

2  
L250.8  
B644B1  
24:10



# Border Business Indicators

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

Government Publications  
 Texas State Documents  
 Vol. 24, No. 10  
 October 2000

FEB 01 2001

Depository  
 Dallas Public Library

## IN THIS ISSUE...

**Note from the Director** ..... 1

Machinery and Transport Equipment Dominate the List of Products Imported from Mexico Through Texas Border Ports ..... 3

**Border Crossings**

Pedestrians (south) ..... 5

Vehicles (south) ..... 5

Trucks ..... 6

Rail ..... 7

Visas ..... 12

**Border Crossing Revenues**

Customs Management Center Laredo ..... 8

U.S. Border Bridge Revenues ..... 9

**Border Cities: Infrastructure Statistics**

Power Connections ..... 9-10

Building Permits ..... 11

**Employment Figures** ..... 12

**Airport Activities: Selected Border Cities**

Passenger ..... 13

**Sea Ports**

Corpus Christi ..... 14

Brownsville ..... 15

Web Page Information ..... 15

## Note from the Director

\* Indicators of border business activity for the month of August demonstrated an increase of nine indicators while eleven indicators decreased. In addition, for the year-to-date (YTD) figures, sixteen indicators were up and four were down. Selected YTD comparisons to 1999 reported by border cities include the following:

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were down 1.2 percent. Laredo gained 1.2 percent, Rio Grande jumped 22.2 percent, McAllen registered an increase of 7.6 and El Paso rose 1.1 percent.
- Southbound vehicle crossings were up 2.3 percent. Brownsville grew by 2.1 percent, and Eagle Pass gained 11.8 percent. El Paso went up 8.8 percent and Laredo rose 0.7 percent. Pharr increased 5.7 percent.
- Southbound truck crossings into Mexico were up 10.3 percent. Eagle Pass went up 56.5 percent. Pharr increased 23.1 percent, and Laredo rose 11.2 percent. Harlingen was up 5.1 percent.
- Northbound truck crossings into Texas were up 5.5 percent, Falcon increased 7.4 percent, Pharr gained 17.8 percent and Eagle Pass posted a 9.5 percent increase. Brownsville increased 14.1 percent, Laredo rose 1.6 percent, Del Rio marked an increase of 3.7 percent, as well as Rio Grande with a gain of 10.5 percent.
- Southbound shipments by rail were up 11.3 percent.
- Northbound shipments by rail were up 13.8 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs were down by 1.2 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Bridge operators were up 8.6 percent.
- Total building permits issued were up 3.7 percent. Laredo rose 19.7 percent, Eagle Pass gained 22.5 percent, while McAllen-Hidalgo rose 5.4 percent, and Brownsville registered an increase of 14.4 percent.
- Total building permit values increased 6.1 percent. Laredo increased 38.7 percent, and Brownsville rose 38.4 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo decreased 2.3 percent.
- Total employment was up 1.6 percent, with 7,069 jobs gained. The average unemployment rate in August 2000 was 7.9 percent for the border.

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

# Technical Reports

- Technical Report No. 1: NAFTA Rules of Origin: An Explanation (March 1994)
- 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)
- Technical Report No. 4: The Impact of NAFTA on Border Maquiladora and Industrial Activity (April 1994)
- Technical Report No. 6: U.S.-Mexico Trade Patterns Under NAFTA (March 1994)
- Technical Report No. 7: Overweights to Pay the Price (March 1994)
- Technical Report No. 8: Standards as Non-Tariff Barriers: NAFTA's Impact (February 1994)
- 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) *Hardcopy only*

Technical Reports are freely available for download (<http://www.tamui.edu/coba/txcntr>) in PDF format, unless otherwise noted. These are also available by writing to: Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development, Texas A&M International University, 5201 University Boulevard, Laredo, Texas 78041-1900. Please enclose \$5.00 for each report requested. Make check or money order payable to the Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development.

## Subscribe to the *NAFTA Digest*

The NAFTA Digest provides an analysis of current U.S.-Mexico and hemispheric economic relations, with particular emphasis on the North American Free Trade Agreement. The *NAFTA Digest* is published monthly by the Office for the Study of U.S.-Mexico Trade Relations, a division of The Graduate School of International Trade and Business Administration at Texas A&M International University.

Subscribe now to the NAFTA Digest! Annual subscription rate is \$30.00 (12 monthly issues). Enclose this subscription form or a photocopy with check or money order, payable to Texas A&M International University (U.S. funds only). Send subscription to:

*NAFTA Digest*  
Office for the Study of U.S.-Mexico Trade Relations  
Texas A&M International University  
5201 University Boulevard  
Laredo, TX 78041-1900

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Affiliation/Co. \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

### Disclaimer:

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 Transport Equipment Dominate the List of Products Imported from Mexico Through Texas Border Ports

The September 2000 issue of the *Border Business Indicators* outlined a broader view of the type of U.S. products being exported to Mexico through the Texas-Mexico border ports. Details showed that SITC group 7 comprised the largest percentage of the dollar value of these ports. In this issue, U.S. imports had a similar breakdown with one SITC group dominating the composition via these Texas ports. Below is the list of the one-digit SITC groupings.

- 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

To the right are some tables which detail the ranked order of the U.S. dollar values for the products that were imported from Mexico to the U.S. through the respective ports for January through May 2000. The total dollar value of all groups at all Texas-Mexico border ports for this period was \$33.1 billion dollars. As in the export figures, the group with the largest percentage share was SITC 7 —machinery and transport equipment— with 67.0 percent of the total or \$22.2 billion.

The ports handling the brunt of this group were Laredo with \$12.1 billion (54.6%) and El Paso with \$6.0 billion (26.9%). Unlike the exports, five of ten ports had SITC 7 ranked as the top dollar value. Fabens was the only port without import activity for the specified period. Other SITC groups that registered values of over a billion dollars were SITC 8 and SITC 6.

Miscellaneous manufactured articles or SITC 8's total value for all border ports in Texas was \$5.6 billion and was the second ranked group in terms of value. It comprised 16.9 percent of the total imports for January through May 2000.

Laredo and El Paso were the ports that again processed about \$4.1 billion, or 74.4 percent of the whole.

SITC 6 —manufactured goods classified chiefly by material— was valued at \$2.7 billion dollars for all Texas border ports combined. This constituted 8.1 percent of all imports for the same period.

Laredo's share of the value was 67.6 percent or \$1.8 billion. El Paso, a distant second, registered the next biggest share of 11.9 percent or \$318.3 million.

These three groups (6,7,8) combined accounted for \$30.5 billion or 92.0 percent of the total \$33.1 billion in imports from Mexico. These products appear to have been destined for the U.S. consumer and for some manufacturing/assembling sectors visible in the following lists of product descriptions. The lists take all Texas border ports into account but are arranged according to highest dollar value within their respective groups.

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

## Brownsville

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	324.712	300.961	346.702	304.969	347.067	1,624.411
8	48.188	52.353	61.601	53.482	65.013	280.637
6	38.928	42.715	42.125	37.988	44.594	206.350
5	15.325	20.787	19.892	19.142	18.973	94.119
9	12.601	17.326	12.698	10.209	15.287	68.121
0	10.836	10.387	10.389	6.146	8.982	46.740
2	6.376	7.454	6.305	6.460	8.937	35.532
4	0.749	0.615	0.082	0.193	1.694	3.333
1	0.602	0.650	0.394	0.135	0.000	1.781
3	0.725	0.605	0.026	0.033	0.046	1.435
<b>Total</b>	<b>459.042</b>	<b>453.853</b>	<b>500.214</b>	<b>438.757</b>	<b>510.593</b>	<b>2,362.459</b>

## Del Rio

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	65.964	69.615	77.895	64.365	72.304	350.143
8	29.183	29.118	34.050	27.794	29.578	149.723
6	3.316	4.364	6.349	4.534	4.723	23.286
9	3.574	3.272	3.312	2.479	2.423	15.060
0	2.512	2.855	3.337	2.707	2.572	13.983
2	0.191	0.256	0.318	0.235	0.243	1.243
5	0.093	0.058	0.077	0.195	0.264	0.687
4	0.000	0.000	0.058	0.000	0.000	0.058
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>104.833</b>	<b>109.538</b>	<b>125.396</b>	<b>102.309</b>	<b>112.107</b>	<b>554.183</b>

## Eagle Pass

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
8	81.440	95.772	111.370	95.596	115.507	499.685
7	102.918	58.338	66.960	55.869	61.371	345.456
6	39.259	36.859	40.883	37.130	44.390	198.521
1	10.746	18.330	19.841	14.890	21.887	85.694
5	4.326	5.865	7.632	5.753	5.167	28.743
9	3.920	3.158	4.420	3.337	4.526	19.361
0	2.477	2.278	2.531	1.601	2.253	11.140
2	1.514	1.347	1.505	1.996	1.704	8.066
3	0.417	0.338	0.413	0.325	0.244	1.737
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>247.017</b>	<b>222.285</b>	<b>255.555</b>	<b>216.497</b>	<b>257.049</b>	<b>1,198.403</b>

## Laredo

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	2,061.078	2,420.454	2,597.415	2,499.588	2,541.910	12,120.445
8	363.758	435.824	496.343	415.743	481.641	2,193.309
6	317.828	354.860	397.519	345.567	390.047	1,805.821
5	70.110	81.767	94.537	72.915	82.278	401.607
0	57.725	70.946	76.844	48.557	58.316	312.388
9	51.687	52.120	64.523	49.947	56.674	274.951
1	29.800	41.207	45.214	51.832	51.015	219.068
2	23.729	26.424	23.024	18.333	22.410	113.920
3	0.309	0.320	0.483	0.322	0.366	1.800
4	0.350	0.238	0.479	0.213	0.313	1.593
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,976.374</b>	<b>3,484.160</b>	<b>3,796.381</b>	<b>3,503.017</b>	<b>3,684.970</b>	<b>17,444.902</b>

## Hidalgo

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	312.105	353.344	412.652	343.824	342.454	1,764.379
8	81.531	90.441	104.666	89.662	108.955	475.255
0	33.028	39.865	49.193	43.998	37.109	203.193
6	18.528	19.693	21.635	18.981	22.326	101.163
9	8.529	7.317	8.763	7.356	8.467	40.432
5	2.792	3.113	2.987	3.110	3.318	15.320
2	1.226	1.000	1.561	4.124	1.932	9.843
3	0.851	0.875	2.387	0.982	1.813	6.908
1	0.232	0.042	0.275	0.077	0.748	1.374
4	0.000	0.007	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.015
<b>Total</b>	<b>458.822</b>	<b>515.697</b>	<b>604.121</b>	<b>512.117</b>	<b>527.125</b>	<b>2,617.882</b>

## SITC 7

- Motor Vehicles For The Transport Of Persons (Other Than Public Transport), N.E.S.
- Motor Vehicles For The Transport Of Goods, N.E.S.
- Ignition Wiring Sets And Other Wiring Sets Of A Kind Used In Vehicles, Aircraft Or Ships
- TV Receivers, Color, Incl Video Monitors & Projectors), Whet Or Nt Incorp Radiobroadcast Receivers Or Sound Or Video Recordng Or Reproducing Apparatus
- Transmission Apparatus For Radiotelephony, Radiotelegraphy, Radiobroad-casting Or Television, Not Incorporating Reception Apparatus
- Reciprocating Piston Engines Of A Cylinder Capacity Exceeding 1,000 Cc
- Digital Processng Units Whether Or Not Presented With The Rest Of The System Which May Contain Storage Units, Input Units Or Output Units
- Radiobroadcast Receivers, Combined With Sound Recording Or Reproduc-ing Apparatus, Operating With An External Power Source As In Motor Vehicles
- Parts Of Automatic Data Processing Machines And Units Thereof, Magnetic Or Optical Readers, And Machines For Transcribing And Processing Data N.E.S.
- 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.

## SITC 8

- Parts Of Seats, N.E.S.
- Trousers, Bib And Brace Overalls, Breeches And Shorts Of Woven Textile Materials, Men's Or Boys'
- Trousers, Bib And Brace Overalls, Breeches And Shorts, Of Woven Textile Fabrics, Women's Or Girls'
- Automatic Regulating Or Controlling Instruments And Apparatus, N.E.S.
- Speedometers And Tachometers; Stroboscopes
- T-Shirts, Singlets (Undershirts), Tank Tops And Similar Garments, Of Knitted Or Crocheted Textile Fabrics
- Electric Lamps And Lighting Fittings, N.E.S.

## SITC 6

- Springs And Leaves For Springs, Of Iron Or Steel
- Domestic Cooking Appliances (Gas Ranges, Barbecues, Etc.) And Plate Warmers, Nonelectric, Of Iron Or Steel
- Glass Multiple Walled Insulating Units
- Stainless Steel Flat-Rolled Products, Cold-Rolled, Not Under 600 Mm Wide, Over 1 Mm But Under 3 Mm Thick
- Iron, NA Steel, FLT Rold, NT Clad, etc, NT Ftr. Wk. NES
- Woven Cut Pile Fabrics And Chenille Fabrics Of Manmade Fibers (Other Than Narrow Or Special Fabrics)
- Articles Of Plaster Or Of Compositions Based On Plaster
- Life Jackets And Life Belts And Other Made-Up Articles, N.E.S., Of Textile Materials
- Furnishing Articles, N.E.S. Of Textile Materials
- Metal Structures And Parts N.E.S. Of Aluminum; Prepared Plates, Rods Etc. Of Aluminum For Use In Structures
- Paper Sacks And Bags (Including Cones), N.E.S.
- Paper Sacks And Bags, With A Base Of 40 Cm Or Over In Width
- Building Blocks And Bricks, Tiles, Flagstones And Similar Articles Of Cement, Concrete Or Artificial Stone
- Wire Cloth (Including Endless Bands), Grill, Netting And Fencing, And Ex-panded Metal, Of Iron Or Steel
- Articles Of Iron Or Steel, N.E.S.
- Glazed Ceramic Flags And Paving, Hearth Or Wall Tiles; Glazed Ceramic Mosaic Cubes And The Like
- Articles Of Aluminum, N.E.S.
- Monumental Or Building Stone (Except Slate), N.E.S. And Articles Thereof, Molded, Turned, Polished, Decorated, Carved Or Otherwise Worked
- Iron And Steel Tube And Pipe Fittings, N.E.S.
- Bars and Rods of Iron or Steel, N.E.S.
- Unglazed Ceramic Flags And Paving, Hearth Or Wall Tiles; Unglazed Cer-amic Mosaic Cubes And The Like

reading our publication for the latest information on border trade and economic issues.

—B. G. Garcia

### Rio Grande

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
8	3.938	4.035	4.271	4.823	5.938	23.005
6	1.152	1.367	1.712	1.487	1.643	7.361
0	0.820	0.773	2.037	2.187	1.451	7.268
9	1.082	1.036	1.081	0.815	1.713	5.727
5	0.665	0.851	0.571	0.274	0.612	2.973
7	0.042	0.051	0.069	0.123	0.065	0.350
2	0.002	0.053	0.009	0.000	0.076	0.140
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.701</b>	<b>8.166</b>	<b>9.750</b>	<b>9.709</b>	<b>11.498</b>	<b>46.824</b>

### Progreso

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
6	0.684	0.821	1.032	0.786	1.155	4.478
7	1.286	0.000	0.070	0.004	0.000	1.360
8	0.206	0.226	0.338	0.243	0.263	1.276
5	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.031	0.031
9	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.026	0.026
0	0.000	0.000	0.009	0.015	0.000	0.024
2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.013	0.013
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.176</b>	<b>1.047</b>	<b>1.449</b>	<b>1.048</b>	<b>1.488</b>	<b>7.208</b>

### Roma

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
6	0.317	0.768	0.547	0.475	0.761	2.868
8	0.184	0.244	0.237	0.275	0.548	1.488
2	0.227	0.359	0.318	0.276	0.258	1.438
7	0.138	0.174	0.117	0.120	0.181	0.730
9	0.060	0.082	0.116	0.036	0.066	0.360
0	0.029	0.015	0.030	0.042	0.030	0.146
5	0.000	0.003	0.002	0.000	0.006	0.011
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.955</b>	<b>1.645</b>	<b>1.367</b>	<b>1.224</b>	<b>1.850</b>	<b>7.041</b>

### El Paso

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
7	1,040.437	1,118.649	1,325.469	1,198.787	1,281.305	5,964.647
8	358.273	398.366	450.309	365.077	409.988	1,982.013
9	76.500	80.406	95.018	93.090	100.466	445.480
6	56.442	61.086	71.312	61.952	67.486	318.278
0	8.338	8.552	9.558	6.788	9.995	43.231
2	3.638	3.956	4.188	4.262	3.899	19.943
5	2.811	3.033	3.155	3.230	3.313	15.542
1	1.422	1.555	2.614	2.288	2.497	10.376
3	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.003
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,547.861</b>	<b>1,675.606</b>	<b>1,961.623</b>	<b>1,735.474</b>	<b>1,878.949</b>	<b>8,799.513</b>

### Presidio

SITC	Jan 00	Feb 00	Mar 00	Apr 00	May 00	Y-T-D Tot.
0	9.417	7.659	8.877	7.824	7.572	41.349
7	3.236	4.167	5.144	4.248	4.657	21.452
8	0.352	0.401	0.542	0.346	0.487	2.128
6	0.300	0.432	0.485	0.267	0.187	1.671
9	0.679	0.081	0.122	0.185	0.377	1.444
5	0.037	0.084	0.125	0.037	0.076	0.359
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.021</b>	<b>12.824</b>	<b>15.295</b>	<b>12.907</b>	<b>13.356</b>	<b>68.403</b>

These are just samplings of the products that were imported from Mexico via the Texas border ports.

The remaining groups which were under \$1.0 billion in value were SITC 9, 0, 5, 1, 2, 3 and 4. All together, these groups summed up the remaining \$2.6 billion or 8.0 percent of the total U.S. import values.

If you wish to see the latest available data on U.S. imports, visit our web site and click on the *Border Trade Data* link. Continue

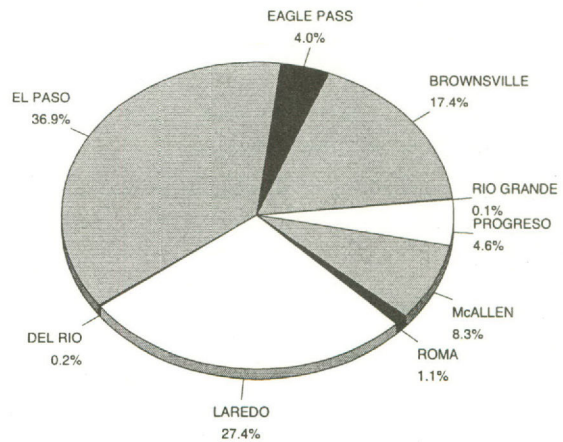
## Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Mexico

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	205,219	228,398	215,670	215,284	1,970,520	1,827,398	-7.3
DEL RIO	4,059	4,283	2,779	2,972	35,327	30,891	-12.6
EAGLE PASS	45,084	46,924	49,185	55,229	466,292	404,845	-13.2
EL PASO	429,497	443,251	456,603	443,989	3,442,117	3,478,596	1.1
HARLINGEN	56	0	223	219	641	643	0.3
LAREDO	336,591	364,707	339,942	329,093	2,808,559	2,841,481	1.2
McALLEN-HIDALGO	100,342	107,764	102,903	93,832	825,491	888,529	7.6
PROGRESO	67,574	82,763	57,355	59,430	952,127	908,524	-4.6
RIO GRANDE	713	823	826	755	6,047	7,392	22.2
ROMA	12,333	12,641	0	12,639	122,281	102,617	-16.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,201,468</b>	<b>1,291,554</b>	<b>1,225,486</b>	<b>1,213,442</b>	<b>10,629,402</b>	<b>10,490,916</b>	<b>-1.3</b>

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 August were down 4.1 percent. Rio Grande increased 0.4 percent, Brownsville fell 5.6 percent, Eagle Pass rose 4.8 percent, El Paso went up 3.0 percent, and Laredo went down 6.8 percent. Progreso declined 30.7 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo was down 4.5 percent. YTD, total southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico slipped 1.2 percent. El Paso southbound pedestrian crossings, which make up 33.1 percent of all crossings, increased a slight 1.1 percent YTD. Laredo, accounting for 27.1 percent of total crossings, increased 1.2 percent YTD. Brownsville, with a 17.4 percent share, decreased 7.3 percent YTD. Progreso, with 8.6 percent share, declined 4.6 percent.

**% Share of Pedestrians for August 2000**



## Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	620,316	650,583	637,108	621,900	4,928,142	5,030,893	2.1
DEL RIO	156,205	155,401	148,445	166,879	1,350,095	1,261,717	-6.5
EAGLE PASS	238,047	248,447	254,343	220,983	1,834,811	2,050,580	11.8
EL PASO	479,383	498,240	491,350	449,861	3,490,085	3,798,005	8.8
HARLINGEN	45,969	51,526	46,165	45,867	387,179	382,347	-1.2
LAREDO	750,271	757,409	646,230	725,065	5,693,854	5,734,894	0.7
McALLEN-HIDALGO	486,089	508,389	500,438	502,355	4,013,163	3,970,855	-1.1
PHARR	169,403	171,579	0	171,918	1,322,568	1,225,855	-7.3
PROGRESO	86,895	95,113	87,695	90,362	821,650	765,169	-6.9
RIO GRANDE	46,849	48,329	46,579	49,610	428,182	395,600	-7.6
ROMA	92,364	96,304	0	92,215	718,548	679,429	-5.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,171,791</b>	<b>3,281,320</b>	<b>2,858,353</b>	<b>3,137,015</b>	<b>24,988,277</b>	<b>25,295,344</b>	<b>1.2</b>

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 down 4.8 percent in August from July's figures. Eagle Pass was up 2.4 percent, Del Rio dropped 4.5 percent, Rio Grande slid 3.6 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo fell 1.6 percent, and Brownsville went down 2.1 percent. Harlingen decreased 10.4 percent, and Laredo declined 14.4 percent. YTD total southbound vehicle bridge crossings were up 2.3 percent. Laredo, with 22.4 percent of all

southbound traffic, was up 0.7 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 19.6 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 2.1 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 14.9 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, rose 8.8 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 15.5 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 1.1 percent decrease YTD.

## Truck Crossings into Mexico —Number of Trucks

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE+	20,698	18,360	22,065	18,708	161,438	159,524	-1.2
DEL RIO+	3,094	3,029	3,572	5,718	44,775	36,539	-18.4
EAGLE PASS+	7,831	9,545	0	7,011	46,344	64,578	39.3
EL PASO+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	0	N/A
HARLINGEN+	8,814	6,688	7,225	6,402	49,919	52,484	5.1
LAREDO+	123,062	115,011	131,158	111,816	843,902	938,468	11.2
McALLEN-HIDALGO+	3,963	3,885	4,420	4,351	34,486	32,622	-5.4
PHARR+	21,250	19,820	0	17,695	136,570	150,466	10.2
PROGRESO+	1,333	1,801	2,830	2,221	17,250	16,243	-5.8
RIO GRANDE+	1,630	1,684	1,576	1,965	16,611	14,542	-12.5
ROMA+	1,340	1,302	0	1,518	10,011	9,312	-7.0
TOTAL	193,015	181,125	172,846	177,405	1,361,306	1,474,778	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

+ 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 up 12.1 percent in August. Harlingen rose 8.0 percent, Del Rio increased 17.9 percent, and Pharr went down 10.7 percent. Rio Grande fell 6.4 percent. Laredo gained 14.0 percent, and Brownsville increased 20.2 percent. YTD southbound truck crossings were up 10.3 percent. Laredo, with 62.5 percent of all southbound crossings,

experienced an 11.2 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with 10.6 percent of all southbound crossings, had a 1.2 percent decrease YTD. Pharr, with 11.2 percent, registered an increase of 23.1 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 4.8 percent of all truck crossings, jumped 56.5 percent YTD.

## Truck Crossings into Texas —Number of Trucks

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	27,756	25,248	27,689	25,638	184,445	210,455	14.1
DEL RIO	5,436	4,691	5,525	6,568	40,156	41,625	3.7
EAGLE PASS	8,941	8,361	9,610	8,536	66,075	72,384	9.5
FALCON	31	35	43	66	324	348	7.4
LAREDO	131,162	119,027	134,678	130,533	983,702	999,127	1.6
McALLEN-HIDALGO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHARR	31,603	30,371	33,627	26,740	216,247	254,794	17.8
PROGRESO	1,062	1,101	1,317	1,638	12,520	8,167	-34.8
RIO GRANDE	1,860	1,775	1,958	1,670	14,135	15,626	10.5
ROMA	1,050	1,060	1,124	1,447	10,530	8,920	-15.3
TOTAL	208,901	191,669	215,571	202,836	1,528,134	1,611,446	5.5

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

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

August northbound truck crossings into Texas increased 12.5 percent over July's crossings. Eagle Pass was up 14.9 percent, Brownsville gained 9.7 percent, Progreso rose 19.6 percent, Pharr rose 10.7 percent. Laredo increased 13.1 percent. Roma grew 6.0 percent, Falcon gained 22.9 percent, and Del Rio went down 17.8 percent. Rio Grande hiked 10.3 percent. YTD northbound truck

crossings were up 5.5 percent. Laredo, accounting for 62.0 percent of all northbound truck crossings, had a 1.6 percent increase YTD. Pharr, with 15.8 percent of all crossings, experienced a 17.8 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with a 13.1 percent of all northbound truck crossings, experienced a 14.1 percent increase YTD.

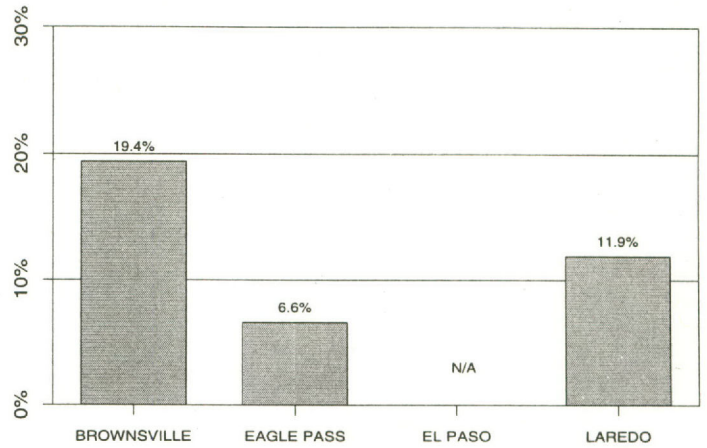
## Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,164	2,752	3,740	3,007	20,813	24,844	19.4
EAGLE PASS	4,973	4,966	6,575	5,882	47,238	50,347	6.6
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	15,094	13,683	15,222	13,673	106,014	118,620	11.9
TOTAL	23,231	21,401	25,537	22,562	174,065	193,811	11.3

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 increased 19.3 percent in August compared to July. Brownsville gained 35.9 percent, while Laredo rose 11.2 percent. Eagle Pass increased 32.4 percent. YTD total southbound rail shipments into Mexico from Texas were up 11.3 percent. Laredo which accounted for 61.2 percent of all southbound rail shipments, was up 11.9 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 26.0 percent of all southbound rail shipments, increased 6.6 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 12.8 percent of all southbound rail shipments, showed an increase of 19.4 percent YTD.

**Export Rail YTD % Change 99-00**



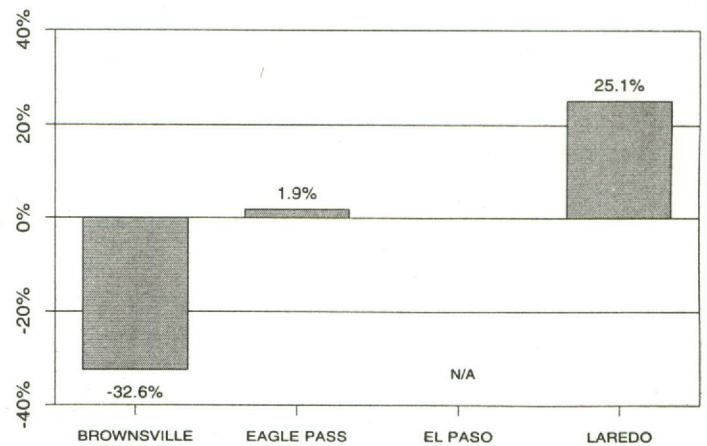
## Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,056	951	708	4,896	11,637	7,846	-32.6
EAGLE PASS	4,188	4,099	3,616	3,927	29,613	30,188	1.9
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	13,171	13,176	13,246	10,972	78,851	98,615	25.1
TOTAL	18,415	18,226	17,570	19,795	120,101	136,649	13.8

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 3.6 percent in August. Laredo increased 0.5 percent, but Brownsville was down 25.6 percent and Eagle Pass dropped 11.8 percent. YTD total northbound shipments into Texas from Mexico were up 13.8 percent. Laredo, which accounted for 72.2 percent of all northbound rail shipments, was up 25.1 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 22.1 percent of all northbound rail shipments, grew 1.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 5.7 percent of all northbound rail shipments, decreased 32.6 percent YTD.

**Import Rail YTD % Change 99-00**



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

CITY	DUTY	MPF	OTHER	TOTAL	TOTAL	YTD	YTD	YTD % CHG
	AUG 00	AUG 00	REVENUE AUG 00	REVENUE AUG 00	REVENUE AUG 99	REVENUE AUG 99	REVENUE AUG 00	
BROWNSVILLE	6,279,981	228,006	209,804	6,717,791	4,641,813	22,100,754	40,661,971	84.0
DEL RIO	184,150	30,304	29,086	243,539	248,029	2,471,409	1,691,557	-31.6
EAGLE PASS	281,842	13,421	3,790,242	4,085,506	5,609,971	30,623,921	25,981,065	-15.2
LAREDO	10,716,626	726,341	13,002,726	24,445,693	21,358,633	154,680,802	152,905,802	-1.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO	1,917,579	247,863	747,677	2,913,120	2,658,460	29,987,345	21,873,699	-27.1
PROGRESO	306	1,932	20,680	22,917	26,252	311,375	159,334	-48.8
RIO GRANDE	38,188	6,193	7,159	51,540	64,163	745,574	549,002	-26.4
ROMA	27,361	2,938	17,174	47,472	51,447	475,865	357,074	-25.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,446,033</b>	<b>1,256,999</b>	<b>17,824,547</b>	<b>38,527,579</b>	<b>34,658,767</b>	<b>241,397,045</b>	<b>244,179,504</b>	<b>1.2</b>

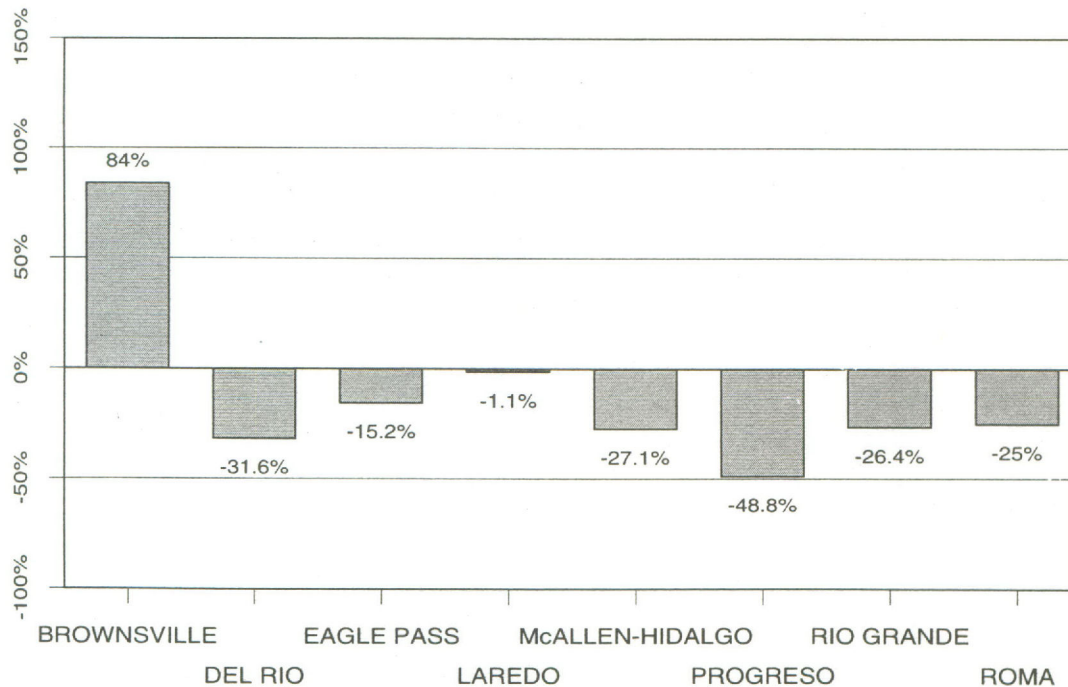
Source: Data provided by the South Texas CMC in Laredo and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

MPF = Merchandise Processing Fee

Total U.S. Customs revenues, for August, for the former District of Laredo, increased 17.4 percent from July's figures. McAllen-Hidalgo went up 20.9 percent, Rio Grande decreased 8.4 percent, Progreso gained 2.5 percent, Roma gained 20.2 percent, Laredo increased 25.9 percent, Eagle Pass went down 12.1 percent, Brownsville rose 12.0 percent, and Del Rio gained a slight 3.7 percent. YTD revenue figures were up 1.2 percent compared to

August 1999, YTD. Laredo, accounting for 62.6 percent share of the former district's revenue was down 1.1 percent. Brownsville, with 16.7 percent share of total revenues, was up 84.0 percent. Eagle Pass, accounting for 10.6 percent of all revenues, was down 15.2 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 9.0 percent of total revenues, decreased 27.1 percent.

**% Change Total Revenues YTD 99-00**





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

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	800,325	818,120	821,774	705,007	5,511,030	6,439,645	16.9
DEL RIO	376,285	383,729	381,720	393,501	2,458,508	3,085,309	25.5
EAGLE PASS	594,115	610,452	605,407	454,708	3,970,708	4,870,476	22.7
EL PASO	958,773	664,651	1,050,078	1,031,547	7,774,754	7,606,121	-2.2
HARLINGEN	130,607	131,432	125,504	111,868	925,774	997,299	7.7
LAREDO	2,466,893	2,369,658	2,572,617	2,252,032	17,685,294	18,978,594	7.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	685,362	696,089	711,125	694,031	5,638,789	5,575,184	-1.1
PHARR	391,523	372,935	348,423	348,423	2,684,710	3,088,433	15.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,403,883</b>	<b>6,047,067</b>	<b>6,616,649</b>	<b>5,991,117</b>	<b>46,649,566</b>	<b>50,641,062</b>	<b>8.6</b>

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 increased 9.4 percent in the month of August. Pharr went down 6.6 percent, Brownsville rose 0.4 percent, Laredo went up 8.6, Del Rio decreased 0.5 percent, Harlingen dropped 4.5 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo went up 2.2 percent, Eagle Pass declined 0.8 percent, and El Paso registered an increased of 58.0 percent. YTD U.S. bridge operators' revenues were up 8.6 percent. Laredo, accounting for 37.5 percent of total

U.S bridge operator's revenues collected, had a 7.3 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 15.0 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues, decreased 2.2 percent YTD. Brownsville, accounting for 12.7 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 9.6 percent of the total bridge revenues, rose 22.7 percent YTD.

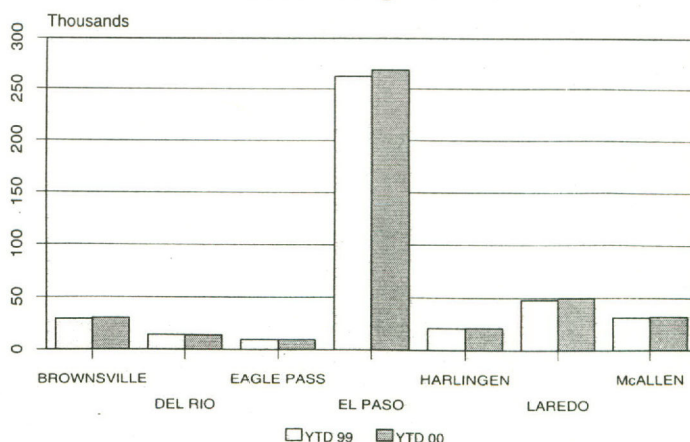
## Power Connections – Texas Border Residential Connections

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	30,323	30,366	30,382	29,730	29,584	30,222	2.2
DEL RIO	14,059	14,022	14,008	14,054	13,839	14,024	1.3
EAGLE PASS	9,663	9,633	9,665	9,586	9,465	9,647	1.9
EL PASO	269,651	269,919	270,369	264,629	262,813	268,966	2.3
HARLINGEN	21,256	21,271	21,335	21,223	21,029	21,463	2.1
LAREDO	50,158	50,238	50,376	49,025	47,905	49,839	4.0
McALLEN	32,086	32,095	32,168	31,876	31,396	32,242	2.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>427,196</b>	<b>427,544</b>	<b>428,303</b>	<b>420,123</b>	<b>416,030</b>	<b>426,403</b>	<b>2.5</b>

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

August's total residential power connections for cited Texas border cities increased over July's figures by 0.18 percent. YTD residential power connections were up 2.5 percent. Laredo was up 4.0 percent, McAllen increased 2.7 percent, Del Rio gained 1.3 percent, Harlingen jumped 2.1 percent, El Paso rose 2.3 percent, Brownsville increased 2.2 percent, and Eagle Pass was up by 1.9 percent.

### YTD AVG August 99-00



## Power Connections – Texas Border (Cont'd)

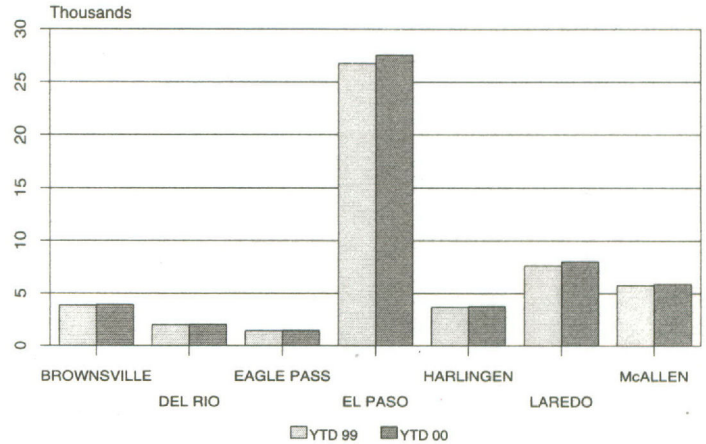
### Commercial Connections

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,959	3,956	3,971	3,874	3,871	3,943	1.9
DEL RIO	2,101	2,101	2,104	2,087	2,046	2,080	1.7
EAGLE PASS	1,519	1,519	1,521	1,530	1,463	1,510	3.3
EL PASO	27,691	27,766	27,780	27,026	26,754	27,570	3.0
HARLINGEN	3,795	3,825	3,816	3,830	3,678	3,780	2.8
LAREDO	8,065	8,143	8,148	8,021	7,645	8,010	4.8
McALLEN	5,910	5,916	5,923	5,977	5,759	5,900	2.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53,040</b>	<b>53,226</b>	<b>53,263</b>	<b>52,345</b>	<b>51,215</b>	<b>52,793</b>	<b>3.1</b>

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

August's total commercial power connections for cited Texas border cities increased 0.07 percent over July's figures. YTD averages of commercial power connections increased 3.1 percent. Harlingen was up 2.8 percent, Eagle Pass increased 3.3 percent, Laredo gained 4.8 percent, McAllen was up 2.4 percent, Del Rio rose 1.7 percent, El Paso gained 3.0 percent, and Brownsville increased 1.9 percent.

### YTD AVG August 99-00



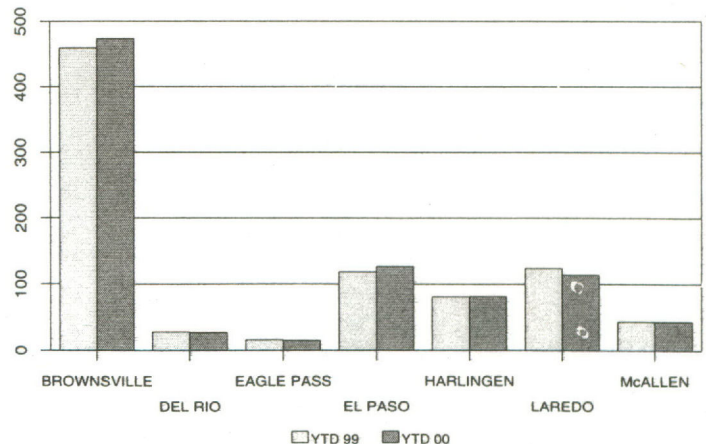
### Industrial Connections

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	437	504	513	473	459	474	3.2
DEL RIO	27	27	27	28	28	27	-3.1
EAGLE PASS	15	15	15	16	16	15	-4.8
EL PASO	125	133	135	119	119	127	7.3
HARLINGEN	81	81	81	88	81	81	0.2
LAREDO	115	116	113	130	124	114	-8.3
McALLEN	44	44	44	41	44	44	0.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>1.3</b>

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

August's total industrial power connections for cited Texas border cities increased 0.87 percent from July's figures. YTD averages of industrial power connections increased 1.3 percent. El Paso increased 7.3 percent, Harlingen grew 0.2 percent, Brownsville went up 3.2 percent, and Laredo declined 8.3 percent.

### YTD AVG August 99-00



## Building Permits —Texas Border

### Number of Permits

NUMBER	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	412	308	374	286	2,534	2,898	14.4
DEL RIO	68	55	69	51	670	480	-28.4
EAGLE PASS	50	64	23	54	316	374	18.4
EL PASO	617	506	610	654	5,083	4,611	-9.3
HARLINGEN	65	75	75	72	587	573	-2.4
LAREDO	685	529	383	436	3,531	4,225	19.7
MCALLEN	166	135	175	159	1,157	1,220	5.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,063</b>	<b>1,672</b>	<b>1,709</b>	<b>1,712</b>	<b>13,878</b>	<b>14,381</b>	<b>3.6</b>

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

August building permits issued by reporting Texas border cities were up 6.4 percent from July. Del Rio increased 25.5 percent, El Paso went up 20.6 percent, and Laredo dropped 27.6 percent. McAllen rose 29.6 percent, and Brownsville gained 21.4 percent. YTD the number of permits issued were up 3.7 percent. El Paso,

accounting for 32.0 percent of all building permits issued, had a decrease of 9.3 percent YTD. Laredo, with 29.4 percent of building permits issued, was up 19.7 percent YTD. Brownsville, with a 20.1 percent of building permits issued, increased 14.4 percent YTD.

### U.S. Dollar Value of Permits

VALUE	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	35,092,468	9,635,967	41,509,709	26,280,228	140,167,116	194,056,379	38.4
DEL RIO	651,608	750,079	525,456	1,393,498	11,087,837	6,671,501	-39.8
EAGLE PASS	1,186,039	2,080,098	997,548	3,233,567	16,510,155	12,109,526	-26.7
EL PASO	45,794,163	39,701,885	29,112,291	32,877,300	313,662,324	287,690,550	-8.3
HARLINGEN	10,526,236	8,675,140	4,948,993	9,371,821	64,769,201	46,410,976	-28.3
LAREDO	29,213,529	32,273,183	17,363,004	22,292,288	132,682,875	183,967,006	38.7
MCALLEN	14,731,578	17,926,119	13,609,304	19,946,089	127,089,084	124,175,037	-2.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>137,195,621</b>	<b>111,042,471</b>	<b>108,066,304</b>	<b>115,394,791</b>	<b>805,968,592</b>	<b>855,080,975</b>	<b>6.1</b>

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

August building permit values for reporting Texas border cities were down 0.9 percent from July. Harlingen declined 43.0 percent, McAllen decreased 24.1 percent, and El Paso decreased 26.7 percent. Brownsville significantly gained 330.8 percent. Laredo fell 46.2 percent and Del Rio declined 29.9 percent. YTD reporting border cities experienced a 6.1 percent increase in building

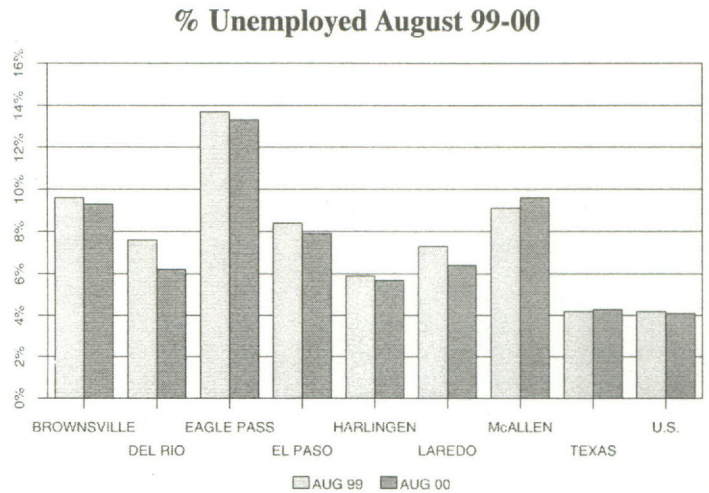
permit values. El Paso, with 33.6 percent of total building permit value, slipped 8.3 percent YTD. Laredo, with 21.5 percent of total building permit values, gained 38.7 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 22.7 percent of total building permit values, increased 38.4 percent. Eagle Pass, with 1.4 percent of total building permit values, dipped 25.3 percent.

## Employment/Unemployment Rates —Texas Border

CITY	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED
	AUG 00	AUG 99	AUG 00	AUG 99	AUG 00	AUG 99
BROWNSVILLE	44,197	41,930	4,535	4,464	9.3	9.6
DEL RIO	14,124	13,556	927	1,119	6.2	7.6
EAGLE PASS	8,243	7,693	1,260	1,218	13.3	13.7
EL PASO	239,920	240,216	20,523	22,085	7.9	8.4
HARLINGEN	25,391	24,088	1,542	1,518	5.7	5.9
LAREDO	63,821	63,589	4,337	5,027	6.4	7.3
McALLEN	43,861	41,416	4,655	4,145	9.6	9.1
TOTAL	439,557	432,488	37,779	39,576	7.9	8.4
THE TEXAS UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					4.30	4.20
THE NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					4.10	4.20

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 August, total employment in reporting Texas border cities decreased 0.4 percent (1,967 jobs lost) over July's figures. Eagle Pass employment dropped 1.1 percent (93 jobs lost), Del Rio decreased 0.7 percent (93 jobs lost), and McAllen went down 0.9 percent (391 jobs lost). Brownsville diminished a slight 0.3 percent (135 jobs gained). YTD total employment in Texas border cities was up 1.6 percent (7,069 jobs gained) from a year ago. The average unemployment rate for the border was 7.9 percent compared to 4.3 percent for Texas and 4.1 percent for the U.S in the month of August.

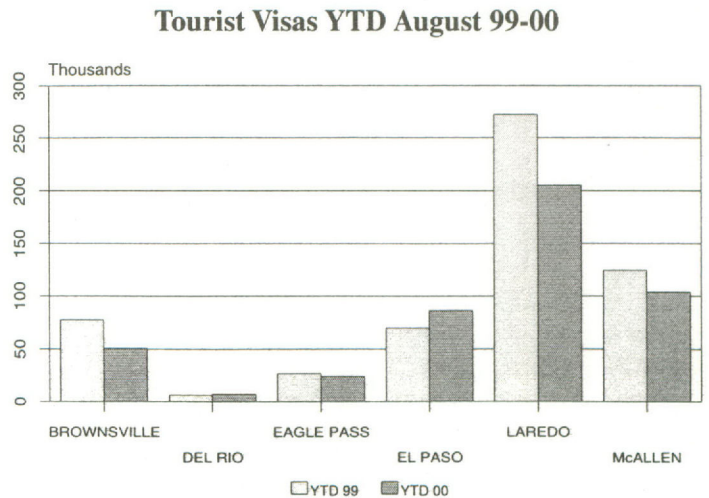


## Visas to Tourists from Texas to Mexico

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	%CHG
BROWNSVILLE	9,469	10,790	6,046	7,237	77,346	50,466	-34.8
DEL RIO	1,309	1,562	791	675	6,177	7,136	15.5
EAGLE PASS	3,789	5,382	1,461	2,352	26,499	23,945	-9.6
EL PASO	13,584	19,349	13,774	8,781	69,522	86,385	24.3
LAREDO	36,697	48,355	24,033	28,693	272,453	205,096	-24.7
McALLEN	15,807	18,033	10,624	13,018	124,392	103,677	-16.7
TOTAL	80,655	103,471	56,729	60,756	576,389	476,705	-17.3

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 August was down 45.2 percent. El Paso decreased 28.8 percent, Laredo dropped 50.3, Del Rio slipped 49.4, and McAllen-Hidalgo fell 41.1 percent. Eagle Pass declined 72.9 and Brownsville decreased 44.0 percent. YTD the number of tourist visas issued was down 17.3 percent. Laredo, with 43.0 percent of total visas issued, slid 24.7 percent YTD. McAllen, with 21.7 percent of total visas issued, had a 16.7 percent decrease YTD. Brownsville, with 10.6 percent of all visas issued, dropped 34.8 percent YTD. El Paso, with 18.1 percent of total visas issued, increased 24.3 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 5.0 percent of total visas issued, dipped 9.6 percent YTD.



## Air Passenger Service Activities — Selected Border Cities

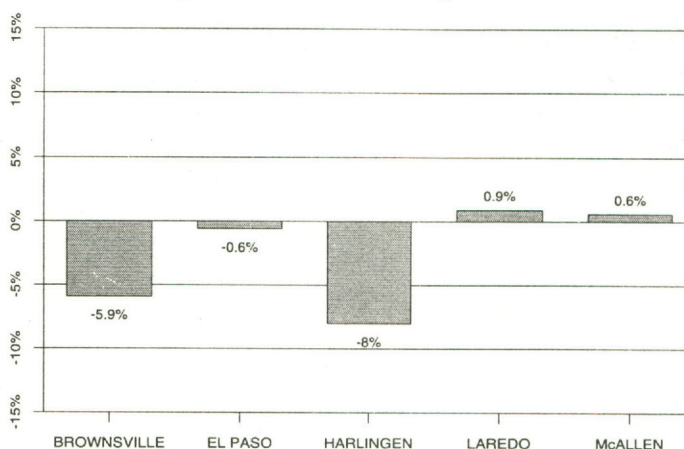
### Passenger Arrivals

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,595	5,789	5,561	5,680	35,763	33,662	-5.9
EL PASO	151,320	154,313	143,836	143,973	807,890	802,802	-0.6
HARLINGEN	41,288	42,242	36,024	38,146	261,748	240,784	-8.0
LAREDO	6,367	6,749	6,801	6,920	47,093	47,499	0.9
McALLEN	24,832	26,859	25,616	25,859	160,612	161,645	0.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>229,402</b>	<b>235,952</b>	<b>217,838</b>	<b>220,578</b>	<b>1,313,106</b>	<b>1,286,392</b>	<b>-2.0</b>

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

August air passengers arriving in Texas border cities were down 7.7 percent from July's figures. McAllen decreased 4.6 percent, Laredo rose 0.8 percent, Brownsville dropped 3.9 percent, and El Paso was down 6.8 percent. Harlingen fell 14.7 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**



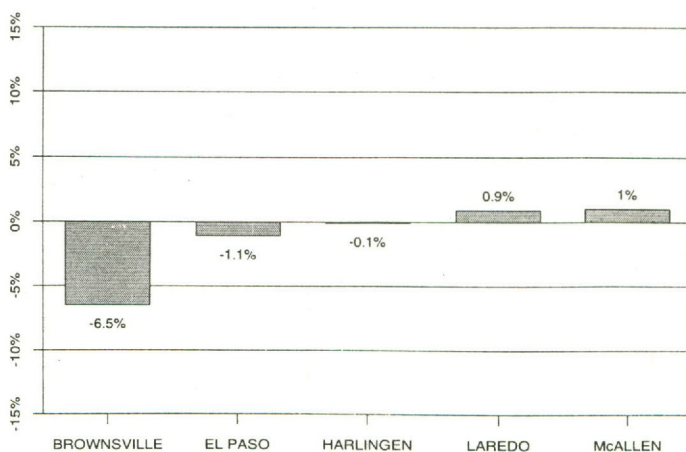
### Passenger Departures

CITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,657	5,938	5,595	5,572	49,704	46,496	-6.5
EL PASO	152,847	157,840	140,389	139,794	1,130,648	1,117,772	-1.1
HARLINGEN	42,138	43,702	36,475	34,999	326,858	326,548	-0.1
LAREDO	6,630	7,238	6,693	6,847	62,223	62,793	0.9
McALLEN	26,425	28,748	26,049	26,292	223,079	225,270	1.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>233,697</b>	<b>243,466</b>	<b>215,201</b>	<b>213,504</b>	<b>1,792,512</b>	<b>1,778,879</b>	<b>-0.8</b>

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

August air passenger departures for reporting Texas border cities were down 11.6 percent. McAllen decreased 9.4 percent, Harlingen fell 16.5 percent, Laredo went down 7.5 percent, and El Paso fell 11.1 percent. YTD air passenger departures were down 0.8 percent from a year ago. El Paso, with 62.8 percent of all departing passengers, was down 1.1 percent YTD. Harlingen, with 18.4 percent of all departing passengers, declined 0.1 percent YTD. McAllen, with 12.7 percent of all departing passengers, decreased 1.0 percent, YTD. Laredo, with 3.5 percent of all departing passengers, rose 0.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 2.6 percent of all departing passengers, declined 6.5 percent YTD.

**Passenger Departures % Change YTD 99-00**



# Port Of Corpus Christi

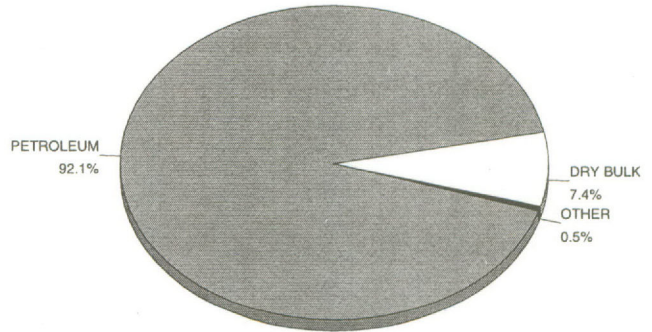
## Inbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BREAK BULK	4,582	968	1,984	4,133	63,163	18,747	-70.3
DRY BULK	406,786	412,309	324,021	336,245	2,804,361	2,928,400	4.4
BULK GRAIN	0	0	0	0	26,006	0	N/A
LIQUID	0	3,329	4,962	2,395	27,423	19,219	-29.9
PETROLEUM	4,409,103	5,074,509	4,042,431	3,896,092	30,961,359	33,263,292	7.4
CHEMICAL	11,211	4,240	16,456	10,056	73,979	89,992	21.6
TOTAL	4,831,683	5,495,355	4,389,854	4,248,921	33,956,291	36,319,650	7.0

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 20.1 percent decrease in inbound cargo from last month. Petroleum, which made up 92.1 percent of all inbound traffic in August, was down 20.3 percent compared to July. Dry bulk, which accounted for 7.4 percent of the port's inbound cargo for August, went down 21.4 percent from July. Total inbound cargo tonnage was up 7.0 percent YTD.

## % Share August 2000 Inbound Cargo



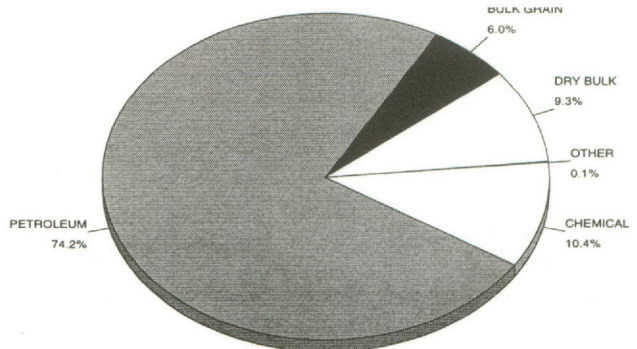
## Outbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BREAK BULK	4,582	6,646	2,124	6,534	63,706	37,481	-41.2
DRY BULK	406,786	180,782	241,776	287,922	1,786,189	1,973,147	10.5
BULK GRAIN	0	271,986	156,339	177,195	1,320,839	854,650	-35.3
LIQUID	0	0	0	0	3,183	0	N/A
PETROLEUM	4,409,103	2,468,133	1,919,895	1,877,439	15,833,001	21,227,916	34.1
CHEMICAL	11,211	0	268,902	87,890	1,345,593	1,274,153	-5.3
TOTAL	4,831,683	2,927,547	2,589,036	2,436,980	20,352,512	25,367,347	24.6

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 an 11.6 percent decrease in outbound cargo tonnage in August from the previous month. Petroleum, which was 74.2 percent of total outbound cargo for August, decreased 22.0 percent compared to July. Dry bulk, which accounted for 9.3 percent of the total outbound cargo for August, increased 33.7 percent from July. YTD total outbound cargo tonnage was up 24.6 percent.

## % Share August 2000 Outbound Cargo



# Port Of Brownsville

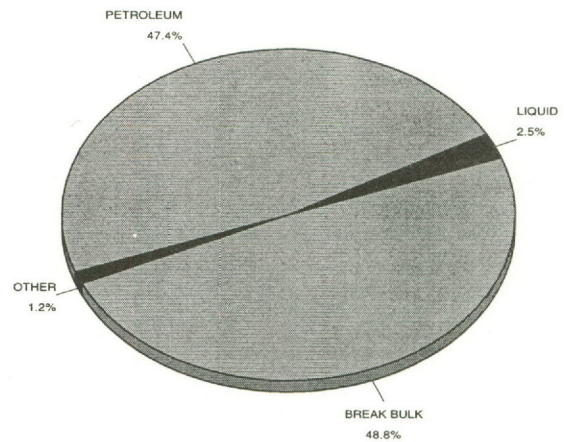
## Inbound Cargo (in Metric Tons)

COMMODITY	JUN 00	JUL 00	AUG 00	AUG 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BREAK BULK	134,861	180,929	125,149	145,764	975,819	1,309,845	34.2
LIQUID	9,836	2,740	6,485	7,786	33,804	67,573	99.9
PETROLEUM	73,105	111,615	121,533	79,572	800,781	1,107,323	38.3
GRAIN	1,339	16,768	0	7,398	102,259	93,204	-8.9
CONTAINERS	66	1,381	2,100	110	538	4,486	733.8
MACHINERY	1,224	900	1,076	0	1,696	4,427	161.0
TOTAL	220,431	314,333	256,343	240,630	1,914,897	2,586,858	35.1

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 a decrease of 18.4 percent in total cargo tonnage over the previous month. Break Bulk, which accounted for 48.8 percent of the total cargo tonnage for August dropped 30.8 percent from July's figures. Petroleum, which made up 47.4 percent of the total cargo for August gained 8.9 percent from the previous month. YTD figures showed a 35.1 percent increase in Break Bulk tonnage -50.6 percent of total tonnage. Grain -3.6 percent of total tonnage- had a YTD decrease of 8.9 percent. Petroleum -42.8 percent of total tonnage- grew 38.3 percent. YTD total tonnage was up 35.1 percent.

## % Share August 2000 Total Cargo



## Web Page Information

The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) web site provides laws and regulations, labor programs and workshops. Information on programs such as the "Spring into Safety", which promotes the awareness of child labor protection, is available. The DOL also provides data and statistics through the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Unemployment trends, national hour and wages, Consumer Price Index, to name a few, can be found at the BLS location.

Department of Labor (U.S.)

<http://www.dol.gov>

Bureau of Labor Statistics (U.S.)

<http://www.bls.gov>

The Texas Workforce Commission's web site provides potential employers and employees with their information needs. Employers can log on to find information on subjects such as, Unemployment, Labor Law and Appeals Information, Tax Information and Transactions, or Start or Expand a Business. Prospective employees can find job opportunities for the State of Texas through the Texas' Job Bank.

Texas Workforce Commission (U.S.)

<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/>

Get the latest information and statistics on the health of the Mexican labor force through the *Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social*. Minimum wage, varieties of labor statistics and links to other agencies and subagencies that assist on labor issues are available here.

*Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social* (Mexico)

<http://www.stps.gob.mx/>

Just as informative is the Canadian Labour Program. This site provides links to the Minister of Labour, Workplace Information, Strategic Policy and Partnerships.

Labour Program (Canada)

<http://labour-travail.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/main.cfm>

-J. Benavides

The links in this section are meant to inform our readers of available sources of information. The Texas Center is in no part associated with any of the organizations whose links are featured, and is not responsible for their content.

# Border Business Indicators

is published monthly by the Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development, at Texas A&M International University.

Dr. J. Charles Jennett  
President  
Texas A&M International University

Dr. Ray M. Keck,  
Provost  
Texas A&M International University

Dr. John P. Kohl,  
Dean  
COBA/GSITBA

Dr. J. Michael Patrick  
Director

Baldomero G. Garcia  
Associate Director

Jacqueline Benavides  
Data & Information Specialist

Sherry Everitt  
Interim Unit Assistant

Further information may be obtained by calling:  
TEL. (956) 326-2546  
FAX (956) 326-2544  
or by writing to the address shown below.

Printed by TAMIU Print Shop  
on Recycled Paper

## Subscribe Now To This Informative Publication

Either copy or cut out the form below to subscribe to the *BBI*.

Please mail to *Border Business Indicators* at address listed below.

### Border Business Indicators

Texas A&M International University  
Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development  
5201 University Boulevard  
Laredo, TX 78041-1900

Check Method of Payment: (Please enclose this form with payment.)

Check     Money Order

Type of Subscription

New     Renewal

Made payable to: Texas A&M International University

**U.S. funds ONLY. Subscription fee is \$36 for 12 monthly issues.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation/Co. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



**TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
TEXAS CENTER FOR BORDER ECONOMIC  
AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT  
5201 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD  
LAREDO, TX 78041-1900**

**Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Laredo, Texas  
78041  
Permit 231**