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Border Business Indicators

College of Business Administration & Graduate School for International Trade
Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

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Note from the Director

Indicators of border business activity for the month of July demonstrated an increase of thirteen indicators over eight indicators that decreased. In addition, for the year-to-date (YTD) figures, fifteen indicators were up and five were down. Selected YTD comparisons to 1999 reported by border cities include the following:

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were down 1.6 percents. Laredo gained 0.9 percent, Rio Grande jumped 24.1 percent, McAllen registered an increase of 7.4 and El Paso rose 0.8 percent.
- Southbound vehicle crossings were up 2.7 percent. Brownsville grew by 2.0 percent, and Eagle Pass gained 11.3 percent. El Paso went up 8.8 percent and Laredo rose 2.4 percent. Pharr increased 6.5 percent.
- Southbound truck crossings into Mexico were up 9.7 percent. Eagle Pass went up 64.2 percent. Pharr increased 26.6 percent, and Laredo rose 10.3 percent. Harlingen was up 4.0 percent.
- Northbound truck crossings into Texas were up 5.3 percent, Falcon increased 18.2 percent, Pharr gained 16.7 percent and Eagle Pass posted a 9.1 percent increase. Brownsville increased 15.3 percent, Laredo rose 1.3 percent, Del Rio marked an increase of 7.5 percent, as well as Rio Grande with a gain of 9.7 percent.
- Southbound shipments by rail were up 11.1 percent.
- Northbound shipments by rail were up 18.7 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs were down by 0.5 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Bridge operators were up 8.3 percent.
- Total building permits issued were up 4.2 percent. Laredo rose 24.1 percent, Eagle Pass gained 34.0 percent, while McAllen-Hidalgo rose 4.7 percent, and Brownsville registered an increase of 12.3 percent.
- Total building permit values increased 8.2 percent. Laredo increased 50.9 percent, and Brownsville rose 33.9 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo gained 3.2 percent.
- Total employment was up 1.6 percent, with 6,808 jobs gained. The average unemployment rate in July 2000 was 8.3 percent for the border.

We are pleased to announce that northbound vehicle and pedestrian crossings will be available in the November issue of the BBI. Thank you for your patience. We would like to extend our gratitude to Caminos y Puentes for their continued support.

Visit the Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development's web site at <http://www.tamui.edu/coba/txcntr/>.

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Technical Report No. 2:	The Impact of NAFTA on U.S.-Mexico Commercial and Border Zones and the Potential Consequences to the Border (February 1994)
Technical Report No. 3:	Labor Mobility Under NAFTA: It's Impact on the Border (February 1994)
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Technical Report No. 9:	NAFTA Certificate of Origin (May 1994)
Technical Report No. 10:	The Texas Border with Mexico: Opportunities and Challenges (October 1994)
Technical Report No. 12:	NAFTA One Year After Implementation: A Preliminary Assessment of Selected Impacts (March 1995) <i>Hardcopy only</i>

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Please note that the data contained in this and all issues of the Border Business Indicators is collected from different government agencies and private sources. Readers should note that different data-collecting agencies use dissimilar, often conflicting, techniques in collecting and compiling the information they publish. Because of this lack of uniformity, comparing different data could result in erroneous conclusions. While we are most grateful to our sources for their cooperation, we cannot assume responsibility for the comparability of the data.

Machinery and Transportation Equipment Head the List of Products Exported to Mexico by Way of Texas Border Ports

In an earlier issue of the *BBI* (July 2000), a table was presented exhibiting the top three U.S. exports to Mexico handled by individual Texas-Mexico border ports for the period of January-May 2000. At times, the detailed 5-digit Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) descriptions for the top three dominated the table and did not allow for a more inclusive depiction of what types of products pass through these ports. By stepping back and looking at a more general description (see the list below), one can acquire a feel for the activities taking place on the border.

- SITC 0 - Food And Live Animals
- SITC 1 - Beverages And Tobacco
- SITC 2 - Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels
- SITC 3 - Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials
- SITC 4 - Animal And Vegetable Oils, Fats And Waxes
- SITC 5 - Chemicals And Related Products
- SITC 6 - Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly By Material
- SITC 7 - Machinery And Transport Equipment
- SITC 8 - Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles
- SITC 9 - Commodities And Transactions Not Classified Elsewhere In The SITC

The tables to the right, which are continued on the next page, show the ranked order of the U.S. dollar values for the products that were exported to Mexico through the respective ports for January through May 2000. The aggregate dollar value of all groups at all Texas-Mexico border ports for this period was a little over \$30.0 billion dollars and the group that comprised the biggest percentage was SITC 7 —machinery and transport equipment— with 54.5 percent of the total or \$16.4 billion. SITC groups that also registered values of over a billion dollars were SITC 6, SITC 8, SITC 5 and SITC 0.

The ports that handled 76.8 percent of the group 7 amount were Laredo with \$8.6 billion (52.8%) and El Paso with \$3.9 billion (24.0%). Nine of the eleven ports had SITC 7 ranked as the top dollar value. The remaining two ports were Rio Grande which registered SITC 9 at the top, and Progreso which recorded SITC 0 in the top position.

With over \$4.9 billion dollars total for all Texas border ports combined, SITC 6 —manufactured goods classified chiefly by material— was the second ranked group in terms of value. It comprised 16.4 percent of the total exports for January through May 2000.

Laredo and El Paso were the ports that again processed about \$3.8 billion, or 77.9 percent of the whole.

SITC 8's —miscellaneous manufactured articles— total value for all border ports in Texas was \$3.5 billion. This constituted 11.6 percent of all exports for the same period.

Laredo's share of the value was 42.1 percent, or about \$1.5 billion. El Paso garnered the next biggest share of 30.6 percent, or \$1.1 billion.

These three groups (6,7,8) combined accounted for \$24.8 billion, or 82.5 percent of the total \$30.0 billion in exports into Mexico. These products appear to have been destined for Mexico's manufacturing and consumer sectors as illustrated in the following short lists of the product descriptions. The lists take all Texas border ports

U.S. Exports to Mexico via Texas Border Ports, May 2000 Y-T-D (US\$ Millions)

Brownsville

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	146.170	167.261	246.351	284.578	252.304	1,096.664
6	70.163	63.680	90.956	118.749	91.208	434.756
5	46.646	56.936	91.916	67.686	76.629	339.813
8	31.837	29.903	38.894	43.711	43.655	188.000
2	13.317	33.326	36.594	22.955	28.747	134.939
3	13.634	21.646	16.754	14.860	16.643	83.537
0	5.269	7.100	11.179	10.385	9.659	43.592
9	5.483	2.192	6.976	2.955	2.729	20.335
4	0.329	5.179	0.723	0.820	0.702	7.753
1	0.195	0.276	0.337	0.471	0.289	1.568
Total	333.043	387.499	540.680	567.170	522.565	2,350.957

Del Rio

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	48.653	48.259	38.883	40.430	42.024	218.249
6	21.862	24.189	20.161	22.661	23.284	112.157
8	20.025	23.785	16.755	18.540	16.908	96.013
0	4.199	5.354	5.151	3.533	4.467	22.704
5	3.813	3.923	4.449	4.058	5.005	21.248
2	0.435	0.624	0.501	0.245	0.568	2.373
9	0.418	0.637	0.549	0.419	0.278	2.301
3	0.048	0.925	0.067	0.073	0.075	1.188
1	0.000	0.003	0.021	0.019	0.016	0.059
4	0.000	0.006	0.008	0.011	0.009	0.034
Total	99.453	107.705	86.545	89.989	92.634	476.326

Eagle Pass

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	124.910	152.407	182.528	185.218	217.890	862.953
8	57.942	58.694	68.565	62.942	71.949	320.092
6	52.559	42.059	52.361	48.048	51.001	246.028
2	20.372	30.006	24.078	20.101	23.458	118.015
3	17.294	17.409	20.058	9.817	10.820	75.398
0	9.799	17.659	12.482	21.898	13.361	75.199
9	7.288	7.135	9.163	8.100	8.783	40.469
5	4.752	6.809	5.948	5.158	4.984	27.651
4	0.348	1.649	0.142	1.112	1.304	4.555
1	0.053	0.014	0.138	0.072	0.142	0.419
Total	295.317	333.841	375.463	362.466	403.692	1,770.779

Laredo

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	1,534.487	1,680.814	1,971.121	1,825.135	1,633.047	8,644.604
6	417.584	505.851	576.597	537.132	459.782	2,496.946
5	264.413	320.855	380.813	333.048	305.529	1,604.658
8	225.141	293.044	362.159	319.480	267.088	1,466.912
0	122.743	132.493	141.931	153.328	127.942	678.437
2	101.328	104.398	128.468	128.876	100.509	563.579
9	40.618	47.352	44.475	47.454	40.133	220.032
3	10.038	8.153	11.411	11.510	10.244	51.356
4	8.719	10.881	7.684	11.142	7.725	46.151
1	4.569	2.240	2.473	1.621	2.125	13.028
Total	2,729.640	3,106.081	3,627.132	3,368.726	2,954.124	15,785.703

Hidalgo

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	280.801	270.196	348.147	320.701	343.005	1,562.850
8	63.186	57.338	70.725	57.686	71.497	320.432
6	47.836	46.782	66.351	53.576	61.687	276.232
0	23.633	22.634	20.741	17.666	19.244	103.918
5	15.004	13.459	17.132	15.136	17.302	78.033
9	6.109	6.503	7.068	4.758	6.800	31.238
3	2.584	0.251	0.813	2.854	7.319	13.821
2	3.119	2.337	2.838	2.269	2.511	13.074
1	0.247	0.336	0.342	1.592	3.331	5.848
4	0.169	0.237	0.227	0.202	0.187	1.022
Total	442.688	420.073	534.384	476.440	532.883	2,406.468

into account but are arranged according to highest dollar value within their respective groups.

SITC 7

- Motor Vehicles For The Transport Of Persons (Other Than Public Transport), N.E.S.
- Other Parts And Accessories Of Motor Vehicle Bodies Of Headings 8701 To 8705 (Including Cabs)
- Parts And Accessories N.E.S. For Tractors, Motor Cars And Other Motor Vehicles, Trucks, Public-Transport Vehicles And Road Motor Vehicles, N.E.S.
- Digital Monolithic Integrated Units
- Compression-Ignition Engines (Diesel Or Semi-Diesel), For Road Vehicles, Etc.
- Transmission Apparatus For Radiotelephony, Radiotelegraphy, Radiobroadcasting Or Television, Incorporating Reception Apparatus
- Motor Vehicles For The Transport Of Goods, N.E.S.
- Gear Boxes
- Drive Axles With Differential, Whether Or Not Provided With Other Transmission Components, For Tractors, Motor Cars And Other Motor Vehicles, Etc.
- Television Picture Tubes, Color

SITC 6

- Articles Of Iron Or Steel, N.E.S.
- Knitted Or Crocheted Fabrics, N.E.S.
- Woven Manmade Textile Fabrics, N.E.S., Not Under 85% (Weight) Textured Filaments Of Polyester (Other Than Pile Or Chenille And Narrow Etc. Fabrics)
- Cotton Woven Fabrics, N.E.S., Denim, Not Under 85% (Weight) Cotton, Weighing Over 200 G/M2
- Articles Of Iron Or Steel, N.E.S.
- Cartons, Boxes And Cases Of Corrugated Paper Or Paperboard
- New Pneumatic Rubber Tires, Of A Kind Used On Motor Cars (Including Station Wagons And Racing Cars)
- New Pneumatic Rubber Tires, Of A Kind Used On Buses And Trucks
- Articles Of Iron Or Steel, N.E.S.
- Quilted Textile Products In The Piece Composed Of One Or More Layers Of Textile Materials Assembled With Padding, N.E.S.

SITC 8

- Articles Of Plastics, N.E.S.
- Jerseys, Pullovers, Cardigans, Waistcoats And Similar Articles, Knitted Or Crocheted
- T-Shirts, Singlets (Undershirts), Tank Tops And Similar Garments, Of Knitted Or Crocheted Textile Fabrics
- Articles Of Plastics, N.E.S.
- Parts Of Seats, N.E.S.
- Photographic Film In Rolls, Sensitised, Unexposed, Except Of Paper, Paperboard Or Textiles; Instant Print Film In Rolls, Sensitised, Unexposed
- Articles For The Conveyance Or Packing Of Goods, N.E.S., Of Plastics; Stoppers, Lids, Caps And Other Closures, Of Plastics
- Articles Of Plastics, N.E.S.
- Articles For The Conveyance Or Packing Of Goods, N.E.S., Of Plastics; Stoppers, Lids, Caps And Other Closures, Of Plastics

These lists are a sampling of the products that are exported to Mexico by way of the Texas border ports. A complete list would be too lengthy to include.

The last two groups which were over \$1.0 billion in value were SITC 5—chemicals and related products—with \$2.4 billion accounting for 7.9 percent share of the total value of exports and SITC 0—food and live animals—with \$1.1 billion, or 3.8 percent.

Laredo handled 67.8 percent or \$1.6 billion worth of group 5, and Brownsville a distant second with 14.4 percent share, or \$340 million.

Again, the port of Laredo processed 59.5 percent, or \$678 million of group 0, and El Paso garnered a 14.7 percent share, or \$168 million.

The five groups (7, 6, 8, 5, 0) accounted for 94.2 percent of the total export value, or \$28.3 billion.

If you wish to see the latest available data on U.S. exports, visit our web site and click on the *Border Trade Data* link. Next month, we take a look at 2000 year-to-date figures by SITC for U.S. imports from Mexico.

—B. G. Garcia

Rio Grande

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
9	2.133	3.291	3.172	2.953	2.889	14.438
6	1.142	1.318	1.866	2.070	2.002	8.398
0	1.627	1.671	1.565	2.198	0.896	7.957
8	1.772	1.538	1.567	1.388	1.595	7.860
2	0.833	2.243	1.151	1.042	1.579	6.848
5	0.152	0.620	0.496	0.491	0.573	2.332
7	0.227	0.416	0.471	0.542	0.267	1.923
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	7.886	11.097	10.288	10.684	9.801	49.756

Progreso

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
0	8.042	6.476	9.320	8.215	7.201	39.254
6	0.870	1.273	1.777	0.350	0.963	5.233
2	1.044	0.953	1.053	0.548	0.884	4.482
5	0.796	0.450	0.384	0.104	0.241	1.975
8	0.492	0.353	0.205	0.016	0.206	1.272
7	0.049	0.014	0.171	0.290	0.080	0.604
9	0.149	0.132	0.028	0.046	0.100	0.455
1	0.000	0.111	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.111
3	0.000	0.000	0.006	0.000	0.000	0.006
4	0.006	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.006
Total	11.448	9.762	12.944	9.569	9.675	53.398

Roma

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	3.578	3.512	6.120	4.282	4.673	22.165
8	0.865	0.887	0.645	1.042	0.663	4.102
2	0.381	0.454	0.538	0.394	0.762	2.529
1	0.528	0.369	0.247	0.458	0.855	2.457
6	0.603	0.539	0.487	0.378	0.377	2.384
9	0.338	0.468	0.455	0.290	0.354	1.905
5	0.228	0.142	0.290	0.143	0.241	1.044
0	0.086	0.052	0.076	0.069	0.059	0.342
3	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.009	0.009
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	6.607	6.423	8.858	7.056	7.993	36.937

El Paso

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	710.687	724.980	904.805	779.113	804.732	3,924.317
6	239.733	252.436	312.515	256.272	277.499	1,338.455
8	187.161	206.364	236.308	213.206	222.137	1,065.176
5	50.479	57.164	64.905	52.685	62.363	287.596
0	27.755	31.985	40.583	29.291	38.422	168.036
3	16.981	20.837	21.341	17.067	24.926	101.152
2	9.055	17.797	19.735	14.238	31.906	92.731
9	6.302	6.547	6.897	4.532	6.026	30.304
1	0.811	0.743	1.210	0.908	0.941	4.613
4	0.592	0.788	0.863	0.968	1.243	4.454
Total	1,249.556	1,319.641	1,609.162	1,368.280	1,470.195	7,016.834

Presidio

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	13.275	4.708	4.690	3.269	4.597	30.539
8	2.665	4.441	1.681	1.963	5.304	16.054
6	1.467	0.874	0.535	1.043	1.038	4.957
2	0.395	0.448	0.735	0.929	0.857	3.364
5	0.411	0.848	0.224	0.382	0.639	2.504
9	0.284	0.375	0.112	0.118	0.436	1.325
0	0.155	0.193	0.294	0.183	0.081	0.906
4	0.027	0.011	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.038
1	0.006	0.008	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.014
3	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004
Total	18.685	11.910	8.271	7.887	12.952	59.705

Fabens

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	0.000	0.049	0.759	0.000	0.000	0.808
6	0.000	0.000	0.010	0.000	0.000	0.010
8	0.000	0.010	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.010
3	0.000	0.000	0.007	0.000	0.000	0.007
Total	0.000	0.059	0.776	0.000	0.000	0.835

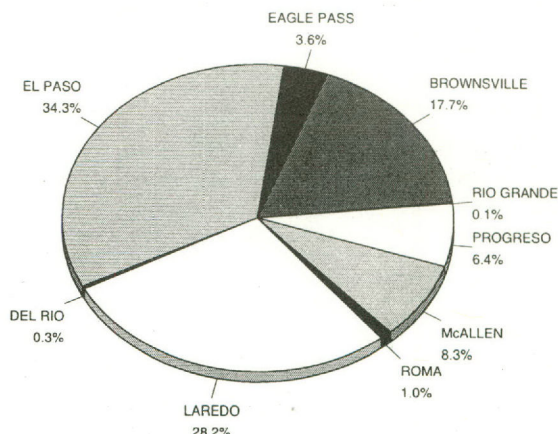
Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Mexico

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	219,974	205,219	228,398	239,297	1,755,236	1,611,728	-8.2
DEL RIO	3,611	4,059	4,283	4,897	32,355	28,112	-13.1
EAGLE PASS	51,857	45,084	46,924	58,052	411,063	355,660	-13.5
EL PASO	443,852	429,497	443,251	449,257	2,998,128	3,021,993	0.8
HARLINGEN	123	56	0	0	422	420	-0.5
LAREDO	351,348	336,591	364,707	362,477	2,479,466	2,501,539	0.9
McALLEN-HIDALGO	103,500	100,342	107,764	103,084	731,659	785,626	7.4
PROGRESO	69,308	67,574	82,763	85,770	892,697	851,169	-4.7
RIO GRANDE	1,090	713	823	556	5,292	6,566	24.1
ROMA	14,707	12,333	12,641	13,757	109,642	102,617	-6.4
TOTAL	1,259,370	1,201,468	1,291,554	1,317,147	9,415,960	9,265,430	-1.6

Source: Data provided by U.S. bridge operators in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico for July were up 7.5 percent. Rio Grande increased 15.4 percent, Brownsville gained 11.3 percent, Eagle Pass rose 4.1 percent, El Paso went up 3.2 percent, and Laredo went up 8.4 percent. Progreso jumped 22.5 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo was up 7.4 percent. YTD, total southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico slipped 1.6 percent. El Paso southbound pedestrian crossings, which make up 32.6 percent of all crossings, increased a slight 0.8 percent YTD. Laredo, accounting for 27.0 percent of total crossings, increased 0.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with a 17.4 percent share, decreased 8.2 percent YTD. Progreso, with 9.2 percent share, declined 4.7 percent.

% Share Pedestrians for July 2000



Vehicle Bridge Crossings into Mexico

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	642,892	620,316	650,583	657,736	4,306,242	4,393,785	2.0
DEL RIO	163,472	156,205	155,401	172,430	1,183,216	1,113,272	-5.9
EAGLE PASS	261,259	238,047	248,447	229,367	1,613,828	1,796,237	11.3
EL PASO	485,828	479,383	498,240	424,128	3,040,224	3,306,655	8.8
HARLINGEN	48,302	45,969	51,526	50,515	341,312	336,182	-1.5
LAREDO	754,565	750,271	757,409	747,156	4,968,789	5,088,664	2.4
McALLEN-HIDALGO	516,990	486,089	508,389	510,413	3,510,808	3,470,417	-1.2
PHARR	179,557	169,403	171,579	176,145	1,150,650	1,225,855	6.5
PROGRESO	94,318	86,895	95,113	97,736	731,288	677,474	-7.4
RIO GRANDE	50,825	46,849	48,329	56,034	378,572	349,021	-7.8
ROMA	99,785	92,364	96,304	94,307	626,333	679,429	8.5
TOTAL	3,297,793	3,171,791	3,281,320	3,215,967	21,851,262	22,436,991	2.7

Source: Data provided by U.S. bridge operators in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Southbound vehicle bridge crossings into Mexico were up 3.5 percent in July from June's figures. Eagle Pass was up 4.4 percent, Del Rio dropped a slight 0.5 percent, Rio Grande gained 3.2 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo rose 4.6 percent, and Brownsville went up 4.9 percent. Harlingen increased 12.1 percent, and Laredo went up 1.0 percent. YTD total southbound vehicle bridge crossings were up 2.7 percent. Laredo, with 22.7 percent of all south-

bound traffic, was up 2.4 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 19.6 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 2.0 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 14.7 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, rose 8.8 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 15.5 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 1.2 percent decrease YTD.

Truck Crossings into Mexico —Number of Trucks

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE+	20,324	20,698	18,360	17,410	142,730	137,459	-3.7
DEL RIO+	3,453	3,094	3,029	5,542	39,057	32,967	-15.6
EAGLE PASS+	10,219	7,831	9,545	8,432	39,333	64,578	64.2
EL PASO+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	0	N/A
HARLINGEN+	7,971	8,814	6,688	7,787	43,517	45,259	4.0
LAREDO+	122,209	123,062	115,011	111,405	732,086	807,310	10.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO+	4,004	3,963	3,885	4,432	30,135	28,202	-6.4
PHARR+	22,086	21,250	19,820	17,506	118,875	150,466	26.6
PROGRESO+	2,016	1,333	1,801	1,782	15,029	13,413	-10.8
RIO GRANDE+	1,740	1,630	1,684	1,999	14,646	12,966	-11.5
ROMA+	1,406	1,340	1,302	1,339	8,493	9,312	9.6
TOTAL	195,428	193,015	181,125	177,634	1,183,901	1,301,932	10.0

Source: Data provided by U.S. bridge operators in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

+ Includes both loaded and empty trucks.

++ Includes loaded trucks only.

+++ El Paso does not separate loaded trucks from other vehicles and therefore is not reported.

Southbound truck crossings into Mexico were down 6.2 percent in July. Harlingen dropped 24.1 percent, Del Rio decreased 2.1 percent, and Pharr went down 6.7 percent. Rio Grande gained 3.3 percent. Laredo slid 6.5 percent, and Brownsville decreased 11.3 percent. YTD southbound truck crossings were up 9.7 percent. Laredo, with 62.1 percent of all southbound crossings, experienced

a 10.3 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with 10.6 percent of all southbound crossings, had a 3.7 percent decrease YTD. Pharr, with 11.6 percent, registered an increase of 26.6 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 5.0 percent of all truck crossings, jumped 64.2 percent YTD.

Truck Crossings into Texas —Number of Trucks

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	27,771	27,756	25,248	25,007	158,807	182,766	15.1
DEL RIO	5,420	5,436	4,691	4,724	33,588	36,100	7.5
EAGLE PASS	9,876	8,941	8,361	8,024	57,539	62,774	9.1
FALCON	48	31	35	34	258	305	18.2
LAREDO	131,385	131,162	119,027	129,675	853,169	864,449	1.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHARR	32,856	31,603	30,371	25,469	189,507	221,167	16.7
PROGRESO	1,043	1,062	1,101	2,128	10,882	6,850	-37.1
RIO GRANDE	1,931	1,860	1,775	1,596	12,465	13,668	9.7
ROMA	1,268	1,050	1,060	1,319	9,083	7,796	-14.2
TOTAL	211,598	208,901	191,669	197,976	1,325,298	1,395,875	5.3

Source: Data provided by the South Texas CMC in Laredo and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Editor's Note: Figures represent loaded and empty trucks.

July northbound truck crossings into Texas decreased 8.2 percent over June's crossings. Eagle Pass was down 6.5 percent, Brownsville slipped 9.0 percent, Progreso rose 3.7 percent, Pharr slid 3.9 percent. Laredo decreased 9.3 percent. Roma grew 1.0 percent, Falcon gained 12.9 percent, and Del Rio went down 13.7 percent. Rio Grande dropped 4.6 percent. YTD northbound truck crossings

were up 5.3 percent. Laredo, accounting for 61.9 percent of all northbound truck crossings, had a 1.3 percent increase YTD. Pharr, with 15.8 percent of all crossings, experienced a 16.7 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with a 13.1 percent of all northbound truck crossings, experienced a 15.1 percent increase YTD.

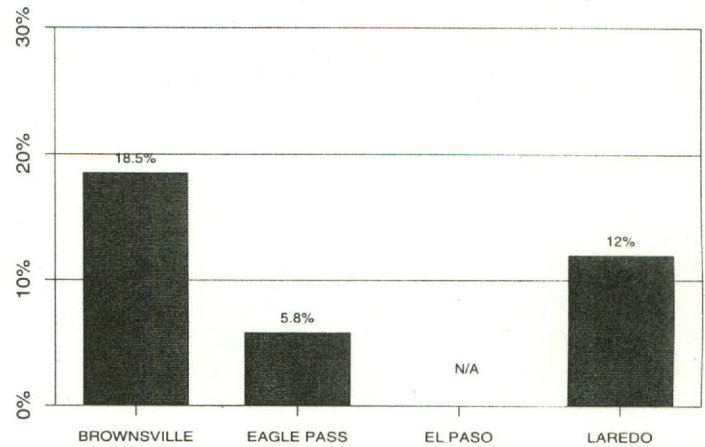
Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	2,885	3,164	2,752	2,214	17,806	21,104	18.5
EAGLE PASS	6,333	4,973	4,966	5,608	41,356	43,772	5.8
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	16,777	15,094	13,683	12,294	92,341	103,398	12.0
TOTAL	25,995	23,231	21,401	20,116	151,503	168,274	11.1

Source: Data provided by railroad companies serving cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Southbound rail shipments into Mexico decreased 7.9 percent in July compared to June. Brownsville dropped 13.0 percent, while Laredo declined 9.3 percent. Eagle Pass slipped 0.1 percent. YTD total southbound rail shipments into Mexico from Texas were up 11.1 percent. Laredo which accounted for 61.4 percent of all southbound rail shipments, was up 12.0 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 26.0 percent of all southbound rail shipments, increased 5.8 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 12.5 percent of all southbound rail shipments, showed an increase of 18.5 percent YTD.

Export Rail YTD % Change 99-00



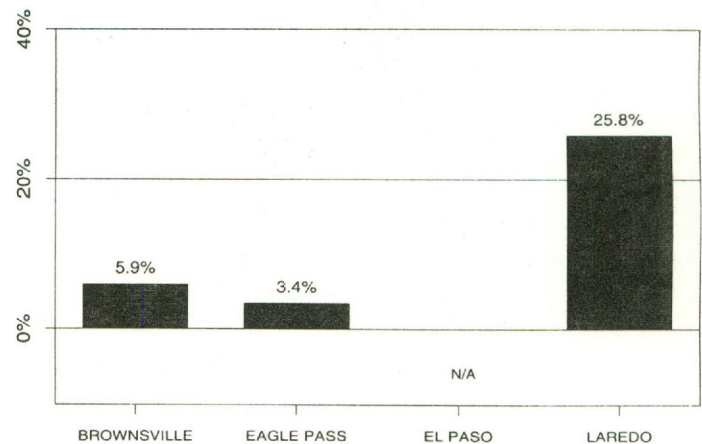
Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,188	1,056	951	568	6,741	7,138	5.9
EAGLE PASS	4,261	4,188	4,099	3,607	25,686	26,572	3.4
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	11,835	13,171	13,176	10,811	67,879	85,369	25.8
TOTAL	17,284	18,415	18,226	14,986	100,306	119,079	18.7

Source: Data provided by railroad companies serving cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Northbound rail shipments into Texas decreased 1.0 percent in July. Laredo increased 0.04 percent, but Brownsville was down 9.9 percent and Eagle Pass dropped 2.1 percent. YTD total northbound shipments into Texas from Mexico were up 18.7 percent. Laredo, which accounted for 71.7 percent of all northbound rail shipments, was up 25.8 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 22.3 percent of all northbound rail shipments, grew 3.4 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 6.0 percent of all northbound rail shipments, gained 5.9 percent YTD.

Import Rail YTD % Change 99-00



Revenues (in U.S. Dollars) Collected by U.S. Customs District of Laredo

CITY	DUTY JUL 00	MPF JUL 00	OTHER REVENUE JUL 00	TOTAL REVENUE JUL 00	TOTAL REVENUE JUL 99	YTD REVENUE JUL 99	YTD REVENUE JUL 00	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,585,998	173,560	238,601	5,998,159	2,352,542	17,458,941	33,944,179	94.4
DEL RIO	187,921	26,243	20,667	234,831	225,648	2,223,380	1,448,018	-34.9
EAGLE PASS	327,553	10,015	4,308,202	4,645,770	4,414,843	25,013,950	21,895,559	-12.5
LAREDO	9,006,085	659,526	9,748,206	19,413,817	21,591,034	133,322,169	128,460,110	-3.6
McALLEN-HIDALGO	1,949,561	210,886	249,982	2,410,428	2,786,161	27,328,885	18,960,579	-30.6
PROGRESO	111	2,800	19,438	22,349	32,797	285,123	136,417	-52.2
RIO GRANDE	41,618	5,305	9,349	56,272	110,769	681,411	497,462	-27.0
ROMA	25,883	2,725	10,878	39,487	59,221	424,418	309,602	-27.1
TOTAL	17,124,730	1,091,060	14,605,323	32,821,113	31,573,015	206,738,278	205,651,926	-0.5

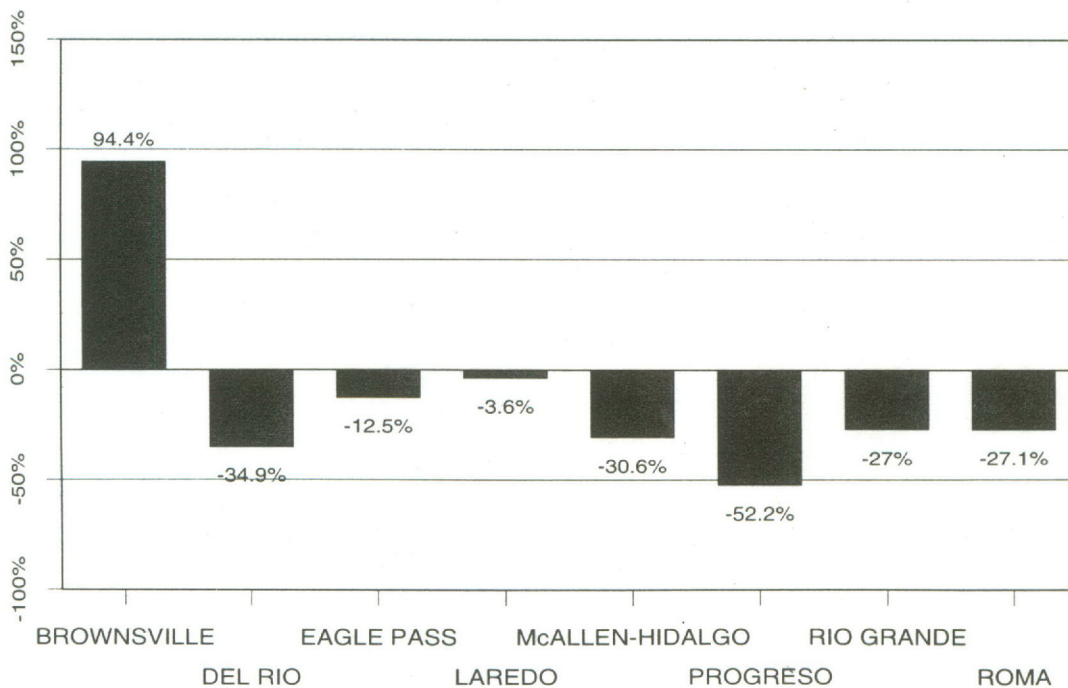
Source: Data provided by the South Texas CMC in Laredo and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

MPF = Merchandise Processing Fee

Total U.S. Customs revenues, for July, for the former District of Laredo, increased 4.8 percent from June's figures. McAllen-Hidalgo dropped 4.1 percent, Rio Grande decreased 23.0 percent, Progreso gained 36.5 percent, Roma declined 18.6 percent, Laredo slipped 2.2 percent, Eagle Pass went up 46.7 percent, Brownsville increased 12.6 percent, and Del Rio slid 24.8 percent. YTD revenue

figures were down 0.5 percent compared to July 1999, YTD. Laredo, accounting for 62.5 percent share of the former district's revenue was down 3.6 percent. Brownsville, with 16.5 percent share of total revenues, was up 94.4 percent. Eagle Pass, accounting for 10.6 percent of all revenues, was down 12.5 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 9.2 percent of total revenues, decreased 30.6 percent.

% Change Total Revenues YTD 99-00



Revenues (in U.S. Dollars) Collected by U.S. Bridge Operators

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	817,665	800,325	818,120	731,727	4,806,023	5,617,871	16.9
DEL RIO	385,396	376,285	383,729	303,636	2,065,007	2,703,589	30.9
EAGLE PASS	638,322	594,115	610,452	515,700	3,516,000	4,265,069	21.3
EL PASO	1,014,713	958,773	664,651	976,391	6,743,207	6,556,043	-2.8
HARLINGEN	133,620	130,607	131,432	126,124	813,906	871,795	7.1
LAREDO	2,389,497	2,466,893	2,369,658	2,351,102	15,433,262	16,405,977	6.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	719,541	685,362	696,089	722,485	4,944,758	4,864,059	-1.6
PHARR	411,848	391,523	372,935	369,920	2,336,287	2,740,010	17.3
TOTAL	6,510,601	6,403,883	6,047,067	6,097,085	40,658,450	44,024,413	8.3

Source: Data provided by U.S. bridge operators in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development
Brownsville's Revenues are for Cameron County Bridge only.

U.S. Bridge operators' revenues decreased 5.6 percent in the month of July. Pharr went down 4.7 percent, Brownsville rose 2.2 percent, Laredo went down 3.9, Del Rio increased 2.0 percent, Harlingen gained 0.6 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo went up 1.6 percent, Eagle Pass marked an increase of 2.7 percent, and El Paso registered a drop of 30.7 percent. YTD U.S. Bridge operators' revenues were up 8.3 percent. Laredo, accounting for 37.3 percent of total U.S bridge

operator's revenues collected, had a 6.3 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 14.9 percent of total U.S. Bridge revenues, decreased 2.8 percent YTD. Brownsville, accounting for 12.8 percent, was up 16.9 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 11.0 percent of the total bridge revenues, slipped 1.6 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 9.7 percent of the total bridge revenues, rose 21.3 percent YTD.

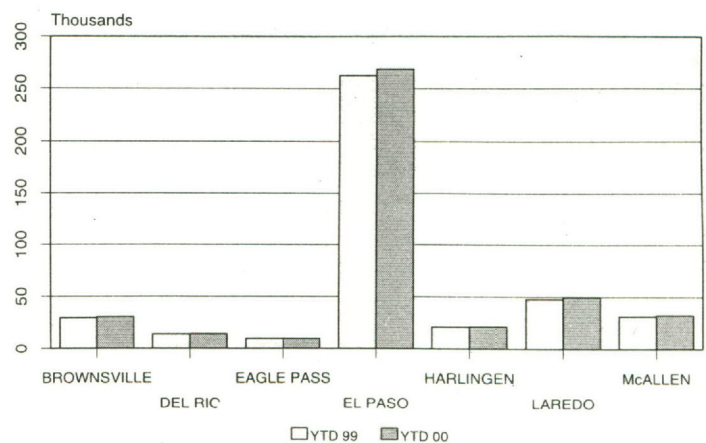
Power Connections—Texas Border Residential Connections

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	30,274	30,323	30,366	29,706	29,563	30,199	2.2
DEL RIO	14,078	14,059	14,022	13,835	13,809	14,026	1.6
EAGLE PASS	9,664	9,663	9,633	9,436	9,448	9,645	2.1
EL PASO	269,402	269,651	269,919	264,156	262,553	268,765	2.4
HARLINGEN	21,266	21,256	21,271	20,674	21,001	21,481	2.3
LAREDO	49,959	50,158	50,238	48,263	47,745	49,763	4.2
McALLEN	32,085	32,086	32,095	31,219	31,327	32,253	3.0
TOTAL	426,728	427,196	427,544	417,289	415,446	426,132	2.6

Source: Data provided by CP&L, Brownsville Public Utilities Board, and El Paso Electric Co. and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

June's total residential power connections for cited Texas border cities increased over May's figures by 0.11 percent. YTD residential power connections were up 2.6 percent. Laredo was up 4.2 percent, McAllen increased 3.0 percent, Del Rio gained 1.6 percent, Harlingen jumped 2.2 percent, El Paso rose 2.4 percent, Brownsville increased 2.1 percent, and Eagle Pass was up by 2.1 percent.

YTD AVG July 99-00



Power Connections – Texas Border (Cont'd)

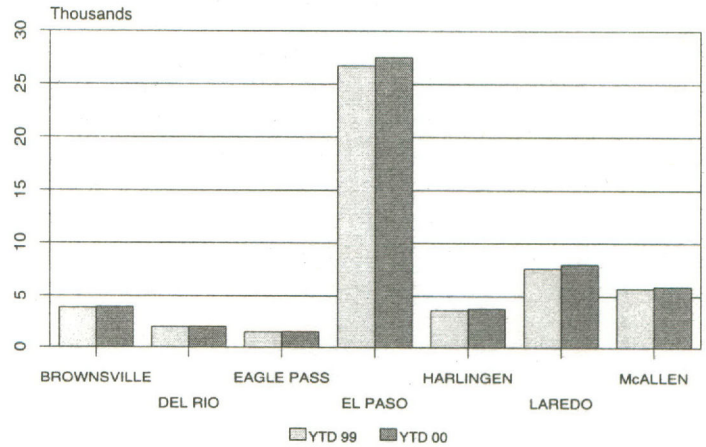
Commercial Connections

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,950	3,959	3,956	3,882	3,870	3,939	1.8
DEL RIO	2,087	2,101	2,101	2,052	2,046	2,077	1.5
EAGLE PASS	1,524	1,519	1,519	1,468	1,453	1,509	3.9
EL PASO	27,651	27,691	27,766	26,993	26,715	27,540	3.1
HARLINGEN	3,786	3,795	3,825	3,681	3,656	3,775	3.3
LAREDO	8,051	8,065	8,143	7,650	7,591	7,990	5.3
McALLEN	5,888	5,910	5,916	5,797	5,728	5,897	2.9
TOTAL	52,937	53,040	53,226	51,523	51,060	52,726	3.3

Source: Data provided by CP&L, Brownsville Public Utilities Board, and El Paso Electric Co. and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

July's total commercial power connections for cited Texas border cities increased 0.35 percent over June's figures. YTD averages of commercial power connections increased 3.3 percent. Harlingen was up 3.3 percent, Eagle Pass increased 3.9 percent, Laredo gained 5.3 percent, McAllen was up 2.9 percent, Del Rio rose 1.5 percent, El Paso gained 3.1 percent, and Brownsville increased 1.8 percent.

YTD AVG July 99-00



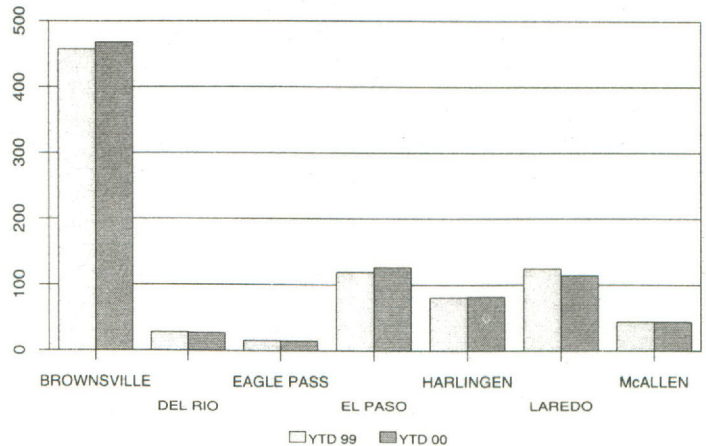
Industrial Connections

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	478	437	504	470	457	468	2.4
DEL RIO	27	27	27	28	28	27	-3.1
EAGLE PASS	13	15	15	15	15	15	-4.6
EL PASO	125	125	133	119	119	126	6.4
HARLINGEN	81	81	81	81	80	81	1.4
LAREDO	113	115	116	116	124	114	-7.6
McALLEN	43	44	44	43	44	44	-0.3
TOTAL	880	844	920	872	866	875	1.0

Source: Data provided by CP&L, Brownsville Public Utilities Board, and El Paso Electric Co. and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

July's total industrial power connections for cited Texas border cities increased 9.0 percent from June's figures. YTD averages of industrial power connections increased 1.0 percent. El Paso increased 6.4 percent, Harlingen grew 1.4 percent, Brownsville went up 2.4 percent, and Laredo declined 7.6 percent.

YTD AVG July 99-00



Building Permits — Texas Border

Number of Permits

NUMBER	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	362	412	308	270	2,248	2,524	12.3
DEL RIO	65	68	55	89	619	411	-33.6
EAGLE PASS	45	50	64	25	262	351	34.0
EL PASO	540	617	506	677	4,429	4,001	-9.7
HARLINGEN	76	65	75	87	515	498	-3.3
LAREDO	675	685	529	533	3,095	3,842	24.1
MCALLEN	154	166	135	94	998	1,045	4.7
TOTAL	1,917	2,063	1,672	1,775	12,166	12,672	4.2

Source: Data provided by cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic & Enterprise Development

July building permits issued by reporting Texas border cities were down 19.0 percent from June. Del Rio decreased 19.1 percent, El Paso slid 18.0 percent, and Laredo dropped 22.8 percent. McAllen showed a drop of 18.7 percent, and Brownsville went down 25.2 percent. YTD the number of permits issued were up 4.2 percent. El

Paso, accounting for 31.6 percent of all building permits issued, had a decrease of 9.7 percent YTD. Laredo, with 30.3 percent of building permits issued, was up 24.1 percent YTD. Brownsville, with a 19.19 percent of building permits issued, increased 12.3 percent YTD.

U.S. Dollar Value of Permits

VALUE	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	16,032,013	35,092,468	9,635,967	17,997,505	113,886,888	152,546,670	33.9
DEL RIO	855,472	651,608	750,079	1,152,970	9,694,339	6,146,046	-36.6
EAGLE PASS	1,536,253	1,186,039	2,080,098	3,939,833	13,276,588	11,111,978	-16.3
EL PASO	31,063,158	45,794,163	39,701,885	41,690,806	280,785,024	258,578,259	-7.9
HARLINGEN	3,485,890	10,526,236	8,675,140	11,139,858	55,397,380	41,461,983	-25.2
LAREDO	15,686,595	29,213,529	32,273,183	12,980,186	110,390,587	166,604,002	50.9
MCALLEN	17,799,146	14,731,578	17,926,119	8,448,507	107,142,995	110,565,733	3.2
TOTAL	86,458,527	137,195,621	111,042,471	97,349,665	690,573,801	747,014,671	8.2

Source: Data provided by cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic & Enterprise Development

July building permit values for reporting Texas border cities were down 19.1 percent from June. Harlingen declined 17.6 percent, McAllen increased 21.7 percent, and El Paso decreased 13.3 percent. Brownsville dove 72.5 percent. Laredo gained 10.5 percent and Del Rio rose 15.1 percent. YTD reporting border cities experienced an 8.2 percent increase in building permit values. El

Paso, with 34.6 percent of total building permit value, slipped 7.9 percent YTD. Laredo, with 22.3 percent of total building permit values, gained 50.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 20.4 percent of total building permit values, increased 33.9 percent. Eagle Pass, with 1.5 percent of total building permit values, dipped 16.3 percent.

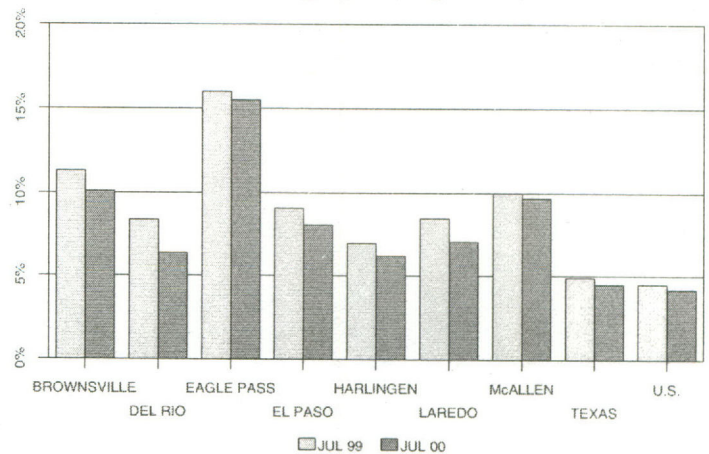
Employment/Unemployment Rates — Texas Border

CITY	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED
	JUL 00	JUL 99	JUL 00	JUL 99	JUL 00	JUL 99
BROWNSVILLE	44,332	42,150	4,972	5,394	10.1	11.3
DEL RIO	14,217	13,721	978	1,255	6.4	8.4
EAGLE PASS	8,336	7,777	1,525	1,478	15.5	16.0
EL PASO	240,432	240,210	21,152	24,163	8.1	9.1
HARLINGEN	25,468	24,215	1,691	1,834	6.2	7.0
LAREDO	64,487	64,576	4,951	6,020	7.1	8.5
McALLEN	44,252	42,067	4,760	4,671	9.7	10.0
TOTAL	441,524	434,716	40,029	44,815	8.3	9.3
THE TEXAS UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					4.50	4.90
THE NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					4.20	4.50

Source: Data (preliminary figures subject to revision) provided by the Texas Employment Commission and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic & Enterprise Development

In July, total employment in reporting Texas border cities increased 1.4 percent (6,237 jobs gained) over June's figures. Eagle Pass employment increased 1.8 percent (149 jobs gained), Del Rio gained 2.1 percent (291 jobs gained), and McAllen went up 3.3 percent (1,411 jobs gained). Brownsville grew 5.2 percent (2,189 jobs gained). YTD total employment in Texas border cities was up 1.6 percent (6,808 jobs gained) from a year ago. The average unemployment rate for the border was 8.3 percent compared to 4.5 percent for Texas and 4.2 percent for the U.S in the month of July.

% Unemployed July 99-00



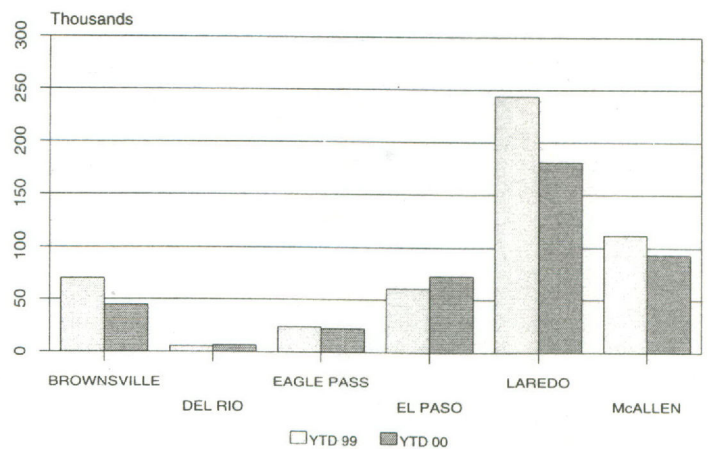
Visas to Tourists from Texas to Mexico

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	%CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,729	9,469	10,790	12,612	70,109	44,420	-36.6
DEL RIO	888	1,309	1,562	1,723	5,502	6,345	15.3
EAGLE PASS	3,102	3,789	5,382	6,968	24,147	22,484	-6.9
EL PASO	9,040	13,584	19,349	14,463	60,741	72,611	19.5
LAREDO	23,508	36,697	48,355	65,547	243,760	181,063	-25.7
McALLEN	10,323	15,807	18,033	22,579	111,374	93,053	-16.4
TOTAL	52,590	80,655	103,471	123,892	515,633	419,976	-18.6

Source: Data provided by Mexico's Instituto Nacional de Migracion and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

The number of tourist visas issued in July was up 28.3 percent. El Paso increased 42.4 percent, Laredo gained 31.8, Del Rio grew 19.3, and McAllen-Hidalgo went up 14.1 percent. Eagle Pass climbed 42.0 and Brownsville rose 14.0 percent. YTD the number of tourist visas issued was down 18.6 percent. Laredo, with 43.1 percent of total visas issued, slid 25.7 percent YTD. McAllen, with 22.2 percent of total visas issued, had a 16.4 percent decrease YTD. Brownsville, with 10.6 percent of all visas issued, dropped 36.6 percent YTD. El Paso, with 17.3 percent of total visas issued, increased 19.5 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 5.4 percent of total visas issued, dipped 6.9 percent YTD.

Tourist Visas YTD July 99-00



Air Passenger Service Activities — Selected Border Cities

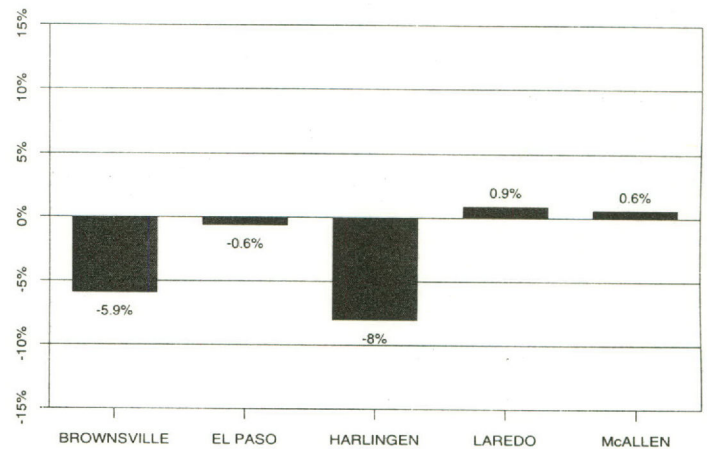
Passenger Arrivals

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,243	5,595	5,789	6,105	35,763	33,662	-5.9
EL PASO	146,013	151,320	154,313	158,438	807,890	802,802	-0.6
HARLINGEN	37,589	41,288	42,242	47,320	261,748	240,784	-8.0
LAREDO	6,447	6,367	6,749	6,969	47,093	47,499	0.9
McALLEN	25,509	24,832	26,859	30,483	160,612	161,645	0.6
TOTAL	220,801	229,402	235,952	249,315	1,313,106	1,286,392	-2.0

Source: Data provided by cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic & Enterprise Development

July air passengers arriving in Texas border cities were up 2.9 percent from June's figures. McAllen increased 8.2 percent, Laredo rose 6.0 percent, Brownsville increased 3.5 percent, and El Paso grew 2.0 percent. Harlingen gained 2.3 percent. YTD air passenger arrivals were down 2.0 percent. El Paso, with 62.4 percent of all arriving passengers, was down 0.6 percent YTD. Harlingen, accounting for 18.7 percent of all arrivals, slipped 8.0 percent YTD. McAllen, with 12.6 percent of all arrivals, was up 0.6 percent YTD. Laredo, with 3.7 percent of all arrivals, increased 0.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 2.6 percent of all arrivals, fell 5.9 percent YTD.

Passenger Arrivals % Change YTD 99-00



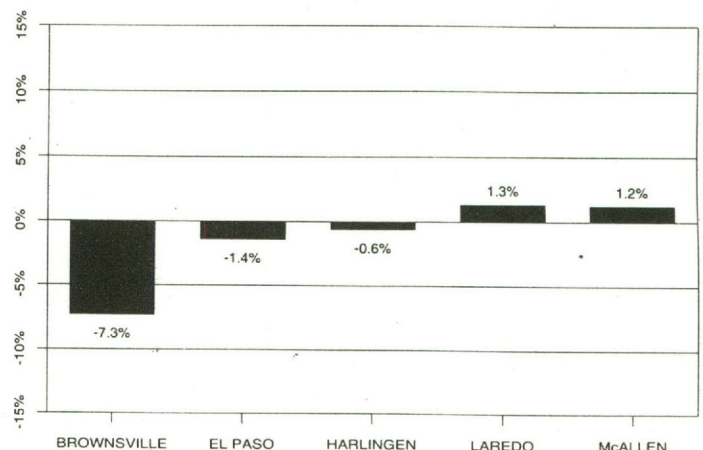
Passenger Departures

CITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,290	5,657	5,938	6,355	44,132	40,901	-7.3
EL PASO	148,508	152,847	157,840	160,542	990,854	977,383	-1.4
HARLINGEN	38,307	42,138	43,702	43,479	291,859	290,073	-0.6
LAREDO	6,367	6,630	7,238	7,236	55,376	56,100	1.3
McALLEN	27,132	26,425	28,748	29,991	196,787	199,221	1.2
TOTAL	225,604	233,697	243,466	247,603	1,579,008	1,563,678	-1.0

Source: Data provided by cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic & Enterprise Development

July air passenger departures for reporting Texas border cities were up 4.2 percent. McAllen increased 8.8 percent, Harlingen gained 3.7 percent, Laredo went up 9.2 percent, and El Paso grew 3.3 percent. YTD air passenger departures were down 1.0 percent from a year ago. El Paso, with 62.5 percent of all departing passengers, was down 1.4 percent YTD. Harlingen, with 18.6 percent of all departing passengers, declined 0.6 percent YTD. McAllen, with 12.7 percent of all departing passengers, increased 1.2 percent, YTD. Laredo, with 3.6 percent of all departing passengers, rose 1.3 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 2.6 percent of all departing passengers, declined 7.3 percent YTD.

Passenger Departures % Change YTD 99-00



Port Of Corpus Christi

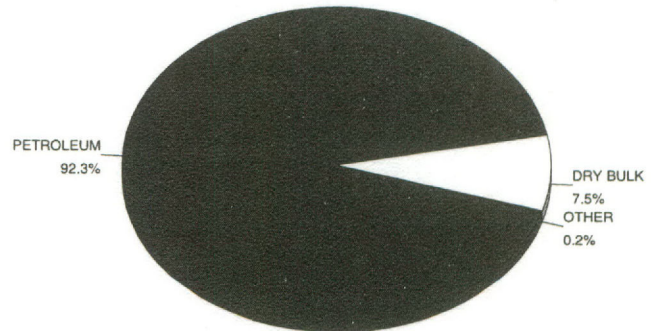
Inbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BREAK BULK	2,810	4,582	968	357	59,030	16,763	-71.6
DRY BULK	264,815	406,786	412,309	395,596	2,468,116	2,604,379	5.5
BULK GRAIN	0	0	0	0	26,006	0	N/A
LIQUID	0	0	3,329	6,633	25,028	14,258	-43.0
PETROLEUM	4,216,505	4,409,103	5,074,509	4,235,802	27,065,267	29,220,861	8.0
CHEMICAL	13,552	11,211	4,240	12,669	63,923	73,536	15.0
TOTAL	4,497,683	4,831,683	5,495,355	4,651,057	29,707,370	31,929,797	7.5

Source: Data provided by the Port of Corpus Christi and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

The Port of Corpus Christi had a 13.7 percent increase in inbound cargo from last month. Petroleum, which made up 92.3 percent of all inbound traffic in July, was up 15.1 percent compared to June. Dry bulk, which accounted for 7.5 percent of the port's inbound cargo for July, increased 1.4 percent from June. Total inbound cargo tonnage was up 7.5 percent YTD.

% Share July 2000 Inbound Cargo



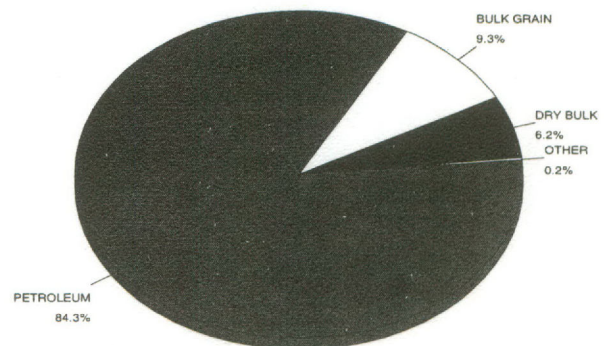
Outbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BREAK BULK	2,810	4,582	6,646	9,195	57,172	35,356	-38.2
DRY BULK	264,815	406,786	180,782	120,102	1,498,267	1,731,370	15.6
BULK GRAIN	0	0	271,986	203,999	1,143,645	698,312	-38.9
LIQUID	0	0	0	0	3,183	0	N/A
PETROLEUM	4,216,505	4,409,103	2,468,133	2,124,755	13,955,562	19,308,021	38.4
CHEMICAL	248,446	11,211	0	221,924	1,257,703	1,005,251	-20.1
TOTAL	4,732,577	4,831,683	2,927,547	2,679,975	17,915,532	22,778,311	27.1

Source: Data provided by the Port of Corpus Christi and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

The Port of Corpus Christi had a 39.4 percent decrease in outbound cargo tonnage in July from the previous month. Petroleum, which was 84.3 percent of total outbound cargo for July, decreased 44.0 percent compared to June. Dry bulk, which accounted for 6.2 percent of the total outbound cargo for July, decreased 55.6 percent from June. YTD total outbound cargo tonnage was up 27.1 percent.

% Share July 2000 Outbound Cargo



Port Of Brownsville

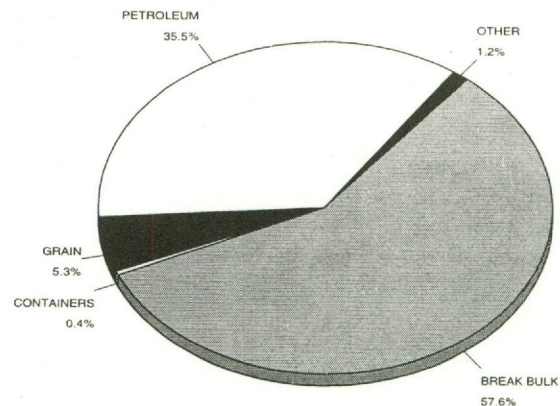
Inbound Cargo (in Metric Tons)

COMMODITY	MAY 00	JUN 00	JUL 00	JUL 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BREAK BULK	136,462	134,861	180,929	114,778	830,055	1,184,696	42.7
LIQUID	23,274	9,836	2,740	1,683	26,018	61,088	134.8
PETROLEUM	442,531	73,105	111,615	83,737	721,209	985,790	36.7
GRAIN	42,310	1,339	16,768	17,405	94,861	93,204	-1.7
CONTAINERS	397	66	1,381	268	428	2,386	457.5
MACHINERY	448	1,224	900	0	1,696	3,351	97.6
TOTAL	645,422	220,431	314,333	217,871	1,674,267	2,330,515	39.2

Source: Data provided by the Port of Brownsville and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

The Port of Brownsville had an increase of 42.6 percent in total cargo tonnage over the previous month. Break Bulk, which accounted for 57.6 percent of the total cargo tonnage for July increased 34.2 percent from June's figures. Petroleum, which made up 35.5 percent of the total cargo for July dropped 52.7 percent from the previous month. YTD figures showed a 42.7 percent increase in Break Bulk tonnage -50.8 percent of total tonnage. Grain -4.0 percent of total tonnage- had a YTD decrease of 1.7 percent. Petroleum -42.3 percent of total tonnage- grew 36.7 percent. YTD total tonnage was up 39.2 percent.

% Share July 2000 Total Cargo



Web Page Information

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) web site contains a complete listing of its departments at <http://www.usda.gov/>. Find out about the programs managed by the USDA such as the Food Assistance and Nutrition Programs, which include food stamps, school breakfast and lunch, and Women, Infants and Children (WIC); or the Marketing and Regulatory Programs such as the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). USDA is also behind the Forest service, and the Natural Resources Conservation services. There is plenty of information on this web site, and these links only begin to scratch the surface.

The latest reports on dairy and livestock, and genetically engineered crops, just to name a few, may found at the Economic Research Service. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/>

Several publications, graphs and historical information can be gathered at the National Agricultural Statistics Service. The site also includes an agricultural census. <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Similar information is accessible as data sets and reports for Mexico at the *Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, y Desarrollo Rural*; and for Canada at the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada web site. Visit these links at the sites listed below.

Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico) <http://www.sagar.gob.mx/>

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Canada) http://www.agr.ca/index_e.phtml

-J. Benavides

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