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Border Business Indicators

Government Publications
Texas State Documents

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 May demonstrated an increase of ten indicators while twelve indicators decreased. In addition, the year to date (YTD) figures, nine indicators were up and thirteen decreased. Selected 2002 YTD comparisons to 2001 reported by border cities include the following:

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were down 5.7 percent. Laredo lost 1.9 percent, Rio Grande fell 63.7 percent, McAllen registered a decrease of 6.8 percent and El Paso decreased 10.6 percent.
- Northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 4.3 percent. Laredo fell 0.3 percent. El Paso went up 15.3 percent. McAllen marked a decrease of 4.2 percent.
- Southbound vehicle crossings were down 1.1 percent. Brownsville fell 3.3 percent, and Eagle Pass increased 5.3 percent. El Paso went down 17.8 percent and Pharr increased 0.6 percent. Laredo went up 0.1 percent. McAllen increased 3.6 percent.
- Northbound vehicle crossings were down 1.2 percent. Eagle Pass rose 4.8 percent. Roma increased 2.8 percent, El Paso went down 12.1 percent, Brownsville gained 8.3 percent and Pharr increased 1.0 percent.
- Southbound truck crossings into Mexico gained 4.4 percent. Eagle Pass went down 15.4 percent. Pharr increased 7.1 percent, and Laredo increased 7.1 percent. Del Rio was up 12.7 percent. Progreso gained 3.5 and Rio Grande decreased 8.4 percent.
- Northbound truck crossings into Texas went up 4.3 percent, Pharr rose 5.9 percent and Eagle Pass posted a 14.5 percent decrease. Brownsville increased 3.2 percent, Laredo climbed 4.2 percent, Del Rio increased 29.4 percent. Rio Grande had a loss of 10.6 percent. Progreso went up 46.3 percent.
- Southbound shipments by rail were up 2.0 percent.
- Northbound shipments by rail were down 2.7 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs went down 6.8 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. bridge operators were up 4.3 percent.
- Total building permits issued were down 4.0 percent. Laredo fell 48.5 percent, Eagle Pass lost 1.7 percent, while McAllen rose 12.3 percent, and Brownsville registered an increase of 16.1 percent. El Paso showed a 15.7 percent increase.
- Total building permit values increased 5.3 percent. Laredo gained 7.4 percent, and Brownsville lost 7.6 percent. McAllen rose 21.8 percent. El Paso was up 11.7 percent, and Eagle Pass climbed 4.1 percent.
- Total employment was down 0.5 percent, with 2,229 jobs lost. The average unemployment rate for the border in May 2002 was 7.9 percent.

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

Technical Reports

Technical Report No. 1:	NAFTA Rules of Origin: An Explanation (March 1994)
Technical Report No. 2:	The Impact of NAFTA on U.S.-Mexico Commercial and Border Zones and the Potential Consequences to the Border (February 1994)
Technical Report No. 3:	Labor Mobility Under NAFTA: It's Impact on the Border (February 1994)
Technical Report No. 4:	The Impact of NAFTA on Border Maquiladora and Industrial Activity (April 1994)
Technical Report No. 6:	U.S.-Mexico Trade Patterns Under NAFTA (March 1994)
Technical Report No. 7:	Overweights to Pay the Price (March 1994)
Technical Report No. 8:	Standards as Non-Tariff Barriers: NAFTA's Impact (February 1994)
Technical Report No. 9:	NAFTA Certificate of Origin (May 1994)
Technical Report No. 10:	The Texas Border with Mexico: Opportunities and Challenges (October 1994)
Technical Report No. 12:	NAFTA One Year After Implementation: A Preliminary Assessment of Selected Impacts (March 1995) <i>Hardcopy only</i>

Technical Reports are freely available for download (<http://texascenter.tamui.edu/>) 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.

Special Announcement

The Texas Center is pleased to announce the following forthcoming Technical reports:

- Benthic Macroinvertebraes as Monitors of Rio Grande Water Quality (2000)
- Trade and the Environment: Perceptions from a Region on the Border (2000)
- Language Code Switching: A Psychological Analysis of Why Bilinguals Mix Spanish and English en la Frontera (2000)
- A Sociolinguistic Profile of Heritage Spanish Speakers in the Public Schools in Laredo, Texas (2000)
- Guerrero Archives-Introduction (2000)*
- "Mi Futuro": Sexual Abstinence Program (199-2000) for Laredo Independent School Districts Middle Schools (2000)
- Impoverished Consumers: The Lived Experience of Colonia Residents (2001)
- The State of Child Care in Laredo (2001)
- Rio Grande and Manadas Creek Water and Sediment Chronic Toxicity Studies (2001)
- Characteristics of Successful Principals in a Border Town (2001)

If you would like more information, you can direct your questions by e-mail to texascenter@tamui.edu, or by calling 956-326-2546.

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.

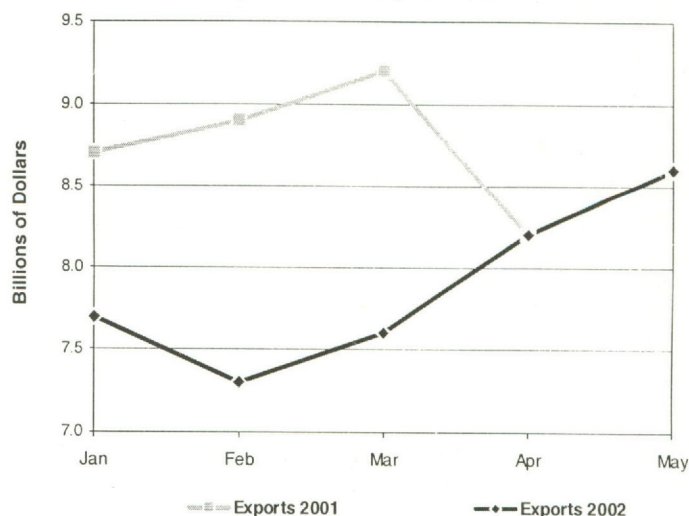
May Figures Show an Increase in U.S.-Mexico Trade

May 2002 U.S.-Mexico trade figures showed an upward trend compared to the same period in 2001. Although the total U.S.-Mexico trade dollar value for May 2002 YTD was down 4.8 percent (\$93.9 billion) from May 2001 YTD, April and May 2002 trade figures either matched or surpassed last years. (See Charts 1A & 1B).

U.S. exports to Mexico and U.S. imports from Mexico have either equaled or passed those from 2001. (See Charts 2 & 3). April and May exports to Mexico have matched those of last year. U.S. imports from Mexico for the same two months have increased in comparison to the same period in 2001.

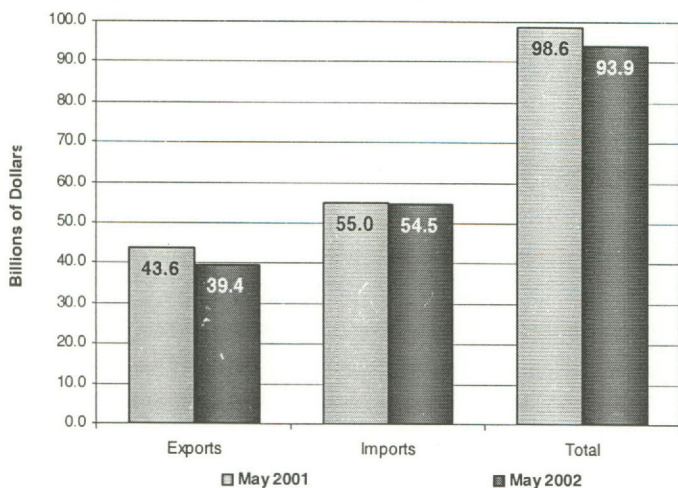
Chart 4 shows the percent change between January through May 2001 vs. January through May 2002 for U.S. exports (Jan. -11.5 % Feb. -18.0%, Mar. 17.4%, Apr. 0.0% and May 0.0%), U.S. imports (Jan. -7.4%, Feb. -2.9%, Mar. -7.5%, Apr. 9.5%, and May 4.4%). In the next issue, this trend will be reviewed to see if it continues. —B. G. Garcia

Chart 2 U.S. Exports to Mexico
May 2001 YTD vs. May 2002 YTD



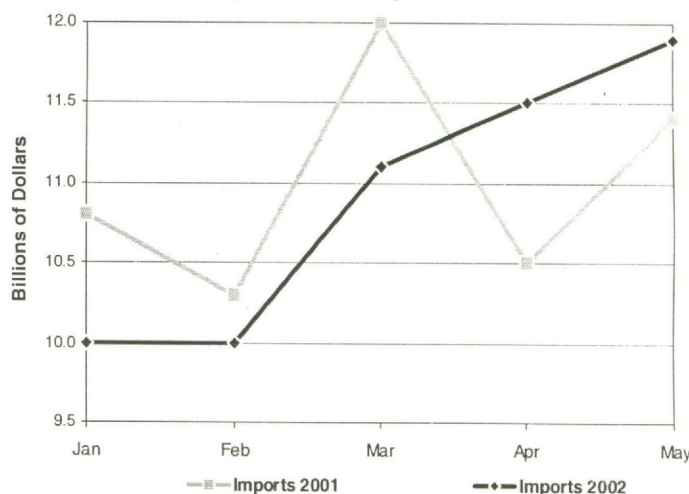
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

Chart 1A U.S.-Mexico Trade
May 2001 YTD vs. May 2002 YTD



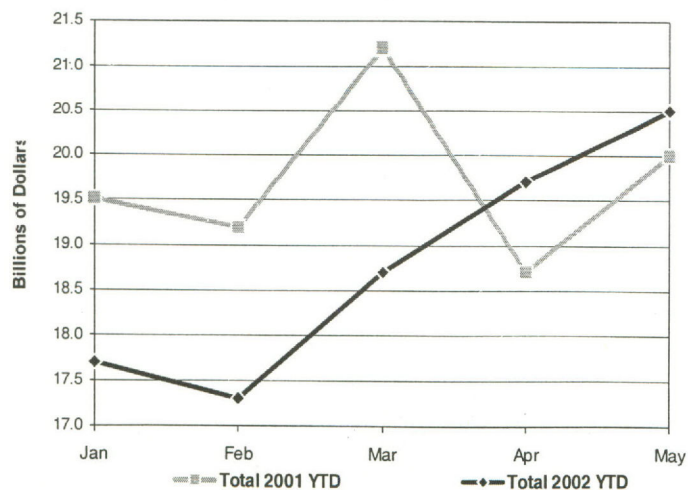
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

Chart 3 U.S. Imports from Mexico
May 2001 YTD vs. May 2002 YTD



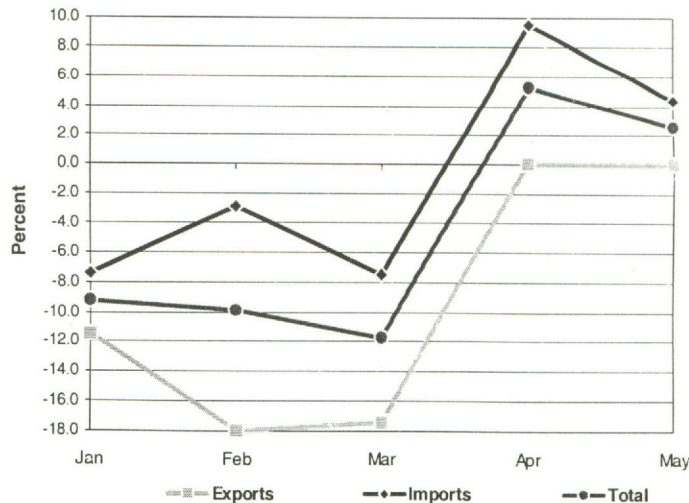
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

Chart 1B U.S.-Mexico Trade
May 2001 YTD vs. May 2002 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
May 2001 YTD vs. May 2002 YTD



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

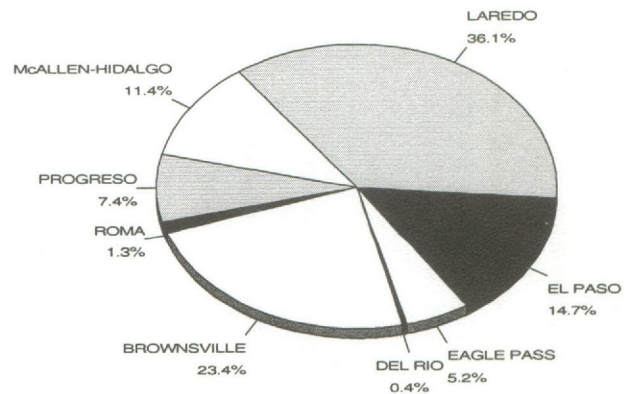
Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Mexico

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	282,730	222,223	230,693	232,936	1,200,451	1,143,895	-4.7
DEL RIO	7,660	5,470	4,363	4,140	22,088	24,960	13.0
EAGLE PASS	54,780	49,951	50,879	53,566	256,286	249,906	-2.5
EL PASO	501,478	464,485	145,238	462,256	2,225,510	1,990,228	-10.6
HARLINGEN	77	54	62	103	407	299	-26.5
LAREDO	388,228	341,958	354,939	363,162	1,753,849	1,720,332	-1.9
McALLEN-HIDALGO	124,000	105,735	112,414	119,437	587,251	547,042	-6.8
PROGRESO	184,932	85,241	73,265	71,731	677,148	663,646	-2.0
RIO GRANDE	469	649	364	1,245	6,564	2,386	-63.7
ROMA	14,201	12,983	13,222	13,742	67,661	65,598	-3.0
TOTAL	1,558,555	1,288,749	985,439	1,322,318	6,797,215	6,408,292	-5.7

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

Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico for May were down 23.5 percent. Rio Grande lost 43.9 percent, Brownsville gained 3.8 percent, Eagle Pass went up 1.9 percent, El Paso lost 68.7 percent, and Laredo was up 3.8 percent. Progreso lost 14.0 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo went up 6.3 percent. Del Rio dropped 20.2 percent. YTD southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico gained 5.7 percent. El Paso's southbound pedestrian crossings, which made up 31.1 percent of all crossings, decreased 10.6 percent YTD. Laredo, accounting for 26.8 percent of total crossings, lost 1.9 percent YTD. Brownsville, with a 17.9 percent share, decreased 4.7 percent YTD. Progreso, with 10.4 percent share, decreased 2.0 percent. Del Rio, with 0.4 percent, declined 13.0 percent YTD.

% Share Pedestrians for May 2002



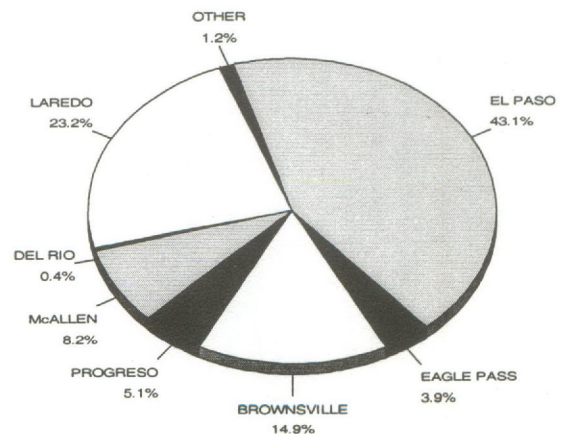
Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Texas

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	300,695	238,614	246,888	252,367	1,265,649	1,230,245	-2.8
DEL RIO	5,841	11,429	6,906	8,117	40,312	38,147	-5.4
EAGLE PASS	58,664	69,958	64,601	73,245	329,045	320,691	-2.5
EL PASO	722,225	656,393	713,876	600,801	2,865,310	3,302,491	15.3
LAREDO	348,111	430,537	383,584	399,478	1,928,253	1,923,121	-0.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	131,487	158,845	135,940	152,507	735,165	704,445	-4.2
PRESIDIO	1,864	2,376	2,049	2,711	13,740	10,423	-24.1
PROGRESO	166,282	183,739	84,781	89,876	668,855	660,598	-1.2
RIO GRANDE	1,522	1,931	1,774	1,473	7,269	7,966	9.6
ROMA	14,803	18,066	16,148	17,811	86,041	81,471	-5.3
TOTAL	1,751,494	1,771,888	1,656,547	1,598,386	7,939,639	8,279,598	4.3

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 down 6.5 percent in May. Progreso decreased 53.9 percent, Brownsville was up 3.5 percent, El Paso gained 8.8 percent, and Laredo fell 10.9 percent. YTD northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 4.3 percent. El Paso, accounting for 39.9 percent of northbound crossings, was up 15.3 percent YTD. Laredo, with 23.2 percent of all northbound crossings, was down 0.3 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 14.9 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings, decreased 2.8 percent over the previous year.

% Share Pedestrians for May 2002



Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	644,932	623,274	646,221	649,603	3,163,652	3,059,360	-3.3
DEL RIO	185,336	169,498	181,151	166,432	799,548	849,846	6.3
EAGLE PASS	306,368	284,295	301,627	282,497	1,347,493	1,418,867	5.3
EL PASO	402,695	389,447	402,640	489,320	2,323,363	1,909,041	-17.8
HARLINGEN	64,703	55,552	59,514	49,782	239,245	282,373	18.0
LAREDO	735,309	722,036	752,046	794,902	3,517,140	3,522,264	0.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO	545,012	522,457	547,528	517,966	2,502,385	2,591,582	3.6
PHARR	189,419	180,640	186,296	181,589	879,535	884,612	0.6
PROGRESO	118,534	101,485	101,424	94,733	504,354	522,058	3.5
RIO GRANDE	65,731	57,904	62,998	45,849	249,714	298,064	19.4
ROMA	111,821	100,958	106,803	101,049	497,952	510,075	2.4
TOTAL	3,369,860	3,207,546	3,348,248	3,373,722	16,024,381	15,848,142	-1.1

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 up 4.4 percent in May. Eagle Pass was up 6.1 percent, Del Rio increased 6.9 percent, Rio Grande gained 8.8 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo went up 4.8 percent, and Brownsville rose 3.7 percent. Harlingen gained 7.1 percent, and Laredo was up 4.2 percent. YTD southbound vehicle bridge crossings were down 1.1 percent. Laredo, with 22.2

percent of all southbound traffic, gained 0.1 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 19.3 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 3.3 percent decrease YTD. El Paso, accounting for 12.0 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, fell 17.8 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 16.4 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 3.6 percent increase YTD.

Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Texas

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	417,395	403,149	418,613	373,744	1,812,754	1,963,223	8.3
DEL RIO	187,913	174,623	184,633	171,308	826,243	874,507	5.8
EAGLE PASS	313,211	295,096	308,381	291,602	1,404,458	1,471,407	4.8
EL PASO	654,696	646,499	677,284	779,113	3,677,708	3,232,485	-12.1
HARLINGEN	83,380	71,860	74,404	60,347	293,097	368,779	25.8
LAREDO	642,073	630,983	644,967	698,008	3,339,874	3,095,014	-7.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	497,089	489,328	502,212	480,505	2,338,155	2,401,846	2.7
PHARR	224,495	230,242	232,200	222,459	1,088,171	1,098,944	1.0
PRESIDIO	69,308	61,431	67,454	63,389	312,850	318,790	1.9
PROGRESO	119,311	102,467	103,207	94,834	497,374	531,168	6.8
RIO GRANDE	67,407	60,556	63,997	55,105	279,370	308,227	10.3
ROMA	111,484	103,119	106,393	101,353	506,562	520,674	2.8
TOTAL	3,387,762	3,269,353	3,383,745	3,391,767	16,376,616	16,185,064	-1.2

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 May were up 3.5 percent. Eagle Pass increased 4.5 percent, Progreso rose 0.7 percent, Brownsville gained 3.8 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo rose 2.6 percent. Presidio was up 9.8 percent, and Laredo went up 2.2 percent. YTD northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas

were down 1.2 percent. El Paso, with 20.0 percent of all crossings, was down 12.1 percent YTD. Laredo, with 19.1 percent of all crossings, fell 7.3 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 12.1 percent of all crossings, increased 8.3 percent YTD.

Truck Crossings into Mexico —Number of Trucks

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE+	18,110	20,223	19,375	18,685	88,209	92,292	4.6
DEL RIO+	6,340	6,824	7,129	6,322	29,032	32,719	12.7
EAGLE PASS+	6,575	7,052	6,940	8,407	40,051	33,892	-15.4
EL PASO+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	N/A	N/A	N/A
HARLINGEN+	2,808	2,975	3,943	4,371	18,414	14,809	-19.6
LAREDO+	116,982	126,545	127,163	109,877	563,698	603,745	7.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO+	2,333	2,513	2,312	3,701	17,443	11,698	-32.9
PHARR+	25,376	27,323	25,121	23,595	113,552	121,575	7.1
PROGRESO+	2,194	2,571	2,149	773	10,920	11,304	3.5
RIO GRANDE+	1,898	1,995	2,172	1,991	10,837	9,929	-8.4
ROMA+	1,104	1,161	1,158	1,197	5,582	5,722	2.5
TOTAL	183,720	199,182	197,462	178,919	897,738	937,685	4.4

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

+ 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 down 0.9 percent in May. Harlingen increased 32.5 percent, Del Rio increased 4.5 percent, and Pharr fell 8.1 percent. Laredo was up 0.5 percent and Brownsville lost 4.2 percent. YTD southbound truck crossings were up 4.4 percent. Laredo, with 64.4 percent of all southbound crossings,

experienced a 7.1 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with 9.8 percent of all southbound crossings, had a 4.6 percent increase YTD. Pharr, with 13.0 percent, registered a gain of 7.1 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 3.6 percent of all truck crossings, fell 15.4 percent YTD.

Truck Crossings into Texas —Number of Trucks

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	20,941	21,957	22,313	22,058	102,499	105,775	3.2
DEL RIO	5,716	6,903	7,269	5,524	23,874	30,904	29.4
EAGLE PASS	7,041	8,067	8,018	9,063	43,801	37,438	-14.5
EL PASO	60,141	59,938	57,684	60,100	280,306	292,734	4.4
FABENS	0	0	0	15	60	0	-100.0
FALCON	25	10	0	47	148	95	-35.8
LAREDO	118,762	129,450	123,755	125,059	576,094	600,312	4.2
McALLEN-HIDALGO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHARR	35,351	36,459	35,376	31,877	159,584	168,975	5.9
PRESIDIO	796	571	480	585	3,405	3,358	-1.4
PROGRESO	1,747	2,386	2,044	1,108	6,900	10,093	46.3
RIO GRANDE	2,193	2,320	2,309	2,273	12,527	11,196	-10.6
ROMA	929	1,016	1,015	1,063	4,726	4,759	0.7
TOTAL	253,642	269,077	260,263	258,772	1,213,924	1,265,639	4.3

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

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

May northbound truck crossings into Texas were down 3.3 percent. Eagle Pass was down 0.6 percent, Brownsville gained 1.6 percent, Progreso decreased 14.3 percent, Pharr went down 3.0 percent, and Laredo fell 4.4 percent. Roma declined 0.1 percent. YTD northbound truck crossings were up 4.3 percent. Laredo, accounting for

47.4 percent of all northbound truck crossings, had a 4.2 percent increase YTD. Pharr, with 13.4 percent of all crossings, experienced a 5.9 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with 8.4 percent of all northbound truck crossings, experienced a 3.2 percent gain YTD.

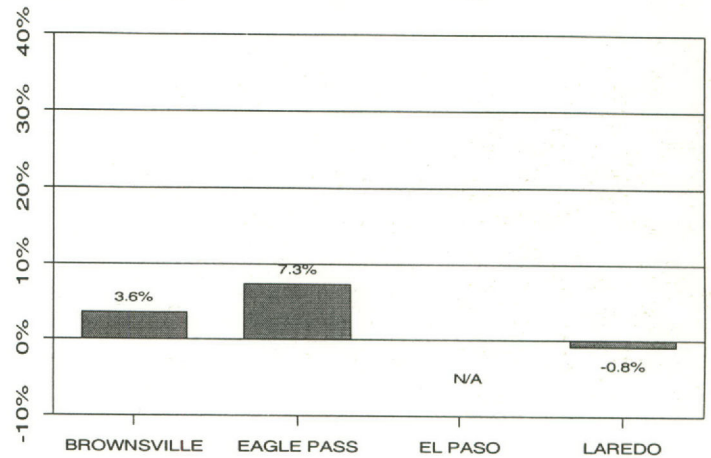
Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	4,268	3,982	2,232	3,617	18,011	18,661	3.6
EAGLE PASS	8,941	8,336	7,156	6,879	34,839	37,372	7.3
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	15,793	16,508	15,863	14,640	76,997	76,387	-0.8
TOTAL	29,002	28,826	25,251	25,136	129,847	132,420	2.0

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 fell 12.4 percent in May. Brownsville declined 43.9 percent, and Laredo decreased 3.9 percent. Eagle Pass declined 14.2 percent. YTD southbound rail shipments into Mexico from Texas were up 2.0 percent. Laredo which accounted for 57.7 percent of all southbound rail shipments, was down 0.8 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 28.2 percent of all southbound rail shipments, increased 7.3 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 14.1 percent of all southbound rail shipments, showed an increase of 3.6 percent YTD.

Export Rail YTD % Change 01-02



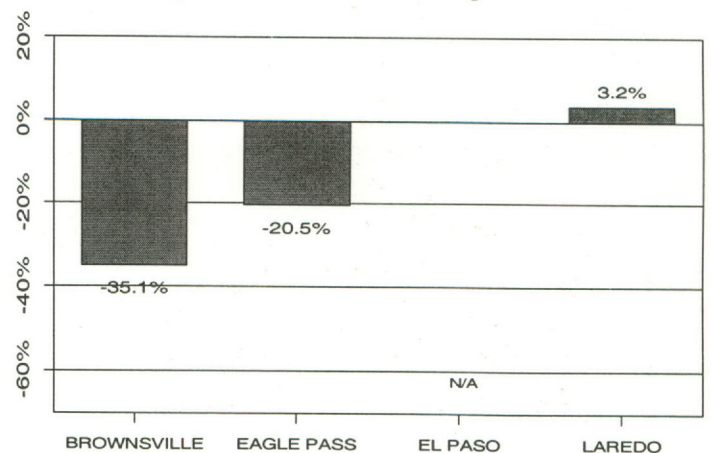
Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	686	668	772	1,023	4,598	2,986	-35.1
EAGLE PASS	2,188	2,452	2,356	2,646	13,928	11,066	-20.5
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	15,371	15,095	15,664	15,637	68,120	70,286	3.2
TOTAL	18,245	18,215	18,792	19,306	86,646	84,338	-2.7

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 3.2 percent in May. Laredo rose 3.8 percent, Brownsville gained 15.6 percent, and Eagle Pass decreased 3.9 percent. YTD total northbound shipments into Texas from Mexico were down 2.7 percent. Laredo, which accounted for 83.3 percent of all northbound rail shipments, was up 3.2 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 13.1 percent of all northbound rail shipments, fell 20.5 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 3.5 percent of all northbound rail shipments, decreased 35.1 percent YTD.

Import Rail YTD % Change 01-02



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

CITY	DUTY	MPF	OTHER	TOTAL	TOTAL	YTD	YTD	YTD % CHG
	MAY 02	MAY 02	REVENUE MAY 02	REVENUE MAY 02	REVENUE MAY 01	REVENUE MAY 01	REVENUE MAY 02	
BROWNSVILLE	866,063	125,984	300,812	1,292,859	3,288,640	18,543,037	8,556,513	-53.9
DEL RIO	113,745	38,898	12,587	165,230	186,011	831,508	818,514	-1.6
EAGLE PASS	169,865	14,192	2,442,739	2,626,795	3,509,274	14,926,958	15,624,019	4.7
LAREDO	6,181,999	576,802	11,218,724	17,977,525	19,961,932	92,832,012	90,923,752	-2.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO	1,999,349	268,701	437,958	2,706,008	3,385,475	14,085,754	15,702,860	11.5
PROGRESO	26	2,703	16,913	19,642	9,886	85,758	99,160	15.6
RIO GRANDE	58,073	5,466	3,770	67,310	86,743	363,090	305,163	-16.0
ROMA	15,292	435	15,095	30,822	25,513	148,670	120,222	-19.1
TOTAL	9,404,411	1,033,181	14,448,598	24,886,190	30,453,474	141,816,786	132,150,203	-6.8

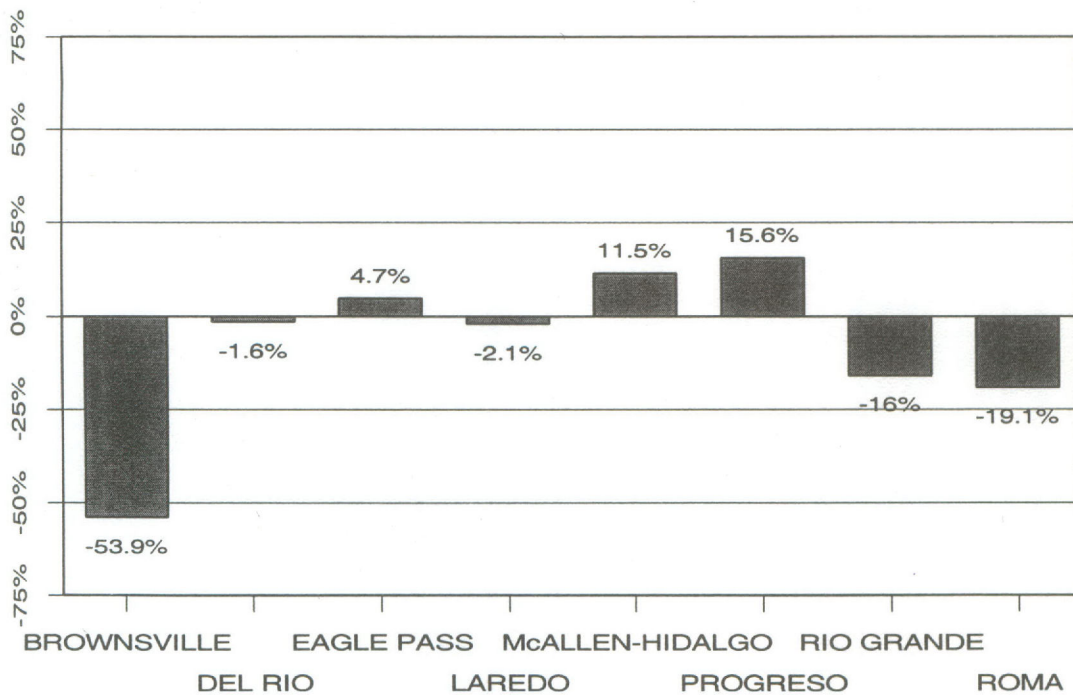
Source: Data provided by the South Texas CMC in Laredo and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

MPF = Merchandise Processing Fee

Total U.S. Customs revenues, for May, for the former District of Laredo, had a loss of 20.4 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo was down 11.8 percent, Rio Grande decreased 0.9 percent, Progreso increased 3.2 percent, Roma rose 17.0 percent, Laredo went down 24.7 percent, Eagle Pass decreased 10.1 percent, Brownsville gained 13.2 percent, and Del Rio was up 16.5 percent. YTD revenues for the border were down 6.8 percent compared to May

2001. Laredo, accounting for 68.8 percent share of the former district's revenue was down 2.1 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 6.5 percent share of total revenues, was down 53.9 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 11.8 percent of all revenues, was up 4.7 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 11.9 percent of total revenues, increased 11.5 percent YTD.

% Change Total Revenues YTD 01-02



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

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,061,114	1,030,853	1,053,121	952,754	4,508,601	5,011,678	11.2
DEL RIO	439,650	412,872	442,704	400,085	1,900,796	2,061,588	8.5
EAGLE PASS	580,905	543,588	590,116	581,552	2,925,184	2,880,017	-1.5
EL PASO	903,044	887,578	771,945	1,019,518	4,859,322	4,160,967	-14.4
HARLINGEN	141,211	131,416	147,242	126,569	581,468	650,707	11.9
LAREDO	2,661,224	2,743,116	2,811,950	2,435,157	11,889,051	13,173,825	10.8
McALLEN-HIDALGO	881,468	841,515	879,719	851,855	4,122,660	4,180,838	1.4
PHARR	485,879	474,375	491,795	458,935	2,188,013	2,279,050	4.2
TOTAL	7,154,495	7,065,314	7,188,591	6,826,425	32,975,094	34,398,670	4.3

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

Brownsville's Revenues are for Cameron County Bridge only.

U.S. bridge operators' revenues gained 1.7 percent in the month of May. Pharr went up 3.7 percent, Brownsville rose 2.2 percent, Laredo gained 2.5 percent. Del Rio increased 7.2 percent, Harlingen went up 12.0 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo was up 4.5 percent, Eagle Pass increased 8.6 percent, and El Paso went down 13.0 percent. YTD U.S. bridge operator's revenues were up 4.3 percent. Laredo, accounting for 38.3 percent of total U.S. bridge operator's revenues

collected, had a 10.8 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 12.1 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues, went down 14.4 percent YTD. Brownsville, accounting for 14.6 percent, was up 11.2 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 12.2 percent of the total bridge revenues, increased 1.4 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, with 8.4 percent of the total bridge revenues, fell 1.5 percent YTD.

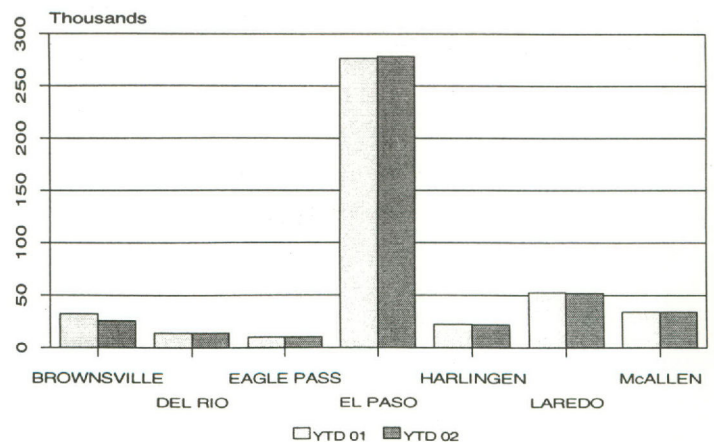
Power Connections — Texas Border Residential Connections

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	32,031	32,357	N/A	31,369	31,804	25,640	N/A
DEL RIO	14,146	14,104	14,085	14,109	14,141	13,977	-1.2
EAGLE PASS	9,978	9,925	9,834	9,838	9,984	9,916	-0.7
EL PASO	279,140	278,656	278,666	273,492	276,200	278,013	0.7
HARLINGEN	22,262	22,113	21,516	21,650	22,195	21,702	-2.2
LAREDO	52,505	52,363	52,037	51,815	52,349	51,853	-0.9
McALLEN	34,424	34,042	33,163	32,363	34,165	34,004	-0.5
TOTAL	444,486	443,560	409,301	434,636	440,838	435,106	-1.3

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

May total residential power connections for cited Texas border cities decreased 7.7 percent. YTD residential power connections were down 1.3 percent. Laredo was down 0.9 percent, McAllen decreased 0.5 percent, Del Rio lost 1.2 percent, Harlingen fell 2.2 percent, and Eagle Pass was down 0.7 percent.

YTD AVG May 01-02



Power Connections – Texas Border (Cont'd)

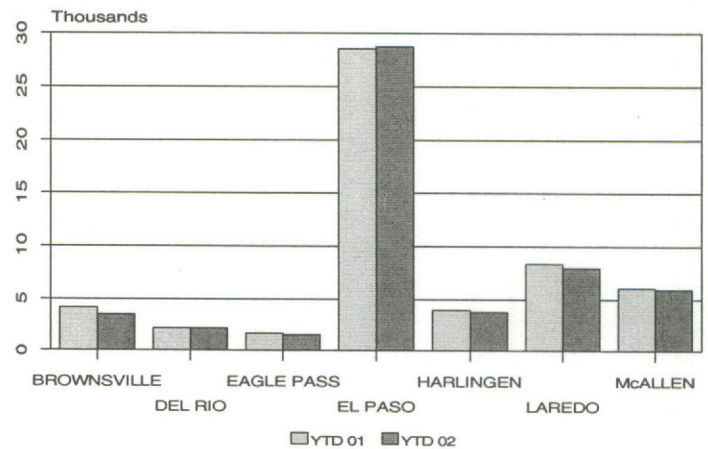
Commercial Connections

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	4,254	4,325	N/A	3,987	4,118	3,376	N/A
DEL RIO	2,147	2,142	2,146	2,161	2,124	2,108	-0.8
EAGLE PASS	1,496	1,464	1,463	1,548	1,585	1,500	-5.3
EL PASO	28,790	28,888	28,954	28,265	28,573	28,770	0.7
HARLINGEN	3,704	3,635	3,601	3,837	3,849	3,669	-4.7
LAREDO	8,014	7,976	7,941	8,310	8,368	7,980	-4.6
McALLEN	5,930	5,859	5,833	6,040	6,076	5,931	-2.4
TOTAL	54,335	54,289	49,938	54,148	54,693	53,333	-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

May total commercial power connections for cited Texas border cities decreased 8.0 percent. YTD averages of commercial power connections decreased 2.5 percent. Harlingen was down 4.7 percent, Eagle Pass fell 5.3 percent, Laredo declined 4.6 percent, McAllen was down 2.4 percent, Del Rio decreased 0.8 percent, and El Paso gained 0.7 percent.

YTD AVG May 01-02



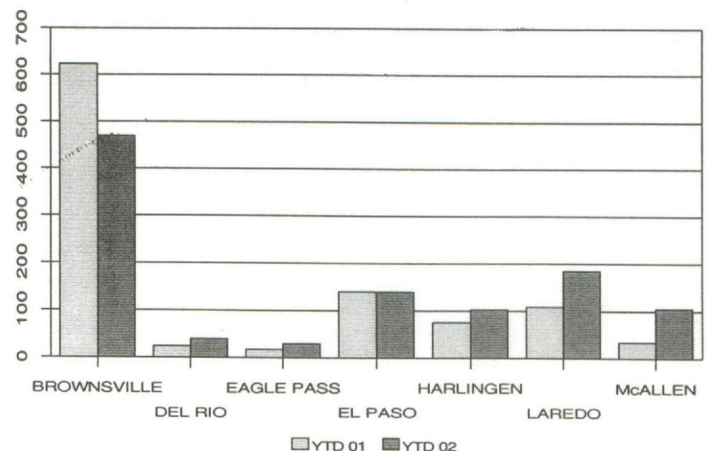
Industrial Connections

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	480	621	N/A	537	623	469	N/A
DEL RIO	44	46	44	25	24	41	69.2
EAGLE PASS	32	33	33	15	17	30	74.1
EL PASO	139	138	140	137	140	139	-0.6
HARLINGEN	112	110	109	80	76	103	35.8
LAREDO	207	210	207	114	108	185	70.9
McALLEN	126	125	117	42	34	106	212.4
TOTAL	1,140	1,283	650	950	1,022	1,072	4.9

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

May total industrial power connections for cited Texas border cities were down 49.3 percent. YTD averages of industrial power connections increased 4.9 percent. El Paso decreased 0.6 percent, Harlingen rose 35.8 percent, and Laredo was up 70.9 percent.

YTD AVG May 01-02



Building Permits — Texas Border

Number of Permits

NUMBER	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	351	410	408	355	1,662	1,930	16.1
DEL RIO	52	90	313	106	394	549	39.3
EAGLE PASS	52	57	39	48	234	230	-1.7
EL PASO	720	759	850	733	2,997	3,469	15.7
HARLINGEN	76	88	93	83	266	419	57.5
LAREDO	216	263	275	705	3,125	1,609	-48.5
MCALLEN	150	167	166	153	741	832	12.3
TOTAL	1,617	1,834	2,144	2,183	9,419	9,038	-4.0

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

May building permits issued by reporting Texas border cities were up 16.9 percent. Eagle Pass decreased 31.6 percent, El Paso went up 12.0 percent, and Laredo gained 4.6 percent. McAllen decreased 0.6 percent, and Brownsville declined 0.5 percent. YTD, the number of permits issued fell 4.0 percent. El Paso, accounting for

38.4 percent of all building permits issued, had an increase of 15.7 percent YTD. Laredo, with 17.8 percent of building permits issued, was down 48.5 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 21.4 percent of building permits issued, increased 16.1 percent YTD.

U.S. Dollar Value of Permits

VALUE	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	19,655,199	18,678,276	16,922,889	28,592,620	97,493,023	90,042,010	-7.6
DEL RIO	1,110,828	1,654,827	1,671,740	5,437,206	9,281,759	32,626,046	251.5
EAGLE PASS	8,678,795	1,356,885	788,573	1,591,677	13,604,595	14,164,438	4.1
EL PASO	55,693,382	44,602,096	32,791,129	49,186,145	197,478,206	220,487,459	11.7
HARLINGEN	4,119,725	4,408,716	9,949,159	14,121,580	64,571,024	27,019,315	-58.2
LAREDO	31,896,200	21,254,334	46,951,029	27,418,703	123,341,102	132,467,271	7.4
MCALLEN	14,902,625	44,661,700	16,527,486	13,689,379	94,669,184	115,261,052	21.8
TOTAL	136,056,754	136,616,834	125,602,006	140,037,310	600,438,893	632,067,592	5.3

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

May building permit values for reporting Texas border cities were down 8.1 percent. Harlingen increased 125.7 percent, McAllen decreased 63.0 percent, and El Paso fell 26.5 percent. Brownsville declined 9.4 percent. Laredo jumped 120.9 percent. Eagle Pass fell 41.9 percent. YTD reporting border cities experienced a 5.3 percent increase in building permit values. El Paso, with 34.9 percent

of total building permit values, increased 11.7 percent YTD. Laredo, with 21.0 percent of total building permit values, gained 7.4 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 14.2 percent of total building permit values, declined 7.6 percent. Eagle Pass with 2.2 percent of total building permits, increased 4.1 percent.

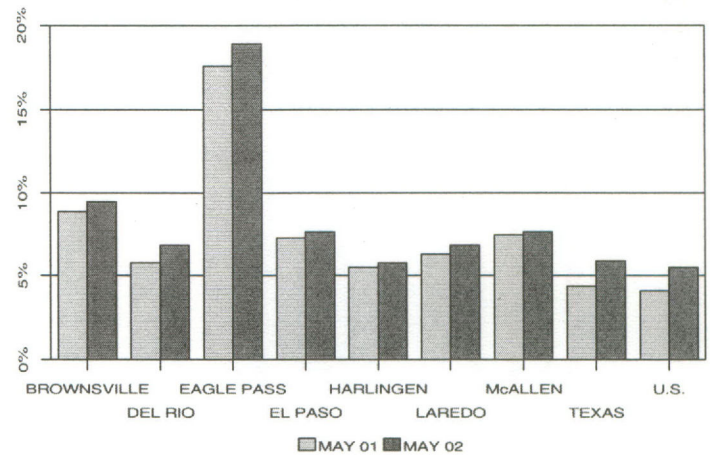
Employment/Unemployment Rates —Texas Border

CITY	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	TOTAL UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED	PERCENT UNEMPLOYED
	MAY 02	MAY 01	MAY 02	MAY 01	MAY 02	MAY 01
BROWNSVILLE	45,233	45,004	4,735	4,397	9.5	8.9
DEL RIO	14,419	14,420	1,055	889	6.8	5.8
EAGLE PASS	8,476	9,434	1,979	2,016	18.9	17.6
EL PASO	234,167	237,341	19,441	18,750	7.7	7.3
HARLINGEN	25,986	25,854	1,610	1,495	5.8	5.5
LAREDO	67,209	67,005	4,890	4,518	6.8	6.3
McALLEN	49,784	48,445	4,145	3,925	7.7	7.5
TOTAL	445,274	447,503	37,855	35,990	8.0	7.5
THE TEXAS UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					5.90	4.40
THE NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE					5.50	4.10

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 May, total employment in reporting Texas border cities increased 0.3 percent (1,243 jobs gained). Eagle Pass employment rose 1.2 percent (98 jobs gained), Del Rio increased 0.4 percent (56 jobs gained), McAllen went down 0.4 percent (180 jobs lost), and Laredo went up 0.4 percent (275 jobs gained). Brownsville rose 0.5 percent (227 jobs gained). YTD total employment in Texas border cities was down 0.5 percent (2,229 jobs lost) from a year ago. The average unemployment rate for the border was 7.9 percent compared to 5.8 percent for Texas, and 5.5 percent for the U.S. in the month of May.

% Unemployed May 01-02



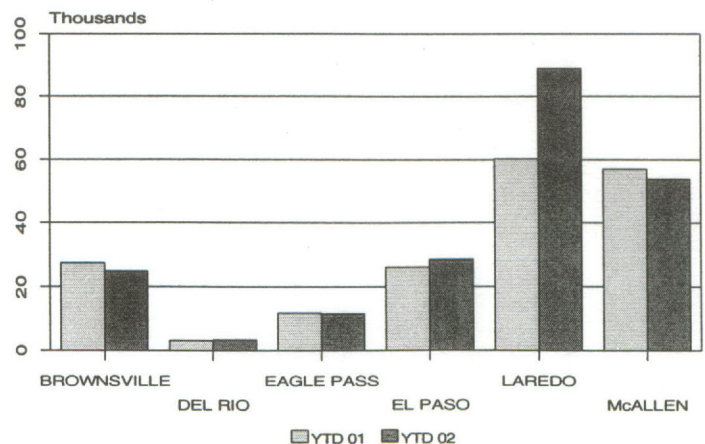
Visas to Tourists from Texas to Mexico

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 00	YTD 01	%CHG
BROWNSVILLE	7,661	4,157	5,428	5,036	27,552	25,026	-9.2
DEL RIO	1,086	554	685	748	3,227	3,320	2.9
EAGLE PASS	4,134	2,097	1,682	2,606	11,726	11,707	-0.2
EL PASO	8,437	4,948	5,838	5,297	26,266	28,464	8.4
LAREDO	27,197	14,558	18,884	10,208	60,148	89,035	48.0
McALLEN	15,692	8,188	10,198	10,209	56,928	53,897	-5.3
TOTAL	64,207	34,502	42,715	34,104	185,847	211,449	13.8

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 May, visas increased 23.8 percent. Laredo rose 29.7 percent, Eagle Pass declined 19.8, Brownsville gained 30.6 percent, and Del Rio was up 23.6 percent. El Paso rose 18.0 percent. YTD total visas were up 13.8 percent. Brownsville, with 11.8 percent share, fell 9.2 percent. Eagle Pass, with 5.5 percent share, declined 0.2 percent. Del Rio, with 1.6 percent share, increased 2.9 percent. Laredo, with 42.1 percent share, went up 48.0 percent. McAllen, with 25.5 percent share, declined 5.3 percent YTD; and El Paso with 13.5 percent share, gained 8.4 percent YTD.

Tourist Visas YTD May 01-02



Air Passenger Service Activities — Selected Border Cities

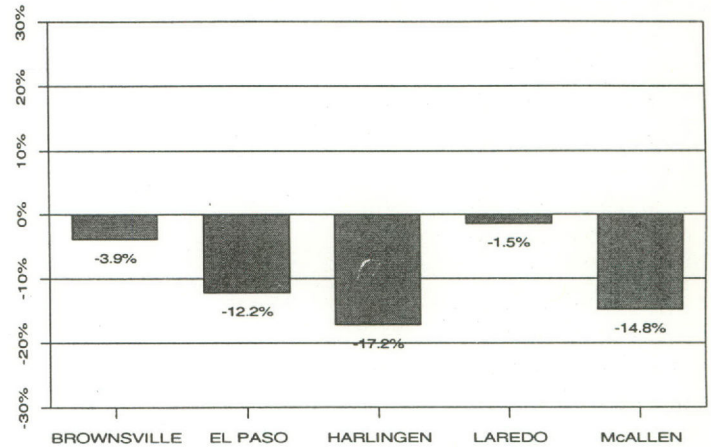
Passenger Arrivals

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	8,121	6,023	5,822	6,069	33,902	32,584	-3.9
EL PASO	126,250	111,488	127,447	141,722	635,874	558,601	-12.2
HARLINGEN	35,477	32,251	34,939	38,287	191,696	158,664	-17.2
LAREDO	6,324	6,280	6,345	6,171	29,111	28,664	-1.5
McALLEN	25,821	22,324	21,743	24,507	135,539	115,433	-14.8
TOTAL	201,993	178,366	196,296	216,756	1,026,122	893,946	-12.9

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

May air passengers arriving in Texas border cities were up 10.1 percent from April. McAllen declined 2.6 percent, Laredo increased 1.0 percent, and El Paso went up 14.3 percent. Harlingen rose 8.3 percent. YTD air passenger arrivals were down 12.9 percent. El Paso, with 62.5 percent of all arriving passengers, showed a decrease of 12.2 percent YTD. Harlingen, accounting for 17.7 percent of all arrivals, slipped 17.2 percent YTD. McAllen, with 12.9 percent of all arrivals, was down 14.8 percent YTD. Laredo, with 3.2 percent of all arrivals, decreased 1.5 percent YTD.

Passenger Arrivals % Change YTD 01-02



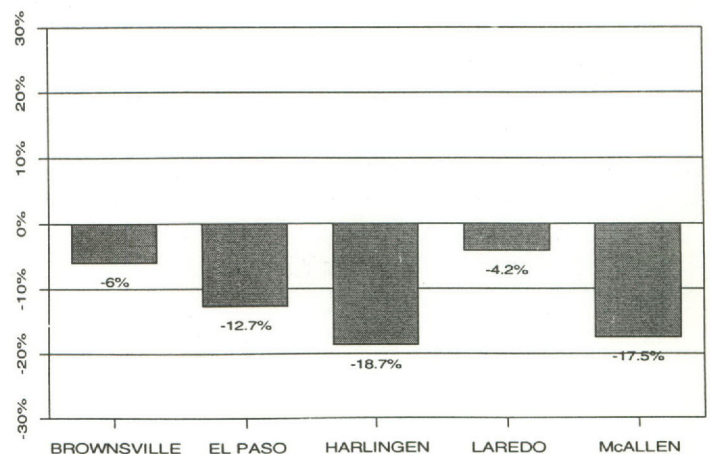
Passenger Departures

CITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	7,655	6,867	6,152	6,309	35,180	33,058	-6.0
EL PASO	128,236	114,468	134,049	146,949	658,498	574,945	-12.7
HARLINGEN	35,795	33,793	35,055	39,648	198,446	161,268	-18.7
LAREDO	6,529	6,009	6,054	6,124	29,949	28,689	-4.2
McALLEN	26,534	23,836	22,518	25,795	142,282	117,419	-17.5
TOTAL	204,749	184,973	203,828	224,825	1,064,355	915,379	-14.0

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

May air passenger departures for reporting Texas border cities were up 10.2 percent. McAllen declined 5.5 percent, Harlingen went up 3.7 percent, Laredo increased 0.7 percent, and El Paso fell 17.1 percent. YTD air passenger departures were down 14.0 percent. El Paso, with 62.8 percent of all departing passengers, was down 12.7 percent YTD. Harlingen, with 17.6 percent of all departing passengers, exhibited a decrease of 18.7 percent YTD. McAllen, with 12.8 percent of all departing passengers, decreased 17.5 percent, YTD. Laredo, with 3.1 percent of all departing passengers, fell 4.2 percent YTD.

Passenger Departures % Change YTD 01-02



Port Of Corpus Christi

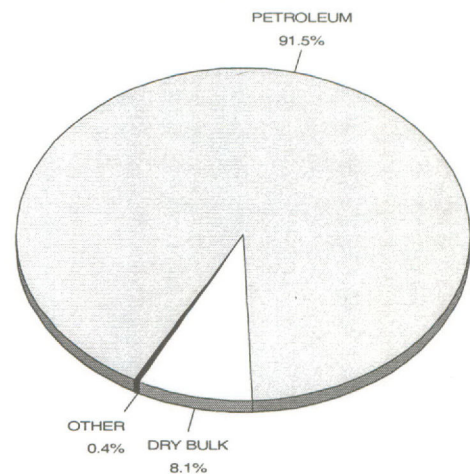
Inbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BREAK BULK	2,837	12,203	3,242	117,142	142,607	22,294	-84.4
DRY BULK	385,550	247,807	339,090	196,353	1,522,578	1,770,831	16.3
BULK GRAIN	1,344	0	5,483	0	0	6,827	0
LIQUID	0	0	0	18,370	113,401	22,086	-80.5
PETROLEUM	4,326,735	4,246,981	3,820,698	4,269,690	20,179,342	19,242,102	-4.6
CHEMICAL	12,008	12,654	9,971	18,986	42,095	53,603	27.3
TOTAL	4,728,474	4,519,646	4,178,484	4,620,541	22,000,023	21,117,742	-4.0

Source: Data provided by the Port of Corpus Christi and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

The Port of Corpus Christi had a 7.5 percent decrease in inbound cargo in May. Petroleum, which made up 91.4 percent of all inbound traffic, was down 10.0 percent compared to April. Dry bulk, which accounted for 8.1 percent of inbound cargo, increased 36.8 percent. Total inbound cargo tonnage was down 4.0 percent YTD.

% Share May 2002 Inbound Cargo



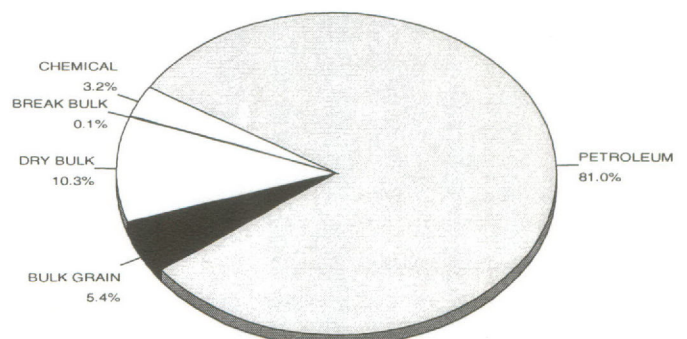
Outbound Cargo (in Tons)

COMMODITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BREAK BULK	0	1,444	2,325	667	25,840	14,933	-42.2
DRY BULK	238,772	266,005	228,395	244,925	1,176,522	1,242,297	5.6
BULK GRAIN	87,500	141,777	120,357	178,036	791,478	739,519	-6.6
LIQUID	0	0	0	5,463	34,108	0	-100.0
PETROLEUM	2,052,352	1,877,856	1,788,973	2,385,097	10,302,111	9,450,145	-8.3
CHEMICAL	61,736	218,455	70,954	137,138	808,019	573,419	-29.0
TOTAL	2,440,359	2,505,537	2,211,002	2,951,327	13,138,077	12,020,313	-8.5

Source: Data provided by the Port of Corpus Christi and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

The Port of Corpus Christi had an 11.8 percent loss in outbound cargo tonnage in May. Petroleum, which was 80.9 percent of total outbound cargo, fell 4.7 percent. Bulk grain, which accounted for 5.4 percent of cargo, decreased 15.1 percent. Dry bulk, which accounted for 10.3 percent of the total outbound cargo for May, decreased 14.1 percent. YTD total outbound cargo tonnage was down 8.5 percent.

% Share May 2002 Outbound Cargo



Port Of Brownsville

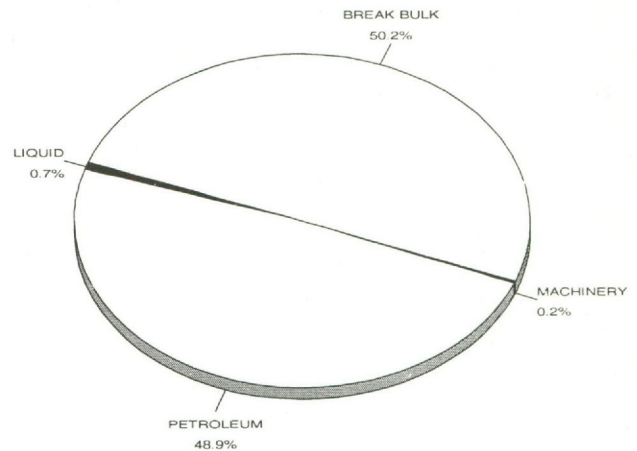
Total Port Activity (in Metric Tons)

COMMODITY	MAR 02	APR 02	MAY 02	MAY 01	YTD 01	YTD 02	% CHG
BREAK BULK	270,950	163,491	240,653	179,910	1,067,109	1,029,823	-3.5
LIQUID	7,776	4,315	3,514	5,536	20,617	24,431	18.5
PETROLEUM	123,867	219,136	234,174	125,375	437,313	909,925	108.1
GRAIN	0	0	0	0	4,418	16,918	282.9
CONTAINERS	15	0	0	0	117	2,035	1639.3
MACHINERY	0	0	790	2,031	5,376	1,417	-73.6
TOTAL	402,608	386,942	479,131	312,852	1,534,950	1,984,549	29.3

Source: Data provided by the Port of Brownsville and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

The Port of Brownsville had an increase of 23.8 percent total tonnage in May. Break Bulk, which accounted for 50.2 percent of total tonnage gained 47.2 percent from April. Liquid, with 0.7 percent share of May's total tonnage, fell 18.6 percent. Petroleum, which made up 48.9 percent of the total cargo for May gained 6.9 percent. YTD figures showed a 29.3 percent increase in total cargo tonnage. Break Bulk tonnage, with 51.9 percent of total tonnage, fell 3.5 percent. Petroleum, with 45.9 percent of total tonnage, increased 108.1 percent. Liquid, with 1.2 percent of total tonnage, increased 18.5 percent.

% Share May 2002 Total Cargo



Errata

In our efforts to provide our readership with the most accurate data available, an internal audit has been performed on all data sets. The results were some discrepancies that had been hidden. There occurred a double counting of only Northbound vehicles at one of the Brownsville bridges. This doubling had occurred innocuously. There will be a drop in the numbers posted for the Northbound vehicular crossings at Brownsville as a result of these changes.

In addition, our audit revealed another error in Southbound pedestrians at Pharr. A misinterpretation of the data resulted in a misrepresentation. After consulting with our data provider, it was concluded that this particular item is not available, therefore, Southbound pedestrian crossings for Pharr will be dropped.

Adjustments are and will be made to all future *Border Business Indicators* information.

-B. Garcia

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