



Border Business Indicators

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

Vol. 25, No. 2
February 2001

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Note from the Director

Indicators of border business activity for the month of December demonstrated an increase of thirteen indicators while eight indicators decreased. Tourism is not available. In addition, end-of-year (EOY) figures, eighteen indicators finished up and three ended in a decrease. Tourism is not available. Selected 2000 EOY comparisons to 1999 reported by border cities include the following:

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were up 3.6 percent. Laredo gained 0.3 percent, Rio Grande jumped 25.9 percent, McAllen registered an increase of 5.9 and El Paso rose 3.8 percent.
- Northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 15.6 percent. Laredo gained 25.5 percent. El Paso went up 6.1 percent. Brownsville grew 17.9
- Southbound vehicle crossings were up 1.4 percent. Brownsville grew by 1.7 percent, and Eagle Pass gained 9.3 percent. El Paso went up 7.0 percent and Pharr increased 4.8 percent.
- Northbound vehicle crossings were up 1.7 percent. Eagle Pass gained 26.9 percent. Del Rio was up 7.3 percent. Roma grew 4.6 percent, El Paso rose 5.2 percent, Brownsville went down 2.1 percent and Pharr increased 5.6 percent.
- Southbound truck crossings into Mexico were up 7.8 percent. Eagle Pass went up 32.7 percent. Pharr increased 24.5 percent, and Laredo rose 7.9 percent. Del Rio was up 2.5 percent.
- Northbound truck crossings into Texas went up 3.0 percent, Pharr gained 15.0 percent and Eagle Pass posted a 5.6 percent increase. Brownsville increased 3.9 percent, Laredo rose 0.4 percent, Del Rio marked an increase of 2.3 percent, as well as Rio Grande with a gain of 14.9 percent.
- Southbound shipments by rail were up 10.9 percent.
- Northbound shipments by rail were up 19.0 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs went up by 3.4 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Bridge operators were up 7.9 percent.
- Total building permits issued were down 0.1 percent. Laredo rose 8.4 percent, Eagle Pass gained 7.8 percent, while McAllen-Hidalgo rose 6.5 percent, and Brownsville registered an increase of 7.6 percent.
- Total building permit values increased 0.5 percent. Laredo increased 19.4 percent, and Brownsville rose 34.6 percent. Del Rio was up 101.0 percent. McAllen declined 22.3 percent.
- Total employment was up 1.8 percent, with 7,991 jobs gained. The average unemployment rate in December 2000 was 6.8 percent for the border.

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

Technical Reports

Technical Report No. 1:	NAFTA Rules of Origin: An Explanation (March 1994)
Technical Report No. 2:	The Impact of NAFTA on U.S.-Mexico Commercial and Border Zones and the Potential Consequences to the Border (February 1994)
Technical Report No. 3:	Labor Mobility Under NAFTA: It's Impact on the Border (February 1994)
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Technical Report No. 9:	NAFTA Certificate of Origin (May 1994)
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Technical Report No. 12:	NAFTA One Year After Implementation: A Preliminary Assessment of Selected Impacts (March 1995) <i>Hardcopy only</i>

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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.

Texas Border Ports Continue to Handle Over 60 Percent of U.S.-Mexico Trade

As in previous years, trade between the United States and Mexico continued to grow. This was evident in the year 2000. In dollar value, the total trade between these two nations finished the year with an increase of 25.9 percent, or \$247.6 billion, over 1999 (See Table 1). U.S. exports and imports ended with a final gain of 28.5 and 23.9 percent respectively, but the U.S. still ran a balance of trade deficit equal to \$24.2 billion.

Of the year 2000 total trade dollar value between the U.S. and Mexico, \$204.4 billion worth of goods were processed by border ports on the U.S.-Mexico border. This end-of-year figure was up 23.5 percent over the previous year (See Table 2).

Of this \$204.4 billion, \$159.2 billion was funneled through Texas border ports. An increase in dollar value of 24.8 percent over the previous period. (See Table 3). The remaining \$45.2 billion worth of goods were traversed through the other border ports.

As indicated by the figures in Table 4, the border continued to be the main gateway for goods between these two major trading partners. The border's share was comprised of 64.3 percent moving through Texas border ports while the remaining share of 18.3 percent was handled through other, non-Texas, border ports. It is to be noted that, 82.6 percent share of all U.S.-Mexico trade made its way through these border ports during the year 2000.

As a whole, the Texas border ports handled a lion's share of the goods that were traded between the two countries. Monthly trade figures for the year 2000 maintained steady increases for the first half of the year and fluctuated the remaining six months (See Chart 1). Since August 2000, the percent increases have tapered off with December being the smallest percent of growth registering at 2.6 percent.

The 2001 trade figures may bear out whether or not this is a continuing downward trend or just a "bump in the road".

In future issues of the *Border Business Indicators*, we will continue to focus on trade flows through the Texas border ports with greater detail. In the meantime, if you have an interest in monthly figures for the ports along the U.S.-Mexico border, visit our web site at www.tamtu.edu/coba/txcntr. On our main page, click on the link *Border Trade Data* and take a moment to view the trade data. There you will find an expanded version of the data used for this report. If you require more detailed trade data, 1-digit Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) groupings are available.

—B. G. Garcia

ERRATA

The December issue's, "Border ports: Figures show continued growth even with July dip", had previously reported that monthly percent increases were steady, with the exception of July 2000. After careful review of the data, we found an error. Since then, the data has been amended. A revised and up-to-date chart has been made available (See Chart 1). The correct percent increase was 20.8 percent. The data is also readily available at our website. We would like to thank our data users for calling our attention to this error.

Table 1
Total U.S.-Mexico Trade, 1999 vs. 2000
(Billions of Dollars)

	1999	2000	% Change
Exports	86.9	111.7	28.5
Imports	109.7	135.9	23.9
Total	196.6	247.6	25.9

Table 2
Total U.S.-Mexico Trade Passing via U.S.-Mexico Border Ports
1999 vs. 2000
(Billions of Dollars)

	1999	2000	% Change
Exports	73.3	93.5	27.6
Imports	92.2	110.9	20.3
Total	165.5	204.4	23.5

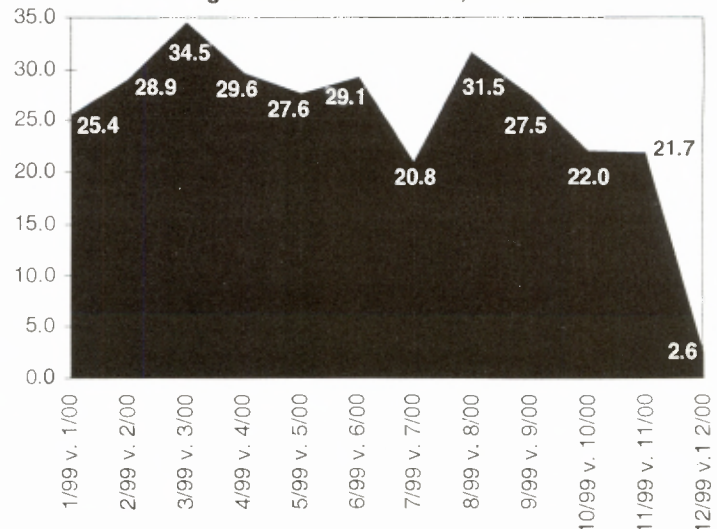
Table 3
Total U.S.-Mexico Trade Passing via Texas Border Ports
1999 vs. 2000
(Billions of Dollars)

	1999	2000	% Change
Exports	58.3	75.1	28.8
Imports	69.3	84.1	21.4
Total	127.6	159.2	24.8

Table 4
Percent Share of Total U.S.-Mexico Trade
1999 vs. 2000

	1999	2000
Texas Border Ports	64.9	64.3
Other U.S.-Mexico Border Ports	19.3	18.3
All U.S.-Mexico Border Ports	84.2	82.6

Chart 1
Percent Change of Total U.S.-Mexico Trade
Through Texas Border Ports, 1999 vs. 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division, Data Dissemination Branch, Washington, D.C. 20233 & U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

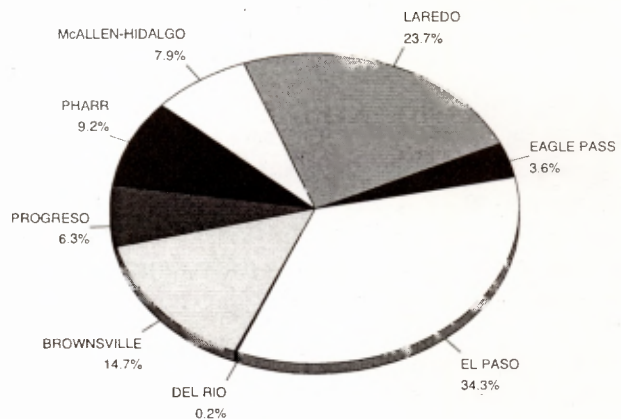
Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Mexico

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	198,629	211,063	268,809	279,036	2,877,518	2,709,099	-5.9
DEL RIO	4,499	1,347	3,228	4,593	52,795	43,012	-18.5
EAGLE PASS	45,777	50,579	66,231	65,893	693,466	613,857	-11.5
EL PASO	453,469	504,412	627,590	551,118	5,302,707	5,503,418	3.8
HARLINGEN	43	61	115	86	1,061	931	-12.3
LAREDO	339,866	362,342	433,198	444,675	4,274,223	4,285,153	0.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	100,794	113,347	143,690	139,919	1,275,302	1,350,631	5.9
PHARR	358,723	372,402	168,779	165,192	3,380,306	4,165,314	23.2
PROGRESO	59,073	91,388	115,517	129,513	1,305,212	1,234,158	-5.4
RIO GRANDE	734	759	664	556	8,226	10,356	25.9
ROMA	12,706	N/A	N/A	16,035	183,767	141,877	-22.8
TOTAL	1,574,313	1,707,700	1,827,821	1,796,616	19,354,583	20,057,806	3.6

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

Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico for December were up 7.0 percent. Rio Grande decreased 12.5 percent, Brownsville rose 27.4 percent, Eagle Pass gained 30.9 percent, El Paso went up 24.4 percent, and Laredo rose 19.6 percent. Progreso jumped 26.4 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo was up 26.8 percent. Year end southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico rose 3.6 percent. El Paso's southbound pedestrian crossings, which made up 27.4 percent of all crossings, increased 3.8 percent EOY. Laredo, accounting for 21.4 percent of total crossings, increased 0.3 percent EOY. Brownsville, with a 13.5 percent share, decreased 5.9 percent EOY; and Progreso, with 6.2 percent share, declined 5.4 percent.

% Share Pedestrians for December 2000



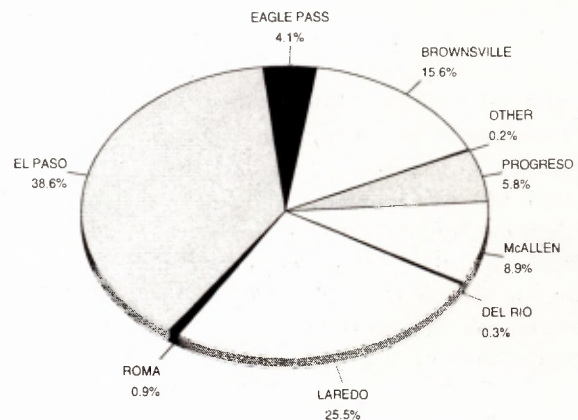
Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Texas

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	234,880	250,942	308,677	301,794	2,630,338	3,102,297	17.9
DEL RIO	5,886	5,996	6,601	5,642	91,845	97,786	6.5
EAGLE PASS	59,330	61,111	80,282	76,906	776,062	791,248	2.0
EL PASO	582,744	632,387	764,837	670,265	6,602,353	7,002,240	6.1
LAREDO	355,776	391,558	504,926	441,129	3,798,716	4,768,564	25.5
McALLEN-HIDALGO	123,327	140,677	176,782	120,753	1,146,383	1,491,730	30.1
PRESIDIO	2,700	2,748	2,962	2,949	26,143	31,712	21.3
PROGRESO	58,993	91,227	115,329	102,605	892,155	1,196,889	34.2
RIO GRANDE	1,427	1,338	1,707	1,256	12,907	16,945	31.3
ROMA	15,949	17,032	17,735	19,294	208,354	212,084	1.8
TOTAL	1,441,012	1,595,016	1,979,838	1,742,593	16,185,256	18,711,495	15.6

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 24.1 percent in December, Progreso increased 26.4 percent, Brownsville was up 23.0 percent, El Paso increased 20.9 percent, and Laredo gained 29.0 percent. Year end northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 15.6 percent. El Paso, accounting for 37.4 percent of northbound crossings, was up 6.1 percent EOY. Laredo, with 25.5 percent of all northbound crossings, was up 25.5 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 16.6 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings, increased 17.9 percent in crossings EOY.

% Share Pedestrians for December 2000



Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	618,953	640,813	672,362	679,248	7,458,871	7,584,703	1.7
DEL RIO	149,176	144,256	171,634	179,205	2,000,505	1,889,242	-5.6
EAGLE PASS	256,000	261,372	314,017	305,205	2,876,044	3,142,396	9.3
EL PASO	456,856	459,955	506,078	476,320	5,309,676	5,678,778	7.0
HARLINGEN	42,268	45,915	54,550	54,604	579,725	570,402	-1.6
LAREDO	740,523	763,801	792,345	798,007	8,685,103	8,805,944	1.4
McALLEN-HIDALGO	478,087	487,673	534,784	519,723	5,988,514	5,932,488	-0.9
PHARR	173,925	180,020	187,071	182,156	2,020,639	2,118,438	4.8
PROGRESO	83,848	91,388	104,842	105,675	1,207,697	1,131,598	-6.3
RIO GRANDE	46,280	48,882	56,258	56,570	633,295	593,232	-6.3
ROMA	93,656	N/A	N/A	116,244	1,120,190	963,143	-14.0
TOTAL	3,139,572	3,124,075	3,393,941	3,472,957	37,880,259	38,410,364	1.4

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

Southbound vehicle bridge crossings into Mexico were up 8.6 percent in December from November's figures. Eagle Pass was up 20.1 percent, Del Rio rose 19.0 percent, Rio Grande gained 15.1 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo rose 9.7 percent, and Brownsville went up 4.9 percent. Harlingen increased 18.8 percent, and Laredo rose 3.7 percent. Year end southbound vehicle bridge crossings increased 1.4 percent. Laredo, with 22.9 percent of all southbound

traffic, was up 1.4 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 19.7 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 1.7 percent increase EOY. El Paso, accounting for 14.8 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, rose 7.0 percent EOY. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 15.4 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 0.9 percent decrease EOY.

Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Texas

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	573,965	424,966	471,221	650,796	7,115,182	6,963,879	-2.1
DEL RIO	158,782	156,903	175,745	174,549	1,844,176	1,978,291	7.3
EAGLE PASS	268,734	90,572	98,767	109,113	2,291,023	2,906,921	26.9
EL PASO	781,044	747,569	778,068	684,340	8,543,131	8,987,499	5.2
HARLINGEN	51,454	55,372	63,868	64,852	767,795	699,346	-8.9
LAREDO	650,979	642,432	661,379	737,538	8,384,721	8,036,435	-4.2
McALLEN-HIDALGO	462,217	454,543	481,453	484,644	5,789,286	5,694,829	-1.6
PHARR	203,698	216,600	226,736	211,282	2,359,135	2,491,615	5.6
PRESIDIO	58,218	60,724	88,914	69,289	765,979	773,492	1.0
PROGRESO	81,941	89,194	101,556	99,712	1,099,161	1,089,009	-0.9
RIO GRANDE	52,655	54,064	59,474	59,648	679,131	663,211	-2.3
ROMA	94,892	99,249	113,515	110,987	1,132,184	1,184,151	4.6
TOTAL	3,438,579	3,092,188	3,320,696	3,456,750	40,770,904	41,468,678	1.7

Source: Data provided by Mexico's Oficina de Caminos y Puentes and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

Northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas for December were up 7.4 percent from November. Roma registered a 14.4 percent increase, Eagle Pass was up 9.0 percent, Progreso increased 13.9 percent, Brownsville rose 10.9 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo increased 5.9 percent. Presidio jumped 46.4 percent, and

Laredo was up 2.9 percent. Year end northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas were up 1.7 percent. El Paso, with 21.7 percent of all crossings, was up 5.2 percent EOY. Laredo, with 19.4 percent of all crossings, was down 4.2 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 16.8 percent of all crossings, fell 2.1 percent EOY.

Truck Crossings into Mexico —Number of Trucks

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE+	20,636	18,078	15,895	18,495	237,189	234,121	-1.3
DEL RIO+	6,090	5,809	4,741	5,329	67,788	69,468	2.5
EAGLE PASS+	10,152	8,778	7,001	8,596	81,928	108,704	32.7
EL PASO+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	N/A	N/A
HARLINGEN+	5,103	4,767	3,654	5,154	74,833	71,714	-4.2
LAREDO+	115,954	123,341	110,896	117,301	1,306,610	1,409,336	7.9
McALLEN-HIDALGO+	3,690	3,388	3,627	4,282	51,458	46,933	-8.8
PHARR+	22,451	22,330	18,292	16,964	206,298	256,899	24.5
PROGRESO+	1,646	2,425	2,653	2,500	27,627	25,322	-8.3
RIO GRANDE+	1,771	1,667	1,779	1,600	23,887	21,602	-9.6
ROMA+	1,254	N/A	N/A	1,334	15,767	13,142	-16.6
TOTAL	188,747	190,583	168,538	181,555	2,093,385	2,257,241	7.8

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

+ Includes both loaded and empty trucks.

++ Includes loaded trucks only.

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

Southbound truck crossings into Mexico were down 11.6 percent in December. Harlingen fell 23.3 percent, Del Rio fell 18.4 percent, and Pharr went down 18.1 percent. Rio Grande rose 6.7 percent. Laredo dropped 10.1 percent, and Brownsville declined 12.1 percent. Year end southbound truck crossings were up 7.8 percent. Laredo, with 62.4 percent of all southbound crossings,

experienced a 7.9 percent increase EOY. Brownsville, with 10.4 percent of all southbound crossings, had a 1.3 percent decrease EOY. Pharr, with 11.4 percent, registered an increase of 24.5 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, with 4.8 percent of all truck crossings, gained 32.7 percent EOY.

Truck Crossings into Texas —Number of Trucks

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	23,784	23,902	22,183	26,483	287,962	299,238	3.9
DEL RIO	4,984	5,444	5,120	4,369	59,843	61,228	2.3
EAGLE PASS	8,616	9,281	9,289	8,843	101,242	106,892	5.6
FALCON	28	24	29	45	509	452	-11.2
LAREDO	126,296	132,267	125,273	125,141	1,486,511	1,493,073	0.4
McALLEN-HIDALGO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHARR	29,833	31,938	31,226	29,052	325,352	374,150	15.0
PROGRESO	881	751	1,168	599	16,588	12,001	-27.7
RIO GRANDE	2,128	2,189	2,048	1,660	20,946	24,065	14.9
ROMA	973	1,045	1,019	1,371	15,985	12,824	-19.8
TOTAL	197,523	206,841	197,355	197,563	2,314,938	2,383,923	3.0

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.

December northbound truck crossings into Texas were down 4.6 percent over November's crossings. Eagle Pass was up 0.1 percent, Brownsville fell 7.2 percent, Progreso increased 55.5 percent, Pharr decreased 2.2 percent, and Laredo was down 5.3 percent. Roma dropped 2.5 percent. Year end northbound truck crossings were up 0.4 percent. Laredo, accounting for 62.6 percent

of all northbound truck crossings, had a 1.4 percent increase EOY. Pharr, with 15.7 percent of all crossings, experienced a 15.0 percent increase EOY. Brownsville, with 12.6 percent of all northbound truck crossings, experienced a 3.9 percent increase EOY.

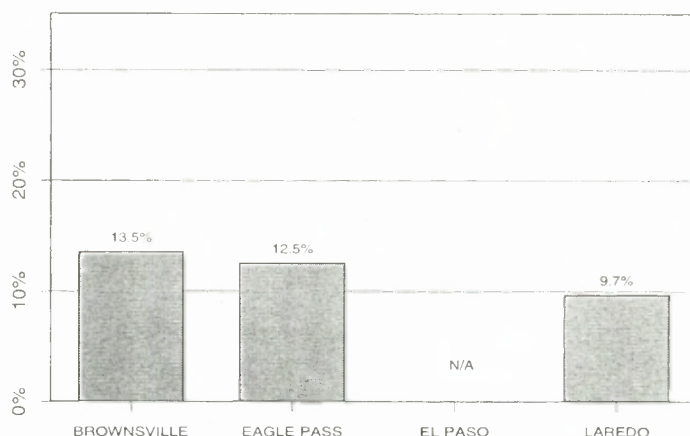
Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,985	2,020	2,206	3,458	31,780	36,074	13.5
EAGLE PASS	7,693	6,610	6,085	5,773	69,661	78,347	12.5
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	18,064	16,925	15,385	15,034	168,139	184,498	9.7
TOTAL	29,742	25,555	23,676	24,265	269,580	298,919	10.9

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 decreased 7.4 percent in December compared to November. Brownsville increased 9.2 percent, while Laredo fell 9.1 percent. Eagle Pass dropped 7.9 percent. Year end total southbound rail shipments into Mexico from Texas were up 10.9 percent. Laredo which accounted for 61.7 percent of all southbound rail shipments, was up 9.7 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, accounting for 26.2 percent of all southbound rail shipments, increased 12.5 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 12.1 percent of all southbound rail shipments, showed an increase of 13.5 percent EOY.

Export Rail YTD % Change 99-00



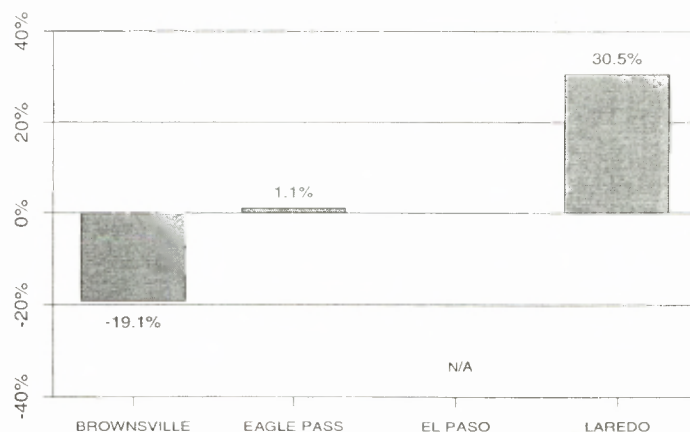
Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,060	1,154	1,301	740	15,354	12,426	-19.1
EAGLE PASS	3,485	3,078	2,457	2,827	41,749	42,214	1.1
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	14,318	12,605	11,366	8,461	115,771	151,110	30.5
TOTAL	18,863	16,837	15,124	12,028	172,874	205,750	19.0

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

Northbound rail shipments into Texas decreased 10.2 percent in December. Laredo fell 9.8 percent, but Brownsville was up 12.7 percent, and Eagle Pass dropped 20.2 percent. Year end total northbound shipments into Texas from Mexico were up 19.0 percent. Laredo, which accounted for 73.4 percent of all northbound rail shipments, was up 30.5 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, accounting for 20.5 percent of all northbound rail shipments, rose 1.1 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 5.8 percent of all northbound rail shipments, decreased 19.1 percent EOY.

Import Rail YTD % Change 99-00



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

CITY	DUTY	MPF	OTHER	TOTAL	TOTAL	YTD	YTD	YTD % CHG
	DEC 00	DEC 00	REVENUE DEC 00	REVENUE DEC 00	REVENUE DEC 99	REVENUE DEC 99	REVENUE DEC 00	
BROWNSVILLE	3,658,657	107,809	143,290	3,909,756	5,347,522	41,931,743	57,557,393	37.3
DEL RIO	115,198	33,421	21,836	170,456	197,470	3,234,119	2,416,787	-25.3
EAGLE PASS	324,492	13,301	2,167,812	2,505,606	2,263,592	40,818,892	38,884,484	-4.7
LAREDO	9,578,396	614,261	6,519,903	16,712,560	17,228,515	223,779,279	228,572,115	2.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO	2,269,667	204,749	421,114	2,895,529	2,435,756	40,066,605	34,895,191	-12.9
PROGRESO	361	1,109	13,525	14,995	18,024	390,813	226,186	-42.1
RIO GRANDE	38,844	5,579	15,184	59,607	59,050	898,561	728,528	-18.9
ROMA	15,418	2,527	13,921	31,866	70,612	684,348	487,261	-28.8
TOTAL	16,001,033	982,757	9,316,585	26,300,375	27,620,540	351,804,358	363,767,943	3.4

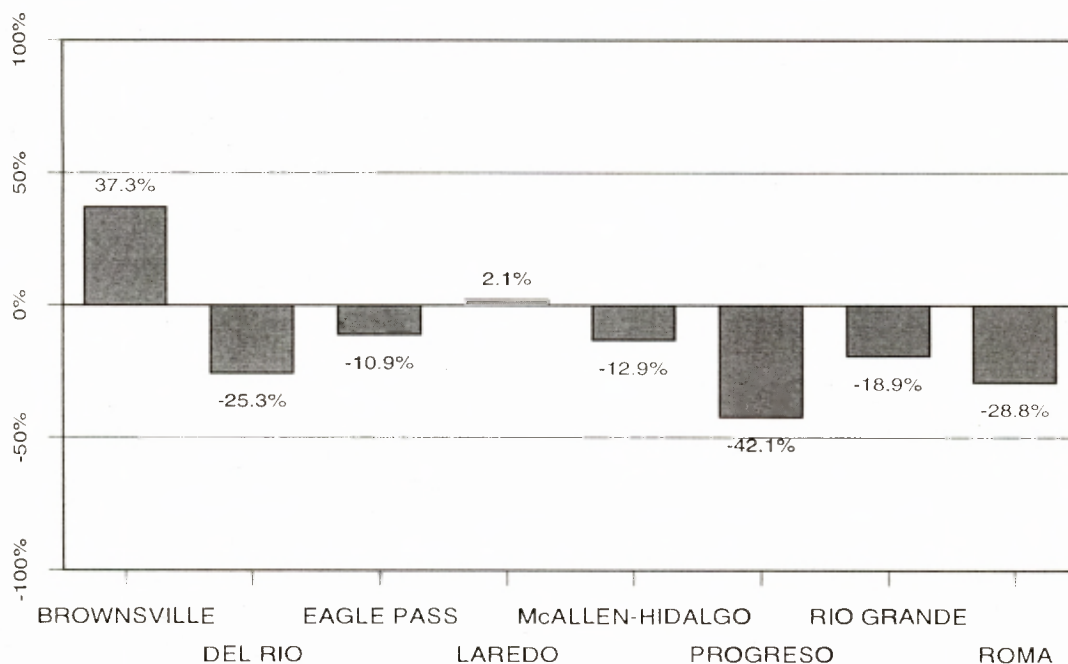
Source: Data provided by the South Texas CMC in Laredo and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

MPF = Merchandise Processing Fee

Total U.S. Customs revenues, for December, for the former District of Laredo, decreased 8.6 percent from November's figures. McAllen-Hidalgo was up 47.2 percent, Rio Grande gained 52.9 percent, Progreso increased 36.0 percent, Roma rose 2.8 percent, Laredo decreased 8.6 percent, Eagle Pass went down 0.9 percent, Brownsville fell 5.8 percent, and Del Rio declined 6.4 percent. Year end revenues for the border were up 3.4 percent

compared to December 1999, EOY. Laredo, accounting for 62.8 percent share of the former district's revenue was up 2.1 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 15.8 percent share of total revenues, was up 37.3 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, accounting for 10.7 percent of all revenues, was down 4.7 percent EOY. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 9.6 percent of total revenues, decreased 12.9 percent EOY.

% Change Total Revenues YTD 99-00



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

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	880,290	871,749	915,383	816,951	8,485,562	9,896,764	16.6
DEL RIO	376,357	364,984	407,987	415,190	4,030,372	4,603,014	14.2
EAGLE PASS	606,027	603,340	682,782	677,887	6,425,129	7,349,959	14.4
EL PASO	997,658	1,001,976	1,031,256	1,025,002	11,747,253	11,633,038	-1.0
HARLINGEN	130,415	130,995	129,566	129,386	1,428,034	1,506,395	5.5
LAREDO	2,485,460	2,463,441	2,448,826	2,541,136	27,240,945	28,926,161	6.2
McALLEN-HIDALGO	786,633	798,733	886,454	738,617	8,428,917	8,828,606	4.7
PHARR	451,134	447,601	453,659	383,690	4,127,178	4,860,670	17.8
TOTAL	6,713,975	6,682,819	6,955,913	6,727,858	71,913,391	77,604,607	7.9

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

Brownsville's Revenues are for Cameron County Bridge only.

U.S. bridge operators' revenues increased 4.1 percent in the month of December. Pharr went up 1.4 percent, Brownsville was up 5.0 percent, Laredo went down 0.6, Del Rio increased 11.8 percent, Harlingen fell 1.1 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo went up 11.0 percent, Eagle Pass rose 13.2 percent, and El Paso registered a gain of 2.9 percent. Year end U.S. bridge operators' revenues were up 7.9 percent. Laredo, accounting for 37.3 percent of total U.S.

bridge operator's revenues collected, had a 6.2 percent increase EOY. El Paso, accounting for 15.0 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues, decreased 1.0 percent EOY. Brownsville, accounting for 12.8 percent, was up 16.6 percent EOY. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 11.4 percent of the total bridge revenues, increased 4.7 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, with 9.5 percent of the total bridge revenues, rose 14.4 percent EOY.

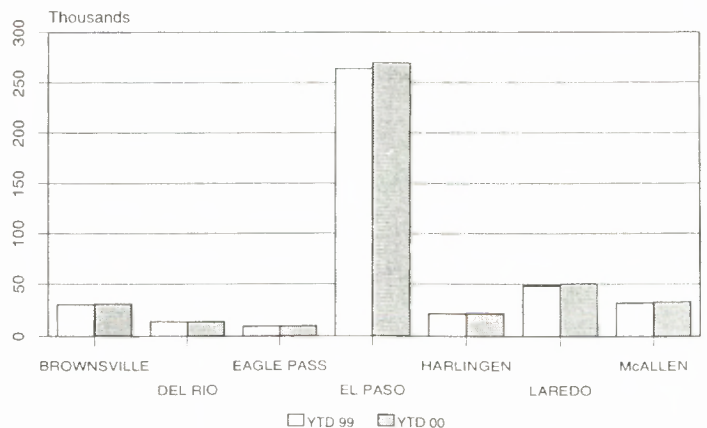
Power Connections – Texas Border Residential Connections

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	30,412	30,559	30,640	29,854	29,621	30,346	2.4
DEL RIO	14,022	14,062	14,109	13,894	13,859	14,038	1.3
EAGLE PASS	9,682	9,729	9,782	9,516	9,474	9,671	2.1
EL PASO	271,082	271,439	271,596	266,250	263,866	269,786	2.2
HARLINGEN	21,382	21,536	21,839	21,258	21,054	21,533	2.3
LAREDO	50,608	50,731	50,906	48,781	48,185	50,154	4.1
McALLEN	32,311	32,470	32,847	31,848	31,506	32,374	2.8
TOTAL	429,499	430,526	431,719	421,401	417,566	427,902	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

December's total residential power connections for cited Texas border cities increased over November's figures by 0.28 percent. Year end residential power connections were up 2.5 percent. Laredo was up 4.1 percent, McAllen increased 2.8 percent, Del Rio gained 1.3 percent, Harlingen jumped 2.3 percent, El Paso rose 2.2 percent, Brownsville increased 2.4 percent, and Eagle Pass was up by 2.1 percent.

YTD AVG December 99-00



Power Connections – Texas Border (Cont'd)

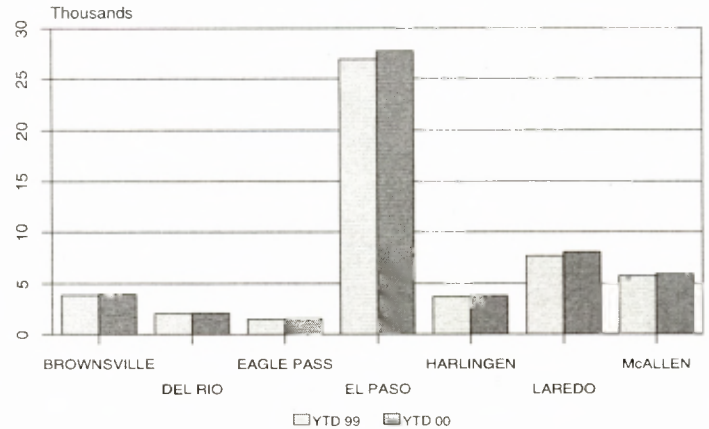
Commercial Connections

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,987	3,981	3,990	3,898	3,874	3,958	2.2
DEL RIO	2,110	2,104	2,117	2,046	2,046	2,091	2.2
EAGLE PASS	1,530	1,525	1,525	1,494	1,472	1,517	3.0
EL PASO	27,862	27,891	27,946	27,199	26,900	27,684	2.9
HARLINGEN	3,816	3,814	3,833	3,730	3,691	3,795	2.8
LAREDO	8,154	8,199	8,216	7,804	7,695	8,073	4.9
McALLEN	5,946	5,953	5,941	5,846	5,787	5,919	2.3
TOTAL	53,405	53,467	53,568	52,017	51,465	53,036	3.1

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

December's total commercial power connections for cited Texas border cities increased 0.19 percent over November's figures. Year end averages of commercial power connections increased 3.1 percent. Harlingen was up 2.8 percent, Eagle Pass increased 3.0 percent, Laredo gained 4.9 percent, McAllen was up 2.3 percent, Del Rio rose 2.2 percent, El Paso gained 2.9 percent, and Brownsville increased 2.2 percent.

YTD AVG December 99-00



Industrial Connections

CITY	OCT 00	NOV 00	DEC 00	DEC 99	YTD 99	YTD 00	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	522	529	520	466	463	490	5.7
DEL RIO	27	27	27	28	28	27	-3.6
EAGLE PASS	16	16	16	16	16	15	-2.7
EL PASO	135	135	133	123	119	130	8.4
HARLINGEN	81	81	78	81	81	81	-0.3
LAREDO	116	117	118	116	122	115	-6.1
McALLEN	44	44	44	44	44	44	0.4
TOTAL	941	949	936	874	873	901	3.2

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

December's total industrial power connections for cited Texas border cities were down 1.37 percent from November's figures. Year end averages of industrial power connections increased 3.2 percent. El Paso increased 8.4 percent, Harlingen fell 3.7 percent, Brownsville was up 5.7 percent, and Laredo rose 12.7 percent.

YTD AVG December 99-00

