



The University of Texas - Pan American

# NEWS & VIEWS



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Member of the Texas Centers for Border Economic and Enterprise Development

## McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA Maintains Its Spot

According to the 1996 population estimates McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA was the third fastest growing MSA in the country. With the 1998 population estimates released recently, McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA is still maintaining the spot of the third fastest growing MSA in the U.S. Table 1 depicts the 1998 population estimates and population change from 1990-1998 for the top 10 fastest growing metros.

Table Ten fastest growing metros in the U.S. (1990-1998)

Rank	Metropolitan Area	1998 Population	Population Change 1990 to 1998	
			Number	Percent
1	Las Vegas, Nev.-Arizona	1,321,546	468,900	55.0
2	Laredo, Texas	188,166	54,927	41.2
3	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, Texas	522,204	138,659	36.2
4	Boise City, Idaho	395,953	100,102	33.8
5	Naples, Florida	199,436	47,337	31.1
6	Phoenix-Mesa, Arizona	2,931,004	692,506	30.9
7	Austin-San Marcos, Texas	1,105,909	259,682	30.7
8	Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, Arkansas	272,616	61,708	29.3
9	Wilmington, North Carolina	218,248	46,979	27.4
10	Provo-Orem, Utah	335,635	72,045	27.3

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC

All of the 10 fastest-growing metropolitan areas between 1990 and 1998 were located in the West or in the South, led by Las Vegas, Nevada (55.0%), Laredo, Texas (41.2%), and McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, Texas (36.2%).

The 1990 to 1998 population estimates for metropolitan statistical areas and their components, as well as for central cities, may be viewed on the Census Bureau's Web site at <http://www.census.gov>.

# The University of Texas-Pan American Prepares for the 2000 Census



The Data & Information Systems Center (DISC) at the university is affiliated to the Census Bureau through the Texas State Data Center. The staff at DISC represents the university on the

Edinburg Census 2000 Complete Count Committee and also on the Hidalgo County Census 2000 Complete Count Committee.



The Data & Information Systems Center located at the International Trade and Technology Building on campus will serve as one of the Census Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QuAC) starting March 15th. The purpose of this center is to answer any census related questions and to help people in filling out the census forms if they are unable to fill them out on their own. You can reach the UTPA QuAC at (956) 381-2301 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays.

We are very excited about the census and encourage all of you to take a few minutes and fill out the census form when it arrives in your mailbox. The Census Bureau will be mailing out the forms in March. Make sure you get counted!



*Recently Dr. S.J. Sethi (Associate Director, CoSERVE) and Michel Fabry (GIS Specialist, DISC) worked with the city staff and Edinburg census committee members in spreading the word about the Census by handing out flyers and census promotion material outside Edinburg H.E.B. People showed interest and were keen to participate in the census.*



# CENSUS 2000

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

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

### **How America Knows What America Needs**

#### ***Census 2000 Will Be the Largest Peacetime Effort in the History of the United States.***

More than 285,000 census takers and support personnel will be needed to account for the anticipated 118 million housing units and 275 million people across the United States. But it isn't size that makes Census 2000 important. It is all the things that we will learn about ourselves that will help America succeed in the next millennium.

#### ***Your Answers Work for You***

- The federal government uses census numbers to allocate over \$100 billion in federal funds annually for community programs and services including education programs, housing and community development, health-care services for the elderly, job training and many more.
- State, local and tribal governments use census information for planning and allocating funds for new school construction, public buildings such as libraries, highway safety and public transportation systems, new roads and bridges, location of police and fire departments and many more projects.
- Community organizations use census information for developing social service programs, community action projects, senior lunch programs and child-care centers.
- Businesses use the numbers to decide where to locate factories, shopping centers, movie theaters, banks and offices – leading to the creation of jobs in the area.
- The U.S. Congress uses the census totals to determine how many seats your state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. Likewise, states use the numbers to allocate seats in their legislatures.

#### ***This is Your Future. Don't Leave it Blank.***

Census 2000 will help decision-makers understand which neighborhoods need new schools and which ones need greater services for the elderly. But they won't be able to tell what your community needs if you and your neighbors don't fill out your census forms and mail them back.



**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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