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# Border Business Indicators

Government Publications  
Texas State Documents

Institute for International Trade  
Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

JAN 29 1999

Vol. 22, No. 10  
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## Note from the Director

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Indicators of border business activity for the month of August were down. Fifteen monthly indicators decreased while eight increased when compared to July. In addition, for the year-to-date (YTD) figures, fifteen indicators were up and eight were down. Selected YTD comparisons to 1997 reported by border cities include the following:

- Southbound pedestrian crossings into Mexico were up 2.2 percent. Eagle Pass rose 36.8 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo increased 4.1 percent while Laredo was down 0.4 percent and Brownsville declined 1.9 percent.
- Northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 3.1 percent. Eagle Pass rose 10.0 percent, El Paso was up 2.5 percent, Brownsville increased 2.1 percent and Laredo gained 0.9 percent.
- Southbound vehicle bridge crossings were up 8.1 percent. Pharr rose 46.2 percent, Brownsville increased 14.1 percent, El Paso gained 5.6 percent and Laredo was up 4.3 percent.
- Northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas were up 3.0 percent with Laredo increasing 6.9 percent, El Paso gained 3.8 percent, Eagle Pass was up 1.8 percent and McAllen-Hidalgo posted an increase of 1.4 percent YTD.
- Southbound truck shipments into Mexico were up 22.6 percent. Pharr increased 86.1 percent, Brownsville rose 31.2 percent and Laredo gained 22.3 percent.
- Northbound truck shipments into Texas were up 12.1 percent with Eagle Pass increasing 17.9 percent, Laredo gained 16.7 percent and Pharr posted a 9.3 percent increase YTD.
- Southbound shipments by rail were down 1.2 percent.
- Northbound shipments by rail were down 3.1 percent.
- Revenues collected by U.S. Customs were down 9.5 percent YTD. Revenues collected by U.S. Bridge operators were up 14.5 percent.
- Building permits issued were up 14.4 percent. Eagle Pass gained 20.9 percent, Brownsville was up 19.5 percent, El Paso rose 15.9 percent and Laredo increased 14.2 percent.
- Building permit values were down with a YTD decrease of 16.0 percent. Harlingen decreased 33.3 percent, Brownsville was down 25.0 percent, El Paso fell 15.8 percent and Laredo reported a 15.6 percent decrease.
- Total employment was up with 6,872 jobs gained YTD. The average unemployment rate in August 1998 was 10.6 percent.

The current and back issues of the Border Business Indicators can be found at the home page of the Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development at

<http://www.tamui.edu/coba/txcentr/>

## IIT Technical Reports Available

- IIT Technical Report No. 1: NAFTA Rules of Origin: An Explanation (March 1994)  
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)  
IIT Technical Report No. 3: Labor Mobility Under NAFTA: It's Impact on the Border (February 1994)  
IIT Technical Report No. 4: The Impact of NAFTA on Border Maquiladora and Industrial Activity (April 1994)  
IIT Technical Report No. 5: The Impact of NAFTA on U.S.-Mexico Agriculture (April 1994)  
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IIT Technical Report No. 7: Overweights to Pay the Price (March 1994)  
IIT Technical Report No. 8: Standards as Non-Tariff Barriers: NAFTA's Impact (February 1994)  
IIT Technical Report No. 9: NAFTA Certificate of Origin (May 1994)  
IIT Technical Report No. 10: The Texas Border with Mexico: Opportunities and Challenges (October 1994)  
IIT Technical Report No. 12: NAFTA One Year After Implementation: A Preliminary Assessment of Selected Impacts (March 1995)

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 78041-1900. Please enclose \$5.00 for each report requested. Make check or money order payable to the Institute for International Trade.

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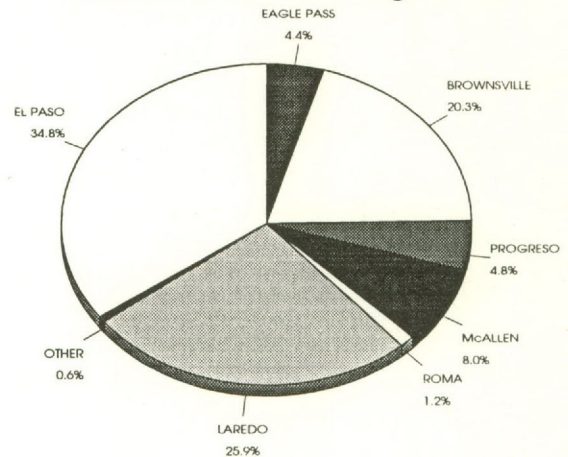
## Pedestrian Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

| CITY            | JUN 98    | JUL 98    | AUG 98    | AUG 97    | YTD 97    | YTD 98     | % CHG |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------|
| BROWNSVILLE     | 236,337   | 257,006   | 239,348   | 277,669   | 2,163,796 | 2,123,254  | -1.9  |
| DEL RIO         | 3,478     | 3,790     | 5,430     | 5,420     | 42,122    | 40,234     | -4.5  |
| EAGLE PASS      | 43,226    | 49,755    | 51,810    | 42,493    | 317,377   | 434,293    | 36.8  |
| EL PASO         | 370,956   | 393,858   | 411,668   | 399,352   | 3,018,142 | 3,082,385  | 2.1   |
| HARLINGEN       | 77        | 185       | 0         | 100       | 721       | 631        | -12.5 |
| LAREDO          | 296,720   | 324,595   | 307,152   | 337,846   | 2,584,001 | 2,573,582  | -0.4  |
| McALLEN-HIDALGO | 95,927    | 99,106    | 95,090    | 105,892   | 868,682   | 903,941    | 4.1   |
| PROGRESO        | 86,221    | 69,812    | 56,367    | 62,230    | 827,627   | 878,081    | 6.1   |
| RIO GRANDE      | 556       | 541       | 658       | 598       | 6,911     | 6,140      | -11.2 |
| ROMA            | 13,652    | 12,669    | 13,721    | 13,395    | 111,245   | 119,418    | 7.3   |
| TOTAL           | 1,147,150 | 1,211,317 | 1,181,244 | 1,244,995 | 9,940,624 | 10,161,959 | 2.2   |

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

Southbound pedestrian bridge crossings into Mexico for August was down 2.5 percent compared to July. Progreso decreased 19.3 percent, Brownsville fell 6.9 percent, Laredo was down 5.4 percent and McAllen-Hidalgo dipped 4.1 percent. However, Del Rio gained 43.3 percent, Rio Grande grew 21.6 percent, Roma increased 8.3 percent, El Paso rose 4.5 percent and Eagle Pass increased 4.1 percent. YTD, total southbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 2.2 percent. El Paso southbound pedestrian crossings, which make up 34.8 percent of all crossings in August rose 2.1 percent. Laredo, accounting for 25.9 percent of all crossings, was down 0.4 percent and Brownsville was down 1.9 percent with 20.3 percent of all crossings YTD.

**% Share Pedestrians for August 1998**



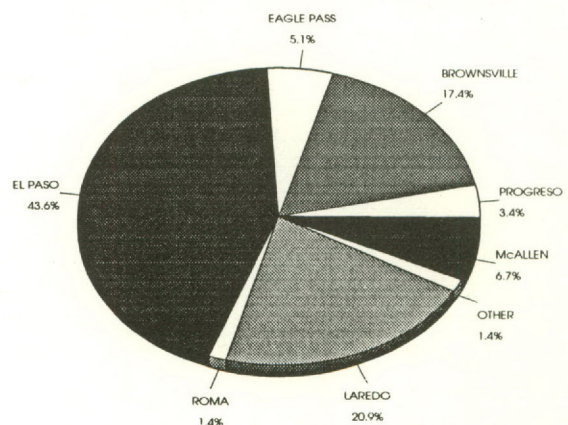
## Pedestrian Bridge-Crossings into Texas

| CITY            | JUN 98    | JUL 98    | AUG 98    | AUG 97    | YTD 97    | YTD 98     | % CHG |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------|
| BROWNSVILLE     | 212,277   | 226,204   | 208,959   | 252,837   | 1,919,186 | 1,958,905  | 2.1   |
| DEL RIO         | 8,369     | 9,088     | 13,524    | 11,168    | 87,445    | 86,973     | -0.5  |
| EAGLE PASS      | 55,196    | 58,112    | 61,016    | 60,190    | 455,693   | 501,242    | 10.0  |
| EL PASO         | 472,670   | 504,751   | 523,301   | 572,483   | 4,025,066 | 4,124,160  | 2.5   |
| LAREDO          | 247,956   | 277,150   | 250,185   | 279,330   | 2,065,978 | 2,085,144  | 0.9   |
| McALLEN-HIDALGO | 83,482    | 82,961    | 80,681    | 79,411    | 730,064   | 739,638    | 1.3   |
| PRESIDIO        | 1,961     | 2,229     | 2,275     | 2,828     | 23,767    | 22,615     | -4.8  |
| PROGRESO        | 47,316    | 50,897    | 40,984    | 44,606    | 461,967   | 542,654    | 17.5  |
| RIO GRANDE      | 922       | 1,127     | 1,157     | 1,263     | 10,212    | 9,349      | -8.5  |
| ROMA            | 12,259    | 15,672    | 17,388    | 13,511    | 100,533   | 115,083    | 14.5  |
| TOTAL           | 1,142,408 | 1,228,191 | 1,199,470 | 1,317,627 | 9,879,911 | 10,185,763 | 3.1   |

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 2.3 percent in August. Progreso fell 19.5 percent, Laredo was down 9.7 percent, Brownsville decreased 7.6 percent and McAllen-Hidalgo slid 2.7 percent. However, Del Rio grew 48.8 percent, Roma increased 10.9 percent, Eagle Pass rose 5.0 percent, El Paso was up 3.7 percent, Rio Grande increased 2.7 percent and Presidio gained 2.1 percent. YTD total northbound pedestrian crossings into Texas were up 3.1 percent. El Paso, accounting for 43.6 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings in August, was up 2.5 percent YTD. Laredo, with 20.9 percent of all northbound crossings, was up 0.9 percent and Brownsville, with 17.4 percent of all northbound pedestrian crossings, had a 2.1 percent increase in crossings YTD.

**% Share Pedestrians for August 1998**



## Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Mexico

| CITY            | JUN 98           | JUL 98           | AUG 98           | AUG 97           | YTD 97            | YTD 98            | % CHG      |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| BROWNSVILLE     | 631,585          | 624,441          | 599,817          | 537,640          | 4,096,078         | 4,672,355         | 14.1       |
| DEL RIO         | 143,681          | 157,828          | 128,510          | 150,899          | 1,145,040         | 1,184,085         | 3.4        |
| EAGLE PASS      | 221,361          | 231,867          | 220,241          | 220,893          | 1,718,732         | 1,785,339         | 3.9        |
| EL PASO         | 449,691          | 433,968          | 436,157          | 445,520          | 3,540,621         | 3,739,623         | 5.6        |
| HARLINGEN       | 40,593           | 44,602           | 43,152           | 37,214           | 272,310           | 327,093           | 20.1       |
| LAREDO          | 703,984          | 734,768          | 682,030          | 703,000          | 5,258,276         | 5,486,337         | 4.3        |
| McALLEN-HIDALGO | 449,446          | 471,827          | 472,809          | 457,216          | 3,426,381         | 3,583,458         | 4.6        |
| PHARR           | 145,539          | 151,971          | 151,602          | 105,063          | 784,199           | 1,146,506         | 46.2       |
| PROGRESO        | 86,609           | 88,439           | 85,263           | 80,475           | 681,364           | 721,618           | 5.9        |
| RIO GRANDE      | 45,835           | 47,964           | 48,631           | 46,449           | 370,473           | 393,895           | 6.3        |
| ROMA            | 69,329           | 72,837           | 71,740           | 70,936           | 559,442           | 579,602           | 3.6        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>2,987,653</b> | <b>3,060,512</b> | <b>2,939,952</b> | <b>2,855,305</b> | <b>21,852,916</b> | <b>23,619,911</b> | <b>8.1</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 vehicle bridge crossings into Mexico were down 3.9 percent in August from July's figures. Del Rio decreased 18.6 percent, Laredo was down 7.2 percent, Eagle Pass fell 5.0 percent, Brownsville decreased 3.9 percent, Progreso dipped 3.6 percent, Harlingen slid 3.3 percent, Roma decreased 1.5 percent and Pharr was down 0.2 percent. However, Rio Grande increased 1.4 percent, El Paso rose 0.5 percent and McAllen-Hidalgo was up 0.2 percent. YTD total southbound vehicle bridge crossings were up 8.1 per-

cent. Laredo, with 23.2 percent of all southbound traffic in August, was up 4.3 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 20.4 percent of all southbound vehicle bridge crossings, had a 14.1 percent increase YTD. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 16.1 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings, experienced a 4.6 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 14.8 percent of all southbound vehicle crossings had a 5.6 percent increase YTD.

## Vehicle Bridge-Crossings into Texas

| CITY            | JUN 98           | JUL 98           | AUG 98           | AUG 97           | YTD 97            | YTD 98            | % CHG      |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| BROWNSVILLE     | 564,013          | 533,390          | 532,472          | 543,762          | 4,106,118         | 4,189,056         | 2.0        |
| DEL RIO         | 129,421          | 138,640          | 100,651          | 156,908          | 1,135,280         | 1,007,051         | -11.3      |
| EAGLE PASS      | 211,444          | 218,770          | 218,950          | 224,796          | 1,690,708         | 1,720,441         | 1.8        |
| EL PASO         | 705,820          | 716,550          | 707,904          | 725,483          | 5,336,318         | 5,538,791         | 3.8        |
| HARLINGEN       | 52,689           | 58,717           | 55,319           | 49,627           | 337,870           | 434,723           | 28.7       |
| LAREDO          | 654,661          | 654,676          | 618,767          | 611,609          | 4,666,070         | 4,987,878         | 6.9        |
| McALLEN-HIDALGO | 401,611          | 408,707          | 431,456          | 416,994          | 3,180,771         | 3,224,918         | 1.4        |
| PRESIDIO        | 54,969           | 55,331           | 57,041           | 52,530           | 407,275           | 443,656           | 8.9        |
| PROGRESO        | 76,595           | 77,018           | 79,270           | 79,571           | 688,846           | 646,519           | -6.1       |
| RIO GRANDE      | 50,418           | 51,894           | 53,639           | 50,225           | 406,755           | 430,187           | 5.8        |
| ROMA            | 70,833           | 76,697           | 82,962           | 72,565           | 608,077           | 626,584           | 3.0        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>2,972,474</b> | <b>2,990,390</b> | <b>2,938,431</b> | <b>2,984,070</b> | <b>22,564,088</b> | <b>23,249,804</b> | <b>3.0</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 vehicle bridge crossings into Texas for August were down 1.7 percent since July. Del Rio registered a 27.4 percent decrease, Harlingen fell 5.8 percent, Laredo dipped 5.5 percent, El Paso reported a decrease of 1.2 percent and Brownsville was down 0.2 percent. However, Roma increased 8.2 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo grew 5.6 percent, Rio Grande gained 3.4 percent, Presidio

rose 3.1 percent, Progreso was up 2.9 percent and Eagle Pass increased 0.1 percent. YTD northbound vehicle bridge crossings into Texas were up 3.0 percent. El Paso, with 24.1 percent of all crossings in August was up 3.8 percent YTD. Laredo, with 21.1 percent of all crossings, gained 6.9 percent and Brownsville with 18.1 percent of all crossings, was up 2.0 percent YTD.

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

| CITY             | JUN 98  | JUL 98  | AUG 98  | AUG 97  | YTD 97  | YTD 98  | % CHG |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| BROWNSVILLE+     | 26,173  | 24,941  | 24,157  | 20,123  | 148,251 | 194,469 | 31.2  |
| DEL RIO+         | 4,412   | 4,716   | 3,816   | 3,773   | 27,239  | 35,239  | 29.4  |
| EAGLE PASS++     | 4,044   | 3,897   | 4,182   | 2,977   | 29,490  | 30,854  | 4.6   |
| EL PASO+++       | +++     | +++     | +++     | +++     | +++     | +++     | N/A   |
| HARLINGEN+       | 6,764   | 6,008   | 5,650   | 5,014   | 25,073  | 41,544  | 65.7  |
| LAREDO++         | 65,823  | 66,788  | 61,390  | 55,832  | 411,237 | 503,024 | 22.3  |
| McALLEN-HIDALGO+ | 4,611   | 4,578   | 4,465   | 9,229   | 75,916  | 35,513  | -53.2 |
| PHARR+           | 15,398  | 14,901  | 14,633  | 8,218   | 66,044  | 122,888 | 86.1  |
| PROGRESO+        | 388     | 446     | 700     | 1,043   | 8,843   | 10,096  | 14.2  |
| RIO GRANDE+      | 1,585   | 1,477   | 1,593   | 1,516   | 13,683  | 14,963  | 9.4   |
| ROMA+            | 868     | 915     | 895     | 649     | 6,025   | 6,931   | 15.0  |
| TOTAL            | 130,066 | 128,667 | 121,481 | 108,374 | 811,801 | 995,521 | 22.6  |

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

+ 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 were down 5.6 percent in August. Del Rio decreased 19.1 percent, Laredo fell 8.1 percent, Harlingen slid 6.0 percent, Brownsville was down 3.1 percent, McAllen-Hidalgo dipped 2.5 percent, Roma fell 2.2 percent and Pharr decreased 1.8 percent. However, Progreso increased 57.0 percent, Rio Grande gained 7.9 percent and Eagle Pass rose 7.3 percent. YTD, total southbound truck traffic had an increase of 22.6

percent. Laredo, with 50.5 percent of all southbound shipments in August, experienced a 22.3 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with 19.9 percent of all southbound shipments, had a 31.2 percent increase YTD. Pharr with 12.0 percent of all truck traffic, registered an increase of 86.1 percent and McAllen-Hidalgo, with 3.7 percent of all truck crossings, fell 53.2 percent.

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

| CITY            | JUN 98 | JUL 98 | AUG 98 | AUG 97 | YTD 97  | YTD 98  | % CHG |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|-------|
| BROWNSVILLE     | 12,426 | 10,885 | 10,506 | 11,889 | 80,721  | 82,778  | 2.5   |
| DEL RIO         | 2,977  | 2,782  | 2,740  | 2,709  | 21,615  | 23,078  | 6.8   |
| EAGLE PASS      | 4,307  | 4,074  | 4,096  | 3,711  | 27,052  | 31,900  | 17.9  |
| FALCON          | 4      | 0      | 3      | 22     | 63      | 31      | -50.8 |
| LAREDO          | 55,547 | 57,254 | 51,078 | 40,626 | 366,465 | 427,625 | 16.7  |
| McALLEN-HIDALGO | N/A    | N/A    | N/A    | N/A    | N/A     | N/A     | N/A   |
| PHARR           | 14,874 | 12,579 | 12,691 | 12,149 | 105,995 | 115,825 | 9.3   |
| PROGRESO        | 525    | 510    | 421    | 836    | 6,339   | 2,804   | -55.8 |
| RIO GRANDE      | 875    | 877    | 981    | 781    | 10,579  | 8,788   | -16.9 |
| ROMA            | 748    | 703    | 639    | 473    | 3,968   | 5,329   | 34.3  |
| TOTAL           | 92,283 | 89,664 | 83,155 | 73,196 | 622,797 | 698,158 | 12.1  |

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 decreased 7.3 percent from July's shipments. Progreso decreased 17.5 percent, Laredo declined 10.8 percent, Roma fell 9.1 percent, Brownsville was down 3.5 percent and Del Rio slid 1.5 percent. However, Rio Grande increased 11.9 percent, Pharr rose 0.9 percent, Eagle Pass gained 0.5 percent, and Falcon was up 100.0 percent. YTD northbound

truck shipments were up 12.1 percent. Laredo, accounting for 61.4 percent of all northbound truck traffic in August had a 16.7 percent increase YTD. Pharr, with 15.3 percent of shipments, experienced a 9.3 percent increase YTD. Brownsville, with 12.6 percent of all northbound truck shipments in August, rose 2.5 percent YTD.

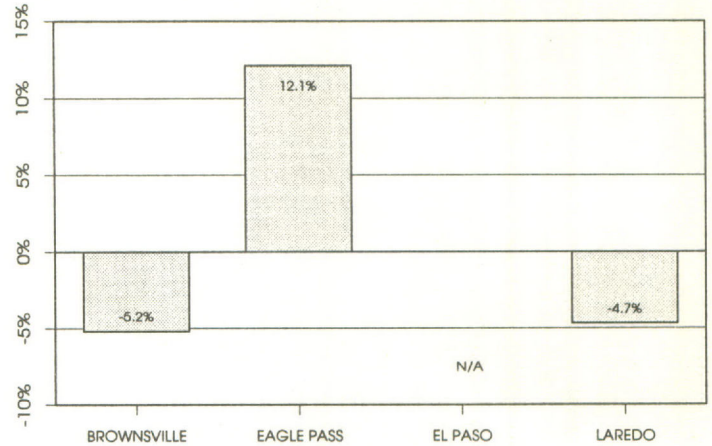
## Export Shipments by Rail into Mexico —Number of Rail Cars

| CITY        | JUN 98 | JUL 98 | AUG 98 | AUG 97 | YTD 97  | YTD 98  | % CHG |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|-------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 2,885  | 2,817  | 2,693  | 1,896  | 21,273  | 20,173  | -5.2  |
| EAGLE PASS  | 2,488  | 3,283  | 3,456  | 4,652  | 33,008  | 36,987  | 12.1  |
| EL PASO     | N/A    | N/A    | N/A    | N/A    | N/A     | N/A     | N/A   |
| LAREDO      | 9,681  | 10,363 | 11,322 | 11,206 | 100,544 | 95,864  | -4.7  |
| TOTAL       | 15,054 | 16,463 | 17,471 | 17,754 | 154,825 | 153,024 | -1.2  |

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 6.1 percent in August. Laredo was up 9.3 percent and Eagle Pass increased 5.3 percent. However, Brownsville dipped 4.4 percent. YTD, total southbound rail shipments into Mexico from Texas were down 1.2 percent. Laredo, which accounts for 64.8 percent of all southbound rail shipments in August was down 4.7 percent. Eagle Pass, accounting for 19.8 percent of all southbound rail shipments, increased 12.1 percent. Brownsville, with 15.4 percent of all southbound rail shipments in August, fell 5.2 percent YTD.

### Export Rail YTD % Change 97-98



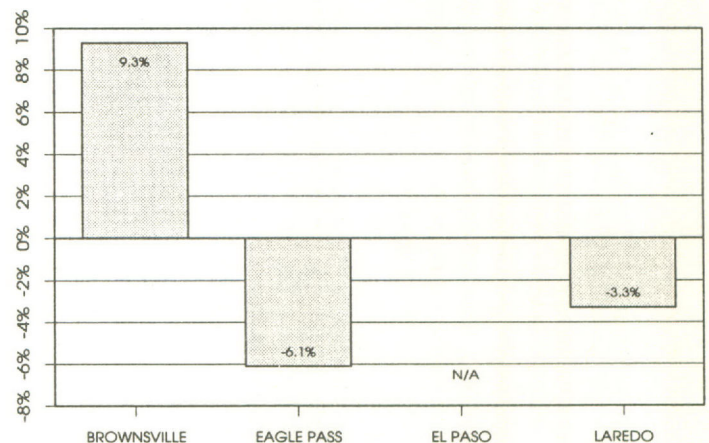
## Import Shipments by Rail into Texas —Number of Rail Cars

| CITY        | JUN 98 | JUL 98 | AUG 98 | AUG 97 | YTD 97 | YTD 98 | % CHG |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 605    | 806    | 680    | 1,121  | 7,806  | 8,530  | 9.3   |
| EAGLE PASS  | 4,018  | 2,488  | 3,356  | 3,247  | 27,060 | 25,407 | -6.1  |
| EL PASO     | N/A    | N/A    | N/A    | N/A    | N/A    | N/A    | N/A   |
| LAREDO      | 7,585  | 7,290  | 8,637  | 7,733  | 62,601 | 60,519 | -3.3  |
| TOTAL       | 12,208 | 10,584 | 12,673 | 12,101 | 97,467 | 94,456 | -3.1  |

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 19.7 percent in August. Eagle Pass registered a 34.9 percent increase and Laredo rose 18.5 percent. However, Brownsville fell 15.6 percent. YTD, total northbound rail shipments into Texas from Mexico were down 3.1 percent. Laredo, which accounts for 68.2 percent of all northbound rail shipments in August was down 3.3 percent. Eagle Pass, accounting for 26.5 percent of all northbound rail shipments in August, decreased 6.1 percent and Brownsville, with 5.4 percent of all northbound rail shipments, increased 9.3 percent YTD.

### Import Rail YTD % Change 97-98



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

| CITY            | DUTY              | MPF              | OTHER             | TOTAL             | TOTAL             | YTD                | YTD                | YTD<br>% CHG |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|                 | AUG 98            | AUG 98           | REVENUE<br>AUG 98 | REVENUE<br>AUG 98 | REVENUE<br>AUG 97 | REVENUE<br>AUG 97  | REVENUE<br>AUG 98  |              |
| BROWNSVILLE     | 1,497,960         | 400,421          | 361,617           | 2,259,997         | 3,457,900         | 22,167,685         | 20,964,987         | -5.4         |
| DEL RIO         | 218,923           | 104,228          | 62,507            | 385,657           | 353,994           | 3,248,520          | 3,229,815          | -0.6         |
| EAGLE PASS      | 927,125           | 200,180          | 2,693,846         | 3,821,152         | 3,349,265         | 20,793,120         | 24,883,631         | 19.7         |
| LAREDO          | 10,402,352        | 2,753,552        | 7,513,702         | 20,669,607        | 24,188,715        | 179,604,764        | 152,528,497        | -15.1        |
| McALLEN-HIDALGO | 2,709,455         | 487,638          | 1,685,341         | 4,882,434         | 3,967,133         | 39,293,974         | 39,138,035         | -0.4         |
| PROGRESO        | 3,258             | 4,876            | 14,531            | 22,666            | 36,992            | 1,369,491          | 400,900            | -70.7        |
| RIO GRANDE      | 40,081            | 17,912           | 13,003            | 70,996            | 38,487            | 946,698            | 766,079            | -19.1        |
| ROMA            | 25,092            | 7,089            | 13,611            | 45,793            | 68,330            | 366,807            | 425,942            | 16.1         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>15,824,247</b> | <b>3,975,896</b> | <b>12,358,158</b> | <b>32,158,301</b> | <b>35,460,816</b> | <b>267,791,059</b> | <b>242,337,886</b> | <b>-9.5</b>  |

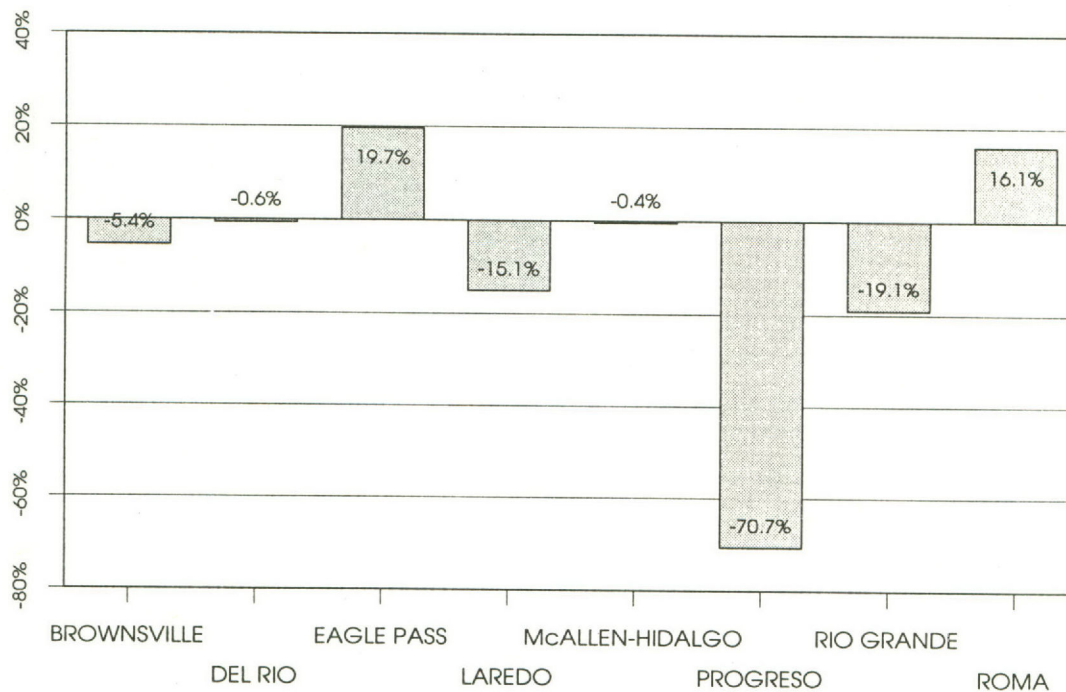
Source: Data provided by U.S. Customs Service, Port of Entry in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

\*MPF = Merchandise Processing Fee

Total U.S. Customs revenues for the former District of Laredo decreased 6.0 percent from July's figures. Rio Grande fell 25.3 percent, Del Rio decreased 17.9 percent, Eagle Pass declined 17.8 percent, Brownsville dipped 17.3 percent, Progreso slid 15.2 percent, Laredo fell 9.4 percent and Roma was down 0.2 percent. However, McAllen-Hidalgo gained 44.9 percent. YTD revenue

figures were down 9.5 percent compared to August 1997. Laredo, accounting for 62.9 percent of total District revenues, was down 15.1 percent YTD and McAllen-Hidalgo with 16.2 percent of total revenues, was down 0.4 percent YTD. Eagle Pass, accounting for 10.3 percent of all revenues YTD, was up 19.7 percent. Brownsville, with 8.7 percent of total revenues, declined 5.4 percent YTD.

**% Change Total Revenues YTD 97-98**



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

| CITY            | JUN 98           | JUL 98           | AUG 98           | AUG 97           | YTD 97            | YTD 98            | % CHG       |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| BROWNSVILLE     | 685,701          | 713,583          | 690,069          | 560,658          | 4,138,934         | 5,350,486         | 29.3        |
| DEL RIO         | 185,774          | 198,032          | 228,504          | 189,734          | 1,409,851         | 1,581,152         | 12.2        |
| EAGLE PASS      | 452,273          | 462,862          | 451,696          | 412,603          | 3,239,118         | 3,563,895         | 10.0        |
| EL PASO         | 941,201          | 906,683          | 935,950          | 913,305          | 7,219,251         | 7,715,667         | 6.9         |
| HARLINGEN       | 104,956          | 107,333          | 106,135          | 87,193           | 511,813           | 791,013           | 54.6        |
| LAREDO          | 1,838,089        | 1,928,982        | 1,779,941        | 1,812,860        | 13,461,345        | 14,557,318        | 8.1         |
| McALLEN-HIDALGO | 632,807          | 665,113          | 672,068          | 577,271          | 4,367,418         | 5,105,195         | 16.9        |
| PHARR           | 304,770          | 306,524          | 301,126          | 194,601          | 1,483,411         | 2,348,312         | 58.3        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>5,145,571</b> | <b>5,289,113</b> | <b>5,165,490</b> | <b>4,748,225</b> | <b>35,831,141</b> | <b>41,013,038</b> | <b>14.5</b> |

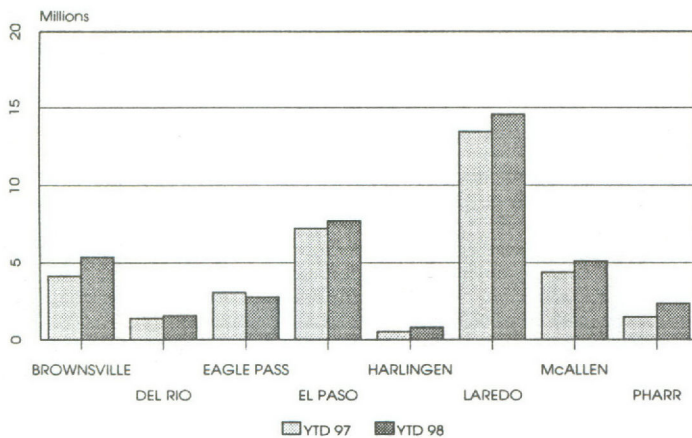
Source: Data provided by U.S. bridge operators in cited cities and compiled by Texas A&M International University, Texas Center for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

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

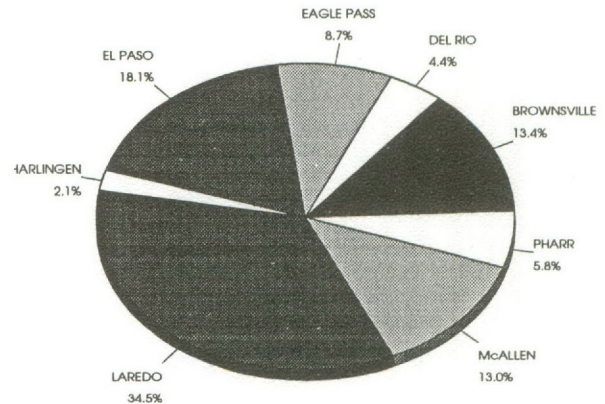
U.S. bridge operators' revenues decreased 2.3 percent in the month of August. Laredo showed a decrease of 7.7 percent, Brownsville dipped 3.3 percent, Eagle Pass declined 2.4 percent, Pharr slid 1.8 percent and Harlingen was down 1.1 percent. However, Del Rio showed an increase of 15.4 percent, El Paso gained 3.2 percent and McAllen-Hidalgo was up 1.0 percent. YTD, U.S. bridge operators' revenues were up 14.5 percent. Laredo, accounting for 34.5 percent

of total U.S. bridge operator's revenues collected in August, had an 8.1 percent increase YTD. El Paso, accounting for 18.1 percent of total U.S. bridge revenues, increased 6.9 percent YTD. Brownsville accounting for 13.4 percent, was up 29.3 percent. McAllen-Hidalgo, with 13.0 percent of the total bridge revenues, was up 16.9 percent YTD.

### Total Revenues Collected YTD 97-98



### % Share Revenues August 1998





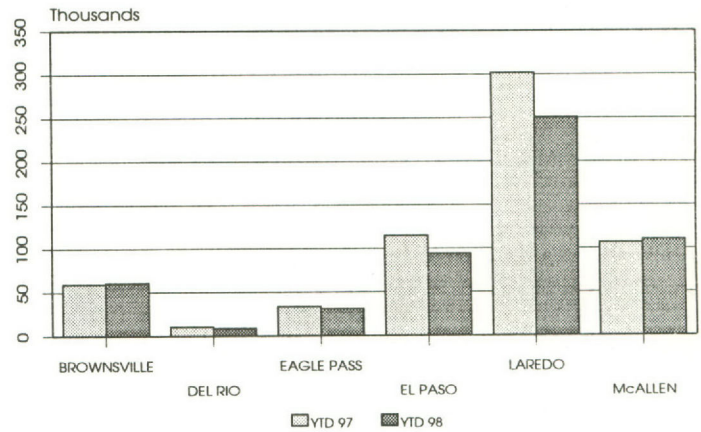
## Visas to Tourists from Texas to Mexico

| CITY         | JUN 98        | JUL 98         | AUG 98        | AUG 97         | YTD 97         | YTD 98         | %CHG         |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| BROWNSVILLE  | 9,631         | 11,331         | 7,342         | 8,170          | 59,441         | 60,829         | 2.3          |
| DEL RIO      | 1,330         | 1,704          | 929           | 1,349          | 10,461         | 8,954          | -14.4        |
| EAGLE PASS   | 4,034         | 5,690          | 5,023         | 3,992          | 33,424         | 30,923         | -7.5         |
| EL PASO      | 16,259        | 16,739         | 15,358        | 16,142         | 114,677        | 94,044         | -18.0        |
| LAREDO       | 40,048        | 49,665         | 27,741        | 114,456        | 301,570        | 250,490        | -16.9        |
| McALLEN      | 14,669        | 17,631         | 9,328         | 12,920         | 106,630        | 109,876        | 3.0          |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>85,971</b> | <b>102,760</b> | <b>65,721</b> | <b>157,029</b> | <b>626,203</b> | <b>555,116</b> | <b>-11.4</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 August were down 36.0 percent. McAllen decreased 47.1 percent, Del Rio fell 45.5 percent, Laredo was down 44.1 percent, Brownsville dipped 35.2 percent, Eagle Pass decreased 11.7 percent, and El Paso slid 8.3 percent. YTD, the number of tourist visas issued were down 11.4 percent. Laredo, with 42.2 percent of total visas issued in August was down 16.9 percent. El Paso, with 23.4 percent of total visas issued, had an 18.0 percent decrease YTD. McAllen, with 14.2 percent of all visas issued, rose 3.0 percent YTD and Brownsville with 11.2 percent of total visas issued, increased 2.3 percent YTD.

### Tourist Visas YTD August 97-98



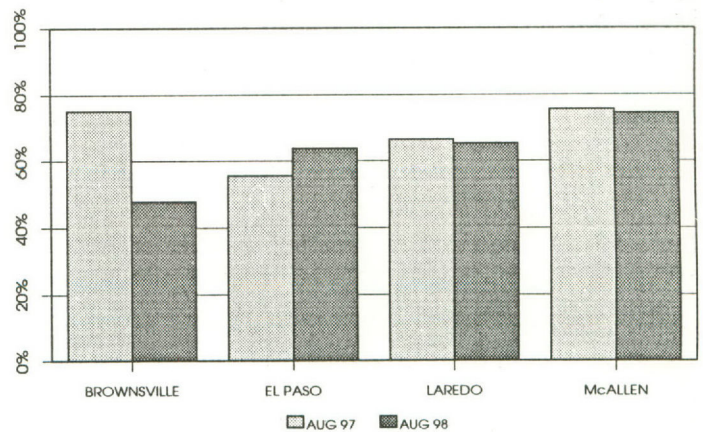
## Hotel Occupancy Percentage Rate —Texas Border

| CITY           | JUN 98      | JUL 98      | AUG 98      | AUG 97      | % CHG 97-98 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| BROWNSVILLE    | 63.1        | 78.5        | 47.9        | 75.1        | -36.2       |
| EL PASO        | 72.3        | 69.6        | 63.7        | 55.8        | 14.1        |
| LAREDO         | 64.8        | 71.8        | 65.3        | 66.4        | -1.6        |
| McALLEN        | 75.9        | 77.2        | 74.5        | 75.6        | -1.5        |
| <b>AVERAGE</b> | <b>69.0</b> | <b>74.3</b> | <b>62.9</b> | <b>68.2</b> | <b>-7.9</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 August was down 15.4 percent. McAllen had a 74.5 percent rate, Laredo had a 65.3 percent rate, El Paso had a rate of 63.7 percent and Brownsville posted a 47.9 percentage rate for the month of August.

### Hotel Occupancy Percentage August 97-98



# Telephones in Service — Texas Border

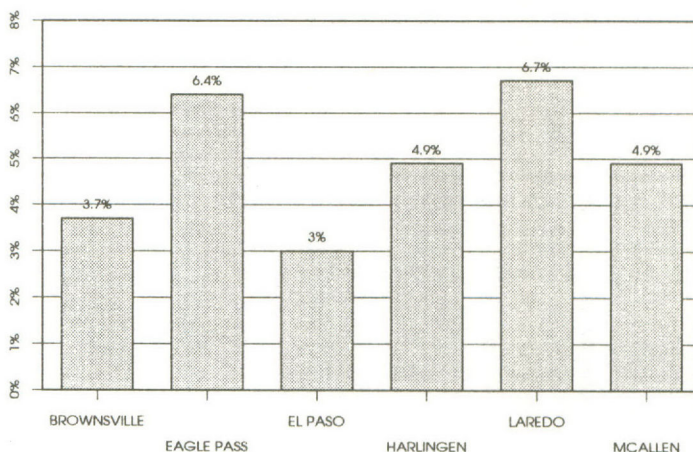
## Residential Telephones

| CITY        | JUN 98  | JUL 98  | AUG 98  | AUG 97  |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 43,422  | 43,390  | 43,296  | 41,739  |
| EAGLE PASS  | 11,567  | 11,599  | 11,588  | 10,886  |
| EL PASO     | 213,242 | 213,696 | 213,960 | 207,817 |
| HARLINGEN   | 26,693  | 26,731  | 26,677  | 25,443  |
| LAREDO      | 49,633  | 49,848  | 49,965  | 46,809  |
| MCALLEN     | 36,056  | 36,207  | 36,242  | 34,549  |
| TOTAL       | 380,613 | 381,471 | 381,728 | 367,243 |

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 August, the number of residential telephones in service for reporting Texas border cities increased 0.07 percent since July. YTD, the number of residential telephones in service for reporting Texas border cities increased by 3.9 percent. Laredo jumped 6.7 percent, Eagle Pass was up 6.4 percent, Harlingen and McAllen increased 4.9 percent. Brownsville was up 3.7 percent and El Paso gained 3.0 percent YTD.

### Residential Phones % Change August 97-98



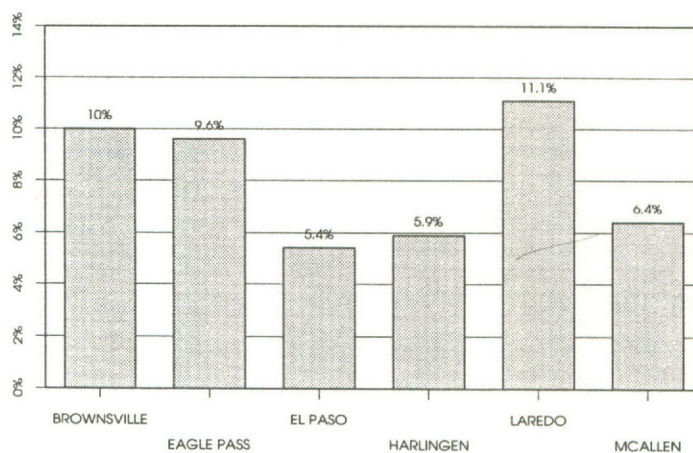
## Business Telephones

| CITY        | JUN 98  | JUL 98  | AUG 98  | AUG 97  |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 21,694  | 21,728  | 21,684  | 19,705  |
| EAGLE PASS  | 3,945   | 3,994   | 4,042   | 3,688   |
| EL PASO     | 97,502  | 97,607  | 98,152  | 93,142  |
| HARLINGEN   | 14,314  | 14,388  | 14,365  | 13,560  |
| LAREDO      | 30,397  | 30,677  | 31,044  | 27,932  |
| MCALLEN     | 25,697  | 25,888  | 26,075  | 24,499  |
| TOTAL       | 193,549 | 194,282 | 195,362 | 182,526 |

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 August the number of business telephones in service for reporting Texas border cities increased 0.56 percent. YTD, the number of phones in service for reporting Texas border cities rose by 7.0 percent. Laredo had the largest increase with 11.1 percent, Brownsville rose 10.0 percent, Eagle Pass was up 9.6 percent, McAllen gained 6.4 percent, Harlingen increased 5.9 percent and El Paso rose 5.4 percent YTD.

### Business Phones % Change August 97-98



## Power Connections – Texas Border

### Residential Connections

| CITY        | JUN 98  | JUL 98  | AUG 98  | AUG 97  |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 28,922  | 28,992  | 28,978  | 28,479  |
| DEL RIO     | 13,728  | 13,710  | 13,728  | 13,442  |
| EAGLE PASS  | 9,187   | 9,176   | 9,198   | 8,953   |
| EL PASO     | 257,226 | 257,780 | 258,342 | 253,101 |
| HARLINGEN   | 19,710  | 20,360  | 20,323  | 19,965  |
| LAREDO      | 46,110  | 46,222  | 46,436  | 44,789  |
| McALLEN     | 30,234  | 30,224  | 30,244  | 29,513  |
| TOTAL       | 405,117 | 406,464 | 407,249 | 398,242 |

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

August residential power connections for all reporting Texas border cities increased from July's figures by 0.19 percent. YTD, residential power connections for all reporting border cities were up 2.3 percent. Laredo rose 3.7 percent, Eagle Pass increased 2.7 percent, McAllen gained 2.5 percent, Del Rio and El Paso increased 2.1 percent and Brownsville and Harlingen grew 1.8 percent.

August commercial power connections for reporting Texas border cities increased 0.10 percent from July's figures. YTD, commercial power connections for reporting Texas border cities increased 3.0 percent. YTD, Laredo was up 5.1 percent, Harlingen gained 5.0 percent, McAllen increased 3.1 percent, Del Rio was up 2.5 percent, El Paso gained 2.4 percent, Brownsville was up 2.2 percent and Eagle Pass rose 1.3 percent YTD.

### Commercial Connections

| CITY        | JUN 98 | JUL 98 | AUG 98 | AUG 97 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 3,816  | 3,817  | 3,825  | 3,743  |
| DEL RIO     | 1,929  | 1,936  | 1,935  | 1,888  |
| EAGLE PASS  | 1,294  | 1,305  | 1,295  | 1,278  |
| EL PASO     | 26,295 | 26,354 | 26,360 | 25,748 |
| HARLINGEN   | 3,344  | 3,358  | 3,376  | 3,216  |
| LAREDO      | 6,947  | 6,955  | 6,983  | 6,645  |
| McALLEN     | 5,349  | 5,393  | 5,391  | 5,230  |
| TOTAL       | 48,974 | 49,118 | 49,165 | 47,748 |

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

### Industrial Connections

| CITY        | JUN 98 | JUL 98 | AUG 98 | AUG 97 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 456    | 466    | 471    | 471    |
| DEL RIO     | 30     | 30     | 30     | 31     |
| EAGLE PASS  | 16     | 16     | 16     | 25     |
| EL PASO     | 118    | 118    | 117    | 111    |
| HARLINGEN   | 86     | 82     | 83     | 83     |
| LAREDO      | 127    | 125    | 125    | 127    |
| McALLEN     | 46     | 46     | 46     | 50     |
| TOTAL       | 879    | 883    | 888    | 898    |

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

Industrial power connections for reporting Texas border cities rose 0.57 percent from July's figures. YTD, Eagle Pass had the largest decrease with 36.0 percent, McAllen fell 8.0 percent, Del Rio declined 3.2 percent, Laredo slid 1.6 percent and dipped 1.3 percent. Harlingen and Brownsville remained unchanged. However, El Paso rose 5.4 percent.

## Building Permits — Texas Border

### Number of Permits

| NUMBER      | JUN 98 | JUL 98 | AUG 98 | AUG 97 | YTD 97 | YTD 98 | % CHG. |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 312    | 344    | 314    | 272    | 2,019  | 2,412  | 19.5   |
| DEL RIO     | 94     | 78     | 46     | 103    | 889    | 656    | -26.2  |
| EAGLE PASS  | 44     | 33     | 32     | 27     | 254    | 307    | 20.9   |
| EL PASO     | 2,925  | 3,143  | 2,735  | 2,526  | 19,516 | 22,615 | 15.9   |
| HARLINGEN   | 77     | 63     | 72     | 53     | 497    | 536    | 7.8    |
| LAREDO      | 380    | 424    | 312    | 328    | 2,537  | 2,896  | 14.2   |
| MCALLEN     | 153    | 173    | 149    | 113    | 1,030  | 1,165  | 13.1   |
| TOTAL       | 3,985  | 4,258  | 3,660  | 3,422  | 26,742 | 30,587 | 14.4   |

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

August building permits issued by reporting Texas border cities were down 14.0 percent from July. Del Rio lost 41.0 percent, Laredo fell 26.4 percent, McAllen dipped 13.9 percent, El Paso declined 13.0 percent, Brownsville slid 8.7 percent and Eagle Pass decreased 3.0 percent. However, Harlingen was up 14.3 percent.

YTD, the number of permits issued were up 14.4 percent. El Paso, accounting for 74.7 percent of all building permits issued in August, had an increase of 15.9 percent YTD., Brownsville with 8.6 percent of building permits issued, was up 19.5 percent YTD. Laredo was up 14.2 percent and McAllen rose 13.1 percent YTD.

### U.S. Dollar Value of Permits

| VALUE       | JUN 98      | JUL 98      | AUG 98      | AUG 97      | YTD 97      | YTD 98      | % CHG. |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 10,240,497  | 13,438,327  | 15,984,193  | 23,191,701  | 132,435,544 | 99,352,095  | -25.0  |
| DEL RIO     | 5,778,385   | 1,673,055   | 1,121,946   | 1,597,907   | 15,429,452  | 15,672,352  | 1.6    |
| EAGLE PASS  | 11,055,402  | 661,522     | 2,353,608   | 512,195     | 7,215,155   | 28,731,681  | 298.2  |
| EL PASO     | 58,068,597  | 63,357,860  | 68,876,558  | 51,855,079  | 549,828,849 | 462,723,552 | -15.8  |
| HARLINGEN   | 4,638,655   | 2,344,132   | 8,641,691   | 4,473,331   | 47,350,958  | 31,568,519  | -33.3  |
| LAREDO      | 12,132,009  | 18,974,944  | 9,921,922   | 13,141,515  | 127,774,237 | 107,860,621 | -15.6  |
| MCALLEN     | 7,746,675   | 12,788,401  | 11,683,734  | 7,768,399   | 104,522,727 | 80,682,871  | -22.8  |
| TOTAL       | 109,660,220 | 113,238,241 | 118,583,651 | 102,540,127 | 984,556,922 | 826,591,691 | -16.0  |

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

August building permit values for reporting Texas border cities were up 4.7 percent from July. Harlingen increased 268.7 percent, Eagle Pass rose 255.8 percent, Brownsville was up 18.9 percent and El Paso rose 8.7 percent. However, Laredo dipped 47.7 percent, Del Rio declined 32.9 percent and McAllen decreased 8.6 percent. YTD, reporting border cities experienced a 16.0 percent decrease

in building permit values. El Paso, with 58.1 percent total value for the month of August, fell 15.8 percent YTD. Brownsville, with 13.5 percent total value, decreased 25.0 percent YTD. McAllen, with 9.9 percent total value for the month of August, was down 22.8 percent YTD.

## Employment/Unemployment Rates — Texas Border

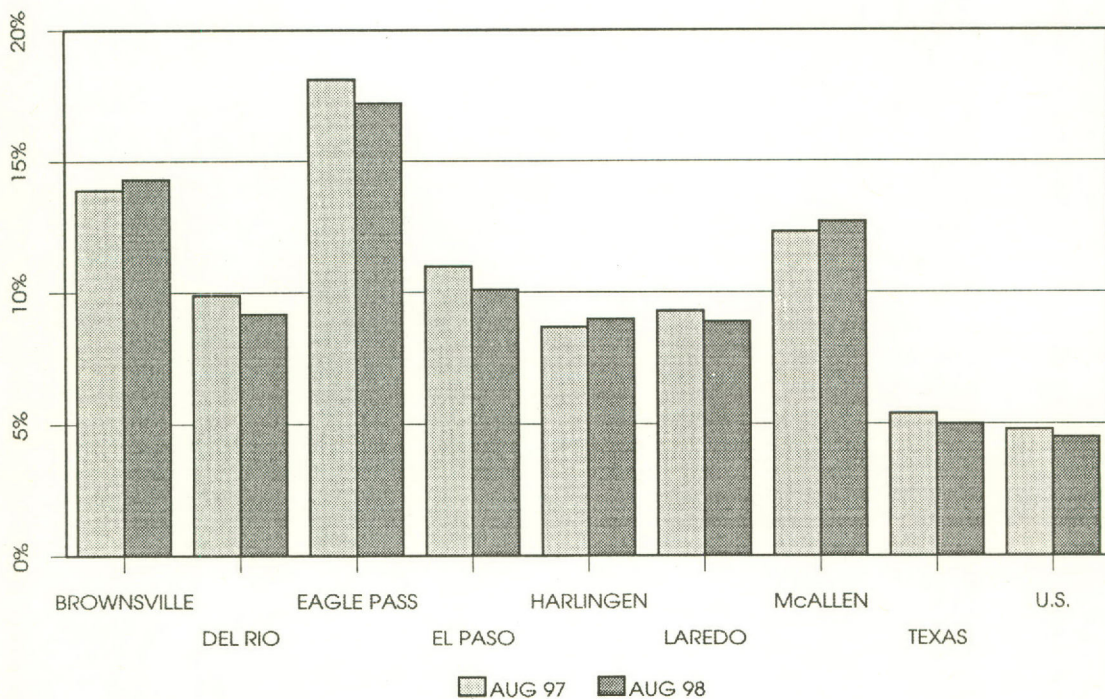
| CITY                           | TOTAL EMPLOYED | TOTAL EMPLOYED | TOTAL UNEMPLOYED | TOTAL UNEMPLOYED | PERCENT UNEMPLOYED | PERCENT UNEMPLOYED |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                                | AUG 98         | AUG 97         | AUG 98           | AUG 97           | AUG 98             | AUG 97             |
| BROWNSVILLE                    | 41,896         | 41,614         | 6,971            | 6,714            | 14.3               | 13.9               |
| DEL RIO                        | 13,532         | 13,311         | 1,366            | 1,457            | 9.2                | 9.9                |
| EAGLE PASS                     | 7,543          | 7,343          | 1,569            | 1,625            | 17.2               | 18.1               |
| EL PASO                        | 242,287        | 236,719        | 27,099           | 29,361           | 10.1               | 11.0               |
| HARLINGEN                      | 24,069         | 23,907         | 2,370            | 2,283            | 9.0                | 8.7                |
| LAREDO                         | 59,663         | 59,863         | 5,796            | 6,167            | 8.9                | 9.3                |
| McALLEN                        | 40,477         | 39,838         | 5,880            | 5,604            | 12.7               | 12.3               |
| TOTAL                          | 429,467        | 422,595        | 51,051           | 53,211           | 10.6               | 11.2               |
| THE TEXAS UNEMPLOYMENT RATE    |                |                |                  |                  | 5.01               | 5.36               |
| THE NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE |                |                |                  |                  | 4.46               | 4.80               |

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 August, total employment in reporting Texas border cities fell 0.7 percent (3,075 jobs lost) from July's figures. Eagle Pass fell 3.1 percent (245 jobs lost), McAllen decreased 3.0 percent (1,252 jobs lost), Laredo slid 1.1 percent (673 jobs lost), Del Rio dipped 0.7 percent (95 jobs lost), Brownsville and Harlingen decreased 0.4 percent (163 and 93 jobs lost, respectively) and El Paso fell 0.2

percent (554 jobs lost). YTD, the total employment in Texas border cities was up 1.6 percent (6,872 jobs gained) from a year ago. The average unemployment rate for the border was 10.6 percent compared to 5.01 percent for Texas and 4.46 percent for the U.S. in August.

**% Unemployed August 97-98**



## Air Passenger Service Activities — Selected Border Cities

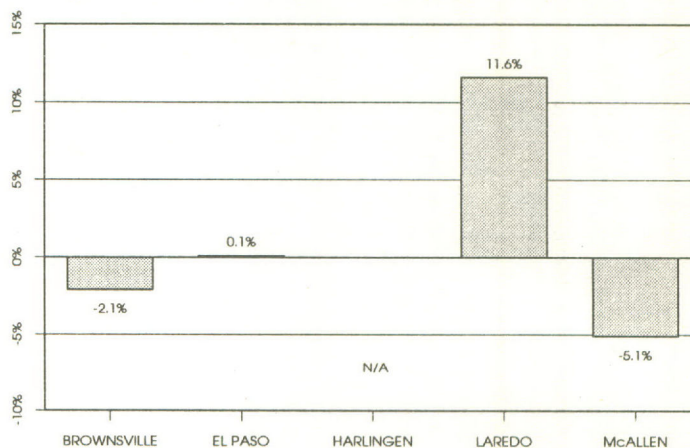
### Passenger Arrivals

| CITY        | JUN 98  | JUL 98  | AUG 98  | AUG 97  | YTD 97    | YTD 98    | % CHG |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 6,808   | 6,887   | 6,321   | 7,059   | 53,611    | 52,509    | -2.1  |
| EL PASO     | 146,421 | 154,656 | 143,485 | 142,771 | 1,081,614 | 1,082,726 | 0.1   |
| HARLINGEN   | N/A     | N/A     | N/A     | N/A     | N/A       | N/A       | N/A   |
| LAREDO      | 6,071   | 6,548   | 6,472   | 6,348   | 45,911    | 51,217    | 11.6  |
| McALLEN     | 24,566  | 26,099  | 24,097  | 24,828  | 208,698   | 198,157   | -5.1  |
| TOTAL       | 183,866 | 194,190 | 180,375 | 181,006 | 1,389,834 | 1,384,609 | -0.4  |

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

August air passengers arriving in Texas border cities were down 7.1 percent over July's figures. Brownsville was down 8.2 percent, McAllen fell 7.7 percent, El Paso declined 7.2 percent and Laredo decreased 1.2 percent. YTD air passenger arrivals were down 0.4 percent. El Paso, with 79.5 percent of all passengers arriving in August, was up 0.1 percent. McAllen, with 13.4 percent of all arrivals, was down 5.1 percent. **Harlingen, no longer gives out arrival information.** Laredo increased 11.6 percent while Brownsville fell 2.1 percent YTD.

### Passenger Arrivals % Change YTD 97-98



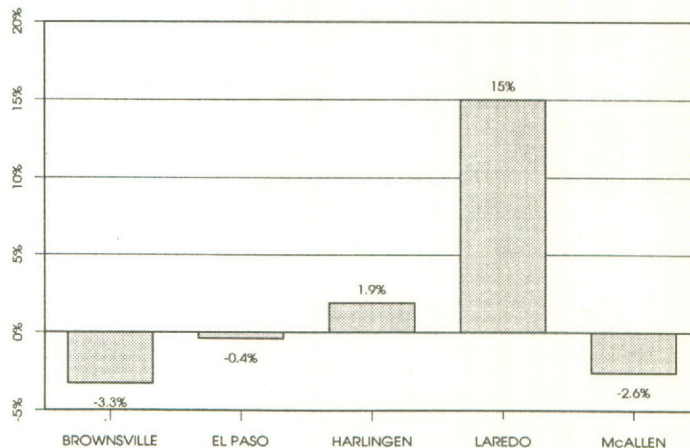
### Passenger Departures

| CITY        | JUN 98  | JUL 98  | AUG 98  | AUG 97  | YTD 97    | YTD 98    | % CHG |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| BROWNSVILLE | 6,656   | 6,877   | 6,408   | 7,018   | 55,738    | 53,879    | -3.3  |
| EL PASO     | 146,805 | 159,526 | 143,781 | 142,295 | 1,110,390 | 1,106,487 | -0.4  |
| HARLINGEN   | 43,449  | 44,158  | 37,729  | 39,694  | 321,519   | 327,709   | 1.9   |
| LAREDO      | 6,672   | 6,907   | 6,658   | 6,370   | 46,635    | 53,607    | 15.0  |
| McALLEN     | 26,131  | 27,306  | 23,867  | 25,398  | 217,570   | 211,897   | -2.6  |
| TOTAL       | 229,713 | 244,774 | 218,443 | 220,775 | 1,751,852 | 1,753,579 | 0.1   |

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

August air passenger departures for reporting Texas border cities were down 10.8 percent from July's figures. Harlingen decreased 14.6 percent, McAllen was down 2.6 percent, El Paso fell 9.9 percent, Brownsville dipped 6.8 percent, and Laredo decreased 3.6 percent. YTD, air passenger departures increased 0.1 percent from a year ago. El Paso, with 65.8 percent of all passengers departing in August, was down 0.4 percent YTD. Harlingen, with 17.3 percent of all passengers departing, was up 1.9 percent. McAllen, with 10.9 percent of all passengers departing, decreased 2.6 percent YTD. Laredo rose 15.0 percent while Brownsville was down 3.3 percent YTD.

### Passenger Departures % Change YTD 97-98



# Port Of Corpus Christi

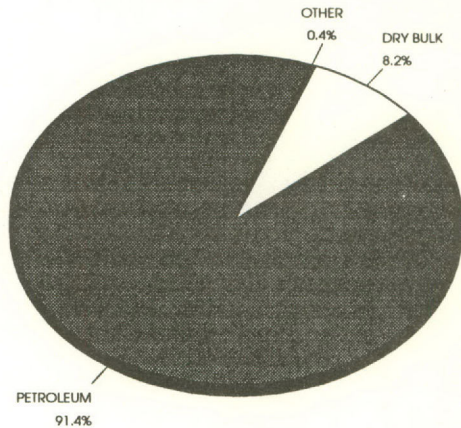
## Inbound Cargo (in Tons)

| COMMODITY  | JUN 98    | JUL 98    | AUG 98    | AUG 97    | YTD 97     | YTD 98     | % CHG |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-------|
| BREAK BULK | 927       | 4,274     | 0         | 1,127     | 6,976      | 7,591      | 8.8   |
| DRY BULK   | 426,129   | 262,098   | 339,598   | 333,931   | 2,787,095  | 3,139,582  | 12.6  |
| BULK GRAIN | 0         | (1,462)   | 0         | 0         | 0          | 0          | N/A   |
| LIQUID     | 0         | 4,410     | 13,642    | 15,116    | 39,064     | 34,182     | -12.5 |
| PETROLEUM  | 3,920,569 | 4,749,011 | 3,799,014 | 3,360,830 | 29,225,828 | 32,246,157 | 10.3  |
| CHEMICAL   | 8,471     | 12,970    | 4,396     | 7,956     | 89,311     | 75,059     | -16.0 |
| TOTAL      | 4,356,096 | 5,031,301 | 4,156,650 | 3,718,960 | 32,148,274 | 35,502,571 | 10.4  |

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 17.4 percent decrease in inbound cargo from last month. Petroleum, which makes up 91.4 percent of all inbound traffic in August, was down 20.0 percent compared to July. Dry bulk, which accounts for 8.2 percent of the port's inbound cargo for August, increased 29.6 percent. YTD, inbound cargo tonnage was up 10.4 percent. Dry bulk was up 12.6 percent YTD and Petroleum was up 10.3 percent YTD.

## % Share August 1998 Inbound Cargo



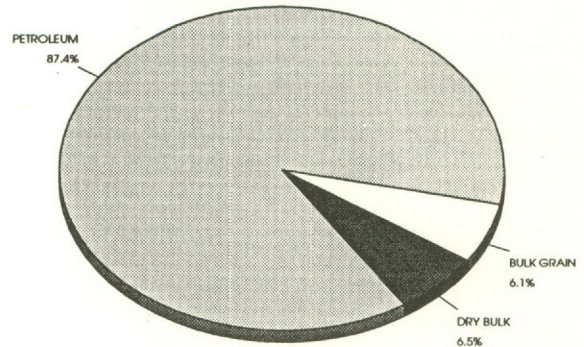
## Outbound Cargo (in Tons)

| COMMODITY  | JUN 98    | JUL 98    | AUG 98    | AUG 97    | YTD 97     | YTD 98     | % CHG |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-------|
| BREAK BULK | 822       | 14,756    | 0         | 501       | 5,983      | 58,727     | 881.6 |
| DRY BULK   | 359,052   | 251,493   | 159,252   | 306,271   | 1,833,866  | 1,993,166  | 8.7   |
| BULK GRAIN | 160,584   | 203,282   | 149,968   | 245,916   | 915,653    | 1,405,397  | 53.5  |
| LIQUID     | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2,865      | 9,706      | 238.8 |
| PETROLEUM  | 2,367,115 | 2,581,551 | 2,155,808 | 1,926,169 | 16,776,884 | 18,580,902 | 10.8  |
| CHEMICAL   | 149,731   | 156,751   | 0         | 135,708   | 1,178,893  | 947,897    | -19.6 |
| TOTAL      | 3,037,305 | 3,207,833 | 2,465,028 | 2,614,565 | 20,714,144 | 22,995,795 | 11.0  |

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 23.2 percent decrease in outbound cargo tonnage in August. Petroleum, which is 87.4 percent of total outbound cargo for August, decreased 16.5 percent compared to July. Dry bulk decreased 36.7 percent and Bulk Grain decreased 26.2 percent. YTD, total outbound cargo tonnage was up 11.0 percent.

## % Share August 1998 Outbound Cargo



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