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Border Business Indicators

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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 January demonstrated an increase of eight indicators while fourteen indicators decreased. Tourism is not available. In addition, year-to-date (YTD) figures, fifteen indicators finished up and seven ended in a decrease. Tourism is not available. Selected 2001 YTD comparisons to 2000 reported by border cities include the following:

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were down 4.0 percent. Laredo fell 4.8 percent, Rio Grande jumped 41.5 percent, McAllen registered a decrease of 6.9 and El Paso rose 1.6 percent.
- Northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 4.9 percent. Laredo gained 1.7 percent. El Paso went up 8.9 percent. Brownsville dropped 2.9
- Southbound vehicle crossings were down 3.3 percent. Brownsville grew by 1.0 percent, and Eagle Pass fell 0.8 percent. El Paso went down 1.9 percent and Pharr decreased 2.9 percent. Laredo gained 0.6 percent.
- Northbound vehicle crossings were down 8.3 percent. Eagle Pass fell 0.3 percent. Del Rio dropped 3.1 percent. Roma decreased 2.2 percent, El Paso went down 5.4 percent, Brownsville declined 26.3 percent and Pharr increased 4.4 percent.
- Southbound truck crossings into Mexico were up 4.3 percent. Eagle Pass went down 8.4 percent. Pharr increased 8.9 percent, and Laredo rose 8.0 percent. Del Rio was down 2.8 percent. Progreso gained 34.2 and Rio Grande grew 35.2 percent.
- Northbound truck crossings into Texas went up 0.1 percent, Pharr gained 5.9 percent and Eagle Pass posted a 7.5 percent increase. Brownsville decreased 16.7 percent, Laredo rose 0.5 percent, Del Rio marked a drop of 1.0 percent. Rio Grande had a gain of 61.7 percent.
- Southbound shipments by rail were up 9.3 percent.
- Northbound shipments by rail were up 10.2 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs went up by 12.3 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Bridge operators were up 5.4 percent.
- Total building permits issued were up 15.5 percent. Laredo fell 2.3 percent, Eagle Pass gained 2.6 percent, while McAllen-Hidalgo rose 13.2 percent, and Brownsville registered an increase of 4.9 percent. Del Rio gained 17.0 percent. El Paso showed a 45.3 percent increase.
- Total building permit values increased 32.4 percent. Laredo decreased 0.03 percent, and Brownsville fell 25.4 percent. Del Rio was down 23.9 percent. McAllen increased 58.2 percent. El Paso was up 105.1 percent.
- Total employment was up 2.1 percent, with 8,984 jobs gained. The average unemployment rate in January 2001 was 8.3 percent for the border.

NAFTA 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) <i>Hardcopy only</i>

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.

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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.

Texas Fairs Very Well Against Its U.S.-Mexico Border Counterparts

In the February issue of the *Border Business Indicators*, the closing 2000 trade figures between the United States and Mexico were delineated. As in previous years, the U.S.-Mexico border states have handled the bulk of the trade. In 2000, these states' border ports processed \$204.333 billion or 82.5 percent of the \$247.632 billion of the total dollar trade value. (See Table 1 & 2) *Note: Figures may not match February's article due to rounding.*

In both Exports and Imports, Texas ran away with the largest share of the dollar amount crossing its border ports. Second were those of California with Arizona's a distant third and New Mexico at the far end (See Table 2). All the border states experienced an increase in the total dollar value of goods processed in 2000.

Chart 1 demonstrates the percent share of the total U.S.-Mexico trade which transited at the respective states' border ports. The 2000 shares are almost identical to 1999 with slight drops in Texas' and California's.

With the current down turn in the stock market and the slowing of the U.S. economy, it will be of much interest to see the initial figures for U.S.-Mexico trade. Our next issue will focus on the initial months of 2001.

In the meantime, if you have an interest in monthly figures for the ports along the U.S.-Mexico border, visit our web site at www.tamui.edu/coba/txcntr. On our main page, click on the link *Border Trade Data* and take a moment to view our trade data. There you will find an expanded version of the data used for this report. If you require more detailed trade data, 1-digit Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) groupings are available. —B. G. Garcia

Table 1
Total U.S.-Mexico Trade, 1999 vs. 2000
(Billions of Dollars)

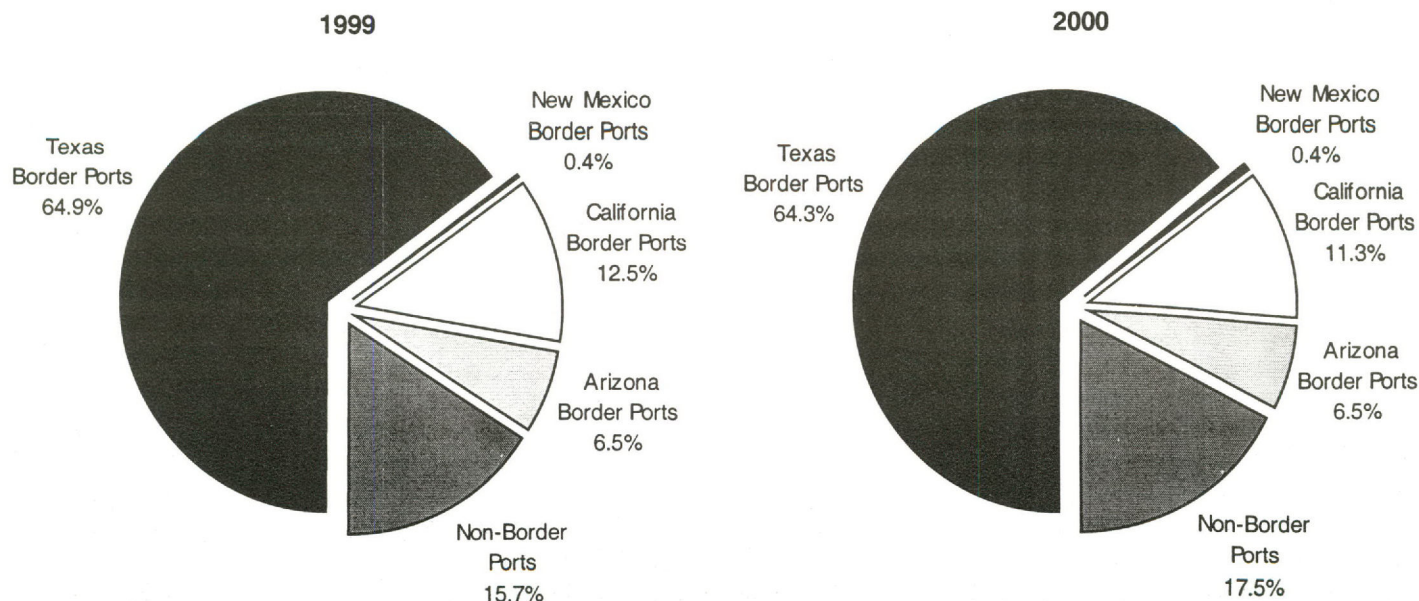
	1999	2000	%Change
Exports	86.866	111.721	28.613
Imports	109.706	135.911	23.887
Total	196.572	247.632	25.975

Table 2
U.S.-Mexico Trade via U.S.-Mexico Border Ports
1999 vs. 2000
(Billions of Dollars)

	1999	2000	% Change
Exports			
Texas Border Ports	58.252	75.116	28.950
New Mexico Border Ports	0.011	0.069	527.273
California Border Ports	10.199	12.112	18.757
Arizona Border Ports	4.844	6.185	27.684
Total Border Ports	73.306	93.482	27.523
Imports			
Texas Border Ports	69.276	84.083	21.374
New Mexico Border Ports	0.692	0.904	30.636
California Border Ports	14.294	15.971	11.732
Arizona Border Ports	7.978	9.892	23.991
Total Border Ports	92.240	110.850	20.176
Total Trade			
Texas Border Ports	127.528	159.199	24.835
New Mexico Border Ports	0.702	0.974	38.746
California Border Ports	24.492	28.083	14.662
Arizona Border Ports	12.821	16.077	25.396
Total Border Ports	165.543	204.333	23.432

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division, Data Dissemination Branch, Washington, D.C. 20233 & U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

Chart 1
Percent Share of Total U.S.-Mexico Trade
Handled by U.S.-Mexico Border Ports
1999 vs. 2000



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

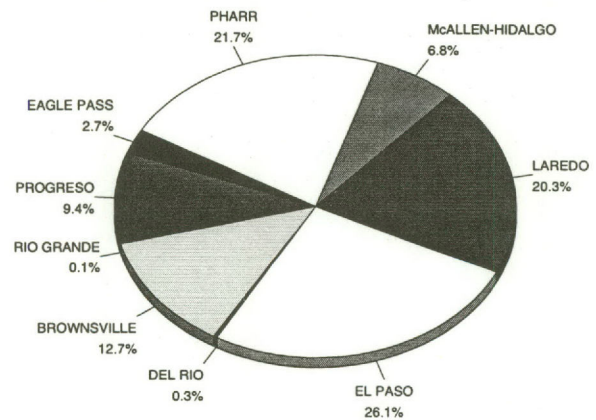
Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Mexico

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	211,063	268,809	203,321	208,935	208,935	203,321	-2.7
DEL RIO	1,347	3,228	4,122	3,403	3,403	4,122	21.1
EAGLE PASS	50,579	66,231	43,944	48,659	48,659	43,944	-9.7
EL PASO	504,412	627,590	417,221	410,622	410,622	417,221	1.6
HARLINGEN	61	115	90	87	87	90	3.4
LAREDO	362,342	433,198	324,529	341,060	341,060	324,529	-4.8
McALLEN-HIDALGO	113,347	143,690	108,020	116,039	116,039	108,020	-6.9
PHARR	372,402	168,779	346,853	360,032	360,032	346,853	-3.7
PROGRESO	91,388	115,517	150,088	161,348	161,348	150,088	-7.0
RIO GRANDE	759	664	1,119	791	791	1,119	41.5
ROMA	N/A	N/A	N/A	15,090	15,090	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	1,707,700	1,827,821	1,599,307	1,666,066	1,666,066	1,599,307	-4.0

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

Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico for January were down 12.5 percent. Rio Grande increased 68.5 percent, Brownsville fell 24.4 percent, Eagle Pass lost 33.7 percent, El Paso decreased 33.5 percent, and Laredo dropped 25.1 percent. Progreso jumped 29.9 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo was down 24.8 percent. YTD southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico fell 4.0 percent. El Paso's southbound pedestrian crossings, which made up 26.1 percent of all crossings, increased 1.6 percent YTD. Laredo, accounting for 20.3 percent of total crossings, decreased 4.8 percent YTD. Brownsville, with a 12.7 percent share, decreased 2.7 percent YTD. Progreso, with 9.4 percent share, declined 7.0 percent.

% Share Pedestrians for January 2001



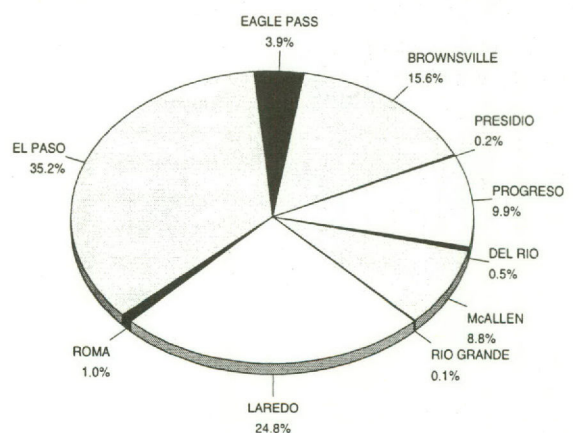
Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Texas

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	250,942	308,677	235,018	241,968	241,968	235,018	-2.9
DEL RIO	5,996	6,601	7,253	7,739	7,739	7,253	-6.3
EAGLE PASS	61,111	80,282	58,257	61,481	61,481	58,257	-5.2
EL PASO	632,387	764,837	529,925	486,522	486,522	529,925	8.9
LAREDO	391,558	504,926	373,315	367,058	367,058	373,315	1.7
McALLEN-HIDALGO	140,677	176,782	131,610	94,945	94,945	131,610	38.6
PRESIDIO	2,748	2,962	2,619	2,314	2,314	2,619	13.2
PROGRESO	91,227	115,329	149,203	152,207	152,207	149,203	-2.0
RIO GRANDE	1,338	1,707	1,410	1,134	1,134	1,410	24.3
ROMA	17,032	17,735	15,136	18,126	18,126	15,136	-16.5
TOTAL	1,595,016	1,979,838	1,503,746	1,433,494	1,433,494	1,503,746	4.9

Source: Data provided by Mexico's Oficina de Caminos y Puentes and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 24.0 percent in January. Progreso increased 29.4 percent, Brownsville was down 23.9 percent, El Paso decreased 30.7 percent, and Laredo fell 26.1 percent. YTD northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 4.9 percent. El Paso, accounting for 35.2 percent of northbound crossings, was up 8.9 percent YTD. Laredo, with 24.8 percent of all northbound crossings, was up 1.7 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 15.6 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings, decreased 2.9 percent in crossings YTD.

% Share Pedestrians for January 2001



Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	640,813	672,362	618,634	612,704	612,704	618,634	1.0
DEL RIO	144,256	171,634	143,067	154,911	154,911	143,067	-7.6
EAGLE PASS	261,372	314,017	254,605	256,604	256,604	254,605	-0.8
EL PASO	459,955	506,078	453,390	462,310	462,310	453,390	-1.9
HARLINGEN	45,915	54,550	44,581	46,028	46,028	44,581	-3.1
LAREDO	763,801	792,345	679,571	675,704	675,704	679,571	0.6
McALLEN-HIDALGO	487,673	534,784	485,871	471,918	471,918	485,871	3.0
PHARR	180,020	187,071	167,930	172,913	172,913	167,930	-2.9
PROGRESO	91,388	104,842	99,542	99,540	99,540	99,542	0.0
RIO GRANDE	48,882	56,258	46,405	49,275	49,275	46,405	-5.8
ROMA	N/A	N/A	N/A	95,329	95,329	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	3,124,075	3,393,941	2,993,596	3,097,236	3,097,236	2,993,596	-3.3

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

Southbound vehicle bridge crossings into Mexico were down 11.8 percent in January from December's figures. Eagle Pass was down 18.9 percent, Del Rio fell 16.6 percent, Rio Grande dropped 17.5 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo declined 9.1 percent, and Brownsville went down 8.0 percent. Harlingen decreased 18.3 percent, and Laredo lost 14.2 percent. YTD southbound vehicle bridge crossings decreased 3.3 percent. Laredo, with 22.7 percent of all

southbound traffic, was up 0.6 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 20.7 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 1.0 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 15.1 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, fell 1.9 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 16.2 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 3.0 percent increase YTD.

Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Texas

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	424,966	471,221	443,530	602,104	602,104	443,530	-26.3
DEL RIO	156,903	175,745	159,301	164,371	164,371	159,301	-3.1
EAGLE PASS	90,572	98,767	274,475	275,258	275,258	274,475	-0.3
EL PASO	747,569	778,068	687,153	726,300	726,300	687,153	-5.4
HARLINGEN	55,372	63,868	56,406	59,372	59,372	56,406	-5.0
LAREDO	642,432	661,379	653,281	720,126	720,126	653,281	-9.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	454,543	481,453	457,492	474,353	474,353	457,492	-3.6
PHARR	216,600	226,736	206,444	197,742	197,742	206,444	4.4
PRESIDIO	60,724	88,914	56,873	67,523	67,523	56,873	-15.8
PROGRESO	89,194	101,556	96,392	93,827	93,827	96,392	2.7
RIO GRANDE	54,064	59,474	55,008	56,438	56,438	55,008	-2.5
ROMA	99,249	113,515	99,363	101,567	101,567	99,363	-2.2
TOTAL	3,092,188	3,320,696	3,245,718	3,538,981	3,538,981	3,245,718	-8.3

Source: Data provided by Mexico's Oficina de Caminos y Puentes and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas for January were down 8.1 percent from December. Roma registered a 12.5 percent decrease, Eagle Pass went down 11.9 percent, Progreso decreased 5.1 percent, Brownsville fell 5.9 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo decreased 5.0 percent. Presidio declined 36.0 percent, and Laredo

was down 1.2 percent. YTD northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas were down 8.3 percent. El Paso, with 21.2 percent of all crossings, was down 5.4 percent YTD. Laredo, with 20.1 percent of all crossings, fell 9.3 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 13.7 percent of all crossings, dropped 26.3 percent YTD.

Truck Crossings into Mexico —Number of Trucks

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE+	18,078	15,895	17,710	18,741	18,741	17,710	-5.5
DEL RIO+	5,809	4,741	5,645	5,807	5,807	5,645	-2.8
EAGLE PASS+	8,778	7,001	8,388	9,155	9,155	8,388	-8.4
EL PASO+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	N/A	N/A	N/A
HARLINGEN+	4,767	3,654	3,927	4,724	4,724	3,927	-16.9
LAREDO+	123,341	110,896	115,056	106,513	106,513	115,056	8.0
McALLEN-HIDALGO+	3,388	3,627	4,006	4,177	4,177	4,006	-4.1
PHARR+	22,330	18,292	21,272	19,537	19,537	21,272	8.9
PROGRESO+	2,425	2,653	2,703	2,014	2,014	2,703	34.2
RIO GRANDE+	1,667	1,779	2,349	1,738	1,738	2,349	35.2
ROMA+	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,172	1,172	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	190,583	168,538	181,056	173,578	173,578	181,056	4.3

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 down 7.4 percent in January. Harlingen rose 7.5 percent, Del Rio increased 19.1 percent, and Pharr went up 16.3 percent. Rio Grande gained 32.0 percent. Laredo jumped 3.8 percent and Brownsville increased 11.4 percent. YTD southbound truck crossings were up 4.3 percent. Laredo, with 63.5 percent of all southbound crossings,

experienced a 8.0 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with a 9.8 percent of all southbound crossings, had a 5.5 percent decrease YTD. Pharr, with 11.7 percent, registered an increase of 8.9 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 4.6 percent of all truck crossings, fell 8.4 percent YTD.

Truck Crossings into Texas —Number of Trucks

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	22,183	18,914	20,748	24,915	24,915	20,748	-16.7
DEL RIO	5,120	4,055	4,927	4,979	4,979	4,927	-1.0
EAGLE PASS	9,289	7,322	9,034	8,402	8,402	9,034	7.5
FALCON	29	23	25	51	51	25	-51.0
LAREDO	125,273	110,110	115,366	114,829	114,829	115,366	0.5
McALLEN-HIDALGO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHARR	31,226	26,359	30,323	28,647	28,647	30,323	5.9
PROGRESO	1,168	1,034	1,354	719	719	1,354	88.3
RIO GRANDE	2,048	2,074	2,785	1,722	1,722	2,785	61.7
ROMA	1,019	867	888	1,070	1,070	888	-17.0
TOTAL	197,355	170,758	185,450	185,334	185,334	185,450	0.1

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.

January northbound truck crossings into Texas were up 8.6 percent over December's crossings. Eagle Pass was up 23.4 percent, Brownsville increased 9.7 percent, Progreso climbed 30.9 percent, Pharr went up 15.0 percent, and Laredo rose 4.8 percent. Roma jumped 2.4 percent. YTD northbound truck cross-

ings were up 0.1 percent. Laredo, accounting for 62.2 percent of all northbound truck crossings, had a 0.5 percent increase YTD. Pharr, with 16.4 percent of all crossings, experienced a 5.9 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with 11.2 percent of all northbound truck crossings, experienced a 16.7 percent decrease YTD.

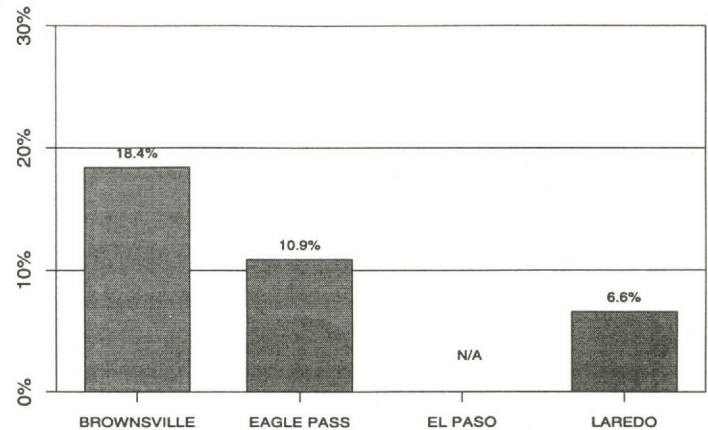
Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	2,020	2,206	3,348	2,827	2,827	3,348	18.4
EAGLE PASS	6,610	6,085	6,266	5,650	5,650	6,266	10.9
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	16,925	15,385	14,035	13,160	13,160	14,035	6.6
TOTAL	25,555	23,676	23,649	21,637	21,637	23,649	9.3

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 decreased 0.1 percent in January compared to December. Brownsville increased 51.8 percent, while Laredo fell 8.8 percent. Eagle Pass rose 3.0 percent. YTD southbound rail shipments into Mexico from Texas were up 9.3 percent. Laredo which accounted for 59.3 percent of all southbound rail shipments, was up 6.6 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 26.5 percent of all southbound rail shipments, increased 10.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 14.2 percent of all southbound rail shipments, showed an increase of 18.4 percent YTD.

Export Rail YTD % Change 00-01



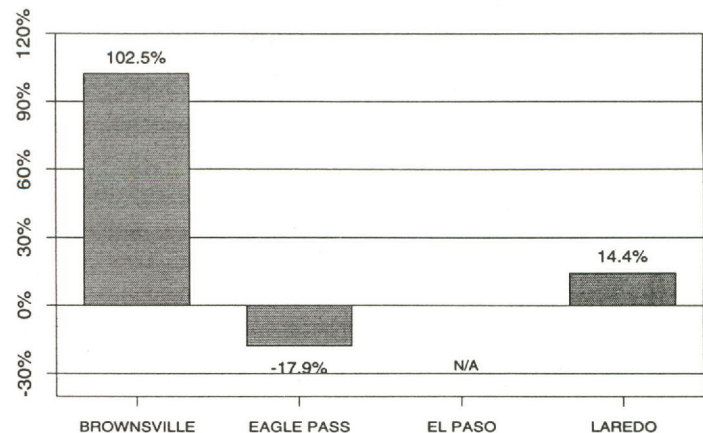
Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,154	1,301	1,118	552	552	1,118	102.5
EAGLE PASS	3,078	2,457	2,692	3,277	3,277	2,692	-17.9
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	12,605	11,366	11,173	9,770	9,770	11,173	14.4
TOTAL	16,837	15,124	14,983	13,599	13,599	14,983	10.2

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 0.9 percent in January. Laredo fell 1.7 percent, Brownsville was down 14.1 percent, and Eagle Pass rose 9.6 percent. YTD total northbound shipments into Texas from Mexico were up 10.2 percent. Laredo, which accounted for 74.6 percent of all northbound rail shipments, were up 14.4 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 18.0 percent of all northbound rail shipments, fell 17.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 7.5 percent of all northbound rail shipments, increased 102.5 percent YTD.

Import Rail YTD % Change 00-01



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

CITY	DUTY	MPF	OTHER	TOTAL	TOTAL	YTD	YTD	YTD % CHG
	JAN 01	JAN 01	REVENUE JAN 01	REVENUE JAN 01	REVENUE JAN 00	REVENUE JAN 00	REVENUE JAN 01	
BROWNSVILLE	4,512,354	119,504	193,852	4,825,709	3,940,229	3,940,229	4,825,709	22.5
DEL RIO	60,718	25,093	28,180	113,991	141,204	141,204	113,991	-19.3
EAGLE PASS	163,338	14,293	1,621,667	1,799,299	1,744,921	1,744,921	1,799,299	3.1
LAREDO	8,276,607	634,232	7,053,871	15,964,709	14,400,053	14,400,053	15,964,709	10.9
McALLEN-HIDALGO	1,747,343	169,970	345,045	2,262,358	1,996,212	1,996,212	2,262,358	13.3
PROGRESO	15	966	13,723	14,704	15,407	15,407	14,704	-4.6
RIO GRANDE	32,441	7,232	15,623	55,296	39,164	39,164	55,296	41.2
ROMA	12,578	2,276	9,014	23,868	36,752	36,752	23,868	-35.1
TOTAL	14,805,393	973,566	9,280,975	25,059,933	22,313,942	22,313,942	25,059,933	12.3

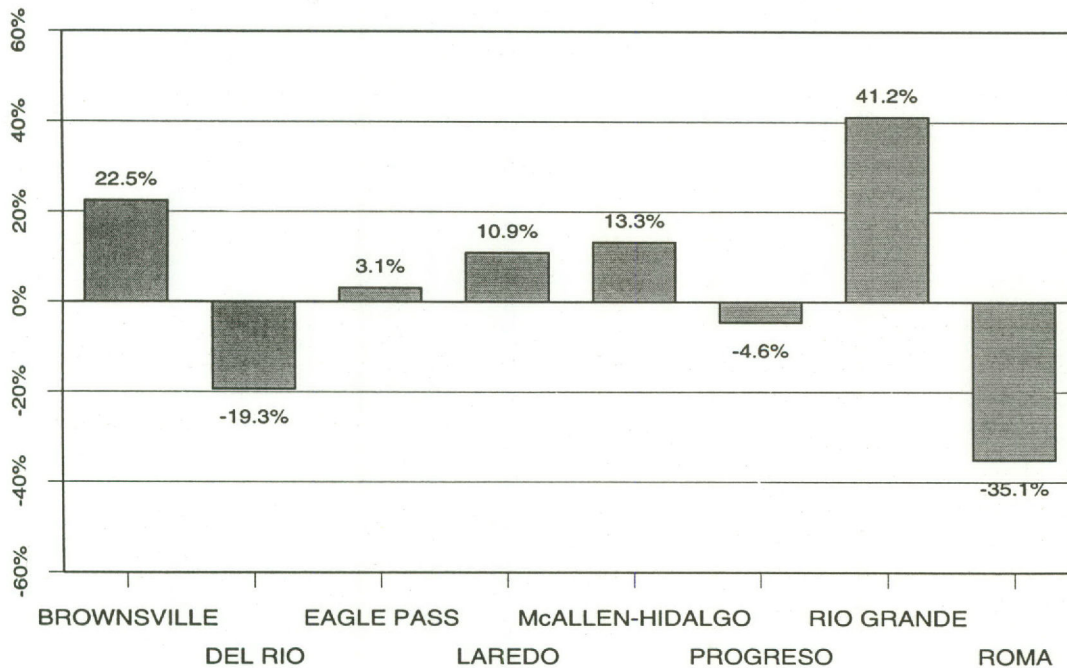
Source: Data provided by the South Texas CMC in Laredo and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

MPF = Merchandise Processing Fee

Total U.S. Customs revenues, for January, for the former District of Laredo, decreased 4.7 percent from December figures. McAllen-Hidalgo was down 21.9 percent, Rio Grande fell 7.2 percent, Progreso dropped 1.9 percent, Roma declined 25.1 percent, Rio Grande fell 7.2 percent, Progreso dropped 1.9 percent, Roma declined 25.1 percent, Laredo decreased 4.5 percent, Eagle Pass went down 28.2 percent, Brownsville increased 23.4 percent, and Del Rio declined 33.1 percent. YTD revenues for the border were

up 12.3 percent compared to January 2000 YTD. Laredo, accounting for 63.7 percent share of the former district's revenue was up 10.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 19.3 percent share of total revenues, was up 22.5 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 7.2 percent of all revenues, was up 3.1 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 9.0 percent of total revenues, increased 13.3 percent YTD.

% Change Total Revenues YTD 00-01



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

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	871,749	915,383	862,887	769,343	769,343	862,887	12.2
DEL RIO	364,984	407,987	356,989	385,580	385,580	356,989	-7.4
EAGLE PASS	603,340	682,782	575,189	596,332	596,332	575,189	-3.5
EL PASO	1,001,976	1,031,256	934,581	944,901	944,901	934,581	-1.1
HARLINGEN	130,995	129,566	115,031	109,459	109,459	115,031	5.1
LAREDO	2,463,441	2,448,826	2,266,121	2,143,524	2,143,524	2,266,121	5.7
McALLEN-HIDALGO	798,733	886,454	801,074	681,997	681,997	801,074	17.5
PHARR	447,601	453,659	409,745	368,464	368,464	409,745	11.2
TOTAL	6,682,819	6,955,913	6,321,616	5,999,599	5,999,599	6,321,616	5.4

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 9.1 percent in the month of January. Pharr went down 9.7 percent, Brownsville fell 5.7 percent, Laredo went down 7.5. Del Rio decreased 12.5 percent, Harlingen fell 11.2 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo declined 9.6 percent, Eagle Pass decreased 15.8 percent, and El Paso registered a loss of 9.4 percent. YTD U.S. bridge operator's revenues were up 5.4 percent. Laredo, accounting for 35.8 percent

of total U.S. bridge operator's revenues collected, had a 5.7 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 14.8 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues, decreased 1.1 percent YTD. Brownsville, accounting for 13.6 percent, was up 12.2 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 12.7 percent of the total bridge revenues, increased 17.5 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 9.1 percent of the total bridge revenues, fell 3.5 percent YTD.

Power Connections – Texas Border

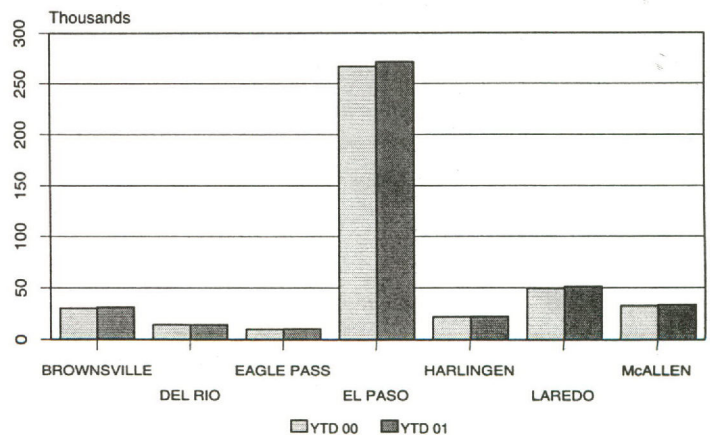
Residential Connections

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	30,640	30,762	30,997	30,053	30,053	30,997	3.1
DEL RIO	14,109	14,074	14,085	13,965	13,965	14,085	0.9
EAGLE PASS	9,782	9,774	9,822	9,563	9,563	9,822	2.7
EL PASO	271,596	271,588	271,588	267,086	267,086	271,588	1.7
HARLINGEN	21,839	21,934	22,117	21,622	21,622	22,117	2.3
LAREDO	50,906	50,888	51,086	49,146	49,146	51,086	3.9
McALLEN	32,847	32,925	33,248	32,372	32,372	33,248	2.7
TOTAL	431,719	431,945	432,943	423,807	423,807	432,943	2.2

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

January's total residential power connections for cited Texas border cities increased over December's figures by 0.23 percent. YTD residential power connections were up 2.2 percent. Laredo was up 3.9 percent, McAllen increased 2.7 percent, Del Rio gained 0.9 percent, Harlingen jumped 2.3 percent, Brownsville increased 3.1 percent, and Eagle Pass was up by 2.7 percent.

YTD AVG January 00-01



Power Connections – Texas Border (Cont'd)

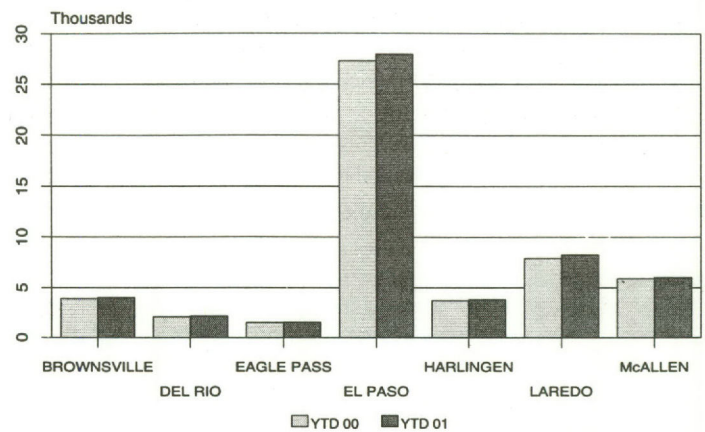
Commercial Connections

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,990	3,999	4,006	3,906	3,906	4,006	2.6
DEL RIO	2,117	2,120	2,127	2,053	2,053	2,127	3.6
EAGLE PASS	1,525	1,535	1,525	1,491	1,491	1,525	2.3
EL PASO	27,946	27,947	27,947	27,307	27,307	27,947	2.3
HARLINGEN	3,833	3,831	3,828	3,739	3,739	3,828	2.4
LAREDO	8,216	8,227	8,246	7,887	7,887	8,246	4.6
McALLEN	5,941	5,989	6,002	5,888	5,888	6,002	1.9
TOTAL	53,568	53,648	53,681	52,271	52,271	53,681	2.7

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

January's total commercial power connections for cited Texas border cities increased 0.06 percent over December's figures. YTD averages of commercial power connections increased 2.7 percent. Harlingen was up 2.4 percent, Eagle Pass increased 2.3 percent, Laredo gained 4.6 percent, McAllen was up 1.9 percent, Del Rio rose 3.6 percent, El Paso gained 2.3 percent, and Brownsville increased 2.6 percent.

YTD AVG January 00-01



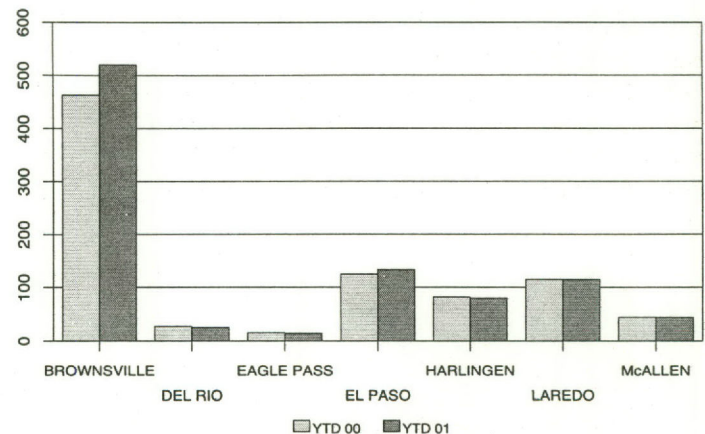
Industrial Connections

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	520	516	520	463	463	520	12.3
DEL RIO	27	26	25	27	27	25	-7.4
EAGLE PASS	16	15	15	16	16	15	-6.3
EL PASO	133	133	133	125	125	133	6.4
HARLINGEN	78	80	80	82	82	80	-2.4
LAREDO	118	115	115	115	115	115	0.0
McALLEN	44	44	44	44	44	44	0.0
TOTAL	936	929	932	872	872	932	6.9

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

January's total industrial power connections for cited Texas border cities were up 0.32 percent from December's figures. YTD averages of industrial power connections increased 6.9 percent. El Paso increased 6.4 percent, Harlingen fell 2.4 percent, Brownsville was up 12.3 percent.

YTD AVG January 00-01



Building Permits —Texas Border

Number of Permits

NUMBER	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	281	50	298	284	284	298	4.9
DEL RIO	43	52	55	47	47	55	17.0
EAGLE PASS	18	18	39	38	38	39	2.6
EL PASO	382	379	651	448	448	651	45.3
HARLINGEN	102	50	59	68	68	59	-13.2
LAREDO	457	310	426	436	436	426	-2.3
MCALLEN	152	91	137	121	121	137	13.2
TOTAL	1,435	950	1,665	1,442	1,442	1,665	15.5

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

January's building permits issued by reporting Texas border cities were up 75.3 percent from December. Del Rio increased 5.8 percent, Eagle Pass grew 116.7 percent, El Paso went up 71.8 percent, and Laredo rose 37.4 percent. McAllen increased 50.5 percent, and Brownsville jumped 496.0 percent. YTD, the number

of permits issued rose 15.5 percent. El Paso, accounting for 39.1 percent of all building permits issued, had an increase of 45.3 percent YTD. Laredo, with 25.6 percent of building permits issued, was down 2.3 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 17.9 percent of building permits issued, increased 4.9 percent YTD.

U.S. Dollar Value of Permits

VALUE	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	19,505,691	4,022,223	13,717,575	18,389,550	18,389,550	13,717,575	-25.4
DEL RIO	875,238	893,533	832,856	1,093,909	1,093,909	832,856	-23.9
EAGLE PASS	461,487	1,338,127	706,968	1,645,441	1,645,441	706,968	-57.0
EL PASO	28,038,977	19,332,724	56,639,596	27,621,784	27,621,784	56,639,596	105.1
HARLINGEN	7,968,961	4,022,223	2,715,012	3,392,970	3,392,970	2,715,012	-20.0
LAREDO	25,823,598	16,871,451	27,013,352	27,020,520	27,020,520	27,013,352	-0.03
MCALLEN	16,116,117	12,514,834	19,616,133	12,403,156	12,403,156	19,616,133	58.2
TOTAL	98,790,069	58,995,114	121,241,492	91,567,330	91,567,330	121,241,492	32.4

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

January building permit values for reporting Texas border cities were up 105.5 percent from December. Harlingen decreased 32.5 percent, McAllen rose 56.7 percent, and El Paso increased 193.0 percent. Brownsville jumped 241.0 percent. Laredo was up 60.1 percent and Del Rio decreased 6.8 percent. YTD reporting border cities experienced a 32.4 percent increase in building permit

values. El Paso, with 46.7 percent of total building permit values, increased 105.1 percent YTD. Laredo, with 22.3 percent of total building permit values, lost 0.03 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 11.3 percent of total building permit values, decreased 25.4 percent. Del Rio, with 0.7 percent of total building permit values, fell 23.9 percent YTD.

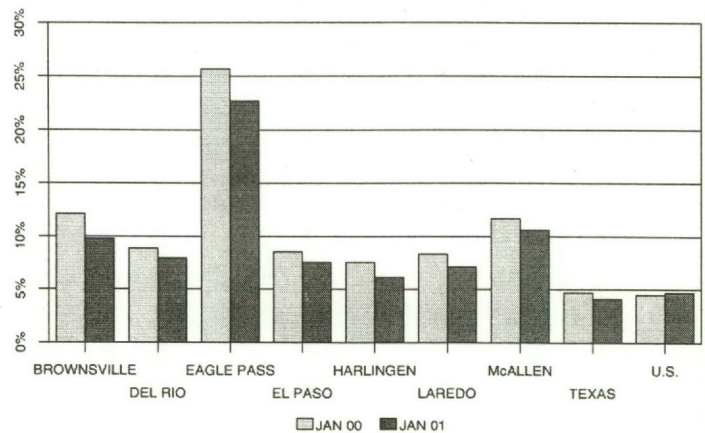
Employment/Unemployment Rates — Texas Border

CITY	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED
	JAN 01	JAN 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	JAN 01	JAN 00
BROWNSVILLE	44,549	42,787	4,866	5,890	9.8	12.1
DEL RIO	14,017	14,271	1,210	1,372	7.9	8.8
EAGLE PASS	9,108	8,714	2,669	3,014	22.7	25.7
EL PASO	236,599	236,285	19,217	22,085	7.5	8.5
HARLINGEN	25,593	24,580	1,655	2,003	6.1	7.5
LAREDO	66,201	63,171	5,059	5,682	7.1	8.3
McALLEN	47,137	44,412	5,599	5,899	10.6	11.7
TOTAL	443,204	434,220	40,275	45,945	8.3	9.6
THE TEXAS UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					4.10	4.70
THE NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					4.70	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 January, total employment in reporting Texas border cities decreased 0.8 percent (3,569 jobs lost) over December's figures. Eagle Pass employment gained 1.5 percent (136 jobs gained), Del Rio decreased 5.2 percent (776 jobs lost), and McAllen went up 0.8 percent (366 jobs gained), and Laredo rose 0.7 percent (464 jobs gained). Brownsville rose 1.6 percent (706 jobs gained). YTD total employment in Texas border cities was up 2.1 percent (8,984 jobs gained) from a year ago. The average unemployment rate for the border was 8.3 percent compared to 4.1 percent for Texas, and 4.7 percent for the U.S in the month of January.

% Unemployed January 00-01



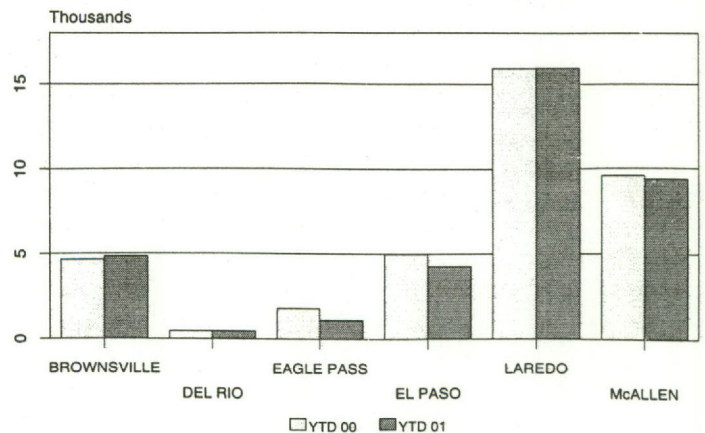
Visas to Tourists from Texas to Mexico

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	%CHG
BROWNSVILLE	6,521	13,963	4,838	4,661	4,661	4,838	3.8
DEL RIO	1,080	2,796	468	468	468	468	0.0
EAGLE PASS	1,583	3,068	1,114	1,803	1,803	1,114	-38.2
EL PASO	11,018	N/A	4,291	4,980	4,980	4,291	-13.8
LAREDO	27,570	43,068	15,945	15,923	15,923	15,945	0.1
McALLEN	13,439	N/A	9,380	9,578	9,578	9,380	-2.1
TOTAL	61,211	62,895	36,036	37,413	37,413	36,036	-3.7

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

Due to the unavailability of data from two contributing sources, the remaining cities are being reported individually. Eagle Pass decreased 63.7, Brownsville fell 65.4 percent, and Del Rio dropped 83.3 percent over the month of December. YTD Brownsville, gained 3.8 percent, Eagle Pass dipped 38.2 percent, and Del Rio showed no change.

Tourist Visas YTD January 00-01



Air Passenger Service Activities — Selected Border Cities

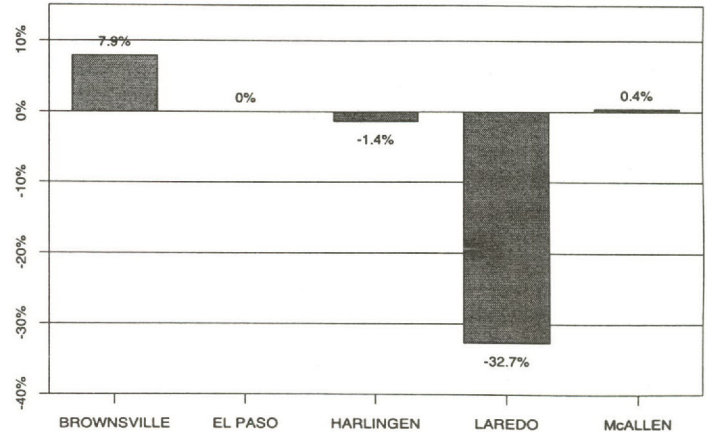
Passenger Arrivals

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,243	5,518	5,649	5,235	5,235	5,649	7.9
EL PASO	130,565	137,787	117,412	117,446	117,446	117,412	-0.0
HARLINGEN	35,089	34,774	33,933	34,420	34,420	33,933	-1.4
LAREDO	6,046	6,303	6,041	8,973	8,973	6,041	-32.7
McALLEN	25,355	26,832	27,153	27,056	27,056	27,153	0.4
TOTAL	202,298	211,214	190,188	193,130	193,130	190,188	-1.5

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

January's air passengers arriving in Texas border cities were down 10.0 percent from December's figures. McAllen increased 1.2 percent, Laredo decreased 4.2 percent, Brownsville rose 2.4 percent, and El Paso was down 14.8 percent. Harlingen decreased 2.4 percent. YTD air passenger arrivals were down 1.5 percent. El Paso, with 61.7 percent of all arriving passengers, showed an indiscernible decrease YTD. Harlingen, accounting for 17.8 percent of all arrivals, slipped 1.4 percent YTD. McAllen, with 14.3 percent of all arrivals, was up 0.4 percent YTD. Laredo, with 3.2 percent of all arrivals, decreased 32.7 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 3.0 percent of all arrivals, rose 7.9 percent YTD.

Passenger Arrivals % Change YTD 00-01



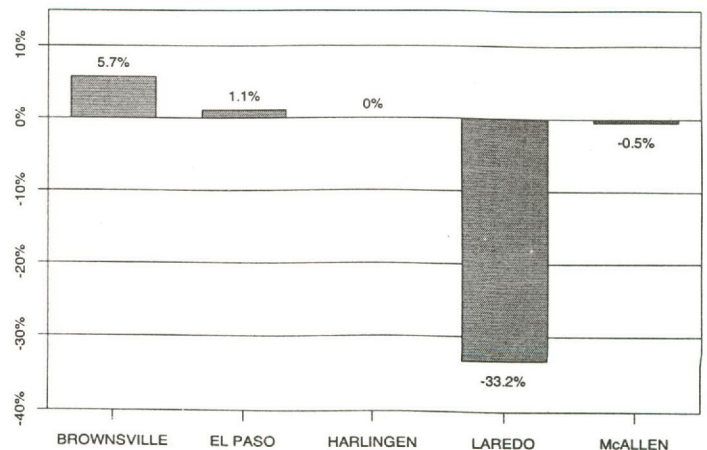
Passenger Departures

CITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,596	5,153	5,816	5,500	5,500	5,816	5.7
EL PASO	135,055	140,294	121,997	120,621	120,621	121,997	1.1
HARLINGEN	37,370	35,724	35,678	35,681	35,681	35,678	-0.0
LAREDO	6,216	6,615	6,118	9,153	9,153	6,118	-33.2
McALLEN	26,035	28,034	27,287	27,427	27,427	27,287	-0.5
TOTAL	210,272	215,820	196,896	198,382	198,382	196,896	-0.7

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

January air passenger departures for reporting Texas border cities were down 8.8 percent. McAllen decreased 2.7 percent, Harlingen fell 0.1 percent, Laredo went down 7.5 percent, and El Paso dropped 13.0 percent. YTD air passenger departures were down 0.7 percent. El Paso, with 62.0 percent of all departing passengers, was up 1.1 percent YTD. Harlingen, with 18.1 percent of all departing passengers, exhibited an indiscernible decrease YTD. McAllen, with 13.9 percent of all departing passengers, decreased 0.5 percent, YTD. Laredo, with 3.1 percent of all departing passengers, fell 33.2 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 3.0 percent of all departing passengers, increased 5.7 percent YTD.

Passenger Departures % Change YTD 00-01



Port Of Corpus Christi

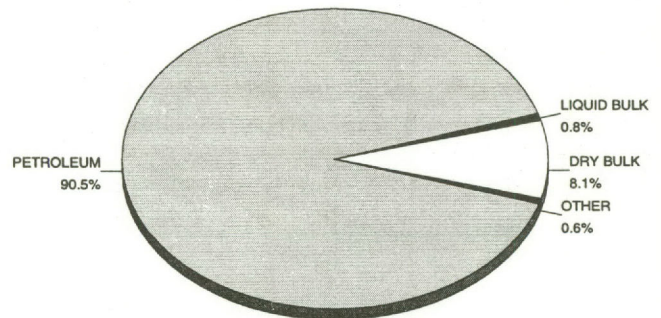
Inbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BREAK BULK	3,160	975	13,500	3,837	3,837	13,500	251.9
DRY BULK	484,020	359,019	300,389	296,463	296,463	300,389	1.3
BULK GRAIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
LIQUID	0	29,140	30,878	5,784	5,784	30,878	433.8
PETROLEUM	4,336,552	5,330,954	3,371,824	3,444,165	3,444,165	3,371,824	-2.1
CHEMICAL	8,622	9,394	7,273	8,743	8,743	7,273	-16.8
TOTAL	4,832,354	5,729,482	3,723,863	3,758,991	3,758,991	3,723,863	-0.9

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 35.0 percent decrease in inbound cargo from last month. Petroleum, which made up 90.5 percent of all inbound traffic in January, was down 36.8 percent compared to December. Break bulk, which accounted for 0.4 percent of the port's inbound cargo for January, jumped 1,284.6 percent from December. Dry bulk, which accounted for 8.1 percent inbound cargo for January, dropped 16.3 percent. Total inbound cargo tonnage was down 0.9 percent YTD.

% Share January 2001 Inbound Cargo



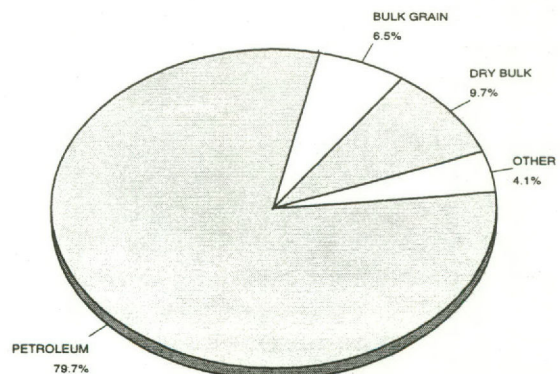
Outbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BREAK BULK	9,448	1,185	56	2,686	2,686	56	-97.9
DRY BULK	195,264	269,442	257,075	134,738	134,738	257,075	90.8
BULK GRAIN	132,672	173,698	172,199	85,744	85,744	172,199	100.8
LIQUID	14,705	17,004	1,497	0	0	1,497	N/A
PETROLEUM	2,212,132	2,566,132	2,110,520	1,964,183	1,964,183	2,110,520	7.5
CHEMICAL	140,029	191,368	105,709	161,003	161,003	105,709	-34.3
TOTAL	2,704,249	3,218,829	2,647,056	2,348,355	2,348,355	2,647,056	12.7

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 17.8 percent decrease in outbound cargo tonnage in January from the previous month. Petroleum, which was 79.7 percent of total outbound cargo for January, decreased 17.8 percent compared to December. Dry bulk, which accounted for 9.7 percent of the total outbound cargo for January, decreased 4.6 percent from December. YTD total outbound cargo tonnage was up 12.7 percent.

% Share January 2001 Outbound Cargo



Port Of Brownsville

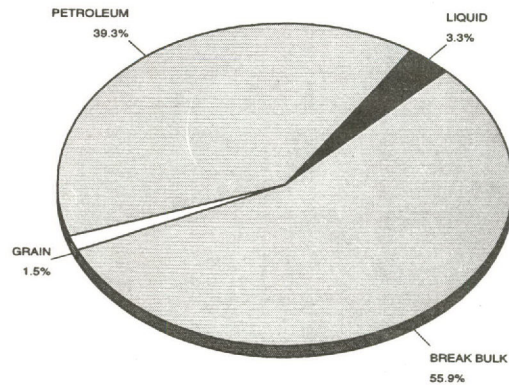
Total Port Activity (in Metric Tons)

COMMODITY	NOV 00	DEC 00	JAN 01	JAN 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BREAK BULK	152,492	145,217	252,344	157,466	157,466	252,344	60.3
LIQUID	2,694	8,654	4,086	4,200	4,200	4,086	-2.7
PETROLEUM	68,756	102,445	84,973	79,585	79,585	84,973	6.8
GRAIN	12,153	3,991	4,418	6,000	6,000	4,418	-26.4
CONTAINERS	27	65	0	204	204	0	-100.0
MACHINERY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	236,122	260,372	345,821	247,455	247,455	345,821	39.8

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 32.8 percent in total cargo tonnage over the previous month. Break Bulk, which accounted for 73.0 percent of the total cargo tonnage for January gained 73.8 percent from December's figures. Petroleum, which made up 24.6 percent of the total cargo for January dropped 17.1 percent from the previous month. YTD figures showed a 60.3 percent increase in Break Bulk tonnage -73.0 percent of total tonnage. Grain -1.3 percent of total tonnage- had a YTD decrease of 26.4 percent. Petroleum -24.6 percent of total tonnage- rose 6.8 percent. YTD total tonnage was up 39.8 percent.

% Share January 2001 Total Cargo



Web Information

Find the most recent 2000 Census information for Texas at the Texas State Data Center web site. The comprehensive and detailed tables found within are ranked by MSA's, county or city, and are included for population, ethnicity, migration and more.

If you want to find out how your city ranks in the 2000 Census, download the raw Census data, or acquire TIGER/ line files. Visit the site at:

<http://txsdc.tamu.edu/>

-J. Benavides

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Border Business Indicators

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