adults learn. Better qualified instructors can motivate adults to reach their personal goals, can reduce the cost per student, and can significantly reduce the instruction time for limited English speakers through the use of teaching methods, educational concepts, and curriculum and materials specifically developed for adult education and bilingual adult education.<sup>11</sup>

The U. S. Office of Education and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) have identified as a priority the need for staff development as a means to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of adult education.<sup>12</sup> As adult education programs are needed throughout the Basin, staff development for instructors of adults is a Basinwide need. The Lower Rio Grande Valley human resource plan specifically cited better trained instructors as a way to enhance the effectiveness of adult education classes.<sup>13</sup> In fiscal year 1977, the TEA has allocated \$200,000 for staff development.<sup>14</sup> The co-ops, however, identified a need for staff development for 1,717 persons at a cost of \$383,370.<sup>15</sup> While part

of the staff development needs are presently being met, there is need for more funds to increase instructor effectiveness. An additional \$50,000 per year would still not meet all the needs identified by the co-ops, but it would help.

The TEA is working toward their long-range goal for staff development which will result in a certification program for adult education instructors by 1980. During the interim, the TEA's staff development plans provide for pre-service and in-service teacher training; for workshops at the state, regional, and local levels; and for staff development training in adult education and bilingual adult education in select colleges and universities to meet the certification requirements by 1980.<sup>16</sup> In the 1978-79 biennium, all adult education and bilingual adult education instructors should complete at least 40 hours of staff training through one or a combination of the following: pre-service or in-service instruction; state, regional, or local staff development workshops; and college training courses or credits.

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ALLOCATE \$250,000 FOR EACH YEAR OF THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM TO ENABLE ADULT EDUCATION AND BILINGUAL ADULT EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS TO COMPLETE AT LEAST 40 HOURS OF STAFF TRAINING.

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD VIGOROUSLY PURSUE ITS GOAL OF CERTIFICATION OF ADULT EDUCATION TEACHERS BY 1980.

GOAL: TO MAKE QUALITY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO ALL INTERESTED YOUTH AND ADULTS IN THE BASIN.

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #1: TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SECONDARY STUDENTS (GRADES 9-12) ENROLLED IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION CLASSES IN 1978 BY AT LEAST 5 PERCENT OVER THE 1977 ENROLLMENT AND BY AT LEAST 5 PERCENT IN 1979 OVER THE ENROLLMENT IN 1978.

DISCUSSION: During the next ten years, the State of Texas will have an increase in population, jobs, and the demand for vocationally trained workers. In 1985 the population will be approximately 14.7 million with 5,731,880 persons in the labor force. The labor force will increase by over 972,000 workers between 1975 and 1985, and 68 percent of these jobs will be related to vocational education. A total of 1.7 million skilled workers will be needed between 1976 and 1985 to meet industries' expansion and for replacement purposes. In comparison there will only be a demand for 0.7 million workers not requiring vocational training during the same period.

The Texas Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education (ACTVE) projects that between 1976 and 1985 there will be an average of 184,294 job openings annually with an average annual supply of vocationally trained workers of 129,006. The projections made by ACTVE indicate that job demand will be in the office, industrial, distribution, and health occupations, while trained personnel will be available in the greatest numbers in the industrial, office, distribution, technical, and health occupations. Even though trained personnel will be available, they will not entirely meet the demand except in the technical training field; therefore, there will be a continuous demand for vocationally trained workers in the industrial, office, distribution, health, homemaking, and agriculture occupations.<sup>17</sup>

More and more high school seniors upon graduation are entering the labor force to work full-time or part-time to continue their training or academic education. In 1976, 62 percent of the high school seniors in Texas intended to work immediately after graduation, as compared to only 52 percent in 1974. This trend re-emphasizes the need to provide students with a salable skill by graduation.<sup>18</sup> Skilled workers averaged \$2.13 per hour or 76 percent more than unskilled workers in June, 1976. Moreover, young Texans between 20-24 years of age who had vocational education training experienced 5.8 percent unemployment compared to 12.1 percent unemployment for their untrained counterparts in February, 1976.<sup>19</sup>

The GSTCB has a large surplus of unskilled labor that cannot take advantage of skills training because of the low level of educational attainment. The median educational level in the GSTCB for persons twenty-five years and over was 10.3 years in 1970, 1.3 years less than the State's 11.6 years.<sup>20</sup> Spanish-surnamed Americans in Texas had a median educational level of just 7.2 years, and only 17.1 percent of the males and 12.5 percent of the females between the ages of 16 and 64 had received vocational training, as compared to the statewide figures of 27.7 percent for males and 21.5 for females.<sup>21</sup> These statistics have a definite impact when one considers that over half of the Spanish-surnamed population in the State reside in the Basin.<sup>22</sup>

The information above supports the need for additional vocational education programs to improve the employability of Texas' population, particularly South Texans. Several ways to accomplish this are to increase the number

of students enrolled in vocational education, to provide a greater variety of vocational education courses, to provide an early career awareness program, to provide better counseling services, and to promote better use of vocational area schools.

The Texas Education Agency projected it would provide vocational education to about 131,530 high school (grades 9-12) students throughout the State in 1977. They expect that over 72,000 will complete occupational training courses in the same year. Many of these students are in the Basin.<sup>23</sup> In the 1974-75 school year, the school districts (124 reporting) in the Basin had 1496.5 vocational units as compared to the State total of 8844.75 units. The vocational units by occupational area in the Basin were agriculture - 159, homemaking - 418, distributive education - 112.5, industrial - 353.5, health - 22, office - 124.5, CVAE - 259, handicapped - 9, and industrial arts - 39. The majority of these vocational units were concentrated in the urban area schools where a greater variety of courses is also available. Thirty-seven of the 124 school districts reporting had vocational course offerings in only one or two occupational fields--agriculture and homemaking. These 37 school districts were in rural areas.

There are 24 area vocational schools in the Basin out of a statewide total of 111.<sup>24</sup> These schools can be utilized by neighboring school districts to provide their students with a wider variety of vocational education offerings. Apparently, many school administrators are not informing students that they can "move from one campus or school district to another for voc-ed training."<sup>25</sup> The students who were aware expressed concern over the existence of several barriers that prevented them from taking voc-ed courses, such as a lack of transportation, class scheduling, and the inability to participate in extracurricular activities.<sup>26</sup>

The present area vocational schools in the State of Texas were built with federal funds. Recently, Congress amended the law providing these funds and only funds for the renovation of existing buildings owned by local school districts for use as area vocational schools are available. The use of these funds should be pursued by the local school districts in two areas of the Basin. These areas are the five-county area of Dimmit, Frio, LaSalle, Atascosa, and McMullen counties and the three-county area of Brooks, Jim Hogg, and Zapata counties. Of the 14 school districts in these counties, only the Pleasanton Independent School District in Atascosa county offered a diversified voc-ed program in 1974-75.<sup>27</sup> In order to obtain these funds, an application must be made directly to the U.S. Office of Education and must be approved by the State Board on Vocational Education under present State statutes.

Counseling is a means to direct students into voc-ed related fields. But there is a lack of vocational guidance and counseling to inform students of the rewarding careers in voc-ed occupational fields.

Vocational counselors are definitely necessary in all high schools providing vocational education programs in order to work with the students, parents, manpower service providers, businessmen, and other interested organizations. Vocational counselors enhance the effectiveness of the program planning and help insure the training is for jobs that exist. The vocational counselor can also lessen the imaginary social stigma associated with vocational occupation, particularly among minorities.

School districts are eligible for one vocational counselor if they have 300 students regularly enrolled in vocational education programs, and an additional counselor for each additional 500 students enrolled in voc-ed

programs. There is a provision for a half unit to small schools, but finding the personnel to work half time as a vocational counselor and half time in another capacity is difficult.<sup>28</sup> There were at least 76 school districts offering voc-ed programs in the Basin in 1974-75 that provided no vocational counseling or guidance to voc-ed students.<sup>29</sup>

Sixty two percent of the school districts in Texas offering vocational education have less than 300 students total in high school.<sup>30</sup> Even school districts with many more students than that would not have the 300 students enrolled in vocational education programs necessary to qualify for a vocational counselor.

If the requirement for a vocational counselor was lowered to 200 students regularly enrolled in voc-ed programs, additional school districts could provide vocational counseling to students and could expose them to voc-ed related occupations. Also, if the requirement was lowered to 200 students, neighboring school districts with small enrollments would be more likely to successfully pool or combine their enrollments to qualify for a full-time vocational counselor which they would share.

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE A MINIMUM OF \$262.6 MILLION FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM. THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD SPEND A CONSIDERABLE SHARE OF THIS INCREASE IN THE BASIN DUE TO ITS LARGE, UNSKILLED LABOR FORCE.

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD UTILIZE ITS 1978-79 APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE DIVERSIFIED VOC-ED PROGRAMS IN THE SMALLER SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ENCOURAGE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO MAKE BETTER USE OF AREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE MORE STUDENTS WITH VOC-ED OPPORTUNITIES. THE TEA SHOULD ASSIST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE ATASCOSA, DIMMIT, FRIO, La SALLE AND McMULLEN COUNTY AREA AND IN THE BROOKS, JIM HOGG, AND ZAPATA COUNTY AREA IN OBTAINING FEDERAL FUNDS TO RENOVATE SCHOOL FACILITIES USED AS AREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS.

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHOULD LOWER THE REQUIREMENTS THAT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS MUST MEET TO QUALIFY FOR ONE VOCATIONAL COUNSELOR FROM 300 TO 200 STUDENTS REGULARLY ENROLLED IN VOC-ED PROGRAMS.

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ENCOURAGE SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO SHARE THE COST OF A VOCATIONAL COUNSELOR BY POOLING THEIR VOC-ED ENROLLMENTS TO MEET THE STATE REQUIREMENTS.



BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #2: TO PROVIDE, MAINTAIN, AND IMPROVE VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR INTERESTED POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS, ADULTS, AND SPECIAL POPULATIONS SUCH AS DISADVANTAGED OR HANDICAPPED PERSONS, OR PERSONS OF LIMITED ENGLISH-SPEAKING ABILITY IN THE BASIN.

DISCUSSION: As mentioned in the previous discussion on secondary vocational education, there will be a demand for 972,000 new workers between 1975-85, and 68 percent of these jobs will require skills related to vocational education. A total of 1.7 million skilled workers will be needed during the next ten years as compared to 0.7 million workers without vocational training.

This demand for skilled workers will exceed the available supply in the industrial, office, distribution, health, homemaking, and agriculture fields. Therefore, career opportunities in these fields will be plentiful and rewarding. Skilled workers averaged \$2.13 per hour or 76 percent more than unskilled workers. Moreover, skilled workers are more likely to experience lower unemployment rates than unskilled workers.<sup>31</sup>

The GSTCB has a large surplus of unskilled labor that cannot take advantage of skills training because of the low level of educational attainment. The median educational level in the GSTCB for persons twenty-five years and over was 10.3 years in 1970, 1.3 years less than the State's 11.6 years. Spanish-surnamed Americans in Texas had a median educational level of just 7.2 years, 4.4 years less than the State's 11.6 years.<sup>32</sup> Only 17.1 percent of the Spanish-surnamed males and 12.5 percent of the Spanish-surnamed females between the ages of 16 and 64 had received vocational training compared to the statewide figures of 27.7 percent for males and 21.5 percent for females.<sup>33</sup> This situation requires that many adults in the Basin acquire basic learning skills through adult education programs before they can receive skills training.

Once the adults are ready to enroll in technical-vocational training, these services will be available through public junior colleges, secondary schools, training institutes, and other organizations in the Basin. There are six public junior colleges in the Basin that provide technical-vocational education programs. These are Bee County College in Beeville, Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Laredo Junior College in Laredo, San Antonio Union College District in San Antonio, Southwest Texas College in Uvalde, and Texas Southmost College in Brownsville. The Texas State Technical Institute in Harlingen also provides substantial technical-vocational programs to Lower Rio Grande Valley residents. Many training services are also provided to adults in the Basin through area vocational schools and secondary school facilities. Additional organizations receiving funds from TEA provide technical-vocational education to the adult and special populations in the Basin.<sup>34</sup> (Other agencies such as the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, and CETA prime sponsors provide training and re-training services, but are not included in this discussion because they are not TEA-supported programs.)

The Basin has 51 percent of the State's Spanish-surnamed population. This population has the lowest educational levels and the

lowest numbers of vocationally trained persons in the State.<sup>35</sup> In addition to this group, other adults, other special populations, and students are in need of vocational-technical education if the demand for skilled workers between now and 1985 is to be met.

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FOR EXPANDING VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION TO POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS, ADULTS, AND SPECIAL POPULATIONS. THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD SPEND A CONSIDERABLE PORTION OF THESE FUNDS IN THE BASIN, DUE TO ITS LARGE, UNSKILLED LABOR FORCE.

**GOAL: TO ELIMINATE SCHOOL DROPOUTS IN THE SCHOOL-AGE POPULATION OF THE BASIN**

**BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #1: TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES IN THE BASIN DURING THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM BY 10 PERCENT OVER THE PREVIOUS BIENNIUM.**

**DISCUSSION:** The educational attainment level of the people in the Basin is lower than that of the rest of the State. The median educational level in the region was 10.3 years in 1970, compared to 11.6 years for the State as a whole. In addition, the GSTCB's Spanish-surnamed population comprises 53.5 percent of the region's total population plus 51 percent of the State's total Spanish-surnamed population. The median educational level of Spanish-surnamed Texans was 7.2 years in 1970.<sup>36</sup> Only six out of every 10 Mexican-Americans enrolled in the first grade graduate from high school, while 9 of every 10 Anglos enrolled receive high school diplomas. This means that in the schools of the Southwest, including Texas, about 40 percent of the Mexican-Americans who start school dropout before completing high school.<sup>37</sup> These figures reflect the severity of the educational problems of the people in South Texas where the percentage of high school graduates is less than in the rest of the State.

Though the problem is not restricted to the Mexican-American population, it is more pronounced among this minority because of the cultural and language barriers that they must overcome. The Mexican-American has traditionally been educationally disadvantaged because he has not had the time to place strong emphasis on education, but instead has had to place primary emphasis on the family's economic condition. As a result, the Mexican-American student has often dropped out of school to seek employment to help support the household. Moreover, many Mexican-Americans have a poor understanding of the English language that leads to poor performance and disinterest in school curricula that is not geared to meet their needs. The end result is school dropouts.

A series of reports on the education of Mexican-Americans in the Southwest conducted in 1974 by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights concluded that the schools were failing to provide equal educational opportunities to this group. Their findings included the underrepresentation of Mexican-Americans as teachers, counselors, principals, and school board members; the suppression of the Spanish language and culture in schools; the absence of curricula addressing the particular needs of these students; the exclusion of Mexican-American parents in school affairs; and the lack of interaction between teachers and Mexican-American students.<sup>38</sup> These findings directly impact on South Texas since 53.5 percent of the population is Mexican-American, who have a median educational level of only 7.2 grades.

There are several programs and measures which can help reduce the number of students leaving school before graduating. One measure that has an impact on this problem is to increase the number of decision-makers who are Mexican-American. By increasing the number of Mexican-American teachers, counselors, principals and school board members, more interaction between students and teachers can be attained, and Mexican-American students are provided with more effective role identification. In addition, these Mexican-American decision-makers can deal more effectively with Mexican-American students because they have a better understanding of their language,

culture and life experiences. More importantly, their representation in staff positions can affect the selection and implementation of relevant curriculum.<sup>39</sup>

Bilingual education programs have been developed to meet some of the needs of Mexican-Americans. Under Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), bilingual education is defined as "instruction in two languages and the use of those two languages as mediums of instruction for any part of or all of the school curriculum." In 1975-76, there were 56,529 children served through \$15,677,257 provided under Title VII of ESEA. There was a total of 53 ESEA-funded bilingual education projects in Texas. Thirty-six of these serving 37,770 children were in the Basin. In 1975-76, there were 176 school districts providing State-funded bilingual education programs on 798 school campuses, which served 71,624 students of limited English-speaking ability.<sup>40</sup> The State supported programs currently are provided in grades K-3, but will include the fourth grade in September, 1977.

The present curriculum and instructional materials provided by many school districts do not incorporate the language, the history, and the culture of Mexican-Americans. These characteristics must be included in the curricula of the Basin's school districts to make them more relevant to Mexican-American students.<sup>41</sup>

Increased parent participation is a must in school affairs, particularly in the development of school curriculum and instructional materials. There is a need for a parental involvement program, such as the one developed by the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory for migrant parents, aimed at increasing all parents' involvement in school activities. Such a program would promote the total development of children by improving relations among the home, the school, and the community.<sup>42</sup>

There is a definite need for dropout prevention programs in many of the schools in the Basin. The programs would provide the proper counseling and curriculum for dropouts and potential dropouts. Both the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council and the Alamo Area Council of Governments identified the need to reduce the number of dropouts in their regions. While some of the Basin's school districts have programs that provide these services, many school districts do not.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY AND LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHOULD CONTINUE TO RECRUIT MEXICAN-AMERICAN TEACHERS, COUNSELORS AND ADMINISTRATORS IN PROPORTION TO THEIR ETHNIC ENROLLMENTS.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE A MINIMUM OF \$15 million FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FOR BILINGUAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD ENCOURAGE SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVING MEXICAN-AMERICANS AS ONE-FOURTH OF THEIR TOTAL ENROLLMENT TO INCORPORATE THE HISTORY, THE LANGUAGE, AND THE CULTURE OF MEXICAN-AMERICANS INTO THEIR PRESENT CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY SHOULD URGE ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO DEVELOP OR EXPAND PROGRAMS WHICH INVOLVE PARENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, General Social and Economic Characteristics, 1970 Census of Population, PC(1)-C45 (Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office), pp. 928-949.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., pp. 1086-1102.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid., p. 439.

<sup>4</sup>Texas Education Agency, "Adult Education CO-OPs in South Texas" (unpublished material, 1973).

<sup>5</sup>Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, Report to the Governor and Legislature, 1974 (Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 42.

<sup>6</sup>Texas Education Agency, Annual Program Plan for Adult Education Programs for Fiscal Year 1977 (Austin, Texas, 1976), p. 6.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid., p. 17.

<sup>8</sup>Governor's Budget and Planning Office, A-95 review of the Annual Program Plan for Adult Education Programs for Fiscal Year 1977 by Texas state agencies, April-June, 1976. (Typewritten.)

<sup>9</sup>Texas Education Agency, Biennial Budget Request, Summer, 1976. (Typewritten.)

<sup>10</sup>Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, Report to the Texas Education Agency (Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 6 and Exhibit II.

<sup>11</sup>Arturo McDonald, Recommendation on Bilingual Adult Education to the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, May, 1975. (Mr. McDonald is Adult Education Co-Op Director in Brownsville, Texas.)

<sup>12</sup>Texas Education Agency, Annual Program Plan, p. 65.

<sup>13</sup>Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, 1976 Comprehensive Regional Human Resources Plan for the Lower Rio Grande Valley (McAllen, Texas, 1976), pp. 147-148.

<sup>14</sup>Texas Education Agency, Annual Program Plan, p. 29.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid., p. 6.

<sup>16</sup>Ibid., pp. 65-71.

<sup>17</sup>Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas, Vocational Education...Gateway to the Future, 7th Annual Report (Two Parts, Austin, Texas, 1976), Part One, pp. 1-10.

- <sup>18</sup>Ibid., Part Two, pp. 9-10.
- <sup>19</sup>Ibid., Part One, pp. 11-15.
- <sup>20</sup>Department of Commerce, General Social and Economic Characteristics, pp. 431 and 928-949.
- <sup>21</sup>Sam Schulman, J. Earl Williams, et. al., Mexican American Youth and Vocational Education in Texas (Houston, Texas: Center for Human Resources, University of Houston, 1974), pp. 20-21.
- <sup>22</sup>Department of Commerce, General Social and Economic Characteristics, pp. 443 and 1086-1102.
- <sup>23</sup>Texas Education Agency, Annual Program Plan, pp. 110-112.
- <sup>24</sup>Texas Education Agency, Secondary Vocational Units, 1974-75 (Austin, Texas, 1974).
- <sup>25</sup>Advisory Council, Vocational Education, Part Two, p. 3.
- <sup>26</sup>Ibid., p. 4.
- <sup>27</sup>Texas Education Agency, Secondary Vocational Units, 1974.
- <sup>28</sup>Texas Education Agency, "Guide for Public Schools in Planning Programs for Occupational Education for In-School Students" (Austin, Texas), p. 17.
- <sup>29</sup>Texas Education Agency, Secondary Vocational Units, 1974.
- <sup>30</sup>Advisory Council, Vocational Education, Part Two, p. 32.
- <sup>31</sup>Ibid., Part One, pp. 5-16.
- <sup>32</sup>Department of Commerce, General Social and Economic Characteristics, pp. 431 and 928-949.
- <sup>33</sup>Schulman, Mexican American Youth, pp. 20-21.
- <sup>34</sup>S. B. 52, 64th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, IV-4, 5 (1975).
- <sup>35</sup>Schulman, Mexican American Youth, pp. 20-21.
- <sup>36</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>37</sup>U. S. Commission on Civil Rights, Toward Quality Education For Mexican Americans, Report VI: Mexican American Education Study (Washington, D. C.: February, 1974), p. 1.
- <sup>38</sup>Ibid.

<sup>39</sup>Ibid., pp. 35 and 75.

<sup>40</sup>Good Neighbor Commission, Texas Migrant Labor, Annual Report, 1975 (Austin, Texas, 1976), pp. 13-17.

<sup>41</sup>Commission on Civil Rights, Toward Quality Education, p. 72.

<sup>42</sup>Texas Education Agency, Handbook for a Parent-School-Community Involvement Program (Austin, Texas, January, 1974), pp. 1-4.

## B. Employment/Manpower

GOAL: TO PROVIDE A MEANINGFUL JOB FOR EVERY ABLE-BODIED RESIDENT IN THE BASIN.

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #1: TO EXPAND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE BASIN THROUGH REGULAR OR CETA-FUNDED TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION (TEC) EMPLOYMENT OFFICES.

DISCUSSION: The Texas Employment Commission provides employment programs and services, an unemployment insurance program, and manpower data, analysis and research. The purpose is to promote the well-being of the people in the labor force, serve employers, and encourage optimum utilization of manpower resources to reach maximum employment.<sup>1</sup> The TEC carries out its responsibilities through ten district offices and their local offices and provides services to all labor force members that are United States' citizens or legal residents of Texas.

TEC's major emphasis is on job placement, which involves the referral of job seekers to job openings in order to fill job openings.<sup>2</sup> In July, 1976, there was a large number of unemployed persons in the GSTCB seeking work. The unemployment rate in the Basin was 8.1 percent, or 67,729 out of 838,152 persons in the labor force were unemployed. Within the Basin, unemployment rates varied from 5.7 percent in the Coastal Bend State Planning Region to 12.9 percent in the South Texas State Planning Region.<sup>3</sup>

There are two TEC district offices within the GSTCB, one in Corpus Christi and the other in San Antonio. There are an additional 46 offices in the Basin which serve its 1973 estimated population of 2,117,000. These 46 offices are TEC and CETA-funded offices and are concentrated in the principal cities which contain the majority of the Basin's population.

In the Alamo State Planning Region, there is a total of 22 offices (excluding the district office). Of these, 12 are in the City of San Antonio and 10 are in the outer counties. The outer county offices are in the cities of Hondo, Kenedy-Karnes City, Jourdanton, Kerrville, Pearsall, Dilley (two-day operation), Floresville (two-day operation), Poteet, New Braunfels, and Seguin. The entire range of TEC services is available in the San Antonio offices and in Pearsall. The other 9 outer offices provide limited services such as job order taking, job placement, and referral to CETA programs, but usually do not include job counseling, testing, unemployment insurance claims, etc., due to the lack of staff. Services are extended to all parts of the region from the San Antonio and Pearsall area but are limited in nature.

In the Coastal Bend State Planning Region, there is a total of 10 offices (excluding the district office). Four of the 10 offices are in the City of Corpus Christi and the others are located in Alice, Beeville, Falfurrias, Kingsville, Robstown (four-day operation), and Sinton. Full services are available in the Corpus Christi and Beeville offices, while limited services are available in the other five offices. Services are also extended to all other parts of the region from Corpus Christi on a limited basis.



There are nine offices in the Lower Rio Grande Valley State Planning Region. Full-service offices are located in Brownsville, Edinburg, Harlingen, McAllen, Weslaco, and Raymondville. A limited service office is located in Elsa which is open four days a week. In addition, services are extended to Starr County from McAllen and to Kenedy County from Raymondville.

In the Middle Rio Grande State Planning Region, there are four full-service offices in the cities of Eagle Pass, Crystal City, Del Rio, and Uvalde. These offices in the Middle Rio Grande also extend services to the other areas in the region. In the South Texas State Planning Region, there is one full-service office in Laredo, which provides limited services to Zapata, Jim Hogg and LaSalle counties.<sup>4</sup>

Presently, the full-service TEC offices are located in the major cities in the GSTCB, and limited services are available in many of the smaller cities. It is the offices in these smaller cities located in counties with large numbers of unemployed that need a broader range of services and more full-time staff. Chart 4 lists some of these communities which are approximately more than 20 miles from a full service office.

Chart 4

LIMITED-SERVICE TEC OFFICES

City	County	Unemployment Rate	Unemployed Sept. '76
Alice	Jim Wells	4.5	564
Falfurrias	Brooks	7.2	200
Floresville	Wilson	3.4	171
Hondo	Medina	4.3	377
Jourdanton & Poteet	Atascosa	3.5	274
Kenedy-Karnes City	Karnes	3.8	207
Kerrville	Kerr	2.3	213
Kingsville	Kleberg	3.7	404
New Braunfels	Comal	4.5	557
Seguin	Guadalupe	6.4	1005
Sinton	San Patricio	6.6	1274

Source: Texas Employment Commission

The ability of TEC to expand its services to the smaller cities depends in large part upon the availability of additional federal funds.

TEC provides services to rural counties and rural portions of urban counties from their offices in urban centers and in other key cities. Unemployment data from the rural counties is incomplete because employment services are limited and these are often provided on an itinerant basis. This data, however, is used to determine unemployment rates for these areas--rates that many local officials

believe are considerably understated. Presently, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) only accepts unemployment surveys conducted by TEC. Other agencies, such as regional councils of governments and community action agencies, could assist TEC in collecting information needed to utilize the unemployment formula required by BLS.

RECOMMENDATION: THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) SHOULD CONTINUE TO FUND THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION TO PROVIDE THE PRESENT EMPLOYMENT SERVICES IN THE BASIN.

RECOMMENDATION: AS FEDERAL FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE, THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION SHOULD EXPAND THE SCOPE OF SERVICES AT EXISTING OFFICES IN SMALL CITIES LOCATED IN COUNTIES WITH HIGH EMPLOYMENT. PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SINTON, SEGUIN, ALICE, NEW BRAUNFELS, AND KINGSVILLE.

RECOMMENDATION: THE GSTCBC SHOULD REQUEST THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS (BLS) TO AUTHORIZE THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION TO UTILIZE THE VARIOUS AGENCIES, COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS IN CONDUCTING UNEMPLOYMENT SURVEYS USING THE BLS FORMULA.

SUBREGIONAL OBJECTIVE #1: THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION SHOULD UPGRADE ITS OPERATION IN RIO GRANDE CITY IN STARR COUNTY TO SUBOFFICE STATUS.

DISCUSSION: Between June and September, 1976, Starr County averaged about 7,000 unemployed persons, who represented about 20 percent of the labor force in the county.<sup>5</sup> Starr County has experienced high unemployment rates during the last several years and has also been designated as an area of high youth unemployment.<sup>6</sup> A greater variety of employment services in Rio Grande City is badly needed and justifiable.

The Texas Employment Commission maintains a five-day operation in Rio Grande City. There is a staff of eighteen people which includes interviewers, clerks, etc. The staff is mostly part-time. The primary service provided presently is unemployment insurance certification and claims. Occasional job referral and placement activities are handled by the existing staff when job orders are made to the McAllen office by the area's employers. The services in Rio Grande City are provided as an extension of the McAllen office, which also provides supervision to the staff in Rio Grande City. Furthermore, services such as job counseling, testing, referral to training, and specialized services to migrants, youth, school dropouts, etc. are only available in McAllen. These needed services could be provided in Rio Grande City by adding two additional employment interviewers who could concentrate on taking job orders, job placement and referral, job counseling, testing, services to special groups, etc.

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION SHOULD ALLOCATE FUNDS TO UPGRADE ITS OPERATION IN RIO GRANDE CITY TO FULL SERVICE OFFICE STATUS.

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #2: TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PERSONS RECEIVING SKILLS TRAINING IN THE BASIN THROUGH THE INDUSTRIAL START-UP TRAINING PROGRAM TO APPROXIMATELY 2,500 PERSONS DURING THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM.

DISCUSSION: Human resource development plays an integral role in economic development. A major consideration of industry in deciding where to locate is the availability of a skilled labor force. People are the Basin's greatest resource. Unfortunately, much of this resource is unemployed and unskilled. Unemployment rates during September, 1976, in the Basin were high--13.1 percent in the South Texas State Planning Region, 10.9 percent in the Lower Rio Grande Valley State Planning Region, 9.9 percent in the Middle Rio Grande State Planning Region, 6.8 percent in the Alamo Area State Planning Region, and 5.6 percent in the Coastal Bend State Planning Region. The 63,518 unemployed persons in the Basin in September, 1976, indicate there is sufficient manpower to support industrial development; however, this labor pool is characterized by low educational attainment levels and lack of salable skills. According to the 1970 census, Spanish-surnamed Americans in the State of Texas had a median educational level of 7.2 years, and only 17.1 percent of the Spanish-surnamed population between the ages of 16 and 64 had received vocational training.

Clearly, priority must be given to the development of skills of the labor force in South Texas. Providing citizens with the necessary skills to work at a meaningful job with adequate pay will assist in the overall Commission effort to improve the standard of living in the Basin. Providing job opportunities through skills training was identified as a high priority in each of the five State Planning Regions in the Basin.

Presently, the Industrial Start-Up Training Program, a cooperative venture by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the Texas Industrial Commission (TIC), provides occupational training to equip Texans with the requisite skills to qualify for industrial job opportunities created by new or expanding industries. This labor development program provides the following advantages:

- . It serves as an incentive to industries to locate in Texas by defraying the costs of training.
- . It provides training to Texans, improving the skills of the labor force.
- . It provides jobs in which to employ these new skills, since training is only offered where new jobs are created.
- . It captures the benefits of this training for the Basin by eliminating out-migration of trained persons to jobs in other areas.
- . It provides Texas industries with qualified employees to promote the State's growth and further industrial expansion.

- . It is economical because the basic training facilities (junior colleges, high schools, and technical institutes) are already part of the State's fixed costs.<sup>8</sup>

The Industrial Start-Up Training Program has worked so well as an incentive for industries to locate in Texas that the \$1 million appropriated by the Texas Legislature for the 1976-1977 biennium was exhausted the first year. Approximately 12,000 people were trained through this program for identified jobs in new or expanding industries in Texas. While the GSTCB had over 21 percent of the unemployed population in the State during the June through September period, only four industries utilizing this program had located in the Basin generating 1032 jobs, \$207,978 in State and local taxes, and having a total annual impact on the economy of \$26,308,023. There were an additional four industries interested in using the training program in the Basin which could possibly be funded during the current biennium (see Chart 5). The total funds committed to industries locating in the Basin if these four proposed programs were funded would be \$76,400 or 7.6 percent of the \$1 million appropriated for the 1976-77 biennium.

It is apparent that the cities in the Basin are not successfully competing with cities outside the Basin in attracting industry through the program. South Texas is the most economically depressed area in the State and has had ten counties with over or close to 10 percent unemployment between June and September, 1976.<sup>9</sup> Yet, only one industry using this program has located in these areas of high unemployment. The tremendous, positive economic impact this program has is desperately needed in the GSTCB if the quality of life is to be improved.

Realizing the need for this program throughout the State, the GSTCB Commission supports the thrust of the program and supports an appropriation of \$2 million for industrial start-up training in the State of Texas. Furthermore, the GSTCB Commission requests an appropriation of \$500,000 to insure that an equitable amount is expended in the Basin--the most economically disadvantaged area of the State. This money would be used to do industrial advertising, industrial prospecting, and industrial start-up training in the GSTCB. The majority of the money would be for the training of approximately 2,500 persons and would utilize the existing training program administered by the TEA and the TIC. The money for advertising and prospecting would be contracted to TIC through the GSTCB Commission.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE \$2 MILLION FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM TO EXPAND THE INDUSTRIAL START-UP TRAINING PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY AND THE TEXAS INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE \$500,000 TO THE GSTCB COMMISSION FOR INDUSTRIAL ADVERTISING, PROSPECTING, AND INDUSTRIAL START-UP TRAINING FOR THE BASIN. FUNDS FOR THE INDUSTRIAL ADVERTISING AND PROSPECTING WOULD BE CONTRACTED TO THE TEXAS INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION; FUNDS FOR THE TRAINING IN SOUTH TEXAS WOULD BE CONTRACTED TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY AND TEXAS INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION THROUGH THE GSTCB COMMISSION.

Chart 5

INDUSTRIAL START-UP TRAINING PROGRAM  
IN THE GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN

T.E.A. Unit	Company	Total Employment Generated	Funds Committed	Annual New Taxes Generated		Annual Economic Impact on Economy
				State	Local	
Texas South- most College	Norton Company	490	\$26,200.00	\$57,058.00	\$66,106.00	\$14,917,514.00
Aransas Pass I.S.D.	Blue Sea, Inc.	45	1,700.00	4,240.00	7,633.00	1,782,918.00
San Antonio College	Jenell-San Antonio Dress Co.	213	6,000.00	14,579.00	16,682.00	4,117,539.00
San Antonio College	Santone	284	7,500.00	19,438.00	22,242.00	5,490,052.00
SUB-TOTAL	4 Companies	1032	\$41,400.00	\$95,315.00	\$112,663.00	\$26,308,023.00
Texas A&I University	*Entronics	100(trainees)	\$10,000.00			
Bee County College	*Indianapolis Glove	100(trainees)	10,000.00			
Cibolo ISD	*Aquasonis Lures	100(trainees)	10,000.00			
Seguin ISD	*Proform	50(trainees)	5,000.00			
TOTAL	8 Companies	1032 Jobs 350 Trainees	\$76,400.00	\$95,315.00	\$112,663.00	\$26,308,023.00

\* Proposed Programs

Source: Texas Industrial Commission

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #3: TO PROVIDE JOB TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AND OTHER SERVICES TO APPROXIMATELY 40,000 PERSONS IN THE BASIN DURING FISCAL YEAR 1978 THROUGH THE CETA MANPOWER PROGRAMS.

DISCUSSION: The GSTCB has had higher unemployment rates than the rest of the State during the 1970's. During 1976, this situation has continued. In September, 1976, the unemployment rate in the Basin was 7.7 percent as compared with 5.4 percent for the entire State. The GSTCB had 63,518 or 21.7 percent of the State's 292,200 unemployed persons in that month. Unemployment rates in the Basin's State Planning Regions in September were 13.1 percent in South Texas, 10.9 percent in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, 9.9 percent in the Middle Rio Grande, 6.8 percent in the Alamo, and 5.6 percent in the Coastal Bend. Furthermore, the Basin has had ten counties with over or close to ten percent unemployment between June and September, 1976.<sup>10</sup>

People are the Basin's greatest resource. The high unemployment rates indicate there is sufficient manpower to support industrial development; however, this labor pool is characterized by low educational attainment levels and a lack of salable skills. In 1970, there were 551,066 adults 25 years of age and over who had less than a high school education; this represented 58.5 percent of the Basin's population 25 years of age and over.<sup>11</sup> Moreover, the median educational attainment level of Spanish-surnamed persons in Texas 25 years of age and over was only 7.2 years, as compared to a statewide median of 11.6 years.<sup>12</sup>

The result of these problems is that many unskilled persons in the GSTCB cannot take advantage of job training without first improving their educational skills. The focus therefore should be on utilizing the region's existing manpower program and educational resources to upgrade the skills of the labor force and to raise educational attainment levels in the Basin.

In 1973, the Federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) established a program which provides manpower services to the economically disadvantaged, unemployed, and underemployed population in the United States. Through CETA, the federal government placed a greater responsibility on state and local governments for manpower planning and service delivery.

Under CETA, governmental units or combinations of local governmental units with a population of 100,000 or more have been designated "prime sponsors" and receive funds to plan and provide job training and employment opportunities. In the GSTCB, there are five prime sponsors--the Alamo Area Consortium covering the 12 counties in the Alamo State Planning Region, the Coastal Bend Consortium covering the 12 counties in the Coastal Bend State Planning Region, Cameron County, the Hidalgo-Willacy Consortium, and Webb County. The remaining counties in the Basin are "balance of state" counties and the State is the prime sponsor. The Governor has assigned the Texas Department of Community Affairs (TDCA) the responsibility for planning and operating CETA programs in balance of state counties. Finally, the State Manpower Services Council (SMSC), comprised of state agencies and prime sponsors, advises on State manpower activities within the State and reviews prime sponsor and state agency plans.<sup>13</sup>

Under the various titles of the act, other prime sponsors receive CETA funds to provide training and employment opportunities to special

target populations such as migrants. Most of these prime sponsors receive funding directly from the U. S. Department of Labor (DOL).<sup>14</sup>

During fiscal year 1976, over 39,000 people in the Basin were provided with job training and employment opportunities by the five major prime sponsors and TDCA. Over 12,000 people were placed in unsubsidized jobs during the same period.<sup>15</sup> The allocation under Title I and Section 112 (supplemental vocational education funds) of CETA for fiscal year 1977 is approximately \$18 million for the Basin.<sup>16</sup> The final 1977 allocations under Titles II, III and VI are still not available.

The creation of jobs was cited as one of the most important needs in the Basin in the five councils of governments' regional human resource plans. The GSTCB Commission is presently formulating an overall development plan for South Texas. Manpower planning and development programs are a vital component of the strategy for developing the Basin. Coordinating the activities of adult education co-ops and CETA manpower programs can result in the effective utilization of both programs' resources to upgrade the educational and job skills of adults thereby enhancing their employability. Furthermore, by coordinating CETA programs with the training demands of new or expanding industries, CETA funds can be more effectively utilized for on-the-job training, which allows individuals to earn money while being trained for identified jobs.

RECOMMENDATION: THE U. S. CONGRESS SHOULD CONTINUE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACT TO PROVIDE JOB TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO THE NATION'S ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED, UNEMPLOYED, AND UNDEREMPLOYED POPULATION.

RECOMMENDATION: THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SHOULD REQUIRE PRIME SPONSORS TO PRESENT EVIDENCE THAT THEIR MANPOWER PROGRAMS ARE FULLY COORDINATED WITH BUSINESS, INDUSTRY, ADULT EDUCATION CO-OPS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #4: TO PROVIDE DAY CARE SERVICES TO APPROXIMATELY 25,000 CHILDREN IN THE BASIN THROUGH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DAY CARE INSTITUTIONS.

Discussion: In their regional human resource plans, all five councils of governments in the Basin identified a need for day care services in their regions. Many families, particularly those where both parents work and those with only one parent, depend on day care institutions to take care of their children while they are working. Most parents can afford the cost of day care services for their children, but some need free or low-cost day care.<sup>17</sup>

The majority of day care institutions provide supervised care for pre-school children under six years of age although many of them provide after school care for children over six years of age. In 1970, there were 233,690 children five years of age and under in the Basin who represented 11.9 percent of the Basin's total population.<sup>18</sup> Using 1974 Bureau of the Census population estimates and assuming the percentage of children under five years of age has remained the same, there were an estimated 256,683 children five years of age and under in the Basin in 1974.<sup>19</sup> A review of the 1970 census, the 1973 population estimates, and the 1974 population estimates shows that the Basin's population is increasing. As the population increases, the number of children under five years of age is expected to increase as well.

Currently, there are approximately 8,000 licensed child care facilities in Texas. These include day care centers, day homes, and other special facilities.<sup>20</sup> There are 390 licensed day care centers in the Basin with a total capacity for 22,550 children. There are an additional 427 licensed facilities such as kindergartens, nurseries, and family day homes in the Basin with a total capacity for 5102 children.<sup>21</sup>

Day care services are provided by non-profit day care centers, commercial care centers, special care facilities, and family day homes. Many of the non-profit day care centers and special care facilities are funded through federal and/or local sources. Commercial care centers operate on a fee-for-service basis. In addition, the State Department of Public Welfare (DPW) contracts with non-profit day care centers and commercial care centers for fee or low-cost day care services funded through a combination of federal, state and local monies.<sup>22</sup>

In fiscal 1977, the DPW will provide day care services to 19,500 children at a combined federal, state, and local cost of \$31,484,462. The DPW has requested \$6,357,325 for fiscal 1978 and \$7,116,291 for fiscal 1979 from the Legislature to match federal funds for day care. With these funds, the DPW could serve 20,085 children in fiscal 1978 and 20,575 in fiscal 1979. The Legislative Budget Board (LBB) has recommended to the Legislature that they appropriate only \$1,754,162 for the first year and \$1,769,041 for the second year of the 1978-79 biennium. These state matching funds will allow the DPW to match fewer federal funds than they requested. The LBB's recommendation would also mean a decrease in the number of children presently served from 19,500 in 1977 to 16,220 children in 1978 and 15,120 children in 1979.<sup>23</sup> This reduction in the number of children served would force working parents in need of free or low-cost day care to either find another source of care for their children or give up badly needed jobs.



RECOMMENDATION: THE U. S. CONGRESS SHOULD CONTINUE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE TO PROVIDE DAY CARE SERVICES TO NEEDY CHILDREN.

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO PROVIDE DAY CARE SERVICES TO A MINIMUM OF 19,500 CHILDREN FOR EACH YEAR OF THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Texas Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, Handbook of Governments in Texas (Austin, Texas, 1973), p. 263.

<sup>2</sup>Texas Employment Commission, Annual Report to the Honorable Dolph Briscoe, Governor, State of Texas (Austin, Texas, 1974), pp. 5-6.

<sup>3</sup>Texas Employment Commission, "Labor Force Estimates for Texas Counties - July (Final) 1976", Austin, Texas, 1976.

<sup>4</sup>Texas Employment Commission, Unpublished information on District and local offices, Austin, Texas, August, 1976.

<sup>5</sup>Texas Employment Commission, "Labor Force Estimates for Texas Counties," Austin, Texas: June-September, 1976.

<sup>6</sup>Texas Education Agency, Texas State Plan For Vocational Education (Austin, Texas, 1976), p. 103.

<sup>7</sup>Texas Employment Commission, "Labor Force Estimates for Texas Counties - September (Final), 1976," Austin, Texas, 1976.

<sup>8</sup>Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, Report to the Governor and Legislature, 1974 (Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 27.

<sup>9</sup>Texas Employment Commission, "Labor Force," June-September, 1976.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid.

<sup>11</sup>U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, General Social and Economic Characteristics, 1970 Census of Population, PC (1)-C45 (Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office), pp. 928-949.

<sup>12</sup>Ibid., p. 439.

<sup>13</sup>Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, Report to the Texas Education Agency (Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 4.

<sup>14</sup>Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) of 1973, 87 STAT. 839 (1973).

<sup>15</sup>Budget and Planning Office, "Titles I, II, III, and VI -- Summary of Individuals Served by Prime Sponsor and Age Groups," Austin, 1976. (Mimeographed.)

<sup>16</sup>Budget and Planning Office, "CETA Title I and Section 112, Supplemental Vocational Education Allocation -- Texas, Fiscal Year 1977," Austin, 1977. (Mimeographed.)

<sup>17</sup>State Department of Public Welfare, Annual Report, 1975  
(Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 11.

<sup>18</sup>U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970 Census  
of Population (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office).

<sup>19</sup>U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Current  
Population Reports, 1975," (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing  
Office).

<sup>20</sup>Department of Public Welfare, Annual Report, p. 12.

<sup>21</sup>E.G. Dufour, telephone interview held on day care services in the  
Basin, Austin, Texas, December 10, 1976.

<sup>22</sup>Department of Public Welfare, Annual Report, p. 11.

<sup>23</sup>Legislative Budget Board, Biennial Budget Recommendation, Fall,  
1976. (Typewritten.)

## C. Health

GOAL: TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE BASIN.

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #1: TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS IN THE RURAL AREAS OF THE BASIN THROUGH AN INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR 50 MEDICAL STUDENTS PER YEAR TO ESTABLISH PRACTICES IN RURAL AREAS OF TEXAS.

DISCUSSION: The shortage of health manpower is a serious problem in the Basin, particularly the shortage or maldistribution of primary care physicians and dentists. Each of the five councils of governments identified this problem in their human resource plans. The American Medical Association (AMA) has suggested a ratio of one physician to 556 population in order to assure adequate medical care.<sup>1</sup> In 1973, Texas' physician to population ratio was 1:755. The Basin's ratio for the same year was 1:910. The Basin had 17.9 percent of the State's 1973 population but only 14.9 percent of the State's physicians. Kerr County, with a physician to population ratio of 1:536, was the only Basin county which met the AMA standard. By comparison, some of the worst ratios in the Basin were Bandera County (1:5,800), Frio County (1:5,500), Starr County (1:4,900), and Zapata County (1:4,600). There were also three counties--Kenedy, McMullen, and Kinney--which had no physician.<sup>2</sup>

Another indicator of the physician shortage was the Public Health Service's (PHS) designation of Critical Health Manpower Shortage Areas. They recommended in 1975 that counties with a physician/population ratio of 1:4,000 or less could be designated a critical shortage area and thus be eligible for assignment of National Health Service Corps personnel. The following Basin counties or portion of counties were designated: Atascosa, Bandera, Frio, Jim Hogg, Kinney, Maverick, Starr, Zapata; Cameron-Willacy--the Harlingen/Raymondville medical service area, and Hidalgo--the Elsa-Edcouch-La Villa medical service area. The designation of these counties was withdrawn on May 27, 1975, but is still useful in revealing the Basin's critical physician shortage.<sup>3</sup> Recently, PHS physicians were assigned for two years (1977 and 1978) to Poteet in Atascosa County, Hebbronville in Jim Hogg County, and Crystal City in Zavala County.<sup>4</sup> This will temporarily alleviate the critical shortage in these counties; it is not a permanent solution.

There is a maldistribution as well as a shortage of physicians in the Basin. Most of the Basin's physicians are concentrated in the metropolitan areas of Bexar and Nueces counties. These two counties had 54 percent of the Basin's 1973 population and 75.8 percent of the Basin's physicians. The remaining 24.2 percent of the physicians are scattered throughout 38 counties, most of which are rural. As stated before, three Basin counties in 1973 were without a physician, while four Basin counties had a single physician.<sup>5</sup>

The physician shortage is even more severe since many physicians, particularly those in rural areas, are at or near retirement age.

For example, 20 percent of the practicing physicians in the South Texas State Planning Region were between the ages of 60 and 70 in 1974.<sup>6</sup> There is little chance of recruiting replacements. A rural physician must often work long hours. Limited opportunities for continuing education, isolation from colleagues, and fewer cultural, recreational, and educational opportunities for the professional's family also deter physicians from practicing in rural areas. Also, small communities or counties lack the necessary resources to support the modern technology and facilities characteristic of larger urban medical centers which offer attractive and prestigious medical practices.<sup>7</sup>

The Texas Coordinating Board in a recent study reported, "Health professionals tend to remain where they are at the conclusion of their formal education or to return to places where they have lived previously. Research studies have shown that one of the greater determinants in selecting a practice location is the final site of graduate study."<sup>8</sup> Therefore rural professional shortages might be alleviated by providing rural residency programs and by selecting rural students for professional schools.

Since 53.5 percent of the Basin's 1970 population was Spanish-surnamed, it is reasonable to assume that a large percentage of potential, rural applicants for professional schools are Mexican-American. There has been a serious underrepresentation of minority students in Texas professional schools. The Mexican-American enrollment in Texas medical schools was 4.1 percent of the total 1973-74 enrollment. The Black enrollment was 2.3 percent for the same year.<sup>9</sup> Many reasons are given to explain the shortage of minority professional students. These include the lack of family encouragement and role models, inadequate counseling services, less promising educational credentials to professional school selection committees, the high cost of pursuing a professional education, and high attrition rates among undergraduate minority students. And, finally, the competition for academically talented minority graduates is nationwide. Out-of-state schools frequently offer generous scholarships to competent Texas minority students who will often practice where they study.<sup>10</sup>

The Coordinating Board cited inadequate counseling services as one of the reasons for the shortage of minority medical students. All public school counselors should be aware of the present and future job opportunities in the health field in order to inform and direct students into health-related careers. Not only are more minority physicians and dentists needed, but there is an increasing demand for allied health personnel. Allied health occupations include nursing, therapy, pharmacy, radiology, diagnostic services, etc. The 1980 projections for allied health manpower in Texas indicate a 25 percent increase in personnel <sup>11</sup> will be needed over the present number of 40,649 full-time employees. Moreover, the projected average annual job openings in health occupations in Texas between 1976-85 will be for 14,559 workers, while the projected annual average supply of health personnel will be 13,771 for the same period.<sup>12</sup>

Another complicating factor in meeting the Basin's health manpower needs is the distribution of physician specialists. There is an urgent need for primary care physicians. Primary care includes general practice, family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology. In spite of the urgent need for primary care, more and more professional students are entering specialty fields. Medical education

and the present fee-for-service system encourage specialty practice. The trends in Texas indicate that the number of primary care physicians has increased but the percentage has steadily decreased.<sup>13</sup> Since Texas is not producing the needed numbers of primary care physicians, the nature and relevancy of current medical programs should be re-examined. According to the Coordinating Board's study, "The most practical way to influence directly the numbers of specialists at the State level is to influence graduate training opportunities. Expanding those related to primary care is required. Curtailing or expanding to a lesser degree other specialties appears desirable."<sup>14</sup>

The State Rural Education Board was established by the 63rd Legislature to provide loans to medical students who agree to practice in rural areas (defined as counties with a population of 25,000 or less). The Board received an appropriation of \$100,000 for loans for each year of the 1976-1977 biennium. Currently there are 31 students receiving loans ranging between \$3,000 and \$6,000 per year. In order to apply for a loan, a student must be admitted to a United States medical school and must also be a Texas resident. The student agrees to practice in a rural area for five years. The student may delay rural practice for a reasonable amount of time in order to do advanced study, generally no longer than four years. The student will have 20 percent of the loan (plus five percent interest) cancelled or "forgiven" for each year of service in a rural area. Thus, the student may retire the entire indebtedness by practicing the full five years in a rural area.

The student may also fulfill the obligation by serving two years in a rural area and then repaying the remaining 60 percent of the loan plus the interest. If the student fails to serve a minimum of two years in a rural area, the entire loan is due plus interest, plus a ten percent penalty, plus court costs (if applicable).

Hopefully, many of the students practicing in rural areas will decide to remain and establish permanent practices. Some students will probably leave rural areas after fulfilling their commitments. Thus, the need for physicians in rural areas will continue. The State Rural Medical Education Board is requesting \$1.2 million for the 1978-1979 biennium to provide loans for 94 students during the first year and 169 students for the second year.<sup>15</sup>

**RECOMMENDATION:** THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD APPROPRIATE \$1.2 MILLION--\$450,000 FOR THE FIRST YEAR AND \$750,000 FOR THE SECOND YEAR--FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM TO THE STATE RURAL MEDICAL EDUCATION BOARD TO ESTABLISH A LOAN FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS WHO AGREE TO PRACTICE IN RURAL AREAS.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY AND LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHOULD INCREASE COUNSELING AND OTHER PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE HEALTH CAREERS, ESPECIALLY AMONG MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS AND STUDENTS FROM RURAL AREAS.

**BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #2:** TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF DENTISTS IN THE RURAL AREAS OF THE BASIN BY ESTABLISHING A STATE DENTAL EDUCATION BOARD TO PROVIDE LOANS, GRANTS, OR SCHOLARSHIPS TO DENTAL STUDENTS WHO AGREE TO PRACTICE IN RURAL AREAS.

DISCUSSION: There is a shortage of dentists in the Basin, particularly in the rural areas. The nature of the problem is similar to that of the physician problem discussed in the previous basinwide objective.

The State's dentist to population ratio was 1:2,433 in 1973. The Basin's ratio for the same year was 1:2,953. The Basin had 17.9 percent of the State's 1973 population but only 14.8 percent of the State's dentists. While seven Basin counties had ratios better than the State's total, there were nine counties that had no dentist. Some of the counties had severely low dentist to population ratios. Maverick (1:20,600), Willacy (1:16,300), and Zavala (1:11,500) counties with one dentist each had the worst ratios.<sup>16</sup> The Public Health Service also set guidelines for critical shortage areas for dentists. A county with a dentist to population ratio of 1:5,000 or less was considered critical. In 1975, seven Basin counties and a portion of another county were identified: Atascosa, Bandera, Frio, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Starr, Willacy, and Maverick--Eagle Pass service area.<sup>17</sup> Demand for dental care continues to increase while dentist to population ratios decrease. For example, the United States ratio in 1935 was 1:1,730; in 1970 it was about 1:2,100.<sup>18</sup>

The Basin's dentists are also concentrated in the metropolitan areas of Bexar and Nueces Counties. These counties contain 54 percent of the Basin's 1973 population and 70.7 percent of the Basin's dentists.<sup>19</sup> As was the case for physicians, we find more dentists nearing retirement age, underrepresentation of minorities, and greater numbers of dentists entering specialty practices.

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE IS URGED TO ESTABLISH A STATE DENTAL EDUCATION BOARD WITH THE AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE LOANS, GRANTS, OR SCHOLARSHIPS TO DENTAL STUDENTS IN THE PRIMARY CARE FIELD WHO AGREE TO PRACTICE IN RURAL AREAS.

MULTI-REGIONAL OBJECTIVE #1: TO PROVIDE MEDICAL SCREENING AND TREATMENT TO APPROXIMATELY 52,000 NON-AFDC CHILDREN, AGES 6-15, BELOW THE OEO POVERTY GUIDELINES IN CAMERON, HIDALGO, STARR, AND WILLACY COUNTIES AND CENSUS TRACTS 1709 AND 1710 IN SAN ANTONIO THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE'S EARLY PERIODIC SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT PROGRAM DURING THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM.

Discussion: As medical costs continue to rise and their drain on public funds increases, greater attention is being given in more areas to the concept of preventive health care in addition to that already focused in keeping with good health practices. Failure to identify and treat health problems early can cause particularly unfortunate results among poor children. Some conditions may be left untreated until they reach dangerous levels and require expensive treatment at public hospitals, largely or entirely at public expense. Others may permanently damage the child's potential earning capacity, insuring continued dependence on welfare aid.

At present, two State-Federal screening-treatment programs address the problem of preventive health care, but do not provide comprehensive coverage in all instances. The Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) program provides screening to all persons on Medicaid who are under 21. The Well-Child Clinics of the Maternal and Child Health Program reach young children with broader financial eligibility. Poor children over 5 who do not fall into the strict eligibility standards of the Medicaid program have no regular source of health care.

The Department of Public Welfare has been conducting the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment Program in Texas under Title XIX for over two years. In FY '76 a total of 120,615 AFDC children were screened and of these 28% (34,288) required referral for treatment.<sup>20</sup> This program has been instrumental in improving the health of the children who needed help and it gives them a better chance to stay in school and gain the education they require to overcome their impoverished condition. The current median education level for Spanish surnamed Americans in Texas, who make up 53% of the GSTCB area, is 7.2 years.<sup>21</sup> Those persons just above the level of eligibility for medical assistance can be expected to have similar medical needs to those eligible for Medicaid. However, under current circumstances, there is no statewide remedial care for these children. Their chances for becoming productive citizens are thereby reduced.

The State, like the federal government, views preventive health as a priority for health care delivery and has already been looking at ways to expand the screening services provided. In 1974, the Governor's Interagency Task Force on Youth Care and Rehabilitation drafted a recommendation supporting a more comprehensive early screening program that would include coordination of all these agencies currently involved in delivering similar preventive programs.

South Texas offers a particularly good test area for a more comprehensive, preventive health program. There is a substantial population not covered by existing programs. The effect of the programs can be readily measured and evaluated, and the extreme need of the area will insure that resources are put to a good use.

EPSDT is administered by the Department of Public Welfare with an inter-agency contract with the Texas Department of Health Resources. The DPW identifies eligibles and encourages them to participate in the program; TDHR performs the screening. In some localities, TDHR subcontracts



with local public health agencies, and in others conducts screening with its own mobile medical teams. If health problems are identified through medical screening, the DPW is responsible for follow-up and pays for the medical treatment through the Title XIX Medicaid program.

An expansion of EPSDT-type services to poor children who are ineligible for Medicaid would provide an opportunity to develop improved coordination and better utilization of the existing health services. A pilot project is recommended that will serve children from families whose income is below OEO poverty guidelines but are not eligible for Medicaid.

The proposed project sites and populations to be served are:

- . Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy Counties--approximately 47,000 children.
- . Two census tracts of San Antonio's West Side--approximately 4,536 children.

Federal matching funds would be sought for this pilot project under the Social Security Act. Funding under Title XIX (Medicaid) would require waiving the statewide requirement and other technical requirements. This waiver requires HEW approval in Washington. If federal approval and financial support are unavailable, stricter financial eligibility standards will be applied so that those most in need will be served. Under these conditions other federal funding, including Title V, will also be sought.

The project will provide services comparable to those of the EPSDT programs, and will last for two to three years. One-half of the target population will be screened each year, and follow-up treatment costs will be paid through the Medicaid program mechanisms.

The project will be one of research and demonstration, with full and rigorous evaluation of efficiency and effectiveness. Special attention will be given to the problems of service coordination. This project offers an opportunity to provide badly needed support for medical care in South Texas while seeking improvements in the management of services.

The value and necessity of such a program is unquestioned. Of those children screened, 28 percent are referred for medical treatment, finish high school, and some go to college. They will earn the median income--estimated at \$9,593 in San Antonio and increased to \$10,000 to allow for future inflation. In the age group 6-15, 7,700 were referred for medical treatment. Only one additional year of gainful employment by each would add \$77 million to the gross product of Texas. Taxed at 5 percent of gross, this would return \$3,850,000 to the State and federal government, or a little over the cost of the program. The economic advantages, of course, are a supplement to medical support aspects. This program pays for itself.

In a lifetime of work at a minimum of 40 productive years at the median scale, this would return over \$3 billion to the economy and \$150 million in taxes to the federal and State governments. This should be compared with the \$8 million total cost, and contrasted with the cost of Texas' nursing home population of just over 50,000 which now costs the federal and State governments \$300 million annually.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THE GSTCB COMMISSION REQUESTS THAT THE LEGISLATURE APPROPRIATE \$3,409,690 TO IMPLEMENT A TWO YEAR DEMONSTRATION PROJECT TO PROVIDE EARLY PERIODIC SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT SERVICES TO APPROXIMATELY 52,000 POVERTY LEVEL CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 6 AND 15 IN CAMERON, HIDALGO, STARR AND WILLACY COUNTIES AND CENSUS TRACTS 1710 AND 1709 IN SAN ANTONIO. THE FUNDS FOR EPSDT WOULD BE ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, The Health of Texans: A Study of Medical and Dental Education 1974-1980 (Austin, Texas, 1974), p.88.

<sup>2</sup>U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Current Population Reports, November, 1974," (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office), and Texas Department of Health Resources, Unpublished 1973 data on physicians and dentists.

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, "Critical Health Manpower Shortage Area," Federal Register, XL, No. 38, February 25, 1975, 8156.

<sup>4</sup>U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Region VI, "Doctors Assigned to 16 Underserved Areas," HEW Southwestern Focus, III, No. 4, August-November, 1976, 7.

<sup>5</sup>Department of Commerce, "Current Population Reports, November, 1974," and Texas Department of Health Resources, Unpublished 1973 data.

<sup>6</sup>Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, Report to the Governor and Legislature, 1974 (Austin, Texas, 1975), p. 48.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid.

<sup>8</sup>Coordinating Board, The Health of Texans, p. 8.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., p. 140.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid., pp. 39-43.

<sup>11</sup>Texas Hospital Association, Texas Medical Foundation, Regional Medical Program, Allied Health Manpower in Texas 1973 (Austin, Texas, 1973), pp. 3, 18-23, and 139-154.

<sup>12</sup>Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas, Vocational Education...Gateway to the Future, 7th Annual Report (Two Parts, Austin, Texas, 1976), Part One, pp. 6-8.

<sup>13</sup>Coordinating Board, The Health of Texans, p. 93.

<sup>14</sup>Ibid., p. 94.

<sup>15</sup>J. C. Randolph, telephone interview held on the State Rural Medical Education Board, Austin, Texas, December 9, 1976.

<sup>16</sup>Department of Commerce, "Current Population Reports, November, 1974," and Texas Department of Health Resources, unpublished 1973 data.

<sup>17</sup>U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, "Critical Health Manpower," p. 8156.

<sup>18</sup>Coordinating Board, The Health of Texans, p. 100.

<sup>19</sup>Department of Commerce, "Current Population Reports, November, 1974," and Texas Department of Health Resources, unpublished 1973 data.

<sup>20</sup>Texas Department of Health Resources, Unpublished data on Title XIX, Austin, Texas, 1976. (Computer print-out.)

<sup>21</sup>U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, General Social and Economic Characteristics, 1970 Census of Population, PC (1)-C45 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office), p. 439.

## D. Housing

GOAL: TO PROVIDE DECENT HOUSING TO EVERY RESIDENT IN THE BASIN.

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #1: TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS FOR LOW AND MODERATE INCOME FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE BASIN BY 5000 DURING THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM.

DISCUSSION: Housing was identified as a high priority by the five South Texas Councils of Governments (COGs) in their regional human resource plans. Two basic housing needs were repeatedly identified: (1) the need for low and moderate income housing and (2) the need for funds to rehabilitate substandard housing units.

In 1970, there were 597,119 year-round housing units in the GSTCB. Of this number, 13.5 percent lacked some or all plumbing facilities and 17.5 percent were crowded (1.01 or more persons per room), as compared to 7.7 percent and 10.2 percent for the State as a whole. Over 59 percent of the Basin's year-round housing units were owner occupied as compared to the State's 58.3 percent; however, the median value of a home in the State was \$12,000, while 37 Basin counties had a median home value of less than \$12,000.<sup>1</sup>

A survey of housing in Texas conducted in 1971 by the Texas Department of Community Affairs revealed that a larger portion of Mexican-Americans and Blacks lived in marginal or inferior housing.<sup>2</sup> This has a direct impact on the Basin because of its large Mexican-American population. The survey also showed that Mexican-American families have lower incomes than Anglos.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, the median family income for each of the GSTCB counties is below the State median family income. (See Appendix E).

In 1974, the Governor's Special Advisory Council on Housing reported that families earning incomes over \$12,000 can adequately take care of their housing needs through conventional markets. In addition, families with incomes between \$8,000-\$12,000 can also meet their housing needs. But families with incomes under \$8,000 were found to be in need of additional opportunities which could allow them to buy new homes or rehabilitate their existing housing.<sup>4</sup>

In 1970, there were 453,538 families in the Basin. Of this figure, 54,852 families had incomes over \$15,000, and 106,631 families had incomes under the poverty level.<sup>5</sup> Most of the families under the poverty level qualify for federal subsidies to meet their housing needs. There is an estimated 36,000 federally subsidized housing units in the GSTCB. (Refer to Table 23.) This still leaves a large number of families--about 70,000--needing assistance to meet their housing needs.

The Alamo Area Council of Governments estimated their region was in need of an additional 33,000 subsidized housing units.<sup>6</sup> The Coastal Bend Council of Governments estimated there was a need for 30,000 subsidized units (including 5,000 for the elderly/handicapped) in their region.<sup>7</sup> The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council identified a need for 17,859 additional housing units. The number of subsidized units needed was not identified, but 19,373 units out of a regional total of 96,866 were listed as substandard.<sup>8</sup> The South Texas Development Council reported the Housing Authority in Laredo had a waiting list of 2000 people for its public housing units. An additional 200 elderly persons were on a waiting list to move into housing units for the elderly.<sup>9</sup> And the Middle Rio

Grande Development Council reported that approximately 80 percent of the existing housing units in their region were in need of some type of repair.<sup>10</sup>

Addressing the housing problem in the Basin is a difficult task because of the differences within the five State Planning Regions. Regardless, the GSTCB Commission has been working with the Texas Department of Community Affairs (TDCA) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to increase the availability of decent housing in the Basin.

TDCA's Housing Division has proposed to the Commission to develop, coordinate, and present one-day seminars in each of the five state planning regions in the Basin. These "Basic Housing Familiarization" seminars will be followed by intensive training of individuals from the Basin interested in developing expertise in housing. These trained housing coordinators can then assist their organizations making better use of available housing resources to meet their area's housing needs.

The GSTCB Commission has submitted a proposal to HUD to provide training and technical assistance to minority, non-profit sponsors of HUD Section 202 and Section 8 multi-family housing. Under Section 202, HUD can make direct loans for the construction or rehabilitation of housing projects for the low-income elderly and handicapped; subsidies are made available to low income residents under Section 8 to make the Section 202 project units affordable. These housing units are needed to help accomplish the Basin's housing goal of providing decent housing to every resident in the Basin.

RECOMMENDATION: THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SHOULD PROVIDE ONE-DAY HOUSING SEMINARS IN EACH OF THE FIVE STATE PLANNING REGIONS IN THE BASIN. THE SEMINARS SHOULD BE FOLLOWED BY THE INTENSIVE TRAINING OF INDIVIDUALS FROM THE BASIN INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING EXPERTISE IN HOUSING.

RECOMMENDATION: THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SHOULD PROVIDE \$513,540 TO THE GSTCB COMMISSION TO PROVIDE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO MINORITY, NON-PROFIT SPONSORS UNDER HUD SECTION 202 AND SECTION 8 MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970 Census of Housing, General Housing Characteristics Texas, HC (1)-A45 (Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office), pp. 7 and 164-167.

<sup>2</sup> Office of the Governor of Texas and the Texas Department of Community Affairs, Texas Housing Report (Austin, Texas, 1972), p. 15.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., pp. 22-24.

<sup>4</sup> The Governor's Special Advisory Council on Housing and the Texas Department of Community Affairs, Recommendations Concerning the Creation of a Texas Housing Finance Agency (Austin, Texas, 1974), p. 11.

<sup>5</sup> Department of Commerce, General Housing Characteristics, pp. 164-167.

<sup>6</sup> Alamo Area Council of Governments, Regional Human Resources Development Project, Phase II, Preliminary Draft (San Antonio, Texas, 1976), p. 117.

<sup>7</sup> Coastal Bend Council of Governments, Human Resources Development '76 (Corpus Christi, Texas, 1976), pp. 60-107 and 136-138.

<sup>8</sup> Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council, 1976, Comprehensive Regional Human Resources Plan for the Lower Rio Grande Valley (McAllen, Texas, 1976), pp. 32 and 225.

<sup>9</sup> South Texas Development Council, Regional Comprehensive Human Resource Plan, Phase II (Laredo, Texas, 1976), pp. 91-92.

<sup>10</sup> Middle Rio Grande Development Council, 1976 Regional Human Resources Development Plan (Del Rio, Texas, 1976), p. 121.

## E. Transportation

**GOAL:** TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE NEEDY POPULATION IN THE BASIN.

**BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #1:** TO IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO NEEDED MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES, STATE AGENCIES, COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES, AND OTHER LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS SHOULD COORDINATE THEIR PRESENT SERVICES TO MAKE OPTIMUM USE OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES.

**DISCUSSION:** Transportation services to medical and social services were identified as a high priority in the regional human resource plans of the five South Texas councils of governments. Transportation services are needed by a large group of people not having access to medical and social services, particularly the indigent, handicapped, and aging. The problem is especially severe among the indigent, handicapped, and aging populations in the rural areas of the Basin.

In 1970, the GSTCB contained 1,958,370 people of whom over 29 percent were at the poverty level<sup>1</sup>, approximately 6 percent were handicapped<sup>2</sup>, and more than 8 percent were 65 years of age and over.<sup>3</sup> Moreover, the incidence of poverty among the Mexican-American population and the population aged 65 and over was consistently higher in the GSTCB than in the rest of the State.

Approximately 17.5 percent or 341,862 people resided in the rural areas of the Basin in 1970. These rural residents--particularly members of ethnic minorities--were more likely to suffer from poverty than were residents of urban areas. In addition, the population groups aged 0-14 and 60 and over constituted large portions of the rural poor.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, a significant number of handicapped individuals were located in rural counties, according to the 1973 handicapped population estimates by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.<sup>5</sup>

The service inventories conducted by the five COGs revealed that many medical and social services are provided to the indigent, handicapped, and aging residents in the Basin, in both the urban and rural areas. The majority of these services is provided through local service units of major State agencies, community action agencies, and other local service providers. Several State agencies also provide limited services to rural areas through caseworkers on an itinerant schedule. These caseworkers often refer clients elsewhere in order to obtain the actual services. In some cases, transportation is provided by the referring agency, but this is usually not the case. Often, clients are able to utilize transportation services from community action agencies, agencies providing transportation for the handicapped and aging, and other public and private transportation services. But usually both the clientele served and the geographic areas covered are limited. The result is that many eligible clients in the rural areas cannot use the needed medical and social services because they lack adequate transportation to get to them.

The service inventories also revealed the existence of many agencies that provide transportation services, but the clientele served and the geographic areas covered are limited by the programs guidelines. Often, this results in the growth of parallel transportation systems in the same

geographic area serving only the indigent, handicapped, or aging populations. A review of Transportation Authorities in Federal Human Services Programs<sup>6</sup> indicates that there are numerous federal agencies which provide funds for transportation services. This current system at the federal level has encouraged the development of parallel transportation systems for select population groups.

Under the present system, only limited coordination of existing transportation services is encouraged by funding agencies, making a solution to the Basin's transportation needs almost impossible. One program that encouraged coordination was the Rural Highway Public Transportation Demonstration Project, operated by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. The U.S. Congress is presently considering refunding for these demonstration projects. Through this program, monies were made available to eligible sponsors for demonstration projects proposing to merge existing transportation systems from the private sector, public sector, and social service programs to increase the availability of transportation to the rural population. Recently, the Alamo Area Council of Governments and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council received funds for this type of program.

Because the transportation needs in the Basin differ from region to region, the five councils of governments must take the lead in finding solutions to these problems of transportation to medical and special services. The Coastal Bend Council of Governments, the Middle Rio Grande Development Council, and the South Texas Development Council should pursue funding for demonstration projects in their respective regions if funding for the such projects is provided by the Congress. Furthermore, the five South Texas COGs should take a leading role in coordinating existing transportation resources in their regions to ensure their maximum utilization.

RECOMMENDATION: THE U.S. CONGRESS SHOULD CREATE A TRANSPORTATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (TSA) IN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ADMINISTER ALL FUNDS PRESENTLY APPROPRIATED TO FEDERAL AGENCIES TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO SOCIAL SERVICES. THE TSA SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE MERGING OF EXISTING AND FUTURE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, THROUGH INTERDEPARTMENTAL AGREEMENTS, TO FORM COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEMS TO MEET THE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF THE NEEDY, PARTICULARLY THE INDIGENT, HANDICAPPED, AND AGING POPULATIONS.

RECOMMENDATION: THE ALAMO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, COASTAL BEND COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, MIDDLE RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE A LEADING ROLE IN COORDINATING WITHIN THEIR REGIONS THE RESOURCES TO TRANSPORT THE NEEDY TO MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES.



## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Derived from the Texas Department of Community Affairs' Poverty in Texas, 1973, p. 203.

<sup>2</sup>Texas Rehabilitation Commission, Handicapped Population-Provisional Estimates for Texas Counties, 1970 Census data adjusted to U.S. Bureau of the Census estimates, July 1, 1973.

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970 Census of Population, Characteristics of the Population (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office).

<sup>4</sup>Texas Department of Community Affairs, Poverty in Texas, 1973 (Austin, Texas, 1974), pp. 168-171.

<sup>5</sup>Texas Rehabilitation Commission, Handicapped Population, July 1, 1973.

<sup>6</sup>Office of the Regional Director, U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Region IV, Transportation Authorities in Federal Human Services Programs (Atlanta, Georgia, 1976), pp. 1-183.

## F. Planning and Coordination

GOAL: TO PROVIDE PLANNING AND COORDINATIVE SERVICES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE BASIN.

BASINWIDE OBJECTIVE #1: TO INSURE THE CONTINUED HIGH QUALITY OF PLANNING AND COORDINATIVE SERVICES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BY REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS BY INCREASING THE STATE PLANNING ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM TO \$2 MILLION FOR EACH YEAR OF THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM.

DISCUSSION: The federal government presently supports and directs through categorical grants the major cost of the planning and programming of human services in the states. As a result, the federal government sets the requirements that must be met by state and local planning agencies that use the funds provided through these grants. The heavy dependence of these planning agencies on federal funds has led to a fragmented service delivery system in which the planning entities operate programs that fulfill federal requirements as opposed to meeting locally-identified needs in a comprehensive manner. Planning in terms of available federal monies rather than documented local need has resulted in the proliferation of services while still leaving service gaps in the delivery system. This piecemeal approach to the problem of service delivery has not been brought into a coordinated, coherent administrative framework.

While areawide and state planning could theoretically provide the coordinative approach necessary to redirect federally defined goals and resources to match local service requirements, the categorical approach hampers comprehensive planning from taking place, particularly at the council of governments' level. The main reason is that there is little money available to the councils of governments (COGs) for supporting comprehensive planning efforts. The majority of their budgets come from federal funds which are either passed through by State agencies or received directly. Of these grants the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Planning Assistance Grants are virtually the only federal funds which have some flexibility and these funds are primarily for physical not human resource planning.

The State of Texas does provide the COGs with a flexible source of non-federal funding. This source is the State Regional Planning Assistance Grants, which are block grants administered by statutory formula through the Governor's Budget and Planning Office. However, the total amount of these block grants, \$1.7 million annually since fiscal year 1974, has not kept pace with inflation. Inflation has increased over thirty percent since September 1973, making it increasingly difficult for COGs to maintain their present planning efforts. (An annual appropriation of \$2.2 million would be necessary just to keep up with inflation.) Moreover, this State money is often combined with local dues from member governments to meet local matching requirements for federal grants and thereby increase the total amount of federal funds for which a regional council is eligible. The net effect of the regional councils' dependence on federal financial support is that the federal government through categorical grant programs is influencing priorities of regional councils in a similar manner to the ways it influences those of other agencies.

The Regional Human Resource Development (RHRD) project, funded by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, currently provides badly-needed funds to the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission and the five South Texas councils of governments to support comprehensive human resource planning. The RHRD project is in its third and final year; additional funds are needed to support comprehensive planning, especially human resource planning.

RECOMMENDATION: THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING BY APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO MAKE BLOCK GRANTS TO AREAWIDE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS (REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS IN TEXAS).

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE STATE OF TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE GRANTS AT LEAST TO \$2 MILLION FOR EACH YEAR OF THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDS TO REGIONAL COUNCILS TO CONDUCT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING.

VI. COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS' RECOMMENDATIONS



## VI. COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS' RECOMMENDATIONS

The GSTCB Commission contracted with each of the five Basin councils of governments (COGs) to strengthen their human resource planning and management system and to develop a regional human resource plan during Phase II. This process was to identify human service needs for each region, what services are available, and what actions are necessary to improve the service delivery system.

The identification of human services needs in each region and the results of the COGs' service inventories served as the basis for the development of the COG regional human resource plans. Comparing the list of human service needs with the available services in each state planning region allowed the human resource coordinators to identify gaps in services, duplication of services, and the need for increases or decreases in existing services. Based on the analysis of the needs assessment and service inventory information, each COG's human resource committee then developed goals, objectives, and recommendations to address the unmet service needs in the region.

Once the regional human resource plans were completed and approved by the COG's board of directors, the plans were forwarded to the GSTCB Commission for integration into a basinwide human resource report that addresses locally identified needs. Since the RHRD, Phase II Report emphasizes basinwide problems and recommendations, not all the COGs' recommended actions were incorporated into the previous chapters. This chapter provides a complete list of recommendations of each of the five South Texas COGs.

### A. Alamo Area Council of Governments

#### 1. Education

##### Recommendations:

- . The Department of Continuing Education of the Texas Education Agency should coordinate with the outreach and community workers of the various social service agencies in all counties--particularly Atascosa, Frio, Karnes and Wilson--to identify those adults with eight years or less of formal education and encourage them to enroll in a GED program.
- . The Texas Education Agency should provide the additional funds needed to meet the need for upgrading the educational attainment of adults 25 years of age and over.

#### 2. Employment/Manpower

##### Recommendations:

- . The U.S. Department of Labor should provide additional funds to CETA manpower providers to meet the employment training needs of the region, with emphasis in Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, and Medina counties.

- . The City of San Antonio, the Texas Industrial Commission, and the Chamber of Commerce should encourage further economic development activities.

### 3. Health

#### Recommendations:

- . Substance abuse service providers should conduct workshops to train outreach and social workers in the region to identify drug abusers and to refer those in need of treatment to available drug abuse services.
- . The Regional Human Resources Advisory Committee should promote and support all efforts by the AACOG Regional Drug and Alcohol Advisory Committees in bringing substance abuse service providers together for better communication and coordination.
- . The Alamo Area Council of Governments, in cooperation with the alcohol and drug abuse programs, should coordinate with the various television and radio stations and develop at least one public service announcement per month featuring a substance abuse program.
- . Social service agencies should make health screening for diabetes, hypertension, cancer, VD, heart and lung diseases an integral part of their overall program through the assistance of the Texas Department of Health Resources.
- . The Texas Education Agency and the Regional Education Service Center should aggressively promote the teaching of positive dental care.
- . The Alamo Area Council of Governments should develop a letter of agreement with the Camino Real Health System Agency to insure coordination and plan implementation.
- . The AACOG Human Resources Advisory Committee should appoint an ad hoc subcommittee to coordinate the efforts of the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, and the University of Texas Health Science Center and assist in the dissemination of all nutritional information to social service agencies in the region.
- . The various social service and health agencies providing direct and indirect services to the elderly should coordinate with the Area Agency on Aging (AACOG) and the nutrition research centers in Bexar County to acquaint social, outreach and chore service workers with the most recent information on the provision of an adequate nutritional plan.
- . The Texas Department of Community Affairs should provide the funds needed to make home health care available to at least 100 low income, elderly people in need. This effort should be coordinated with the Area Agency on Aging of the Alamo Area Council of Governments.

- . The Regional Human Resources Coordinator, the Area Agency on Aging staff, AACOG's health staff, and the University of Texas Health Science Center should assess the availability of dental services to the elderly and report their findings to the Regional Human Resources Advisory Committee and the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee for their consideration and recommendation.

#### 4. Housing

##### Recommendation:

- . The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) should provide funds for the construction of at least 100 new housing units in Comal and Guadalupe counties, and increase funding if the need becomes greater in the future.

#### 5. Transportation

##### Recommendations:

- . The State Department of Public Welfare and the Texas Department of Community Affairs should make funds available to the CAAs and the regional DPW to extend the present transportation services to those elderly citizens identified as being in need, and these services should be coordinated into a rural transportation system.
- . The State of Texas should provide, through the State Department of Public Welfare, 11 vehicles for the regular rural system.
- . The Texas Department of Community Affairs should make funds available to the two CAAs in the region for six vehicles for the small urban area systems.
- . Six vehicles should be made available for a special handicapped system through the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

#### 6. Other Social Services

##### Recommendations:

- . The Texas Employment Commission should focus more attention on coordinating the various segments of the business and industry sectors to employ youth the year-round.
- . The AACOG Criminal Justice Department should coordinate with the Texas Youth Agency to compile a data bank on regional needs for youth in order to provide comprehensive social services.
- . Support should be given to the expansion of youth services, especially in rural areas, and emphasis should be in health, child abuse, day care, and Headstart services.



## B. Coastal Bend Council of Governments

### 1. Education

#### Recommendations:

- . Provide vocational education in business, industrial, distributive education and other similar broad categories of vocational training to 1,464 (5%) educationally disadvantaged adults in the Coastal Bend region to develop their skills.
- . Provide adequate facilities for the vocational training of educationally disadvantaged adults by effectively utilizing over 219 existing public school facilities and by effectively utilizing all governmental agencies, units, facilities and personnel.
- . Provide adequate staffing for adult vocational training by effectively utilizing all governmental personnel, by effectively recruiting and utilizing retired professionals, and by effectively recruiting and utilizing volunteers.
- . Provide adequate funding for adult vocational training by utilizing vocational education funds, tuition fees, and private foundation sources.
- . Provide avocational education to adults in rural counties as follows: 1,473 adults in San Patricio, 1,054 in Jim Wells, 264 in Refugio, 660 in Bee, 400 in Duval, 264 in Brooks, 264 in Aransas, 120 in Kleberg, 264 in Live Oak, and 32 in Mc Mullen.
- . Provide avocational education to 1,356 adults in Nueces County.
- . Provide adequate facilities, staffing, and funding for avocational education in the Coastal Bend region by utilizing existing school facilities, personnel, and Community School Concept funds available through the Texas Education Agency together with fees and local funds.
- . Provide adequate public awareness of adult vocational education services by launching a region-wide publicity campaign 90 days prior to the initiation of any vocational and avocational training program in the Coastal Bend.
- . To provide education in the social services area by promoting studies and research in human ecology and by expanding college level curricula in the social sciences, particularly social work, social justice, cultural anthropology, and sociology.
- . Develop comprehensive family life and child care training programs for parents through the existing educational system.
- . Develop pre-professional and in-service training for people interested in the various child care fields by coordinating

programs offered in secondary and graduate level institutions in South Texas and by coordinating programs for in-service training offered by governmental agencies, professional organizations, and educational facilities.

- . To provide education on family life by implementing a family life curriculum at all grade levels in the public schools, developing college level curricula in family life, and promoting studies and research in regional family life.

## 2. Employment/Manpower

### Recommendations:

- . Provide for the establishment/expansion of employment referral, placement, and job training centers in the following cities of the Coastal Bend: Alice, Aransas Pass, Beeville, Falfurrias, George West, Kingsville, Robstown, Rockport, San Diego, and Sinton.
- . Provide for the expansion of existing job training centers in Corpus Christi, Alice, Beeville in order to accommodate at least 5% more clients in rural counties.
- . Upgrade existing CETA-TEC offices in the Coastal Bend into Texas Employment Commission (TEC) full service centers.
- . Establish CETA-TEC offices in Falfurrias, San Diego, George West, Sinton, and Aransas Pass.

## 3. Health

### Recommendations:

- . Encourage broad consumer use of health facilities by providing adequate public awareness of available health services and through a service brokerage for the rural poor.
- . Strengthen existing health care services by gathering and disseminating information on funding resources (public and private) and agencies delivering health care services in the Coastal Bend, by ensuring contract compliance, and by ensuring consumer input and evaluation.
- . Provide for information exchange among programs in health care delivery and supporting social services agencies within the Coastal Bend region.
- . Improve consumer educational services in prenatal care, nutrition (including Aging), substance abuse (including Aging), parenting, school health education, and the use of health services (including Aging).

- . Reduce the geographic obstacles to health care for the rural population by (1) increasing the availability to rural areas of primary care facilities, emergency facilities and transportation to existing urban medical facilities for specialty care; (2) developing county level citizen committees to conduct on-going needs assessment in health services as this would be the focal point of consumer input on needs identified (should be coordinated with HSA Area Councils); and (3) utilizing public education facilities for community health education, counseling, referral and service delivery.
- . Reduce the financial obstacles to health care by (1) utilizing federal funds; (2) encouraging the use of sliding fee scales by public agencies; (3) seeking public monies in support of health services to the rural poor such as rural health jobs, National Health Service Corps., early periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment, etc.; and (4) encouraging the continued development and utilization of the COG Health Planning Coordinator to aid communities seeking funds and resources for health care delivery projects.
- . Increase the availability of health professionals and paraprofessionals by (1) expanding the utilization of paramedics, especially nurse practitioners, in providing family health care; (2) instituting a review of legal restrictions on paramedics to more fully utilize their skills in providing health care services; and (3) training law enforcement agencies in para-medical practice.
- . Support the strengthening and expansion of State Health Resource Department services in the Coastal Bend Region.
- . Provide comprehensive health care for children and pre-natal care up to 6 years of age by using family ability-to-pay scales for marginal income poor and by expanding services of the Texas Department of Health Resources, county health departments, and non-profit child health agencies.
- . Link child care facilities to existing health services, especially medical, dental, and nutritional services.
- . Develop a mechanism in individual counties and in combinations of counties to function as the central points for coordination, development, and provision of comprehensive children's services.
- . Develop the Office of Regional Child Welfare Specialist to assist service providers and coordinate sub-regional, regional, and state agency activities in child care/health.
- . Serve 12,350 rural poor by expanding existing family planning clinics in 8 rural counties to full service clinics.
- . Serve 22,600 clients in the Corpus Christi SMSA by expanding existing family planning services into the rural areas of the SMSA and by expanding urban clinics in Corpus Christi.

#### 4. Housing

##### Recommendations:

- . Provide for the designation of the Coastal Bend Council of Governments (CBCOG) as the Area Planning Organization (APO) for HUD Fair Share Housing Plan (Section 8) Rental Assistance.
- . Provide for the designation of CBCOG as APO for Farmers Home Administration Rural Housing for Rehabilitation and Home Ownership.
- . Establish housing loan specialists in each county to process and expedite applications (in accordance with regulations) to Farmers Home Administration for action.
- . Provide for the designation of the CBCOG as the Regional Housing Planner and coordinator for all low income persons within the Coastal Bend (including Farmers Home Administration, Section 8, and HUD 202 and Emergency Housing).
- . Provide a full range of housing counseling, including pre-purchase, budget and money management; maintenance and housekeeping; and debt and default counseling.
- . Expand rehabilitation services to rural counties not currently served by Farmers Home Administration due to staff shortages.
- . Provide adequate rehabilitation for elderly and handicapped by expanding HUD 202.
- . Create a Housing Finance Agency that will make mortgage loans to housing sponsors to finance the purchase, construction, or remodeling of housing for persons and families of low incomes; make regulations respecting such loans; and contract with housing sponsors and mortgage lenders with respect to such loans.

#### 5. Transportation

##### Recommendations:

- . Establish a regional transportation coordinator at CBCOG to inventory and coordinate transportation programs in the rural areas of the region.
- . Establish a central transportation coordination point for people needing services outside the region.
- . Establish a COG rural transportation office to assist the needy with transportation services.

## 6. Other Social Services

### Recommendations:

- . Locate providers and their service delivery outreach efforts in multi-purpose centers in Alice, Aransas Pass, Beeville, Kingsville, Robstown, Sinton, and the west and northside target areas of Corpus Christi.
- . Establish hot-line information and referral (I&R) response centers in Kingsville, Alice, Beeville, and Sinton sponsored through the COG Human Resources Project.
- . Create satellite I & R response projects with coordinators in Falfurrias, San Diego, George West, Refugio, Aransas Pass, Rockport, and Robstown to coordinate efforts with info-referral centers.
- . Develop a center for a regional info-referral system sponsored by the CBCOG and the Greenwood Library.
- . The State Department of Public Welfare (DPW) should fund the Family Debt Counseling Services, a local organization, to provide debt counseling to poor families.
- . The DPW should establish and fund emergency child care facilities under Title XX for children who are awaiting adjudication.
- . DPW should recommend that the purchase of basic health care needs with food stamps be allowed, and that all consumable items purchased with food stamps be of some nutritional value (thereby disallowing the purchase of such items as candy and ice).
- . Work requirements for AFDC mothers should be strengthened by DPW. Mothers of children under the age of six should not be exempted from the work requirement.

## C. Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

### 1. Education

#### Recommendations:

- . The Legislature should demonstrate a firmer commitment to multilingual and multicultural education in Texas, and the emphasis of such education should be towards the personal growth and development of each individual rather than towards community polarization.
- . The Texas Education Agency and local school districts should improve and expand counseling and tutoring services and initiate alternative school programs to deter the high student drop-out rates; and efforts toward parental involvement and education should be expanded in order to increase parents' awareness of the value of education.

- . The Texas Education Agency, local school districts, the Region One Education Service Center, and the Adult Continuing Education Co-ops should develop an adult bilingual education program.

## 2. Employment/Manpower

### Recommendations:

- . The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council should continue its efforts to enhance economic development in the region.
- . Business and industry representatives should be involved to a greater extent in manpower and employment services of the region.
- . Employment opportunities for persons 45 years of age and older, for youth, and for the physically and mentally retarded should be encouraged through efforts of the manpower training programs.
- . Supportive services for trainees of manpower programs should be expanded, especially in the areas of counseling and transportation.
- . The U. S. Department of Labor should provide independent evaluations of manpower programs to assess their effectiveness.

## 3. Health

### Recommendations:

- . The Texas Education Agency, the Texas Department of Health Resources, and other health agencies in the region should give greater emphasis to providing health education services.
- . Health agencies in the Valley should work cooperatively to develop and expand maternal and child services throughout the region, including efforts to provide legislative support for a screening, diagnostic, and treatment program for youth from low-income families.
- . Manpower training programs should place a greater priority on the training of allied health manpower.
- . Greater emphasis should be placed on recruitment and training in health careers, especially professional manpower such as physicians and nurses (including nurse midwives).

## 4. Housing

### Recommendation:

- . The development of housing resources, especially housing rehabilitation and construction, self-help housing, and loan programs for low-income families should be a high priority in the region, and information on housing resources should also be made available in the region.

5. Transportation

Recommendation:

- . Transportation to human services should be coordinated regionally in order to maximize and develop transportation resources.

6. Planning and Coordination

Recommendations:

- . Coordination among human service agencies should be improved by increasing the input of the agencies' advisory and policy-making boards and councils into the regional human resources planning process of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council.
- . Information and referral services should be coordinated into a regional system making available information on and referral to existing human services.

7. Other Social Services

Recommendations:

- . Child development services should be expanded in quantity and quality in the region.
- . Youth services should be increased in the region, in particular juvenile delinquency prevention programs and community-based programs aimed at diverting youth from the juvenile justice system.
- . Services to the physically and mentally handicapped should be increased in the region, particularly educational and training services and residential facilities.

D. Middle Rio Grande Development Council

1. Education

Recommendation:

- . The CETA manpower operators in the region and the Texas Education Agency should provide manpower stipends and Section 112 funds to the City of Cotulla to provide adult vocational education and training to 100-300 disadvantaged individuals in La Salle County.

2. Employment/Manpower

Recommendation:

- . The Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission, the Texas Industrial Commission, and the Middle Rio Grande Development

Council should work to enhance economic development in the Middle Rio Grande to provide new employment opportunities.

### 3. Health

#### Recommendations:

- . The Maverick County Child Health Center should direct \$100,000 in fiscal year 1977 to provide ambulatory health care to 600 indigent children in Maverick County.
- . Maverick County and the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation should provide funds to the Maverick County MH-MR agency to provide a regional sheltered workshop for 150 people, especially those receiving supplemental security income.
- . The City of Del Rio and Val Verde County should provide \$22,000 in fiscal year 1977 to the crisis center to provide alcohol and drug abuse counseling, guidance, and referral services to residents of Del Rio and Val Verde County.
- . The Maverick County Hospital District should direct \$100,000 to continue operating its counseling center and to establish satellite centers in Del Rio, Uvalde, and Carrizo Springs to provide alcohol treatment and counseling to 100 alcoholics and their families. A total of 60 alcohol and drug abuse education and prevention presentations will also be made in schools, civic clubs, etc., by the Counseling Center's education specialist.
- . La Salle County, the City of Cotulla, and the Texas Department of Health Resources should provide \$25,000 to operate a M. D. Health Services Clinic in the City of Cotulla to serve 900 low-income patients during 1977.

### 4. Transportation

#### Recommendation:

- . The City of Cotulla and La Salle County should provide \$5,000 in 1977 to operate a school transportation project which will transport approximately 40-60 students to Laredo Junior College.

### 5. Planning and Coordination

#### Recommendation:

- . The Middle Rio Grande Development Council shall sponsor a meeting of the Regional Coordinating Board, to be comprised of all human service delivery agencies in the region, to promote interagency planning and coordination.

### 6. Other Social Services

#### Recommendations:

- . The City of Uvalde should hire a part-time or full-time juvenile



probation officer to serve approximately 80 juveniles in Uvalde County during 1977.

- . Kinney County should provide funds to the Val Verde Probation Office to expand its probation services to approximately 25 individuals in Kinney County in fiscal year 1977.
- . The Texas Youth Council, Boys Club of America, and city governments of Del Rio, Uvalde, and Carrizo Springs should provide \$15,000 for a youth alternative project operated by the Boys Club and serving 200-600 youth in those cities during 1977.
- . The Governor's Committee on Aging and Edwards County should provide funds for an elderly recreation center in Rocksprings to serve approximately 60-100 elderly residents during 1977.
- . Edwards County and local civic organizations should provide \$5,000 for a youth activities project in the county to serve 200-300 youth during 1977.
- . The Boys Club of America, City of Cotulla, La Salle County, and local civic organizations should provide \$10,000 to sponsor a Boys Club in Cotulla to serve 300-450 youth during 1977.

#### E. South Texas Development Council

##### 1. Education

###### Recommendations:

- . Expand the adult education programs to serve an additional 400 adults in Jim Hogg, Starr, Zapata and Webb counties over a two-year period.
- . The Legislature should appropriate additional funds to the Texas Education Agency to expand vocational education and training in the STDC Region, particularly in the homebuilding, secretarial, and allied health manpower fields. The Federal Government should provide additional funds to the CETA Program for the same purpose.
- . The Legislature and the State Board of Education should appropriate and allocate additional funds to the local school districts in the STDC Region to hire additional Counselors.

##### 2. Employment/Manpower

###### Recommendations:

- . The Laredo Task Force and the Overall Economic Development Plan (OEDP) Committee should encourage resident participation in identifying potential industries for the STDC Region. The Task Force, OEDP Committee, and residents should set annual goals for the purpose of achieving industrial growth throughout the STDC Region.

- . The South Texas Development Council staff should encourage agencies to support the existing procedure for providing job placement services. The Texas Employment Commission (TEC) is the central unit for employment services, particularly referrals to available manpower training programs within the Region. The STDC staff should provide an information type program to encourage utilization of TEC Job Placement Services.
- . The U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Texas Department of Community Affairs, and the State Department of Public Welfare should increase funding to the agencies providing day care services in order to establish additional day care centers serving at least 2,000 children over the next two years in the STDC Region.

### 3. Health

#### Recommendations:

- . The State Board of Education should include a Health Education course as part of the curriculum in all of the school districts in the STDC Region. The curriculum should include personal hygiene, communicable diseases, family planning, health, and information on the availability of medical health resources in the STDC Region.
- . The State Department of Public Welfare, the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare Region VI, and the Texas Department of Health Resources should collectively provide funds to STDC Region health services agencies. These funds will be used to purchase three emergency vehicles to serve residents in the STDC Region.
- . The Texas Education Agency's Department of Continuing Education should coordinate with the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare Region VI, and the Texas Department of Health Resources in developing a comprehensive health preventive curriculum in the local schools over the next two years in the STDC Region.

### 4. Housing

#### Recommendations:

- . The Farmers Home Administration and the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development should allocate \$250,000 at low-interest rates to residents of the STDC Region to rehabilitate homes in Jim Hogg, Starr, Zapata, and Webb counties.
- . The Farmers Home Administration and the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development should provide funds to the various Housing Authorities in the Region to construct and renovate 200 housing facilities over the next three years.

## 5. Transportation

### Recommendations:

- . The Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation and the Federal Urban Mass Transportation should allocate funds to Community Action Agencies, the Community Development Agency, and the State Department of Public Welfare to expand transportation services to the rural areas on a daily basis. These agencies should consolidate their transportation services to form a STDC Regional Department of Transportation which would have responsibility for coordinating, planning, maintaining, and operating the transportation system.

APPENDICES



## APPENDIX A



## ALTERNATIVE TECHNIQUES FOR A NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### Introduction

Various methodologies can be used to obtain information in the previously identified content areas. These methodologies include:

1. Interviews with service providers;
2. Secondary data analysis;
3. Interviews with political and community leaders;
4. Surveys of service recipients;
5. Structured or unstructured surveys of the general population or of specific sub-populations; and
6. Analysis of data derived from agency management information systems.

The focus of this section is on the nature of each technique, its assets or utility, and its problems. Each of these techniques yields qualitatively different yet important information for the attempt to define population and community needs.

### General Problems Inherent in All of the Data Sources

Validity is a problem common to all data sources. Validity refers to the degree of correspondence between a need and its operational definition and measurement. The problem is twofold. First, the operational definition should represent adequately the conceptual dimensions of need; and second, the operational definition should be accurately measurable. A need is a multifaceted, multidimensional concept, which includes problems (both recognized and unrecognized, symptomatic and underlying), the availability of resources, the efficiency, accessibility, and continuity of the service delivery system, and so on. None of the



data sources tapped through any of the various research techniques alone can provide a truly valid indicator of need. Thus, the researcher or the user of needs assessment data should treat the data from any of the sources as representing only some of the conceptual dimensions of need and should recognize in addition that any attempt to treat the data as a complete definition of need constitutes an inappropriate use of the data.

Reliability is a second major problem in all the data sources which refers to the stability, accuracy, and consistency of the measures. Each of the data sources has unique reliability problems, but since all sources are subject to general reliability problems, care should be taken to develop data collection procedures which are precise enough to insure that all individuals using the same procedures will achieve the same results on the same sample.

In addition to the two major problems discussed, the five COGs in the cultural basin area found several other problems in their needs assessment during the first year. These included:

1. Generally, the COGs did not outline methodologies for needs assessment but gathered whatever information that was available.
2. There was confusion over how to involve the Human Resources Advisory Committee in the assessment. Some COGs merely compiled the needs from other sources and asked the Committee to casually review the compiled data. Other COGs simply expected the COG to be the primary source in the assessment of needs in the region.
3. All the COGs indicated that they had limited staff and resources to effectively implement any type of needs assessment technique.

## SURVEY OF SERVICE PROVIDERS

### Nature of the Technique

Asking service providers to identify the problems of service needs of the population is quite different from seeking this information. Asking service providers to give such information is useful for the following reasons:

1. Data is provided on problems or service needs which may not be either widely recognized or socially acceptable. For instance, it is likely that data from service providers will show a higher incidence of such problems as drug abuse, alcoholism, illiteracy, malnutrition, and child abuse than data collected from the general or service population.
2. Service providers probably give the most valid source of information on existing and potential community and agency resources.
3. This data source is also extremely useful in determining the cause of community or individual problems.
4. Given the relationship between asking specific planning questions and the utilization of needs assessments, service providers can provide an assessment based on a consensus of professional judgments which can then be followed by a research-based problem analysis.

### Assets

The two major contributions of information derived from service providers are:

1. Identification of problems not recognized or admitted by the general service population.
2. The identification of community or agency resources.

### Problems

Service needs identified by service providers have several limitations. These are:

1. Since service providers often identify problems not recognized by the target population, the problem of ensuring the utilization of the proposed services designed to address those problems becomes apparent.
2. The problems identified by the service providers may reflect cultural or class biases rather than the real problems of the target population.
3. Since service providers have contact primarily with the service rather than the nonservice population, the data may reflect the needs of the service rather than the nonservice population.
4. Service providers have the most experience with, and a possible vested interest in, identifying those problems or needs which can be met through existing or proposed services offered through their agencies. Thus, it is likely that the types of needs or problems identified may be related to the orientation of the service providers interviewed.

The survey of service providers was the most commonly used needs assessment technique during the first year of planning. Generally, two methods for surveying service providers was utilized by the COG's: (1) those service providers represented on the Human Resources Advisory Committee were surveyed, or (2) list of service providers compiled by other agencies were surveyed. Those COG's using a previously developed list of service providers generally designed and sent each agency a questionnaire to be completed and returned to the COG.

The Middle Rio Grande Development Council, the Alamo Area COG, and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council surveyed state-level agencies with members on the Human Services Advisory Committee. These agencies, which were required by the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission to be represented on the Advisory Committee included:

- Texas Employment Commission
- Texas Department of Health
- Texas Department of Public Welfare
- Texas Educational Agency
- Texas Rehabilitation Commission
- Texas Department of Mental Health and  
Mental Retardation

The Lower Rio Grande Council and the Alamo Area COG also surveyed the Community Action Agencies in the Council region. The Lower Rio Grande included two county departments of community affairs in their survey. A questionnaire was designed by the COG and mailed to the administrator of each of the six state agencies as well as the two CAA's. The Human Resources Coordination from the Council followed the questionnaire with personal interviews with each of the administrators.

Using only this select group of service provider agencies in the survey obviously does not provide the COG with a complete and comprehensive assessment of the needs in the region. One of the reasons for such a limited survey by the COGs was a lack of staff to administer the survey. The Human Resources Coordination was often the only staff member of the COG involved in the survey of service providers.

Another problem encountered by the COGs in their needs assessment using the survey of service providers technique was confusion about surveying service providers about needs in the region as opposed to identifying service providers.

For example, the Regional Development Plan prepared by the Lower Rio Grande Valley indicated that several public and private service agencies were surveyed for the needs assessment. After some discussion with the Human Resources Coordinator, it was apparent that these agencies were only identified for the service inventory.

Both the Coastal Bend COG and the South Texas Development Council surveyed service provider agencies attending public hearings. The COGs mailed out questionnaires to those agencies represented at the public hearings.

## SECONDARY DATA ANALYSIS

### Nature of the Technique

Analysis of secondary data ranges from a simple enumeration of a few relevant data to a comprehensive analysis of a relatively large number of data across many areas of social concern.

If already existing social data are collected, organized, aggregated, disaggregated, and analyzed appropriately, they can act as a meaningful input into the needs assessment process. In general, they are most appropriate for the following tasks:

1. Secondary data analysis can be used to ascertain the location and severity of various types of social problems and the location and concentration of formal services designed to address those problems. If the data are selected with planning purposes in mind, they can be used to identify areas where problems are severe but services are lacking, thus indicating where resources should be directed.
2. Secondary data analysis can provide some elementary evaluation data if the measures have been selected so that changes in their values are related to program or service objectives.
3. Secondary data analysis can also be used to assess the context in which various problems occur. Unemployment in an agricultural county may be qualitatively different than unemployment in an industrial county and, for this reason, it may require a different service prescription.
4. Secondary data can perhaps best be used to identify possible target areas for service development and/or expansion. For example,

certain census tracts within a city may exhibit a juvenile delinquency rate above the average for the city as a whole, thus indicating that some response is necessary. However, identification of the specific subpopulations experiencing a high delinquency rate, the problems which occur along with (and in some cases may cause) delinquent behavior, the willingness to use formal services, and so on require data not typically available through secondary data analyses.

In order to maximize the impact of a needs assessment based on existing social data, several conditions should be met. They include the following:

1. The social data included in the needs assessment must be the most reliable and valid available.
2. The social data should be available across the units being analyzed. In other words, if the units are census tracts, the data should be available in all or most census tracts under consideration and should be collected in the same manner and at approximately the same time.
3. The social data should be available on an ongoing basis so that longitudinal studies of service and/or program effectiveness and community trends can be made.
4. The social data collected should be related to the concerns of the decision-makers rather than being utilized merely because they are available. A major concern should be whether an increase or a decrease in a particular social statistic is related to the success of the program, to an increase or reduction in an identified need, or to some other factor.
5. In order to use the variety of secondary sources available, some method should be

developed which can combine these sources on the basis of a common unit of analysis, for example, geocoding.

### Assets

The use of existing social data in needs assessment is often considered a quick and inexpensive way to generate planning and evaluation data. However, this is true only if the descriptive information provided by the isolated data elements constitutes an end in itself. For example, if a health planning board required information only on the relative incidence of a specified number of diseases and the M.D.'s per capita in various areas, then secondary data analysis would be a relatively effective way to generate this information quickly and inexpensively.

### Problems

The use of existing social data to define population needs presents some conceptual problems. These are:

1. The data is often incomplete and unsatisfactory, since the data existed before the conceptualization and design of the study.
2. Not all of the necessary data may be available in useable form to assess all the needs of a population, including service gaps, availability of services, willingness to use services, etc.
3. Most secondary data cannot be used either to assess individual needs or to identify individuals with more than one problem because of data disaggregation problems.

Secondary data analysis also has many methodological problems. These are:

1. The conceptual validity is reduced in many cases because the data analyst is forced to rely on the "best available" rather than the most "conceptually valid" data.

2. Index construction is often attempted since needs should not be assessed through the examination of single data elements. Problems involved in weighting individual data elements often give rise to invalid results.
3. Much of the data has accidental utility because most of it has been collected for administrative purposes by independent organizations rather than for research purposes.
4. The independence of data collectors often results in non-comparable data, even though the data names are comparable.

The increasing emphasis on providing coordinated services requires a comprehensive analysis of many potential problem areas. As planning becomes more comprehensive, the amount of secondary data required for planning purposes increases, as does the need for some data organization or reduction method. To the extent that organization is required through sophisticated techniques (i.e., cross-tabulation, correlational analysis, and cluster analysis) secondary data analysis becomes increasingly time consuming and costly.

During the first planning year, the use of secondary data was the second most often used technique in the needs assessment by the COGs. The three Councils of Government using this technique were:

- . Middle Rio Grande Development Council
- . Lower Rio Grande Development Council
- . Alamo Area Council of Governments

These three COGs used census information to identify the total population, incidence of poverty, per capita income, unemployment data, and housing conditions. Two of the COGs, Middle Rio Grande Development Council and Lower Rio Grande Development Council, also used data that had been obtained by the various human services departments within the COG.

The data obtained from these secondary sources was generally compiled in a table representing a composite description of



the region. From the analysis of this data, the COGs were able to use this data to identify general areas where services are lacking. Typically, rural areas exemplified the most severe problems and lack of services.

The use of secondary data analysis was one of the most informative and timely ways to identify some needs in the COGs' region. In most cases secondary data analysis by the COGs was not complete enough to assess all the needs of the area but only useable for one area and need (e.g., health needs in rural areas).

Also, there appeared to be substantially more data available than was actually used by the COGs. Because of a lack of staff and time, a limited number of sources were used.

The COGs had several other problems in their secondary data analysis, many of which were identified in the previous discussion of methodological problems. Additional problems include:

1. There was little effort by the COGs to sufficiently analyze the data, rather it was simply compiled in tables describing the demography of the area.
2. If there was an analysis made of the secondary data, it often resulted in a general statement about one need in rural areas.

## SURVEY OF POLITICAL AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

### Nature of the Technique

Individuals who are not participants to the service delivery system but who, by virtue of their formal or informal standing in the community, have the legitimacy to speak for and to their "constituencies" constitute another important source of data. This is particularly true in view of the political nature of planning and resources allocation. Data obtained from these individuals can be useful because:

1. It provides an indication of which problem areas are likely to become public issues and receive widespread exposure and discussion.
2. It indicates the areas in which the political or community leaders are likely to support or oppose planned service or program intervention; and
3. It provides a list of issues relevant to the politically active or vocal segment of a population.

### Assets

Inclusion of data from this source is extremely important. Planning is a political process, and successful planning requires constant readjustment among objective problems and needs, available system resources, and the political and community support for the identified planning alternatives. Prediction of this latter element in the planning process is enhanced when this data source is used.

### Problems

There are several constraints to the use of data from these sources in establishing service or program priorities. These are:

1. Their perceptions of prevalent or important problems often reflect political sensitivity or emotionalism. For instance, the current interest in child abuse on the part of the political sector does not necessarily reflect

a major increase in the incidence or severity of child abuse, but reflects instead the emotional and political intensity of the issue;

2. Since the identification of the individuals who should be considered community leaders is often an arbitrary process, it could result in basing the data on individuals who have been inappropriately included or ignoring those who have been inappropriately excluded; and
3. Political or community leaders can represent only the individuals or groups who have access or are allowed to have access to them. Thus, some segments of the population may be overlooked and not included in leader's evaluations.

Two COGs surveyed political and community leaders in their assessment of needs: Alamo Area Council of Governments and the Middle Rio Grande Development Council.

The Alamo COG sent out approximately 88 questionnaires, at random, to locally elected officials in the region. As the general problems attributed to using this technique of needs assessment discussed, the Alamo COGs' survey of political leaders often resulted in an assessment of limited needs or those with high political visibility.

The Middle Rio Grande Development Council surveyed community leaders who were members of the Human Resources Advisory Committee.

## SERVICE POPULATION SURVEY

### Nature of the Technique

A service population survey elicits data only from individuals who are, or have been, in the service system. A survey of the service population generates information in the following areas:

1. It provides a picture of the problems recognized by the service population as well as the type of problems which lead to service utilization;
2. It provides a "first-hand" account of the barriers encountered in the attempt to acquire service, the type of service desired but not available, and the service recipients' evaluations of service effectiveness; and
3. Since the service recipient population is by definition service dependent, surveys of this group can provide information about obstacles to achieving service-free status that may be amendable to intervention.

### Assets

Needs assessment based on information collected on the service recipient population has some major advantages for agency planning. First, the service recipient population is likely to have a higher concentration of problems than the general population. Second, the respondents have already indicated a willingness to use formal services in the attempt to solve their problems and are more likely to constitute the clientele of new programs. Finally, the respondents already have access to the service system and to information about service availability.

## Problems

In addition to the problems enumerated under the general population surveys, there are other limitations to the use of the information obtained through surveys of the service recipient population. These are:

1. The data collected from this source cannot be generalized beyond the service population because of the self-selection factor. The identified problems may apply only to a small segment of the total population, and those problems may be different from the problems experienced by the nonservice population.
2. Given the dependence of the respondents on the service system, care must be taken to assure the respondents that the information they volunteer will not affect their present or future relationship with the service delivery system.

The service population survey was not used by the COGs in assessing needs in the south cultural basin area. The Coastal Bend Council of Governments Regional Resource Report indicated that service consumers did specify their needs, but this was through public hearings and not a service population survey.

As the previous discussion indicated, the use of this technique has several salient points and should be utilized during the second planning year.

## GENERAL POPULATION SURVEY

### Nature of the Technique

A general population survey consists of interviews with, or questionnaires administered to, a selected sample of the population within a designated geographical area.

Generally, data collected in a general population survey can provide information on the following dimensions:

1. A description of the problems recognized by the individuals surveyed. This allows for an assessment of the relationship among individual characteristics and recognized problems.
2. Identification of individuals with several problems and the characteristics associated with them.
3. Information on the extent to which individuals eligible for services utilize or are willing to utilize them as well as identification of perceived barriers to service utilization.
4. Information on perceived social problems and on attitudes towards the service providers.

Several conditions should be met to maximize the utility and validity of the general population survey data. These are:

1. Rigorous definition of need;
2. Extreme care in selecting the sample population;
3. Inclusion of behavioral as well as attitudinal questions in each area of need to be addressed; and

4. Inclusion of data pertaining to service eligibility if the data are to be used to estimate the number of services needed in a community. (Many individuals may experience a problem but not be eligible to receive the proposed services).

Surveys of a selected sample of the general population provides information on the nonservice as well as the service population available through no other source. However, the type, quality and potential usefulness of the data is dependent to a great degree on the congruence between the requirements of the users and the structure of the data-gathering instrument.

#### Assets

The data collected from a general population survey can be particularly useful in:

1. Identifying problems which tend to occur together;
2. Assessing the social problems or service needs as seen by those surveyed; and
3. Ascertaining the population's attitudes and behavior toward a specific service or the entire service delivery system.

#### Problems

There are several major problems inherent in general population surveys; including the following:

1. Survey research may be considered excessively expensive by some funding sources and may have cost restrictions imposed on it. This would affect the overall quality and consequently the utility of the research.
2. Many survey projects are based on methodically and statistically inadequate samples

because of cost restrictions and lack of understanding of sampling theory by users.

3. Studies which use highly skilled interviewers tend to show higher incidence of social problems than studies which use nonprofessional interviewers.
4. Data collected through interviews or questionnaires have severe reliability problems. However, reliability can be improved through:
  - . Complete and accurate enumeration of the population to be sampled;
  - . Good random sampling techniques;
  - . Unambiguous questions which elicit stable answers;
  - . Well-trained interviewers who do not bias the responses;
  - . The ordering of questions on the instrument so that they do not "lead" the respondent; and
  - . The elimination of "weighted" words or expressions in the questions.
5. Validity problems are very difficult to eliminate. Respondents to a survey may not be willing to admit the existence of socially unacceptable problems.
6. Individual respondents may be more or less aware of the causes of their experienced problems. The resulting data may identify symptoms but not necessarily the underlying and causative conditions. Thus, the data have to be further interpreted and analyzed before they can be used in needs assessment.



7. Data collected on the general population are unlikely to provide much information on problems which are experienced relatively infrequently.
8. It is often difficult to distinguish between needs, desires, wants, and demands of the respondents.
9. The problems identified by the population may be beyond the scope of the data users. Careful structuring of the instrument can reduce this constraint.
10. Data gathered on individuals cannot immediately be translated into community needs. The discovery of a need does not automatically define an appropriate social service.

The general population survey was not used as a needs assessment technique by any of the five Councils. At least two of the COGs indicated that they had used this methodology in their assessment, but the description of the process was more closely identified as public hearings.

The general population survey is discussed as a needs assessment technique to inform the COGs. Its utility for the second year should be viewed as an alternative technique because of the time and resources needed to effectively administer the survey.

REVIEW OF INFORMATION COLLECTED PRIMARILY FOR  
ADMINISTRATION OR MANAGEMENT PURPOSES

Nature of the Technique

Review of information collected primarily for administration or management purposes by human service agencies can provide valuable data for the needs assessment process. It is particularly useful for the following areas:

1. Most information systems include data on client characteristics, which can prove useful in assessing the type of individuals and the type of problems now being served through the formal service system.
2. Usually these information systems include data on services which are needed but not available. This information can be used to document referral patterns among agencies and to identify possible gaps in the service system.

Assets

Use of this data source has only limited applicability to needs assessment at the present time. However, the increasing emphasis on services integration has necessitated the development of compatible information across agencies. If these new information systems are developed with the intention of providing better data on unmet needs, their utility for needs assessment may increase.

Problems

Three major limitations should be noted. These are:

1. Information is available only on individuals who have participated in the formal service system.
2. The information is collected for administrative or case management purposes and may not be available in the appropriate form for needs assessment.

3. The data collected by various agencies are not likely to be comparable. This lack of comparability makes it difficult to track clients or service patterns across agencies, and for this reason this data source may be most useful for intraagency needs assessment.

None of the five COGs reviewed information collected by other human service agencies for administration or management purposes.

#### Summary

In conclusion, each of the needs assessment techniques described above provides qualitatively different data. Each technique is characterized by various strengths and limitations. The selection of a particular method should be based on the type of data needed and the objectives of the planning process. Surveys of service providers can document the needs which require professional judgment and provide a synthetic needs assessment. Secondary data analysis is an effective way of identifying target areas. Political and community analyses are particularly effective in ascertaining the views of potential influential supporters or detractors of service system activities. Surveys of the service population are effective if a particular agency wishes to assess the needs of the service population and to obtain a first-hand account of the effectiveness and accessibility of existing services. General population surveys are particularly effective in documenting community attitudes and the perceived needs of the nonservice population.

All of the COGs in the cultural basin region attempted to assess the needs of their specific region using one or more techniques. There was often confusion about how to administer the technique. Generally, all the COGs lacked resources, staff, and time to effectively carry out a needs assessment during the first planning year.

Note: This information was taken from "A Workshop on Human Service Needs Assessment and Service Inventory for the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin Commission" prepared by the Research Group, Inc. of Atlanta, Georgia, in March of 1976.

## APPENDIX B



METHODOLOGY USED TO PREPARE CHART 2,  
"HUMAN NEEDS IN THE BASIN"

Chart 1, "Human Needs in the Basin," was prepared by carefully reviewing the results of each needs assessment technique utilized by each of the five South Texas councils of governments. The GSTCB Commission staff did not include every need identified in every technique, mainly because some needs received few responses. The needs that were included were those that had been mentioned frequently in one or more needs assessment techniques.

The needs used to develop this chart are listed below by council of governments (COGs) and by needs assessment technique used by each COG. The page numbers in parentheses refer to the page where the results of that particular needs assessment technique can be found in each of the COGs' regional human resource plans.

AACOG

1. Region-wide service providers. Took top 9 of Question 2. (p. 36)
2. Region-wide service providers. Took top 6 of Question 3. (p. 37)
3. Interview of Political and Community leaders. Used entire list. (p.38)
4. Public hearing. Used entire list, except #13. (p. 40)

CBCOG

1. Frequency of response by the seven assessment techniques. (p. 129)
2. Priority ranking of needs by general category and problem. (p. 130)

LRGVDC

1. Table 12 Interview of Political and Community leaders. (pp. 38-41)
2. Survey of service providers. Question 2: Took nearly all except in categories with long lists, then took those with 2 or more responses. (pp. 46-49)
3. Survey of service providers. Question 3: Took all except in categories with long lists, then took those with 2 or more responses. (pp. 50-52)
4. Executive Committee recommendations for human service priorities. (p. 139)

MRGDC

1. List of specific needs by broad functional areas. (p. 27)
2. Analysis in Chapter V. (pp. 48-53)

STDC

1. Service providers, Question 2. Went down through three responses except I&R. (Appendix I-1)
2. Service provider Question 3. Went down through three respondents, with three cases of two respondents. (Appendix I-2)
3. Community leaders/elected officials survey. (Appendix M)
4. Comparison of Needs Assessment for priority ranking. (Appendix O)



**APPENDIX C**





ADULT EDUCATION CO-OP AREAS  
IN GSTCB

<u>AREAS</u>	<u>PRIME SPONSORS</u>	<u>COUNTIES</u>
Co-op 15		Aransas Karnes Refugio
Co-op 32	Comal ISD	Bandera Comal Gillespie Guadalupe Kendall Kerr
Co-op 33	Beeville ISD	Bee Live Oak McMullen San Patricio
Co-op 34	Corpus Christi ISD	Nueces
Co-op 35	Alice ISD	Brooks Duval Jim Wells Kenedy Kleberg
Co-op 36	Region I ESC	Cameron Willacy
Co-op 37	Brownsville ISD	Cameron
Co-op 38	McAllen ISD	Hidalgo Starr
Co-op 39	Laredo Junior College	Jim Hogg Webb Zapata
Co-op 40	Bexar County Schools	Atascosa Bexar Frio LaSalle Wilson
Co-op 41	Southwest Texas Junior College	Dimmit Edwards Kinney Maverick Medina Real Uvalde Val Verde Zavala



APPENDIX D



BILINGUAL EDUCATION PROJECTS IN THE GSTCB  
1975/76  
Title VII-ESEA

Project District	Year of Project	Funding Authorized	Children Participating
Alice	Sixth	\$ 255,000	986
Bishop	Fourth	85,000	290
Brownsville	Fifth	260,000	1,504
Corpus Christi	Sixth	155,000	390
Crystal City	Fifth	471,000	1,203
Donna	First	220,000	502
Eagle Pass	Fourth	178,176	900
Edcouch-Elsa	Second	215,000	900
Edinburg	Sixth	215,000	635
Falfurrias	First	161,400	444
Harlingen	First	195,000	1,933
Kingsville	Sixth	300,000	833
La Feria	First	71,000	225
La Joya	Seventh	150,000	503
La Villa	First	125,000	350
Laredo (United ISD)	Seventh	131,461	300
Laredo (Laredo ISD)	First	71,000	2,200
Lyford	First	117,000	415
McAllen	Seventh	195,000	607
Mercedes	Second	190,000	678
Mission	Second	190,000	980
Pharr	Fifth	298,017	4,000
Port Isabel	Sixth	178,500	920
Rio Grande City	Fourth	210,000	1,300
Rio Hondo	First	111,000	412
Robstown	Fourth	355,000	1,200
San Antonio (Northside)	First	515,000	2,700
San Antonio (Edgewood)	Seventh	295,000	1,764
San Antonio (S.A. ISD)	Seventh	548,795	2,400
San Antonio (South S.A.)	Sixth	135,000	230
San Antonio (South Side)	Fifth	183,659	250
San Antonio (Harlandale)	Seventh	250,000	1,920
San Diego	Fourth	180,000	700
San Felipe (Del Rio)	Seventh	240,000	1,000
Weslaco	Seventh	198,000	1,515
West Oso	Second	195,000	521
Zapata	Seventh	182,000	460

Source: Texas Education Agency



## APPENDIX E





GSTCB MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME (1969) BY COUNTY

<u>County</u>	<u>Median Family Income (\$)</u>
Aransas	6658
Atascosa	5595
Bandera	6564
Bee	6358
Bexar	8043
Brooks	4197
Cameron	5070
Comal	7598
Dimmit	4059
Duval	4506
Edwards	5152
Frio	4926
Gillespie	6930
Guadalupe	6523
Hidalgo	4761
Jim Hogg	4042
Jim Wells	6762
Karnes	5524
Kendall	7180
Kenedy	4586
Kerr	6753
Kinney	3899
Kleberg	6967
La Salle	4056
Live Oak	5832
McMullen	7120
Maverick	4508
Medina	6362
Nueces	8165
Real	4300
Refugio	6994
San Patricio	7266
Starr	3593
Uvalde	5611
Val Verde	6472
Webb	4970
Willacy	4154
Wilson	5849
Zapata	3788
Zavala	4920
TEXAS	8486

Source: County and City Databook 1972, U. S. Department of Commerce,  
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 UNITED STATES, TEXAS, GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN,  
 1960, 1970, 1975

Year	United States	Texas	Texas as % of U.S.	Greater South Texas Cultural Basin	GSTCB as % of Texas
1960	179,323,000	9,579,677	5.3	1,788,363	18.7
1970	203,235,000	11,196,730	5.5	1,958,370	17.5
1975*	213,032,000	12,236,000	5.7	2,159,500	17.7

Table 2

POPULATION CHANGES IN THE GREATER SOUTH TEXAS  
 CULTURAL BASIN BY STATE PLANNING REGIONS AND COUNTIES  
 1960, 1970, 1975

State Planning Region	1960 (1,000)	1970 (1,000)	% Change 1960-1970	1975* (1,000)	% Change 1970-1975
Alamo	848.8	1,006.5	18.6	1,105.3	9.8
Coastal Bend	404.8	420.4	3.9	433.1	3.0
Lower Rio Grande Valley	352.1	337.5	-4.1	406.0	20.3
Middle Rio Grande	91.4	94.5	3.4	106.7	12.9
South Texas	91.3	99.6	9.0	108.4	8.8
GSTCB	1,788.4	1,958.5	9.5	2,159.5	10.3
Texas	9,579.7	11,196.7	16.9	12,236.0	9.3
ALAMO					
Atascosa	18.8	18.7	-0.5	19.8	6.0
Bandera	3.9	4.7	20.5	6.2	30.1
Bexar	687.2	830.5	20.9	910.4	9.6
Comal	19.8	24.2	22.2	28.4	17.6
Frio	10.1	11.2	10.9	11.5	2.7
Gillespie	10.0	10.5	5.0	11.3	7.1
Guadalupe	29.0	33.5	15.5	38.4	14.4
Karnes	15.0	13.5	-10.0	13.1	-2.5
Kendall	5.9	7.0	18.6	8.4	20.7
Kerr	16.8	19.5	16.1	22.0	13.0
Medina	18.9	20.2	6.9	21.7	7.1
Wilson	13.3	13.0	-2.3	14.1	8.1
TOTAL	848.8	1,006.5	18.6	1,105.3	9.8

\*Provisional estimates



State Planning Region	1960 (1,000)	1970 (1,000)	% Change 1960-1970	1975* (1,000)	% Change 1970-1975
<b>COASTAL BEND</b>					
Aransas	7.0	8.9	27.1	10.6	19.4
Bee	23.8	22.7	-4.6	23.3	2.5
Brooks	8.6	8.0	-7.0	7.7	-4.1
Duval	13.4	11.7	-12.7	11.8	0.8
Jim Wells	34.5	33.0	-4.3	33.5	1.4
Kenedy	0.9	0.7	-22.2	0.6	-10.9
Kleberg	30.1	33.2	10.3	32.5	-1.9
Live Oak	7.8	6.7	-14.2	6.3	-5.9
McMullen	1.1	1.1	-1.9	0.9	-22.1
Nueces	221.6	237.6	7.2	247.6	4.2
Refugio	11.0	9.5	-13.6	8.6	-9.3
San Patricio	45.0	47.3	5.1	49.7	5.1
TOTAL	404.8	420.4	3.9	433.1	3.0
<b>LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY</b>					
Cameron	151.1	140.4	-7.1	169.3	20.6
Hidalgo	180.9	181.5	0.3	220.7	21.6
Willacy	20.1	15.6	-22.4	16.0	2.9
TOTAL	352.1	337.5	-4.1	406.0	20.3
<b>MIDDLE RIO GRANDE</b>					
Dimmit	10.1	9.0	-10.9	10.6	17.6
Edwards	2.3	2.1	-8.7	2.1	-2.4
Kinney	2.4	2.0	-16.7	2.3	12.8
La Salle	6.0	5.0	-16.7	5.2	4.3
Maverick	14.5	18.1	24.8	21.3	17.9
Real	2.1	2.0	4.8	2.3	15.4
Uvalde	16.8	17.3	3.0	19.9	14.6
Val Verde	24.5	27.5	12.2	31.6	15.2
Zavala	12.7	11.4	-10.2	11.4	0.7
TOTAL	91.4	94.5	3.4	106.7	12.9
<b>SOUTH TEXAS</b>					
Jim Hogg	5.0	4.7	-6.0	4.8	3.1
Starr	17.1	17.7	3.5	20.7	16.7
Webb	64.8	72.8	12.3	78.1	7.2
Zapata	4.4	4.4	-0.9	4.8	11.2
TOTAL	91.3	99.6	9.0	108.4	8.8

Sources: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1960 Census of the Population, and "Population Estimates and Projections," Series P-25, No. 634 and No. 637, Washington, D.C.

Table 3

**Ethnic Distribution of Population in the  
Greater South Texas Cultural Basin, 1970**

**SUMMARY**

Council of Governments	Total Population	Black		Spanish-American	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Alamo Area	1,006,504	62,576	6.2	435,682	43.3
Coastal Bend	420,360	16,314	3.9	197,615	47.0
Lower Rio Grande	337,473	2,919	0.9	262,572	77.8
Middle Rio Grande	94,461	1,380	1.5	64,131	67.9
South Texas	99,572	1,399	1.4	87,969	88.3
<b>GSTCB Total</b>	<b>1,958,370</b>	<b>84,588</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>1,047,969</b>	<b>53.5</b>

**COUNTY**

<b>Alamo Area</b>					
Atascosa	18,696	210	1.1	9,603	51.4
Bandera	4,747	27	0.6	439	9.2
Bexar	830,460	56,630	6.8	376,027	45.3
Cornal	24,165	409	1.7	7,018	29.0
Frio	11,159	124	1.1	7,711	69.1
Gillespie	10,553	73	0.69	1,030	9.8
Guadalupe	33,554	3,257	9.7	9,099	27.1
Karnes	13,462	438	3.3	5,515	41.0
Kendall	6,964	30	0.43	1,416	20.3
Kerr	19,454	764	3.9	2,595	13.3
Medina	20,249	390	1.9	9,822	48.5
Wilson	13,041	224	1.7	5,407	41.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,006,504</b>	<b>62,576</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>435,682</b>	<b>43.3</b>
<b>Coastal Bend</b>					
Aransas	8,902	411	4.6	2,372	26.7
Bee	22,737	616	2.7	8,892	39.1
Brooks	8,005	108	1.3	6,399	79.9
Duval	11,722	27	0.23	9,905	84.5
Jim Wells	33,032	409	1.2	21,125	64.0
Kenedy	678	0	0.0	532	78.5
Kleberg	33,166	1,474	4.4	14,560	43.9
Live Oak	6,697	94	1.4	2,703	40.4
McMullen	1,095	7	0.64	743	67.9
Nueces	237,544	11,096	4.7	103,543	43.6
Refugio	9,494	927	9.8	3,610	38.0
San Patricio	47,288	1,145	2.4	23,231	49.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>420,360</b>	<b>16,314</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>197,615</b>	<b>47.0</b>

Table 3 Cont'd.

## SUMMARY

Council of Governments	Total Population	Black		Spanish-American	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Lower Rio Grande</b>					
Cameron	140,368	1,395	0.99	107,000	76.2
Hidalgo	181,535	1,416	0.78	143,611	79.1
Willacy	15,570	108	0.69	11,961	76.8
Total	337,473	2,919	0.9	262,572	77.8
<b>Middle Rio Grande</b>					
Dimmit	9,039	112	1.24	7,381	81.7
Edwards	2,107	6	0.28	922	43.8
Kinney	2,006	121	6.0	1,448	72.2
LaSalle	5,014	9	0.18	3,931	78.4
Maverick	18,093	18	0.06	16,347	90.3
Real	2,013	4	0.198	476	23.6
Uvalde	17,348	309	1.8	8,802	50.7
Val Verde	27,471	763	2.8	15,549	56.6
Zavala	11,370	38	0.33	9,275	81.6
Total	94,461	1,380	1.5	64,131	67.9
<b>South Texas</b>					
Jim Hogg	4,654	47	1.0	4,275	91.9
Starr	17,707	86	0.49	17,330	97.9
Webb	72,859	1,257	1.7	62,380	85.6
Zapata	4,352	9	0.21	3,984	91.5
Total	99,572	1,399	1.4	87,969	88.3
GSTCB Total	1,958,370	84,588	4.3	1,047,969	53.5

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *General Social and Economic Characteristics, 1970 Census Population*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Table 4

**Urban and Rural Components of the Population  
in the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin, 1970<sup>1</sup>**

## SUMMARY—COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT AREAS

	Total Population	% Urban	% Rural
Alamo Area	1,006,504	87.0	13.0
Coastal Bend	420,360	81.3	18.7
Lower Rio Grande	337,473	74.5	25.5
Middle Rio Grande	94,461	71.8	28.2
South Texas	99,572	80.3	19.7

<sup>1</sup>These figures have been adjusted to reflect COG structures instead of Planning Regions as referenced in the source.

Source: Texas Office of Economic Opportunity, Texas Department of Community Affairs, *Poverty in Texas*, Austin, Texas, 1974.

Table 5

AGE DISTRIBUTION IN THE GREATER SOUTH TEXAS  
CULTURAL BASIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT AREAS, 1970

## SUMMARY

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS	0-5 yrs	6-18 yrs	19-29 yrs	30-49 yrs	50 yrs & Over	Total
AACOG	113,549	283,194	174,285	220,353	215,123	1,006,504
CBCOG	49,292	123,014	71,696	93,040	83,318	420,360
LRGVDC	45,032	109,517	48,641	68,008	66,275	337,473
MRGDC	12,327	28,924	14,790	19,016	19,404	94,461
STDC	13,490	30,939	15,575	19,827	19,741	99,572
GSTCB Total	233,690	575,588	324,987	420,244	403,861	1,958,370
State Total	1,218,659	2,995,061	1,928,648	2,553,006	2,501,356	11,196,730

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Characteristics of the Population, 1970 Census of Population, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Table 5 Cont'd.

## COUNTY

ALAMO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS	0-5 yrs	6-18 yrs	19-29 yrs	30-49 yrs	50 yrs & Over	Total
Atascosa	2,131	5,367	2,478	3,701	5,010	18,696
Bandera	312	1,112	457	953	1,913	4,747
Bexar	95,693	236,626	151,798	184,140	162,203	830,460
Comal	2,324	6,154	3,278	5,402	7,007	24,165
Frio	1,608	3,380	1,582	2,065	2,524	11,159
Gillespie	864	2,497	1,045	2,162	3,985	10,553
Guadalupe	3,490	8,843	5,188	7,013	9,020	33,554
Karnes	1,455	3,906	1,487	2,772	3,842	13,462
Kendall	603	1,632	797	1,540	2,392	6,964
Kerr	1,375	4,095	1,839	3,712	8,433	19,454
Medina	2,268	5,917	2,642	4,271	5,151	20,249
Wilson	1,426	3,665	1,685	2,622	3,643	13,041
Total	113,549	283,194	174,285	220,353	215,123	1,006,504

Table 5 Cont'd.

## COUNTY

COASTAL BEND COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS	0-5 yrs	6-18 yrs	19-29 yrs	30-49 yrs	50 yrs & Over	Total
Aransas	864	2,305	942	1,914	2,877	8,902
Bee	2,536	6,253	4,742	4,534	4,672	22,737
Brooks	946	2,500	1,078	1,723	1,758	8,005
Duval	1,328	3,529	1,434	2,387	3,044	11,722
67 Jim Wells	4,013	10,115	4,692	7,300	6,912	33,032
Kenedy	76	218	104	150	130	678
Kleberg	3,696	8,357	9,961	6,026	5,126	33,166
Live Oak	731	1,743	830	1,363	2,030	6,697
McMullen	104	302	119	232	338	1,095
Nueces	27,923	70,051	40,095	54,808	44,667	237,544
Refugio	985	2,830	1,132	2,053	2,494	9,494
San Patricio	6,090	14,811	6,567	10,550	9,270	47,288
Total	49,292	123,014	71,696	93,040	83,318	420,360

Table 5 Cont'd.

## COUNTY

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL	0-5 yrs	6-18 yrs	19-29 yrs	30-49 yrs	50 yrs & Over	Total
Cameron	18,475	45,038	19,241	28,826	28,788	140,368
Hidalgo	24,572	59,245	27,240	36,268	34,210	181,535
Willacy	1,985	5,234	2,160	2,914	3,277	15,570
Total	45,032	109,517	48,641	68,008	66,275	337,473

## COUNTY

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL	0-5 yrs	6-18 yrs	19-29 yrs	30-49 yrs	50 yrs & Over	Total
Dimmit	1,236	2,979	1,238	1,719	1,867	9,039
Edwards	256	597	231	429	594	2,107
Kinney	199	616	220	429	542	2,006
LaSalle	641	1,493	687	910	1,283	5,014
Maverick	2,579	6,155	2,556	3,671	3,132	18,093
Real	218	519	225	369	682	2,013
Uvalde	2,026	4,869	2,476	3,496	4,481	17,348
Val Verde	3,576	7,951	5,504	5,895	4,545	27,471
Zavala	1,596	3,745	1,653	2,098	2,278	11,370
Total	12,327	28,924	14,790	19,016	19,404	94,461

Table 5 Cont'd.

## COUNTY

SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL	0-5 yrs	6-18 yrs	19-29 yrs	30-49 yrs	50 yrs & Over	Total
Jim Hogg	552	1,343	571	968	1,220	4,654
Starr	2,413	5,851	2,338	3,510	3,595	17,707
Webb	10,012	22,528	12,111	14,499	13,709	72,859
Zapata	513	1,217	555	850	1,217	4,352
Total	13,490	30,939	15,575	19,827	19,741	99,572



Table 6

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE GREATER SOUTH TEXAS  
CULTURAL BASIN BY STATE PLANNING REGIONS AND BY  
COUNTIES, ANNUAL AVERAGE 1975

State Planning Region	Labor Force	Unemployment	Rate (%)
Alamo	423,344	30,154	7.1
Coastal Bend	174,123	10,093	5.8
Lower Rio Grande Valley	146,336	13,748	9.4
Middle Rio Grande	35,010	3,104	8.9
South Texas	33,987	5,399	15.9
GSTCB	812,800	62,498	7.7
Texas	5,292,000	295,000	5.6
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ALAMO			
Atascosa	7,762	322	4.1
Bandera	1,916	69	3.6
Bexar	345,809	26,604	7.7
Comal	11,947	566	4.7
Frio	3,997	214	5.4
Gillespie	5,168	184	3.6
Guadalupe	15,219	1,021	6.7
Karnes	5,534	196	3.5
Kendall	3,460	89	2.6
Kerr	8,909	219	2.5
Medina	8,474	466	5.5
Wilson	5,149	204	4.0
TOTAL	423,344	30,154	7.1
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COASTAL BEND			
Aransas	3,776	148	3.9
Bee	8,055	324	4.0
Brooks	2,651	156	5.9
Duval	4,027	174	4.3
Jimm Wells	12,619	590	4.7
Kenedy	283	14	4.9
Kleburg	10,672	362	3.4
Live Oak	2,326	94	4.0
McMullen	468	21	4.5
Nueces	105,030	6,731	6.4
Refugio	4,819	153	3.2
San Patricio	19,397	1,326	6.8
TOTAL	174,123	10,093	5.8

Table 6 Cont'd.

	Labor Force	Unemployment	Rate (%)
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY			
Cameron	68,070	6,474	9.5
Hidalgo	74,055	6,971	9.4
Willacy	4,211	303	7.2
TOTAL	146,336	13,748	9.4
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE			
Dimmit	3,497	291	8.3
Edwards	776	24	3.1
Kinney	810	50	6.2
La Salle	1,711	110	6.4
Maverick	6,997	954	13.6
Real	845	36	4.3
Uvalde	7,552	339	4.5
Val Verde	8,972	927	10.3
Zavala	3,850	373	9.7
TOTAL	35,010	3,104	8.9
SOUTH TEXAS			
Jim Hogg	1,809	80	4.4
Starr	5,772	1,351	23.4
Webb	25,034	3,825	15.3
Zapata	1,372	143	10.4
TOTAL	33,987	5,399	15.9

Source: Texas Employment Commission, "Labor Force Estimates for Texas Counties, Annual Average 1975," Austin, Texas.

Table 7

COMPARISON OF UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FOR APRIL 1975 AND APRIL 1976,  
BY STATE PLANNING REGIONS AND BY COUNTIES

State Planning Region	Unemployment Rates		Percent Change
	April 1975	April 1976	
Alamo	6.5	6.7	3.1
Coastal Bend	5.7	6.3	10.5
Lower Rio Grande Valley	9.2	9.6	4.3
Middle Rio Grande	8.7	12.4	42.5
South Texas	14.4	17.1	18.8
GSTCB	7.3	7.8	6.9
Texas	5.3	5.3	-0-
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ALAMO			
Atascosa	3.4	3.6	5.8
Bandera	3.0	4.2	40.0
Bexar	7.0	7.2	2.9
Comal	4.3	4.4	2.3
Frio	5.1	5.8	13.7
Gillespie	3.5	3.5	-0-
Guadalupe	6.1	6.3	3.3
Karnes	2.9	4.0	37.9
Kendall	2.3	3.0	30.4
Kerr	2.6	3.0	15.4
Medina	4.9	4.1	-16.3
Wilson	3.8	3.2	-15.8
TOTAL	6.5	6.7	3.1
<hr/>			
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE			
Dimmit	8.0	9.0	12.5
Edwards	2.7	5.7	111.1
Kinney	3.7	5.6	51.4
La Salle	6.9	9.6	39.1
Maverick	13.9	20.2	45.3
Real	2.9	6.1	110.4
Uvalde	4.4	6.1	38.6
Val Verde	9.2	13.1	42.4
Zavala	11.6	16.7	44.0
TOTAL	8.7	12.4	42.5

Table 7 Cont'd.

	Unemployment Rates		Percent Change
	April 1975	April 1976	
<b>COASTAL BEND</b>			
Aransas	3.4	3.9	14.7
Bee	3.7	4.4	18.9
Brooks	5.5	6.4	16.7
Duval	3.8	4.4	15.8
Jim Wells	4.0	4.9	22.5
Kenedy	5.0	4.3	-14.0
Kleberg	3.0	3.5	16.7
Live Oak	4.0	4.0	-0-
McMullen	4.1	3.4	-17.1
Nueces	6.4	7.0	9.4
Refugio	2.9	2.9	-0-
San Patricio	6.8	7.4	8.8
TOTAL	5.7	6.3	10.5
<b>LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY</b>			
Cameron	9.1	9.7	6.6
Hidalgo	9.4	9.6	2.1
Willacy	6.4	8.5	32.8
TOTAL	9.2	9.6	4.3
<b>SOUTH TEXAS</b>			
Jim Hogg	3.8	3.8	-0-
Starr	23.9	28.4	18.8
Webb	13.0	15.4	18.5
Zapata	9.3	10.8	16.1
TOTAL	14.4	17.1	18.8

Source: Calculated from "Labor Force Estimates for Texas Counties," April 1975 and April 1976, Texas Employment Commission, Austin.

Table 8

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN THE SMSA'S  
OF THE GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN,  
1975

	U.S.	Texas	San Antonio	Corpus Christi	McAllen-Pharr-Edinburg	Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito	Laredo
January	9.0	5.6	6.7	6.6	9.6	9.4	20.7
February	9.1	5.8	8.2	6.3	9.7	9.9	15.6
March	9.1	5.4	7.0	6.2	8.9	9.6	15.1
April	8.6	5.4	7.2	6.8	9.8	9.4	13.5
May	8.3	5.1	7.0	6.6	8.7	10.0	11.6
June	9.1	6.4	8.6	7.8	9.7	10.9	13.1
July	8.7	6.0	8.2	7.0	10.5	9.6	14.7
August	8.2	5.4	7.6	6.0	9.7	8.4	13.4
September	8.1	5.6	7.8	6.2	10.2	9.7	15.5
October	7.8	5.5	7.8	6.1	8.4	8.6	15.3
November	7.8	5.5	7.7	6.2	8.5	10.2	16.3
December	7.8	5.2	6.9	6.1	9.1	10.1	17.7
ANNUAL AVERAGE		5.6	7.6	6.5	9.4	9.7	15.3

SOURCE: Texas Employment Commission with the U.S. Department of Labor, "Texas Manpower Trends," Austin, Texas.

Table 9

**Employment, Manufacturing and Non-manufacturing Sectors  
by Council of Government Areas and County,  
Greater South Texas Cultural Basin, April 1973, 1974**

## SUMMARY

Council of Governments	Manufacturing		% Change 1973-1974	Non-Manufacturing		% Change 1973-1974
	1973	1974		1973	1974	
Alamo Area	40,755	39,945	-1.99	284,860	289,460	1.61
Coastal Bend	13,720	13,650	-.51	106,530	108,540	1.89
Lower Rio Grande	13,400	14,835	10.71	70,045	75,675	8.04
Middle Rio Grande	485	525	8.25	4,730	4,940	4.44
South Texas	1,500	1,575	5.00	21,225	21,475	1.18
Total GSTCB	69,860	70,530	.96	487,390	500,090	2.61

## COUNTY

Alamo Area						
Atascosa	35	25	-28.6	2,790	2,780	.36
Bandera	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bexar	34,535	32,705	-5.30	253,370	258,940	2.20
Comal	2,965	3,010	1.52	5,670	5,435	-4.14
Frio	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gillespie	345	405	17.39	2,920	2,980	2.05
Guadalupe	1,350	1,935	43.33	6,660	6,175	-7.28
Karnes	200	195	-2.50	2,990	2,855	-4.52
Kendall	*	*	*	*	*	*
Kerr	325	410	26.15	5,835	5,915	1.37
Medina	685	930	35.77	2,940	2,850	-3.06
Wilson	315	330	4.76	1,685	1,530	-9.20
Total **	40,755	39,945	-1.99	284,860	289,460	1.61

Coastal Bend						
Aransas	410	410	0	2,740	2,830	3.28
Bee	280	280	0	4,800	5,080	5.83
Brooks	170	170	0	1,260	1,320	4.76
Duval	150	150	0	1,810	1,830	1.10
Jim Wells	340	340	0	7,520	7,580	.80
Kenedy	*	*	*	*	*	*
Kleberg	500	500	0	7,240	7,240	0
Live Oak	90	90	0	1,130	1,160	2.65
McMullen	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nueces	10,320	10,230	-.87	70,990	72,330	1.89
Refugio	170	170	0	1,970	2,000	1.52
San Patricio	1,290	1,310	1.55	7,070	7,170	1.41
Total **	13,720	13,650	-.51	106,530	108,540	1.89

Table 9 Cont'd.

## COUNTY

Council of Governments	Manufacturing		% Change 1973-1974	Non-Manufacturing		% Change 1973-1974
	1973	1974		1973	1974	
<b>Lower Rio Grande</b>						
Cameron	8,040	8,890	10.57	32,190	34,360	6.74
Hidalgo	5,240	5,860	11.83	36,320	39,730	9.39
Willacy	120	85	29.17	1,535	1,585	3.26
Total **	13,400	14,835	10.71	70,045	75,675	8.04
<b>Middle Rio Grande</b>						
Dimmit	*	*	*	*	*	*
Edwards	*	*	*	*	*	*
Kinney	*	*	*	*	*	*
LaSalle	*	*	*	*	*	*
Maverick	*	*	*	*	*	*
Real	*	*	*	*	*	*
Uvalde	485	525	8.25	4,730	4,940	4.44
Val Verde	*	*	*	*	*	*
Zavala	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total **	485	525	8.25	4,730	4,940	4.44
<b>South Texas</b>						
Jim Hogg	*	*	*	*	*	*
Starr	15	15	0	1,410	1,585	12.41
Webb	1,485	1,560	5.05	19,815	19,890	.38
Zapata	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total **	1,500	1,575	5.00	21,225	21,475	1.18
GSTCB Total	69,860	70,530	.96	487,390	500,090	2.61

\* Not shown to avoid disclosure of individual establishment data.

\*\* Totals include only figures shown.

Source: Texas Employment Commission, "Labor Force Estimates for Texas Counties, April 1972, 1973, 1974", Austin, Texas.

Table 10

**Non-Agricultural Employment in the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin  
by Council of Government Area and County, April 1972, 1973, 1974**

## SUMMARY

Council of Governments	1972	1973	% Change 1972-1973	1974	% Change 1973-1974
Alamo Area	311,920	328,825	5.4	332,390	1.1
Coastal Bend	118,770	120,500	1.5	122,480	1.6
Lower Rio Grande	77,380	83,445	7.8	90,510	8.5
Middle Rio Grande	19,250	20,820	8.2	21,620	3.8
South Texas	24,610	23,930	-2.8	24,460	2.2
Total GSTCB	551,930	577,520	4.6	591,460	2.4

## COUNTY

<b>Alamo Area</b>					
Atascosa	2,905	2,825	-2.8	2,805	-7
Bexar	273,295	287,905	5.4	291,645	1.3
Comal	8,190	8,635	5.4	8,445	-2.2
Frio	2,075	1,890	-8.9	1,680	-11.1
Gillespie	3,015	3,265	8.3	3,385	3.7
Guadalupe	7,115	8,010	12.6	8,110	1.3
Karnes	3,030	3,190	5.3	3,050	-4.4
Kendall	1,180	1,320	11.9	1,305	-1.1
Kerr	5,925	6,160	4.0	6,325	2.7
Medina	3,340	3,625	8.5	3,780	4.3
Wilson	1,850	2,000	8.1	1,860	-7.0
Total	311,920	328,825	5.4	332,390	1.1

<b>Coastal Bend</b>					
Aransas	2,780	3,150	13.3	3,240	2.9
Bee	4,770	5,080	6.5	5,360	5.5
Brooks	1,380	1,430	3.6	1,490	4.2
Duval	1,910	1,960	2.6	1,980	1.1
Jim Wells	7,670	7,860	2.5	7,920	.8
Kenedy	80	70	-12.5	70	0
Kleberg	7,710	7,740	.4	7,770	.4
Live Oak	1,160	1,220	5.2	1,250	2.5
McMullen	180	180	0	190	5.6
Nueces	80,760	81,310	.7	82,560	1.5
Refugio	2,070	2,140	3.4	2,170	1.4
San Patricio	8,300	8,360	.7	8,480	1.4
Total	118,770	120,900	1.5	122,480	1.6



Table 10 Cont'd.

## COUNTY

Council of Governments*	1972	1973	% Change 1972-1973	1974	% Change 1973-1974
<b>Lower Rio Grande</b>					
Cameron	37,290	40,230	7.9	43,250	7.5
Hidalgo	38,430	41,560	8.1	45,590	9.7
Willacy	1,660	1,655	-.3	1,670	.9
Total	77,380	83,445	7.8	90,510	8.5
<b>Middle Rio Grande</b>					
Dimmit	1,145	1,290	12.7	1,460	13.2
Edwards	375	300	-20.0	310	3.3
Kinney	495	510	3.0	410	-19.6
LaSalle	720	740	2.8	960	29.7
Maverick	4,305	4,285	-.5	4,765	11.2
Real	175	250	42.8	250	0
Uvalde	4,810	5,215	8.4	5,465	4.8
Val Verde	5,720	6,670	16.6	6,395	-4.1
Zavala	1,505	1,560	3.7	1,605	2.9
Total	19,250	20,820	8.2	21,620	3.8
<b>South Texas</b>					
Jim Hogg	655	775	18.3	785	1.3
Starr	2,030	1,425	-29.8	1,600	12.3
Webb	21,575	21,300	-1.3	21,450	.7
Zapata	350	430	22.9	625	45.4
Total	24,610	23,930	-2.8	24,460	2.2

Source: Texas Employment Commission, "Labor Force Estimates for Texas Counties, April 1972, 1973, 1974," Austin, Texas.

Table 11

**Agricultural Employment in the  
Greater South Texas Cultural Basin, October 1974**

**SUMMARY**

Council of Government	Operators In Labor Force	Regular Hired Workers	Seasonal Hired Workers	Total Agricultural Workers
Alamo Area	9,735	3,120	2,535	15,390
Coastal Bend	3,170	4,585	895	8,650
Lower Rio Grande	4,085	3,470	8,375	15,930
Middle Rio Grande	1,025	2,325	5,430	8,780
South Texas	985	1,595	1,365	3,945
<b>Total GSTCB</b>	<b>19,000</b>	<b>15,095</b>	<b>18,600</b>	<b>52,695</b>

**COUNTY**

<b>Alamo Area</b>				
Atascosa	810	435	285	1,530
Bandera	440	55	45	540
Bexar	1,675	870	380	2,925
Cornal	550	65	260	875
Frio	240	475	280	995
Gillespie	905	85	95	1,085
Guadalupe	1,310	205	575	2,090
Karnes	840	160	115	1,115
Kendall	470	105	35	610
Kerr	310	140	75	525
Medina	1,010	235	180	1,425
Wilson	1,175	290	210	1,675
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,735</b>	<b>3,120</b>	<b>2,535</b>	<b>15,390</b>

<b>Coastal Bend</b>				
Aransas	40	20	5	65
Bee	480	325	85	890
Brooks	175	160	95	430
Duval	555	275	40	870
Jim Wells	440	630	75	1,145
Kenedy	5	95	90	190
Kleberg	120	1,000	35	1,155
Live Oak	415	190	70	675
McMullen	95	95	25	215
Nueces	390	895	140	1,425
Refugio	150	195	110	455
San Patricio	305	705	125	1,135
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,170</b>	<b>4,585</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>8,650</b>

Table 11 Cont'd.

## COUNTY

Council of Government	Operators In Labor Force	Regular Hired Workers	Seasonal Hired Workers	Total Agricultural Workers
<b>Lower Rio Grande</b>				
Cameron	965	1,080	2,600	4,645
Hidalgo	2,900	2,000	5,155	10,055
Willacy	220	390	620	1,230
Total	4,085	3,470	8,375	15,930
<b>Middle Rio Grande</b>				
Dimmit	105	240	540	885
Edwards	100	205	290	595
Kinney	50	170	185	405
LaSalle	145	275	190	610
Maverick	70	320	620	1,010
Real	120	50	105	275
Uvalde	270	315	1,485	2,070
Val Verde	60	325	205	590
Zavala	105	425	1,810	2,340
Total	1,025	2,325	5,430	8,780
<b>South Texas</b>				
Jim Hogg	80	160	185	425
Starr	600	480	255	1,335
Webb	140	755	625	1,520
Zapata	165	200	300	665
Total	985	1,595	1,365	3,945
GSTCB Total	19,000	15,095	18,600	52,695

Source: Texas Employment Commission, "Total Agricultural Employment, October 15, 1974", Austin, Texas.

Table 12

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY  
IN EACH COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT AREAS  
IN THE GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN,  
1973

Council of Governments	Construction (%)	Manufacturing (%)	Wholesale and Retail Trade <sup>1</sup> (%)	State Government (%)	Federal Government (%)
Alamo Area	8.6	14.1	29.4	2.3	14.3
Coastal Bend	10.0	11.8	31.1	3.7	7.1
Lower Rio Grande	8.8	18.8	37.2	5.1	2.7
Middle Rio Grande	6.3	3.3	36.4	4.0	8.6
South Texas	5.9	8.4	44.6	3.0	6.0
Total GSTCB	8.8	13.8	31.7	3.1	10.6

<sup>1</sup> Column includes counties with unreported or suppressed data for sectors with 2 or less firms or employers.

Source: Texas Employment Commission, Covered Employment and Wages by Industry and County, 1973, Austin, Texas.

Table 13

**Per Capita and Total Personal Income  
in the Greater South Texas Cultural Basin, 1968, 1970, 1973**

SMSA	Per Capita Income			Total Personal Income		
	1968 (dollars)	1970 (dollars)	1973 (dollars)	1968 (millions \$)	1970 (millions \$)	1973 (millions \$)
Brownsville-						
Harlingen-						
San Benito	2,032	2,341	2,970	277.5	329.8	471.6
Corpus Christi	2,725	3,221	3,858	783.2	920.7	1,149.6
Dallas-Ft. Worth	3,727	4,204	5,157	8,164.4	10,032.7	12,707.6
Houston	3,454	4,129	5,143	6,643.8	8,283.8	11,151.6
Laredo	1,735	2,294	2,717	132.7	167.7	218.2
McAllen-Pharr	1,797	2,050	2,666	315.6	373.4	547.4
San Antonio	2,899	3,426	4,223	2,506.2	3,053.3	4,054.8
Texas	3,096	3,606	4,558	33,496.1	40,514.3	53,911.9

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Regional Economics Information System," Unpublished Report, April 1975.

Table 14

**Per Capita Personal Income by County  
1968, 1970, 1973**

Council of Governments	1968	1970	1973
<b>Alamo Area</b>			
Atascosa	2,615	3,120	3,984
Bandera	2,795	4,433	3,518
Bexar	2,916	3,435	4,252
Comal	3,198	3,904	4,302
Frio	2,125	2,873	4,258
Gillespie	2,733	3,105	4,956
Guadalupe	2,264	2,856	3,486
Karnes	1,963	2,405	3,569
Kendall	2,417	2,970	3,676
Kerr	3,168	3,686	4,809
Medina	2,510	2,829	3,738
Wilson	2,173	2,809	3,730

Table 14 Cont'd.

Council of Governments	1968	1970	1973
<b>Coastal Bend</b>			
Aransas	3,273	3,399	3,920
Bee	2,348	2,757	3,387
Brooks	1,828	1,925	2,240
Duval	1,501	1,916	3,089
Jim Wells	2,197	2,398	2,966
Kenedy	8,283	7,109	9,788
Kleberg	2,223	2,572	3,036
Live Oak	2,825	2,898	4,196
McMullen	2,657	3,742	9,058
Nueces	2,789	3,296	3,928
Refugio	2,924	3,035	3,886
San Patricio	2,405	2,848	3,515
<b>Lower Rio Grande</b>			
Cameron	2,032	2,341	2,970
Hidalgo	1,797	2,050	2,666
Willacy	1,889	1,784	2,323
<b>Middle Rio Grande</b>			
Dimmit	1,553	1,696	2,953
Edwards	2,149	3,292	5,284
Kinney	2,001	2,903	5,916
LaSalle	1,829	2,862	4,630
Maverick	1,193	1,758	2,452
Real	1,292	1,452	2,098
Uvalde	2,104	2,796	3,557
Val Verde	2,717	2,835	3,423
Zavala	2,065	2,050	3,002
<b>South Texas</b>			
Jim Hogg	1,983	2,169	3,610
Starr	1,321	1,685	2,557
Webb	1,735	2,294	2,717
Zapata	1,516	1,814	3,410

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Regional Economics Information System," Unpublished Report, April 1975.

Table 15

**Selected Poverty Indicators in the  
Greater South Texas Cultural Basin**

Poverty Indicator	Alamo <sup>1</sup>	Middle Rio Grande	South Texas	Coastal Bend <sup>1</sup>	Lower Rio Grande Valley
Incidence of Poverty for population of Spanish Surname or Language, 1970	31.0	55.5	51.7	41.9	56.8
Incidence of Poverty for White population minus population of Spanish Surname or Language, 1970	11.1	14.1	11.0	9.6	18.8
Percent Population Aged 0-14, 1970	31.0	35.0	36.1	32.3	36.1
Percent Population Aged 65+, 1970	8.7	8.4	8.2	7.0	8.2
Incidence of Poverty for Population Aged 0-17, 1970	27.7	50.2	53.9	29.2	56.6
Incidence of Poverty for Population Aged 65+, 1970	31.2	44.1	54.1	38.6	44.7
Number of Persons served by Food Stamps or Commodity, August, 1973	97,358	15,399	21,875	51,880	107,079
Percent of Poor Population served by Food Stamps or Commodity, August, 1973	47.9	38.6	47.0	48.2	65.8

<sup>1</sup>These figures have been adjusted to reflect COG structures instead of Planning Regions as referenced in the source.

Source: Texas Office of Economic Opportunity, Texas Department of Community Affairs, *Poverty in Texas*, Austin, Texas 1974.

Table 16

GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN POPULATION:  
 PERSONS AND FAMILIES WITH RELATED INCOME DATA  
 1969 INCOME DATA

County	Population	Popul. Under Poverty Level	Number of Families	No. Families Over \$15,000 Income	No. Families Under Poverty Level	Median Family Income
<u>Alamo</u>						
Atascosa	18,696	6,295	4,527	325	1,295	\$5,596
Bandera	4,747	976	1,378	138	222	6,564
Bexar	830,460	159,050	194,103	9,384	30,922	8,045
Comal	24,165	3,912	6,475	711	846	7,599
Frio	11,159	4,834	2,490	236	884	4,925
Gillespie	10,553	1,378	2,867	203	319	6,931
Guadalupe	33,554	7,204	8,546	791	1,543	6,523
Karnes	13,462	5,234	3,211	240	1,057	5,524
Kendall	6,964	1,178	1,977	246	268	7,183
Kerr	19,454	3,077	5,031	585	683	6,754
Medina	20,249	6,179	4,914	503	1,214	6,362
Wilson	13,041	3,886	3,143	254	805	5,850
Total	1,006,504	203,203	238,662	33,616	40,058	
Percentage		(20.2)		(14.1)	(16.8)	
<u>Coastal Bend</u>						
Aransas	8,902	1,880	2,435	263	415	\$6,658
Bee	22,737	6,320	5,364	401	1,242	6,358
Brooks	8,005	3,576	1,837	124	772	4,197
Duval	11,722	5,745	2,864	96	1,248	4,506
Jim Wells	33,032	10,334	7,873	751	2,094	6,747
Kenedy	678	330	156	22	47	4,586
Kleberg	33,166	8,894	7,603	715	1,681	6,967
Live Oak	6,697	2,172	1,690	143	446	5,832
McMullen	1,095	379	328	34	79	7,120
Nueces	237,544	50,342	57,039	8,737	9,732	8,165
Refugio	9,494	2,398	2,368	294	451	6,994
San Patricio	47,288	15,337	11,150	1,195	2,792	7,266
Total	420,360	107,707	100,707	12,775	20,999	
Percentage		(25.6)		(12.7)	(20.9)	



Table 16 Cont'd.

County	Population	Pop. Under Poverty Level	Number Families	No. Families Over \$15,000 Income	No. Families Under Poverty Level	Median Family Income
<u>Lower Rio Grande</u>						
Cameron	140,368	64,009	30,317	2,317	11,686	\$5,070
Hidalgo	181,535	89,938	38,122	3,001	15,995	4,761
Willacy	<u>15,570</u>	<u>8,865</u>	<u>3,375</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>1,556</u>	5,524
Total	337,473	162,812	71,814	5,564	29,237	
Percentage		(48.2)		(7.7)	(40.7)	
<u>Middle Rio Grande</u>						
Dimmit	9,039	5,257	1,959	94	999	\$4,061
Edwards	2,107	954	479	66	179	5,163
Kinney	2,006	1,229	505	28	223	3,905
LaSalle	5,014	2,656	1,126	82	539	4,055
Maverick	18,093	9,176	3,595	191	1,589	4,509
Real	2,013	728	562	47	155	4,300
Uvalde	17,348	6,137	4,071	402	1,176	5,612
Val Verde	27,471	8,035	6,422	524	1,573	6,471
Zavala	<u>11,370</u>	<u>5,493</u>	<u>2,397</u>	<u>109</u>	<u>1,034</u>	4,981
Total	94,461	39,665	21,116	1,543	7,467	
Percentage		(42.0)		(7.3)	(35.4)	
<u>South Texas</u>						
Jim Hogg	4,654	2,319	1,111	19	514	\$4,042
Starr	17,707	9,713	3,654	170	1,896	3,593
Webb	72,859	32,003	15,420	1,125	5,927	4,970
Zapata	<u>4,352</u>	<u>2,514</u>	<u>1,054</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>533</u>	3,788
Total	99,572	46,549	21,239	1,354	8,870	
Percentage		(46.7)		(6.4)	(41.8)	
Grand Total	1,958,370	559,936	453,538	54,852	106,631	\$5,656

(Estimated)

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970

Table 17

EDUCATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION  
IN THE  
GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN, 1970

Council of Governments	EDUCATION (Persons 25 yrs. & Over)				
	Median Educ. Level Yrs.	Population with less than 8 yr. Completed Education (Number) (Percent)		High School Graduates (Number) (Percent)	
Alamo Area	11.2	142,089	28.5	224,317	45.0
Coastal Bend	11.1	61,653	30.6	89,359	44.3
Lower Rio Grande	7.8	76,356	50.3	48,773	32.1
Middle Rio Grande	8.4	20,454	46.7	13,756	31.4
South Texas	7.1	24,815	55.0	13,142	29.1
State Total	11.6	1,281,468	22.0	2,756,519	47.4
GSTCB Total	10.3	325,367	34.6	389,347	41.4

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census,  
General Social and Economic Characteristics, 1970  
Census of Population, U.S. Government Printing Office,  
Washington, D.C.

Table 18  
Texas Trends in Primary Care 1963-1972

Year	Total M.D.'s In Patient Care	GP	IM	Primary Care M.D.'s*		Total	Primary Care Percentage
				Ped	Ob/Gyn		
1963	8,517	3,364	848	454	556	5,222	61.3
1964	8,761	3,329	894	475	573	5,271	60.2
1965	8,918	3,295	914	486	595	5,290	59.3
1966	9,080	3,256	923	495	614	5,288	58.2
1967**	9,272	3,226	967	506	637	5,336	57.5
1968	9,139	2,887	876	487	639	4,889	53.5
1969	9,467	2,827	891	496	671	4,885	51.6
1970	9,789	2,829	944	515	716	5,004	51.1
1971	10,105	2,808	1,012	534	734	5,086	50.3
1972	10,383	2,788	1,057	558	756	5,159	49.7

\* Excludes interns and residents.

\*\* Due to change in classification systems, the figures from 1963 to 1967 are not strictly compatible with the figures from 1968 on.

Source: *Distribution of Physicians in the U.S.* (Chicago: Center for Health Services Research and Development, American Medical Association, 1964-1973).

Table 19  
Non-Federal Physicians in Texas—1972

Specialty	Total Physicians	PATIENT CARE					Other Professional Activity+
		Total*	Practice	HOSPITAL BASED PRACTICE			
				Interns	Residents	Full-Time Physician Staff	
Total physicians	14,192	12,258	9,871	437	1,438	512	829
General practice	2,837	2,817	2,732	—	29	56	20
Medical specialties	3,064	2,776	2,101	166	393	116	288
Surgical specialties	4,045	3,928	3,177	78	599	74	117
Other specialties	3,141	2,737	1,861	193	417	266	404
Primary care#	3,271	3,038	2,284	184	473	87	243

Source: *Distribution of Physicians in the United States, 1972*, Center for Health Services Research and Development, American Medical Association.

\*Total does not include: Not Classified or Inactive.

#For purposes of comparison, General Practice figures are omitted in this category, which includes these Primary Care specialties: Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, and Obstetrics and Gynecology. These figures also are included in the Specialty counts.

+Other Professional Activities as cited here includes Medical Training, Administration, Research, and Other.

Table 20

PHYSICIAN AND DENTIST TO POPULATION RATIOS  
BY STATE PLANNING REGION AND BY COUNTY

## State Planning Region

Council of Governments	1973 Popul. Estimates	*Total Physicians	Physician to Population Ratio	Total Dentists	Dentist to Popul. Ratio
Alamo Area	1,081,800	1513	1:715	467	1:2316
Coastal Bend	441,900	459	1:963	149	1:2965
Lower Rio Grande	382,300	259	1:1476	75	1:5097
Middle Rio Grande	100,800	47	1:2145	14	1:7200
South Texas	110,300	48	1:2298	12	1:9192
Total GSTCB	2,117,100	2,326	1:910	717	1:2953
State Total	11,828,000	15,605	1:755	4,861	1:2433

## County

County	1973 Popul. Estimates	*Total Physicians	Physician to Population Ratio	Total Dentists	Dentist to Popul. Ratio
ALAMO AREA					
Atascosa	19,800	6	1:3300	3	1:6600
Bandera	5,800	1	1:5800	2	1:2900
Bexar	892,000	1,397	1:639	394	1:2264
Comal	28,300	17	1:1665	12	1:2358

Table 20 Cont'd.

County	1973 Population Estimates	*Total Physicians	Physician to Population Ratio	Total Dentists	Dentist to Popul. Ratio
Frio	11,000	2	1:5500	2	1:5500
Gillespie	11,100	10	1:1110	7	1:1586
Guadalupe	37,300	18	1:2072	16	1:2331
Karnes	12,500	5	1:2500	4	1:3125
Kendall	8,300	3	1:2767	5	1:1660
Kerr	20,900	39	1:536	15	1:1393
Medina	20,900	10	1:2090	4	1:5225
Wilson	<u>13,900</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1:2780</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1:4633</u>
TOTAL	1,081,800	1,513	1:689	467	1:2316

## COASTAL BEND

Aransas	10,000	8	1:1250	2	1:5000
Bee	24,000	10	1:2400	6	1:4000
Brooks	8,400	4	1:2100	1	1:8400
Duval	12,400	5	1:2480	-	-
Jim Wells	33,700	17	1:1982	4	1:8425
Kenedy	600	-	-	-	-
Kleberg	35,000	16	1:2188	9	1:3889

Table 20 Cont'd.

County	1973 Population Estimates	*Total Physicians	Physician to Population Ratio	Total Dentists	Dentist to Popul. Ratio
Live Oak	6,300	4	1:1575	1	1:6300
McMullen	1,000	-	-	-	-
Nueces	250,800	366	1:685	113	1:2220
Refugio	9,400	4	1:2350	2	1:4700
San Patricio	<u>50,300</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>1:2012</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>1:4573</u>
TOTAL	441,900	459	1:924	149	1:2965
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY					
Cameron	158,900	128	1:1241	36	1:4414
Hidalgo	207,100	124	1:1670	38	1:5450
Willacy	<u>16,300</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1:2329</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1:16300</u>
TOTAL	382,300	259	1:1476	75	1:5097
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE					
Dimmit	9,800	4	1:2450	-	-
Edwards	1,900	1	1:1900	-	-
Kinney	2,100	-	-	-	-
La Salle	5,200	2	1:2600	1	1:5200

Table 20 Cont'd.

County	1973 Population Estimates	*Total Physicians	Physician to Population Ratio	Total Dentists	Dentist to Popul. Ratio
Maverick	20,600	11	1:1873	1	1:20600
Real	2,300	1	1:2300	-	-
Uvalde	18,000	14	1:1286	7	1:2571
Val Verde	29,400	11	1:2673	4	1:7350
Zavala	<u>11,500</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1:3833</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1:11500</u>
TOTAL	100,800	47	1:2145	14	1:7200
SOUTH TEXAS					
Jim Hogg	4,900	2	1:2450	-	-
Starr	19,600	4	1:4900	-	-
Webb	81,200	41	1:1981	11	1:7382
Zapata	<u>4,600</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1:4600</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1:4600</u>
TOTAL	110,300	48	1:2298	12	1:9192

\* "Total Physicians" means both medical doctors and doctors of osteopathy, in 1973.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Health Resources, Unpublished Data, Austin, Texas, 1972 and 1973. 1973 Population Estimates for U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 21

## MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE GSTCB, 1973

ALAMO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS	GENERAL HOSPITALS					LONG-TERM CARE	Nursing homes	Custodial homes	Units of hospitals	Chronic	OUTPATIENT FACILITIES		
	Medicine & Surgery	ICU - CCU	Obstetrics	Pediatrics	Clinics						Emergency		
ATASCOSA CO.	2	2	1	1	1	5	4	1	0	0	3	1	2
Jourdanton	1	x	x	x	x	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pleasanton	1	x	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	1	-	1
Lytle	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-
Poteet	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
BANDERA CO.	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bandera	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-
BEXAR CO.	16*	16	10	9	8	44	35	7	1	1	22	13	9
San Antonio	16	16	10	9	8	44	35	7	1	1	22	13	9
(*Does not include 3 Federal hospitals)													
COMAL CO.	1	1	1	1	1	4	3	1	0	0	1	0	1
New Braunfels	1	x	x	x	x	4	3	1	-	-	1	-	1
FRIO CO.	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	2
Dilley	1	x	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pearsall	1	x	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
GILLESPIE CO.	1	1	0	1	0	5	4	1	0	0	1	0	1
Fredericksburg	1	x	-	x	-	5	4	1	-	-	1	-	1
GUADALUPE CO.	1	1	0	1	1	6	4	2	0	0	1	0	1
Seguin	1	x	-	x	x	5	4	1	-	-	1	-	1
Schertz	0	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	0	-	-
KARNES CO.	2	2	1	1	0	4	4	0	0	0	1	0	1
Kenedy	1	x	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	0	-	-
Karnes City	1	x	x	x	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
KENDALL CO.	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
Comfort	1	x	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Boerne	0	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	0	-	-



Table 21 Cont'd.

ALAMO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, cont'd.	GENERAL HOSPITALS	Medicine & Surgery	ICU - CCU	Obstetrics	Pediatrics	LONG-TERM CARE	Nursing homes	Custodial homes	Units of hospitals	Chronic	OUTPATIENT FACILITIES		
											Clinics	Emergency	
KERR CO.	3*	3	1	1	0	4	3	1	0	0	1	0	1
Kerrville	1*	x	x	x	-	4	3	1	-	-	1	-	1
Center Point	1	x	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Hunt	1	x	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
(*Does not include 1 Federal hospital)													
MEDINA CO.	2	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	2
Castroville	1	x	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Hondo	1	x	-	x	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Devine	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-
WILSON CO.	1	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
Floresville	1	x	-	x	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Stockdale	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-
TOTAL	32	32	14	17	11	80	65	13	1	1	36	14	22

\*\*\*\*\*

LOWER RIO GRANDE  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

CAMERON CO.	3	3	1	3	3	9	7	2	0	0	5	2	3
Harlingen	1	x	x	x	x	4	3	1	-	-	3	2	1
Brownsville	1	x	-	x	x	4	3	1	-	-	1	-	1
San Benito	1	x	-	x	x	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
HIDALGO CO.	4	4	1	4	1	10	10	0	0	0	5	1	4
McAllen	1	x	x	x	x	5	5	-	-	-	2	1	1
Edinburg	1	x	-	x	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	1
Mission	1	x	-	x	-	0	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Weslaco	1	x	-	x	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pharr	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-
San Juan	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-
WILLACY CO.	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1
Raymondville	1	x	-	x	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	1
TOTAL	8	8	2	8	4	20	18	2	0	0	12	4	8

Table 21 Cont'd.

COASTAL BEND COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS	GENERAL HOSPITALS					LONG-TERM CARE					OUTPATIENT FACILITIES		
	Medicine & Surgery	ICU - CCU	Obstetrics	Pediatrics		Nursing homes	Custodial homes	Units of hospitals	Chronic	Clinics	Emergency		
ARANSAS CO.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BEE CO.	1	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
Beeville	1	x	-	x	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	1
BROOKS CO.	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Falfurrias	1	x	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
DUVAL CO.	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Freer	1	x	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
JIM WELLS CO.	1	1	0	1	1	4	4	0	0	0	1	0	1
Alice	1	x	-	x	x	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	1
Premont	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-
San Diego	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-
KENEDY CO.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KLEBERG CO.	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Kingsville	1	x	-	x	x	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
LIVE OAK CO.	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Three Rivers	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-
MCMULLEN CO.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NUECES CO.	7*	7	3	4	3	11	8	2	0	1	12	5	7
Corpus Christi	6*	6	3	4	3	10	7	2	-	1	11	5	6
Robstown	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
(*Does not include 1 Federal hospital)													
REFUGIO CO.	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Refugio	1	x	-	x	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
SAN PATRICIO CO.	5	5	0	3	1	4	3	0	1	0	5	0	5
Aransas Pass	2	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	2
Sinton	2	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	2
Taft	1	x	-	x	x	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
TOTAL	18	18	3	11	6	25	21	2	1	1	23	5	18

Table 21 Cont'd.

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL	GENERAL HOSPITALS					LONG-TERM CARE					OUTPATIENT FACILITIES		
	Medicine & Surgery	ICU - CCU	Obstetrics	Pediatrics		Nursing homes	Custodial homes	Units of hospitals	Chronic		Clinics	Emergency	
DIMITT CO. Carrizo Springs	1 x	0 -	1 x	1 x	1 1	1 1	0 -	0 -	0 -	1 1	0 -	1 1	
EDWARDS CO. Rocksprings	1 x	0 -	1 x	0 -	0 0	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 -	1 1	0 -	1 1	
KINNEY CO.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
LaSALLE CO. Cotulla	1 x	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 0	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 -	1 1	0 -	1 1	
MAVERICK CO. Eagle Pass	1 x	1 x	1 x	1 x	0 0	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 -	2 2	1 1	1 1	
REAL CO.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
UVALDE CO. Uvalde	1 x	0 -	1 x	0 -	3 3	2 2	0 -	1 1	0 -	1 1	0 -	1 1	
VAL VERDE CO. Del Rio (*Does not include 1 Federal hospital)	1* 1*	1 x	0 -	1 x	0 -	2 2	2 2	0 -	0 -	1 1	0 -	1 1	
ZAVALA CO. Crystal City	1 x	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 0	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 -	1 1	0 -	1 1	
TOTAL	7	7	1	5	2	6	5	0	1	0	8	1	7

Table 21 Cont'd.

SOUTH TEXAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL	GENERAL HOSPITALS					LONG-TERM CARE					OUTPATIENT FACILITIES		
	Medicine & Surgery	ICU - CCU	Obstetrics	Pediatrics		Nursing homes	Custodial homes	Units of hospitals	Chronic		Clinics	Emergency	
JIM HOGG CO.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
STARR CO.	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	
Rio Grande City	1	x	-	x	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	
WEBB CO.	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	1	0	0	2	1	
Laredo	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	1	-	-	2	1	
ZAPATA CO.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	3	3	2	3	1	4	3	1	0	0	4	2	
*****													
GSTCB TOTAL	68	68	22	44	24	135	112	18	3	2	83	26	
*****													

Source: Texas Department of Health Resources, Texas Medical Facilities Plan, 1975, Austin, Texas.

Table 22

SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS FOR COUNTIES  
IN THE GSTCB BY STATE PLANNING REGION

Region/County	Total Year-Round Housing Units	Lacking Some or All Plumbing Facilities	Owner Occupied		Renter Occupied		Crowded; 1.01 or More Persons Per Room
			Total	Median Value (\$)	Total	Median Rent (\$)	
<b>ALAMO</b>							
Atascosa	6,129	1,670	3,977	6,400	1,334	45	1,051
Bandera	3,349	540	1,306	9,500	456	48	181
Bexar	248,915	15,589	148,446	12,200	85,110	72	35,228
Comal	9,327	623	5,762	12,100	1,920	63	977
Frio	3,409	1,094	2,019	6,300	902	34	848
Gillespie	4,380	548	3,038	11,100	676	47	269
Guadalupe	11,709	1,596	7,371	10,600	2,937	57	1,329
Karnes	4,467	1,361	2,834	7,000	1,073	41	709
Kendall	3,151	444	1,854	12,400	575	57	216
Kerr	7,669	331	4,624	11,500	1,968	62	548
Medina	6,902	1,578	4,486	8,100	1,282	44	1,150
Wilson	4,326	1,347	2,727	7,500	1,031	35	718
TOTAL	313,733	26,721	188,444	-	99,264	-	43,224

Table 22 Cont'd.

Region/County	Total Year-Round Housing Units	Lacking Some or All Plumbing Facilities	Owner Occupied		Renter Occupied		Crowded; 1.01 or More Persons Per Room
			Total	Median Value (\$)	Total	Median Rent (\$)	
COASTAL BEND							
Aransas	4,096	257	2,225	11,400	720	64	438
Bee	7,283	1,291	3,810	8,000	2,622	66	1,000
Brooks	2,478	722	1,674	5,800	546	44	491
Duval	3,916	1,427	2,573	5,000	699	33	775
Jim Wells	10,058	1,968	6,337	6,800	2,603	54	2,106
Kenedy	190	23	31	6,100	132	30	55
Kleberg	9,597	790	5,266	10,000	3,637	77	1,375
Live Oak	3,076	482	1,470	7,300	608	47	356
McMullen	433	138	235	5,500	99	30	60
Nueces	73,883	4,118	42,311	11,400	24,739	69	10,884
Refugio	3,308	508	1,897	8,200	917	49	429
San Patricio	14,965	3,348	9,051	9,700	3,608	55	2,773
TOTAL	133,283	15,072	76,880	-	40,930	-	20,742

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Table 22 Cont'd.

Region/County	Total Year-Round Housing Units	Lacking Some or All Plumbing Facilities	Owner Occupied		Renter Occupied		Crowded; 1.01 or More Persons Per Room
			Total	Median Value (\$)	Total	Median Rent (\$)	
<b>LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY</b>							
Cameron	40,565	9,595	23,879	7,100	11,553	47	10,239
Hidalgo	48,916	13,641	30,689	6,500	12,836	46	14,681
Willacy	4,586	1,549	2,795	5,500	1,013	39	1,178
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94,067</b>	<b>24,785</b>	<b>57,363</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,402</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,098</b>
<b>MIDDLE RIO GRANDE</b>							
Dimmit	2,723	1,269	1,572	5,000	618	34	739
Edwards	818	117	431	6,500	214	34	144
Kinney	711	209	362	5,000	235	30	140
LaSalle	1,631	752	951	5,000	424	30	395
Maverick	4,612	1,316	2,443	7,700	1,654	44	1,554
Real	966	200	470	5,900	208	36	118
Uvalde	6,158	1,199	3,591	8,300	1,463	47	980
Val Verde	8,264	902	4,119	8,800	3,162	67	1,554
Zavala	3,083	1,086	1,880	6,600	806	30	972
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,966</b>	<b>7,050</b>	<b>15,819</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,784</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,596</b>

Table 22 Cont'd.

Region/County	Total Year-Round Housing Units	Lacking Some or All Plumbing Facilities	Owner Occupied		Renter Occupied		Crowded; 1.01 or More Persons Per Room
			Total	Median Value (\$)	Total	Median Rent (\$)	
SOUTH TEXAS							
Jim Hogg	1,514	447	897	5,000	356	35	294
Starr	4,646	2,355	3,358	5,000	753	32	1,523
Webb	19,273	3,680	10,541	7,500	7,326	47	5,527
Zapata	1,637	762	934	5,000	265	32	328
TOTAL	27,070	7,244	15,730	-	8,700	-	7,672
<hr/>							
GSTCB	597,119	80,812	354,236	-	-	-	104,332
STATE	3,808,406	293,247	2,221,795	12,000	-	76	388,041

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1970 Census of Housing, General Housing Characteristics - Texas, HC(1)-A45 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1971), pp. 164-167.



Table 23

ESTIMATED FEDERALLY SUBSIDIZED HOUSING UNITS  
IN THE GSTCB BY STATE PLANNING REGION

COG Region	Public Housing	Elderly Units	HUD Section 8	FmHA	HUD 235	HUD 236	HUD 221(1)(3)	Other	Total
AACOG	7,431	1,244	502	NA	1,090	3,701	1,608	2,556	18,132
CBCOG	3,438	619	33	425	751	978	224	52	6,520
LRGVDC	4,403	703	104	NA	2,415(est.)	581	243	172	8,621
MRGDC	957	72	55	NA	NA	112	96	NA	1,292
STDC	672	100	59	50	100	204	160	82	1,427
GSTCB Totals	16,091	2,738	753	475	4,356	5,576	2,331	2,862	35,992

Sources: Texas Department of Community Affairs, Housing Division, Information on public housing and HUD, Section 8 housing, 1977, and

L. K. Travis and Associates, Housing Profile Study (for the Alamo Area Council of Governments), 1973, and

Mary McClintock Walters, "A Study of Housing in the Border Region," Thesis, 1973.

NA - Not Available

Table 24

1976 FEDERAL OUTLAYS--SELECTED AGENCY OPERATIONS  
IN THE GREATER SOUTH TEXAS CULTURAL BASIN

(Thousands of Dollars)

State Planning Region	Agric. <sup>1</sup>	Commerce	Defense	H.E.W.	H.U.D.
Alamo	82,263	4,546	1,343,998	481,150	19,699
Coastal Bend	30,562	1,239	285,234	189,545	6,462
Lower Rio Grande	66,615	1,509	30,619	187,677	9,868
Middle Rio Grande	16,076	1,138	69,799	44,481	2,035
South Texas	17,557	2,671	1,734	61,822	2,781
GSTCB Total	213,073	11,103	1,731,384	964,675	40,845
Texas Total	1,047,566	36,968	5,649,598	5,714,390	138,270
GSTCB % of State Total	20.3	30.0	30.7	16.9	29.5

State Planning Region	Labor	Transp.	Treasury <sup>2</sup>	V.A.	Outlays of All Agencies <sup>3</sup>
Alamo	37,527	18,311	61,000	129,902	2,319,287
Coastal Bend	14,775	16,233	27,639	31,504	656,564
Lower Rio Grande	21,732	3,851	25,930	16,997	411,777
Middle Rio Grande	1,138	13,150	7,217	5,043	176,974
South Texas	7,529	2,463	12,415	5,159	138,149
GSTCB Total	82,701	54,008	134,201	188,605	3,702,751
Texas Total	350,302	375,367	899,478	1,198,704	17,689,340
GSTCB % of State Total	23.6	14.4	14.9	15.7	20.9

Source: Federal Outlays in Texas--1976, Community Services Administration.

<sup>1</sup>Includes Food Stamp and School Food Programs

<sup>2</sup>Includes Revenue Sharing

<sup>3</sup>Includes outlays of other agencies not listed





