

**Raymondville, Texas**  
*“City with a Smile”*

**Comprehensive Economic Fact Book**



Compiled by:

City of Raymondville Economic Development Corporation

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# Strategic Location

## Strategic Location

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*Raymondville, Texas the “Gateway to the Rio Grande Valley”*

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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

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

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### **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 100<sup>th</sup> 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

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*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.*

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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

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*Described as "one of the 10 best fishing areas in the country."*

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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

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*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.*

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## **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](http://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) 689-1864 or 956-689-1860 ext. 222 and plan a weekend getaway to South Texas today.

## **Chamber of Commerce Schedule of Events**

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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

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*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.*

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## **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 – 2012**

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 – 2012**

1-bedroom apartment:	\$250-350
2-bedroom apartment:	\$475
2-bedroom house:	\$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

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

Source: [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)

## Climate continued...

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### Normal Climate in Raymondville

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

## Health Services

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

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### **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:

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

Source: [www.valleybaptist.net](http://www.valleybaptist.net)

## Health Services continued...

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### **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](http://www.harlingenmedicalcenter.com)



### **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

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*Educating our students for a brighter tomorrow.*

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## **Raymondville ISD**

The largest school district of Willacy County, Raymondville ISD serves a student population of approximately 2,061. 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. Raymondville ISD offers a full-day kindergarten, middle and high school athletics (31-3A), Raymondville High School offers Advanced Placement and Pre-AP courses and dual enrollment courses with the University of Texas Brownsville and Texas State Technical College.

Other 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***

***419 FM 3168***

***Raymondville, Texas 78580***

***(956) 689-8178***

***www.raymondville.org***

## **Lyford Consolidated Independent School District**

Lyford CISD includes the surrounding communities of Sebastian and Santa Monica and serves approximately 1,570 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***

***8204 Simon Gomez Blvd.***

***Lyford, Texas 78569***

***(956) 347-3900***

## **San Perlita Independent School District**

The district serves approximately 272 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***

***P.O. Box 37***

***San Perlita, Texas 78590 (956) 248-5250 www.spisd.org***



## **Willacy County Schools** *continued*

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*Educating our students for a brighter tomorrow.*

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### **Lasara Independent School District**

Located approximately 8 miles west of Raymondville is Lasara ISD. The school serves 476 students in pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade and offers a variety of extracurricular activities. It is recognized as a T-STEAM Academy.

***Lasara ISD***

***P.O. Box 57***

***Lasara, Texas 78561***

***(956) 642-3271***

***www.lasaraisd.net***

### **Ignite Public Schools and Community Services Center, Inc.**

It is an accelerated school accredited by the State of Texas. It services 99 students from PK-3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades. All state mandated courses are offered along with a multitude of other services for the community.

***Ignite Public Schools and Community Services Center, Inc.***

***1205 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street***

***Raymondville, Texas 78580***

***(956) 689-3300***

***www.ignitepublicschools.org***

## Colleges/Universities

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

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### **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](http://www.harlingen.tstc.edu)

**Distance Learning Center at the Raymondville Rural Technical Center  
700 FM 3168**

### **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](http://www.panam.edu)**

## Colleges/Universities *continued*

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### **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](http://www.stcc.cc.tx.us)

### **The University of Texas at Brownsville**

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

UTB 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*  
*80 Fort Brown*  
*Brownsville, Texas 78520*  
*(956) 544-8200*  
[www.utb.edu](http://www.utb.edu)

**Distance Learning Center at the Raymondville Rural Technical Center**  
**700 FM 3168**

# Business Climate

## Local Tax Structure 2014

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

City of Raymondville.....	0.7615
Willacy County .....	0.5871
Raymondville Independent School District .....	1.3384
Other.....	.3250
<b><i>Total rate per \$100 value</i></b> .....	<b>3.0120</b>

### Hotel/Motel Tax

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

### Retail Sales Tax

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

## Tax Abatements

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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

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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.

City of Raymondville Economic Development Corporation 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 Raymondville EDC is a 4B 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
- Certain Infrastructure improvements that promote or develop new or expanded business enterprises
- Professional and amateur sports and athletic facilities
- Entertainment, tourist and convention facilities
- Public parks and related open space improvements
- Projects that promote or develop new expanded business enterprises that create or retain primary jobs
- Affordable house
- Water supply facilities
- Water conservation programs

Consideration for utilizing the 4B 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).

Source: Texas Economic Development Council, [www.texasedc.org](http://www.texasedc.org)

## Economic Development Sales Tax

### 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)

**\*\*\*Not all Section 4B projects must fall within one of the above listed sector codes\*\*\***

Source: Texas Economic Development Council, [www.texasedc.org](http://www.texasedc.org)



# Demographic Statistics

## Raymondville, Texas Demographic Statistics

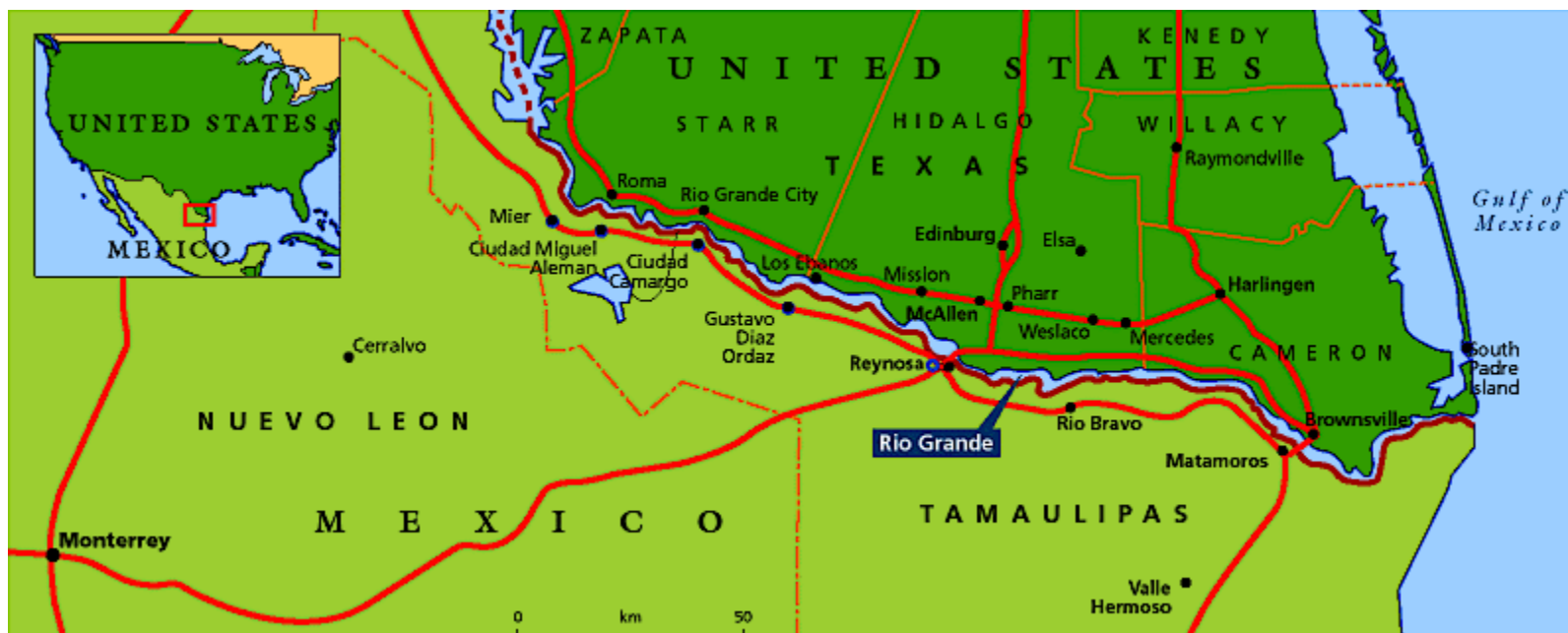
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Raymondville is located in the northern part of South Texas and serves as the “Gateway to the Valley” as the city is situated upon entrance to the Rio Grande Valley via U.S. Hwy 77.

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

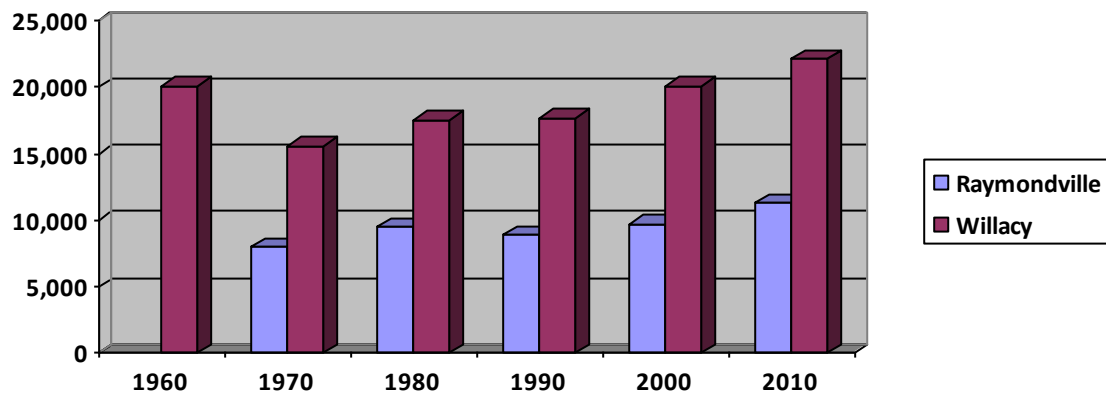


## Population Growth *Raymondville and Willacy County*

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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

	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Under 19 years</b>	<b>20-24 years</b>	<b>25-44 years</b>	<b>45-64 years</b>	<b>65 and older</b>
<b>Raymondville</b>	11,284	25.9	11.3	32.5	19.7	10.6
<b>Willacy Co.</b>	22,134	26.8	8.4	19.1	34.0	11.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

## Median Age

	<b>Median Age (years)</b>
<b>Raymondville</b>	31.4
<b>Willacy County</b>	32.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

## Population by Gender

	<b>Male</b>	<b>% Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>% Female</b>
<b>Raymondville</b>	6,730	59.6	4,554	40.4
<b>Willacy County</b>	12,030	54.4	10,104	45.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

## Ethnic Diversity

### Percent of Population

	White	Black or African American	American Indian	Asian	Other	Two or more races
<b>Raymondville</b>	85.9	3.5	0.2	1.1	7.6	1.7
<b>Willacy Co.</b>	85.8	2.1	0.3	0.6	9.4	1.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 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
<b>Raymondville</b>	86.9	63.0	0.1	0.2	23.7	13.1	8.5
<b>Willacy Co.</b>	87.2	63.4	0.1	-	22.2	14.3	10.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

## Educational Attainment

### Percent of Population

Pop. 25 years and over	Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	Some High School	High School Grad or GED	Some College	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Grad/Prof. Degree
<b>Raymondville</b>	32.1	15.6	29.5	15	2.6	4.9	2.4
<b>Willacy Co.</b>	30.8	14.5	28.1	13.5	3.5	6.6	2.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates/Raymondville 2010 Census

## Civilian Labor Force

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### Employment Status

<b>Pop. 16 years and over</b>	<b>Civilian Labor Force</b>	<b>Employed</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>
Raymondville	3,235	2,951	284
Willacy County	9,645	8,189	1,456

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census*

### Occupation

<b>Employed Pop. 16 years and over</b>	<b>Management/ Professional &amp; related Occupations</b>	<b>Service Occupations</b>	<b>Sales and Office Occupations</b>	<b>Farming, Fishing, and Forestry</b>	<b>Construction, extraction, and Maintenance</b>	<b>Production, transportation, and material moving</b>
Raymondville	681	1,058	760	170	252	200
Willacy Co.	1,452	1,420	1,327	269	709	841

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census*

## Principal Employers

(75+ employees)  
March 2015

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Approx. number of Employees</i>
1. Raymondville ISD	398
2. Valley Telephone Co-op	196
3. Willacy Co. Regional Detention Facility	193
4. Corrections Corporation of America	171
5. Willacy County	161
6. Wal-Mart	150
7. H-E-B	80
8. City of Raymondville	78
9. BCFS	76

## Principal Taxpayers

2014

<i>Taxpayer</i>	<i>Business Type</i>	<i>2014 Assessed Valuation</i>
1. Wal-Mart Stores, L.P. #883	Retail	\$ 10,597,796
2. Valley Telephone Co-Op	Utility	\$ 3,600,515
3. H.E. Butt Grocery Company	Grocery	\$ 2,665,971
4. VTX Communications LLC	Utility	\$ 2,421,834
5. AEP Texas Central Company	Utility	\$ 2,351,530
6. DNA Hotels, Ltd.	Hotels	\$ 1,359,360
7. Tafi Land Company, LP		\$ 1,317,525
8. Brown, Mark A.		\$ 1,210,319
9. Narayon Oam LLC		\$ 1,195,357
10. Neuhaus & Company	Farm Equipment & Supplies	\$ 1,190,957

*Source: Willacy County CAD*

## Principal Employers Directory (75+ employees)

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### **CITY OF RAYMONDVILLE**

142 S. 7<sup>th</sup> 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

### **BCFS**

Serving Raymondville  
12985 Fm 490  
Raymondville, TX 78580-4791  
**Main (956) 689-2096**

### **RAYMONDVILLE ISD**

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

### **VALLEY TELEPHONE CO-OP**

480 S. 6<sup>th</sup> 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

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

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

Source: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, City of Raymondville

## Local Sales and Use Tax

### City of Raymondville

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>January</b>	62,939.96	66,354.84	86,659.70	85,936.89	90,159.78	97,933.81
<b>February</b>	82,749.16	87,126.48	112,465.46	119,070.25	121,476.63	126,923.11
<b>March</b>	63,077.57	70,534.16	81,159.70	85,098.03	86,380.69	98,315.46
<b>April</b>	66,710.44	60,640.60	88,526.55	91,747.48	97,050.92	96,033.62
<b>May</b>	88,675.98	93,193.33	106,047.11	116,172.80	114,690.76	123,637.36
<b>June</b>	69,463.73	69,135.27	83,134.14	84,410.82	87,721.79	97,153
<b>July</b>	68,628.06	75,272.99	84,079.76	87,869.30	97,733.01	89,775
<b>August</b>	94,883.99	91,349.42	101,589.51	107,329.35	124,339.89	122,567
<b>September</b>	69,021.66	83,185.80	85,296.13	92,679.58	96,489.64	98,825
<b>October</b>	71,458.69	81,775.97	86,364.65	86,829.90	92,955.33	95,734
<b>November</b>	87,405.58	100,221.93	104,239.98	103,533.16	120,273.60	108,955
<b>December</b>	67,952.07	80,041.19	89,537.89	70,7024.34	98,749.03	84,073
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>892,966.89</b>	<b>958,831.98</b>	<b>1,109,100.08</b>	<b>1,131,401.90</b>	<b>1,228,021.07</b>	<b>1,239,925.36</b>

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>January</b>	81,670	89,596	104,163	119,559	127,760	105,601
<b>February</b>	120,065	135,041	174,521	138,895	150,705	
<b>March</b>	81,340	88,284	115,342	99,263	98,867	
<b>April</b>	88,844	92,084	113,917	105,172	131,261	
<b>May</b>	116,507	121,231	171,477	125,145	140,211	
<b>June</b>	86,220	111,381	127,298	119,610	112,962	
<b>July</b>	96,667	96,141	102,121	110,142	93,769	
<b>August</b>	107,374	147,864	126,333	131,509	131,564	
<b>September</b>	91,165	81,726	100,014	106,702	113,123	
<b>October</b>	91,981	122,422	112,328	107,700	114,504	
<b>November</b>	109,190	104,897	106,290	123,180	137,618	
<b>December</b>	87,497	98,022	93,037	102,072	105,636	
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>1,158,520.00</b>	<b>1,288,689</b>	<b>1,446,841</b>	<b>1,388,949</b>	<b>1,457,980</b>	

Source: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, [www.window.state.tx.us](http://www.window.state.tx.us)

## Building Activity

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### 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
2011	4,504,590	1	197,527	3
2012	1,219,784	1	793,332	12
2013		0	1,004,620	13
2014	1,366,900	2	2,627,800	30

*Source: City of Raymondville, 2014*

## Traffic Counts

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

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
US 77 – North Bound	11,800	14,400	15,000	14,700	15,100
US 77 – South Bound	15,300	14,100	14,350	11,200	21,100
Hwy 186 – East Bound	3,200	2,600	2,700	2,900	2,900
Hwy 186 – West Bound	11,500	11,300	11,160	11,000	11,900
Bus. 77 – North Bound	10,400	6,200	5,570	6,500	6,700
Bus. 77 – South Bound	9,800	6,200	7,300	7,600	7,000

*Source: Texas Department of Transportation*

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
US 77 – North Bound	12,000		12,500	11,700	9,900	10,164
US 77 – South Bound	17,400		17,100	17,500	15,900	16,351
Hwy 186 – East Bound	2,600		3,000	3,100	5,600	2,916
Hwy 186 – West Bound	10,400		10,900	10,500	12,300	10,998
Bus. 77 – North Bound	5,800		5,600	5,500	5,600	5,415
Bus. 77 – South Bound	6,600		7,600	8,300	6,000	5,989

*Source: Texas Department of Transportation*

## Miscellaneous Statistics – 9/30/12

### City of Raymondville, Texas

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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: 25 (volunteer)

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

Number of emergency units: 1

#### **Police protection**

Number of employees: 22

Number of law arrests: 410 (fiscal year EST.)

Vehicular patrol units: 8

#### **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

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# Notes

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