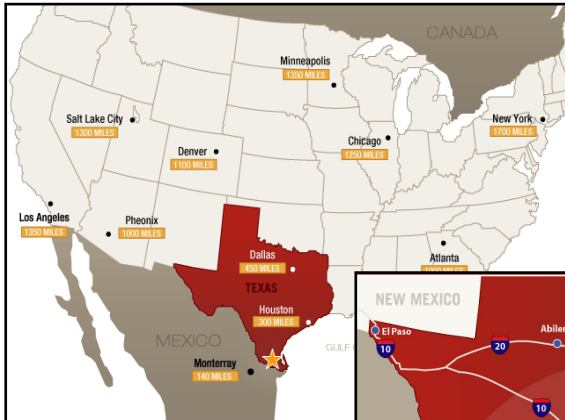
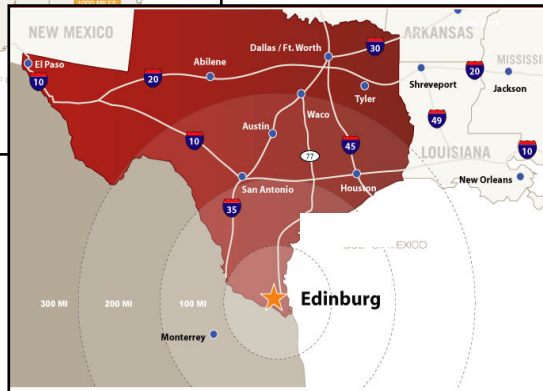


NAI Rio Grande Valley Spotlight



Top 20 Sales & Use Tax Cities in Texas...

•McAllen ranks 12th



Images from Edinburg Economic Development Corporation

On a Per Capita Basis...

•McAllen ranks 3rd

(Oct. 2009 Comptrollers Office)



Population

Rio South Texas: 4,225,414

(Includes Hidalgo, Cameron, Starr & Willacy Counties and the State of Tamaulipas Mexico) (Rio South Texas Economic Council June 2009)

**2 Countries, 1 Region
Many Choices**

•Consumer base of 10 million within a 150-mile radius

•11 ports of entry

•5 international airports

•7 million visitors a year

•Mexican visitors expend \$1.4 billion annually in the McAllen-Edinburg-Mercedes MSA

•45% of Mexican visitors visit the area several times per year, while 35% visit several times per month (Mercedes Economic Development Corporation)

•The newest international bridge, Anzalduas International Bridge, is scheduled to open by the end of 2009

•Our proximity to Mexico provides the region a second economy on which growth is driven

Key Factors

- Largest metro area on the U.S. – Mexico border
- Third largest metro area in Texas, behind only Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston
- National retailers that have opened in the McAllen-Edinburg MSA in 2009: **Best Buy, Olive Garden, Tony Roma's, Super Wal-Mart, JC Penny's, Burlington Coat Factory, and Academy**
- The McAllen MSA was ranked among the top 25 metro areas for fastest small business growth (CNN Money Report October 2009)
- #1 – McAllen MSA in the Best Mid-Sized Cities list for Job Seekers (Forbes.com September 2009)
- University of Texas Pan American ranked as One of the Best Public Colleges in the Country (Forbes September 2009)
- McAllen's MSA was in the top five cities in the nation that gained jobs in the second quarter of 2009 (Brookings Institute September 2009)



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