



# Border Business Indicators

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### Note from the Editor

Most indicators of border business activity for the month of December were up. Sixteen monthly indicators were up and seven were down when compared to November. For the year-to-date (YTD), fourteen indicators were down and ten were up. Selected YTD figures reported by border cities include the following.

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were down 12.3 percent. El Paso was down 13.0 percent, Laredo was down 14.1 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo was down 12.6 percent, and Brownsville decreased 15.1 percent.
- Northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were down 6.0 percent. El Paso was down 2.0 percent, Laredo decreased 11.7 percent, Brownsville was down 7.4 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo was down 2.7 percent.
- Southbound vehicle bridge crossings were down 6.2 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo fell 15.7 percent, Laredo was down 9.1 percent, El Paso was down 6.5 percent, and Brownsville decreased 9.6 percent.
- Northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas were down 1.7 percent with McAllen down 15.4 percent, Brownsville down 4.6 percent, Eagle Pass down 5.7 percent, and Laredo down 5.4 percent. However, Del Rio increased 6.6 percent, and El Paso was up 16.5 percent.
- Southbound truck shipments into Mexico were down 17.5 percent. Laredo had a 22.9 percent decrease, McAllen-Hidalgo was down 27.7 percent, and Brownsville decreased 9.5 percent.
- Northbound truck shipments into Texas were up 13.8 percent. Laredo had a 20.9 percent increase, McAllen-Hidalgo was up 14.0 percent, but Brownsville decreased 9.2 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs were up 5.4 percent, but revenues collected by U.S. Bridge operators were down 3.7 percent.
- Building permits issued were up 1.8 percent. El Paso increased by 4.5 percent, and Laredo was up 4.3 percent.
- Building permit values were up with a YTD increase of 2.8 percent. El Paso, Brownsville, Del Rio, and Harlingen increased, but Laredo, Eagle Pass, and McAllen decreased.
- Total employment was down by 4,118 jobs YTD. The average unemployment rate in December 1995 was 12.1 percent, up from the 9.7 percent in December 1994.

Due to incomplete data, El Paso rail data for north and south bound has not been included in this issue.

If you have access to the Internet, the *Border Business Indicators* can be found at <http://www.tamui.edu/coba/txcentr/>. In the near future, we will make our compiled data, as well as back issues of all publications, available on-line.

# IIT Technical Reports Available

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IIT 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)  
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Technical Reports are available by writing to: IIT Technical Report Series, The College of Business Administration and The Graduate School of International Trade & Business Administration, Texas A&M International University, 5201 University Boulevard, Laredo, Texas 78041-1999. Please enclose \$5.00 for each report requested. Make check or money order payable to the Institute for International Trade.

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### **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.

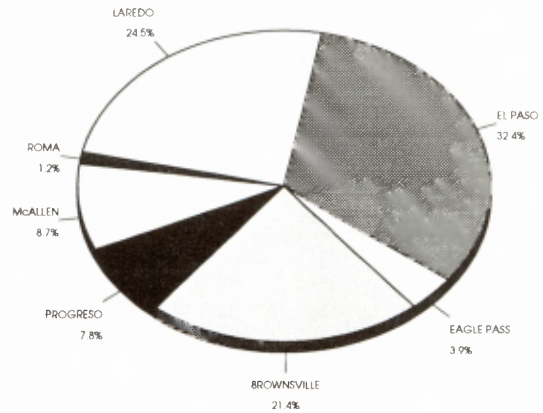
## Pedestrian Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	217,828	223,872	273,627	337,406	3,309,484	2,810,029	-15.1
DEL RIO	3,572	3,978	5,664	1,706	61,061	47,027	-23.0
EAGLE PASS	32,577	34,953	49,795	54,702	398,355	395,933	-0.6
EL PASO	352,346	345,502	415,169	503,302	4,822,217	4,196,671	-13.0
HARLINGEN	68	97	91	185	1,646	950	-42.3
LAREDO	263,605	244,824	313,339	388,533	3,658,531	3,141,985	-14.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO	80,808	90,804	112,372	129,304	1,204,284	1,052,767	-12.6
PROGRESO	42,976	70,114	99,719	83,486	801,313	859,386	7.2
RIO GRANDE	841	683	738	535	7,757	8,670	11.8
ROMA	14,738	14,770	15,981	19,174	212,076	176,544	-16.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,009,359</b>	<b>1,029,597</b>	<b>1,286,495</b>	<b>1,518,333</b>	<b>14,476,724</b>	<b>12,689,962</b>	<b>-12.3</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 bridge crossings into Mexico for December were up 25.0 percent compared to November. Eagle Pass was up 42.5 percent, Del Rio was up 42.4 percent, and Progreso increased 42.2 percent. Laredo increased 28.0 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo was up 23.8 percent, Brownsville was up 22.2 percent, and El Paso increased 20.2 percent. Roma increased 8.2 percent, and Rio Grande increased 8.1 percent. However, Harlingen was down 6.2 percent. YTD total southbound pedestrian bridge crossings were down 12.3 percent. El Paso southbound pedestrian crossings, 32.3 percent of all crossings, were down 13.0 percent. Laredo, accounting for 24.4 percent of all crossings, was down 14.1 percent YTD. Brownsville was down 15.1 percent with 21.3 percent of all crossings in the month of December.

**% Share Pedestrians for December 1995**



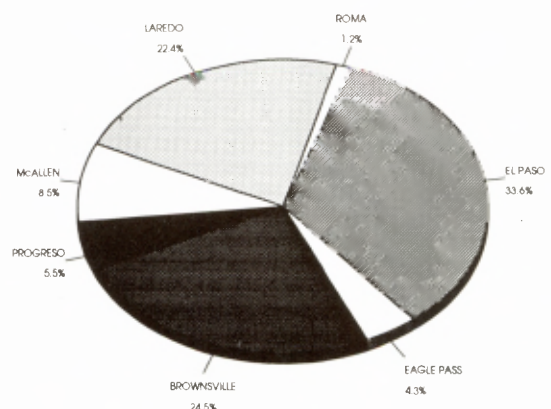
## Pedestrian Bridge-Crossings into Texas

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	222,240	224,074	353,545	262,429	3,189,878	2,953,747	-7.4
DEL RIO	6,872	7,338	6,798	5,430	72,262	84,685	17.2
EAGLE PASS	44,502	48,715	63,143	79,258	627,849	582,212	-7.3
EL PASO	430,613	422,803	485,136	500,725	5,060,474	4,957,288	-2.0
LAREDO	273,582	266,859	322,184	414,114	3,837,723	3,387,789	-11.7
McALLEN-HIDALGO	83,685	97,405	122,411	112,157	1,101,400	1,071,601	-2.7
PRESIDIO	2,464	2,256	2,491	2,741	30,511	29,676	-2.7
PROGRESO	34,707	55,820	79,755	72,454	689,126	694,725	0.8
RIO GRANDE	1,173	1,084	988	1,248	16,054	12,705	-20.9
ROMA	16,943	15,973	17,995	21,934	238,718	200,507	-16.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,116,781</b>	<b>1,142,327</b>	<b>1,454,446</b>	<b>1,472,490</b>	<b>14,863,995</b>	<b>13,974,935</b>	<b>-6.0</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 27.3 percent in December. Brownsville increased 57.8 percent, Progreso increased 42.9 percent, Eagle Pass was up 29.6 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo increased 25.7 percent, and Laredo increased 20.7 percent. El Paso was up 14.7 percent, Roma increased 12.7 percent, and Presidio was up 10.4 percent. However, Rio Grande decreased 8.9 percent, and Del Rio was down 7.4 percent. YTD total northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were down 6.0 percent. El Paso, accounting for 33.4 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings, was down 2.0 percent YTD. Laredo, with 22.2 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings, had a 11.7 percent decrease in crossings YTD. Brownsville, with 24.3 percent of all northbound crossings, was down 7.4 percent.

**% Share Pedestrians for December 1995**



## Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	472,195	443,646	495,131	541,579	6,190,321	5,592,958	-9.6
DEL RIO	139,922	135,483	157,140	153,889	1,539,674	1,625,917	5.6
EAGLE PASS	200,378	198,239	240,725	252,062	2,656,612	2,448,440	-7.8
EL PASO	435,816	429,947	444,031	467,752	5,332,618	4,988,008	-6.5
HARLINGEN	27,266	29,112	36,557	39,029	356,702	343,192	-3.8
LAREDO	589,355	580,696	655,643	613,923	7,289,017	6,626,142	-9.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO	356,238	350,954	388,185	492,985	5,407,500	4,557,338	-15.7
PHARR	70,611	73,086	82,759	N/A	N/A	750,360	N/A
PROGRESO	69,887	76,053	94,408	88,316	958,034	941,522	-1.7
RIO GRANDE	39,031	41,711	49,793	48,744	499,748	489,357	-2.1
ROMA	59,310	66,287	81,212	80,135	770,572	730,099	-5.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,460,009</b>	<b>2,425,214</b>	<b>2,725,584</b>	<b>2,778,414</b>	<b>31,000,798</b>	<b>29,093,333</b>	<b>-6.2</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 \*Pharr began operations 1/10/95.

Southbound vehicle bridge crossings into Mexico increased 12.4 percent in December over November's figures. Harlingen was up 25.6 percent, Progreso increased 24.1 percent, Roma increased 22.5 percent, and Eagle Pass was up 21.4 percent. Rio Grande increased 19.4 percent, Del Rio was up 16.0 percent, Pharr increased 13.2 percent, Laredo was up 12.9 percent, Brownsville was up 11.6 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo increased 10.6 percent, and El Paso was up 3.3 percent. YTD total southbound vehicle bridge

crossings were down 6.2 percent. Laredo, with 24.1 percent of all traffic, was down 9.1 percent YTD. Brownsville, accounting for 18.2 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings had a 9.6 percent decrease YTD. El Paso, 16.3 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 6.5 percent decrease YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 14.2 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 15.7 percent decrease YTD.

## Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Texas

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	430,848	408,922	462,047	491,533	5,409,042	5,161,274	-4.6
DEL RIO	120,166	112,056	118,084	127,609	1,331,629	1,419,015	6.6
EAGLE PASS	195,443	187,814	214,525	231,472	2,535,037	2,391,578	-5.7
EL PASO	705,762	665,680	682,275	649,272	6,759,007	7,872,293	16.5
HARLINGEN	31,566	34,208	41,026	40,619	401,907	396,020	-1.5
LAREDO	538,819	562,811	594,020	672,064	7,441,134	7,040,687	-5.4
McALLEN-HIDALGO	380,243	349,103	379,658	468,340	5,533,567	4,682,605	-15.4
PRESIDIO	43,539	44,595	51,618	50,769	538,646	544,845	1.2
PROGRESO	60,336	64,743	73,945	81,977	884,543	850,481	-3.9
RIO GRANDE	40,871	40,342	44,554	43,317	471,733	488,139	3.5
ROMA	75,690	64,506	74,203	84,591	915,873	841,786	-8.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,623,283</b>	<b>2,534,780</b>	<b>2,735,955</b>	<b>2,941,563</b>	<b>32,222,118</b>	<b>31,688,723</b>	<b>-1.7</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 December were up 7.9 percent since November. Harlingen was up 19.9 percent, Presidio increased 15.7 percent, Roma increased 15.0 percent, Eagle Pass and Progreso both increased 14.2 percent, Brownsville was up 13.0 percent, and Rio Grande was up 10.4 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo was up 8.8 percent, Laredo was up 5.5 percent, Del Rio increased 5.4 percent, and El Paso was up 2.5

percent. YTD northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas were down 1.7 percent. El Paso, with 24.9 percent of all crossings, was up 16.5 percent. However, Laredo northbound vehicle bridge crossings, 21.7 percent of all crossings, were down 5.4 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 16.9 percent of all crossings, was down 4.6 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 13.9 percent of all crossings, was down 15.4 percent.

## Export Shipments by Trucks into Mexico —Number of Trucks

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE+	15,451	14,430	14,603	14,721	204,344	184,848	-9.5
DEL RIO+	3,206	3,160	2,545	2,157	33,622	34,529	2.7
EAGLE PASS++	4,064	3,500	2,849	3,651	40,728	34,918	-14.3
EL PASO+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	N/A
HARLINGEN+	3,357	2,634	2,479	3,372	57,085	35,316	-38.1
LAREDO++	39,249	37,596	36,684	47,179	548,409	422,916	-22.9
McALLEN-HIDALGO+	9,613	9,541	8,450	14,104	170,704	123,426	-27.7
PHARR+	3,518	3,328	3,457	N/A	N/A	30,981	N/A
PROGRESO+	1,372	856	724	1,450	24,357	21,109	-13.3
RIO GRANDE+	898	979	863	1,355	15,795	13,513	-14.4
ROMA+	752	670	493	775	7,402	7,587	2.5
TOTAL	81,480	76,694	73,147	88,764	1,102,446	909,143	-17.5

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 \*Pharr began operations 1/10/95.

+ Includes both loaded and empty trucks.

++ Includes loaded trucks only.

+++ El Paso does not separate loaded trucks from other vehicles and therefore is not reported.

Southbound truck shipments into Mexico decreased 4.6 percent from November shipments. Roma decreased 26.4 percent, Del Rio was down 19.5 percent, Eagle Pass decreased 18.6 percent, Progreso decreased 15.4 percent, Rio Grande was down 11.8 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo was down 11.4 percent. Harlingen decreased 5.9 percent, and Laredo decreased 2.4 percent. However, Pharr was up 3.9 percent, and Brownsville increased 1.2 percent. YTD,

southbound truck shipments were down 17.5 percent. Laredo, accounting for 50.2 percent of all southbound truck traffic, had a 22.9 percent decrease YTD. Brownsville, with 20.0 percent of shipments, experienced a 9.5 percent decrease YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 11.6 percent of all southbound truck shipments into Mexico, had a 27.7 percent decrease YTD.

## Import Shipments by Trucks into Texas —Number of Trucks

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	9,880	9,179	7,999	8,971	126,441	114,843	-9.2
DEL RIO	2,807	2,587	1,957	1,818	23,983	28,826	20.2
EAGLE PASS	3,059	2,767	2,335	1,872	24,882	31,169	25.3
LAREDO	40,024	38,917	33,816	30,357	354,682	428,809	20.9
McALLEN-HIDALGO	8,028	7,924	7,245	8,085	98,882	112,732	14.0
PROGRESO	383	508	393	321	8,592	9,157	6.6
RIO GRANDE	412	476	514	531	6,222	6,817	9.6
ROMA	429	397	357	282	3,822	4,722	23.5
TOTAL	65,022	62,755	54,616	52,237	647,506	737,075	13.8

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

\*Editor's Note: Figures represent loaded trucks only.

Northbound truck shipments into Texas were down 13.0 percent in December. Del Rio was down 24.4 percent, Progreso decreased 22.6 percent, Eagle Pass decreased 15.6 percent, and Laredo was down 13.1 percent. Brownsville decreased 12.9 percent, Roma was down 10.1 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo decreased 8.6 percent. However, Rio Grande increased 8.0 percent. YTD, total truck

traffic had an increase of 13.8 percent. Laredo, with 61.9 percent of all northbound shipments, experienced a 20.9 percent increase YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 13.3 percent of all northbound shipments, had a 14.0 percent increase YTD. However, Brownsville, 14.6 percent of all truck traffic, decreased 9.2 percent.

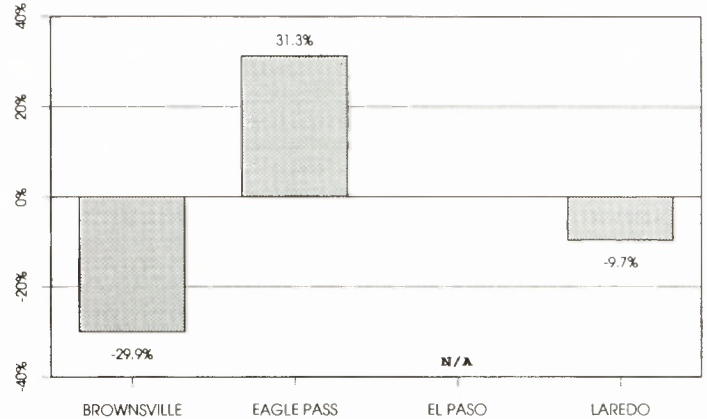
## Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,162	1,797	2,608	3,252	31,119	21,820	-29.9
EAGLE PASS	3,332	3,784	4,139	1,514	18,818	24,713	31.3
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	10,708	9,806	9,649	10,565	121,166	109,385	-9.7
TOTAL	15,202	15,387	16,396	15,331	171,103	155,918	-8.9

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

Southbound rail shipments into Mexico increased 6.6 percent in December. It must be noted that this does not include El Paso data. Brownsville had a 45.1 percent increase over December's shipments, and Eagle Pass increased 9.4 percent. Laredo decreased 1.6 percent. YTD total southbound rail shipments into Mexico during the month of December were down 8.9 percent. Laredo, with 58.8 percent of all southbound rail shipments YTD, was down 9.7 percent. Eagle Pass, with 25.2 percent of all southbound shipments, increased 31.3 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 15.9 percent of all southbound rail shipments, was down 29.9 percent YTD.

Export Rail YTD % Change 94-95



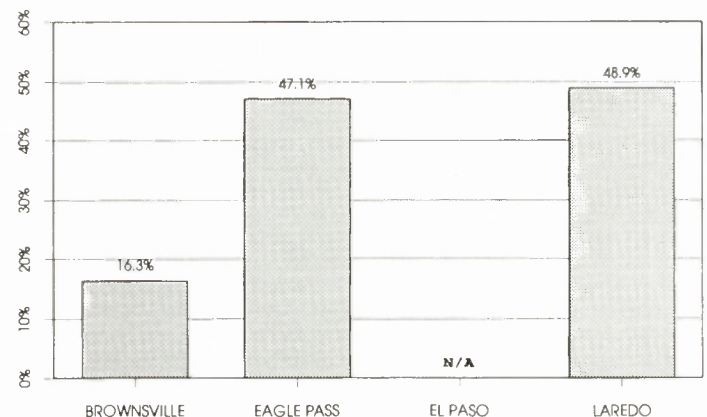
## Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	911	1,048	1,331	843	11,854	13,789	16.3
EAGLE PASS	2,005	2,080	1,705	1,251	15,177	22,331	47.1
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	6,126	5,615	5,738	4,217	39,867	59,377	48.9
TOTAL	9,042	8,743	8,774	6,311	66,898	95,497	42.8

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 0.4 percent in December. El Paso data is not currently available. Brownsville was up 27.0 percent, and Laredo increased 2.2 percent. However, Eagle Pass decreased 18.0 percent. YTD total northbound rail shipments into Texas were up 42.8 percent. Laredo, with 65.4 percent of all shipments during the month of December, was up 48.9 percent YTD. Eagle Pass was up 47.1 percent YTD with a 19.4 percent share of all shipments in December, and Brownsville, accounting for 15.2 percent of all northbound rail shipments, was up 16.3 percent YTD.

Import Rail YTD % Change 94-95



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

CITY	DUTY DEC 95	MPF DEC 95	OTHER REVENUE DEC 95	TOTAL REVENUE DEC 95	TOTAL REVENUE DEC 94	YTD REVENUE DEC 94	YTD REVENUE DEC 95	YTD % CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,565,228	356,328	241,732	2,163,288	3,647,004	44,213,038	35,913,202	-18.8
DEL RIO	394,149	89,231	37,975	521,355	551,928	7,172,867	5,992,478	-16.5
EAGLE PASS	997,625	186,942	1,278,003	2,462,570	1,801,471	20,908,698	28,526,200	36.4
LAREDO	14,536,785	1,528,082	1,995,296	18,060,163	15,202,158	182,694,013	230,452,179	26.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO	2,735,181	369,461	128,004	3,232,646	39,129,732	78,486,178	50,832,857	-35.2
PROGRESO	19,896	11,456	15,494	46,846	43,939	1,862,577	2,040,182	9.5
RIO GRANDE	60,651	11,729	6,406	78,786	120,100	1,423,535	1,282,996	-9.9
ROMA	21,582	9,190	8,757	39,529	39,441	498,946	455,206	-8.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,331,097</b>	<b>2,562,419</b>	<b>3,711,667</b>	<b>26,605,183</b>	<b>60,535,773</b>	<b>337,259,852</b>	<b>355,495,300</b>	<b>5.4</b>

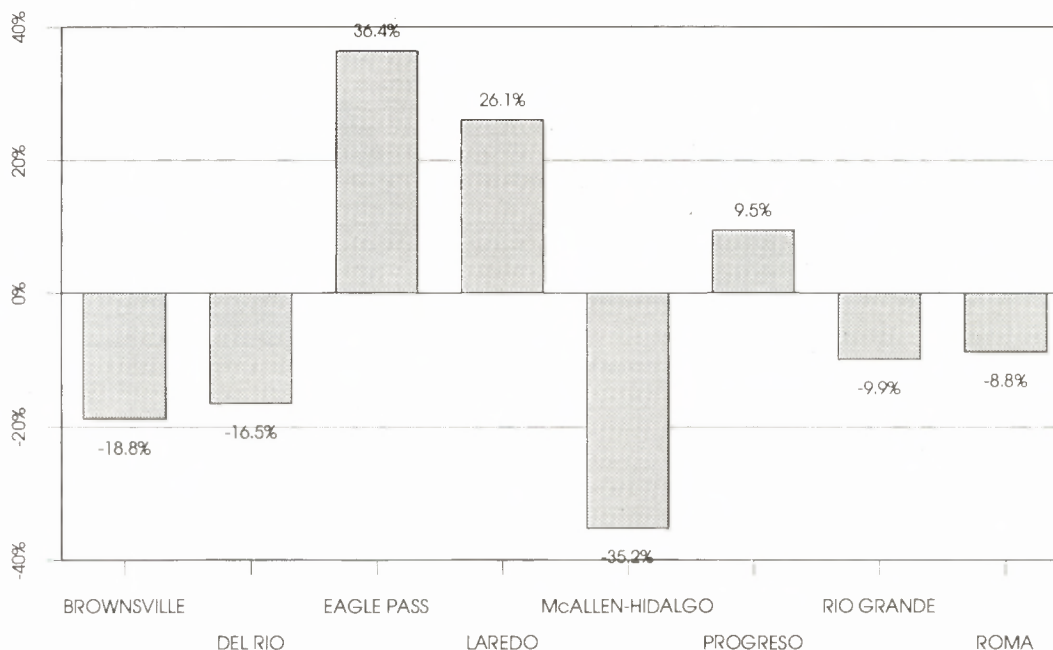
Source: Data provided by U.S. Customs Service, Port of Entry in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

\*MPF = Merchandise Processing Fee

Total U.S. Customs revenues for the District of Laredo decreased 11.3 percent in December. McAllen-Hidalgo decreased 30.4 percent, Brownsville was down 24.9 percent, and Laredo was down 10.7 percent. However, Eagle Pass was up 46.7 percent, Del Rio increased 22.3 percent, Rio Grande increased 17.9 percent, Roma was up 9.5 percent, and Progreso increased 8.3 percent. YTD revenue figures were up 5.4 percent compared to December 1994.

Laredo, accounting for 67.9 percent of total District revenues, was up 26.1 percent YTD, and Eagle Pass with 9.3 percent of total revenues, was up 36.4 percent YTD. However, McAllen-Hidalgo, with 12.2 percent of total revenues, decreased 35.2 percent YTD, and Brownsville with 8.1 percent of total revenues, was down 18.8 percent YTD.

**% Change Total Revenues YTD 94-95**



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

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	409,644	410,683	488,215	503,644	5,782,743	5,524,798	-4.5
DEL RIO	154,106	157,280	172,867	162,048	1,587,242	1,812,749	14.2
EAGLE PASS	344,834	342,774	402,244	435,080	4,538,512	4,112,298	-9.4
EL PASO	861,967	854,992	857,616	956,927	9,073,916	9,849,778	8.6
HARLINGEN	62,427	57,708	66,234	78,594	769,574	685,822	-10.9
LAREDO	1,330,879	1,391,115	1,592,109	1,511,686	17,497,604	15,174,692	-13.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	570,543	559,691	495,545	644,747	6,788,879	6,160,230	-9.3
PHARR	106,333	100,350	116,111	N/A	N/A	1,026,503	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,840,733</b>	<b>3,874,593</b>	<b>4,190,941</b>	<b>4,292,726</b>	<b>46,038,470</b>	<b>44,346,870</b>	<b>-3.7</b>

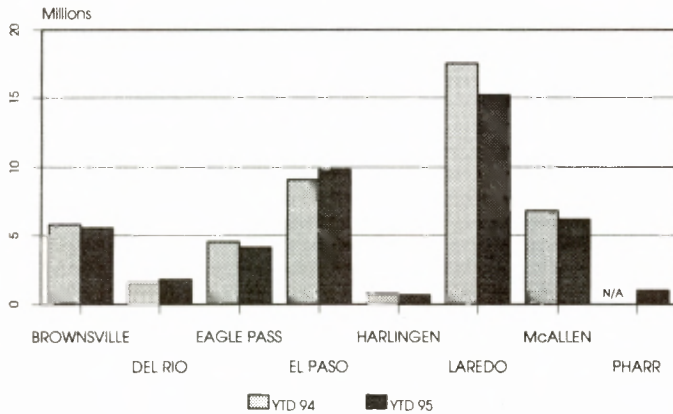
Source: Data provided by U.S. bridge operators in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

\*Brownsville's Revenues are for Cameron County Bridge only. \*\*Pharr began operations 1/10/95.

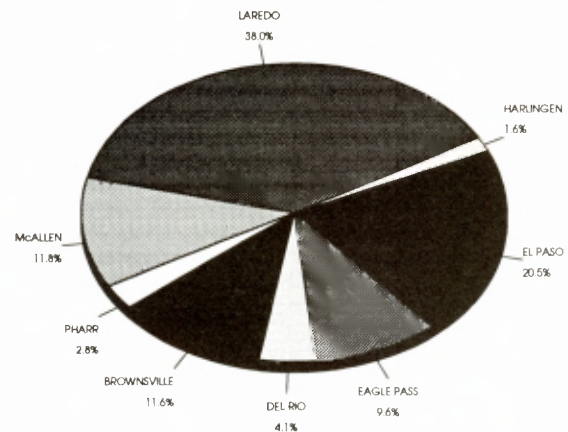
U.S. bridge operators' revenues increased 8.2 percent in the month of December. Brownsville was up 18.9 percent, Eagle Pass increased 17.3 percent, Pharr increased 15.7 percent, Harlingen was up 14.8 percent, Laredo was up 14.4 percent, Del Rio increased 9.9 percent, and El Paso increased 0.3 percent. However, McAllen-Hidalgo was down 11.5 percent. YTD, U.S. bridge operators' revenues were down 3.7 percent. Laredo, accounting for 38.0 percent of total U.S. bridge operators' revenues, had a 13.3 percent

decrease YTD. However, El Paso, accounting for 20.5 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues, increased 8.6 percent YTD. Brownsville, 11.6 percent of the total bridge revenues, was down 4.5 percent YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, which accounts for 11.8 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues in December, was down 9.3 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, 9.6 percent of total U.S. bridge operators' revenues, was down 9.4 percent.

**Total Revenues Collected YTD 94-95**



**% Share Revenues December 1995**





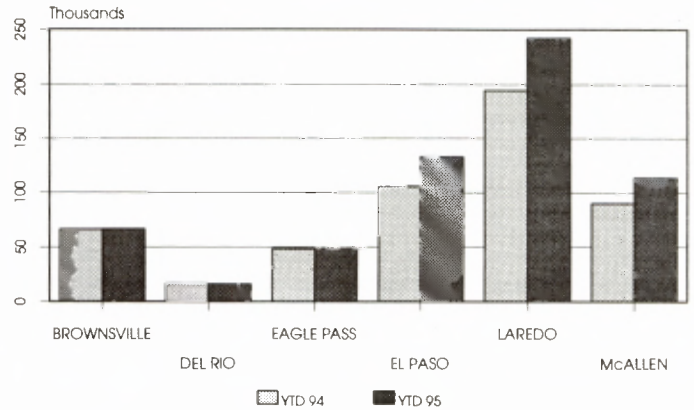
## Visas to Tourists from Texas to Mexico

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	YTD 94	YTD 95	%CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,888	5,131	12,431	11,833	66,591	66,702	0.2
DEL RIO	1,007	1,351	3,716	3,803	15,904	15,616	-1.8
EAGLE PASS	3,074	4,650	10,369	9,819	48,259	48,103	-0.3
EL PASO	9,312	10,349	37,131	23,453	105,782	132,649	25.4
LAREDO	14,882	20,200	50,736	44,454	194,621	242,233	24.5
McALLEN	7,398	9,246	16,575	14,353	90,381	113,426	25.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39,561</b>	<b>50,927</b>	<b>130,958</b>	<b>107,715</b>	<b>521,538</b>	<b>618,729</b>	<b>18.6</b>

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

The number of tourist visas issued in December increased 157.1 percent. El Paso had a 258.8 percent increase, Del Rio increased 175.1 percent, and Laredo was up 151.2 percent. Brownsville was up 142.3 percent, Eagle Pass was up 123.0 percent, and McAllen increased 79.3 percent. YTD, the number of tourist visas issued was up 18.6 percent. Laredo, with 38.7 percent of total visas issued in December, was up 24.5 percent. El Paso with 28.4 percent of total visas issued, had a 25.4 percent increase YTD, McAllen with 12.7 percent of all visas issued, was up 25.5 percent YTD, and Brownsville increased 0.2 percent YTD in the number of tourist visas issued.

### Tourist Visas YTD December 94-95



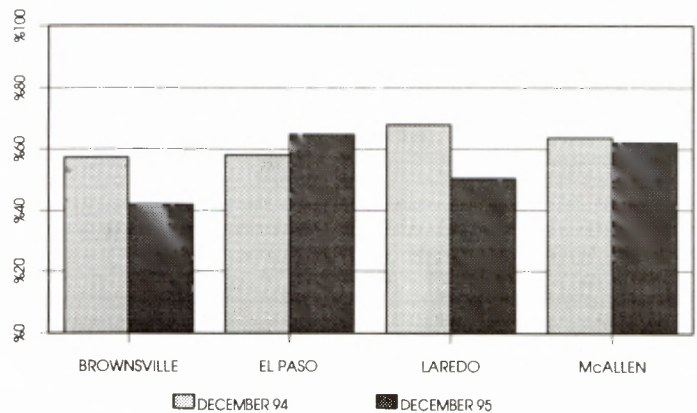
## Hotel Occupancy Percentage Rate —Texas Border

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94	% CHG 94-95
BROWNSVILLE	43.4	45.7	42.0	57.2	-26.6
EL PASO	52.1	54.1	64.7	58.0	11.4
LAREDO	51.1	51.8	50.5	67.9	-25.6
McALLEN	60.2	65.6	61.9	63.5	-2.6
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>61.7</b>	<b>-11.2</b>

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

The average hotel occupancy rate of reporting Texas border hotels for December was 54.8 percent. Laredo had a 50.5 percent rate, McAllen had a 61.9 percent rate, El Paso had a 64.7 percent rate, and Brownsville had an occupancy rate of 42.0 percent. The YTD average occupancy rate for the reporting Texas border cities was down 11.2 percent. Brownsville was down 26.6 percent, Laredo decreased 25.6 percent, and McAllen hotels reported a 2.6 percent decrease. El Paso increased 11.4 percent YTD.

### Hotel Occupancy Percentage December 94-95



# Telephones in Service —Texas Border

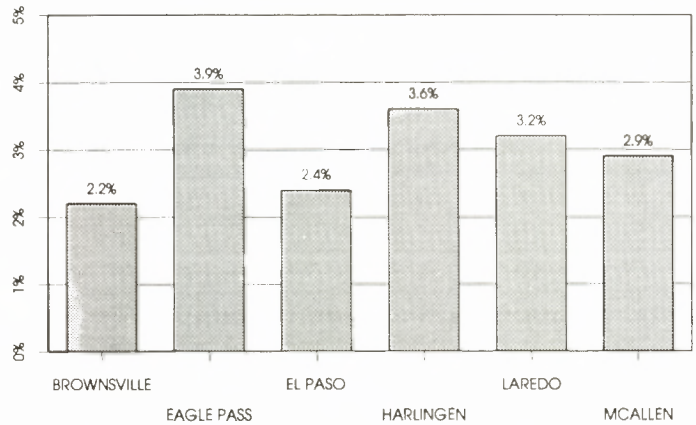
## Residential Telephones

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94
BROWNSVILLE	39,013	39,186	39,258	38,429
EAGLE PASS	10,215	10,281	10,284	9,894
EL PASO	197,769	197,872	197,995	193,276
HARLINGEN	23,969	24,200	24,428	23,572
LAREDO	42,952	43,043	43,043	41,693
MCALLEN	32,384	32,577	32,752	31,816
TOTAL	346,302	347,159	347,760	338,680

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

In December, the number of residential telephones in service for reporting Texas border cities increased 0.17 percent over November figures. YTD, the number of residential telephones in service for reporting Texas border cities increased by 2.7 percent. Eagle Pass experienced the largest increase —3.9 percent, Laredo up 3.2 percent, and El Paso, with 57.0 percent of phones in service, was up 2.4 percent.

## Residential Phones % Change December 94-95



## Business Telephones

CITY	OCT 95	NOV 95	DEC 95	DEC 94
BROWNSVILLE	16,923	17,105	17,223	15,748
EAGLE PASS	3,176	3,189	3,217	2,964
EL PASO	81,366	81,976	82,220	76,421
HARLINGEN	12,145	12,245	12,316	11,275
LAREDO	24,166	24,242	24,356	22,489
MCALLEN	21,047	21,296	21,274	19,547
TOTAL	158,823	160,053	160,606	148,444

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

In December, the number of business telephones in service for reporting Texas border cities increased by 0.35 percent over November figures. YTD, the number of business telephones in service for reporting Texas border cities increased by 8.2 percent. Brownsville had the largest increase —9.4 percent. McAllen was up 8.8 percent, and Laredo, up 8.3 percent YTD, and El Paso increased 7.6 percent with 51.2 percent of business phones in service.

## Business Phones % Change December 94-95

