

Raymondville, Texas
“City with a Smile”

Comprehensive Economic Fact Book



Compiled by:
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Comprehensive Economic Fact Book 2010-2011 Table of Contents

Strategic Location	3
• “Gateway to the Valley”	4
• Proximity to Major Cities	4
Quality of Life	5
• Quality of Life Summary	6
• El Sal del Rey and La Sal Vieja.....	8
• Port Mansfield.....	8
• Tourism	9
• Housing	10
• Climate.....	11
• Health Services	13
Education.....	16
• Willacy County Schools	17
• Colleges/Universities	19
Business Climate	21
• Local Tax Structure.....	22
• Tax Abatements	23
• Economic Development Sales Tax	24
Demographic Statistics	26
• Communities in Willacy County	27
• Population Growth	28
• Population by Age, Median Age, Gender	29
• Ethnic Diversity	30
• Civilian Labor Force	31
• Principal Employers, Taxpayers	32
• Principal Employers Directory	33
• Local Sales and Use Tax.....	34
• Building Activity	36
• Traffic Counts	37
• Miscellaneous Statistics	38

Strategic Location

Strategic Location

Raymondville, Texas the "Gateway to the Rio Grande Valley"

Raymondville, located in the northern part of South Texas, is the "Gateway to the Valley" as it is situated upon entrance to the Rio Grande Valley via U.S. Hwy 77.

Raymondville is a quaint community approximately 50 miles north of Brownsville and South Padre Island. Its proximity to Mexico is extremely beneficial for product transportation and commercial trade with accessibility from six international bridges including Brownsville, Harlingen, Progreso, Pharr, and McAllen. With the future corridor I-69 running adjacent to Raymondville, transportation ease will surely benefit daily operations of any organization as far north as Canada and south into Mexico.

Proximity to Major Cities (Miles)

Abilene	466
Amarillo	715
Austin	275
Beaumont	387
Corpus Christi	109
Dallas	467
El Paso	751
Ft. Worth	462
Houston	302
Lubbock	605
Lufkin	420
Odessa	559
San Angelo	381
San Antonio	222
Texarkana	584
Tyler	476
Victoria	180
Waco	377
Wichita Falls	558

Quality of Life

Quality of Life

A diverse quality of life is what Raymondville has to offer with its adjacent ranchlands and plenty of opportunities for outdoor adventure and fun.

Ambience

Visitors to Raymondville can enjoy the lush semi-tropical climate and surrounding beautiful natural resources. What once was a small farming community now is a city with various eateries and quaint retail shops for its local residents and annual Winter Visitors.

The year 2004 marked the 100th anniversary of the birth of Raymondville and a celebration including a parade, dance, food and fireworks made for a birthday party to remember!

Outdoor Recreation

With nature in our very own backyard and inviting climate, Raymondville boasts outdoor recreation. With farm/ranchlands and the Laguna Madre only a short drive away, outdoor enthusiasts can plan various activities to include birding, fishing, hunting, sailing, and golfing.

Other destinations only driving distance include the Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville, the beautiful South Padre Island, and the Mexican border towns are sure to offer great shopping excursions.

Raymondville's golf course is a 9-hole golf course with two par 5 and two par 3 holes. It is home to golf tournaments, fund raising events, and a popular place for local students, residents, everyday visitors, and Winter Visitors to enjoy.

The outdoor fun is not limited to nature activities as sports also play a major role in recreation. Area youths participate in competitive sports including little league and soccer.

Special Events

Raymondville begins the year with the Willacy County Heritage Gala held in January. This celebration features the county's rich heritage and includes a tour of the Historical Museum, a live auction with items such as artwork by local artists, gourmet dinners, and various hunting and fishing trips.

The Willacy County Livestock Show is held the last week of January at the Willacy County Show Grounds on South Business 77. This annual event has taken place since the early 1950's and has grown throughout the years with participation from the young and young at heart. The highlights of the county fair include arts and crafts, art exhibits, food booths, baked goods, carnival, and rodeo.

Fall brings the highly anticipated "Wild and Willacy" Heritage and Nature Festival. Natural attractions are available for nature lovers to experience first hand. Tours are scheduled on local private ranches and hosted by nationally renowned field guides for the best birding and spotting of wildlife. This festival also offers seminars on

Native plant landscaping, birdhouse building, attracting butterflies and dragonflies, and identifying grass and trees that is abundant to our area.

This time of year also brings our annual winter visitors, which are welcomed by a “Welcome Back Winter Texan” BBQ dinner organized by the Raymondville Chamber of Commerce. This event allows the community to meet our northern friends once again and get acquainted with any new visitors that have chosen Raymondville for their winter stay.

December brings plenty of excitement for the community. The Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony held at the Downtown Pocket Park begins the joyous season followed by the annual Christmas Parade.

Tourism

Visitors destined to experience the natural treasures of the area will soon find nature at its best and hospitality the size of Texas.

Nature enthusiasts will find numerous species of migratory birds, sea life and plant life abundant to the area. Spotting the unique Ferruginous Pygmy Owl at an adjacent ranch 10 miles North of Raymondville shall prove to be the highlight of any bird enthusiast.

For those looking for a water adventure, a short drive East to Port Mansfield will offer the shores of the Laguna Madre. Only nine miles out by boat, the Gulf of Mexico provides an avid fisherman some fishing to remember.

Shopping

Downtown Raymondville offers quaint shops with unique gifts, costume jewelry, and home décor. Discount

retailers are also located strategically throughout the city.

Shopping malls are a short 20-minute drive south to Harlingen where malls and shopping plazas are plentiful. Brownsville and McAllen are also home to some major shopping grounds with shopping malls and flea markets and both are approximately a 45-50 minute drive away.

The Mexican border towns also provide plenty of shopping opportunities where unique home décor, fabrics, purses/wallets, and hats are among some of the items found. This shopping experience is only a 50-minute drive and the margaritas and Mexican hospitality are well worth the drive!

Sports

Hidalgo, Texas is now home to the “coolest” game in town...ice hockey. State Farm Arena, the newest sports facility in the Valley, and experience the *RGV Killer Bees* in action.

The Arena also boasts live entertainment with music to suit a variety of interests. The legendary George Strait was welcomed with a sell-out Rio Grande Valley crowd. The Arena not only hosts concerts but also family & children’s shows and sports events.

Culture

The local school groups present spring and Christmas band concerts and theatre productions for the community at little or no cost.

Tejano dancing is indigenous to the area with dance halls throughout the Valley to showcase the fancy footwork.

Performing arts facilities in Harlingen, Brownsville, and McAllen provide diverse programs of visual and performing art.

El Sal del Rey and La Sal Vieja

These two lakes' history dates back almost to the discovery of America. Look for the historical marker west of Raymondville on Hwy 186 in front of El Sal del Rey.

Approximately 20 miles west of Raymondville are El Sal de Rey and La Sal Vieja lakes. Spanish explorers claimed El Sal del Rey or “The Salt of the King” for the King of Spain. Salt was taken from it for 40 years before it became part of the land grant given by the King to Juan Jose Balli of the Spanish Army.

El Sal del Rey covers about 500 acres with its underground depth unknown. It is said to be 90% pure and lies 12 feet above sea level. It has no connection to any other body of water and the secret to its formation is not known. Salt blocks removed from any spot in the lake are quickly replenished in a matter of two to three days. Engineers have estimated that the lake can produce four million tons of salt. The depth of the water varies from completely dry to 2 feet in dry periods to more than 10 feet during heavy rainfall.

The lakes have had several owners since the King of Spain including the Byron Campbell family of Raymondville. U.S. Fish and Wildlife has acquired the lakes and offer them for nature tourism.

Source: Rio Grande Valley Chamber of Commerce's [History Cookbook](#) from an article written by Elouise Campbell.

Port Mansfield

Described as “one of the 10 best fishing areas in the country.”

Located just 22 miles east of Raymondville, visitors will find the peaceful shores of the Laguna Madre. Avid fishermen can enjoy bay and deep-sea fishing while others may want to simply stroll down the lighted fishing docks. Just nine miles from Port Mansfield bird watchers can experience the beauty and solitude of South Padre Island National Seashore and Bird Sanctuary. For outdoor sports, the shallow waters and smooth clay bottom near port is where water skiers and windsurfers can safely practice their talent.

Whether it is the fishing, birding, or water sports Port Mansfield is a site to see. Make plans to visit this quaint fishing community and experience nature at its best.

Contact the *Willacy County Navigation District* at 1-800-663-5707 for land leases and boat stall leases or the *Port Mansfield Chamber of Commerce* at (956) 944-2354. An airport for small aircraft is available for guests wanting to fly in to the fishing community.

Tourism

Raymondville, the “Gateway to the Rio Grande Valley” from north Hwy 77, is also the gateway for tourism opportunities of any interest. Nature, outdoor sports, and area attractions all are within an afternoon’s drive.

The Tourism Influence

The *Texas Tourism* division of The *Office of the Governor – Economic Development and Tourism* has generated out-of-state and international travelers to experience the great state of Texas. Marketing advertisements and promotional materials have contributed to the traveling frenzy leaving destinations to prepare for the influx of visitors.

The Texas Tourism “Direct Travel Impacts by County” report for Willacy County lists 19,383 total spending (\$000) in 2005. These travel dollars generated approximately 150 travel-related jobs with earnings of 2,880 (\$000). Travelers to the area contribute 1,269 in state tax receipts (\$000) and 141 in local tax receipts (\$000). Destination spending increased from 14,718 in 2004 to 19,383 in 2005. (www.travel.state.tx.us)

The traveling data notably increases with consideration of the surrounding counties with even more tourism opportunities. Within a 30-50 minute driving distance from Raymondville, visitors will find the waters of the Laguna Madre and South Padre Island for relaxation or outdoor sports, the animals of the Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville, the best bird/wildlife watching, and border towns of Matamoros, Nuevo Progreso, and Reynosa for shopping or dining. Add to this diverse mix of destinations the semi-tropical climate with mild winters and it is no wonder South Texas is a prime destination for annual winter visitors and a great place to live for its residents.

Contact the Raymondville Chamber of Commerce at (956) 689-3171 and plan a weekend getaway to South Texas today.

Chamber of Commerce Schedule of Events

Willacy County Heritage Gala	February
Winter Texan Appreciation Golf Tournament	March
Chamber Annual Awards Banquet	April
Health and Social Service Fair	June
Wild in Willacy Nature and Heritage Festival	October
Christmas Tree Lighting	November
Christmas Parade	December

Housing

Whether it is a home in a new or established subdivision or a home on acres of land out in the country, affordable housing and low cost of living is what you will find in the quaint community of Raymondville.

Affordable Housing

Most housing units in Raymondville are in established neighborhoods although new residential subdivisions have begun to take form. West of Raymondville is one of the newest housing subdivisions offering custom built, high efficiency homes. Other custom builders are also available in the area to build to specifications.

Rental units were sparse in this area, but not the case today. Developers saw the need for more rental units and recently constructed a 72-unit apartment community in the southwest area of Raymondville. This new community offers a community room, swimming pool, laundry facility, basketball court, and picnic area with gazebos.

Housing Costs

Homes listed for sale in the Raymondville/Willacy County area range from \$65,000 to over \$175,000 depending on the age and size of home. Country homes outside of the city limits are also available for those seeking a more secluded place to call home. These sites tend to sit on acres of land, which allows for plenty of room for outdoor pets or horses and other farm animals.

Home Sale Prices – 2010

2800 sq ft. 5/4 home:	\$170,000
2188 sq ft. 3/3/2 home:	\$129,000
1600 sq ft. 2/2/2 home:	\$ 82,500
1212 sq ft. 2/1/1 home:	\$ 52,500

Average Mo. Rent – 2010

1-bedroom apartment:	\$250-350
2-bedroom apartment:	\$425
2-bedroom townhouse:	\$525
3-bedroom apartment:	\$500-650

Climate

Semi-tropical climate with mild winters and comfortable summers makes Raymondville a serene place to live and work.

Temperature

Because of its semitropical climate, residents and visitors alike enjoy the year-round opportunities for nature adventures of fishing, sailing, golfing, and bird watching.

The mild winters make the Rio Grande Valley the perfect place for winter visitors. Raymondville's RV parks have been home to Winter Texans for many years with travelers from most of the northern states. These part-time residents enjoy the outdoor recreation that freezing temperatures in the northern states simply cannot offer.

Records and Averages – Raymondville, Texas

MONTH	AVERAGE HIGH	AVERAGE LOW	AVERAGE PRECIP.	RECORD HIGH	RECORD LOW
January	68.1°F	45.8°F	1.5 in	92° (01/14/72)	14°F (01/13/62)
February	72.2°F.	48.5°F	1.6 in	99° (02/28/40)	19°F (02/03/51)
March	79.5°F	55.8°F	0.8 in	105°(03/24/45)	21°F (03/05/17)
April	86.2°F	63.8°F	1.5 in	106° (04/27/84)	33°F (04/01/87)
May	89.4°F	69.2°F	3.3 in	107° (05/04/84)	45° (05/02/25)
June	93.5°F	72.4°F	3.3 in	109° (06/06/16)	56°F (06/04/19)
July	96.1°F	73.4°F	2.0 in	107° (07/07/98)	63°F (07/01/85)
August	96.8°F	73.4°F	3.1 in	107° (08/08/53)	60°F (08/15/67)
September	92.4°F	70.9°F	5.8 in	105° (09/21/47)	49°F (09/29/17)
October	86.6°F	62.9°F	2.2 in	100° (10/10/62)	33°F (10/31/93)
November	79.1°F	55.6°F	1.3 in	99° (11/05/88)	28°F (11/29/59)
December	71.3°F	48.6°F	1.2 in	94° (12/06/77)	15°F (12/24/89)

Source: www.weather.com

Climate continued...

Normal Climate in Raymondville

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Days with Precipitation	7	6	4	4	5	6	4	7	10	7	6	7
Wind Speed	11.1	12.0	13.1	13.6	12.9	12.0	11.3	10.2	9.4	9.5	10.6	10.7
Morning Humidity	88	89	88	89	90	90	91	91	91	90	87	87
Afternoon Humidity	70	66	63	64	65	64	60	61	65	64	66	69
Sunshine (%)	41	48	53	58	63	73	80	76	68	65	51	42
Days clear of clouds	6	7	7	5	6	8	11	11	9	11	9	7
Partly cloudy Days	7	6	8	10	14	15	14	14	13	12	9	7
Cloudy Days	18	15	16	15	11	6	6	7	8	7	12	17
Snowfall (in)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: www.city-data.com (Based on data reported by main weather stations)

Health Services

A wide array of health care services available in South Texas to meet all health care needs.

Valley Baptist Medical Center

An affiliate of the Valley Baptist Health System, Valley Baptist Medical Center (VBMC) is an acute care hospital facility with over 600 beds and numerous specialty care areas and programs.

VBMC is located in Harlingen, approximately 21 miles south of Raymondville, and provides health care services to over 900,000 residents from the surrounding area covering Cameron County, Willacy County and Hidalgo County.

Medical services provided by VBMC include:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ✓ Advanced Medical Supply | ✓ Joint Replacement Center |
| ✓ Ambulatory Surgery Center | ✓ Laboratory Services |
| ✓ Amputee Clinic | ✓ Medical Staff Services |
| ✓ Breast Center | ✓ Neuroscience Services |
| ✓ Valley Baptist Dialysis Center | ✓ Obesity Surgery |
| ✓ Raymondville Dialysis Center | ✓ Orthopedics |
| ✓ Cancer | ✓ Outpatient Pharmacy |
| ✓ Counseling Services | ✓ Outpatient Services |
| ✓ Craniofacial Lip & Cleft Palate Team | ✓ Pediatrics |
| ✓ Day Surgery | ✓ Physician Services |
| ✓ Diabetes Education | ✓ Radiology |
| ✓ Emergency Services | ✓ Rehabilitation Services |
| ✓ Family Practice Residency | ✓ Sleep Center |
| ✓ Heart Corner | ✓ Social Services & Care Management |
| ✓ Heart & Vascular | ✓ Stroke Unit |
| ✓ Home Health | ✓ Treasure Hills Imaging Ctr |
| ✓ Hospice | ✓ Valley Eye Center |
| ✓ Intensive Care Units | ✓ Wellness Center |
| | ✓ Women's Services |
| | ✓ Wound Care Services |

Source: www.valleybaptist.net

Health Services continued...

Harlingen Medical Center

Also located in Harlingen and providing health care services to area residents is the Harlingen Medical Center. The Harlingen Medical Center is a general acute care hospital led by physicians specializing in cardiovascular care, orthopedics, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology.

The mission of the hospital is to be the provider of choice for the healthcare services that is offered and to promote health and wellness to the people served.

Services provided by Harlingen Medical Center include:

- ✓ **Cardiovascular care**
- ✓ **Women's Center**
- ✓ **Emergency Center**

Source: www.harlingenmedicalcenter.com



Health Services continued...

Dolly Vinsant Memorial Hospital (Currently Closed)

Located in San Benito approximately 40 miles from Raymondville is Dolly Vinsant Memorial Hospital. This 81-bed acute care facility with over 100 physicians on the professional staff primarily services the residents of southern Cameron County.

Dolly Vinsant Memorial Hospital has been awarded a healthcare contract by the Veterans Administration to provide services for veterans including surgical procedures.

Services provided by Dolly Vinsant Memorial Hospital include:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| ✓ Comprehensive Diagnostics | ✓ Nuclear Medicine/CT scan |
| ✓ Imaging Services | ✓ Cardiac Telemetry Monitoring |
| ✓ Full Service Outpatient Center | ✓ Cardiopulmonary Services |
| ✓ Impatient/Outpatient Surgery | ✓ Full Laboratory Services |
| ✓ Physical Therapy | |

Other Hospitals/Medical Centers driving distance from Raymondville:

- ✓ Valley Baptist Medical Center – Brownsville (48 miles; Brownsville, Texas)
- ✓ Valley Regional Medical Center (about 48 miles; Brownsville, Texas)
- ✓ Knapp Medical Center (about 35 miles; Weslaco, Texas)
- ✓ Edinburg Regional Medical Center (about 40 miles; Edinburg, Texas)
- ✓ Doctors Hospital at Renaissance (about 40 miles; Edinburg, Texas)
- ✓ Rio Grande Regional (about 50 miles; McAllen, Texas)
- ✓ McAllen Medical Center (about 50 miles; McAllen, Texas)

Education

Willacy County Schools

Educating our students for a brighter tomorrow.

Raymondville ISD

The largest school district of Willacy County, Raymondville ISD serves a student population of approximately 2,500. The school district is made up of one high school, one middle school and two elementary campuses.

Raymondville High School has had a new location on FM 3168 since 2000 with a newly constructed state-of-the-art two-story building. Along with construction of the new school came the construction of a new gymnasium, which houses athletic events for middle school and high school girls and boys volleyball and basketball. During the summer months the gymnasium is utilized for volleyball and cheerleading camps.

Some of the programs offered by the district include band, UIL, Gifted and Talented, English as a Second Language (ESL), and Career and Technology programs that prepare students for professions of Health Sciences, Agriculture, and Automotive Technology.

Raymondville ISD

One Bearkat Blvd.

Raymondville, Texas 78580

(956) 689-2471

Lyford Consolidated Independent School District

Lyford CISD includes the surrounding communities of Sebastian and Santa Monica and serves approximately 1,500 students. The district has two elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. This school has also had recent renovations across the

district including a new elementary school.

Lyford CISD

P.O. Drawer 220

Lyford, Texas 78569

(956) 347-3521

San Perlita Independent School District

The district serves approximately 260 students from San Perlita, Port Mansfield and surrounding farm/ranch communities northeast of Willacy County. Boys and girls athletics (1-A) include volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball, cross-country and track.

San Perlita ISD

San Perlita, Texas 78590

(956) 248-5562

Lasara Independent School District

Located approximately 8 miles west of Raymondville is Lasara ISD. The school serves students in pre-K through 9th Grade and offers a variety of extracurricular activities. After completion of the 9th Grade, students have the option to attend high school at either Raymondville ISD or Lyford ISD.

The school has been TEA

Recognized for six consecutive years and is now housed in a newly constructed school that the students and residents are sure proud of.

Lasara ISD

P.O. Box 57

Lasara, Texas 78561

(956) 642-3271

Willacy County Schools *continued*

Educating our students for a brighter tomorrow.

Children of the Sun Charter School

The IRRA Charter School System has schools all over the Valley including a site in Raymondville. Grade levels offered are K-3 and 9-12.

Career preparation for professions including journalism, Oceanography, meteorology, the medical field, broadcasting and multimedia, court reporting, and computer science.

Children of the Sun Charter School

1205 S. 7th Street

Raymondville, Texas 78580

(956) 689-3300

Colleges/Universities

Opportunities to pursue a higher education made possible by the abundance of institutions in the South Texas area.

Texas State Technical College (TSTC)

Only a 21-mile commute to Harlingen, Texas is TSTC, a two-year institution offering associate of applied science degrees and certificates of completion in technology fields. This technical college services approximately 5,000 students in the Harlingen and surrounding communities of Cameron and Willacy County.

Some of the programs offered include Dental Hygiene, Surgical Technology, Health Information Technology, Nurse Assistant, and Emergency Medical Technician.

Texas State Technical College

1902 North Loop 499

Harlingen, Texas 78550

(956) 364-4000

www.harlingen.tstc.edu

The University of Texas – Pan American (UTPA)

This four-year institution located in Edinburg, about a 35-mile commute from Raymondville, currently has a student population of approximately 17,000.

UTPA offers academic colleges including Arts and Humanities, Business Administration, Education, Health Sciences and Human Services, Liberal and Performing Arts, Science and Engineering, and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Not only does this university award undergraduate and graduate degrees, but it is also a doctoral degree-granting university.

University of Texas – Pan American

1201 W. University Drive

Edinburg, Texas 78541

(956) 381-2201/2206

www.panam.edu

Colleges/Universities *continued*

South Texas Community College (STCC)

This community college began serving students in Starr and Hidalgo Counties in 1993 with only about 1,000 students. Today, student enrollment at STCC will approach 18,000 and is predicted to increase to 20,000 by 2010.

The community college offers associate degrees and certificates in over 50 degree and certificate programs. STCC courses are also being offered in surrounding cities and towns to make attaining a higher education more convenient. To get high school students started off on the right track, concurrent enrollment is offered at over 25 surrounding high school campuses with student enrollment of over 4,000.

South Texas Community College
P. O. Box 9701
McAllen, Texas 78502-9701
(956) 618-8311 or 1-800-742-7822
www.stcc.cc.tx.us

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College (UTB/TSC)

The main campus is located in Brownsville, Texas about 50 minutes south of Raymondville. This UTB/TSC partnership offers associate, certificate, baccalaureate, and master's degrees and serves over 12,000 students.

UTB/TSC also offers courses in surrounding cities and towns in an effort to bring education closer to community residents. These satellite campuses tend to offer freshman and sophomore level academic courses that are applied to most four-year degree programs. High school students are also given the opportunity by UTB/TSC to get started early on their college course work by offering concurrent enrollment at area high schools.

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College
80 Fort Brown
Brownsville, Texas 78520
(956) 544-8200
www.utb.edu

Business Climate

Local Tax Structure 2011

Ad Valorem/Property Taxes Rate per \$100 Assessed Value

City of Raymondville.....	\$0.7646
Willacy County	0.60844
Raymondville Independent School District.....	1.3199
Other	0.8032
<i>Total rate per \$100 value</i>	\$3.49614

Hotel/Motel Tax

City of Raymondville.....	5.00%
State of Texas.....	6.00%
<i>Total Hotel/Motel Tax</i>	11.00%

Retail Sales Tax

City of Raymondville.....	2.00%
State of Texas.....	6.25%
Willacy County	0.00%
<i>Total Retail Sales Tax</i>	8.25%

Tax Abatements

Tax abatements are incentive tools used by the City and County to induce economic development in the area.

Consideration for abatements is directly linked to *the quality of primary jobs created and the amount of investment made in the community*. Tax abatements and/or other economic development incentives are granted to companies on an individual basis. This allows for specially tailored incentive packages created based on proposed projects and again, the quality of primary jobs created and amount of investment made in the community.

Once an incentive package is deemed appropriate, the terms and conditions shall be put forth in writing for presentation to the governing bodies of the entities for approval.

Discussion for consideration of tax abatements must be done *prior* to the start of any project relocation or expansion.

Economic Development Sales Tax

The **Development Corporation Act of 1979** allowed for the use of an economic development sales tax. This tax was created to assist smaller communities, which tend to have fewer resources, offer financial incentives to businesses relocating or expanding in the area.

The Development Corporation of Raymondville, Inc. (DCRI) is the legal entity that administers the economic development sales tax and ensures the monies are being utilized for the exclusive purpose of business development.

The DCRI is a 4A corporation, which designates specific sales tax usage to include:

Land, buildings, equipment, facilities, improvements, and expenditures related to:

- Manufacturing, industrial, research & development, recycling, small warehouse and corporate headquarter facilities, and distribution centers
- Closed or realigned military bases
- Job training for primary jobs and commercial/retail
- Business airport facilities and port-related facilities
- Clean up of contaminated project sites (with special election and specific ballot language)
- Infrastructure assistance to retail or commercial projects
- Business-related sewer utilities and site improvements
- Beach remediation in Gulf communities required or suitable to promote or develop new or expanded business enterprises
- Projects designed to attract new military missions, prevent the closure of existing missions, and redevelop a closed or realigned military base
- General airport facilities for communities located 25 miles from US/Mexico border only
- Light rail, commuter rail, or motor buses
- 4B projects with voter approval

Consideration for utilizing the 4A tax is based on projects that create or retain “primary jobs.” The Texas Economic Development Council statute (HB 2912) defines a **primary job** as a job that is:

- 1) Available at a company for which a majority of the products and services of that company are ultimately exported to regional, statewide, national, or international markets, infusing new dollars into the local economy; and
- 2) Included in one of the following sectors of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

See next page for NAICS codes.

Source: Texas Economic Development Council, www.texasedc.org

Economic Development Sales Tax

Continued

Chart of NAICS codes

111	Crop Production
112	Animal Production
113	Forestry and Logging
11411	Commercial Fishing
115	Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry
211-213	Mining
221	Utilities
311-339	Manufacturing
42	Wholesale Trade
48-49	Transportation and Warehousing
51	Information, excluding movie theatres (51213) and drive-in theatres (512132)
523-525	Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities; Insurance Carriers, Related Activities; Funds, Trusts, and Other Financial Vehicles
5413, 5415, 5416	Scientific Research and Development Services
5417, and 5419 551	Management of Companies and Enterprises
56142	Telephone Call Centers (NEW)
922140	Correctional Institutions
928110	National Security (NEW)

Source: Texas Economic Development Council, www.texasedc.org

Demographic Statistics

Raymondville, Texas

Demographic Statistics

Raymondville is located in the northern part of South Texas and serves as the “Gateway to the Valley” as the city is situated upon entrance to the Rio Grande Valley via U.S. Hwy 77.

Raymondville is the County Seat of Willacy County and serves as the center for most retail and grocery shopping of the county residents.

Towns in Willacy County U.S. Census 2010

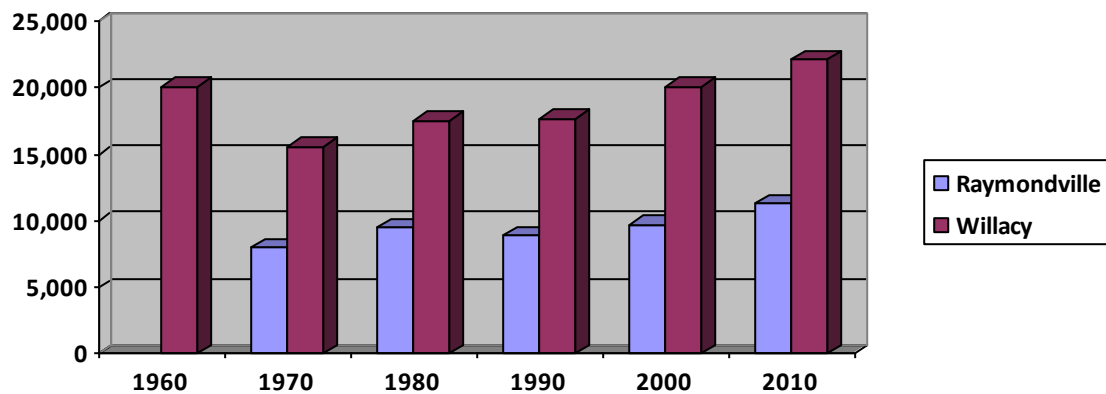
Raymondville	11,284
Lyford	2,611
Sebastian	1,917
Lasara	1,039
San Perlita	573
Port Mansfield	226



Population Growth *Raymondville and Willacy County*

Population	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Raymondville	-	7,987	9,493	8,880	9,733	11,284
Willacy Co.	20,084	15,570	17,495	17,705	20,082	22,134

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, City of Raymondville



Population by Age

Percent of Population

	Total Population	Under 19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 and older
Raymondville	11,284	33.7	9.4	27.8	17.4	11.7
Willacy Co.	22,134	35.3	8.2	26.6	18.3	11.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Median Age

	Median Age (years)
Raymondville	29.5
Willacy County	29.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Population by Gender

	Male	% Male	Female	% Female
Raymondville	5,258	54.0	4,475	46.0
Willacy County	10,296	51.3	9,786	48.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Ethnic Diversity

Percent of Population

	White	Black or African American	American Indian	Asian	Other	Two or more races
Raymondville	69.9	3.9	0.6	0.1	23.3	2.2
Willacy Co.	70.4	2.2	0.5	0.1	24.5	2.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Hispanic or Latino and Race

Percent of Population

	Hispanic or Latino	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Other Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino	White Alone
Raymondville	86.6	64.5	0.1	-	22.1	13.4	9.1
Willacy Co.	85.7	63.4	0.1	-	22.2	14.3	11.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Educational Attainment

Percent of Population

Pop. 25 years and over	Less than 9 th grade	Some High School	High School Grad or GED	Some College	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Grad/Prof. Degree
Raymondville	38.1	15.8	23.4	14.2	1.5	5.0	1.9
Willacy Co.	35.8	15.4	24.4	15.2	1.7	5.4	2.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Civilian Labor Force

Employment Status

Pop. 16 years and over	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
Raymondville	3,147	2,678	469
Willacy County	6,982	6,018	964

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Occupation

Employed Pop. 16 years and over	Management/ Professional & related Occupations	Service Occupations	Sales and Office Occupations	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	Construction, extraction, and Maintenance	Production, transportation, and material moving
Raymondville	572	783	625	96	282	320
Willacy Co.	1,452	1,420	1,327	269	709	841

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

Principal Employers

(75+ employees)
April 2011

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Approx. number of Employees</i>
1. FBOP	382
2. Raymondville ISD	382
3. Wal-Mart	130
4. Willacy Co. Regional Detention Facility	178
5. Corrections Corporation of America	143
6. Valley Telephone Co-op	132
7. Willacy County	146
8. H-E-B	89
9. City of Raymondville	72

Principal Taxpayers

April 2011

<i>Taxpayer</i>	<i>Business Type</i>	<i>2006 Assessed Valuation</i>	<i>% of Total Assessed Valuation</i>
1. Wal-Mart Stores, L.P. #883	Retail	\$9,962,463	6.76%
2. Valley Telephone Co-Op	Utility	3,025,446	2.0%
3. DNA Hotels, Ltd.	Hotels	2,449,525	1.66%
4. H.E. Butt Grocery Company	Grocery	2,314,866	1.57%
5. AEP Texas Central Company	Utility	1,846,190	1.25%
6. Tafi Land Company, LP		1,360,753	0.92%
7. Wells Fargo	Bank	1,165,467	0.79%
8. Willacy County E.M.S. Inc.		1,161,247	0.78%
9. Alamo Lumber Company	Hardware & Tools	1,152,903	0.78%
10. Neuhaus & Company	Farm Equipment & Supplies	1,135,168	0.77%

Source: Willacy County CAD

Principal Employers Directory (75+ employees)

CITY OF RAYMONDVILLE

142 S. 7th Street
Raymondville, Texas 78580
(956) 689-2443

**CORRECTIONS CORPORATION
OF AMERICA**

1695 South Buffalo Drive
Raymondville, Texas 78580
(956) 689-4900

HEB

401 W. Hidalgo Ave.
Raymondville, Texas 78580
(956) 689-6556

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS
(BOP)**

1800 Industrial Drive
Raymondville, Texas 78580
(956) 689-9218

RAYMONDVILLE ISD

One Bearkat Blvd.
Raymondville, Texas 78580
(956) 689-2471

VALLEY TELEPHONE CO-OP

480 S. 6th Street
Raymondville, Texas 78580
(956) 689-2484

WAL-MART

14091 FM 490
Raymondville, Texas 78580
(956) 689-6571

WILLACY COUNTY

546 W. Hidalgo Ave., Courthouse
Raymondville, Texas 78580
(956) 689-2772

**WILLACY CO. REGIONAL
DETENTION FACILITY (MTC)**

1601 Buffalo Drive
Raymondville, Texas 78580
(956) 689-5099

Local Sales and Use Tax

City of Raymondville

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
January	37,100.77	47,119.34	43,310.45	41,250.33	43,042.46
February	73,020.34	78,984.83	81,507.35	79,447.87	78,446.27
March	39,238.85	38,736.79	47,488.40	52,017.48	53,111.99
April	37,774.50	41,638.70	42,480.29	50,939.57	52,617.95
May	64,718.21	76,179.69	77,086.84	73,475.57	80,114.69
June	38,817.81	20,897.13	46,537.64	51,343.79	51,274.90
July	46,957.72	40,895.48	46,178.86	47,714.68	50,976.22
August	88,398.44	77,580.82	79,709.16	72,374.16	81,898.20
September	56,569.94	41,648.67	39,211.65	54,164.68	64,697.56
October	41,892.29	43,274.08	44,091.09	49,726.83	57,800.14
November	72,099.81	103,829.23	68,112.69	70,635.06	86,468.95
December	34,191.81	40,657.18	37,261.63	52,390.59	54,763.81
Total \$	630,780.49	651,441.94	652,976.05	695,480.60	755,213.14

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
January	47,887.11	67,195.40	82,208.85	60,530.63	51,007.89	57,695.57
February	91,662.19	107,046.43	105,154.88	116,678.58	90,928.34	76,025.55
March	57,411.68	63,912.03	75,920.35	59,158.28	48,118.46	54,549.34
April	63,507.05	63,484.07	69,070.35	66,664.03	59,577.78	56,310.63
May	82,979.22	105,922.54	100,081.44	106,573.62	81,036.60	78,259.22
June	68,222.68	59,421.54	65,801.83	69,531.30	58,791.24	59,113.05
July	52,268.21	65,600.40	59,438.09	73,751.71	59,960.49	67,585.47
August	84,331.07	92,088.80	103,621.68	93,333.07	84,160.36	78,028.68
September	65,844.71	63,255.48	67,211.23	63,052.78	59,764.40	66,679.35
October	57,199.68	51,092.66	66,798.30	64,537.71	61,084.10	63,736.32
November	84,503.53	91,878.28	98,889.88	89,214.75	67,348.08	74,975.57
December	57,910.54	73,057.69	58,448.16	54,819.26	53,630.85	59,278.23
Total \$	813,727.67	903,955.32	952,645.04	917,845.72	775,408.59	792,236.98

Source: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, City of Raymondville

Local Sales and Use Tax

City of Raymondville

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
January	62,939.96	66,354.84	86,659.70	85,936.89	90,159.78
February	82,749.16	87,126.48	112,465.46	119,070.25	121,476.63
March	63,077.57	70,534.16	81,159.70	85,098.03	86,380.69
April	66,710.44	60,640.60	88,526.55	91,747.48	97,050.92
May	88,675.98	93,193.33	106,047.11	116,172.80	114,690.76
June	69,463.73	69,135.27	83,134.14	84,410.82	87,721.79
July	68,628.06	75,272.99	84,079.76	87,869.30	97,733.01
August	94,883.99	91,349.42	101,589.51	107,329.35	124,339.89
September	69,021.66	83,185.80	85,296.13	92,679.58	96,489.64
October	71,458.69	81,775.97	86,364.65	86,829.90	92,955.33
November	87,405.58	100,221.93	104,239.98	103,533.16	120,273.60
December	67,952.07	80,041.19	89,537.89	70,7024.34	98,749.03
Total \$	892,966.89	958,831.98	1,109,100.08	1,131,401.90	1,228,021.07

	2009	2010	2011		
January	97,933.81	81,670	89,596		
February	126,923.11	120,065	135,041		
March	98,315.46	81,340	88,284		
April	96,033.62	88,844			
May	123,637.36	116,507			
June	97,153	86,220			
July	89,775	96,667			
August	122,567	107,374			
September	98,825	91,165			
October	95,734	91,981			
November	108,955	109,190			
December	84,073	87,497			
Total \$	1,239,925.36	1,158,520.00			

Source: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, www.window.state.tx.us

Building Activity

City of Raymondville Dollar Value of Building Permits (000's)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Commercial Value</i>	<i>#Commercial Units Constr.</i>	<i>Residential Value</i>	<i>#Residential Units Constr.</i>
1994	699,084	7	421,800	12
1995	892,790	8	345,425	8
1996	581,000	5	216,500	6
1997	4,805,000	10	408,800	10
1998	46,700	4	303,400	4
1999	578,000	3	516,000	8
2000	638,000	5	426,000	9
2001	1,214,860	7	1,246,136	102
2002	280,750	8	551,444	81
2003	205,000	8	922,309	123
2004	5,620,885	7	671,306	94
2005	2,711,215	11	345,519	106
2006	50,150,000	2	607,200	10
2007	260,000	2	95,000	2
2008	421,517	2	177,000	3
2009	0	0	287,150	4
2010	200,000	1	0	0

Source: City of Raymondville, 10/1/08-9/30/09

Traffic Counts

*Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)
Raymondville, Texas 78580*

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
US 77 – North Bound	11,000	11,800	14,400	15,000	14,700
US 77 – South Bound	15,000	15,300	14,100	14,350	11,200
Hwy 186 – East Bound	2,800	3,200	2,600	2,700	2,900
Hwy 186 – West Bound	-	11,500	11,300	11,160	11,000
Bus. 77 – North Bound	9,700	10,400	6,200	5,570	6,500
Bus. 77 – South Bound	7,000	9,800	6,200	7,300	7,600

Source: Texas Department of Transportation

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
US 77 – North Bound	15,100	12,000		12,500	
US 77 – South Bound	21,000	17,400		17,100	
Hwy 186 – East Bound	2,900	2,600		3,000	
Hwy 186 – West Bound	11,900	10,400		10,900	
Bus. 77 – North Bound	6,700	5,800		5,600	
Bus. 77 – South Bound	7,000	6,600		7,600	

Source: Texas Department of Transportation

Miscellaneous Statistics – 9/30/09

City of Raymondville, Texas

Date of incorporation: March 3, 1921

Date first charter adopted: March 30, 1955

Date present charted adopted: March 30, 1955: amended April 2, 1963: amended, April 17, 1970

Form of government: Commission – Manager

Area: 2.85 sq miles – 1.832 acres

Miles of streets and alleys

Streets paved: 3,893 miles

Streets unpaved: 0.88 mile

Alleys: 20 miles

Sidewalks: 3 miles

Street lights: 390

Miles of sewers:

Storm: 18.0 miles

Sanitary: 32.0 miles

Fire protection

Number of stations: 1

Number of employees: 28 (volunteer)

Number of fire trucks: 2 City Truck (3 County Trucks)

Number of emergency units: 1

Police protection

Number of employees: 21

Number of law arrests: 392 (fiscal year EST.)

Vehicular patrol units: 7

Ambulance service:

Number of ambulances: 5 (Operated by Emergency Service District)

Emergency Medical Service District est. by election 1972

Recreation

Parks: Number of acres and facilities – 7 acres with 3 facilities

Number of playgrounds: 3

Number of golf courses: 1

Number of swimming pools: 1

Source: City of Raymondville, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

Notes

Notes
