10-2017

Borderplex Economic Outlook to 2019

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Continued maintenance and expansion of the UTEP business modeling system requires ongoing financial support. For information on potential means for supporting this research effort, please contact Border Region Modeling Project - CBA 236, Department of Economics & Finance, 500 West University, El Paso, TX 79968-0543.
EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

Recent labor market developments point to robust economic growth in the Borderplex region. The El Paso unemployment rate remained below the 6 percent mark for more than 36 consecutive months for the first time since prior to mid-1973. Formal sector employment in Ciudad Juárez expanded to more than 440 thousand for the time ever, while in Chihuahua City it eclipsed 250 thousand. Although the labor market is still underachieving in Las Cruces, conditions improved sufficiently for total employment to exceed 102 thousand for the first time in the economic history of the Mesilla Valley. Although regional job growth is encouraging, national and international downside risks suggest that the possibility of a global business cycle downturn cannot be ruled out.

EL PASO DEMOGRAPHICS

El Paso population growth continues to be sluggish, but is projected to slowly accelerate throughout the forecast period (Table 2). By 2019, El Paso County is predicted to have more than 860 thousand residents and 280 thousand households. Lower unemployment has translated into lower domestic out-migration. It should be noted, however, that any deterioration in diplomatic relations between the United States and Mexico could lead to lower net international migration and slower population growth than what is depicted in Table 2. Demographic expansion plus generally favorable economic conditions cause the number of registered vehicles in El Paso to rise above 700 thousand by 2019. The number of businesses operating in El Paso is forecast to reach nearly 14,750 by 2019. After declining for several consecutive years, business and personal bankruptcies bottomed out in 2015, but are still forecast remain well below the peak levels reached in 2009 in the midst of the Great Recession. Upward trajectories are projected for local college enrollments as the number of high school graduates increases in the region.
EMPLOYMENT & THE EL PASO LABOR MARKET

The jobless rate is forecast to remain below 5.5 percent for the entire forecast period in Table 3. That welcome simulation outcome is primarily due to robust jobs growth in sectors such as construction; transportation and warehousing; finance, insurance, and real estate; health services; and temporary help and call centers. In fact, none of the job categories listed in Table 3 is expected to shed employment under the current outlook. Slower national economic performance causes jobs growth to decelerate, however, in 2019.

EL PASO PERSONAL INCOME

El Paso personal income is expected to surpass $32.4 billion by 2019 (Table 4). Steady rates of employment and productivity growth allow wage and salary disbursements to expand at more favorable rates. Improved business conditions are expected to propel proprietor incomes beyond $2.5 billion for the first time in the economic history of El Paso. Dividend, interest, and rental incomes benefit from financial and real estate market stability, as well as moderately higher interest rates. Retirement transfers increase in response to the aging of the local populace and slightly higher returns on financial investments. Income maintenance transfers also increase due to population growth. Unemployment transfers are projected to remain well below the crisis levels observed between 2009 and 2012, but some increases are forecast for the outer years of the forecast period. Social security contributions are expected to increase, but residence transfers are likely to hold steady as job conditions in surrounding labor markets start to improve.

EL PASO COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

Preliminary data releases plus model simulations indicate that all retail sales categories posted dollar volume gains of 1.5 percent or higher in 2017 (Table 5). Particularly impressive growth rates are shown for motor vehicles
and parts, gasoline stations, florists, non-store retailers, and food and beverage establishments. A healthy El Paso labor market has helped offset early-2017 peso jitters in Mexico and unsteady economic performance in southern New Mexico. By 2019, total retail sales in El Paso are projected to surpass $13.3 billion.

EL PASO RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION & REAL ESTATE

Housing market conditions are forecast to remain fairly stable (Table 6). That outlook is bolstered by positive net-migration and population growth, plus stronger household formation rates. Total housing starts are expected to remain above 3.4 thousand units per year throughout the forecast period. The median price of existing stand-alone housing units is predicted to reach $149 thousand by 2019, while the price of newly constructed units is projected to rise above $163 thousand. Higher prices combine with higher mortgage rates to push average monthly mortgage payments to $674 per month by the end of the forecast period. Under that scenario, housing affordability erodes somewhat. In spite of the latter, sales of existing housing units increase at the beginning of the forecast period before retreating some in 2019.

EL PASO NONRESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION & APARTMENT RENTS

One of the strongest sources of growth in El Paso since 2015 has been non-residential construction (Table 7). The total value of new office space, other commercial space, and industrial construction is projected to remain well above historical average levels through 2019. Downtown revitalization projects plus development of new retail and entertainment areas throughout the metropolitan area contribute to this outlook. Ongoing additions to the stock of multi-family housing units are predicted to result in fairly flat apartment rents. Among apartments, the popularity of 3-bedroom units is expected to cause those rents to increase at a slightly faster rates than those for other floorplans. As a consequence, the median monthly rent for a 3-bedroom apartment is forecast to eclipse the $1,300 mark by 2019.

EL PASO AIR TRANSPORTATION

Passenger arrivals and departures in 2017 at El Paso International Airport (EPIA) reached the highest levels since 2012 (Table 8). Better consumer confidence and lower unemployment contributed to this welcome development. Those developments have not been overlooked by commercial airlines, as the number of flights and the number of seats available both increased during 2017. Not surprisingly, ticket prices increased in 2017 and are projected to continue growing in 2018 and 2019. More non-stop flights and at least one new direct connection route to the West Coast are scheduled to be added in 2018. Although the volume of airborne cargo traffic is expected to grow by small amounts during
the forecast period, this category is not keeping pace with international manufacturing trends in the region due to other transportation mode developments in the region.

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE TRAFFIC

Pedestrian and personal vehicle traffic flows are projected to have increased only marginally in 2017 (Table 9). Part of that development is due to early-year purchasing power woes experienced by northern Mexico residents with peso earnings. Expansion in export-oriented manufacturing employment in Ciudad Juárez helped the number of cross-border trips to keep from declining and caused cargo vehicle flows to accelerate. All three categories of northbound bridge traffic are projected to increase in 2018 and 2019. Those model simulation outcomes do face downside risks associated with the possible demise of the North American Free Trade Agreement. Economically and geographically, such a development does not make sense, but cannot be ruled out.

EL PASO HOTEL ACTIVITY

Borderplex economic expansion has helped spur a variety of major hotel construction and renovation projects in El Paso. The total number of hotels in operation is projected to rise to 84 by the end of the forecast period (Table 10). Importantly, total hotel capacity, as measured by room nights available, reached a new historical record in 2016 and is forecast to reach new heights in coming years. The main driver behind all of the new investment is continued increases in room nights sold plus some of the strongest annual occupancy rates in Texas. As would be expected under these conditions, room prices and revenues per room have grown steadily and are projected to continue their upward trajectories over the course of the forecast period. The same trend is projected to propel total hotel revenues past the $200 million mark for the first time in El Paso economic history by 2019.

EL PASO WATER CONSUMPTION

All of the construction activity in El Paso in recent years has increased the number of water accounts (Table 11). Total metered connections are forecast to reach nearly 239 thousand by 2019. The account category that is predicted to expand at the quickest pace is public sector, not-for-profit, and miscellaneous water hookups, but easily the biggest number of new accounts continues to be generated by new single-family residential customers. All of the expansion entails new capital expenditures and creates pressure for new rate hikes. Fortuitously, those rate hikes combine with advances in the efficiency of water-using home appliances to cause aggregate water consumption to essentially hold steady at current levels through 2019. Ongoing declines in per capita water usage are helping the local economy to avoid more costly supply options as usage continues to be optimized in the Sun City.
CIUDAD JUÁREZ ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

After growing by 1.2 percent in 2016, the population of Ciudad Juárez surpassed 1.4 million for the first time in recorded history. In a departure from historical norms, more than 80 percent of that expansion is comprised by natural increase (Table 12). That pattern is projected to remain in place through at least 2019. Accompanying the demographic growth are increases in municipal water customers, vehicle registrations, and post-secondary college enrollments. Confirming that the record formal sector payroll level set in 2015 was no fluke, employment reached a new high in 2016 (Table 13). The biggest news in that regard is formal sector manufacturing jobs in Ciudad Juárez in 2016 breaking the record set in 2000 just prior to the dot.com recession in the United States. While overall manufacturing and IMMEX payroll growth rates are expected to decelerate by 2019, job creation in other sectors is projected to remain well above the rate of demographic expansion for this important urban economy. Under this circumstance, the municipal electricity grid is expected to surpass the 445 thousand meter mark by 2019 with aggregate usage of more than 4,300 gigawatt hours (GWH).

CHIHUAHUA CITY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

As in recent years, Chihuahua City demographic expansion is expected to continue to be primarily due to natural increase over the course of the forecast period (Table 14). The population of the state capital is projected to climb above the 900 thousand mark for the first time in 2017. Vehicle registrations, post-secondary enrollments at local colleges, and the size of the local water system are all projected to increase as a consequence of the population growth. All categories of formal sector jobs contribute to the increases in total employment through 2019 (Table 15). By 2019, total manufacturing employment is predicted to top the 100 thousand mark, while services jobs are projected to eclipse 92 thousand. Demographic expansion plus a robust labor market also help fuel strong job growth in commerce in the capital city. Solid growth in electricity consumption and the number of electricity meters results under this scenario, raising the specter of higher rates at some point during the outlook period.

LAS CRUCES ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Population fell by a small amount, again, in 2016 in Las Cruces. Demographic gains are projected to slowly accelerate through 2019 (Table 16). Although business formations are expected to strengthen gradually, the total number of businesses in operation is not forecast to reach the 2007 peak level during the current forecast period. Business and personal bankruptcies are projected to increase each year through 2019, but remain well below the recent peak levels tallied in 2010. Efforts by NMSU and DACC to boost enrollments, which have fallen substantially below 2010/2011 levels, are expected to begin paying off in 2018 and 2019.
Real gross metropolitan product is forecast to stabilize in 2017 before accelerating over the course of 2018 and 2019. Private sector payrolls are projected to recover substantially during the simulation period, helping raise total employment to more than 105.8 thousand by the end of the period under consideration (Table 17). Against that backdrop, personal income growth should be relatively strong every year through 2019 (Table 18). Categories exhibiting good rates of expansion include wage and salary disbursements; proprietor incomes; dividends, interest, and rental incomes; and retirement incomes. Residence adjustment figures reflect substantial downward revisions in the historical data. Overall, Las Cruces area personal income should surpass 8.25 billion per year by 2019.

FORECAST RISKS

Various economic threats associated with natural disasters have dominated business headlines during the third and fourth quarters of 2017. Other economic headwinds facing the national and regional economies include rising household and corporate debt levels. The biggest risk facing the Borderplex regional economy is the possibility that the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is not successfully modernized. If the NAFTA talks fail, then Mexico and Canada are likely to slip into business cycle downturns. Because of the multiple supply chain links linking the three countries, the United States will probably observe a resurrection of 1970s-style stagflation. The large array of downside risks facing the United States, Mexico, and the border region result in a greater-than-usual probability that the forecasts presented in this report may prove overly optimistic.

HISTORICAL AND FORECAST DATA

Tables 1 through 18 summarize the numerical results from the short-term forecast simulation to 2019 using the UTEP Borderplex Econometric Forecasting Model. Forecasts for El Paso and Las Cruces income and employment begin in 2016. Forecasts for all other data series begin in 2017. At present, the model is comprised by 250 equations covering all of the categories listed in the tables. Suggestions and requests for upcoming volumes are welcome. Please send them to Border Region Modeling Project - CBA 236, UTEP Department of Economics & Finance, 500 West University, El Paso, TX 79968-0543.
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TABLE 18
LAS CRUCES PERSONAL INCOME
Table 1: Major Indicators

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<td>El Paso Unemployment Rate</td>
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<td>El Paso Commercial Activity</td>
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<td>USA Per Capita Personal Income</td>
<td>39.322</td>
<td>40.235</td>
<td>42.419</td>
<td>44.206</td>
<td>44.383</td>
<td>46.352</td>
<td>48.011</td>
<td>49.343</td>
<td>51.059</td>
<td>53.120</td>
<td>55.490</td>
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<td>Ciudad Juarez Total Employment</td>
<td>302.365</td>
<td>312.920</td>
<td>313.994</td>
<td>335.806</td>
<td>345.732</td>
<td>376.040</td>
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<td>Chihuahua City Total Employment</td>
<td>176.277</td>
<td>188.172</td>
<td>197.584</td>
<td>214.381</td>
<td>218.408</td>
<td>223.640</td>
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<td>Las Cruces Total Employment</td>
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Notes:
1. All demographic, vehicle registration, and employment data are in thousands.
2. Total personal income and commercial activity data are reported in millions of dollars.
3. Per capita personal income data are in thousands of dollars.
4. El Paso unemployment rate data are reported in annual average percentages.
5. Real gross metropolitan product for the El Paso Metropolitan Statistical Area is reported in billions of 2009 dollars.
### Table 2: El Paso Demographics

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<td><strong>Resident Births</strong></td>
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<td>13,792</td>
<td>13,892</td>
<td>13,873</td>
<td>13,569</td>
<td>13,567</td>
<td>13,521</td>
<td>12,986</td>
<td>13,093</td>
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<td><strong>Resident Deaths</strong></td>
<td>4,481</td>
<td>4,566</td>
<td>4,849</td>
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<td>-1,692</td>
<td>0.179</td>
<td>1.101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Domestic Migration</strong></td>
<td>-0.511</td>
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<td><strong>International Migration</strong></td>
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<td>3,410</td>
<td>3,291</td>
<td>3,163</td>
<td>3,818</td>
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<td>2.888</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Households</strong></td>
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**Notes:**
1. Business and personal bankruptcy data reported in actual units; all other data are reported in thousands.
2. Household data are for the El Paso Metropolitan Statistical Area.
### Table 3: El Paso Labor Force & Employment

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<td>396.627</td>
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<td>417.137</td>
<td>413.454</td>
<td>417.278</td>
<td>411.520</td>
<td>415.080</td>
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Notes:
1. Labor force and employment data are in thousands; unemployment rate data are in percentages.
2. Not Elsewhere Classified includes communications, arts and entertainment, private education and wholesale trade.
Table 4: El Paso Personal Income

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Notes:
1. All income data are expressed in millions of dollars.
2. Social insurance contributions are deducted from total regional income estimates.
3. Retirement transfer payments include social security and other retirement payments.
4. Income maintenance transfers include temporary assistance for needy families and other payments.
5. Unemployment transfer payments include unemployment insurance payments to individuals.
### Table 5: El Paso Gross Commercial Activity

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**Notes:**
1. All sales figures are expressed in millions of dollars.
2. All data correspond to the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).
Table 6: El Paso Residential Construction & Real Estate

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Notes:
1. Housing start and stock data are in thousands.
2. Median new and existing home prices are for stand-alone units and quoted in thousands of dollars.
3. Average monthly mortgage payment is in current dollars.
4. Affordability index increases as household income strengthens relative to mortgage payments.
5. Existing housing units sold (in thousands) includes both stand-alone and multi-family units.
6. The data in Table 6 are for the El Paso Metropolitan Statistical Area.
### Table 7: El Paso Nonresidential Construction & Apartment Rents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Nonresidential Space</th>
<th>% change</th>
<th>Industrial Space Permits</th>
<th>% change</th>
<th>Office Space Permit Values</th>
<th>% change</th>
<th>Other Commercial Space</th>
<th>% change</th>
<th>Miscellaneous Nonres.</th>
<th>% change</th>
<th>Notes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>490.187</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>4,326</td>
<td>166.1</td>
<td>8,506</td>
<td>-73.2</td>
<td>290,815</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>186,540</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>1. All nonresidential construction permits data are quoted in millions of dollars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>584.353</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>1,875</td>
<td>-56.7</td>
<td>21,330</td>
<td>150.8</td>
<td>224,007</td>
<td>-23.0</td>
<td>337,141</td>
<td>80.7</td>
<td>2. Other commercial permits include service stations, retail stores, parking garages, warehouses, and public utilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>181.303</td>
<td>-69.0</td>
<td>2,784</td>
<td>48.4</td>
<td>13,460</td>
<td>-36.9</td>
<td>91,103</td>
<td>-59.3</td>
<td>73,956</td>
<td>-78.1</td>
<td>3. Miscellaneous permits include port facilities, recreational buildings, sports stadiums, swimming pools, and health care facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>532.773</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>0,157</td>
<td>-94.4</td>
<td>19,479</td>
<td>44.7</td>
<td>243,711</td>
<td>167.5</td>
<td>269,425</td>
<td>264.3</td>
<td>4. All apartment rent data are reported in nominal dollars per month.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>457.819</td>
<td>-14.1</td>
<td>4,118</td>
<td>252.1</td>
<td>24,869</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>304,958</td>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>123,873</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>494.255</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>2,688</td>
<td>-34.7</td>
<td>28,432</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>361,394</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>101,741</td>
<td>-17.9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1064.680</td>
<td>115.4</td>
<td>10,973</td>
<td>308.3</td>
<td>172,609</td>
<td>507.1</td>
<td>765,064</td>
<td>111.7</td>
<td>116,033</td>
<td>14.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>808.192</td>
<td>-24.1</td>
<td>15,944</td>
<td>45.3</td>
<td>30,058</td>
<td>-82.6</td>
<td>653,078</td>
<td>-14.6</td>
<td>109,111</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>760.377</td>
<td>-5.9</td>
<td>13,057</td>
<td>-18.1</td>
<td>23,752</td>
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<td>579,647</td>
<td>-11.2</td>
<td>143,920</td>
<td>31.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>762.495</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>12,857</td>
<td>-1.5</td>
<td>26,030</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>566,386</td>
<td>-2.3</td>
<td>157,223</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>827.089</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>12,653</td>
<td>-1.6</td>
<td>25,494</td>
<td>-2.1</td>
<td>615,767</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>173,176</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
1. All nonresidential construction permits data are quoted in millions of dollars.
2. Other commercial permits include service stations, retail stores, parking garages, warehouses, and public utilities.
3. Miscellaneous permits include port facilities, recreational buildings, sports stadiums, swimming pools, and health care facilities.
4. All apartment rent data are reported in nominal dollars per month.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 8: El Paso International Airport</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Passenger Arrivals</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1523.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Domestic Arrivals</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1523.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Arrivals</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Passenger Departures</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1540.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Domestic Departures</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1540.2</td>
</tr>
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<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Departures</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Air Fares</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301.26</td>
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<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>In-Bound Freight &amp; Mail</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34.120</td>
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<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Out-Bound Freight &amp; Mail</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. El Paso International Airport passenger data are in thousands.
2. El Paso International Airport annual average air fares are reported in nominal dollars.
3. El Paso International Airport air freight and air mail data are in thousand tons.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 9: Northbound International Bridge Traffic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trucks, All Bridges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cordova Bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOTA Pedestrians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOTA Cargo Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paso del Norte Bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDN Personal Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCL Personal Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ysleta Zaragoza Bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ysleta Pedestrians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ysleta Cargo Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DYL Personal Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. All bridge data are for northbound traffic categories into the City of El Paso.
2. Pedestrian, personal vehicle (cars, light trucks, mini-vans), and cargo vehicle data are reported in millions.
3. DCL and DYL are acronyms for Stanton Dedicated Commuter Lane and Ysleta Dedicated Commuter Lane, respectively.
### Table 10: El Paso County Hotel Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hotels in Operation</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-2.5</td>
<td>-3.8</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room Nights Available</td>
<td>3012.9</td>
<td>3142.9</td>
<td>3197.6</td>
<td>3266.5</td>
<td>3194.4</td>
<td>3191.6</td>
<td>3284.0</td>
<td>3337.9</td>
<td>3378.3</td>
<td>3421.6</td>
<td>3454.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>-2.2</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room Nights Sold</td>
<td>1919.6</td>
<td>2063.1</td>
<td>2185.0</td>
<td>2116.0</td>
<td>2070.0</td>
<td>2124.0</td>
<td>2189.0</td>
<td>2249.8</td>
<td>2295.4</td>
<td>2332.3</td>
<td>2363.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>-2.7</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>-3.2</td>
<td>-2.2</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel Occupancy Rate</td>
<td>63.7</td>
<td>65.6</td>
<td>68.3</td>
<td>64.8</td>
<td>64.8</td>
<td>66.5</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>67.4</td>
<td>67.9</td>
<td>68.2</td>
<td>68.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel Room Price</td>
<td>68.49</td>
<td>70.07</td>
<td>69.50</td>
<td>70.84</td>
<td>71.37</td>
<td>75.33</td>
<td>78.20</td>
<td>79.66</td>
<td>81.20</td>
<td>83.28</td>
<td>85.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>-5.4</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>-0.8</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual Revenue per Room</td>
<td>43.64</td>
<td>46.00</td>
<td>47.49</td>
<td>45.89</td>
<td>46.25</td>
<td>50.14</td>
<td>52.12</td>
<td>53.69</td>
<td>55.17</td>
<td>56.76</td>
<td>58.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>-11.0</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>-3.4</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>131.481</td>
<td>144.562</td>
<td>151.851</td>
<td>149.899</td>
<td>147.729</td>
<td>160.011</td>
<td>171.174</td>
<td>179.227</td>
<td>186.395</td>
<td>194.227</td>
<td>202.312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>-7.9</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>-1.3</td>
<td>-1.4</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
1. El Paso County hotel room night data are reported in thousands.
2. El Paso County hotel pricing data are reported in nominal dollars.
3. Total hotel revenues are reported in million nominal dollars.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Water Customers</strong></td>
<td>202.788</td>
<td>207.456</td>
<td>212.205</td>
<td>216.899</td>
<td>224.083</td>
<td>219.251</td>
<td>223.105</td>
<td>226.681</td>
<td>230.955</td>
<td>235.009</td>
<td>238.874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>-2.2</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Single-Family Meters</strong></td>
<td>161.482</td>
<td>164.50</td>
<td>169.261</td>
<td>172.609</td>
<td>174.519</td>
<td>176.399</td>
<td>178.803</td>
<td>180.943</td>
<td>183.952</td>
<td>186.823</td>
<td>189.624</td>
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<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>-5.6</td>
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<td>0.1</td>
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<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.1</td>
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<td><strong>Industrial Business Meters</strong></td>
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<td>0.161</td>
<td>0.163</td>
<td>0.162</td>
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<td>0.148</td>
<td>0.150</td>
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<td>0.152</td>
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<td>% change</td>
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<td>-0.6</td>
<td>-2.5</td>
<td>-3.2</td>
<td>-2.6</td>
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<td>1.3</td>
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<td>29.193</td>
<td>30.428</td>
<td>31.412</td>
<td>32.375</td>
<td>33.305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>-0.5</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>17.9</td>
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<td>3.1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>36.997</td>
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<td>35.611</td>
<td>34.289</td>
<td>33.981</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
<td>8.4</td>
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<td>-3.6</td>
<td>-3.7</td>
<td>-0.9</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-0.4</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Multi-Family Gallons</strong></td>
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<td>3.147</td>
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<td>2.953</td>
<td>2.817</td>
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<td>2.811</td>
<td>2.792</td>
<td>2.781</td>
<td>2.774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>-2.2</td>
<td>-4.1</td>
<td>-4.6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>-1.8</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>-1.7</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>-11.3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial Gallons Consumed</strong></td>
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<td>0.330</td>
<td>0.347</td>
<td>0.387</td>
<td>0.495</td>
<td>0.391</td>
<td>0.424</td>
<td>0.436</td>
<td>0.438</td>
<td>0.435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>-10.9</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>11.4</td>
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<td>-0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>-1.1</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>6.5</td>
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</table>

Notes:
1. Water customer meter connections are reported in thousands.
2. El Paso water consumption data are reported in billion gallons.
3. Other water accounts include schools, parks, churches, and government agencies.
## Table 12: Ciudad Juarez Demographic Indicators

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<tr>
<td>Registered Cargo Vehicles</td>
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<td>89.969</td>
<td>85.055</td>
<td>85.548</td>
<td>89.015</td>
<td>92.406</td>
<td>94.783</td>
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<td>101.831</td>
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<td>4.8</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. All Ciudad Juarez population, water meter, vehicle, and college enrollment data are reported in thousands.
2. Ciudad Juarez water consumption is reported in million cubic meters.
3. UACJ is the acronym for Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juarez.
4. ITCJ is the acronym for Instituto Tecnológico de Ciudad Juarez.
## Table 13: Ciudad Juarez Economic Indicators

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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Formal Sector Emp.</strong></td>
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<td>312,920</td>
<td>313,994</td>
<td>335,806</td>
<td>345,732</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Commerce Employment</strong></td>
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<td>39,259</td>
<td>39,907</td>
<td>41,775</td>
<td>42,383</td>
<td>43,360</td>
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<td><strong>Regulated Industry Emp.</strong></td>
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<td>11,994</td>
<td>12,363</td>
<td>13,233</td>
<td>14,331</td>
<td>14,890</td>
<td>15,673</td>
<td>16,289</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Services &amp; Other Emp.</strong></td>
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<td>335</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>317</td>
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<td>178,564</td>
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<td>202,476</td>
<td>215,821</td>
<td>243,853</td>
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<td>270,654</td>
<td>277,400</td>
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<td>4.90</td>
<td>4.82</td>
<td>5.03</td>
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<td>-13.8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Electric Meters</strong></td>
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<td>414,720</td>
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<td>2.7</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
1. Ciudad Juarez employment data and electricity meters are reported in thousands.
2. Ciudad Juarez formal sector jobs are those covered by the social security system in Mexico.
3. Regulated sectors include transportation, communications, and public utilities.
4. IMMEX is a Mexican government program facilitating importation of intermediate goods to be processed and re-exported.
5. IMMEX data are annual averages; the non-IMMEX employment data reflect the number of jobs at the end of the year.
6. IMMEX wages are in nominal dollars per hour.
7. Ciudad Juarez total electricity consumption data are reported in gigawatt hours.
Table 14: Chihuahua City Demographic Indicators

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<td>308.131</td>
<td>314.421</td>
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<td>325.495</td>
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<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.1</td>
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<td><strong>Registered Automobiles</strong></td>
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<td>338.533</td>
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<td>3.0</td>
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<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Registered Cargo Vehicles</strong></td>
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<td>1.3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. Chihuahua City population, water meter, vehicle, and college enrollment data are reported in thousands.
2. Chihuahua City water consumption data are reported in million cubic meters.
3. UACH is the acronym for Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua.
4. ITCH Number 1 is the acronym for Instituto Tecnológico de Chihuahua Numero 1.
Table 15: Chihuahua City Economic Indicators

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Notes:
1. Chihuahua City employment data and electricity meters are reported in thousands.
2. Chihuahua City formal sector jobs are those covered by the social security system in Mexico.
3. Regulated sectors include transportation, communications, and public utilities.
4. IMMEX is a Mexican government program facilitating importation of intermediate goods to be processed and re-exported.
5. IMMEX data are annual averages; the non-IMMEX employment data reflect the number of jobs at the end of the year.
6. IMMEX wages are in nominal dollars per hour.
7. Chihuahua City total electricity consumption data are reported in gigawatt hours.
### Table 16: Las Cruces Demographic & Other Indicators

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**Notes:**
1. The Las Cruces metropolitan economy is comprised by Doña Ana County.
2. Population, business establishment, college enrollment, and employment data are expressed in thousands.
3. All income and earnings data are expressed in millions of dollars.
4. Labor and proprietor earnings encompass wage and salary disbursements, other labor income, and proprietor earnings.
5. Real gross metropolitan product data are expressed in billions of 2009 dollars.
### Table 17: Las Cruces Employment

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**% change**

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<td>1.3</td>
<td>-2.1</td>
<td>5.0</td>
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<td>5.0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
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<td>4.4</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

1. Employment data are expressed in thousands.
2. Not Elsewhere Classified includes communications, arts and entertainment, private education and wholesale trade.
## Table 18: Las Cruces Personal Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Personal Income</strong></td>
<td>5869.4</td>
<td>6163.4</td>
<td>6361.3</td>
<td>6520.4</td>
<td>6272.7</td>
<td>6518.8</td>
<td>6907.5</td>
<td>7177.7</td>
<td>7551.7</td>
<td>7922.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>-3.8</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wages and Salaries</strong></td>
<td>2546.4</td>
<td>2608.0</td>
<td>2623.7</td>
<td>2660.8</td>
<td>2711.0</td>
<td>2777.3</td>
<td>2860.0</td>
<td>2933.0</td>
<td>3070.2</td>
<td>3223.8</td>
<td>3378.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Labor Income</strong></td>
<td>515.9</td>
<td>554.1</td>
<td>581.9</td>
<td>604.5</td>
<td>572.9</td>
<td>564.0</td>
<td>580.3</td>
<td>595.1</td>
<td>622.6</td>
<td>650.5</td>
<td>676.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>-5.2</td>
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<td>2.6</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proprietor Incomes</strong></td>
<td>646.7</td>
<td>727.7</td>
<td>707.0</td>
<td>595.1</td>
<td>549.2</td>
<td>541.1</td>
<td>611.2</td>
<td>646.1</td>
<td>686.9</td>
<td>729.1</td>
<td>769.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>-2.8</td>
<td>-15.8</td>
<td>-7.7</td>
<td>-1.5</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Ins. Contributions</strong></td>
<td>236.1</td>
<td>241.4</td>
<td>194.2</td>
<td>195.7</td>
<td>251.3</td>
<td>260.3</td>
<td>272.0</td>
<td>282.9</td>
<td>297.4</td>
<td>312.2</td>
<td>326.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>-19.5</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>28.4</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residence Adjustments</strong></td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>60.5</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>44.9</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>38.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>148.4</td>
<td>-18.8</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>184.4</td>
<td>-54.1</td>
<td>-57.4</td>
<td>256.2</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>-6.0</td>
<td>-3.1</td>
<td>-6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dividends, Int., Rent</strong></td>
<td>872.7</td>
<td>868.0</td>
<td>966.9</td>
<td>1147.8</td>
<td>1014.5</td>
<td>1069.5</td>
<td>1106.4</td>
<td>1155.5</td>
<td>1224.8</td>
<td>1288.3</td>
<td>1346.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>-4.6</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>-11.6</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Retirement Transfers</strong></td>
<td>1231.7</td>
<td>1302.2</td>
<td>1329.3</td>
<td>1332.2</td>
<td>1345.3</td>
<td>1523.0</td>
<td>1682.1</td>
<td>1773.0</td>
<td>1875.0</td>
<td>1958.4</td>
<td>2044.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>13.2</td>
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<td>5.7</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inc. Maint. Transfers</strong></td>
<td>216.1</td>
<td>251.4</td>
<td>259.5</td>
<td>263.7</td>
<td>265.0</td>
<td>267.8</td>
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<td>291.6</td>
<td>307.1</td>
<td>323.9</td>
<td>342.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
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<td>16.3</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unemployment Transfers</strong></td>
<td>54.0</td>
<td>75.4</td>
<td>65.9</td>
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<td>24.5</td>
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<td>21.5</td>
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<td>20.2</td>
<td>21.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>157.0</td>
<td>39.7</td>
<td>-12.6</td>
<td>-21.9</td>
<td>-25.5</td>
<td>-36.0</td>
<td>-5.9</td>
<td>-7.1</td>
<td>-4.9</td>
<td>-0.8</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
1. All Las Cruces income data are expressed in millions of dollars.
2. Social insurance contributions are deducted from total regional income estimates.
3. Retirement transfer payments include social security and other retirement payments.
4. Income maintenance transfers include temporary assistance for needy families and other payments.
5. Unemployment transfer payments include unemployment insurance payments to individuals.
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El Paso, TX 79968-0543

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