

Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Vol. 30 No. 4 • April 2006

U.S.-Mexico Trade Processed vía Border Ports of Entry

U.S.-Mexico Trade: Border Ports Process 79 Percent of Goods in 2006 YTD

In previous issues of the *Border Business Indicators*, U.S.-Mexico border ports of entry have been cited as handling 80 percent of the U.S.-Mexico dollar value of the merchandise trade.

In Februay 2006 year-to-date, that figure hovered at around 79 percent. Tables 1 delineates a more detailed look at the type of

merchandise and its dollar value—U.S. exports to Mexico, U.S. imports from Mexico and Total Trade—for the year-to-date period. Table 2, on the Back Page, shows the percent share of all U.S.-Mexico trade the border ports process for each commodity indicated. —B. Garcia

Table 1

All U.S.-Mexico Trade and U.S.-Mexico Trade Processed vía Border Ports of Entry on the U.S.-Mexico Border

by 1-Digit SITC Commodity Code

.....

January - February 2006

(In Millions of U.S. Dollars)

	AIL	J.SMexico Tra	de	on the	e U.SMexico	Border
U.S. Exports to Mexico	Jan.	Feb.	2006 YTD	Jan.	Feb.	2006 YTD
(0) Food and Live Animals	558.55	547.21	1,105.76	506.11	478.04	984.15
(1) Beverages and Tobacco	9.34	10.95	20.29	9.15	10.70	19.85
(2) Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	340.70	301.19	641.89	300.90	267.26	568.16
(3) Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	413.52	423.55	837.07	154.81	161.74	316.55
(4) Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	29.93	26.39	56.32	20.41	15.68	36.09
(5) Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.	1,253.29	1,183.59	2,436.88	970.03	897.81	1,867.84
(6) Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	1,576.21	1,491.35	3,067.56	1,522.65	1,448.27	2,970.92
(7) Machinery and Transport Equipment	5,090.09	4,802.03	9,892.12	4,636.76	4,386.40	9,023.16
(8) Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	1,006.62	938.07	1,944.69	906.01	835.05	1,741.06
(9) Commodities and Transactions, N.E.S.	348.14	356.79	704.93	27.78	24.75	52.53
Total	10,626.39	10,081.12	20,707.51	9,054.61	8,525.70	17,580.31
U.S. Imports from Mexico	Jan.	Feb.	2006 YTD	Jan.	Feb.	2006 YTD
(0) Food and Live Animals	853.97	783.32	1,637.29	806.90	752.64	1,559.54
(1) Beverages and Tobacco	171.02	178.92	349.94	132.43	134.55	266.98
(2) Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	100.26	94.45	194.71	80.66	76.77	157.43
(3) Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	2,710.24	2,600.88	5,311.12	55.72	31.86	87.58
(4) Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	4.12	5.03	9.15	4.11	5.03	9.14
(5) Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.	266.18	301.83	568.01	228.08	259.93	488.01
(6) Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	1,150.61	1,099.59	2,250.20	1,037.96	1,008.70	2,046.66
(7) Machinery and Transport Equipment	7,751.85	7,481.93	15,233.78	7,199.76	6,929.27	14,129.03
(8) Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	1,673.92	1,681.75	3,355.67	1,559.16	1,549.38	3,108.54
(9) Commodities and Transactions, N.E.S.	581.29	580.44	1,161.73	381.30	370.55	751.85
Total	15,263.46	14,808.14	30,071.60	11,486.08	11,118.68	22,604.76
U.SMexico Total Trade	Jan.	Feb.	2006 YTD	Jan.	Feb.	2006 YTD
(0) Food and Live Animals	1,412.52	1,330.53	2,743.05	1,313.01	1,230.68	2,543.69
(1) Beverages and Tobacco	180.36	189.87	370.23	141.58	145.25	286.83
(2) Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	440.96	395.64	836.60	381.56	344.03	725.59
(3) Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	3,123.76	3,024.43	6,148.19	210.53	193.60	404.13
(4) Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	34.05	31.42	65.47	24.52	20.71	45.23
(5) Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.	1,519.47	1,485.42	3,004.89	1,198.11	1,157.74	2,355.85
(6) Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	2,726.82	2,590.94	5,317.76	2,560.61	2,456.97	5,017.58
(7) Machinery and Transport Equipment	12,841.94	12,283.96	25,125.90	11,836.52	11,315.67	23,152.19
(8) Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	2,680.54	2,619.82	5,300.36	2,465.17	2,384.43	4,849.60
(9) Commodities and Transactions, N.E.S.	929.43	937.23	1,866.66	409.08	395.30	804.38
Total	25,889.85	24,889.26	50,779.11	20,540.69	19,644.38	40,185.07

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University (Table 1 and Table 2 on Back Page).

Continued on Back Page

Need More Detailed Information?

For more detailed information regarding border crossings, economic indicators and trade activity, visit the Center's web site:

http://texascenter.tamiu.edu

Technical Reports

The Texas Center's research activities have resulted in a series of technical reports on border economic issues ranging from infrastructure needs and environmental issues to the impact of NAFTA on Texas-Mexico trade relations and future business opportunities.

The Center continues its research tradition with activities spanning those areas involving border trade, business development and economic issues.

New research encompassing areas such as community development, health, culture, education and socioeconomic issues have been added to the series.

Technical Reports are freely available online for download in PDF format, unless otherwise noted.

The Border Business Indicators (ISSN 1091-9104) is published by the Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development, at Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas.

Dr. Ray M. Keck, III President, Texas A&M International University

Dr. J. Michael Patrick Director, Texas Center

Baldomero G. Garcia Program Manager, Texas Center

Jacqueline O. Benavides Data & Information Specialist, Texas Center

Leo Lozano Database Specialist, Texas Center

Jesus Araiza Student Research Assistant, Texas Center

Further information may be obtained by calling: TEL. (956) 326-2546 FAX (956) 326-2544

or by writing to the addresses below:

E-mail: texascenter@tamiu.edu

Texas A&M International University Texas Center 5201 University Boulevard Laredo, TX 78041-1900

> Produced by the TAMIU Print Shop on Recycled Paper



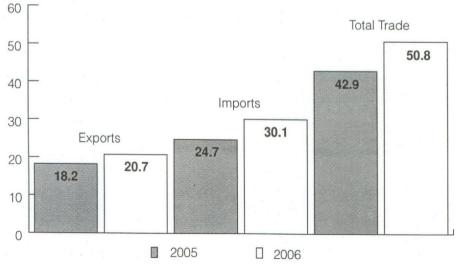
Note from the Director

Indicators of border business activity for February 2006 year-to-date (YTD) demonstrated thirteen indicators increased and nine decreased. 2006 YTD comparisons to 2005 reported for the border are listed below:

- · Pedestrian bridge crossings into Mexico were up 2.7 percent.
- Pedestrian bridge crossings into Texas were up 4.2 percent.
- Vehicle bridge crossings into Mexico fell 1.7 percent.
- Vehicle bridge crossings into Texas fell 2.4 percent.
- Truck bridge crossings into Mexico gained 8.7 percent.
- Truck bridge crossings into Texas gained 7.1 percent.
- Rail car bridge crossings into Mexico went down 2.6 percent.
- Rail car bridge crossings into Texas went up 16.3 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs increased 8.4 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. bridge operators registered a gain of 12.1 percent.
- Tourist visas issued for entry into Mexico were down 1.9 percent.
- Total employment was up 3.0 percent, with 14,324 jobs gained. The average unemployment rate for the border in February 2006 was 6.1 percent.
- Total building permits issued rose 18.2 percent.
- · Total building permit values decreased 4.1 percent.
- Power connections in service for residential were up 2.8 percent, commercial were up 4.8 percent and industrial were down 1.2 percent.
- Air passenger arrivals were up 2.2 percent, and departures were up 2.0 percent.
- Total cargo for the Port of Brownsville decreased 3.6 percent.
- Inbound cargo for the Port of Corpus Christi went down 3.0 percent, and outbound cargo went down 3.6 percent.

U.S.-Mexico Trade at a Glance

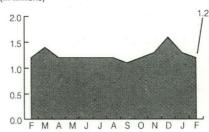




Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division, Data Dissemination Branch

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

Pedestrians into Mexico All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Up 4.4% (In Millions)



Pedestrians into Texas All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Up **6.3%** (In Millions)



Vehicles into Mexico All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Down 1.5% (In Millions)



Pedestrian Bridge Crossings from Texas to Mexico

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	180,046	14.7	13.8	326,186	362,984	14.6	11.3
Del Rio	3,478	0.3	-12.8	9,375	6,996	0.3	-25.4
Eagle Pass	46,330	3.8	5.5	92,256	97,977	3.9	6.2
El Paso	388,213	31.8	-5.1	853,572	783,937	31.5	-8.2
Harlingen	65	0.0	-8.5	158	169	0.0	7.0
Laredo	303,084	24.8	5.9	602,761	634,764	25.5	5.3
McAllen-Hidalgo	115,473	9.5	18.3	200,695	237,580	9.6	18.4
Progreso	168,449	13.8	5.6	312,330	327,532	13.2	4.9
Rio Grande	97	0.0	-38.2	259	203	0.0	-21.6
Roma	16,052	1.3	45.2	23,825	34,464	1.4	44.7
Total	1,221,287	100.0	4.4	2,421,417	2,486,606	100.0	2.7

Source: U.S. bridge operators in cited cities

Pedestrian Bridge Crossings from Mexico to Texas

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	216,692	15.1	12.1	402,197	440,319	15.0	9.5
Del Rio	4,908	0.3	-15.4	14,686	11,282	0.4	-23.2
Eagle Pass	51,269	3.6	5.0	104,163	110,945	3.8	6.5
El Paso	488,428	34.1	-2.3	1,046,969	988,569	33.7	-5.6
Laredo	340,622	23.8	8.6	669,014	715,445	24.4	6.9
McAllen-Hidalgo	142,753	10.0	25.9	234,206	296,440	10.1	26.6
Presidio	1,749	0.1	0.4	4,202	4,108	0.1	-2.2
Progreso	167,398	11.7	6.3	308,019	324,969	11.1	5.5
Rio Grande	1,254	0.1	61.2	1,810	2,504	0.1	38.3
Roma	18,444	1.3	29.5	31,121	39,766	1.4	27.8
Total	1,433,517	100.0	6.3	2,816,387	2,934,347	100.0	4.2

Source: Oficina de Caminos y Puentes Federales, Mexico

Vehicle Bridge Crossings from Texas to Mexico

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	526,777	20.8	1.0	1,083,275	1,089,659	21.0	0.6
Del Rio	131,978	5.2	0.9	269,501	269,853	5.2	0.1
Eagle Pass	234,186	9.2	-4.0	501,954	479,758	9.2	-4.4
El Paso	372,453	14.7	8.7	703,572	753,033	14.5	7.0
Harlingen	54,817	2.2	3.9	107,343	110,020	2.1	2.5
Laredo	457,428	18.1	-9.5	1,033,143	944,479	18.2	-8.6
McAllen-Hidalgo	403,912	16.0	-2.2	856,697	842,104	16.2	-1.7
Pharr	140,558	5.6	-3.2	291,153	286,734	5.5	-1.5
Progreso	87,532	3.5	1.9	178,116	174,852	3.4	-1.8
Rio Grande	44,513	1.8	-7.9	97,110	91,201	1.8	-6.1
Roma	77,808	3.1	-4.5	166,680	157,754	3.0	-5.4
Total	2,531,962	100.0	-1.5	5,288,544	5,199,447	100.0	-1.7

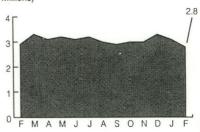
Source: U.S. bridge operators in cited cities

Vehicle Bridge Crossings from Mexico to Texas

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	532,353	18.9	1.3	1,093,604	1,115,765	18.9	2.0
Del Rio	141,477	5.0	2.5	291,335	294,848	5.0	1.2
Eagle Pass	245,996	8.7	-2.7	532,312	515,581	8.7	-3.1
El Paso	521,993	18.6	-3.6	1,132,536	1,086,373	18.4	-4.1
Harlingen	61,305	2.2	5.5	122,335	126,793	2.1	3.6
Laredo	468,127	16.6	-8.3	1,081,933	1,004,085	17.0	-7.2
McAllen-Hidalgo	387,301	13.8	-4.4	844,795	817,587	13.8	-3.2
Pharr	183,336	6.5	2.6	372,123	378,145	6.4	1.6
Presidio	56,841	2.0	2.0	119,115	121,136	2.1	1.7
Progreso	88,692	3.2	4.6	175,589	177,983	3.0	1.4
Rio Grande	49,605	1.8	-6.9	111,608	104,609	1.8	-6.3
Roma	76,922	2.7	-5.7	172,642	160,703	2.7	-6.9
Total	2,813,948	100.0	-2.5	6,049,927	5,903,608	100.0	-2.4

Source: Oficina de Caminos y Puentes Federales, Mexico

Vehicles into Texas All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Down 2.5% (In Millions)



Truck Bridge Crossings from Texas to Mexico

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	17,332	7.4	7.3	32,458	35,613	7.6	9.7
Del Rio	5,653	2.4	8.6	25,727	11,498	2.4	-55.3
Eagle Pass	7,864	3.4	4.6	15,088	15,947	3.4	5.7
El Paso	25,220	10.8	4.3	48,483	50,815	10.8	4.8
Harlingen	3,367	1.4	15.8	5,579	6,330	1.3	13.5
Laredo	135,682	58.1	18.5	229,017	271,516	57.8	18.6
McAllen-Hidalgo	1,984	0.8	24.8	3,227	3,768	0.8	16.8
Pharr	30,348	13.0	-5.4	61,874	62,431	13.3	0.9
Progreso	2,429	1.0	23.7	4,045	5,055	1.1	25.0
Rio Grande	2,792	1.2	3.6	5,237	5,491	1.2	4.9
Roma	791	0.3	0.4	1,593	1,601	0.3	0.5
Total	233,462	100.0	11.4	432,328	470,065	100.0	8.7

Source: U.S. bridge operators in cited cities

Note: Figures include loaded and empty trucks. El Paso figures do not include Bridge of the Americas.

Truck Bridge Crossings from Mexico to Texas

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	15,612	6.1	7.0	29,701	32,122	6.2	8.2
Del Rio	5,366	2.1	5.4	10,312	11,040	2.1	7.1
Eagle Pass	7,765	3.0	-1.1	15,741	15,775	3.0	0.2
El Paso	60,548	23.8	7.8	113,274	122,182	23.6	7.9
Harlingen	3,221	1.3	-0.8	6,453	6,227	1.2	-3.5
Laredo	115,343	45.3	6.0	215,618	234,445	45.3	8.7
Pharr	39,521	15.5	-2.2	78,651	80,702	15.6	2.6
Presidio	455	0.2	-2.8	905	1,036	0.2	14.5
Progreso	2,535	1.0	37.0	3,765	5,153	1.0	36.9
Rio Grande	3,833	1.5	-4.3	7,695	7,751	1.5	0.7
Roma	683	0.3	1.8	1,342	1,313	0.3	-2.2
Falcon Heights	5	0.0	66.7	5	10	0.0	100.0
Total	254,887	100.0	4.8	483,462	517,756	100.0	7.1

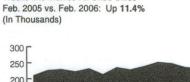
Source: South Texas Customs Management Center, Laredo & U.S. Customs Office of Public Affairs, El Paso Note: Figures include loaded and empty trucks.

Rail Car Crossings from Texas to Mexico

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	3,577	13.3	0.6	6,595	7,095	13.0	7.6
Eagle Pass	5,290	19.6	-6.0	10,526	11,225	20.5	6.6
El Paso	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Laredo	18,098	67.1	-5.1	39,114	36,432	66.5	-6.9
Total	26,965	100.0	-4.6	56,235	54,752	100.0	-2.6

Source: Railroad companies in cited cities

Note: Figures for El Paso are not available.



233.5

Trucks into Mexico All Cited Cities



Trucks into Texas All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Up **4.8%** (In Thousands)



Rail Cars into Mexico All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Down 4.6% (In Thousands)



Rail Car Crossings from Mexico to Texas

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	479	2.3	-11.0	1,095	859	1.9	-21.6
Eagle Pass	2,635	12.7	53.3	3,256	6,473	14.5	98.8
El Paso	5,322	25.7	4.8	9,811	12,962	29.1	32.1
Laredo	12,239	59.2	-8.9	24,182	24,287	54.5	0.4
Total	20,675	100.0	-0.5	38.344	44.581	100.0	16.3

Source: Railroad companies in cited cities & U.S. Customs Office of Public Affairs, El Paso

Rail Cars into Texas All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Down 0.5% (In Thousands)



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

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	1,112,997	4.0	-42.4	4,299,114	3,002,271	5.4	-30.2
Del Rio	316,387	1.1	222.2	194,355	435,596	0.8	124.1
Eagle Pass	1,256,311	4.5	25.0	1,672,484	2,491,238	4.5	49.0
McAllen-Hidalgo	3,578,999	12.9	6.9	6,179,604	6,644,513	12.0	7.5
Laredo	21,475,840	77.2	-2.2	38,678,407	42,653,836	76.9	10.3
Progreso	32,970	0.1	-9.9	70,909	62,572	0.1	-11.8
Rio Grande	19,882	0.1	106.9	30,898	40,821	0.1	32.1
Roma	16,850	0.1	25.8	33,439	148,451	0.3	343.9
Total	27,810,237	100.0	-2.1	51,159,210	55,479,298	100.0	8.4

Source: South Texas Customs Management Center, Laredo

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Revenues Collected by U.S. Bridge Operators (in U.S.\$)

			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	1,235,769	15.6	13.6	2,240,558	2,550,217	15.8	13.8
Del Rio	266,754	3.4	0.8	546,253	543,729	3.4	-0.5
Eagle Pass	518,880	6.6	-3.7	1,107,183	1,065,586	6.6	-3.8
El Paso	1,111,469	14.1	7.6	2,120,247	2,251,202	13.9	6.2
Harlingen	179,584	2.3	16.5	306,962	351,959	2.2	14.7
Laredo	2,984,540	37.8	18.2	5,087,533	6,073,468	37.6	19.4
McAllen-Hidalgo	857,602	10.9	12.3	1,584,184	1,783,674	11.0	12.6
Pharr	532,573	6.7	-0.3	1,045,668	1,101,459	6.8	5.3
Roma	212,423	2.7	19.1	364,984	431,347	2.7	18.2
Total	7,899,593	100.0	11.6	14,403,573	16,152,642	100.0	12.1

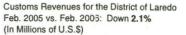
Source: U.S. bridge operators in cited cities

Note: El Paso figures do not include Bridge of the Americas (Toll-free). Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Tourist Visas Issued for Entry into Mexico

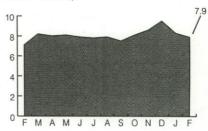
			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Del Rio	435	1.1	11.8	768	842	1.1	9.6
El Paso	6,369	16.7	-0.2	12,654	12,438	16.7	-1.7
McAllen-Hidalgo	10,292	27.0	-2.6	19,450	18,446	24.8	-5.2
Brownsville	4,692	12.3	2.2	9,433	9,700	13.0	2.8
Laredo	14,562	38.1	3.9	30,240	29,436	39.5	-2.7
Eagle Pass	1,823	4.8	0.9	3,428	3,660	4.9	6.8
Total	38,173	100.0	1.1	75,973	74,522	100.0	-1.9

Source: Instituto Nacional de Migracion, Mexico

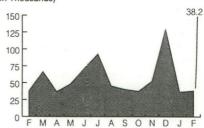




Bridge Revenues All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2003: Up **11.6%** (In Millions of U.S.\$)



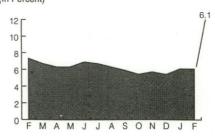
Tourist Visas Issued AI Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Up 1.1% (In Thousands)



Employment a	Unemployment	Rates	(Texas	Border)
--------------	--------------	-------	--------	---------

City	Employed Feb 06	Unemployed Feb 06	%Unemp Feb 06	Emp Avg YTD 05	Emp Avg YTD 06	05 vs. 06 Emp %Chg	Gain/Loss YTD
Brownsville	55,970	4,150	6.9	54,216	55,926	3.2	1,710
Del Rio	14,692	1,013	6.5	14,666	14,683	0.1	17
El Paso	236,940	16,148	6.4	231,709	235,677	1.7	3,968
Harlingen	23,339	1,497	6.0	22,608	23,321	3.2	713
Laredo	79,787	4,632	5.5	75,124	79,473	5.8	4,349
McAllen	55,515	3,067	5.2	52,749	55,327	4.9	2,579
Pharr	21,290	1,274	5.6	20,229	21,218	4.9	990
Total	487,533	31,781	6.1	471,299	485,623	3.0	14,324
Texas Unemp	ployment Rate	е	5.2				
U.S. Unemple	oyment Rate		5.1				

Percent of Unemployment All Cited Cities Combined Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Down 13.9% (In Percent)



Source: Texas Workforce Commission

Note: Figures are preliminary and subject to revision. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Building Permits							
Number			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	308	11.7	-6.1	580	571	11.1	-1.6
Del Rio	245	9.3	33.2	375	449	8.7	19.7
Eagle Pass	47	1.8	51.6	78	84	1.6	7.7
El Paso	834	31.6	-24.8	1,769	1,630	31.6	-7.9
Harlingen	313	11.8	15.9	578	641	12.4	10.9
Laredo	716	27.1	130.2	635	1,440	27.9	126.8
McAllen	179	6.8	-13.9	352	345	6.7	-2.0
Total	2,642	100.0	8.2	4,367	5,160	100.0	18.2

Dollar Value			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	26,122,649	14.1	30.6	44,905,007	44,425,267	13.9	-1.1
Del Rio	2,490,066	1.3	37.1	2,793,652	4,249,051	1.3	52.1
Eagle Pass	2,525,677	1.4	4.9	6,217,001	4,172,418	1.3	-32.9
El Paso	84,970,298	45.8	-13.5	113,329,802	135,979,976	42.6	20.0
Harlingen	5,881,382	3.2	16.1	9,646,355	22,880,966	7.2	137.2
Laredo	34,740,037	18.7	-14.8	69,136,408	62,915,309	19.7	-9.0
McAllen	28,677,307	15.5	-60.9	87,004,772	44,730,826	14.0	-48.6
Total	185,407,417	100.0	-23.3	333,032,996	319,353,814	100.0	-4.1

Source: Permit Departments in cited cities

Note: Dollar value totals may not add up due to rounding.

Power Connections (in Service)

Residential			05 vs. 06	Average	Average		YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Del Rio	14,791	10.1	1.0	14,620	14,773	10.1	1.0
Eagle Pass	10,908	7.5	2.4	10,633	10,910	7.5	2.6
El Paso	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Harlingen	23,485	16.1	1.8	22,945	23,421	16.1	2.1
Laredo	59,471	40.7	3.8	57,092	59,284	40.7	3.8
McAllen	37,408	25.6	2.1	36,552	37,372	25.6	2.2
Total	146,063	100.0	2.6	141,840	145,759	100.0	2.8

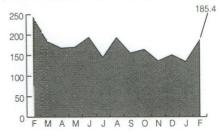
Commercial City Brownsville	Feb 06 N/A	%Share N/A	05 vs. 06 %Chg N/A	Average YTD 05 N/A	Average YTD 06 N/A	%Share N/A	YTD %Chg N/A
Del Rio	2.315	9.7	-0.2	2,303	2,326	9.7	1.0
Eagle Pass	1.696	7.1	1.1	1,665	1,685	7.1	1.2
El Paso	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Harlingen	4,039	16.9	0.8	3,480	4,064	17.0	16.8
Laredo	9,105	38.2	3.6	8,799	9,076	38.0	3.1
McAllen	6,711	28.1	2.8	6,535	6,728	28.2	3.0
Total	23,866	100.0	2.3	22,780	23,878	100.0	4.8

Industrial City	Feb 06	%Share	05 vs. 06 %Chg	Average YTD 05	Average YTD 06	%Share	YTD %Chg
Brownsville	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Del Rio	44	8.8	0.0	46	45	8.9	-3.3
Eagle Pass	29	5.8	-3.3	31	29	5.8	-6.5
El Paso	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Harlingen	102	20.4	0.0	105	103	20.4	-1.9
Laredo	202	40.5	-1.5	205	202	40.3	-1.5
McAllen	122	24.4	1.7	121	124	24.6	2.1
Total	499	100.0	-0.4	508	502	100.0	-1.2

Source: American Electric Power Company, Brownsville Public Utilities Board & El Paso Electric Company Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding. Building Permits All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006 (Number of Permits): Up **8.2%**



(Value of Permits In Millions of U.S.\$): Down 23.3%



Power Connections All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006 (Residential – In Thousands): Up **2.6%**



(Commercial - In Thousands): Up 2.3%



(Industria): Down 0.4%



Air Passenger Service Activity (Number of Passengers)

Arrivals			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	6,870	3.6	9.3	12,132	13,888	3.5	14.5
El Paso	112,722	58.5	3.6	226,926	238,327	60.0	5.0
Harlingen	35,300	18.3	-13.5	79,239	68,369	17.2	-13.7
Laredo	6,559	3.4	-1.1	14,571	13,952	3.5	-4.2
McAllen	31,156	16.2	13.3	55,515	62,390	15.7	12.4
Total	192,607	100.0	1.3	388,383	396,926	100.0	2.2

Departures			05 vs. 06				YTD
City	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Brownsville	7,073	3.6	12.7	12,363	14,343	3.6	16.0
El Paso	115,145	58.5	3.9	229,580	242,064	60.0	5.4
Harlingen	36,314	18.4	-12.6	82,243	71,076	17.6	-13.6
Laredo	6,646	3.4	4.8	14,257	13,887	3.4	-2.6
McAllen	31,684	16.1	10.7	56,757	61,920	15.4	9.1
Total	196,862	100.0	1.7	395,200	403,290	100.0	2.0

Source: Airports in cited cities

Port of Brownsville	(Total Ca	argo in Me	etric Tons)				
			05 vs. 06				YTD
Cargo Type	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg
Break Bulk	224,175	63.5	-25.4	570,144	569,369	66.0	-0.1
Containers	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Grain Bulk	0	0.0	-100.0	13,070	0	0.0	-100.0
Liquid	1,550	0.4	-43.5	2,929	45,871	5.3	1466.1
Machinery	5,011	1.4	-79.9	50,377	29,735	3.4	-41.0
Ores - Minerals	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Other	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Petroleum	122,160	34.6	8.8	258,351	218,046	25.3	-15.6
Steel - Other Minerals	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Total	352,896	100.0	-22.0	894,871	863,021	100.0	-3.6

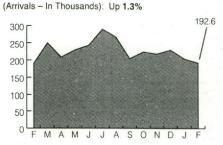
Source: Port of Brownsville

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

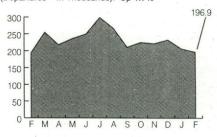
Port of Corpus Christi (Cargo in U.S. Tons)									
Inbound			05 vs. 06				YTD		
Cargo Type	Feb 06	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg		
Break Bulk	2,670	0.1	-46.7	10,250	21,601	0.3	110.7		
Chemical	13,687	0.3	-20.8	24,206	30,980	0.4	28.0		
Containers	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0		
Dry Bulk	492,617	11.6	18.1	774,583	1,063,528	12.4	37.3		
Grain Bulk	0	0.0	N/A	0	3,471	0.0	N/A		
Liquid	29,900	0.7	-58.6	72,202	74,378	0.9	3.0		
Petroleum	3,723,542	87.4	-9.4	7,958,041	7,375,927	86.1	-7.3		
Total	4,262,415	100.0	-7.8	8,839,283	8,569,884	100.0	-3.0		
Outbound			05 vs. 06				YTD		
Cargo Type	Feb 06								
	reb 00	%Share	%Chg	YTD 05	YTD 06	%Share	%Chg		
Break Bulk	0	%Share 0.0	%Chg -100.0	YTD 05 28,326	YTD 06 1,769	%Share 0.0			
Break Bulk Chemical			•				%Chg		
	0	0.0	-100.0	28,326	1,769	0.0	%Chg -93.8		
Chemical	0 126,277	0.0 5.7	-100.0 18.4	28,326 220,873	1,769 225,401	0.0 4.8	%Chg -93.8 2.1		
Chemical Containers	0 126,277 0	0.0 5.7 0.0	-100.0 18.4 0.0	28,326 220,873 0	1,769 225,401 0	0.0 4.8 0.0	%Chg -93.8 2.1 0.0		
Chemical Containers Dry Bulk	0 126,277 0 98,656	0.0 5.7 0.0 4.4	-100.0 18.4 0.0 -65.3	28,326 220,873 0 379,963	1,769 225,401 0 311,235	0.0 4.8 0.0 6.6	%Chg -93.8 2.1 0.0 -18.1		
Chemical Containers Dry Bulk Grain Bulk	0 126,277 0 98,656 119,422	0.0 5.7 0.0 4.4 5.4	-100.0 18.4 0.0 -65.3 -28.4	28,326 220,873 0 379,963 319,727	1,769 225,401 0 311,235 275,797	0.0 4.8 0.0 6.6 5.9	%Chg -93.8 2.1 0.0 -18.1 -13.7		

Source: Port of Corpus Christi Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

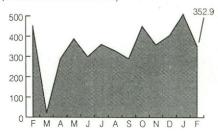
Air Passenger Activity All Cited Cities Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006



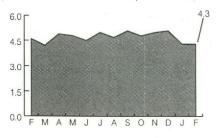
(Departures - In Thousands): Up 1.7%



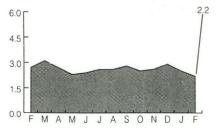
Port of Brownsville Total Cargo Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2006: Down 22.0% (In Thousands of Metric Tons)



Port of Corpus Christi Cargo Feb. 2005 vs. Feb. 2003 (Inbound – In Millions of U.S. Tons): Down **7.8%**



(Outbound - In Millions of U.S. Tons): Down 17.9%



Continued from Front Page

Table 2. U.S.-Mexico Border Ports of Entry Percent Share of All U.S.-Mexico Trade by 1-Digit SITC Commodity Code, Jan.-Feb. 2006

	Jan. % Share	Feb. % Share	2006 YTD % Share
U.S. Exports to Mexico			
(0) Food and Live Animals	90.61	87.36	89.00
(1) Beverages and Tobacco	97.97	97.72	97.83
(2) Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	88.32	88.73	88.51
(3) Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	37.44	38.19	37.82
(4) Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	68.19	59.42	64.08
(5) Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.	77.40	75.85	76.65
(6) Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	96.60	97.11	96.85
(7) Machinery and Transport Equipment	91.09	91.34	91.22
(8) Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	90.01	89.02	89.53
(9) Commodities and Transactions, N.E.S.	7.98	6.94	7.45
Total Share of All Commodities	85.21	84.57	84.90
U.S. Imports from Mexico			
(0) Food and Live Animals	94.49	96.08	95.25
(1) Beverages and Tobacco	77.44	75.20	76.29
(2) Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	80.45	81.28	80.85
(3) Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	2.06	1.22	1.65
(4) Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	99.76	100.00	99.89
(5) Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.	85.69	86.12	85.92
(6) Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	90.21	91.73	90.95
(7) Machinery and Transport Equipment	92.88	92.61	92.75
(8) Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	93.14	92.13	92.64
(9) Commodities and Transactions, N.E.S.	65.60	63.84	64.72
Total Share of All Commodities	75.25	75.08	75.17
U.SMexico Total Trade			
(0) Food and Live Animals	92.96	92.50	92.73
(1) Beverages and Tobacco	78.50	76.50	77.47
(2) Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	86.53	86.96	86.73
(3) Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	6.74	6.40	6.57
(4) Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	72.01	65.91	69.09
(5) Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.	78.85	77.94	78.40
(6) Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	93.90	94.83	94.36
(7) Machinery and Transport Equipment	92.17	92.12	92.14
(8) Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	91.97	91.02	91.50
(9) Commodities and Transactions, N.E.S.	44.01	42.18	43.09
Total Share of All Commodities	79.34	78.93	79.14

Subscribe now to *Border Business Indicators*! Annual subscription rate is \$36.00 (12 monthly issues). Enclose this subscription form or photocopy with payment. Payable in U.S. funds only.

Type of Subscription:	Name				
	Title				
Check Method of Payment:	Affiliation/Co.				
Money Order	Address				
Payable to: Texas A&M International University	City				
Send subscription to: Texas A&M International University Border Business Indicators Texas Center 5201 University Boulevard Laredo, TX 78041-1900	State	Z	/ip		_Country
	Telephone ()				
	E-mail Address				



Texas A&M International University Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development 5201 University Boulevard Laredo, TX 78041-1900 Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Laredo, Texas 78041 Permit 231