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Border Business Indicators

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

Government Publications
 Texas State Documents

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Note from the Director

Indicators of border business activity for the month of July were balanced. Of the twenty four indicators represented, twelve demonstrated an increase and twelve showed a decrease. In addition, for the year-to-date (YTD) figures, twelve indicators were up and one was down. Selected YTD comparisons to 1998 reported by border cities include the following:

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were up 3.6 percent. El Paso gained 12.4 percent, Progreso jumped 8.6 percent, and Eagle Pass increased 4.1 percent.
- Northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 2.3 percent. Roma increased 25.2 percent, Progreso rose 12.0 percent, while Laredo jumped 10.9 percent and Eagle Pass gained 6.3 percent.
- Southbound vehicle crossings were up 5.1 percent. Harlingen rose 20.2 percent, Pharr increased 15.7 percent, Progreso gained 14.9 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo jumped 12.9 percent.
- Northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas were up 8.7 percent. Harlingen jumped 22.4 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo increased 22.3 percent, Presidio gained 15.9 percent and Progreso posted an increase of 15.5 percent YTD.
- Southbound truck shipments into Mexico were up 4.7 percent. Progreso increased 60.0 percent, Eagle Pass was up 47.5 percent and Harlingen rose 21.2 percent.
- Northbound truck shipments into Texas were up 12.0 percent with Pharr increasing 22.0 percent, Rio Grande gained 21.7 percent and Eagle Pass posted a 17.5 percent increase YTD.
- Southbound shipments by rail were up 10.2 percent.
- Northbound shipments by rail were up 22.6 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs were down slightly by 1.6 percent YTD.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Bridge operators were up 13.4 percent.
- Building permits issued were up 7.1 percent. Laredo rose 25.5 percent, Harlingen gained 11.0 percent, Brownsville was up 7.1 percent, while Eagle Pass declined 4.7 percent.
- Building permit values were up with a YTD increase of 27.8 percent. Harlingen increased 141.6 percent, McAllen was up 55.3 percent, El Paso rose 36.6 percent and Laredo reported a 13.4 percent increase.
- Total employment was up with 9,161 jobs gained YTD. The average unemployment rate in June 1999 was 9.3 percent for the border.

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Technical Reports Available

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)
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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)
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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)

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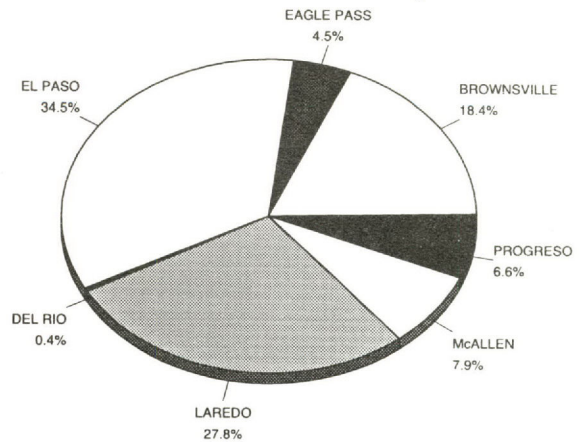
Pedestrian Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	231,958	214,585	239,297	257,006	1,883,906	1,755,236	-6.8
DEL RIO	3,207	3,991	4,897	3,790	34,804	32,355	-7.0
EAGLE PASS	66,277	54,545	58,052	49,755	382,483	411,063	7.5
EL PASO	446,451	411,056	449,257	390,858	2,667,717	2,998,128	12.4
HARLINGEN	0	162	0	77	631	422	-33.1
LAREDO	356,021	328,852	362,477	324,595	2,366,430	2,479,466	4.8
McALLEN-HIDALGO	101,606	86,117	103,084	99,106	808,851	731,659	-9.5
PROGRESO	79,671	72,062	85,770	69,812	821,714	892,697	8.6
RIO GRANDE	656	668	556	541	5,482	5,292	-3.5
ROMA	15,200	12,857	N/A	12,669	105,697	95,885	N/A
TOTAL	1,301,047	1,184,895	1303390	1208209	9077715	9402203	3.6

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

Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico for July were up 10.0 percent compared to June. Del Rio increased 22.7 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo rose 19.7 percent, Progreso gained 19.0 percent, Brownsville jumped 11.5 percent, Laredo up 10.2 percent, and Harlingen increased 9.3 percent. Rio Grande, however, was off 16.8 percent. YTD, total southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were up 3.6 percent. El Paso southbound pedestrian crossings, which made up 34.5 percent of all crossings in July, increased 12.4 percent. Laredo, accounting for 27.8 percent of total crossings, was up 4.8 percent and Brownsville, with an 18.4 percent share YTD, was down 6.8 percent.

% Share Pedestrians for July 1999



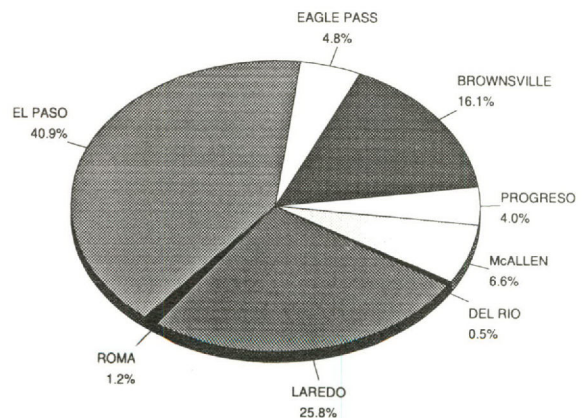
Pedestrian Bridge-Crossings into Texas

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	191,117	218,442	218,442	226,204	1,749,946	1,530,657	-12.5
DEL RIO	7,819	4,941	6,956	9,088	73,449	60,156	-18.1
EAGLE PASS	71,455	61,105	64,947	58,112	440,226	468,168	6.3
EL PASO	509,664	553,004	553,004	504,751	3,600,859	3,703,233	2.8
LAREDO	275,686	311,686	348,100	277,150	1,834,959	2,035,762	10.9
McALLEN-HIDALGO	92,689	84,335	88,855	82,961	658,957	683,646	3.7
PRESIDIO	1,965	1,899	1,897	2,229	20,340	14,781	-27.3
PROGRESO	56,315	52,403	54,591	50,897	501,670	562,056	12.0
RIO GRANDE	1,102	932	1,085	1,127	8,192	7,782	-5.0
ROMA	17,694	15,313	16,413	15,672	97,695	122,332	25.2
TOTAL	1,225,506	1,304,060	1,354,290	1,228,191	8,986,293	9,188,573	2.3

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 pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 3.9 percent in July. Del Rio increased 40.8 percent, Rio Grande rose 16.4 percent, Laredo gained 11.7 percent, Roma was up 7.2 percent, Eagle Pass increased 6.3 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo rose 5.4 percent, and Presidio was off 0.1 percent. YTD total northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 2.3 percent. El Paso, accounting for 41.1 percent of northbound crossings, was up 40.8 percent YTD. Laredo, with a 22.6 percent of all northbound crossings, was up 25.7 percent and Brownsville, with 18.4 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings, gained 16.1 percent in crossings YTD.

% Share Pedestrians for July 1999



Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	640,085	617,083	657,736	624,441	4,072,538	4,306,242	5.7
DEL RIO	181,287	166,028	172,430	166,491	1,116,836	1,183,216	5.9
EAGLE PASS	236,916	224,404	229,367	231,867	1,565,098	1,613,828	3.1
EL PASO	454,260	448,603	424,128	433,968	3,303,466	3,040,224	-8.0
HARLINGEN	51,179	46,905	50,515	44,602	283,941	341,312	20.2
LAREDO	753,337	736,557	747,156	734,768	4,756,103	4,968,789	4.5
McALLEN-HIDALGO	526,348	502,700	510,413	471,827	3,110,649	3,510,808	12.9
PHARR	150,640	145,539	176,145	151,971	994,904	1,150,650	15.7
PROGRESO	104,948	94,864	97,736	88,439	636,355	731,288	14.9
RIO GRANDE	56,658	51,534	56,034	47,964	345,264	378,572	9.6
ROMA	99,996	90,231	N/A	72837	507862	532026	N/A
TOTAL	3,255,654	3,124,448	3,121,660	3,069,175	20,693,016	21,756,955	5.1

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 4.0 percent in July from June's figures. Progresso was down 9.6 percent, Rio Grande dropped 9.0 percent, Del Rio fell 8.4 percent, Eagle Pass declined 5.3, McAllen-Hidalgo was off 4.5 percent, Brownsville dropped 3.6 percent, Pharr fell 3.4 percent, Laredo was down 2.2 percent. YTD total southbound vehicle bridge crossings were up 5.7 percent. Laredo, with 23.6 percent of all

southbound traffic in July was up 5.1 percent, YTD. Brownsville, with 21.1 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 5.7 percent increase, YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 16.4 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 12.9 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 13.6 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, fell 8.0 percent, YTD.

Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Texas

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	455,478	478,050	478,050	533,390	3,656,584	3,586,196	-1.9
DEL RIO	166,952	144,912	152,043	138,640	906,400	1,036,448	14.3
EAGLE PASS	227,296	216,585	224,200	218,770	1,501,491	1,554,528	3.5
EL PASO	742,310	748,379	748,379	716,550	4,830,887	5,096,241	5.5
HARLINGEN	67,442	61,682	65,160	58,717	379,404	464,347	22.4
LAREDO	713,422	728,068	728,068	654,676	4,369,111	4,780,622	9.4
McALLEN-HIDALGO	518,994	497,640	483,149	408,707	2,793,462	3,416,943	22.3
PRESIDIO	68,611	63,379	64,332	55,331	386,615	448,125	15.9
PROGRESO	99,095	88,637	86,828	77,018	567,249	655,298	15.5
RIO GRANDE	61,054	53,180	55,661	51,894	376,548	403,320	7.1
ROMA	99,751	90,820	94,252	76,697	543,622	641,213	18.0
TOTAL	3,220,405	3,171,332	3,180,122	2,990,390	20,311,373	22,083,281	8.7

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 July were up 0.3 percent from June. Harlingen registered a 5.6 percent increase, Rio Grande was up 4.7 percent, Del Rio gained 4.9 percent, Roma rose 3.8 percent, and Eagle Pass was up 3.5 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo was off 2.9 percent, and Progresso fell 2.0 percent. YTD

northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas were up 8.7 percent. El Paso with a 24.0 percent of all crossings in July was up 23.5 percent YTD. Laredo with 21.9 percent of all crossings, was up 22.9 percent and Brownsville with 17.8 percent of all crossings declined 15.0 percent YTD.

Export Shipments by Trucks into Mexico —Number of Trucks

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE+	17,146	19,003	17,410	24,941	170,312	142,730	-16.2
DEL RIO+	5,398	5,862	5,542	5,868	38,586	39,057	1.2
EAGLE PASS++	5,034	5,818	8,432	3,897	26,672	39,333	47.5
EL PASO+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	N/A
HARLINGEN+	6,635	7,393	7,787	6,008	35,894	43,517	21.2
LAREDO+	104,473	129,089	111,405	105,369	690,118	732,131	6.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO+	4,044	4,497	4,432	4,578	31,048	30,135	-2.9
PHARR+	15,597	15,398	17,506	14,901	108,255	118,675	9.8
PROGRESO+	2,330	1,617	1,782	446	9,396	15,029	60.0
RIO GRANDE+	2,216	1,829	1,999	1,477	13,370	14,646	9.5
ROMA+	1,315	1,368	N/A	915	6,036	7,154	N/A
TOTAL	164,188	191,874	176,295	168,400	1,129,687	1,182,607	4.7

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

+ 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 shipments into Mexico were down 8.1 percent in July. Laredo decreased 13.7 percent, Brownsville fell 8.4 percent, Del Rio was off 5.5 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo declined 1.4 percent, Eagle Pass increased 44.9 percent, Pharr gained 13.7 percent, Progreso was up 10.2 percent, and Rio Grande increased 9.3 percent. YTD southbound truck shipments were up 4.7 percent.

Laredo, with 63.2 percent of all southbound shipments in July, experienced a 6.1 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with a 9.9 percent of all southbound shipments, had a 16.2 percent decrease YTD. Pharr, with 9.9 percent, registered an increase of 9.8 percent, Harlingen with 4.4 percent of all truck crossings, was up 21.2 percent YTD.

Import Shipments by Trucks into Texas —Number of Trucks

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	11,933	8,014	12,112	10,885	72,272	69,538	-3.8
DEL RIO	2,862	3,084	2,870	2,782	20,338	21,223	4.4
EAGLE PASS	4,759	5,129	4,385	4,074	27,804	32,660	17.5
FALCON	5	2	4	0	28	25	-10.7
LAREDO	61,912	67,198	63,769	57,254	376,547	421,998	12.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHARR	16,845	18,109	15,885	12,579	103,134	125,792	22.0
PROGRESO	332	788	689	510	2,383	2,623	10.1
RIO GRANDE	1,571	1,174	1,103	877	7,807	9,500	21.7
ROMA	882	915	493	703	4,690	5,490	17.1
TOTAL	101,101	104,413	101,310	89,664	615,003	688,849	12.0

Source: Data provided by U.S. Customs Service, Port of Entry in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Editor's Note: Figures represent loaded trucks only.

July northbound truck shipments into Texas decreased 3.0 percent over June's shipments. Roma fell 46.1 percent, Eagle Pass declined 14.5 percent, Progreso decreased 12.6 percent, and Pharr was down 12.3 percent. Brownsville fell 6.9 percent, and Rio Grande declined 6.0 percent. YTD northbound truck shipments were up

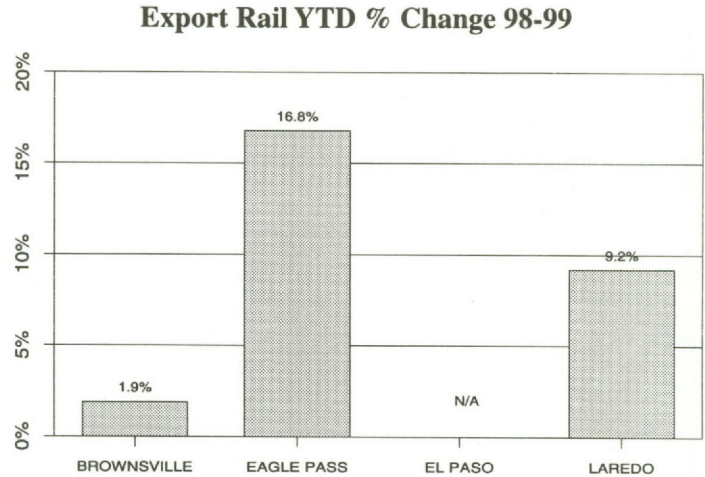
12.0 percent. Laredo, accounting for 62.9 percent of all northbound truck traffic in July, had a 12.1 percent increase YTD. Pharr, with 15.7 percent of all shipments in July, experienced a 22.0 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with a 12.0 percent of all northbound truck shipments in July, experienced a 3.8 percent decline YTD.

Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,879	2,717	2,214	2,817	17,480	17,806	1.9
EAGLE PASS	6,912	6,908	5,608	3,283	35,412	41,356	16.8
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	14,213	13,239	12,294	10,363	84,542	92,341	9.2
TOTAL	23,004	22,864	20,116	16,463	137,434	151,503	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

Southbound rail shipments into Mexico decreased 12.0 percent in July. Eagle Pass decreased 18.8 percent. Brownsville fell 18.5 percent, and Laredo declined by 7.1 percent. YTD, total southbound rail shipments into Mexico from Texas were up 10.2 percent. Laredo which accounts for 61.1 percent of all southbound rail shipments in July, was up 9.2 percent, YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 27.9 percent of all southbound rail shipments, increased 16.8 percent. Brownsville, however, with 11.0 percent of all southbound rail shipments in July, rose 1.9 percent.

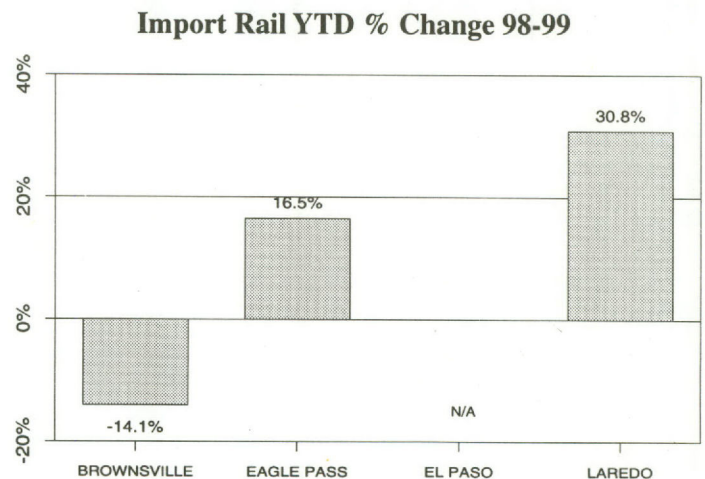


Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	938	798	568	806	7,850	6,741	-14.1
EAGLE PASS	4,582	3,491	3,607	2,488	22,051	25,686	16.5
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	11,145	9,855	10,811	7,290	51,882	67,879	30.8
TOTAL	16,665	14,144	14,986	10,584	81,783	100,306	22.6

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 increased 6.0 percent in July. Laredo was up 9.7 percent, and Eagle Pass increased 3.3 percent. YTD, total northbound rail shipments into Texas from Mexico were up 22.6 percent. Laredo, which accounts for 72.1 percent of all northbound rail shipments in July, was up 30.8 percent. Eagle Pass, accounting for 24.1 percent of all northbound rail shipments in July, was up 16.5 percent and Brownsville, with 3.8 percent of all northbound rail shipments, decreased 14.1 percent YTD.



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

CITY	DUTY	MPF	OTHER	TOTAL	TOTAL	YTD	YTD	YTD % CHG
	JUL 99	JUL 99	REVENUE JUL 99	REVENUE JUL 99	REVENUE JUL 98	REVENUE JUL 98	REVENUE JUL 99	
BROWNSVILLE	1,669,039	306,963	376,540	2,352,542	2,732,060	18,704,990	17,458,941	-6.7
DEL RIO	141,956	71,175	12,516	225,648	469,959	2,844,158	2,223,380	-21.8
EAGLE PASS	509,022	105,896	3,799,925	4,414,843	4,649,296	21,062,479	25,013,950	18.8
LAREDO	11,382,655	1,700,113	8,508,267	21,591,034	22,808,916	131,858,891	133,322,169	1.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO	2,187,407	332,378	266,376	2,786,161	3,369,924	34,255,601	27,328,885	-20.2
PROGRESO	374	5,959	26,464	32,797	26,736	378,234	285,123	-24.6
RIO GRANDE	49,407	13,163	48,199	110,769	95,096	695,083	681,411	-2.0
ROMA	27,363	9,279	22,579	59,221	45,873	380,150	424,418	11.6
TOTAL	15,967,223	2,544,926	13,060,865	31,573,015	34,197,860	210,179,585	206,738,278	-1.6

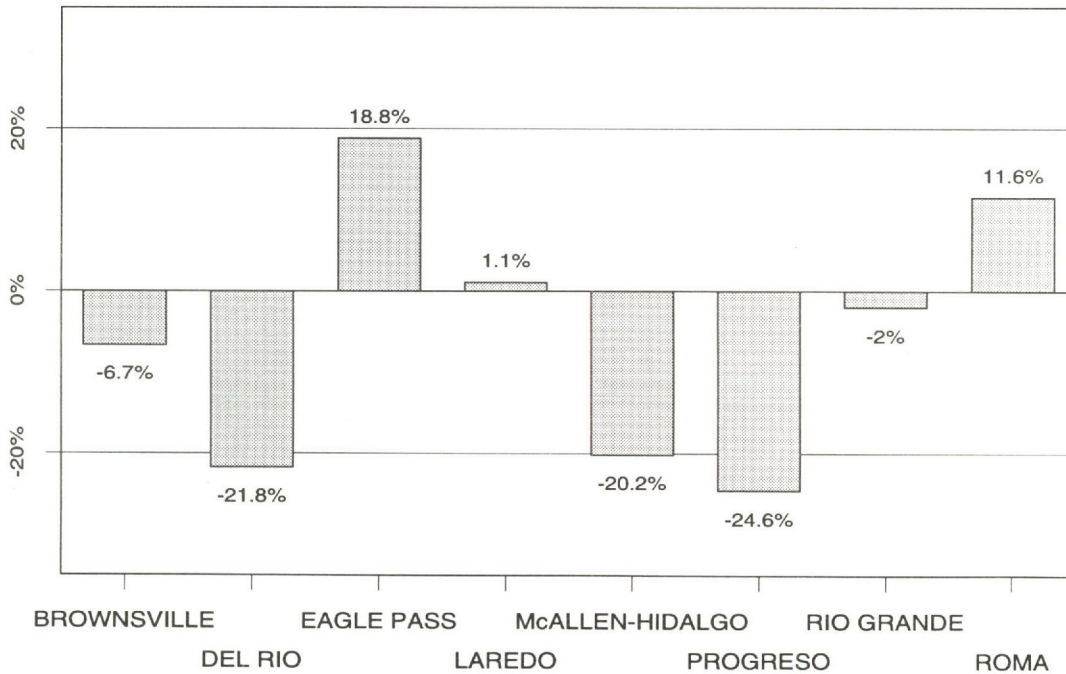
Source: Data provided by U.S. Customs Service, Port of Entry in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

MPF = Merchandise Processing Fee

Total U.S. Customs revenues, for July, for the former District of Laredo, decreased 1.1 percent from June's figures. Progreso was down 42.0 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo decreased 38.3 percent, Del Rio declined 20.8 percent, Brownsville fell 11.5 percent, Rio Grande was down 9.3 percent, and Roma decreased 8.2 percent, Laredo increased 11.0 percent. YTD revenue figures were down

1.6 percent compared to June 1998. Laredo, accounting for 64.5 percent of the former district's revenue in July was up 2.5 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 13.2 percent of total revenues, was down 20.2 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 12.1 percent of all revenues, was up 18.8 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 8.4 percent of total revenues in July declined 6.7 percent YTD.

% Change Total Revenues YTD 98-99



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

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	706,222	691,380	731,727	713,583	4,660,417	4,806,023	3
DEL RIO	310,411	291,098	303,636	198,032	1,358,638	2,065,007	52.0
EAGLE PASS	534,334	550,834	515,700	462,862	3,112,199	3,516,000	13.0
EL PASO	999,526	986,543	976,391	906,683	6,779,716	6,743,207	-0.5
HARLINGEN	121,178	116,860	126,124	107,333	684,878	813,906	18.8
LAREDO	2,300,743	2,281,202	2,350,964	1,928,982	12,777,377	15,433,112	20.8
McALLEN-HIDALGO	734,338	695,729	722,485	665,113	4,433,127	4,944,758	11.5
PHARR	321,730	304,770	369,920	306,524	2,047,185	2,336,287	14.1
TOTAL	6,028,482	5,918,415	6,096,947	5,289,113	35,853,538	40,658,299	13.4

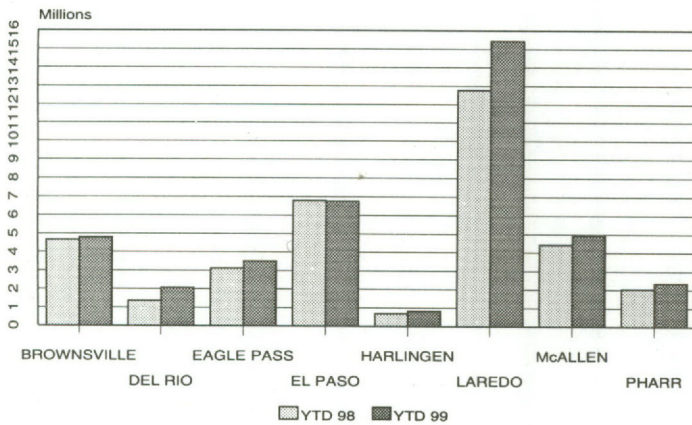
Source: Data provided by U.S. bridge operators in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Editor's Note: Brownsville's Revenues are for Cameron County Bridge only. Pharr began operations 1/10/95.

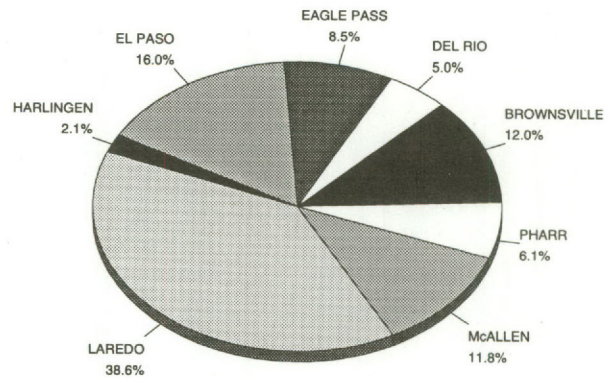
U.S. bridge operators' revenues increased 3.0 percent in the month of July. Pharr increased 21.4 percent, Harlingen rose 7.9 percent, Brownsville was up 5.8 percent, Del Rio rose 4.3 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo increased 3.8 percent and Laredo was up 3.1 percent. YTD, U.S. bridge operators' revenues were up 13.4 percent. Laredo, accounting for 38.6 percent of total U.S. bridge operator's

revenues collected in July, had a 20.8 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 16.0 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues, decreased 0.5 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, accounting for 11.8 percent, was up 11.5 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 12.0 percent of the total bridge revenues in July, was up 3.0 percent YTD.

Total Revenues Collected YTD 98-99



% Share Revenues July 1999



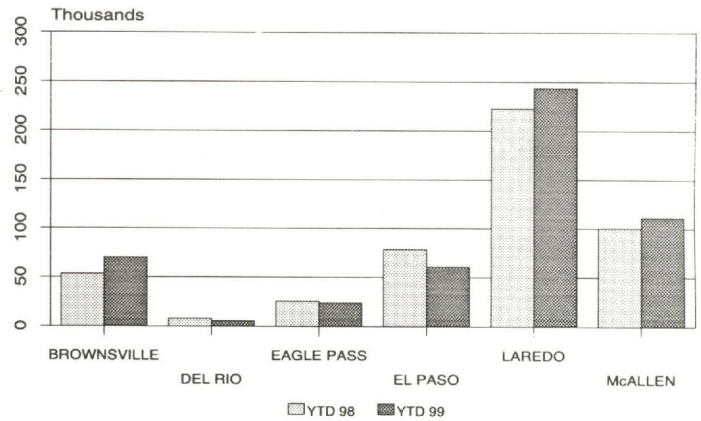
Visas to Tourists from Texas to Mexico

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD %CHG
BROWNSVILLE	9,095	11,586	12,612	11,331	53,487	70,109	31.1
DEL RIO	762	989	1,723	1,704	8,025	5,502	-31.4
EAGLE PASS	3,759	3,914	6,968	5,690	25,900	24,147	-6.8
EL PASO	10,409	10,273	14,463	16,739	78,686	60,741	-22.8
LAREDO	31,074	49,947	65,547	49,665	222,749	243,760	9.4
McALLEN	12,387	17,314	22,579	17,631	100,548	111,374	10.8
TOTAL	67,486	94,023	123,892	102,760	489,395	515,633	5.4

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

The number of tourist visas issued in July were up 31.8 percent. Eagle Pass rose 78.0 percent, Del Rio gained 74.2 percent, El Paso increased 40.8 percent, Laredo was up 31.2 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo, up 30.4 percent. YTD, the number of tourist visas issued were up 5.4 percent. Laredo, with 52.9 percent of total visas issued in July was up 9.4 percent YTD. McAllen, with 18.2 percent of total visas issued, had a 10.8 percent increase YTD. El Paso, with 11.9 percent of all visas issued, fell 22.8 percent YTD. In contrast, Brownsville with 10.2 percent of total visas issued, increased 31.1 percent YTD.

Tourist Visas YTD July 98-99



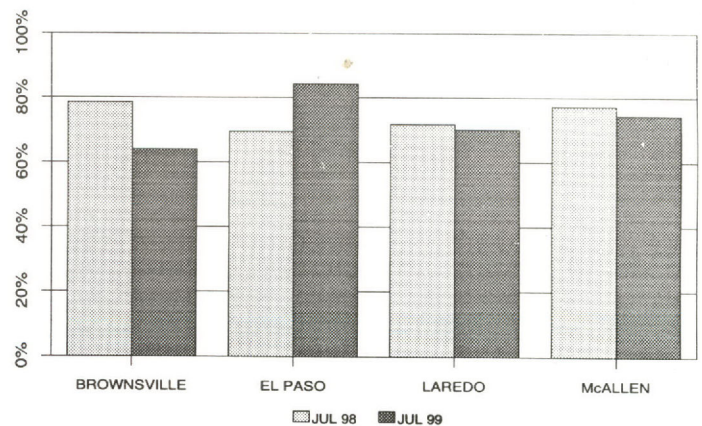
Hotel Occupancy Percentage Rate —Texas Border

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	% CHG 98-99
BROWNSVILLE	49.6	74.3	64.0	78.5	-18.5
EL PASO	68.0	86.9	84.3	69.6	21.0
LAREDO	60.7	69.7	70.2	71.8	-2.2
McALLEN	75.2	78.5	74.4	77.2	-3.6
AVERAGE	63.4	77.3	73.2	74.3	-1.4

Source: Data (preliminary figures subject to revision) provided by selected hotels in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

The average hotel occupancy rate for reporting Texas border hotels for July decreased 5.3 percent. El Paso had an occupancy rate of 84.3 percent, McAllen's occupancy was 74.4 percent, Laredo reported a rate of 70.2 percent and Brownsville had a rate of 64.0 percent in July.

Hotel Occupancy Percentage July 98-99



Telephones in Service — Texas Border

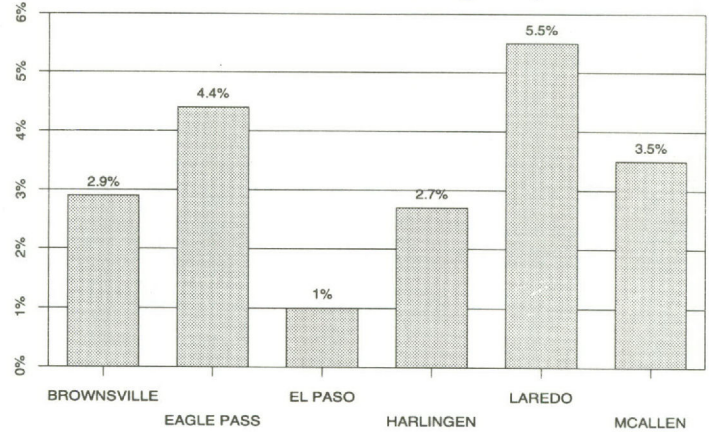
Residential Telephones

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98
BROWNSVILLE	44,840	44,751	44,638	43,390
EAGLE PASS	12,137	12,076	12,107	11,599
EL PASO	217,456	216,429	215,863	213,696
HARLINGEN	27,509	27,462	27,441	26,731
LAREDO	52,549	52,601	52,579	49,848
MCALLEN	37,617	37,505	37,477	36,207
TOTAL	392,108	390,824	390,105	381,471

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

In July, the number of residential telephones in service for reporting Texas border cities decreased 0.18 percent since June. YTD, the number of residential telephones in service increased by 2.3 percent. Laredo jumped 5.0 percent, Eagle Pass was up 4.4 percent, McAllen increased 3.5 percent, Harlingen rose 2.7 percent, Brownsville was up 2.9 percent and El Paso gained 1.0 percent YTD.

Residential Phones % Change July 98-99



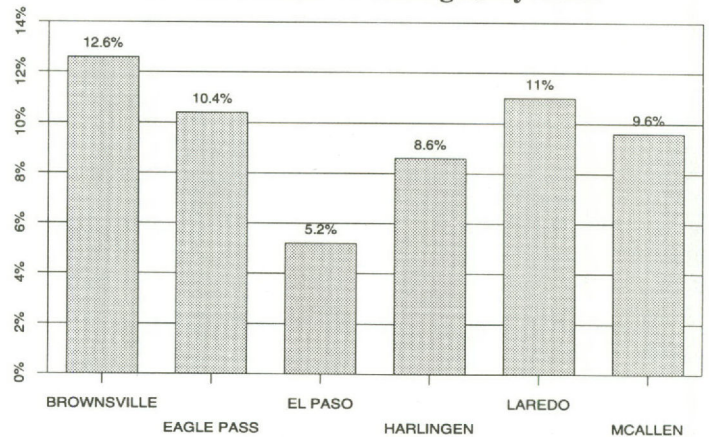
Business Telephones

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98
BROWNSVILLE	23,750	23,828	24,467	21,728
EAGLE PASS	4,320	4,283	4,411	3,994
EL PASO	102,169	102,066	102,722	97,607
HARLINGEN	15,300	15,570	15,624	14,388
LAREDO	33,132	33,496	34,062	30,677
MCALLEN	28,048	28,214	28,376	25,888
TOTAL	206,719	207,457	209,662	194,282

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

In July, the number of business telephones in service for reporting Texas border cities increased 1.1 percent. YTD, the number of phones in service rose by 7.9 percent. Brownsville had the largest increase with 12.6 percent; Laredo gained 11.0 percent, Eagle Pass rose 10.4 percent, McAllen jumped 9.6 percent, and Harlingen increased 8.6 percent YTD.

Business Phones % Change July 98-99



Power Connections—Texas Border

Residential Connections

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98
BROWNSVILLE	29,613	29,740	29,706	28,992
DEL RIO	14,928	14,914	14,922	13,710
EAGLE PASS	12,825	12,822	12,826	9,176
EL PASO	263,195	263,415	264,156	257,780
HARLINGEN	37,240	37,196	37,208	20,360
LAREDO	50,200	50,399	50,560	46,222
McALLEN	48,409	48,392	48,372	30,224
TOTAL	456,410	456,878	457,750	406,464

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

July commercial power connections for reporting Texas border cities increased 0.36 percent over June's figures. YTD, commercial power connections increased 17.3 percent. YTD, Harlingen was up 77.3 percent, McAllen increased 62.9 percent, Eagle Pass gained 39.8 percent, Del Rio rose 19.0 percent, Laredo gained 13.5 percent, El Paso increased 2.4 percent and Brownsville was up slightly at 1.7 percent.

Industrial Connections

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98
BROWNSVILLE	455	471	470	466
DEL RIO	32	32	32	30
EAGLE PASS	33	34	31	16
EL PASO	119	119	119	118
HARLINGEN	183	182	182	82
LAREDO	148	148	139	125
McALLEN	87	88	87	46
TOTAL	1,057	1,074	1,060	883

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

July residential power connections for all reporting Texas border cities increased over June's figures by 0.19 percent. YTD, residential power connections were up 12.8 percent. YTD, Laredo was up 9.4 percent, McAllen increased 60.0 percent, Harlingen gained 82.8 percent, Eagle Pass jumped 39.8 percent, El Paso rose 2.5 percent, Brownsville increased 2.5 percent and Del Rio was up 8.8 percent.

Commercial Connections

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98
BROWNSVILLE	3,869	3,868	3,882	3,817
DEL RIO	2,284	2,294	2,303	1,936
EAGLE PASS	1,821	1,806	1,825	1,305
EL PASO	26,784	26,890	26,993	26,354
HARLINGEN	5,952	5,970	5,953	3,358
LAREDO	7,854	7,901	7,896	6,955
McALLEN	8,724	8,757	8,785	5,393
TOTAL	57,288	57,486	57,637	49,118

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

Industrial power connections for reporting Texas border cities decreased 1.3 percent from June's figures. YTD, Harlingen had the largest increase with 122.0 percent, Eagle Pass increased 93.8 percent, McAllen increased 89.1 percent, Laredo grew 11.2 percent and Del Rio climbed 6.7 percent. El Paso rose 0.8 percent and Brownsville was up at 0.9 percent.

Building Permits — Texas Border

Number of Permits

NUMBER	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	295	321	270	344	2,098	2,248	7.1
DEL RIO	72	85	89	78	610	619	1.5
EAGLE PASS	42	48	25	33	275	262	-4.7
EL PASO	576	625	677	696	4,421	4,429	0.2
HARLINGEN	79	87	87	63	464	515	11.0
LAREDO	485	586	533	400	2,404	3,016	25.5
MCALLEN	164	210	94	173	1,016	998	-1.8
TOTAL	1,713	1,962	1,775	1,787	11,288	12,087	7.1

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

July building permits issued by reporting Texas border cities were down 9.5 percent from June. McAllen was down 55.2 percent, Eagle Pass fell 47.9 percent, and Brownsville declined 15.9 percent, El Paso gained 8.3 percent and Del Rio increased 4.7 percent. YTD, the number of permits issued were up 7.1 percent. El Paso,

accounting for 38.1 percent of all building permits issued in July, had an increase of 0.2 percent YTD. Laredo, with 30.0 percent of building permits issued, was up 25.5 percent YTD. Brownsville was up 7.1 percent, while McAllen fell 1.8 percent YTD.

U.S. Dollar Value of Permits

VALUE	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	10,538,306	15,204,446	17,997,505	13,438,327	83,367,902	113,886,888	36.6
DEL RIO	883,401	950,917	1,152,970	1,673,055	14,550,406	9,694,339	-33.4
EAGLE PASS	2,503,712	2,918,942	3,939,833	661,522	26,378,073	13,276,588	-49.7
EL PASO	33,018,181	61,612,836	41,690,806	35,948,934	226,822,205	280,785,024	23.8
HARLINGEN	2,497,821	20,733,867	11,139,858	2,344,132	22,926,828	55,397,380	141.6
LAREDO	14,657,276	24,482,224	12,980,186	18,895,644	97,228,174	110,287,020	13.4
MCALLEN	18,802,566	13,565,859	8,448,507	12,788,401	68,999,137	107,142,995	55.3
TOTAL	82,901,263	139,469,091	97,349,665	85,750,015	540,272,725	690,470,234	27.8

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

July building permit values for reporting Texas border cities were down 30.2 percent from June. Laredo was down 47.0 percent, Harlingen decreased 46.3 percent and, El Paso declined 32.3 percent. Eagle Pass gained 35.0 percent, Del Rio jumped 21.2 percent, and Brownsville gained 18.4 percent. YTD, reporting

border cities experienced a 27.8 percent increase in building permit values. El Paso, with 42.8 percent total value for the month of July, rose 23.8 percent YTD. Laredo with 13.3 percent total value, increased 13.4 percent YTD. Brownsville with 18.5 percent total value for the month of July, was up 36.6 percent YTD.

Employment/Unemployment Rates —Texas Border

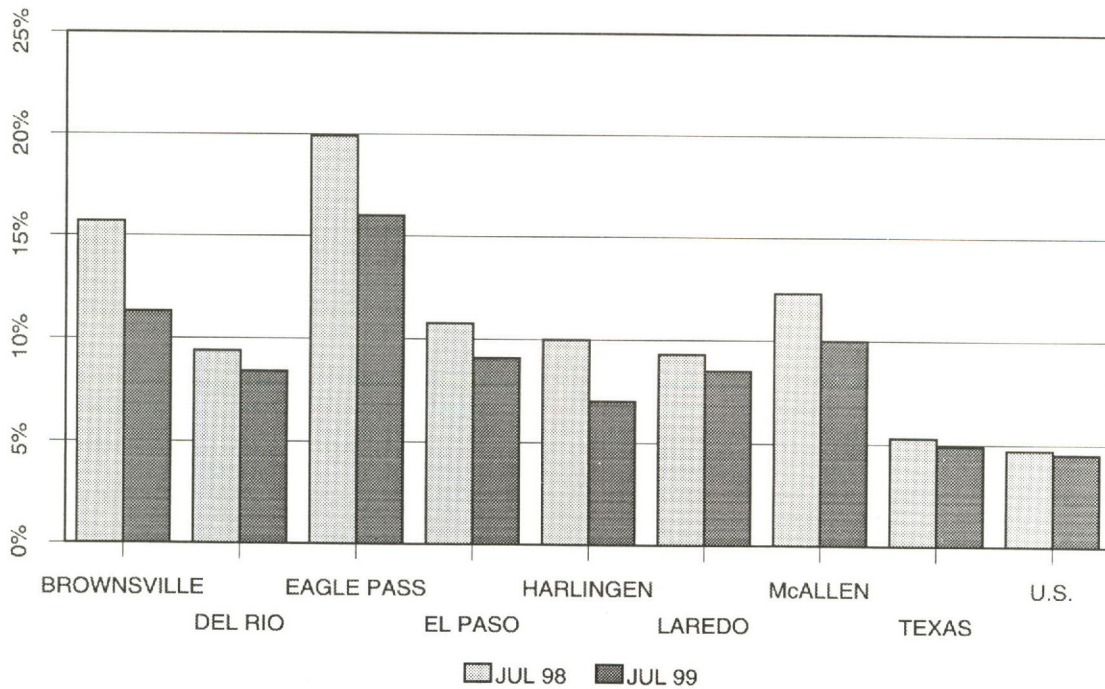
CITY	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED
	JUL 99	JUL 98	JUL 99	JUL 98	JUL 99	JUL 98
BROWNSVILLE	42,150	42,059	5,394	7,824	11.3	15.7
DEL RIO	13,721	13,269	1,255	1,381	8.4	9.4
EAGLE PASS	7,777	7,607	1,478	1,895	16.0	19.9
EL PASO	240,210	234,784	24,163	28,550	9.1	10.8
HARLINGEN	24,215	24,025	1,834	2,661	7.0	10.0
LAREDO	64,576	62,568	6,020	6,404	8.5	9.3
McALLEN	42,067	41,243	4,671	5,794	10.0	12.3
TOTAL	434,716	425,555	44,815	54,509	9.3	11.4
THE TEXAS UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					4.88	5.25
THE NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					4.48	4.71

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

In July, total employment in reporting Texas border cities declined 0.1 percent (571 jobs lost) over June's figures. Eagle Pass employment declined 5.0 percent (410 jobs lost), McAllen decreased 1.8 percent (774 jobs lost), Del Rio fell 1.5 percent (205 jobs lost) and Laredo was down 0.4 percent (235 jobs lost). El Paso increased 0.4

percent (1,042 gained). YTD, the total employment in Texas border cities was down 2.0 percent (9,161 jobs gained) from a year ago. The average unemployment rate for the border was 9.3 percent compared to 4.9 percent for Texas and 4.5 percent for the U.S. in July.

% Unemployed July 98-99



Air Passenger Service Activities — Selected Border Cities

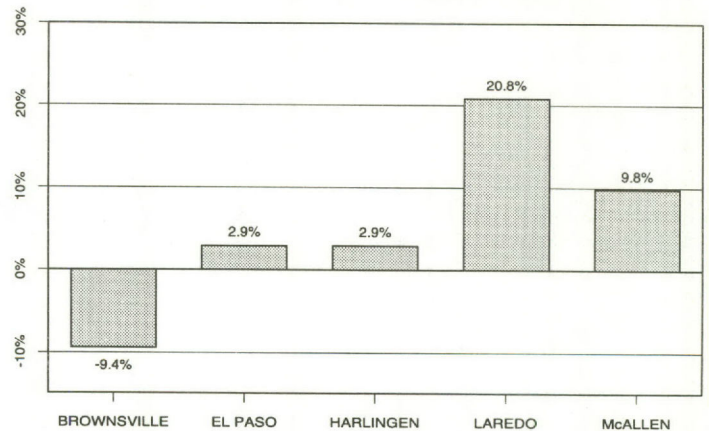
Passenger Arrivals

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,359	5,595	6,105	6,887	46,188	41,868	-9.4
EL PASO	149,089	155,024	158,438	154,656	939,241	966,328	2.9
HARLINGEN	39,757	40,587	42,920	42,488	269,095	276,803	2.9
LAREDO	6,396	6,458	6,969	6,548	44,745	54,059	20.8
McALLEN	25,299	26,670	30,483	26,099	174,060	191,095	9.8
TOTAL	225,900	234,334	244,915	236,678	1,473,329	1,530,153	3.9

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

July air passengers arriving in Texas border cities were up 4.5 percent from June's figures. McAllen increased 14.3 percent, Brownsville gained 9.1 percent, Laredo rose 7.9 percent, Harlingen jumped 5.7 percent, and El Paso was up 2.2 percent. YTD air passenger arrivals were up 3.9 percent. El Paso, with 64.7 percent of all passengers arriving in July, was up 2.9 percent YTD. Harlingen accounting for 17.5 percent of all arrivals in July rose 2.9 percent. McAllen, with 12.4 percent of all arrivals, was up 9.8 percent. Laredo increased 20.8 percent while Brownsville was down 9.4 percent YTD.

Passenger Arrivals % Change YTD 98-99



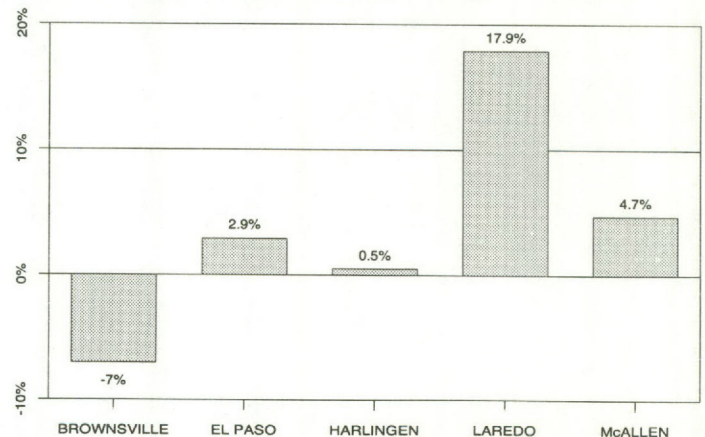
Passenger Departures

CITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,542	5,886	6,355	6,877	47,471	44,132	-7
EL PASO	150,906	156,111	160,542	159,526	962,706	990,854	2.9
HARLINGEN	40,432	40,993	43,193	44,158	289,980	291,573	0.5
LAREDO	6,269	6,834	7,236	6,907	46,949	55,376	17.9
McALLEN	26,859	26,622	29,991	27,306	188,030	196,787	4.7
TOTAL	230,008	236,446	247,317	244,774	1,535,136	1,578,722	2.8

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

July air passenger departures for reporting Texas border cities were up 4.6 percent from June's figures. McAllen increased 12.7 percent, Brownsville rose 8.0 percent, Laredo gained 5.9 and Harlingen jumped 5.4 percent. El Paso Increased 2.8 percent. YTD, air passenger departures were up 2.8 percent from a year ago. El Paso, with 64.9 percent of all passengers departing in July, was up 2.7 percent YTD. Harlingen, with 17.5 percent of all passengers departing, was up 0.5 percent. McAllen, with a 12.1 percent of all departing passengers, increased 4.7 percent YTD. Laredo rose 17.9 percent while Brownsville was down 7.0 percent YTD.

Passenger Departures % Change YTD 98-99



Port Of Corpus Christi

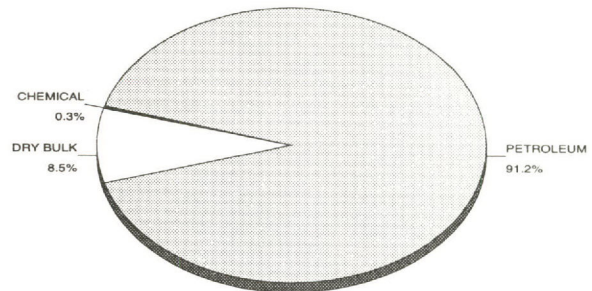
Inbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BREAK BULK	6,795	11,177	357	4,274	7,591	59,030	677.6
DRY BULK	313,955	386,390	395,596	262,098	2,799,984	2,468,116	-11.9
BULK GRAIN	3,086	0	0	(1,462)	0	26,006	N/A
LIQUID	0	7,224	6,633	4,410	20,539	25,028	21.9
PETROLEUM	4,113,122	4,080,113	4,235,802	4,749,011	28,447,143	27,065,267	-4.9
CHEMICAL	6,752	7,951	12,669	12,970	70,664	63,923	-9.5
TOTAL	4,443,711	4,492,856	4,651,057	5,031,301	31,345,920	29,707,370	-5.2

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 3.5 percent increase in inbound cargo from last month. Petroleum, which makes up 91.1 percent of all inbound traffic in July, was down 4.9 percent compared to June. Dry bulk, which accounts for 8.5 percent of the port's inbound cargo for July, decreased 11.9 percent. YTD, total inbound cargo tonnage was down 5.2 percent.

% Share July 1999 Inbound Cargo



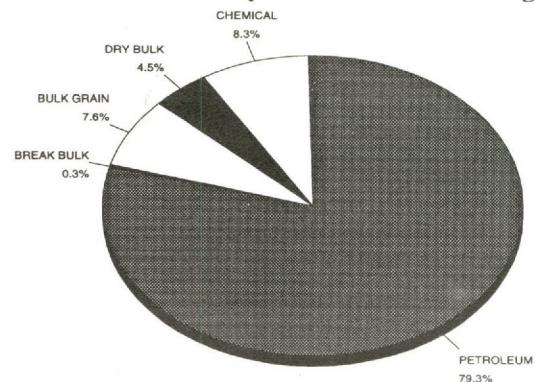
Outbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	MAY 99	JUN 99	JUL 99	JUL 98	YTD 98	YTD 99	YTD % CHG
BREAK BULK	2,761	33,407	9,195	14,756	58,727	57,172	-2.6
DRY BULK	226,465	298,538	120,102	251,493	1,833,914	1,498,267	-18.3
BULK GRAIN	86,384	172,632	203,999	203,282	1,255,430	1,143,645	-8.9
LIQUID	0	0	0	0	9,706	3,183	N/A
PETROLEUM	1,964,920	2,069,331	2,124,755	2,581,551	16,425,095	13,955,562	-15.0
CHEMICAL	162,751	157,611	221,924	156,751	947,897	1,257,703	32.7
TOTAL	2,443,281	2,731,519	2,679,975	3,207,833	20,530,769	17,915,532	-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 an 1.9 percent decrease in outbound cargo tonnage in July. Petroleum, which is 79.3 percent of total outbound cargo for July, decreased 15.0 percent compared to June. Dry bulk decreased 18.3 percent and bulk grain fell 8.9 percent. YTD, total outbound cargo tonnage was down 12.7 percent.

% Share July 1999 Outbound Cargo



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