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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 July demonstrated an increase of sixteen indicators while six indicators decreased. In addition, year-to-date (YTD) figures, eleven indicators were up and eleven decreased. Selected 2001 YTD comparisons to 2000 reported by border cities include the following:

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were down 2.6 percent. Laredo fell 1.9 percent, Rio Grande jumped 24.5 percent, McAllen registered an increase of 3.9 percent and El Paso rose 3.5 percent.
- Northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 2.1 percent. Laredo fell 2.3 percent. El Paso went up 1.1 percent. McAllen marked an increase of 30.4 percent.
- Southbound vehicle crossings were up 1.2 percent. Brownsville rose 1.6 percent, and Eagle Pass rose 7.6 percent. El Paso went down 0.9 percent and Pharr increased 0.9 percent. Laredo went up 1.5 percent. McAllen gained 2.3 percent.
- Northbound vehicle crossings were down 1.6 percent. Eagle Pass rose 2.6 percent. Roma increased 2.3 percent, El Paso went down 0.4 percent, Brownsville lost 11.1 percent and Pharr increased 7.1 percent.
- Southbound truck crossings into Mexico were down 3.5 percent. Eagle Pass went down 12.7 percent. Pharr increased 3.9 percent, and Laredo fell 0.7 percent. Del Rio was down 1.2 percent. Progreso gained 8.9 and Rio Grande grew 5.1 percent.
- Northbound truck crossings into Texas went down 6.8 percent, Pharr fell 1.0 percent and Eagle Pass posted a 5.2 percent decrease. Brownsville decreased 20.2 percent, Laredo fell 6.3 percent, Del Rio marked a drop of 6.1 percent. Rio Grande had a gain of 17.6 percent. Progreso went up 44.5 percent.
- Southbound shipments by rail were up 3.2 percent.
- Northbound shipments by rail were up 4.9 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs went down 4.9 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. bridge operators were up 5.5 percent.
- Total building permits issued were up 7.2 percent. Laredo rose 21.0 percent, Eagle Pass gained 4.3 percent, while McAllen-Hidalgo dropped 4.3 percent, and Brownsville registered a decrease of 6.2 percent. El Paso showed a 7.8 percent increase.
- Total building permit values increased 20.8 percent. Laredo increased 21.2 percent, and Brownsville fell 9.3 percent. McAllen increased 54.5 percent. El Paso was up 9.0 percent, and Eagle Pass jumped 106.2 percent.
- Total employment was up 1.4 percent, with 6,100 jobs gained. The average unemployment rate in July 2001 was 8.7 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)
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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.

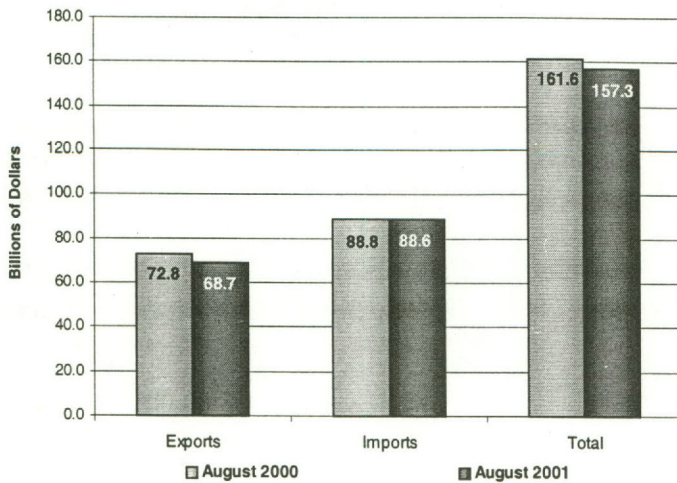


# U.S.-Mexico Trade Shows the Effects of a Down Turn in the U.S. Economy

As previously reported in the August issue of the *BBI*, signs were becoming evident of the effects on trade by the slowing of the U.S. economy. Although year-to-date figures on total trade exhibit slight differences in the trade between the U.S. and Mexico, a closer investigation of the monthly figures reveal a much clearer picture of the drops in total U.S.-Mexico trade, U.S. exports to Mexico and U.S. imports from Mexico (See Charts 1-3). U.S. exports started showing a drop in March 2001 and imports finally registered drops commencing in June as compared to the same periods in 2000. August 2001 figures for both exports and imports did increase over June 2001 figures, but were under compared to August 2000. Chart 4 exemplifies this downward trend. The chart demonstrates the month-to-month percent changes of total trade, exports and imports for the year 2000 versus 2001. In the majority of the months, there have been percent decreases.

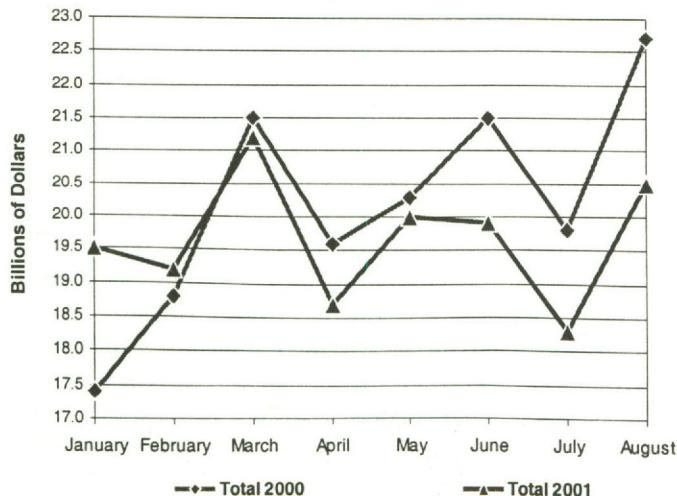
In subsequent issues, we will continue to track these trends.  
—B. G. Garcia

**Chart 1 A**  
U.S.-Mexico Trade, August 2000 YTD vs. August 2001 YTD



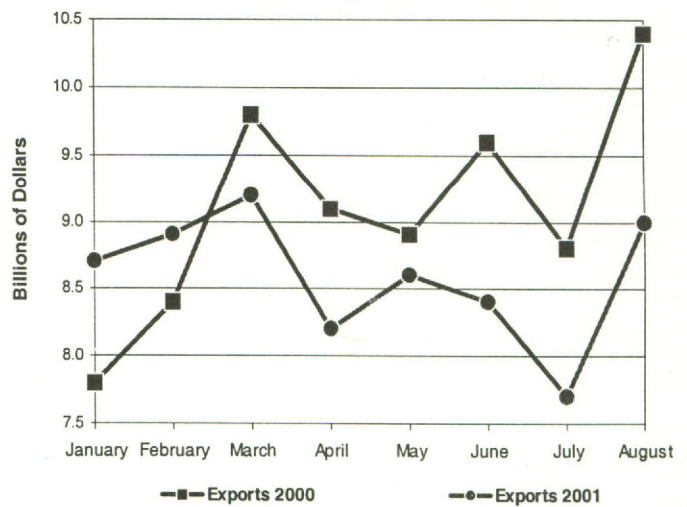
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

**Chart 1 B**  
U.S.-Mexico Trade, August 2000 YTD vs. 2001 YTD



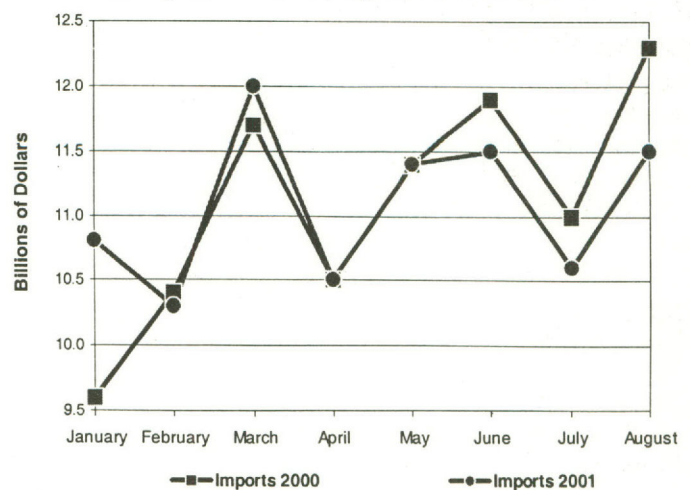
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

**Chart 2**  
U.S. Exports to Mexico, August 2000 YTD vs. 2001 YTD



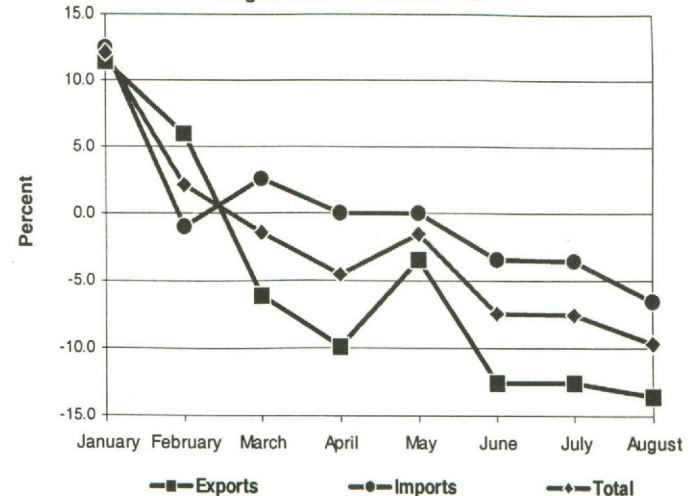
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division, Data Dissemination Branch, Washington, D.C. 20233

**Chart 3**  
U.S. Imports from Mexico, August 2000 YTD vs. 2001 YTD



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

**Chart 4**  
U.S.-Mexico Trade Percent Changes  
August 2000 YTD vs. 2001 YTD



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



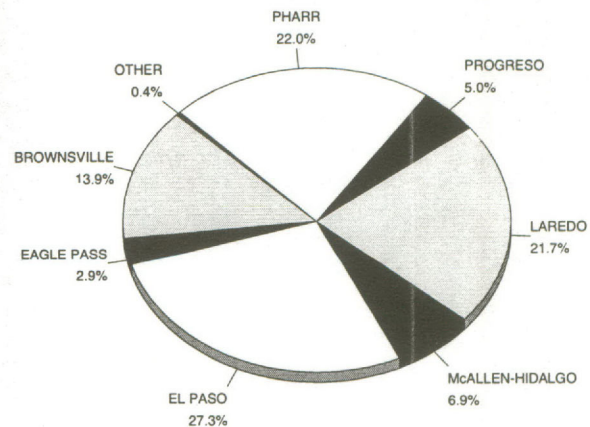
## Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Mexico

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	232,936	227,088	234,255	228,398	1,611,728	1,661,675	3.1
DEL RIO	4,140	3,862	5,498	4,283	28,112	31,448	11.9
EAGLE PASS	53,566	48,981	48,924	46,924	349,684	354,191	1.3
EL PASO	462,256	441,923	460,139	443,251	3,021,993	3,127,571	3.5
HARLINGEN	103	68	71	0	420	546	30.0
LAREDO	363,162	336,591	364,707	364,707	2,501,539	2,455,147	-1.9
McALLEN-HIDALGO	119,437	113,865	115,431	107,764	785,626	816,547	3.9
PHARR	157,994	157,338	370,223	356,725	2,537,830	2,116,136	-16.6
PROGRESO	71,731	73,466	84,158	82,763	851,169	834,772	-1.9
RIO GRANDE	1,245	711	897	823	6,566	8,172	24.5
ROMA	13,742	11,764	N/A	12,641	102,617	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,480,312</b>	<b>1,415,657</b>	<b>1,684,303</b>	<b>1,648,279</b>	<b>11,797,284</b>	<b>11,485,630</b>	<b>-2.6</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

Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico for July were up 19.0 percent. Rio Grande increased 26.2 percent, Brownsville rose 3.2 percent, Eagle Pass decreased 0.1 percent, El Paso gained 4.1 percent, and Laredo went up 8.4 percent. Progreso gained 14.6 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo was up 1.4 percent. Del Rio increased 42.4 percent. YTD southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico declined 2.6 percent. El Paso's southbound pedestrian crossings, which made up 27.2 percent of all crossings, increased 3.5 percent YTD. Laredo, accounting for 21.4 percent of total crossings, decreased 1.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with a 14.5 percent share, increased 3.1 percent YTD. Progreso, with 7.3 percent share, declined 1.9 percent. Del Rio, with 0.3 percent, increased 11.9 percent YTD.

**% Share Pedestrians for July 2001**



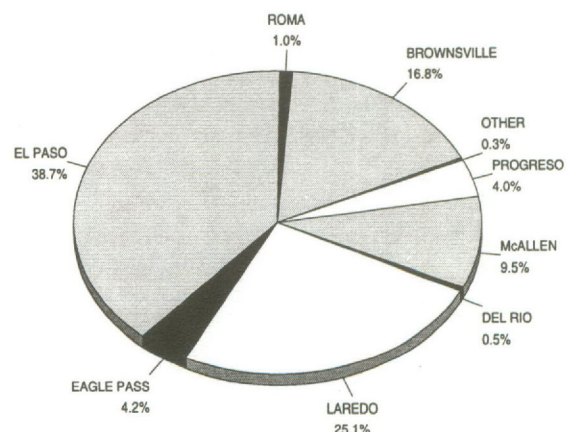
## Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Texas

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	263,780	249,393	265,337	264,179	1,814,357	1,852,128	2.1
DEL RIO	7,304	7,360	8,336	9,029	62,724	56,008	-10.7
EAGLE PASS	68,824	66,838	66,169	66,458	466,630	456,492	-2.2
EL PASO	556,800	591,779	612,327	601,344	3,979,668	4,025,415	1.1
LAREDO	391,273	375,889	397,135	419,526	2,764,346	2,701,277	-2.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	151,415	144,760	149,682	138,256	789,784	1,029,607	30.4
PRESIDIO	2,332	2,463	2,486	2,556	18,057	18,186	0.7
PROGRESO	70,322	74,680	63,074	79,187	810,569	806,609	-0.5
RIO GRANDE	1,349	1,260	1,250	1,266	9,201	9,779	6.3
ROMA	17,751	15,195	16,444	16,681	125,276	117,680	-6.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,531,150</b>	<b>1,529,617</b>	<b>1,582,240</b>	<b>1,598,482</b>	<b>10,840,612</b>	<b>11,073,181</b>	<b>2.1</b>

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 3.4 percent in July. Progreso decreased 15.5 percent, Brownsville was up 6.4 percent, El Paso rose 3.5 percent, and Laredo gained 5.7 percent. YTD northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 2.1 percent. El Paso, accounting for 36.4 percent of northbound crossings, was up 1.1 percent YTD. Laredo, with 24.4 percent of all northbound crossings, was down 2.3 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 16.7 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings, increased 2.1 percent over the previous year.

**% Share Pedestrians for July 2001**





## Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	649,603	636,968	662,741	650,583	4,393,785	4,463,361	1.6
DEL RIO	157,357	156,257	166,529	155,401	1,126,407	1,097,901	-2.5
EAGLE PASS	282,497	276,071	280,472	249,022	1,769,777	1,904,036	7.6
EL PASO	489,320	476,540	476,223	498,240	3,306,655	3,276,126	-0.9
HARLINGEN	49,782	49,087	54,532	51,526	336,182	342,864	2.0
LAREDO	794,902	731,015	811,239	757,409	5,088,664	5,165,865	1.5
McALLEN-HIDALGO	517,966	508,950	523,979	508,389	3,456,609	3,535,314	2.3
PHARR	181,589	178,391	178,734	171,579	1,225,855	1,236,660	0.9
PROGRESO	96,062	94,890	99,548	95,113	677,474	705,398	4.1
RIO GRANDE	45,849	53,095	54,559	48,329	349,021	355,019	1.7
ROMA	101,049	96,682	N/A	96,304	679,429	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,365,976</b>	<b>3,257,946</b>	<b>3,308,556</b>	<b>3,281,895</b>	<b>22,409,858</b>	<b>22,677,178</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 up 1.6 percent in July from June. Eagle Pass was up 1.6 percent, Del Rio gained 6.6 percent, Rio Grande gained 2.8 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo increased 3.0 percent, and Brownsville went up 4.0 percent. Harlingen rose 11.1 percent, and Laredo went up 11.0 percent. YTD southbound vehicle bridge crossings were up 1.2 percent. Laredo, with 22.8 percent of all southbound traffic, was up 1.5

percent YTD. Brownsville, with 19.7 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 1.6 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 14.4 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, fell 0.9 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 15.6 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 2.3 percent increase YTD.

## Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Texas

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	617,131	363,031	421,054	635,424	4,254,717	3,783,342	-11.1
DEL RIO	171,308	167,566	172,951	169,984	1,164,285	1,166,760	0.2
EAGLE PASS	291,602	281,935	285,364	276,338	1,922,385	1,971,757	2.6
EL PASO	743,154	761,839	758,650	758,923	5,180,800	5,162,238	-0.4
HARLINGEN	60,347	59,007	66,663	64,254	416,858	418,767	0.5
LAREDO	698,008	681,285	713,369	653,362	4,766,999	4,734,528	-0.7
McALLEN-HIDALGO	480,505	472,012	482,769	474,970	3,361,093	3,292,936	-2.0
PHARR	222,459	213,847	229,485	221,497	1,430,228	1,531,503	7.1
PRESIDIO	64,356	62,114	65,196	63,737	444,677	441,127	-0.8
PROGRESO	94,834	93,341	89,906	91,932	650,583	680,621	4.6
RIO GRANDE	55,105	52,905	55,278	54,997	392,404	387,553	-1.2
ROMA	101,353	95,963	101,136	97,262	687,916	703,661	2.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,600,162</b>	<b>3,304,845</b>	<b>3,441,821</b>	<b>3,562,680</b>	<b>24,672,945</b>	<b>24,274,793</b>	<b>-1.6</b>

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 4.1 percent from June. Eagle Pass went up 1.2 percent, Progreso fell 3.7 percent, Brownsville gained 16.0 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo increased 2.3 percent. Presidio was up 5.0 percent, and Laredo rose 4.7 percent. YTD northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas

were down 1.6 percent. El Paso, with 21.3 percent of all crossings, was down 0.4 percent YTD. Laredo, with 19.5 percent of all crossings, fell 0.7 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 15.6 percent of all crossings, declined 11.1 percent YTD.



## Truck Crossings into Mexico —Number of Trucks

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE+	18,685	18,358	18,163	18,360	137,459	124,730	-9.3
DEL RIO+	6,417	6,147	5,624	5,420	40,518	40,029	-1.2
EAGLE PASS+	8,407	7,698	6,703	8,165	64,163	55,993	-12.7
EL PASO+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	N/A	N/A	N/A
HARLINGEN+	4,371	4,428	3,902	6,688	45,259	26,744	-40.9
LAREDO+	109,877	117,542	120,382	115,011	807,310	801,622	-0.7
McALLEN-HIDALGO+	3,701	2,777	2,798	3,885	28,202	23,019	-18.4
PHARR+	23,595	21,053	21,776	19,820	150,466	156,381	3.9
PROGRESO+	773	1,663	2,024	1,801	13,413	14,607	8.9
RIO GRANDE+	1,991	1,393	1,393	1,684	12,966	13,623	5.1
ROMA+	1,197	1,199	N/A	1,302	9,312	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>179,014</b>	<b>182,258</b>	<b>182,765</b>	<b>182,136</b>	<b>1,309,068</b>	<b>1,263,529</b>	<b>-4</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

+ 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.

Truck crossings into Mexico were up 0.3 percent in July. Harlingen decreased 11.9 percent, Del Rio fell 8.5 percent, and Pharr went up 3.4 percent. Laredo was up 2.4 percent and Brownsville declined 1.1 percent. YTD southbound truck crossings were down 3.5 percent. Laredo, with 63.4 percent of all southbound crossings,

experienced a 0.7 percent decrease YTD. Brownsville, with a 9.9 percent of all southbound crossings, had a 9.3 percent decrease YTD. Pharr, with 12.4 percent, registered an increase of 3.9 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 4.4 percent of all truck crossings, fell 12.7 percent YTD.

## Truck Crossings into Texas —Number of Trucks

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	22,058	21,593	21,778	25,248	182,766	145,870	-20.2
DEL RIO	5,524	5,379	4,659	4,691	36,100	33,912	-6.1
EAGLE PASS	9,063	8,344	7,387	8,361	62,774	59,532	-5.2
FALCON	47	28	28	35	305	204	-33.1
LAREDO	125,059	116,930	117,030	119,027	864,449	810,054	-6.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHARR	31,877	29,409	29,922	30,371	221,167	218,915	-1.0
PROGRESO	1,108	1,404	1,596	1,101	6,850	9,900	44.5
RIO GRANDE	2,273	1,768	1,777	1,775	13,668	16,072	17.6
ROMA	1,063	1,030	1,026	1,060	7,796	6,782	-13.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>198,072</b>	<b>185,885</b>	<b>185,203</b>	<b>191,669</b>	<b>1,395,875</b>	<b>1,301,241</b>	<b>-6.8</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

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

July northbound truck crossings into Texas were down 0.4 percent over June's crossings. Eagle Pass was down 11.4 percent, Brownsville gained 0.9 percent, Progreso rose 13.7 percent, Pharr went up 1.7 percent, and Laredo increased 0.1 percent. Roma declined 0.4 percent. YTD northbound truck crossings were down

6.8 percent. Laredo, accounting for 62.3 percent of all northbound truck crossings, had a 6.3 percent decrease YTD. Pharr, with 16.8 percent of all crossings, experienced a 1.0 percent decline YTD. Brownsville, with 11.2 percent of all northbound truck crossings, experienced a 20.2 percent decrease YTD.



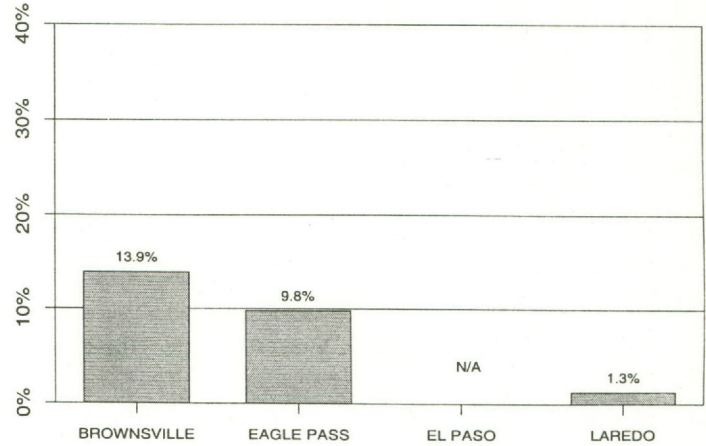
## Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,617	2,713	3,322	2,752	21,104	24,046	13.9
EAGLE PASS	6,879	6,481	6,729	4,966	43,772	48,049	9.8
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	14,640	13,915	13,802	13,683	103,398	104,714	1.3
TOTAL	25,136	23,109	23,853	21,401	168,274	176,809	5.1

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

Southbound rail shipments into Mexico increased 3.2 percent in July compared to June. Brownsville rose 22.4 percent, while Laredo declined 0.8 percent. Eagle Pass gained 3.8 percent. YTD southbound rail shipments into Mexico from Texas were up 5.1 percent. Laredo which accounted for 59.2 percent of all southbound rail shipments, was up 1.3 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 27.2 percent of all southbound rail shipments, increased 9.8 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 13.6 percent of all southbound rail shipments, showed an increase of 13.9 percent YTD.

### Export Rail YTD % Change 00-01



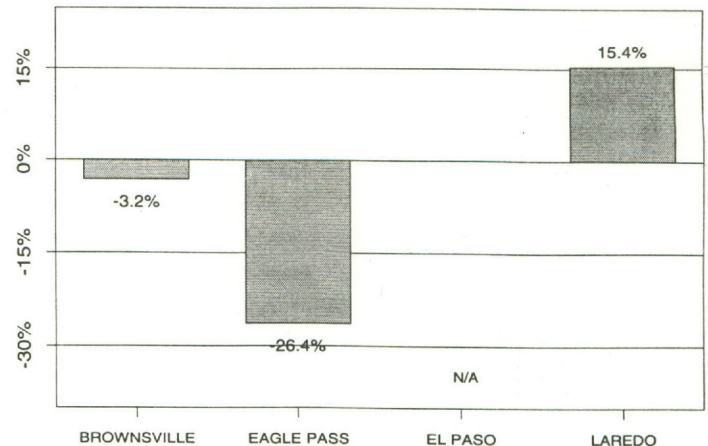
## Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,023	1,432	880	951	7,138	6,910	-3.2
EAGLE PASS	2,646	2,865	2,751	4,099	26,572	19,544	-26.4
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	15,637	15,504	14,881	13,176	85,369	98,505	15.4
TOTAL	19,306	19,801	18,512	18,226	119,079	124,959	4.9

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 6.5 percent in July. Laredo fell 4.0 percent, Brownsville fell 38.5 percent, and Eagle Pass lost 4.0 percent. YTD total northbound shipments into Texas from Mexico were up 4.9 percent. Laredo, which accounted for 78.8 percent of all northbound rail shipments, was up 15.4 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 15.6 percent of all northbound rail shipments, fell 26.4 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 5.5 percent of all northbound rail shipments, decreased 3.2 percent YTD.

### Import Rail YTD % Change 00-01





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

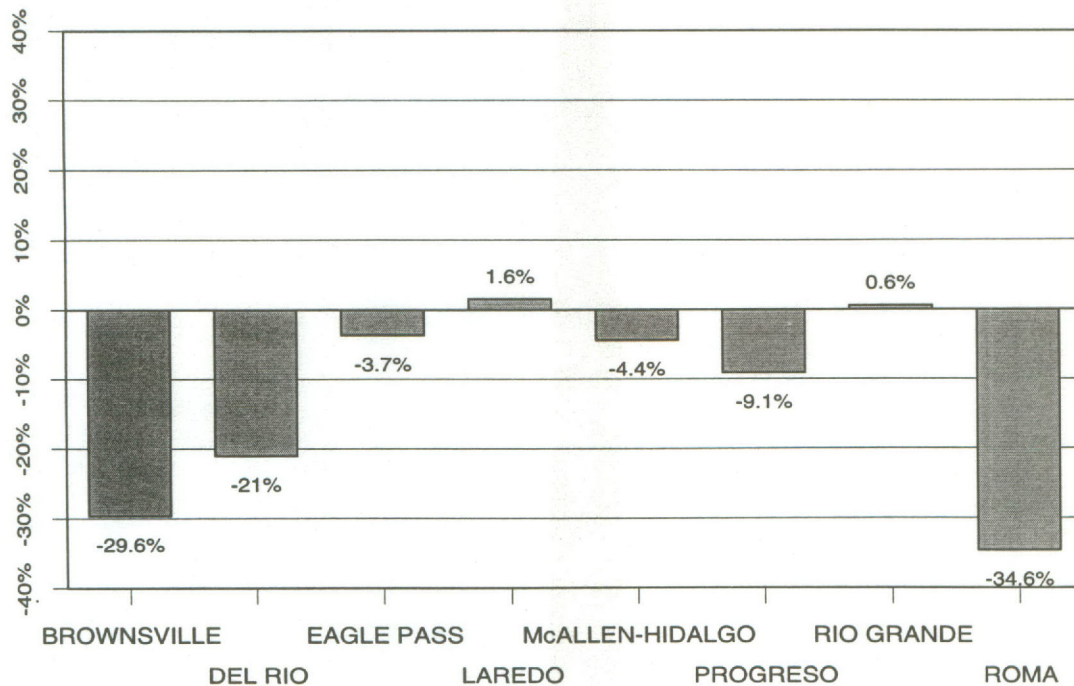
CITY	DUTY	MPF	OTHER	TOTAL	TOTAL	YTD	YTD	YTD % CHG
	JUL 01	JUL 01	REVENUE JUL 01	REVENUE JUL 01	REVENUE JUL 00	REVENUE JUL 00	REVENUE JUL 01	
BROWNSVILLE	2,187,080	127,249	337,606	2,651,935	5,998,159	33,944,179	23,888,935	-29.6
DEL RIO	90,852	26,199	15,245	132,296	234,831	1,448,018	1,143,985	-21.0
EAGLE PASS	145,724	4,424	3,117,994	3,268,142	4,645,770	21,895,559	21,082,361	-3.7
LAREDO	8,673,288	639,847	7,850,054	17,163,189	19,413,817	128,460,110	130,510,563	1.6
McALLEN-HIDALGO	1,554,917	207,512	165,461	1,927,890	2,410,428	18,960,579	18,121,471	-4.4
PROGRESO	40	2,807	14,656	17,503	22,349	136,417	124,053	-9.1
RIO GRANDE	48,052	5,868	7,140	61,060	56,272	497,462	500,309	0.6
ROMA	15,398	294	12,560	28,252	48,488	309,602	202,616	-34.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,715,353</b>	<b>1,014,201</b>	<b>11,520,716</b>	<b>25,250,269</b>	<b>32,830,114</b>	<b>205,651,926</b>	<b>195,574,292</b>	<b>-4.9</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 July, for the former District of Laredo, had a decrease of 17.1 percent from June. McAllen-Hidalgo was down 43.1 percent, Rio Grande decreased 29.6 percent, Progreso jumped 77.1 percent, Roma increased 10.7 percent, Laredo went down 14.0 percent, Eagle Pass went down 6.9 percent, Brownsville declined 19.4 percent, and Del Rio was down 28.9 percent. YTD revenues for the border were down 4.9 percent

compared to July 2000. Laredo, accounting for 66.7 percent share of the former district's revenue was up 1.6 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 12.2 percent share of total revenues, was down 29.6 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 10.8 percent of all revenues, was down 3.7 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 9.3 percent of total revenues, decreased 4.4 percent YTD.

**% Change Total Revenues YTD 00-01**





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

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	952,754	932,768	952,808	818,120	5,617,871	6,394,176	13.8
DEL RIO	400,085	395,991	396,966	383,729	2,703,589	2,693,752	-0.4
EAGLE PASS	581,552	629,261	618,640	610,452	4,265,069	4,173,085	-2.2
EL PASO	1,019,518	979,523	974,523	664,651	6,556,043	6,813,395	3.9
HARLINGEN	126,569	119,325	121,454	131,432	871,795	822,247	-5.7
LAREDO	2,435,157	2,446,980	2,477,538	2,369,658	16,405,977	16,813,569	2.5
McALLEN-HIDALGO	851,855	828,651	852,253	696,089	4,864,059	5,803,564	19.3
PHARR	374,342	370,343	444,381	372,935	2,740,010	2,918,144	6.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,741,831</b>	<b>6,702,842</b>	<b>6,838,563</b>	<b>6,047,067</b>	<b>44,024,413</b>	<b>46,431,932</b>	<b>5.5</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 2.0 percent in the month of July. Pharr went up 20.0 percent, Brownsville increased 2.1 percent, Laredo went up 1.2 percent. Del Rio increased 0.2 percent, Harlingen rose 1.8 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo was up 2.8 percent, Eagle Pass fell 1.7 percent, and El Paso decreased 0.5 percent. YTD U.S. bridge operator's revenues were up 5.5 percent. Laredo, accounting for 36.2 percent of total U.S. bridge operator's revenues

collected, had a 2.5 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 14.7 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues, increased 3.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, accounting for 13.8 percent, was up 13.8 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 12.5 percent of the total bridge revenues, increased 19.3 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 9.0 percent of the total bridge revenues, fell 2.2 percent YTD.

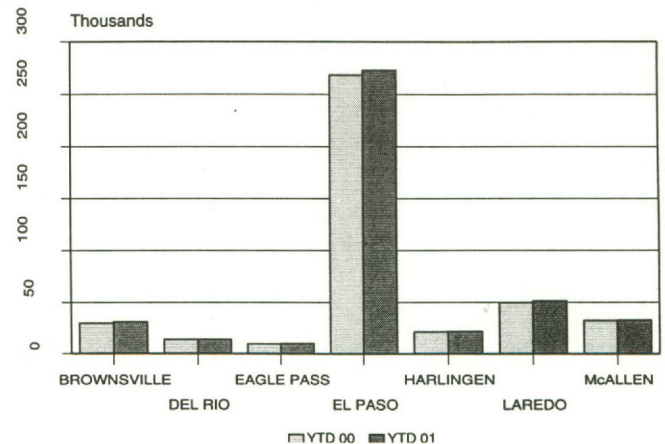
## Power Connections — Texas Border Residential Connections

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	31,369	31,445	31,517	30,366	30,199	31,249	3.5
DEL RIO	14,109	14,116	14,117	14,022	14,026	14,103	0.6
EAGLE PASS	9,838	9,826	9,845	9,633	9,632	9,825	2.0
EL PASO	273,492	273,738	274,080	269,919	268,765	273,035	1.6
HARLINGEN	21,650	21,674	21,647	21,271	21,481	21,891	1.9
LAREDO	51,815	51,985	52,032	50,238	49,763	51,598	3.7
McALLEN	32,363	32,912	32,907	32,095	32,253	32,743	1.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>434,636</b>	<b>435,696</b>	<b>436,145</b>	<b>427,544</b>	<b>426,118</b>	<b>434,444</b>	<b>2.0</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

July total residential power connections for cited Texas border cities increased 0.10 percent over June. YTD residential power connections were up 2.0 percent. Laredo was up 3.7 percent, McAllen increased 1.5 percent, Del Rio gained 0.6 percent, Harlingen jumped 1.9 percent, Brownsville increased 3.5 percent, and Eagle Pass was up by 2.0 percent.

**YTD AVG July 00-01**





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

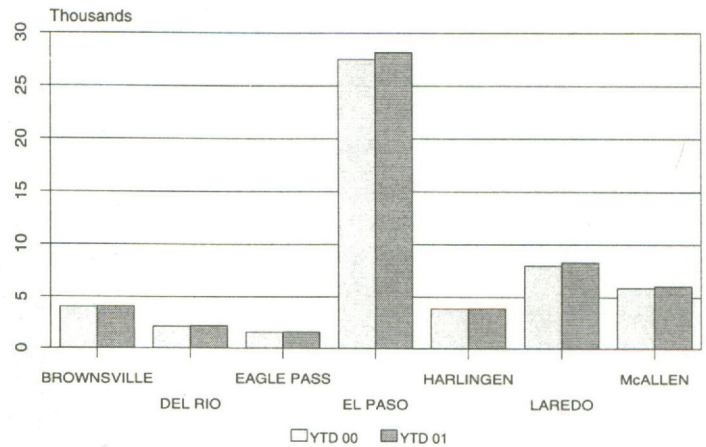
### Commercial Connections

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,987	3,985	3,982	3,956	3,939	4,007	1.7
DEL RIO	2,161	2,162	2,161	2,101	2,077	2,144	3.2
EAGLE PASS	1,548	1,545	1,555	1,519	1,509	1,538	1.9
EL PASO	28,265	28,353	28,444	27,766	27,540	28,207	2.4
HARLINGEN	3,837	3,849	3,867	3,825	3,775	3,837	1.6
LAREDO	8,310	8,335	8,360	8,143	7,990	8,299	3.9
McALLEN	6,040	6,094	6,103	5,916	5,897	6,033	2.3
TOTAL	54,148	54,323	54,472	53,226	52,726	54,065	2.5

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 total commercial power connections for cited Texas border cities increased 0.27 percent from June. YTD averages of commercial power connections increased 2.5 percent. Harlingen was up 1.6 percent, Eagle Pass increased 1.9 percent, Laredo gained 3.9 percent, McAllen was up 2.3 percent, Del Rio rose 3.2 percent, El Paso gained 2.4 percent, and Brownsville rose 1.7 percent.

### YTD AVG July 00-01



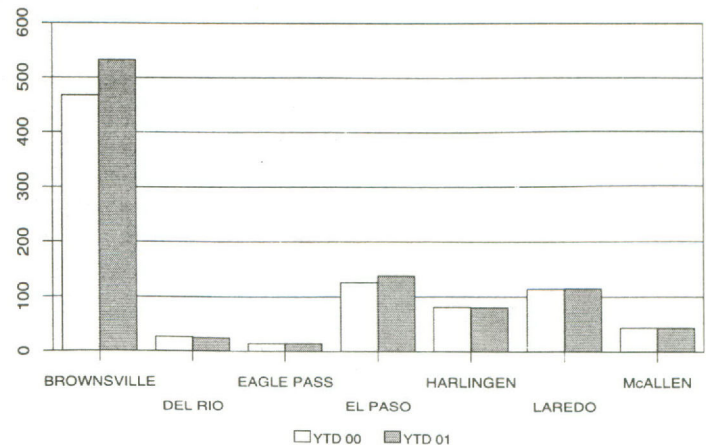
### Industrial Connections

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	537	543	557	504	468	533	13.9
DEL RIO	25	25	25	27	27	25	-7.4
EAGLE PASS	15	15	15	15	15	15	1.9
EL PASO	137	139	142	133	126	138	9.7
HARLINGEN	80	80	80	81	81	80	-1.6
LAREDO	114	114	115	116	114	115	0.8
McALLEN	42	44	45	44	44	44	0.0
TOTAL	950	960	979	920	875	950	8.6

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

July total industrial power connections for cited Texas border cities were up 1.98 percent from June. YTD averages of industrial power connections increased 8.6 percent. El Paso increased 9.7 percent, Harlingen fell 1.6 percent, Brownsville was up 13.9 percent.

### YTD AVG July 00-01





## Building Permits —Texas Border

### Number of Permits

NUMBER	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	355	357	349	308	2,524	2,368	-6.2
DEL RIO	106	34	44	55	411	472	14.8
EAGLE PASS	48	51	52	36	323	337	4.3
EL PASO	733	628	688	506	4,001	4,313	7.8
HARLINGEN	83	75	97	75	498	438	-12.0
LAREDO	705	774	527	383	3,696	4,471	21.0
MCALLEN	153	139	120	135	1,045	1,000	-4.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,183</b>	<b>2,058</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>1,498</b>	<b>12,498</b>	<b>13,399</b>	<b>7.2</b>

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 8.8 percent from June. Eagle Pass rose 2.0 percent, El Paso went up 9.6 percent, and Laredo decreased 31.9 percent. McAllen decreased 13.7 percent, and Brownsville fell 2.2 percent. YTD, the number of permits issued rose 7.2 percent. El Paso, accounting for

32.2 percent of all building permits issued, had an increase of 7.8 percent YTD. Laredo, with 33.4 percent of building permits issued, was up 21.0 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 17.7 percent of building permits issued, decreased 6.2 percent YTD.

### U.S. Dollar Value of Permits

VALUE	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	28,592,620	18,171,121	22,734,202	9,635,967	152,546,670	138,398,346	-9.3
DEL RIO	5,437,205	1,215,848	725,045	750,079	6,146,046	11,222,651	82.6
EAGLE PASS	1,591,677	1,894,018	5,641,827	1,222,960	10,254,840	21,140,440	106.2
EL PASO	49,186,145	47,716,053	36,673,978	39,701,885	258,578,259	281,868,237	9.0
HARLINGEN	14,121,580	9,696,178	2,149,439	8,675,140	41,461,983	76,416,641	84.3
LAREDO	27,418,703	17,440,006	43,042,106	17,363,004	151,693,823	183,823,214	21.2
MCALLEN	13,689,379	11,392,876	14,715,002	17,926,119	110,565,733	170,787,062	54.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>140,037,309</b>	<b>107,526,100</b>	<b>125,681,599</b>	<b>95,275,154</b>	<b>731,247,353</b>	<b>883,656,591</b>	<b>20.8</b>

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 up 16.9 percent from June. Harlingen fell 77.8 percent, McAllen rose 29.2 percent, and El Paso decreased 23.1 percent. Brownsville went up 25.1 percent. Laredo was up 146.8 percent. Eagle Pass gained 197.9 percent. YTD reporting border cities experienced a 20.8 percent increase in building permit values. El Paso, with 31.9

percent of total building permit values, increased 9.0 percent YTD. Laredo, with 20.8 percent of total building permit values, gained 21.2 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 15.7 percent of total building permit values, decreased 9.3 percent. Eagle Pass with 2.4 percent of total building permits, increased 106.2 percent.



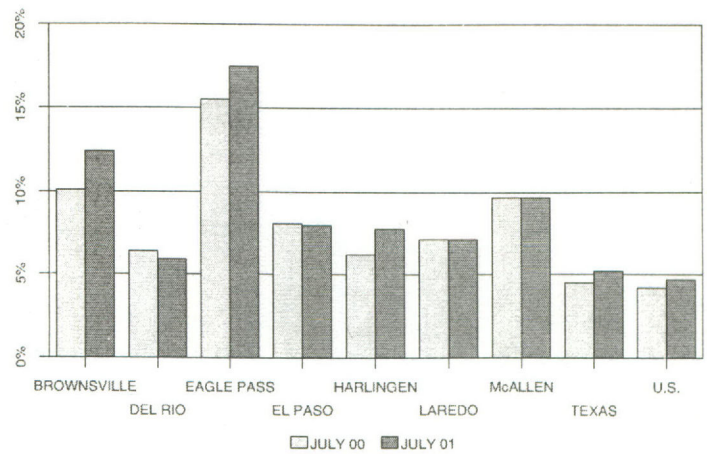
## Employment/Unemployment Rates — Texas Border

CITY	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED
	JUL 01	JUL 00	JUL 01	JUL 00	JUL 01	JUL 00
BROWNSVILLE	45,700	44,332	6,489	4,972	12.4	10.1
DEL RIO	14,184	14,217	885	978	5.9	6.4
EAGLE PASS	9,107	8,336	1,937	1,525	17.5	15.5
EL PASO	239,940	240,432	20,941	21,152	8.0	8.1
HARLINGEN	26,254	25,468	2,207	1,691	7.8	6.2
LAREDO	66,478	64,487	5,112	4,951	7.1	7.1
McALLEN	45,961	44,252	4,933	4,760	9.7	9.7
TOTAL	447,624	441,524	42,504	40,029	8.7	8.3
THE TEXAS UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					5.20	4.50
THE NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					4.70	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 July, total employment in reporting Texas border cities decreased 0.5 percent (2,039 jobs lost) since June. Eagle Pass employment fell 4.9 percent (467 jobs gained), Del Rio decreased 1.8 percent (267 jobs gained), and McAllen went down 3.6 percent (1,730 jobs lost), and Laredo fell 0.9 percent (579 jobs lost). Brownsville declined 0.5 percent (234 jobs lost). YTD total employment in Texas border cities was up 1.4 percent (6,100 jobs gained) from a year ago. The average unemployment rate for the border was 8.7 percent compared to 5.2 percent for Texas, and 4.7 percent for the U.S. in the month of July.

**% Unemployed July 00-01**



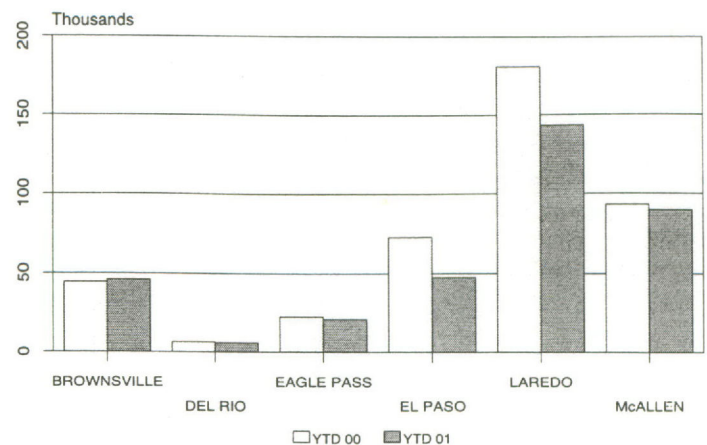
## Visas to Tourists from Texas to Mexico

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	%CHG
BROWNSVILLE	5,036	8,392	10,078	10,790	44,420	46,022	3.6
DEL RIO	748	1,289	1,304	1,562	6,345	5,820	-8.3
EAGLE PASS	2,606	3,961	5,053	5,382	22,484	20,740	-7.8
EL PASO	5,297	9,193	12,061	19,349	72,611	47,520	-34.6
LAREDO	10,217	35,267	47,778	48,355	181,063	143,202	-20.9
McALLEN	10,209	15,267	17,437	18,033	93,053	89,632	-3.7
TOTAL	34,113	73,369	93,711	103,471	419,976	352,936	-16.0

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

In July, visas gained 27.7 percent. Laredo gained 35.5 percent, Eagle Pass increased 27.6, Brownsville gained 20.1 percent, and Del Rio rose 1.2 percent over the month of July. El Paso gained 31.2 percent. YTD total visas were down 16.0 percent. Brownsville, with a 13.0 percent share, gained 3.6 percent. Eagle Pass, with 5.9 percent share, dipped 7.8 percent. Del Rio, with 1.6 percent share, fell 8.3 percent. Laredo, with 40.6 percent share, fell 20.9 percent. McAllen, with 25.4 percent share, declined 3.7 percent YTD; and El Paso with 13.5 percent share, dropped 34.6 percent YTD.

**Tourist Visas YTD July 00-01**





## Air Passenger Service Activities — Selected Border Cities

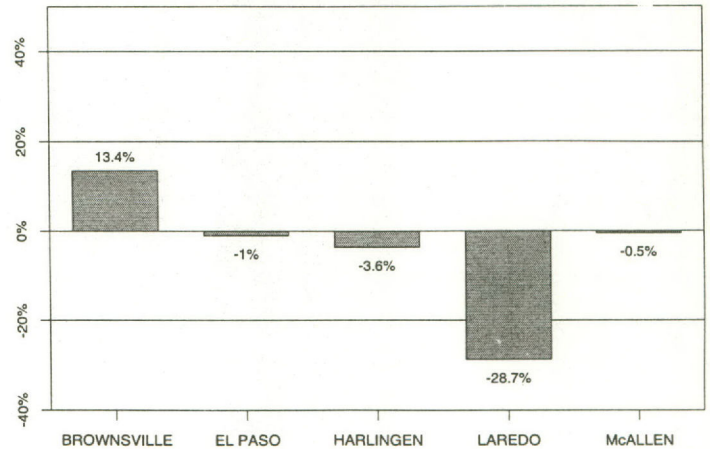
### Passenger Arrivals

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	6,069	6,234	6,234	5,789	39,451	44,747	13.4
EL PASO	141,722	150,745	161,062	154,313	957,115	947,681	-1.0
HARLINGEN	38,287	42,312	45,406	42,242	283,026	272,938	-3.6
LAREDO	6,171	6,310	6,447	6,749	54,248	38,684	-28.7
McALLEN	24,507	24,953	27,048	26,859	188,504	187,540	-0.5
TOTAL	216,756	230,554	246,197	235,952	1,522,344	1,491,590	-2.0

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

July air passengers arriving in Texas border cities were up 6.8 percent from June. McAllen gained 8.4 percent, Laredo jumped 2.2 percent, and El Paso was up 6.8 percent. Harlingen gained 7.3 percent. YTD air passenger arrivals were down 2.0 percent. El Paso, with 63.5 percent of all arriving passengers, showed a decrease of 1.0 percent YTD. Harlingen, accounting for 18.3 percent of all arrivals, slipped 3.6 percent YTD. McAllen, with 12.6 percent of all arrivals, was down 0.5 percent YTD. Laredo, with 2.6 percent of all arrivals, decreased 28.7 percent YTD.

**Passenger Arrivals % Change YTD 00-01**



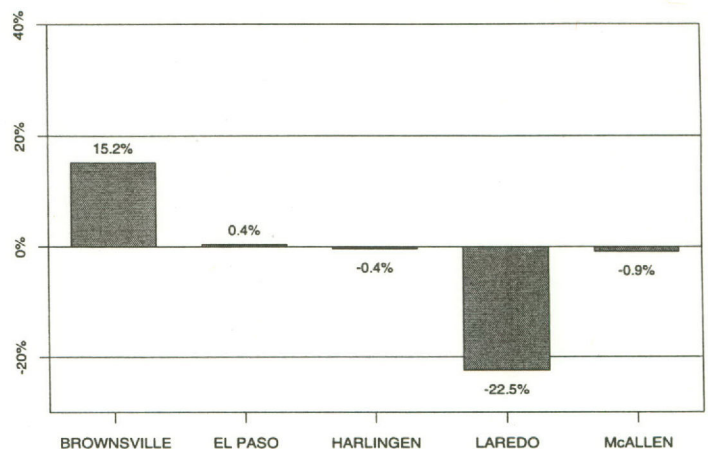
### Passenger Departures

CITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	6,309	6,294	7,265	5,938	40,901	47,116	15.2
EL PASO	146,949	155,254	167,369	157,840	977,383	981,121	0.4
HARLINGEN	39,648	43,059	47,234	43,702	290,073	288,959	-0.4
LAREDO	6,417	6,522	6,689	7,238	56,100	43,459	-22.5
McALLEN	25,795	25,981	29,166	28,748	199,221	197,429	-0.9
TOTAL	225,118	237,110	257,723	243,466	1,563,678	1,558,084	-0.4

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 8.7 percent. McAllen increased 12.3 percent, Harlingen rose 9.7 percent, Laredo went up 2.6 percent, and El Paso gained 7.8 percent. YTD air passenger departures were down 0.4 percent. El Paso, with 63.0 percent of all departing passengers, was down 0.4 percent YTD. Harlingen, with 18.5 percent of all departing passengers, exhibited a decrease of 0.4 percent YTD. McAllen, with 12.7 percent of all departing passengers, decreased 0.9 percent, YTD. Laredo, with 2.8 percent of all departing passengers, fell 22.5 percent YTD.

**Passenger Departures % Change YTD 00-01**





## Port Of Corpus Christi

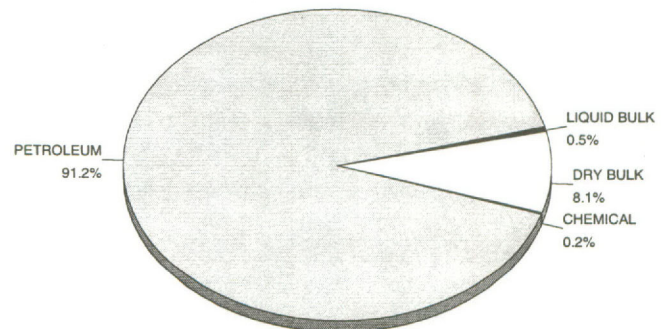
### Inbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BREAK BULK	117,142	2,086	0	968	16,763	144,694	763.2
DRY BULK	196,353	377,035	367,477	412,309	2,604,379	2,267,090	-13.0
BULK GRAIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LIQUID	18,370	17,667	24,230	3,329	14,258	155,299	989.2
PETROLEUM	4,269,690	4,034,140	4,114,130	5,074,509	29,220,861	28,327,611	-3.1
CHEMICAL	18,986	9,381	9,956	4,240	73,536	61,432	-16.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,620,541</b>	<b>4,440,309</b>	<b>4,515,792</b>	<b>5,495,355</b>	<b>31,929,797</b>	<b>30,956,125</b>	<b>-3.0</b>

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 1.7 percent increase in inbound cargo from June. Petroleum, which made up 91.1 percent of all inbound traffic in July, was up 2.0 percent compared to June. Dry bulk, which accounted for 8.1 percent inbound cargo for July, fell 2.5 percent. Total inbound cargo tonnage was down 3.0 percent YTD.

### % Share July 2001 Inbound Cargo



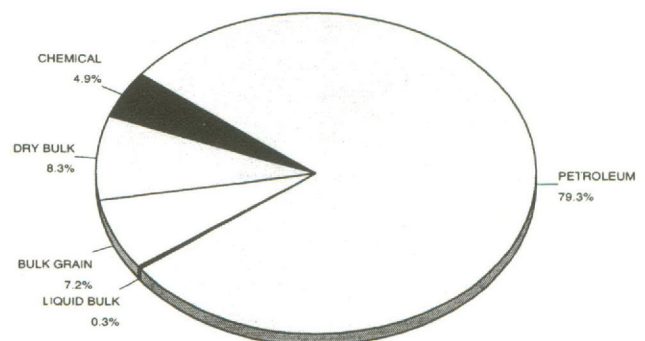
### Outbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BREAK BULK	667	125	752	6,646	35,356	26,716	-24.4
DRY BULK	244,925	265,400	235,088	180,782	1,731,370	1,677,010	-3.1
BULK GRAIN	178,036	17,981	203,659	271,986	698,312	3,882,820	456.0
LIQUID	5,463	0	7,124	0	0	41,232	N/A
PETROLEUM	2,385,097	1,957,053	2,236,444	2,468,133	19,308,021	14,495,608	-24.9
CHEMICAL	137,138	169,627	139,552	0	1,005,251	1,117,197	11.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,951,327</b>	<b>2,410,185</b>	<b>2,822,619</b>	<b>2,927,547</b>	<b>22,778,311</b>	<b>21,240,584</b>	<b>-6.8</b>

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 17.1 percent gain in outbound cargo tonnage in July. Petroleum, which was 79.2 percent of total outbound cargo, rose 14.3 percent. Bulk grain, which accounted for 7.2 percent of cargo, jumped 1,032.7 percent. Dry bulk, which accounted for 8.3 percent of the total outbound cargo for July, fell 11.4 percent from June. YTD total outbound cargo tonnage was down 6.8 percent.

### % Share July 2001 Outbound Cargo





## Port Of Brownsville

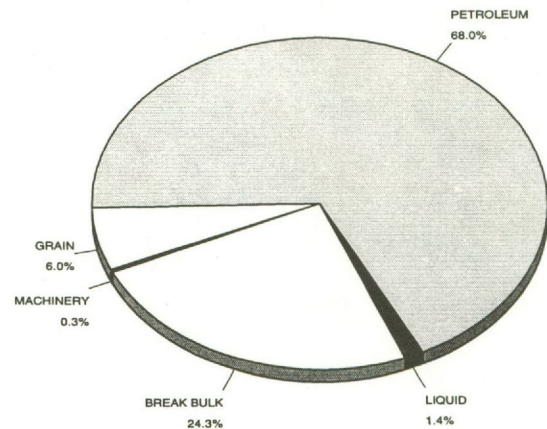
### Total Port Activity (in Metric Tons)

COMMODITY	MAY 01	JUN 01	JUL 01	JUL 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BREAK BULK	179,910	119,409	76,895	180,929	1,210,129	1,071,623	-11.4
LIQUID	5,536	537	4,353	2,740	40,978	32,716	-20.2
PETROLEUM	125,375	208,771	215,701	111,615	623,176	906,169	45.4
GRAIN	0	0	18,916	16,768	60,417	50,120	-17.0
CONTAINERS	0	0	0	1,381	2,386	366	-84.7
MACHINERY	2,031	425	973	900	2,701	4,824	78.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>312,852</b>	<b>329,142</b>	<b>316,838</b>	<b>314,333</b>	<b>1,939,787</b>	<b>2,065,818</b>	<b>6.5</b>

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 3.7 percent in July's total cargo tonnage over the previous month. Break Bulk, which accounted for 24.3 percent of the total cargo tonnage fell 35.6 percent from June. Liquid, 1.4 percent share of July's total tonnage, gained 710.6 percent. Petroleum, which made up 68.1 percent of the total cargo for July gained 3.3 percent. YTD figures showed a 6.5 percent increase in total cargo tonnage. Break Bulk tonnage, with 51.9 percent of total tonnage, fell 11.4 percent. Petroleum, with 43.9 percent of total tonnage, increased 45.4 percent. Liquid, with 1.6 percent of total tonnage, fell 20.2 percent.

**% Share July 2001 Total Cargo**



## Web Page Information

The Texas A&M System has a Community development webpage. Visitors to this site can browse through the many community based projects, in a wide range of areas, that have been done through various A&M schools. Information can easily be obtained in one of the following formats: Texas cities, Texas county, House districts, Texas Senatorial districts, or U.S. House districts. The information can also be displayed in summarized form by type of program, by System member/agency, or by program contact person.

Visit the Community Development Homepage at <http://comm-dev.tamu.edu/>.

-J. Benavides

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Dr. Ray M. Keck,  
President  
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

Susan C. Moreno  
Research Unit Assistant

Further information may be obtained by calling:  
TEL. (956) 326-2546  
FAX (956) 326-2544  
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TEXAS CENTER FOR BORDER ECONOMIC  
AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT  
5201 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD  
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