



Border Business Indicators

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 December demonstrated an increase of twelve indicators while ten indicators decreased. In addition, the end-of-year (EOY) figures, eleven indicators were up and eleven decreased. Selected 2001 EOY comparisons to 2000 reported by border cities include the following:

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were down 0.9 percent. Laredo decreased 3.5 percent, Rio Grande fell 0.9 percent, McAllen registered an increase of 1.9 percent and El Paso rose 0.02 percent.
- Northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 2.6 percent. Laredo fell 3.6 percent. El Paso went up 3.4 percent. McAllen marked an increase of 18.6 percent.
- Southbound vehicle crossings were down 2.8 percent. Brownsville fell 4.9 percent, and Eagle Pass increased 3.1 percent. El Paso went down 8.7 percent and Pharr decreased 3.4 percent. Laredo went down 2.4 percent. McAllen decreased 1.0 percent.
- Northbound vehicle crossings were down 3.4 percent. Eagle Pass rose 0.5 percent. Roma increased 0.7 percent, El Paso went down 6.8 percent, Brownsville lost 4.0 percent and Pharr increased 2.3 percent.
- Southbound truck crossings into Mexico were down 3.2 percent. Eagle Pass went down 14.9 percent. Pharr increased 0.5 percent, and Laredo fell 0.1 percent. Del Rio was down 0.4 percent. Progreso gained 1.6 and Rio Grande grew 1.6 percent.
- Northbound truck crossings into Texas went down 6.1 percent, Pharr fell 1.5 percent and Eagle Pass posted an 8.6 percent decrease. Brownsville decreased 15.9 percent, Laredo fell 6.0 percent, Del Rio marked a drop of 2.1 percent. Rio Grande had a gain of 6.9 percent. Progreso went up 65.4 percent.
- Southbound shipments by rail were up 2.6 percent.
- Northbound shipments by rail were up 3.9 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs went down 10.3 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. bridge operators were up 1.0 percent.
- Total building permits issued were up 8.3 percent. Laredo rose 23.6 percent, Eagle Pass gained 8.1 percent, while McAllen dropped 7.1 percent, and Brownsville registered an increase of 0.7 percent. El Paso showed an 8.3 percent increase.
- Total building permit values increased 13.1 percent. Laredo increased 19.4 percent, and Brownsville fell 16.0 percent. McAllen increased 29.2 percent. El Paso was up 16.1 percent, and Eagle Pass jumped 89.0 percent.
- Total employment was up 0.1 percent, with 285 jobs gained. The average unemployment rate for the border in December 2001 was 7.7 percent.

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

Technical Reports

Technical Report No. 1:	NAFTA Rules of Origin: An Explanation (March 1994)
Technical Report No. 2:	The Impact of NAFTA on U.S.-Mexico Commercial and Border Zones and the Potential Consequences to the Border (February 1994)
Technical Report No. 3:	Labor Mobility Under NAFTA: It's Impact on the Border (February 1994)
Technical Report No. 4:	The Impact of NAFTA on Border Maquiladora and Industrial Activity (April 1994)
Technical Report No. 6:	U.S.-Mexico Trade Patterns Under NAFTA (March 1994)
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://www.tamtu.edu/coba/txcntr>) in PDF format, unless otherwise noted. These are also available by writing to: Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development, Texas A&M International University, 5201 University Boulevard, Laredo, Texas 78041-1900. Please enclose \$5.00 for each report requested. Make check or money order payable to the Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development.

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@tamtu.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.

Year Ends with a Negative in U.S.-Mexico Trade

As trade data for the end of 2001 was released, the trend of U.S.-Mexico trade had already been pointing to a downturn and it ended in the negative in comparison to the year 2000. The negatives may be mostly attributed to the recession in the U.S., and to a small extent, complications at the border brought on by reaction to 9/11.

The monthly figures had been tracking below those of 2000 after the first quarter of 2001. Total trade between the two countries was down 6.7 percent (\$282.8 billion) against last year's \$247.8 billion.

In retrospect, 2000 registered as the peak year in U.S.-Mexico trade in the past twelve years. If 2001 were compared to 1999 in total trade, it would still have registered a very healthy 18.5 percent increase. 2000 had a 20.7 percent increase over 1999. (See Chart 1A and Chart 1B)

Exports suffered the larger drop in 2001. Compared to

2000, exports were under by 10.4 percent in 2001. Imports recorded a 3.4 percent decrease for the same year. If 2001 export and import figures were compared to 1999, they would have registered a 16.8 percent and 19.8 percent increases respectively.

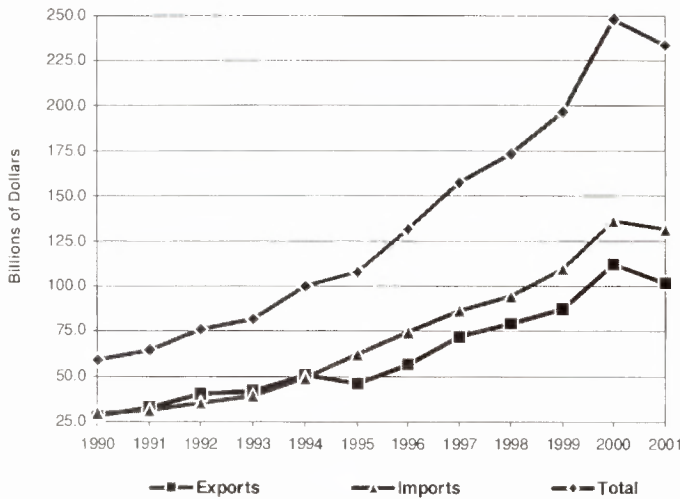
Charts 1C and Chart 2 exhibit the percentage comparisons of the individual months for the years 1999, 2000, 2001.

Although the numbers were down, the effect could be considered more of a "yield" as opposed to a downward spiral. According to pundits, the U.S. is coming out of the recession. It will be of great interest to see what the first quarter of 2002 bodes for these trading partners.

In the next issue of the *BBI*, a closer look will be taken at the individual border ports' final total dollar values of goods processed through them.

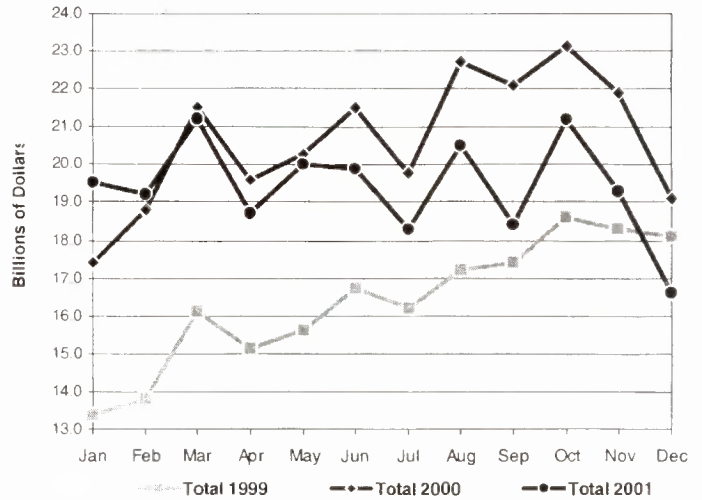
—B. G. Garcia

Chart 1A U.S.-Mexico Trade, 1990-2001



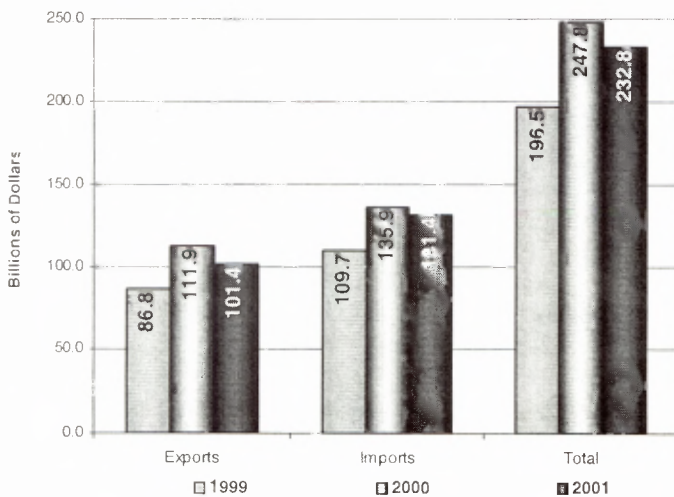
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

Chart 1C U.S.-Mexico Trade, 1999, 2000 & 2001



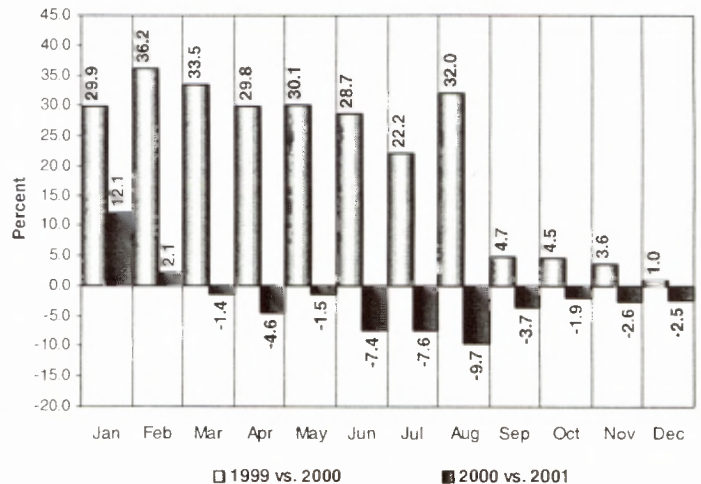
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce data compiled by the Texas Center at Texas A&M International University

Chart 1B U.S.-Mexico Trade, 1999, 2000 & 2001



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

Chart 2 U.S.-Mexico Trade Percent Changes
Total Trade, 1999 vs. 2000 & 2000 vs. 2001



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

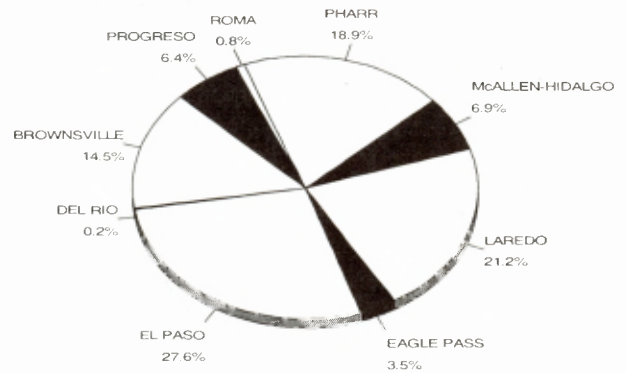
Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Mexico

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	201,288	208,693	275,969	268,809	2,709,099	2,808,312	3.7
DEL RIO	5,290	2,202	2,928	3,228	43,012	49,006	13.9
EAGLE PASS	53,416	51,567	67,176	66,231	608,133	628,353	3.3
EL PASO	461,411	416,137	525,240	627,590	5,503,418	5,504,661	0.0
HARLINGEN	90	99	69	115	931	950	2.0
LAREDO	289,427	285,371	404,659	444,675	4,296,630	4,148,101	-3.5
McALLEN-HIDALGO	97,458	105,953	131,611	143,690	1,350,631	1,376,333	1.9
PHARR	294,242	305,095	360,043	346,397	4,342,932	4,175,041	-3.9
PROGRESO	64,181	89,264	122,902	115,517	1,234,158	1,235,276	0.1
RIO GRANDE	305	253	284	664	10,356	10,258	-0.9
ROMA	13,857	13,371	14,932	13,703	169,048	158,086	-6.5
TOTAL	1,480,965	1,478,005	1,905,813	2,030,619	20,268,348	20,094,377	-0.9

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

Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico for December were up 28.9 percent. Rio Grande increased 12.3 percent, Brownsville gained 32.2 percent, Eagle Pass rose 30.3 percent, El Paso was up 26.2 percent, and Laredo went up 41.8 percent. Progreso gained 37.7 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo went up 24.2 percent. Del Rio increased 33.0 percent. EOY southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico declined 0.9 percent. El Paso's southbound pedestrian crossings, which made up 27.4 percent of all crossings, increased 0.02 percent EOY. Laredo, accounting for 20.6 percent of total crossings, fell 3.5 percent EOY. Brownsville, with a 14.0 percent share, increased 3.7 percent EOY. Progreso, with 6.1 percent share, gained 0.1 percent. Del Rio, with 0.2 percent, increased 13.9 percent EOY.

% Share Pedestrians for December 2001



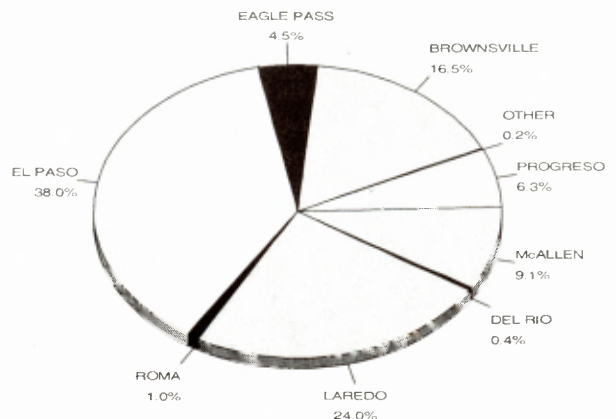
Pedestrian Bridge Crossings into Texas

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	233,657	243,184	320,283	308,677	3,102,297	3,198,168	3.1
DEL RIO	7,262	7,055	7,757	6,601	97,786	93,207	-4.7
EAGLE PASS	69,625	66,544	87,943	80,282	791,248	820,105	3.6
EL PASO	639,793	563,713	738,128	764,837	7,068,152	7,307,850	3.4
LAREDO	324,925	325,048	465,379	504,926	4,768,564	4,596,023	-3.6
McALLEN-HIDALGO	130,643	140,540	175,619	176,782	1,491,730	1,768,897	18.6
PRESIDIO	2,174	2,218	2,214	2,962	31,503	30,329	-3.7
PROGRESO	64,452	89,409	122,296	115,329	1,196,889	1,228,247	2.6
RIO GRANDE	1,052	1,179	1,426	1,707	16,945	15,686	-7.4
ROMA	17,001	17,153	19,250	17,735	212,084	204,045	-3.8
TOTAL	1,490,584	1,456,043	1,940,295	1,979,838	18,777,198	19,262,557	2.6

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 33.3 percent in December. Progreso increased 36.8 percent, Brownsville was up 31.7 percent, El Paso rose 30.9 percent, and Laredo gained 43.2 percent. EOY northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 2.6 percent. El Paso, accounting for 37.9 percent of northbound crossings, was up 3.4 percent EOY. Laredo, with 23.9 percent of all northbound crossings, was down 3.6 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 16.6 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings, increased 3.1 percent over the previous year.

% Share Pedestrians for December 2001



Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	499,744	519,436	598,043	672,362	7,584,703	7,215,436	-4.9
DEL RIO	138,892	149,707	182,585	171,634	1,889,242	1,878,639	-0.6
EAGLE PASS	232,197	257,735	315,708	314,017	3,112,120	3,209,930	3.1
EL PASO	332,765	338,230	382,669	506,075	5,678,775	5,186,548	-8.7
HARLINGEN	43,084	46,383	57,193	54,550	570,402	581,912	2.0
LAREDO	640,011	653,830	752,955	792,345	8,805,944	8,594,433	-2.4
McALLEN-HIDALGO	422,929	439,157	519,660	534,784	5,932,488	5,870,400	-1.0
PHARR	144,528	148,620	172,473	167,610	2,098,977	2,026,749	-3.4
PROGRESO	75,894	83,771	101,931	104,842	1,131,598	1,131,666	0.0
RIO GRANDE	48,690	53,865	64,263	56,258	593,232	626,176	5.6
ROMA	87,514	96,196	116,762	118,481	1,181,715	1,181,468	0.0
TOTAL	2,666,248	2,786,930	3,264,242	3,492,958	38,579,196	37,503,357	-2.8

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

Southbound vehicle bridge crossings into Mexico were up 17.1 percent in December. Eagle Pass was up 22.5 percent, Del Rio rose 22.0 percent, Rio Grande gained 19.3 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo increased 18.3 percent, and Brownsville went up 15.1 percent. Harlingen gained 23.3 percent, and Laredo was up 15.2 percent. EOY southbound vehicle bridge crossings were down 2.8 percent. Laredo, with 22.9 percent of all southbound traffic, was down 2.4

percent EOY. Brownsville, with 19.2 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 4.9 percent decrease EOY. El Paso, accounting for 13.8 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, fell 8.7 percent EOY. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 15.7 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 1.0 percent decrease EOY.

Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Texas

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	500,040	509,642	560,517	633,659	7,279,489	6,991,739	-4.0
DEL RIO	142,561	150,956	179,421	175,745	1,978,291	1,956,960	-1.1
EAGLE PASS	240,725	263,972	313,139	311,510	3,299,201	3,315,583	0.5
EL PASO	576,608	577,185	623,260	778,068	8,981,678	8,370,987	-6.8
HARLINGEN	62,027	66,240	80,050	63,868	699,346	753,820	7.8
LAREDO	536,997	555,009	607,193	661,379	8,036,434	7,657,231	-4.7
McALLEN-HIDALGO	385,837	391,788	459,114	481,453	5,694,829	5,401,575	-5.1
PHARR	186,139	194,159	215,014	226,736	2,491,615	2,547,896	2.3
PRESIDIO	52,274	56,679	66,612	88,914	771,716	736,933	-4.5
PROGRESO	79,397	90,733	109,872	101,556	1,089,009	1,137,123	4.4
RIO GRANDE	50,087	54,770	64,602	59,474	663,211	661,918	-0.2
ROMA	88,184	96,331	113,447	113,515	1,184,151	1,191,862	0.7
TOTAL	2,900,876	3,007,464	3,392,241	3,695,877	42,168,970	40,723,627	-3.4

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 12.8 percent. Eagle Pass went up 18.6 percent, Progreso gained 21.1 percent, Brownsville increased 10.0 percent, and McAllen-Hidalgo rose 17.2 percent. Presidio was up 17.5 percent, and Laredo went up 9.4 percent. EOY northbound vehicle bridge

crossings into Texas were down 3.4 percent. El Paso, with 20.6 percent of all crossings, was down 6.8 percent EOY. Laredo, with 18.8 percent of all crossings, fell 4.7 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 17.2 percent of all crossings, declined 4.0 percent EOY.

Truck Crossings into Mexico —Number of Trucks

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE+	19,724	18,497	16,429	15,895	234,121	217,731	-7.0
DEL RIO+	6,535	6,255	5,411	4,741	69,468	69,770	0.4
EAGLE PASS+	7,903	7,532	6,631	7,001	108,704	92,466	-14.9
EL PASO+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	N/A	N/A	N/A
HARLINGEN+	3,469	2,694	2,255	3,654	71,714	42,599	-40.6
LAREDO+	128,487	122,893	115,333	110,896	1,409,336	1,407,621	-0.1
McALLEN-HIDALGO+	2,757	2,902	2,912	3,627	46,933	37,244	-20.6
PHARR+	21,812	20,362	18,727	18,621	257,228	258,386	0.5
PROGRESO+	2,572	2,089	1,970	2,653	25,322	25,724	1.6
RIO GRANDE+	1,553	1,599	1,774	1,779	21,602	21,940	1.6
ROMA+	1,436	999	945	1,130	15,459	13,633	-11.8
TOTAL	196,248	185,822	172,387	169,997	2,259,887	2,187,114	-3.2

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 7.2 percent in December. Harlingen decreased 16.3 percent, Del Rio fell 13.5 percent, and Pharr decreased 8.0 percent. Laredo was down 6.2 percent and Brownsville lost 11.2 percent. EOY southbound truck crossings were down 3.2 percent. Laredo, with 64.4 percent of all southbound

crossings, experienced a 0.1 percent decrease EOY. Brownsville, with a 10.0 percent of all southbound crossings, had a 7.0 percent decrease EOY. Pharr, with 11.8 percent, registered an increase of 0.5 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, with 4.2 percent of all truck crossings, fell 14.9 percent EOY.

Truck Crossings into Texas —Number of Trucks

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	22,322	20,792	18,267	18,914	299,238	251,613	-15.9
DEL RIO	4,967	5,523	4,785	4,055	61,228	59,942	-2.1
EAGLE PASS	8,346	7,730	6,491	7,322	106,892	97,658	-8.6
FALCON	0	0	0	23	452	223	-50.7
LAREDO	131,992	114,006	106,401	110,110	1,493,073	1,404,184	-6.0
McALLEN-HIDALGO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHARR	32,070	30,434	27,423	26,359	374,150	368,395	-1.5
PROGRESO	2,240	1,956	1,952	1,034	12,001	19,844	65.4
RIO GRANDE	1,946	1,848	1,850	2,074	24,065	25,724	6.9
ROMA	1,091	923	805	867	12,824	11,730	-8.5
TOTAL	204,974	183,212	167,974	170,758	2,383,923	2,239,313	-6.1

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 8.3 percent. Eagle Pass was down 16.0 percent, Brownsville lost 12.1 percent, Progreso fell 0.2 percent, Pharr went down 9.9 percent, and Laredo decreased 6.7 percent. Roma went down 12.8 percent. EOY northbound truck crossings were down 6.1 percent. Laredo,

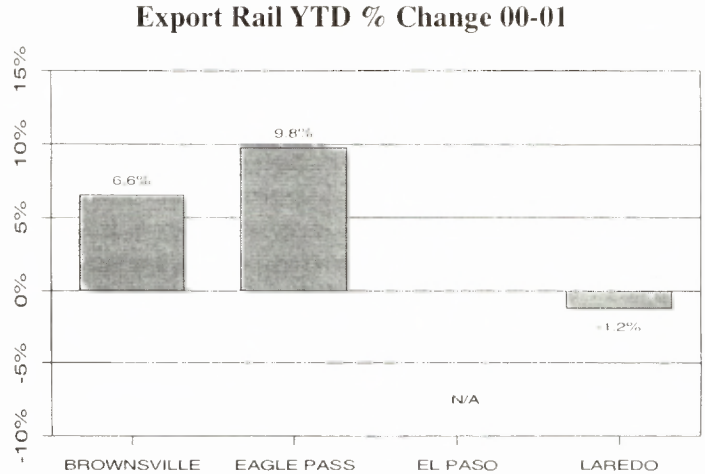
accounting for 62.7 percent of all northbound truck crossings, had a 6.0 percent decrease EOY. Pharr, with 16.5 percent of all crossings, experienced a 1.5 percent decline EOY. Brownsville, with 11.2 percent of all northbound truck crossings, experienced a 15.9 percent decrease EOY.

Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	3,382	4,455	4,097	2,206	36,074	38,450	6.6
EAGLE PASS	7,358	7,334	7,401	6,085	78,347	86,038	9.8
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	16,329	16,717	14,866	15,385	184,498	182,244	-1.2
TOTAL	27,069	28,506	26,364	23,676	298,919	306,732	2.6

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 7.5 percent in December. Brownsville fell 8.0 percent, and Laredo decreased 11.1 percent. Eagle Pass rose 0.9 percent. EOY southbound rail shipments into Mexico from Texas were up 2.6 percent. Laredo which accounted for 59.4 percent of all southbound rail shipments, was down 1.2 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, accounting for 28.0 percent of all southbound rail shipments, increased 9.8 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 12.5 percent of all southbound rail shipments, showed an increase of 6.6 percent EOY.

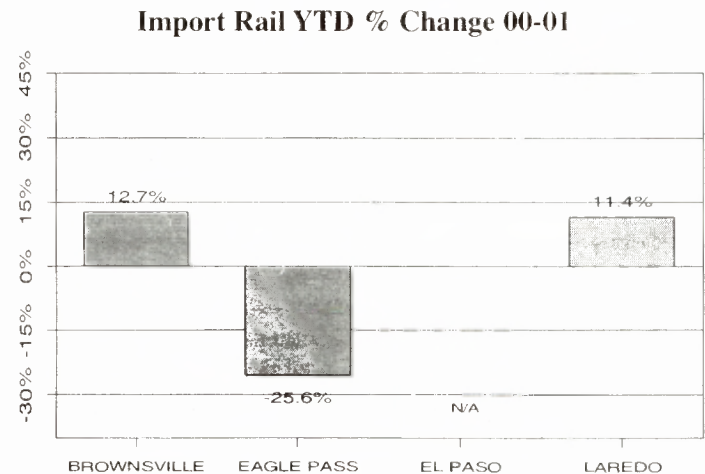


Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	1,220	284	452	1,301	12,426	14,007	12.7
EAGLE PASS	2,681	2,109	1,944	2,457	42,214	31,392	-25.6
EL PASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAREDO	15,872	13,815	12,339	11,366	151,110	168,376	11.4
TOTAL	19,773	16,208	14,735	15,124	205,750	213,775	3.9

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

Northbound rail shipments into Texas decreased 9.1 percent in December. Laredo fell 10.7 percent, Brownsville increased 59.2 percent, and Eagle Pass lost 7.8 percent. EOY total northbound shipments into Texas from Mexico were up 3.9 percent. Laredo, which accounted for 78.8 percent of all northbound rail shipments, was up 11.4 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, accounting for 14.7 percent of all northbound rail shipments, fell 25.6 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 6.6 percent of all northbound rail shipments, increased 12.7 percent EOY.



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

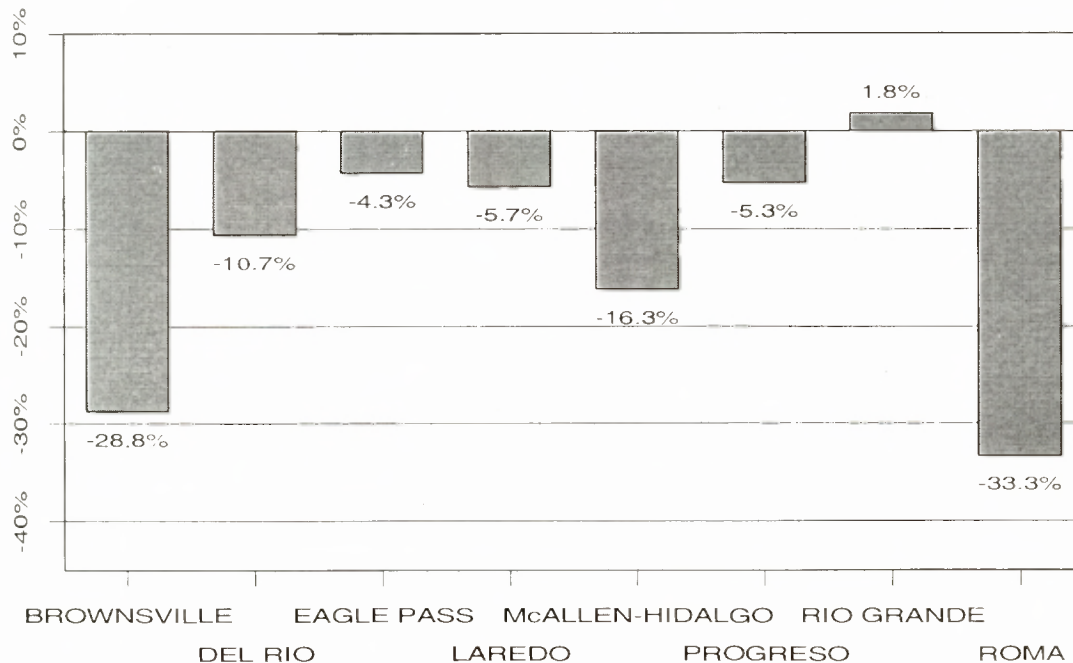
CITY	DUTY	MPF	OTHER	TOTAL	TOTAL	YTD	YTD	YTD % CHG
	DEC 01	DEC 01	REVENUE DEC 01	REVENUE DEC 01	REVENUE DEC 00	REVENUE DEC 00	REVENUE DEC 01	
BROWNSVILLE	1,702,916	93,428	574,554	2,370,898	3,909,756	53,647,637	38,216,402	-28.8
DEL RIO	221,255	36,628	23,809	281,692	170,456	2,246,331	2,005,703	-10.7
EAGLE PASS	135,629	10,095	1,364,388	1,510,112	2,505,606	36,378,878	34,800,040	-4.3
LAREDO	7,410,966	553,457	5,580,885	13,545,308	16,712,560	211,859,555	199,680,382	-5.7
McALLEN-HIDALGO	2,006,361	179,405	172,535	2,358,301	2,895,529	31,999,661	26,769,999	-16.3
PROGRESO	9	1,468	15,841	17,318	14,995	211,191	199,977	-5.3
RIO GRANDE	38,757	4,968	10,355	54,080	59,607	668,920	680,906	1.8
ROMA	12,171	359	10,658	23,188	31,866	455,394	303,630	-33.3
TOTAL	11,528,064	879,808	7,753,025	20,160,897	26,300,375	337,467,569	302,657,038	-10.3

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
MPF = Merchandise Processing Fee

Total U.S. Customs revenues, for December, for the former District of Laredo, had a decrease of 14.8 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo was up 13.0 percent, Rio Grande gained 42.1 percent, Progreso fell 0.2 percent, Roma increased 1.4 percent, Laredo went down 15.6 percent, Eagle Pass fell 41.7 percent, Brownsville lost 7.5 percent, and Del Rio was down 7.4 percent. EOY revenues for the border were down 10.3 percent compared to December 2000. Laredo,

accounting for 66.0 percent share of the former district's revenue was down 5.7 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 12.6 percent share of total revenues, was down 28.8 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, accounting for 11.5 percent of all revenues, was down 4.3 percent EOY. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 8.8 percent of total revenues, decreased 16.3 percent EOY.

% Change Total Revenues YTD 00-01



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

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	870,863	888,068	978,181	915,383	9,896,764	10,887,212	10.0
DEL RIO	360,614	354,863	422,552	407,987	4,603,014	4,570,232	-0.7
EAGLE PASS	537,314	579,512	671,862	682,782	7,349,959	7,093,660	-3.5
EL PASO	831,221	788,716	881,533	1,031,256	12,033,038	11,138,183	-7.4
HARLINGEN	111,592	108,200	120,836	129,566	1,506,395	1,382,382	-8.2
LAREDO	2,286,527	2,335,760	2,727,866	2,448,826	28,836,161	28,934,272	0.3
McALLEN-HIDALGO	694,433	724,159	853,855	886,454	8,828,606	9,638,453	9.2
PHARR	404,747	374,075	427,700	453,659	4,860,670	5,087,308	4.7
TOTAL	6,097,311	6,153,353	7,084,385	6,955,913	77,914,607	78,731,703	1.0

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 15.1 percent in the month of December. Pharr went up 14.3 percent, Brownsville gained 10.1 percent, Laredo rose 16.8 percent. Del Rio increased 19.1 percent, Harlingen went up 11.7 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo was up 17.9 percent, Eagle Pass increased 15.9 percent, and El Paso gained 11.8 percent. EOY U.S. bridge operator's revenues were up 1.0 percent. Laredo, accounting for 36.8 percent of total U.S.

bridge operator's revenues collected, had a 0.3 percent increase EOY. El Paso, accounting for 14.1 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues, went down 7.4 percent EOY. Brownsville, accounting for 13.8 percent, was up 10.0 percent EOY. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 12.2 percent of the total bridge revenues, increased 9.2 percent EOY. Eagle Pass, with 9.0 percent of the total bridge revenues, fell 3.5 percent EOY.

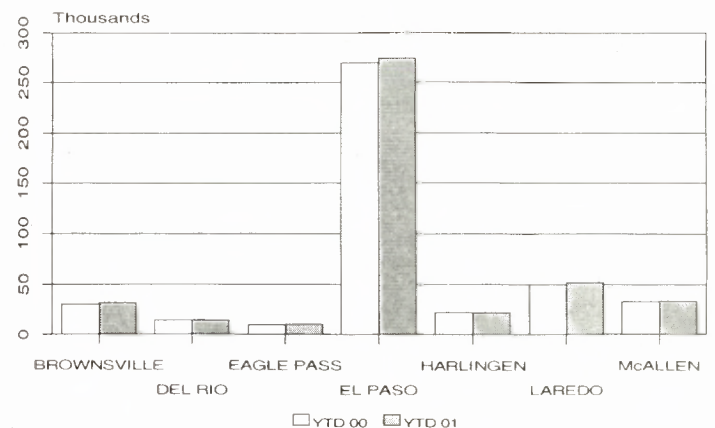
Power Connections – Texas Border Residential Connections

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	31,668	31,677	31,804	30,762	30,346	31,424	3.6
DEL RIO	14,086	14,102	14,141	14,074	14,038	14,108	0.5
EAGLE PASS	9,901	9,937	9,984	9,774	9,671	9,859	1.9
EL PASO	275,335	275,816	276,200	271,588	269,786	274,017	1.6
HARLINGEN	21,658	21,930	22,195	21,934	21,533	21,852	1.5
LAREDO	52,258	52,192	52,349	50,888	50,154	51,865	3.4
McALLEN	33,377	33,873	34,165	32,925	32,374	33,063	2.1
TOTAL	438,283	439,527	440,838	431,945	427,902	436,188	1.9

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

December total residential power connections for cited Texas border cities increased 0.30 percent. EOY residential power connections were up 1.9 percent. Laredo was up 3.4 percent, McAllen increased 2.1 percent, Del Rio gained 0.5 percent, Harlingen jumped 1.5 percent, Brownsville increased 3.6 percent, and Eagle Pass was up by 1.9 percent.

YTD AVG December 00-01



Power Connections – Texas Border (Cont'd)

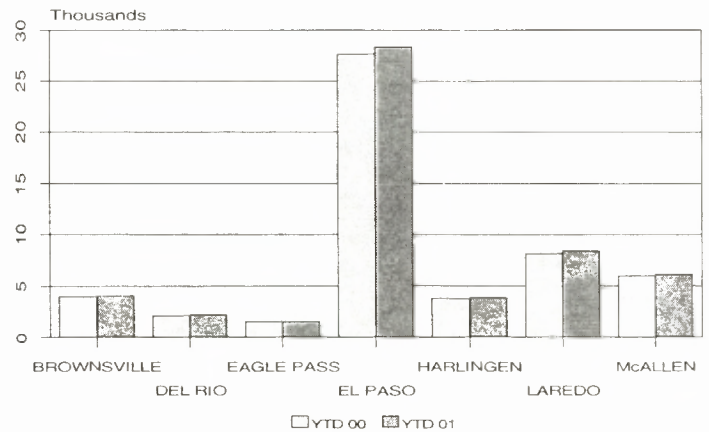
Commercial Connections

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	4,019	4,059	4,118	3,999	3,958	4,012	1.4
DEL RIO	2,174	2,185	2,124	2,120	2,091	2,152	2.9
EAGLE PASS	1,566	1,578	1,585	1,535	1,517	1,551	2.3
EL PASO	28,553	28,557	28,573	27,947	27,684	28,346	2.4
HARLINGEN	3,853	3,845	3,849	3,831	3,795	3,845	1.3
LAREDO	8,397	8,373	8,368	8,227	8,073	8,335	3.2
McALLEN	6,149	6,150	6,076	5,989	5,919	6,072	2.6
TOTAL	54,711	54,747	54,693	53,648	53,036	54,313	2.4

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 total commercial power connections for cited Texas border cities decreased 0.10 percent. EOY averages of commercial power connections increased 2.4 percent. Harlingen was up 1.3 percent, Eagle Pass increased 2.3 percent, Laredo gained 3.2 percent, McAllen was up 2.6 percent, Del Rio rose 2.9 percent, El Paso gained 2.4 percent, and Brownsville rose 1.4 percent.

YTD AVG December 00-01



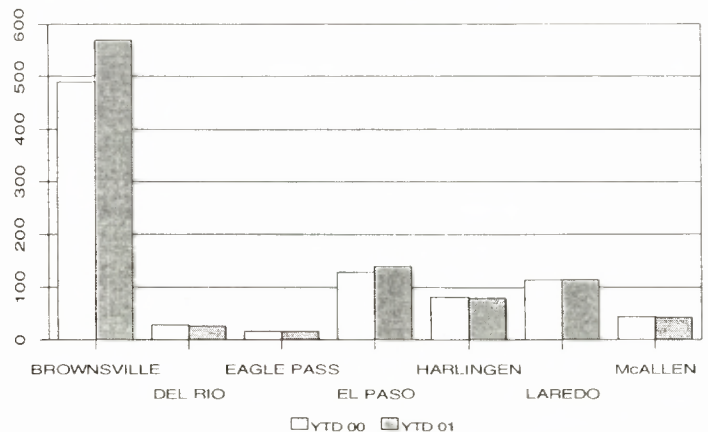
Industrial Connections

CITY	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG
BROWNSVILLE	619	623	623	516	490	570	16.3
DEL RIO	24	24	24	26	27	25	-8.0
EAGLE PASS	16	16	17	15	15	15	1.7
EL PASO	143	140	140	133	130	140	7.9
HARLINGEN	76	76	76	80	81	79	-2.2
LAREDO	112	108	108	115	115	114	-0.9
McALLEN	41	39	34	44	44	43	-2.9
TOTAL	1,031	1,026	1,022	929	901	985	9.3

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

December total industrial power connections for cited Texas border cities were down 0.39 percent. EOY averages of industrial power connections increased 9.3 percent. El Paso increased 7.9 percent, Harlingen fell 2.2 percent, Brownsville was up 16.3 percent, and Laredo was down 0.9 percent.

YTD AVG December 00-01



Building Permits —Texas Border

Number of Permits

NUMBER	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	325	263	224	50	3,785	3,810	0.7
DEL RIO	37	17	17	52	697	598	-14.2
EAGLE PASS	43	40	37	18	492	532	8.1
EL PASO	614	474	413	379	6,406	6,937	8.3
HARLINGEN	71	64	56	50	883	779	-11.8
LAREDO	643	554	435	310	5,853	7,233	23.6
MCALLEN	143	119	106	91	1,764	1,639	-7.1
TOTAL	1,876	1,531	1,288	950	19,880	21,528	8.3

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

December building permits issued by reporting Texas border cities were down 15.9 percent. Eagle Pass decreased 7.5 percent, El Paso went down 12.9 percent, and Laredo fell 21.5 percent. McAllen declined 10.9 percent, and Brownsville was down 14.8 percent. EOY, the number of permits issued rose 8.3 percent. El Paso,

accounting for 32.2 percent of all building permits issued, had an increase of 8.3 percent EOY. Laredo, with 33.6 percent of building permits issued, was up 23.6 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 17.7 percent of building permits issued, increased 0.7 percent EOY.

U.S. Dollar Value of Permits

VALUE	OCT 01	NOV 01	DEC 01	DEC 00	YTD 00	YTD 01	% CHG.
BROWNSVILLE	20,753,314	14,347,813	9,749,419	4,022,223	252,513,841	212,091,112	-16.0
DEL RIO	914,820	197,944	254,016	893,533	28,351,913	13,888,067	-51.0
EAGLE PASS	1,170,114	1,922,152	3,508,970	1,338,127	16,847,462	31,845,133	89.0
EL PASO	49,875,157	33,512,487	36,941,829	19,332,724	410,577,728	476,629,833	16.1
HARLINGEN	8,928,771	2,986,119	6,375,212	4,022,223	67,922,736	98,328,244	44.8
LAREDO	37,226,432	24,107,000	17,603,988	16,871,451	251,504,592	300,318,328	19.4
MCALLEN	8,988,386	10,857,570	10,465,475	12,514,834	179,407,659	231,758,182	29.2
TOTAL	127,856,994	87,931,085	84,898,909	58,995,114	1,207,125,931	1,364,858,899	13.1

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

December building permit values for reporting Texas border cities were down 3.4 percent. Harlingen jumped 113.5 percent, McAllen fell 3.6 percent, and El Paso rose 10.2 percent. Brownsville went down 32.0 percent. Laredo declined 27.0 percent. Eagle Pass rose 82.6 percent. EOY reporting border cities experienced a 13.1 percent increase in building permit values. El Paso, with 34.9

percent of total building permit values, increased 16.1 percent EOY. Laredo, with 22.0 percent of total building permit values, gained 19.4 percent EOY. Brownsville, with 15.5 percent of total building permit values, decreased 16.0 percent. Eagle Pass with 2.3 percent of total building permits, increased 89.0 percent.