



The University of Texas - Pan American

# NEWS & VIEWS



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Member of the Texas Centers for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

## Census Bureau Press Conference at UTPA

On September 28th, 1999, Alfonso Mirabal, Regional Director for the Census Bureau held a press conference at UT-Pan American's International Trade and Technology Building. He addressed the local press, promotoras from La Joya and San Carlos, and planners from neighboring cities.

In the 1990 census almost half a million people did not get counted in the State of Texas. This meant reduced federal funding for community education and health services.

Counting the people in the colonias is one of the biggest challenges according to Mirabal. He said that every effort will be made to get a complete count in



*Alfonso Mirabal, Regional Director, Census Bureau addresses the audience on the upcoming census.*



*At the press conference from l to r Juan Lopez, Chief of Planning-City of Edinburg; Alfonso Mirabal; Mayor Joe Ochoa, City of Edinburg; Roland Arriola, Vice President for External Affairs-UTPA; Ed Taylor, Senior Planner-City of McAllen.*

the upcoming decennial census. Speaking about the census process, Mirabal said that most of the census taking will be done through the mail. When a household does not mail back the census form, census takers visit the household to get the information. Bilingual census takers will be hired for the Rio Grande Valley. It is a time consuming and costly process but the payback for the community is significant. Mirabal answered questions and encouraged each and everyone in the audience to promote Census 2000. "It's about money and power for the community, the county, and the state," he said.

# Rio Grande Valley - Population Update

County City	Population 1980	Population 1990	Percent Change 1980-1990	Population 1999*	Percent Change 1990-1999
<b>CAMERON COUNTY</b>	<b>209,727</b>	<b>260,120</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>317,781</b>	<b>22.2</b>
Bayview Town	291	231	-20.6	281	21.6
Brownsville City	84,997	98,962	16.4	143,687	45.2
Cameron Park CDP	5,721	3,802	-33.5	4,812	26.6
Combes Town	1,488	2,042	37.2	2,448	19.9
Encantada - Ranchito	-	1,143	-	1,292	13.0
Harlingen City	43,543	48,746	11.9	59,686	22.4
Indian Lake Town	-	390	-	579	48.5
La Feria City	3,495	4,360	24.7	5,675	30.2
Laguna Heights	-	1,671	-	1,948	16.6
Laguna Vista	632	1,166	84.5	1,481	27.0
Los Fresnos	2,173	2,473	13.8	2,583	4.4
Palm Valley Town	-	1,199	-	1,234	2.9
Port Isabel City	3,769	4,467	18.5	5,273	18.0
Primera Town	1,380	2,030	47.1	2,634	29.8
Rancho Viejo	-	885	-	1,047	18.3
Rangerville	-	280	-	306	9.3
Rio Hondo City	1,673	1,793	7.2	2,259	26.0
San Benito City	17,988	20,125	11.9	23,331	15.9
Santa Rosa Town	1,889	2,223	17.7	2,656	19.5
South Padre Island	791	1,677	112.0	2,142	27.7
<b>HIDALGO COUNTY</b>	<b>283,229</b>	<b>383,545</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>527,726</b>	<b>37.6</b>
Abram-Perezville	-	3,999	-	4,994	24.9
Alamo City	5,831	8,210	40.8	14,827	80.6
Alton City	2,732	3,069	12.3	3,828	24.7
Donna City	9,952	12,652	27.1	16,285	28.7
Edcouch City	3,092	2,878	-6.9	4,129	43.5
Edinburg City	24,075	29,885	24.1	42,483	42.2
Elsa City	5,061	5,242	3.6	6,131	17.0
Hidalgo City	2,288	3,292	43.9	5,862	78.1
La Homa CDP	-	1,403	-	1,851	31.9
La Joya City	2,018	2,604	29.0	4,267	63.9
La Villa City	1,442	1,388	-3.7	1,964	41.5
Lopezville CDP	-	2,827	-	3,665	29.6
McAllen City	66,279	84,021	26.8	105,919	26.1
Mercedes City	11,851	12,694	7.1	15,120	19.1
Mila Doce CDP	-	2,089	-	2,634	26.1
Mission City	22,589	28,653	26.8	46,055	60.7
Palmhurst City	364	326	-10.4	455	39.6
Palmview City	674	1,818	169.7	2,807	54.4
Penitas CDP	-	1,077	-	1,845	71.3
Pharr City	21,381	32,921	54.0	42,222	28.3
Progreso CDP	1,456	3,258	34.0	5,101	56.6
Progreso Lakes	-	154	-	232	50.6
San Juan City	7,608	10,815	42.2	24,696	128.3
Scissors CDP	-	1,513	-	1,960	29.5
Sullivan City CDP	-	2,371	-	3,022	27.5
Weslaco City	19,331	21,877	13.2	28,569	30.6
<b>STARR COUNTY</b>	<b>27,266</b>	<b>40,518</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>52,352</b>	<b>29.2</b>
Escobares CDP	-	1,705	-	2,384	39.8
La Grulla	1,442	1,335	-7.4	2,023	51.5
Rio Grande City	8,930	10,725	10.8	13,575	26.6
Roma	3,384	8,059	138.2	11,463	42.2
<b>WILLACY COUNTY</b>	<b>17,495</b>	<b>17,705</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>19,110</b>	<b>7.9</b>
Lyford	1,618	1,674	3.5	1,929	15.2
Raymondville	9,493	8,880	-6.5	9,122	2.7
San Perlita	475	512	7.8	588	14.8
Sebastian CDP	-	1,598	-	1,672	4.6

As of January 1, 1999

Source: 1980, 1990, Census of Population & Housing, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C.

1999 Population Estimates, Texas State Data Center, College Station, Texas

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# CENSUS 2000

## ***Census for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century***

*Continuing our series on the 2000 census, this quarter's topic is...*

### ***Census 2000 in a Flash***

#### **How Big Is It?**

- 275 million U.S. residents
- 118 million housing units in the United States alone
- 1.5 million housing units in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Island Areas
- 2.7 million applicants recruited
- 285,000 jobs at peak
- 500 Local Census Offices, 12 Regional Census Centers and 4 Data Processing Centers
- 500 local area networks, 6,000 personal computers and 1,500 printers (set up, used and dismantled in one year)
- 8 million maps needed for field work
- 79 million questionnaires returned within a two-week period
- 8 to 9 million blocks covered

#### **When Is It?**

**1998-1999:** Developing the address list for Census 2000 and recruiting workers for census jobs

**Beginning mid-March 2000:** Census questionnaires delivered

**APRIL 1, 2000: CENSUS DAY**

**March-May 2000:** Census takers visit housing units in rural and remote areas to drop off and/or pick up forms.

**April-June 2000:** Census takers visit housing units that did not return census forms

**October-November 2000:** All field work completed

**December 31, 2000:** Apportionment counts delivered to the President

**April 1, 2001:** All states receive redistricting counts



**Data & Information Systems Center (DISC)**

DISC, at The University of Texas - Pan American, is a State Data Center Affiliate and a Member of the Texas Centers for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

***Service Area:***

Southernmost 19 counties of Texas: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Cameron, Duval, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, McMullen, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Starr, Webb, Willacy, and Zapata.

***Products & Services:***

- Census of Population and Housing
- Census Maps & Data for Counties, Cities, Census Tracts, Block Groups, Blocks, and Zip Codes
- Population Estimates and Projections for Counties
- Economic Census (Agriculture, Construction, Government, Manufacturing, Retail Trade, Services, and Wholesale Trade)
- County Business Patterns
- Employment and Unemployment Data by County
- Census Tract Factbook for the Rio Grande Valley
- Street Index by Census Tract for Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy Counties
- Geographic Information System (GIS) Services
- U.S. Statistical Abstracts
- Customized Consultation Services



CoSERVE (Office of Center Operations and Community Services) is the community outreach component of UT-Pan American.

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