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Borderplex Business Barometer, Volume 6, Number 3

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T.M. Fullerton, Jr., and S.L. Fullerton, 2022, Geo-Politics, Gasoline, and De-Globalization, *Borderplex Business Barometer* 6(3), 1-58.



BORDERPLEX BUSINESS BAROMETER

March 2022

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Border Commerce & Economics

Borderplex Business Barometer, Volume 6, Number 3

Geo-Politics, Gasoline, and De-Globalization

The Russian military invasion has inflicted massive economic and noneconomic losses on Ukraine plus additional economic headaches on the world economy. Ukraine is an important producer of numerous commodities whose 2022 output levels may be decimated by the war. At present, it looks fairly certain that those supply chain disruptions will unleash unavoidable inflationary shocks for numerous food and industrial products ranging from flour and cooking oil to steel and electronic computer chips.

International economic sanctions against Russia have also caused energy prices to spike. Much of Russia's oil exports are transported through the Black Sea. The war has caused insurance rates to rise so high that tankers will no longer enter the Black Sea and Russian oil exports are banned in many countries. As shown in the graphs on Pages 15 and 16, the March 2022 price of regular unleaded gasoline in El Paso rose to its highest level since 2012.

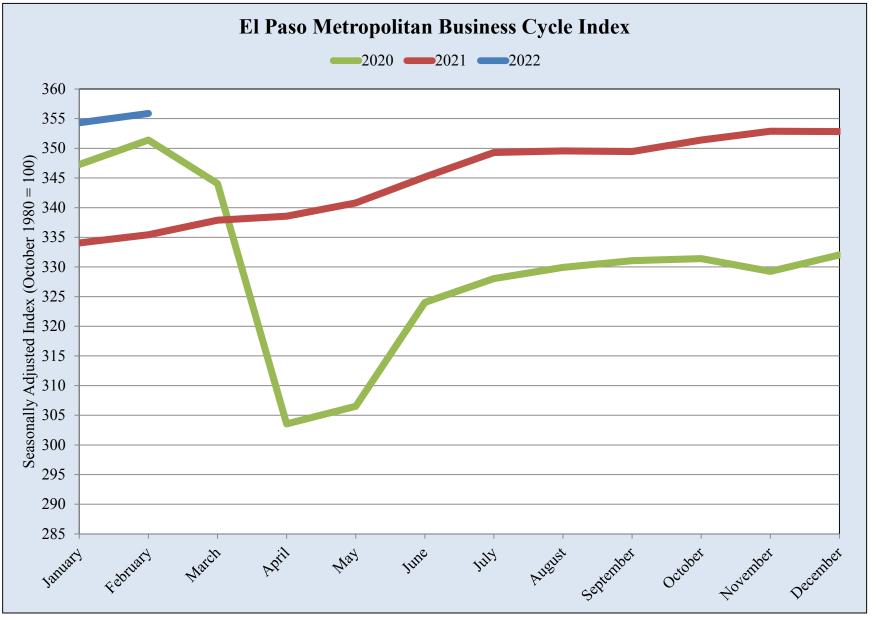
The pandemic has generated numerous supply chain disruptions, as has the Russian war in Ukraine. Also contributing to the difficulties facing producers are unexpected supply chain re-directions caused by an emerging reorientation of trade patterns among democratic countries and autocratic regimes. The globalization rollback may cause inflation to remain uncomfortably high well beyond the end of the current pandemic.

One response of the Biden Administration is the release one million barrels of oil per day from the strategic petroleum reserve in Louisiana and Texas. Energy analysts anticipate that this action should cause the price of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude oil to drop by \$5 per barrel during the 6-month period during which this policy is scheduled to remain in effect. Local economic history indicates that unleaded regular gasoline prices will decline by 12.5 cents per gallon while this policy is in place.

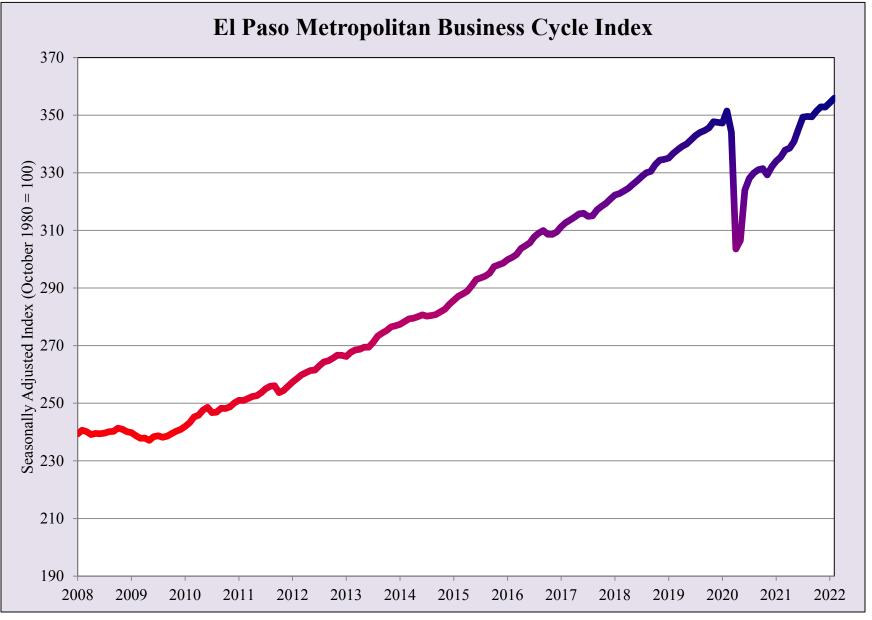
In the last 24 months, there have been 5 global supply chain ruptures, 4 due to successive pandemic waves, and 1 due to war. The effects of these disruptions, plus any related to de-globalization, will surely take more than an additional 12 months to play out. North American manufacturing investments

are surging in response to these upheavals. As the graphs on Pages 43 and 44 indicate, trade through the El Paso Customs District has exceeded the \$10 billion mark for 8 consecutive months.

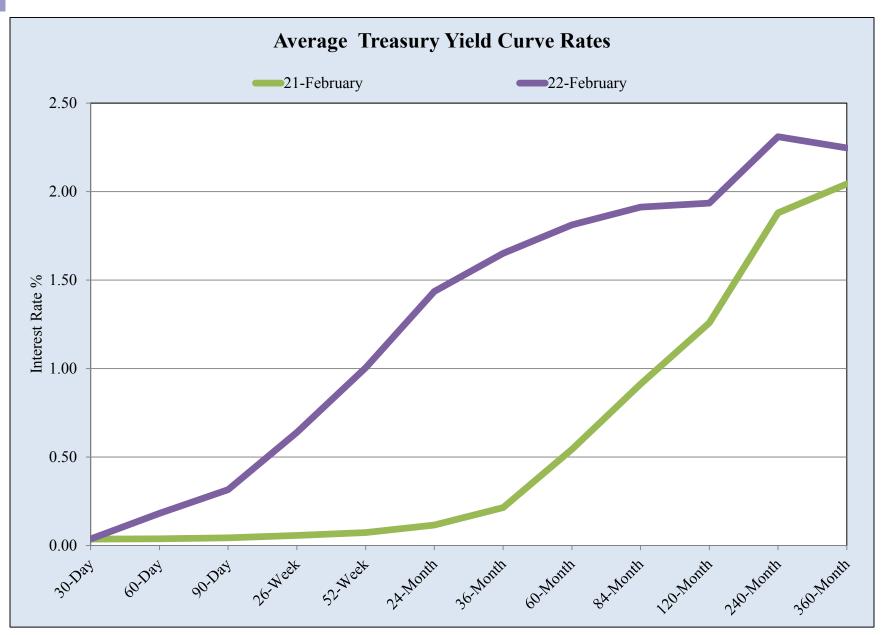
Although global business sentiment is understandably glum, the Borderplex regional economy is in the process of reversing the "China Syndrome" ravages that caused IMMEX activities to falter 20 years ago. IMMEX employment is expected to move close to 320 thousand in Ciudad Juarez by the end of 2022, while in Chihuahua City it should near 80 thousand. In response, Borderplex cargo truck traffic should increase substantially in 2022, with larger volumes being channeled through Santa Teresa – Jerónimo and, eventually, Tornillo - Guadalupe. Demand for diesel is likely to remain very strong.



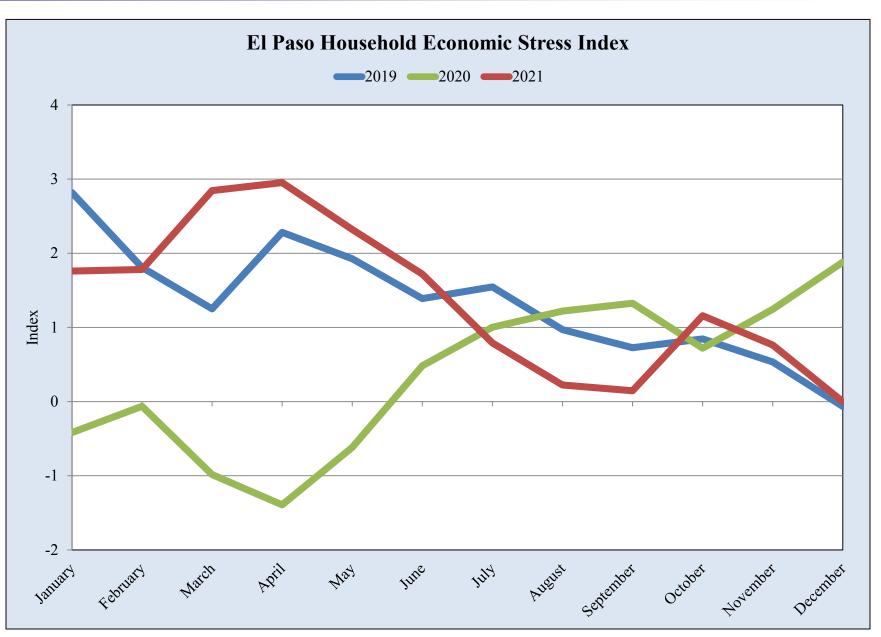
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas



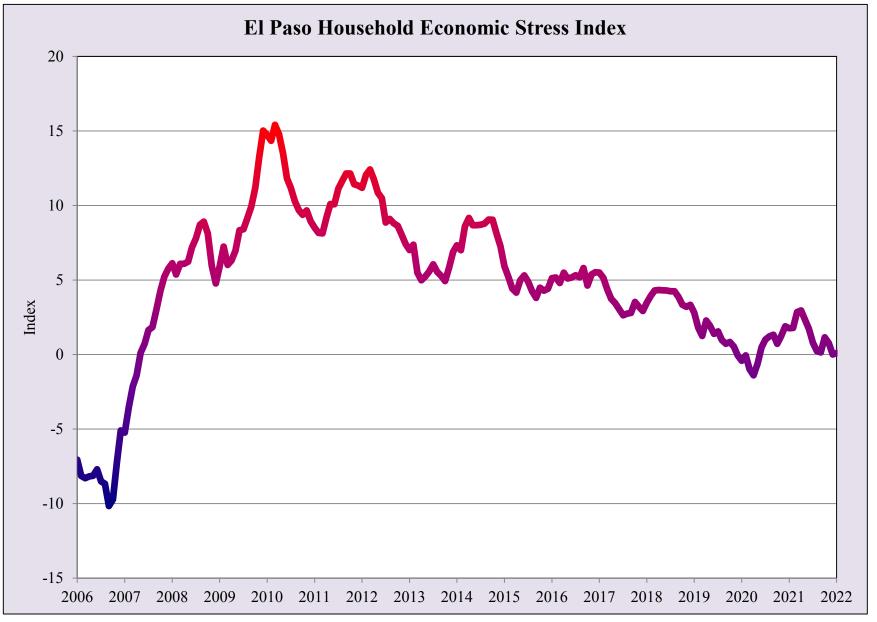
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas



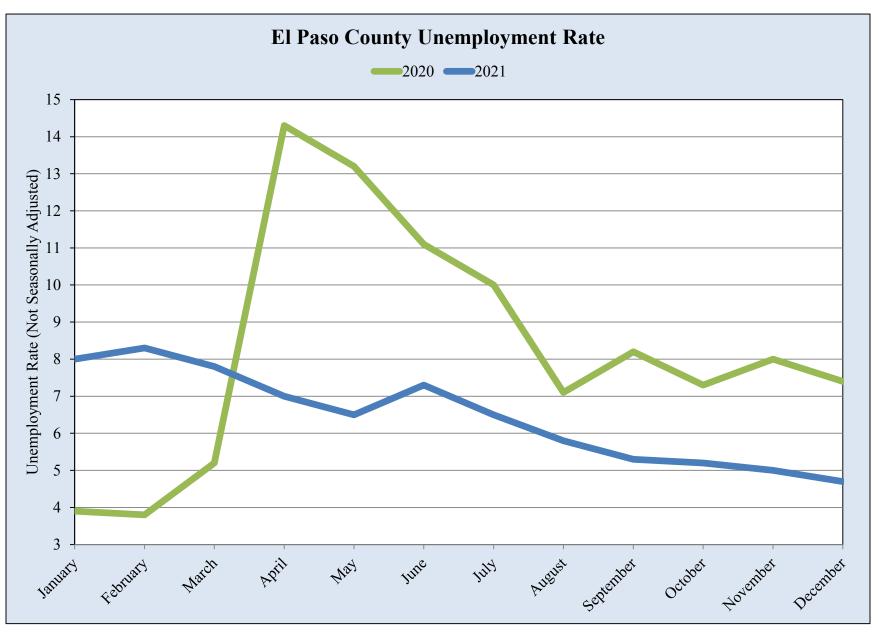
Source: U.S. Treasury, Daily Treasury Yield Curve Rates and BRMP Calculations



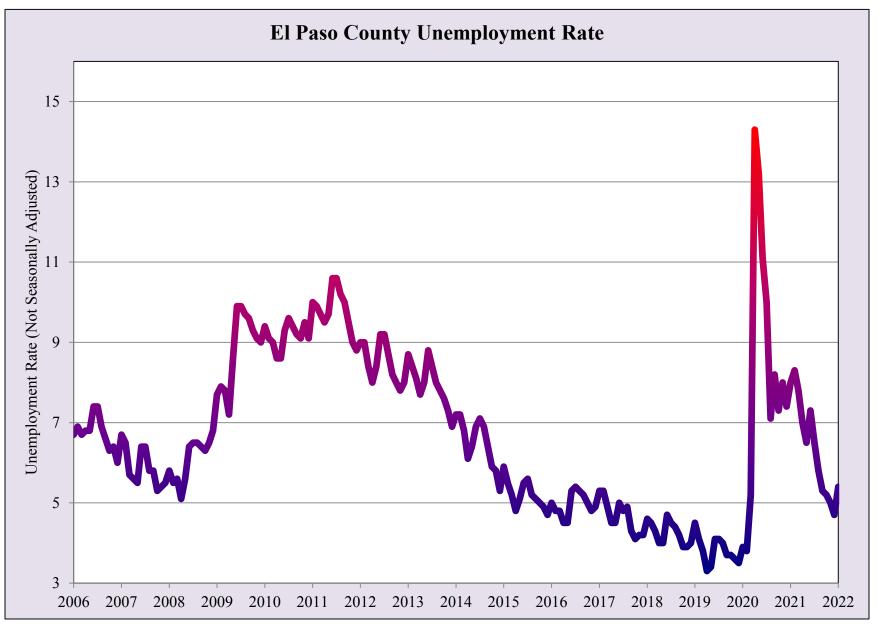
Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project



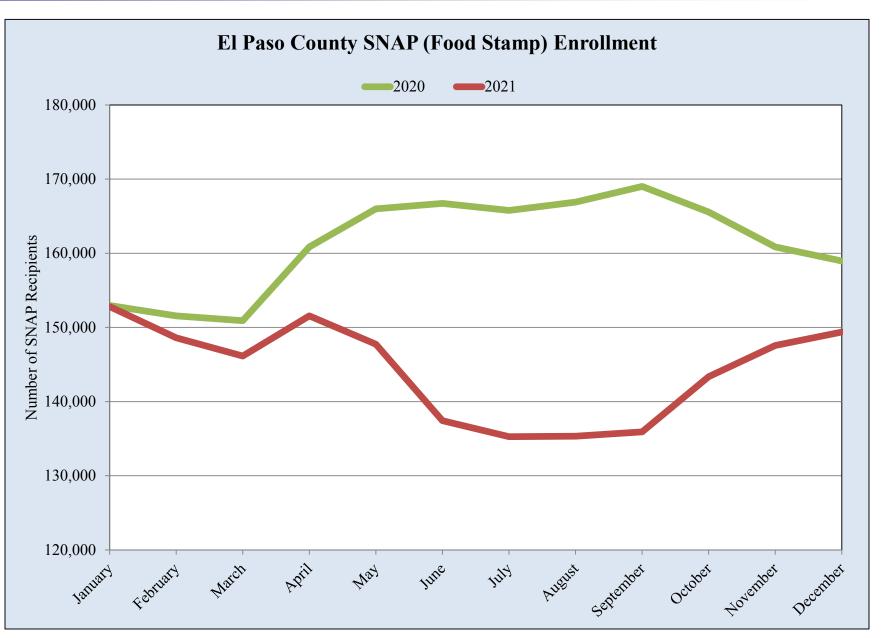
Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project



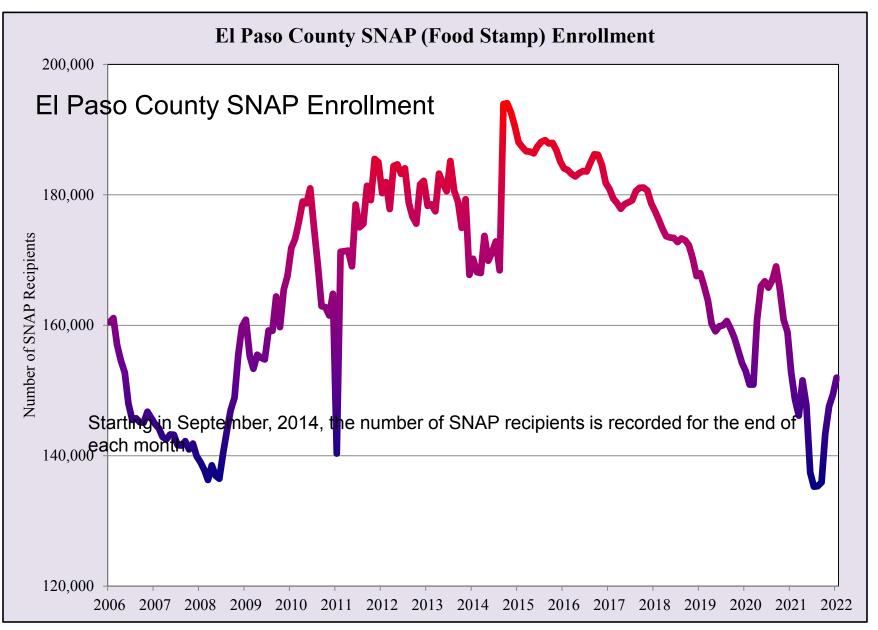
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



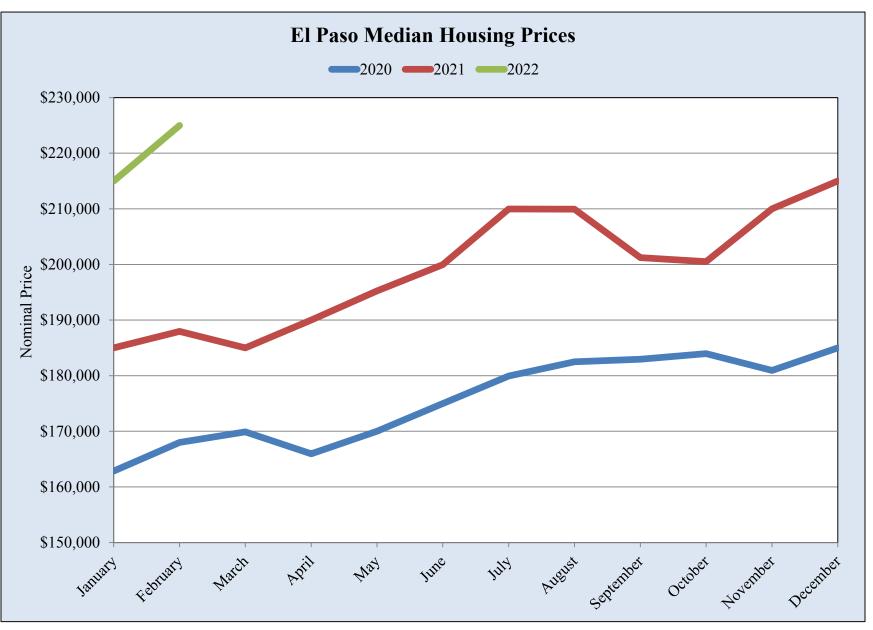
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



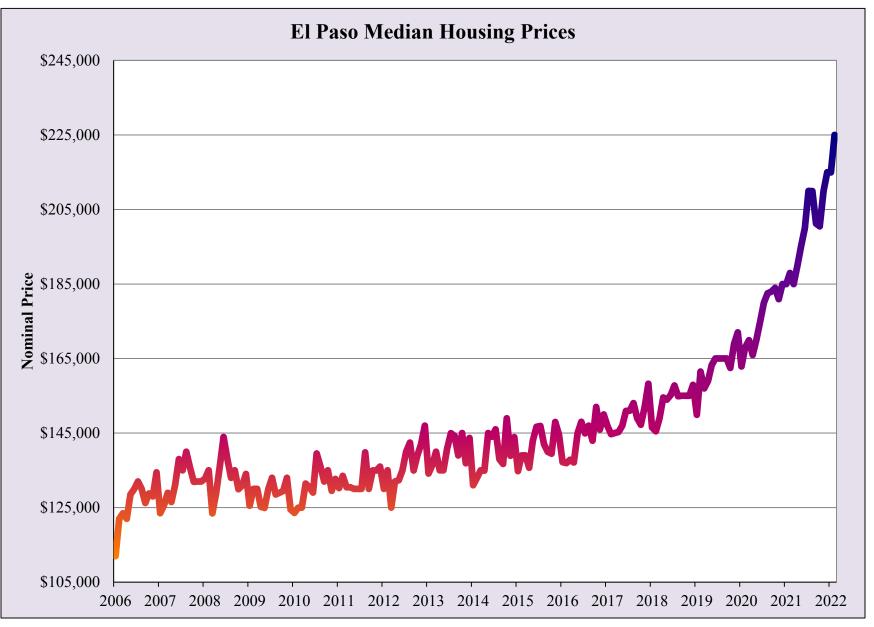
Source: Texas Health and Human Services Commission



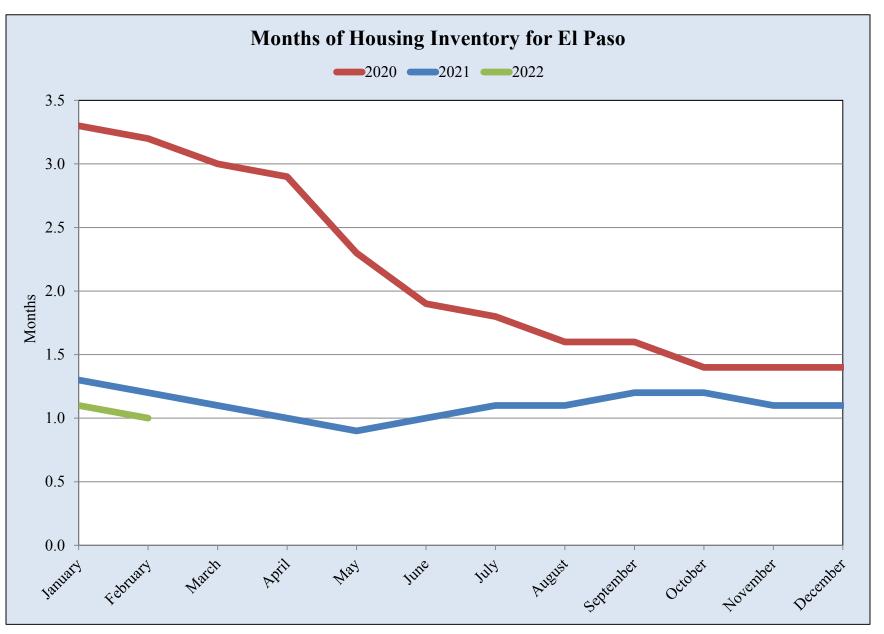
Source: Texas Health and Human Services Commission



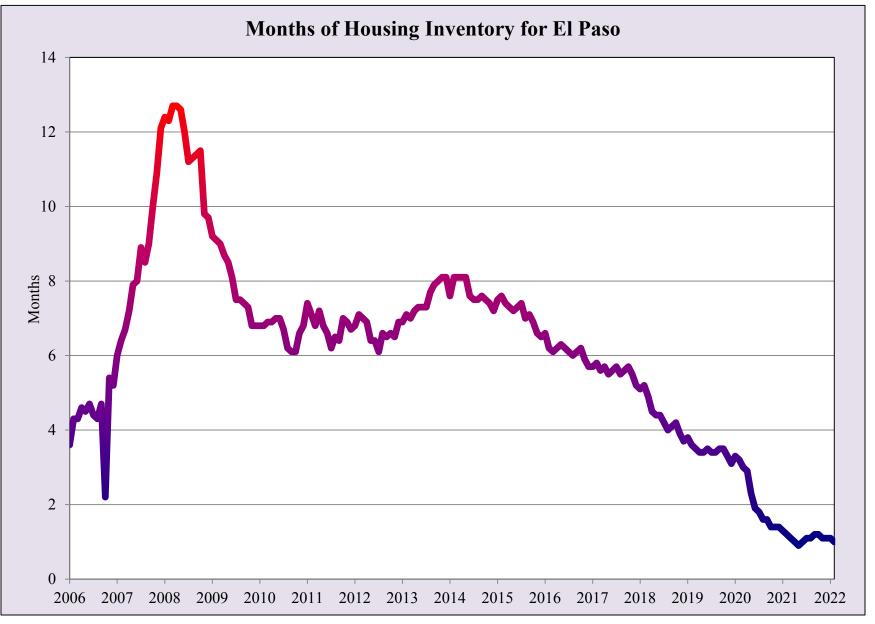
Source: Texas A&M Real Estate Center



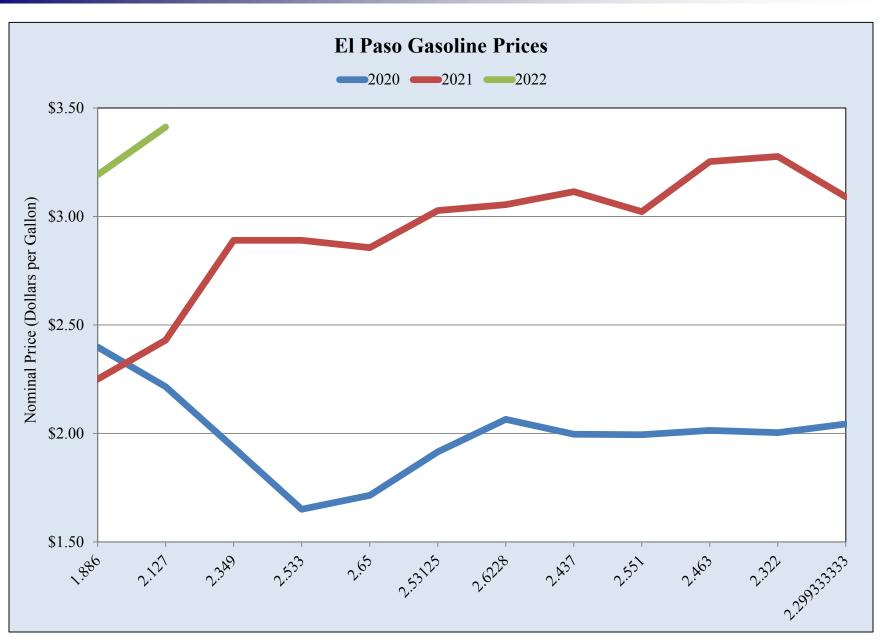
Source: Texas A&M Real Estate Center



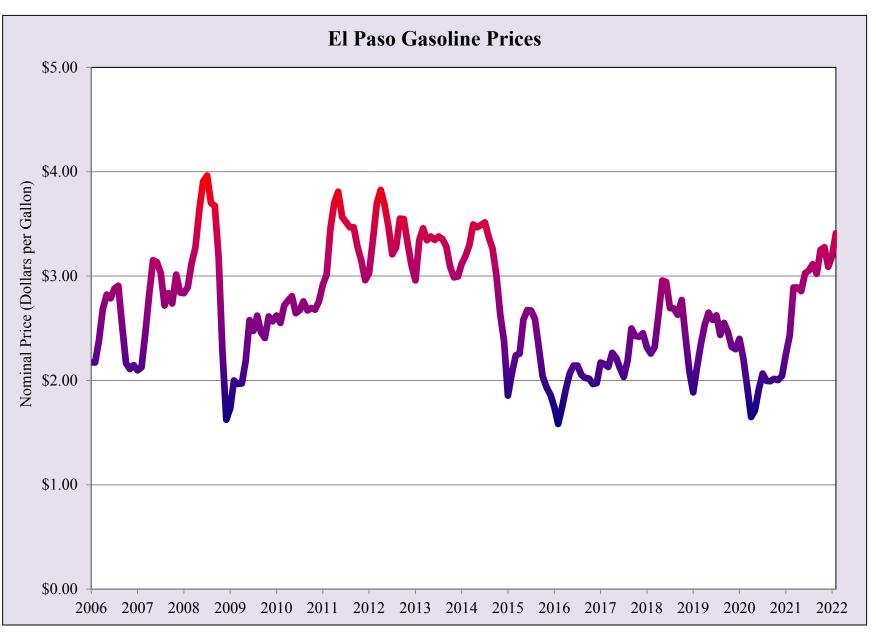
Source: Texas A&M Real Estate Center



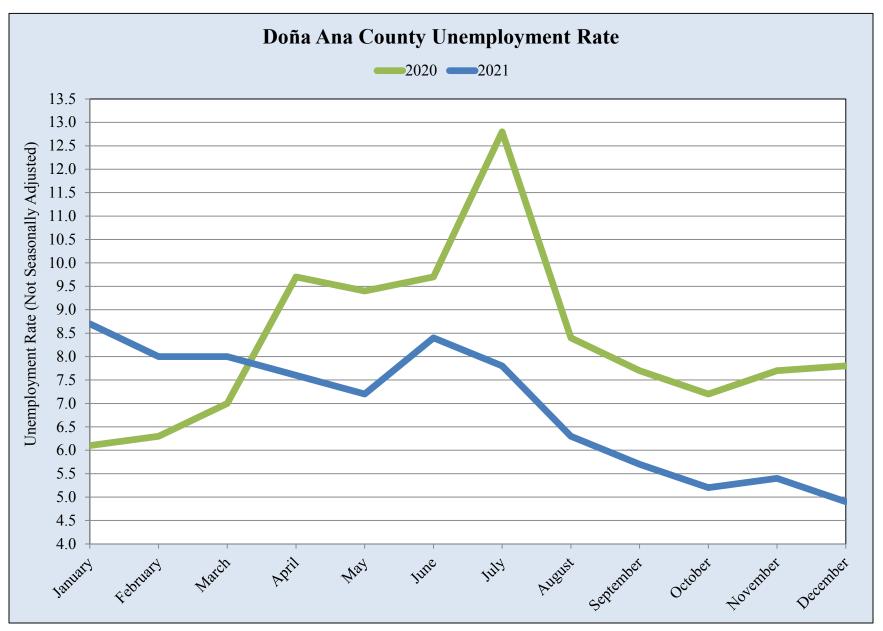
Source: Texas A&M Real Estate Center



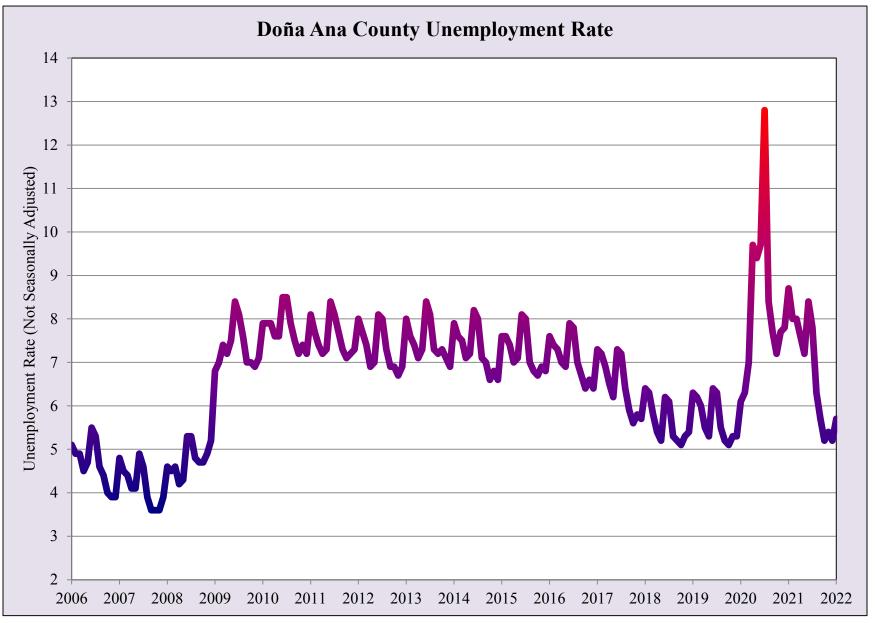
Source: GasBuddy.com



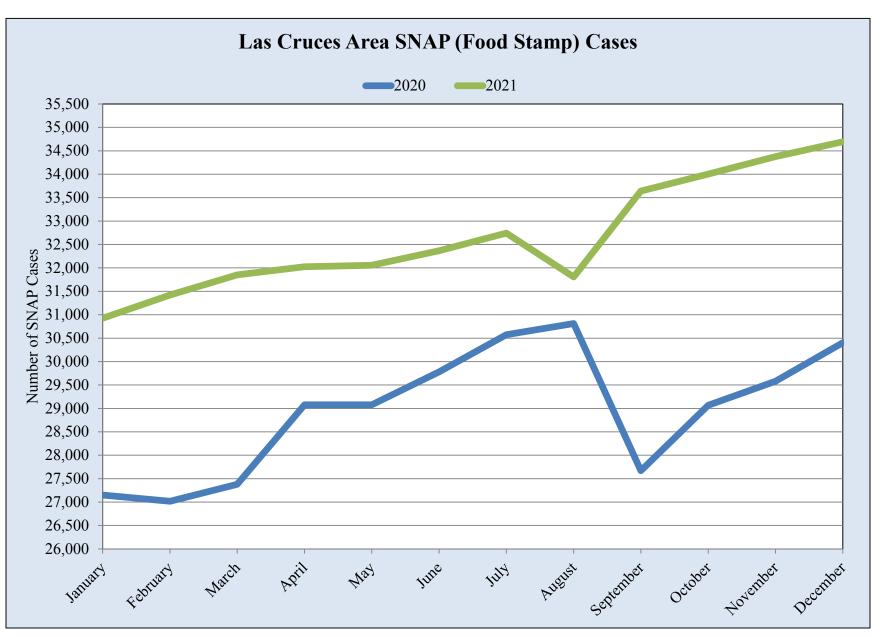
Source: GasBuddy.com



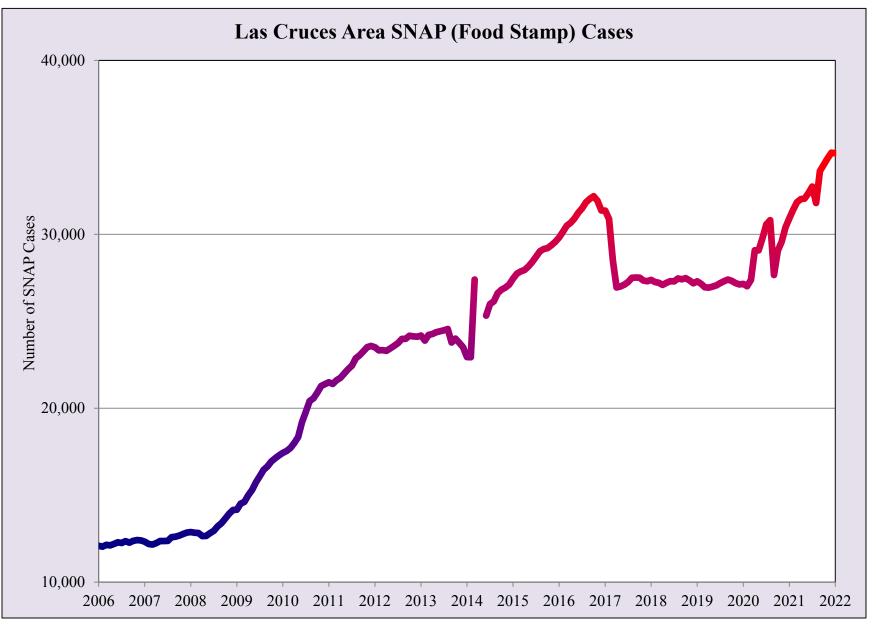
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



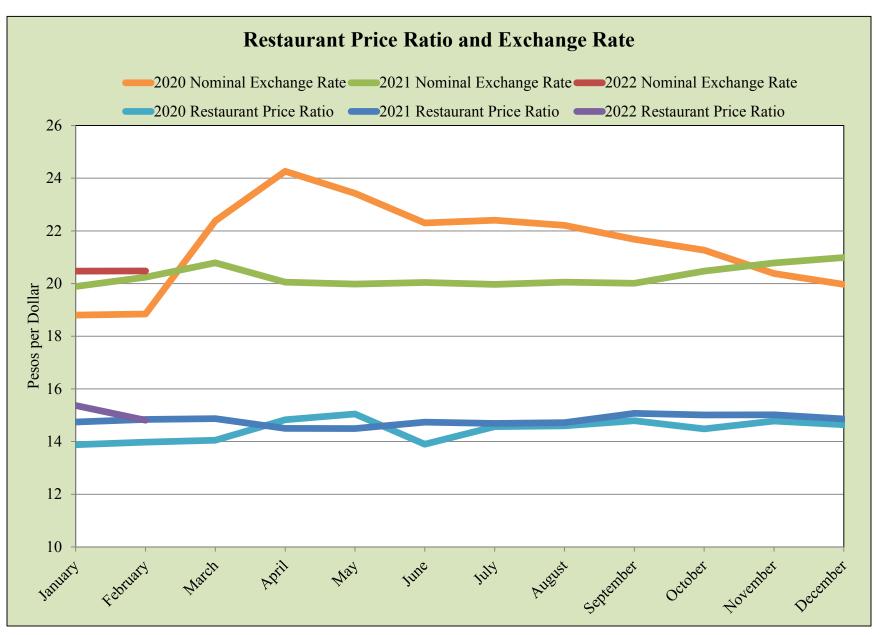
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



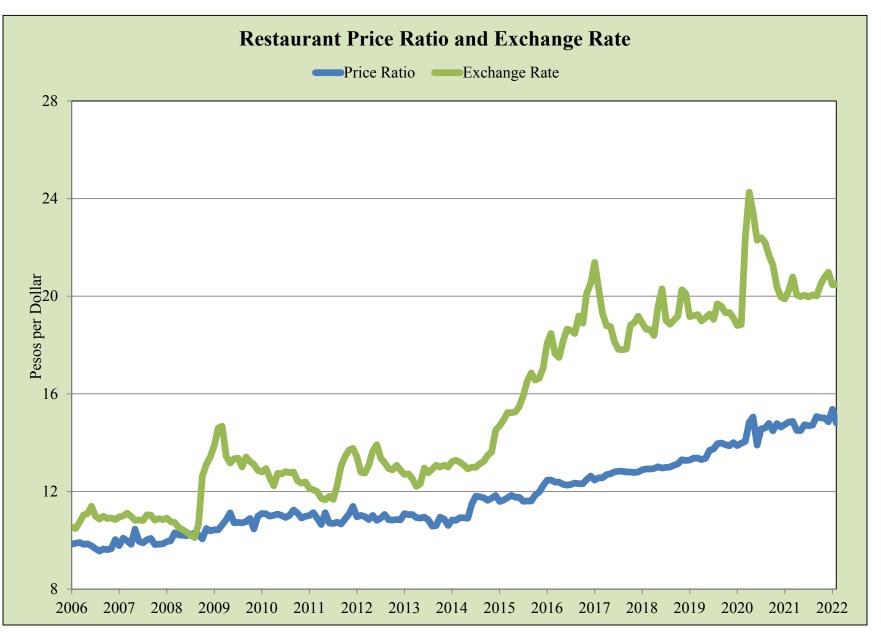
Source: New Mexico Human Services Department



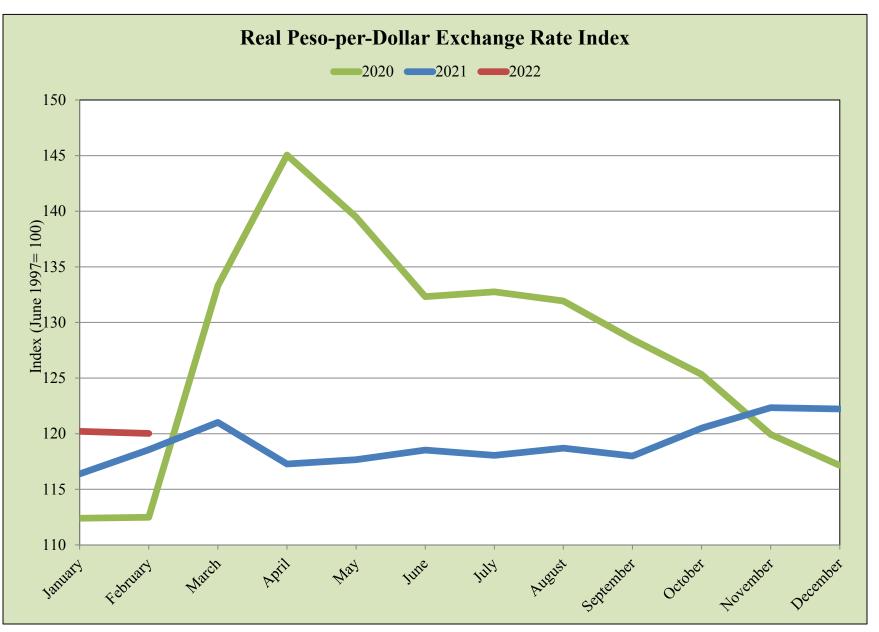
Source: New Mexico Human Services Department



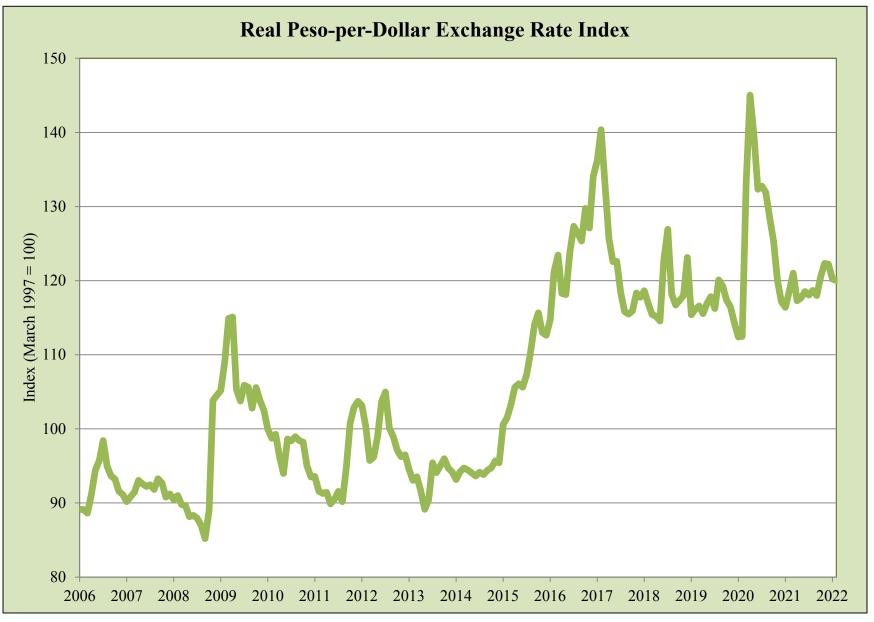
Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project and Banco de Mexico



Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project and Banco de Mexico



Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project

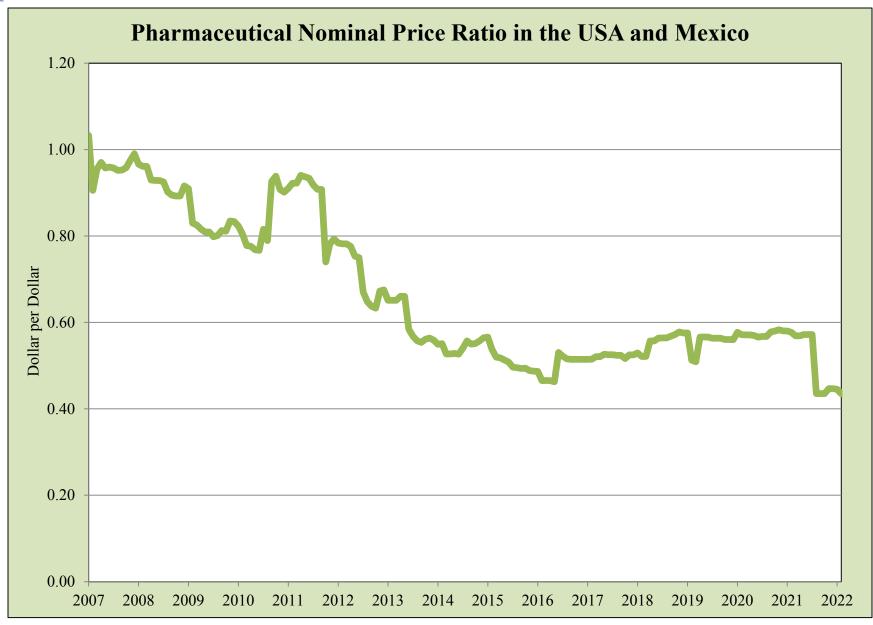


Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project

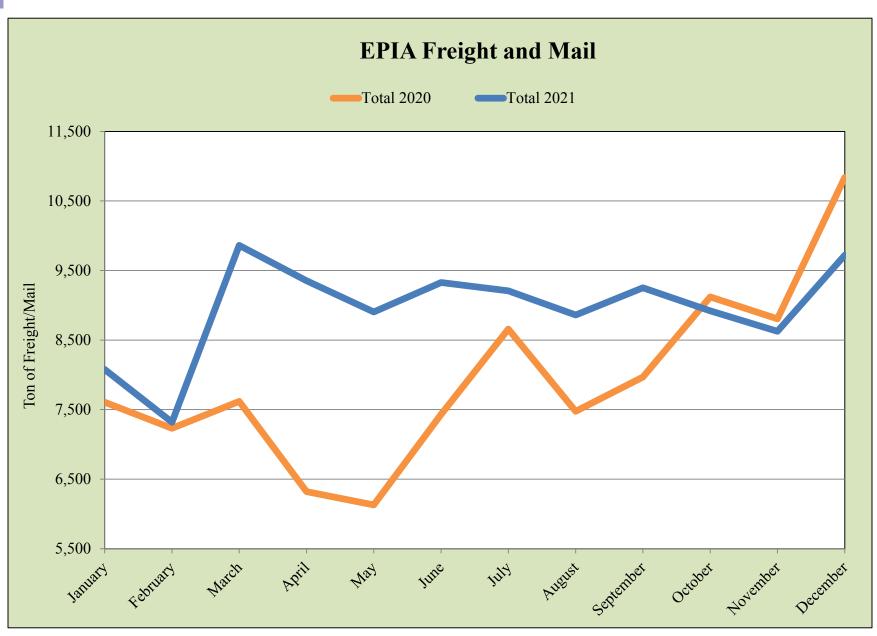
Pharmaceutical Nominal Price Ratio in the USA and Mexico



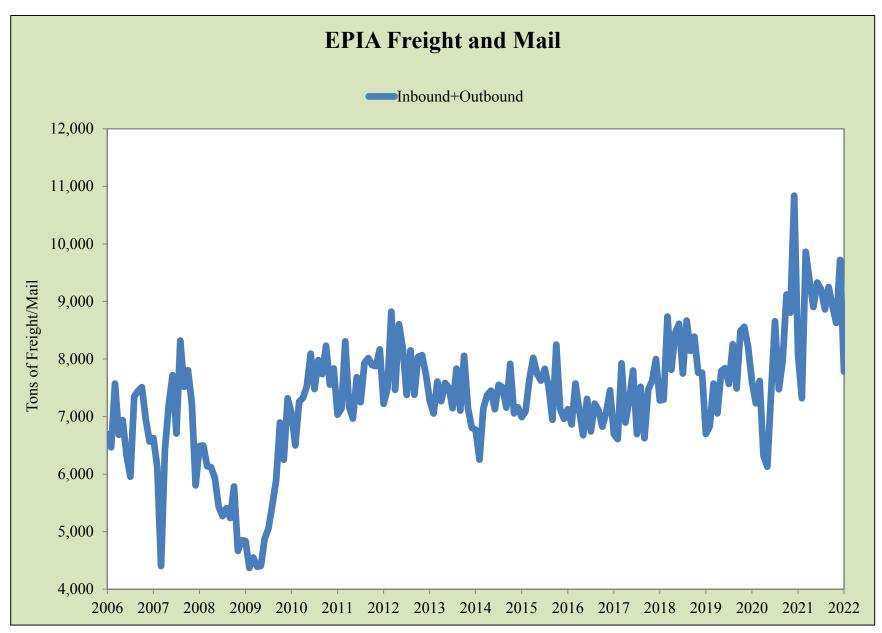
Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project, healthwarehouse.com, goodrx.com, medsmex.com



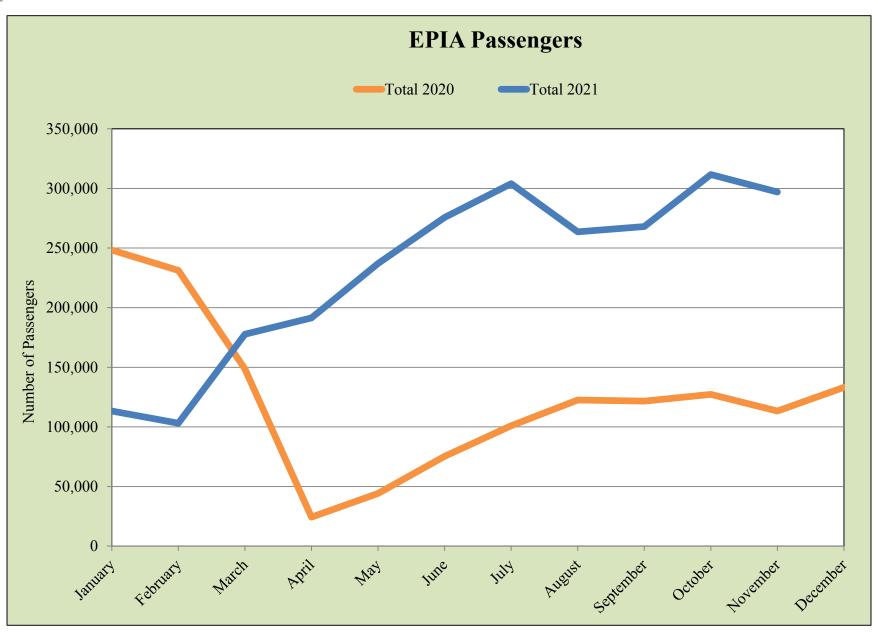
Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project, healthwarehouse.com, goodrx.com, medsmex.com



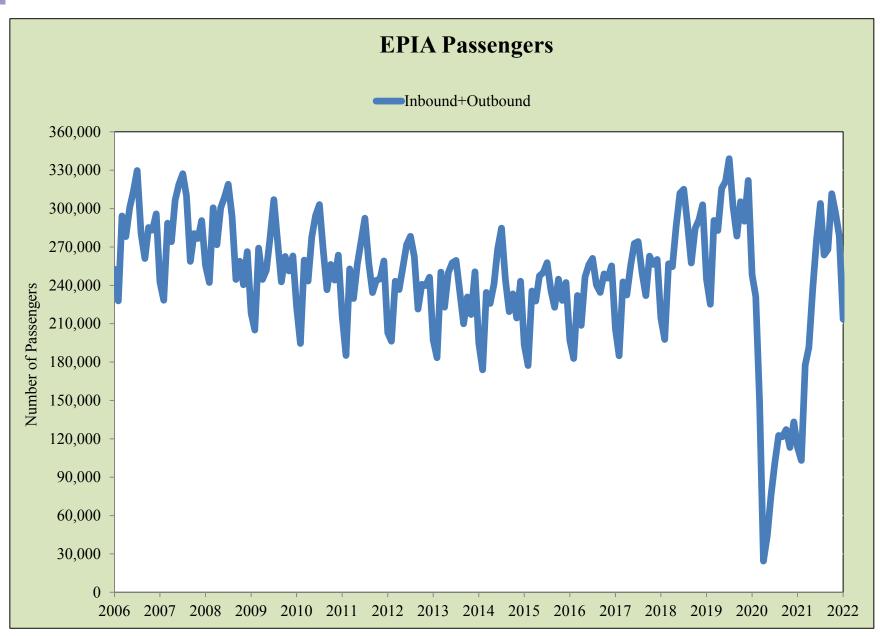
Source: EPIA Operations



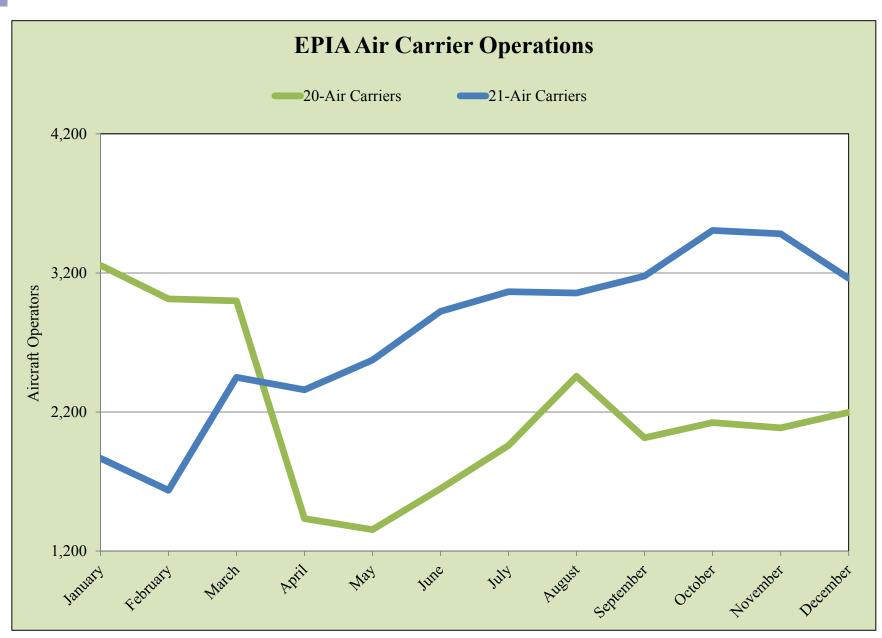
Source: EPIA Operations



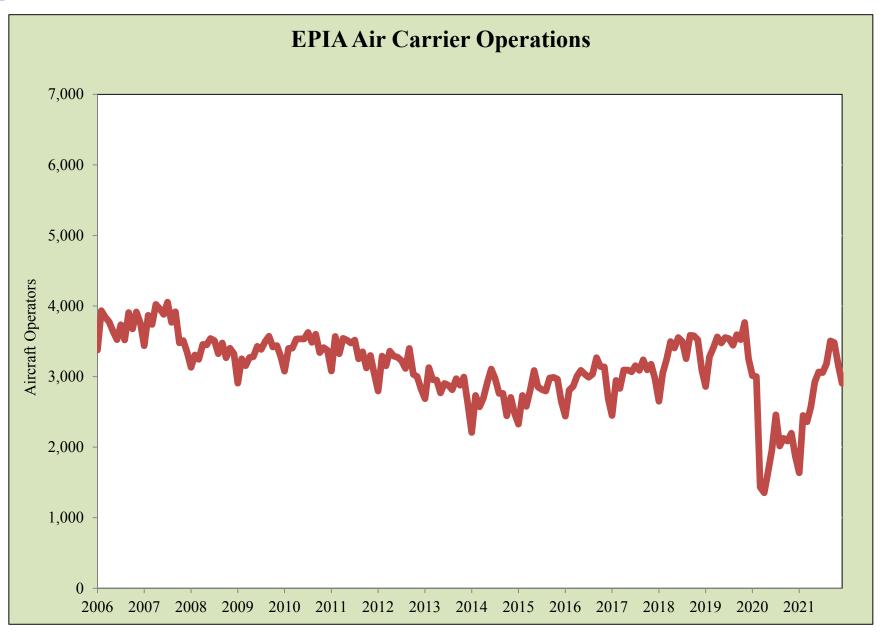
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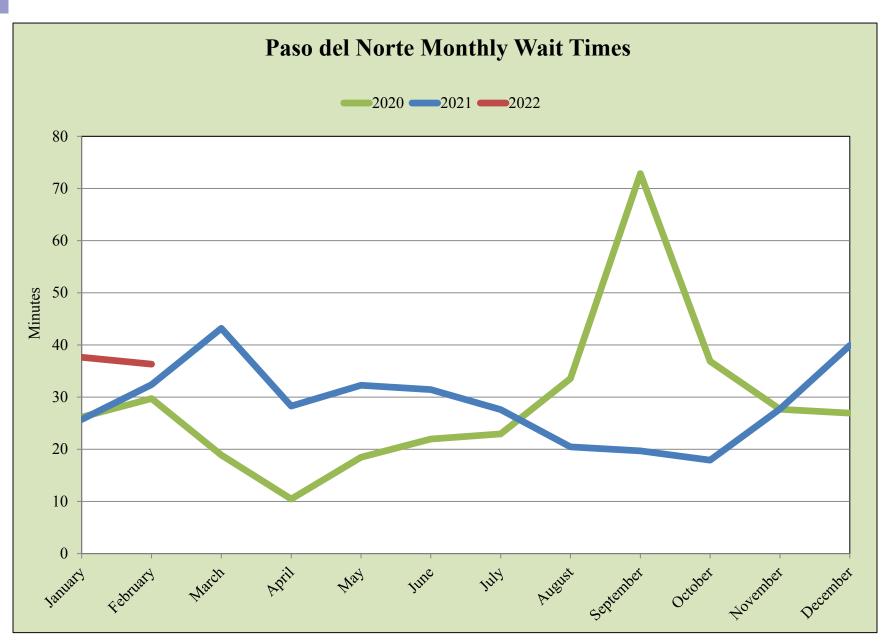
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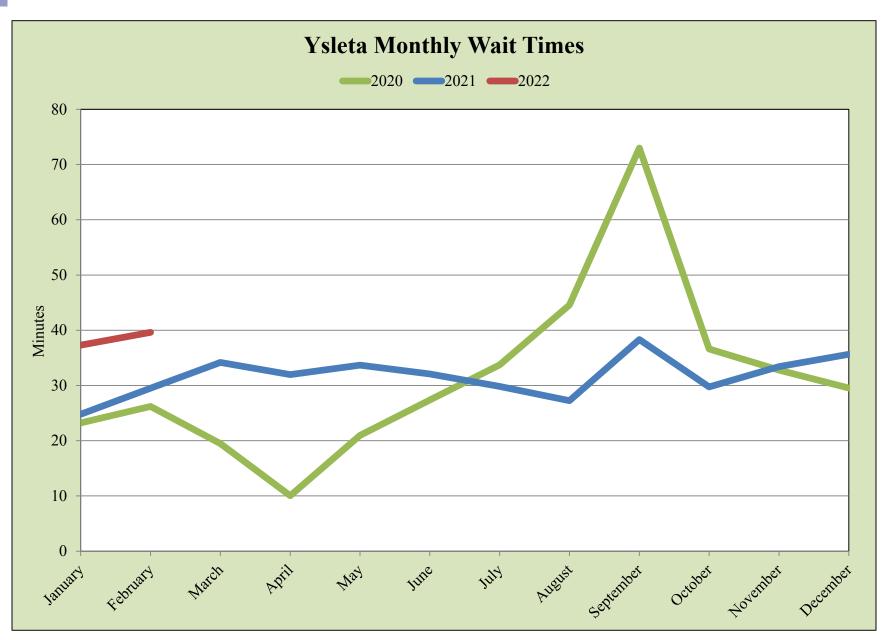
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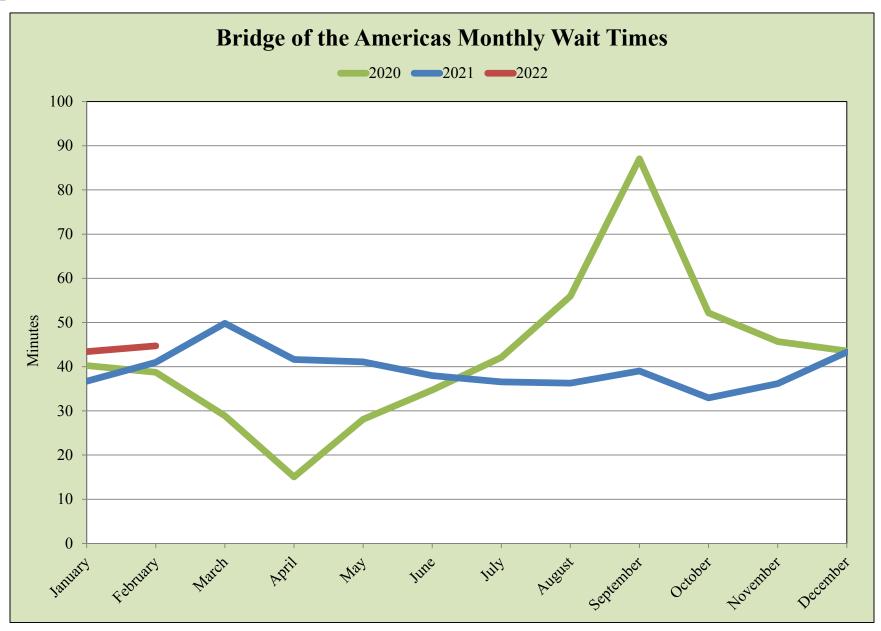
Source: EPIA Operations



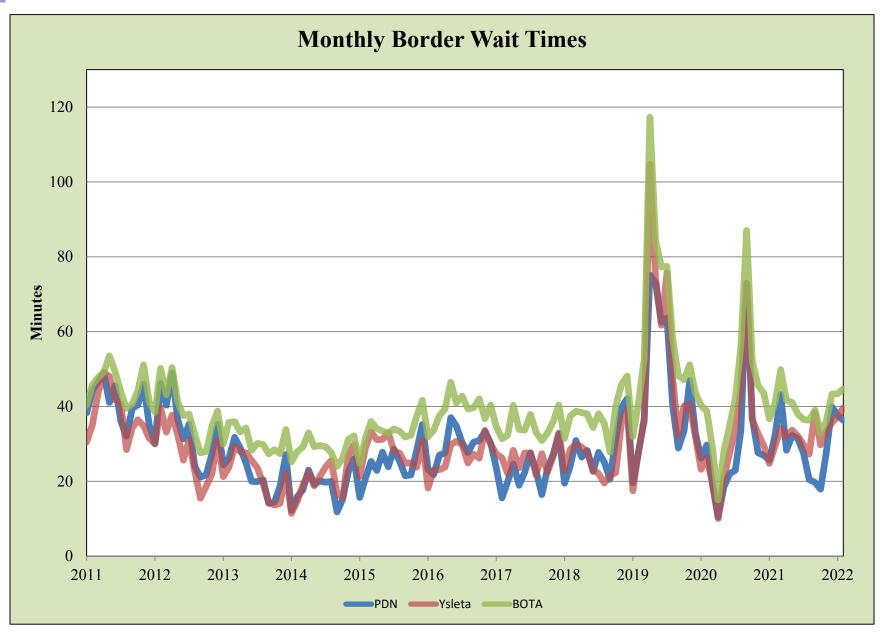
Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project



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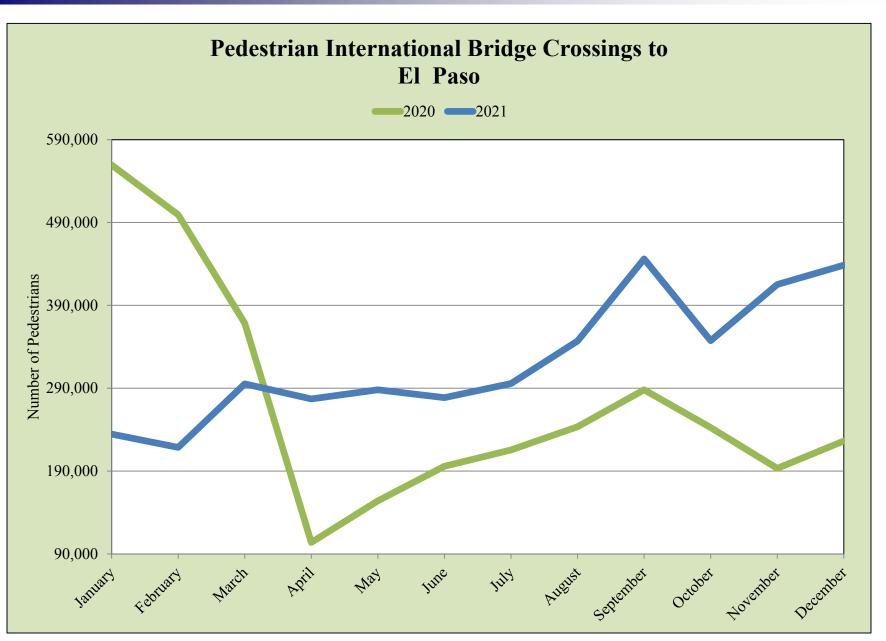
Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project

Personal Vehicle International Bridge Crossings to El Paso

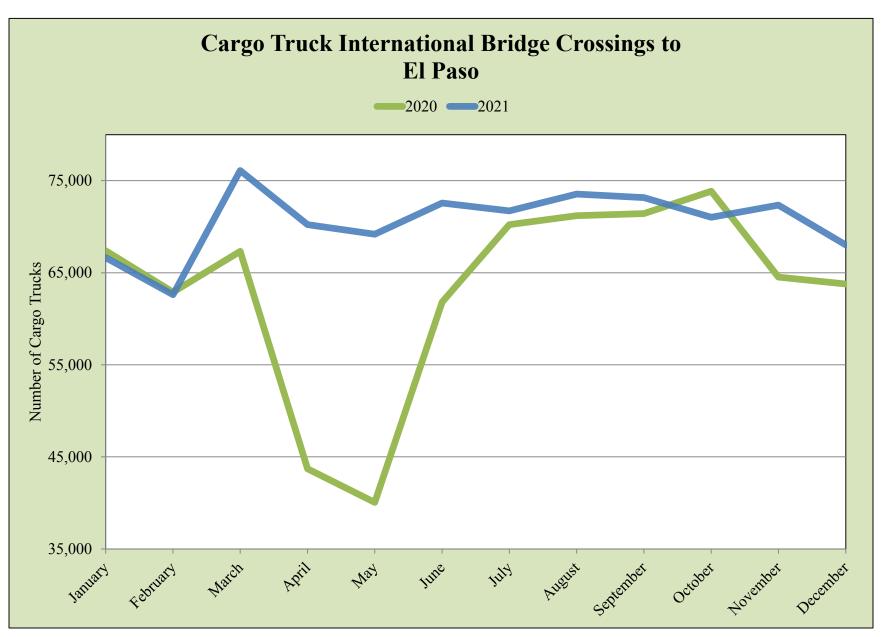


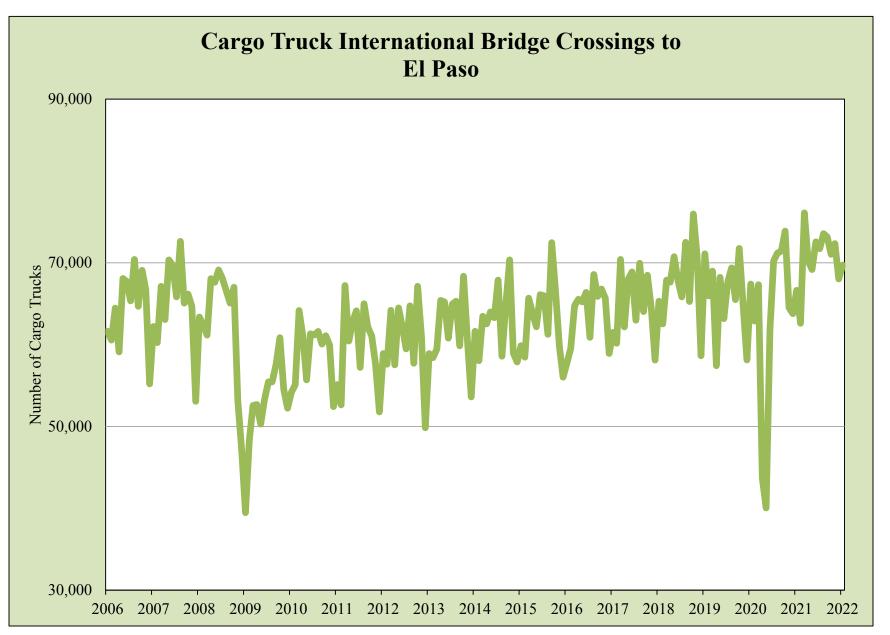


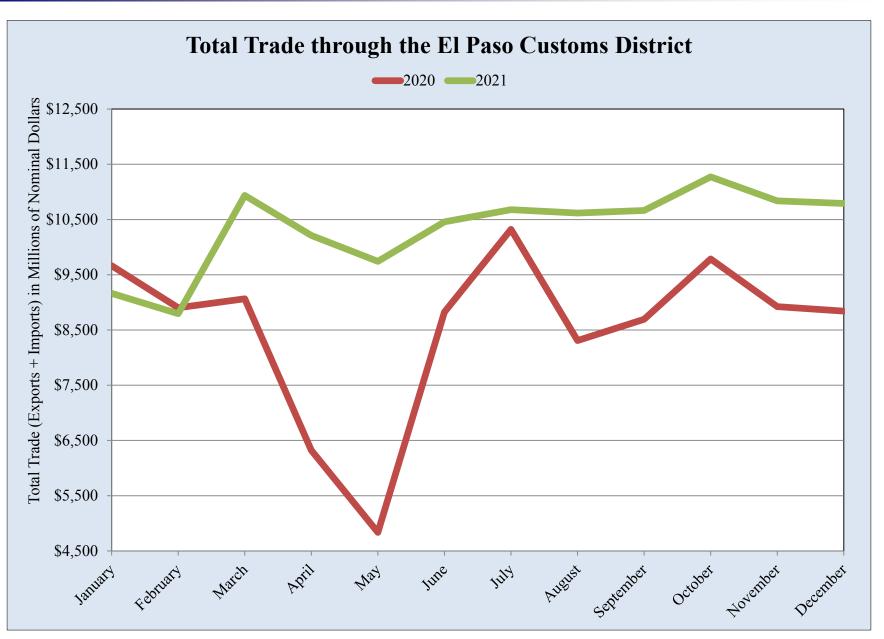
Personal Vehicle International Bridge Crossings to El Paso



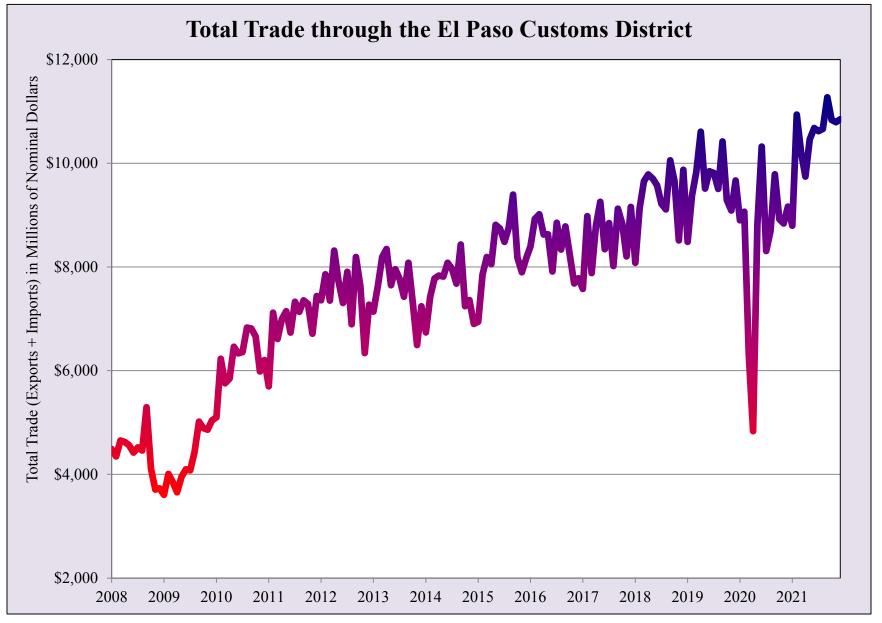








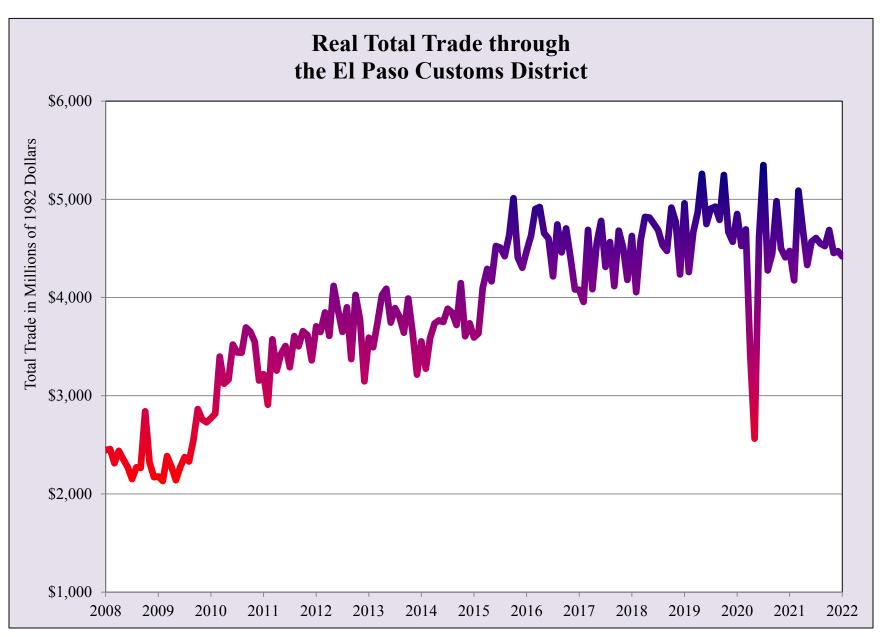
Source: U.S. International Trade Commission



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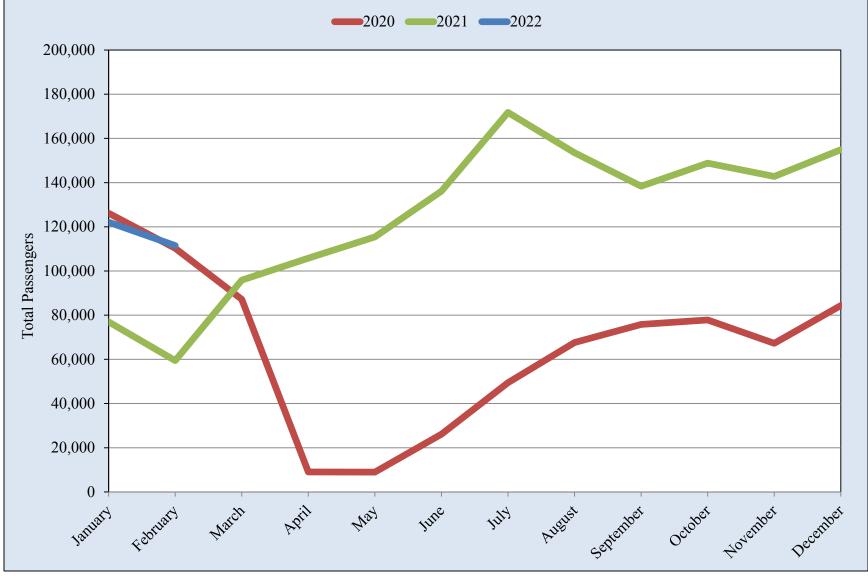


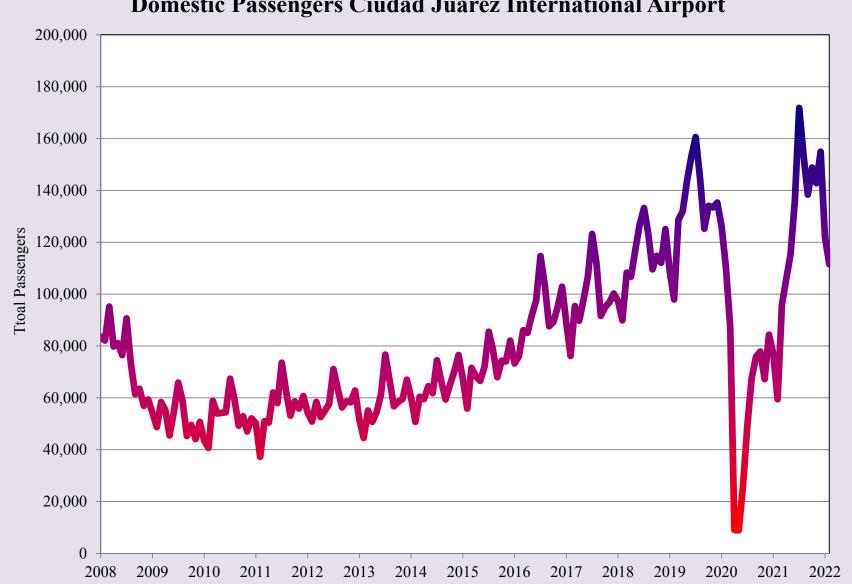
Source: U.S. International Trade Commission and Bureau of Labor Statistics



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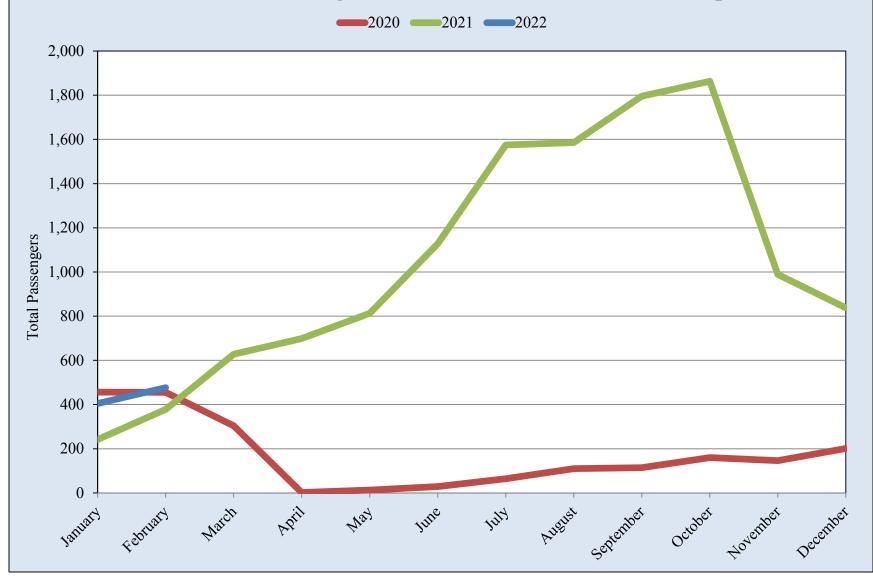
Domestic Passengers Ciudad Juarez International Airport





Domestic Passengers Ciudad Juarez International Airport

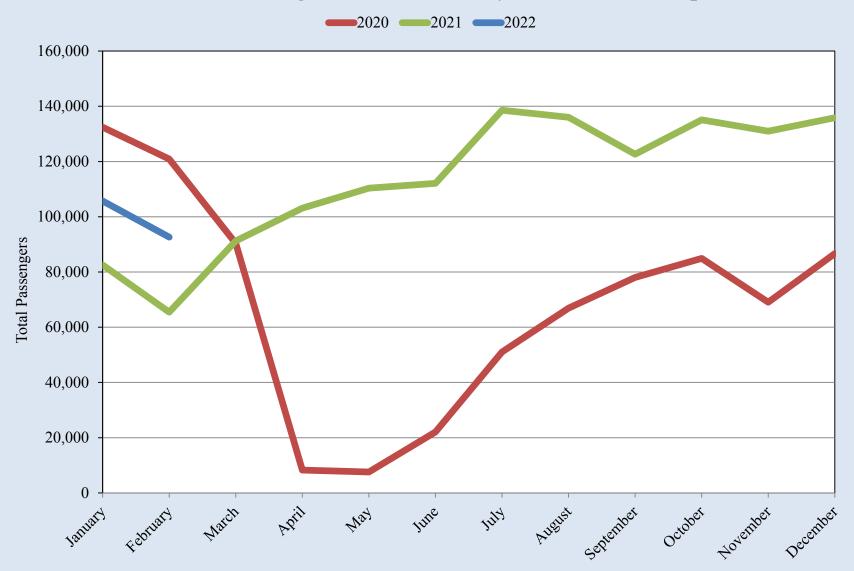
International Passengers Ciudad Juarez International Airport

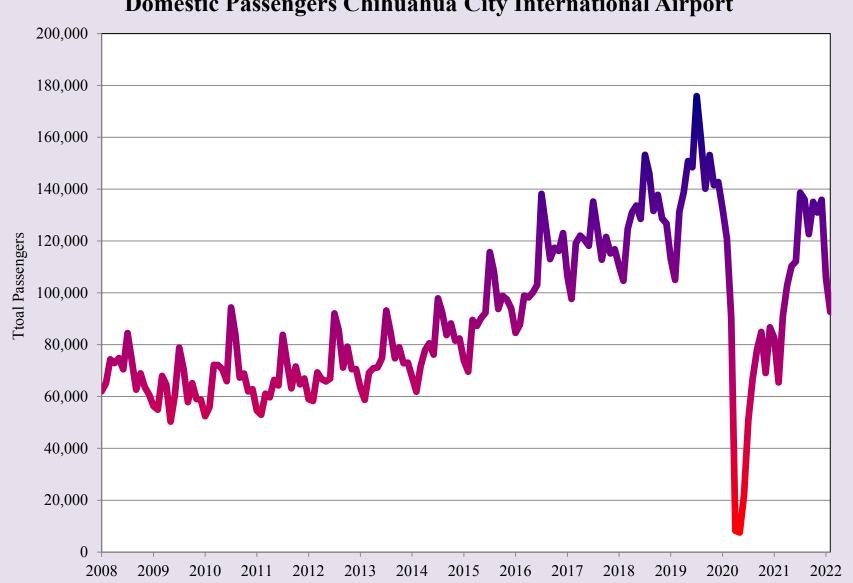




International Passengers Ciudad Juarez International Airport

Domestic Passengers Chihuahua City International Airport

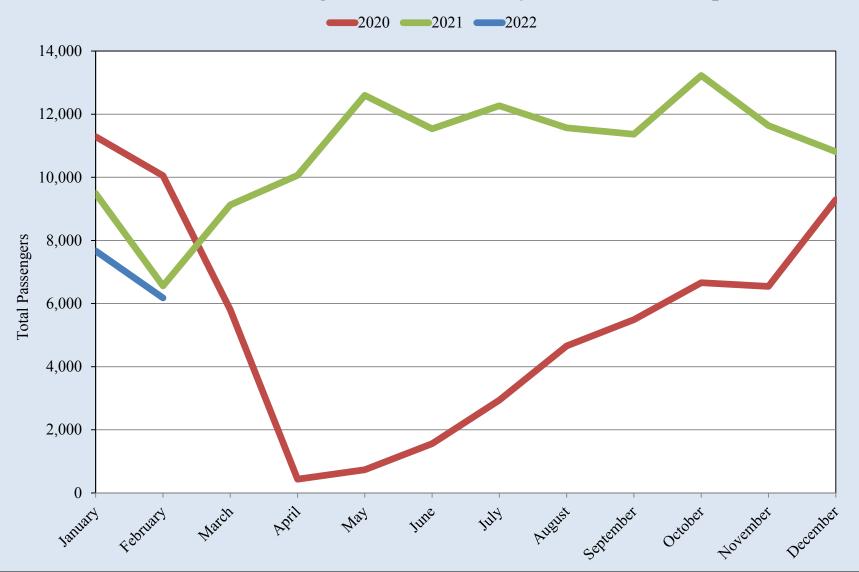


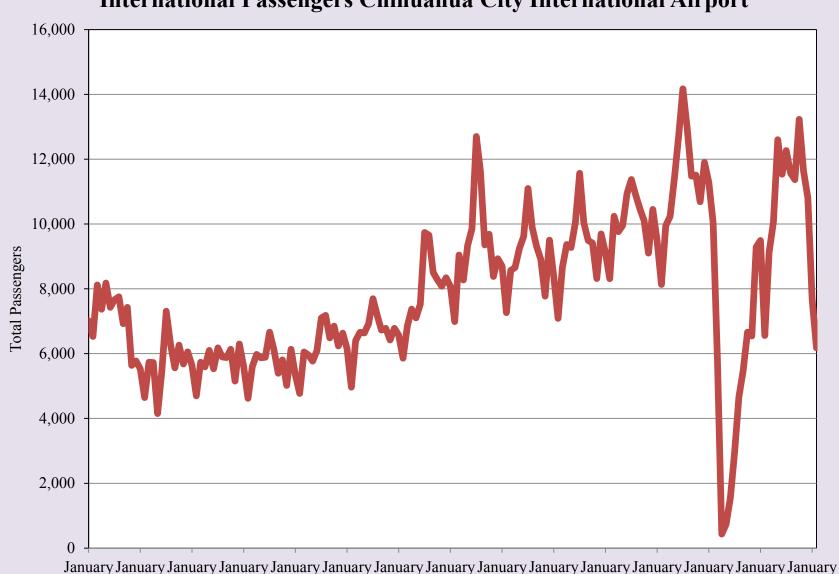


Domestic Passengers Chihuahua City International Airport

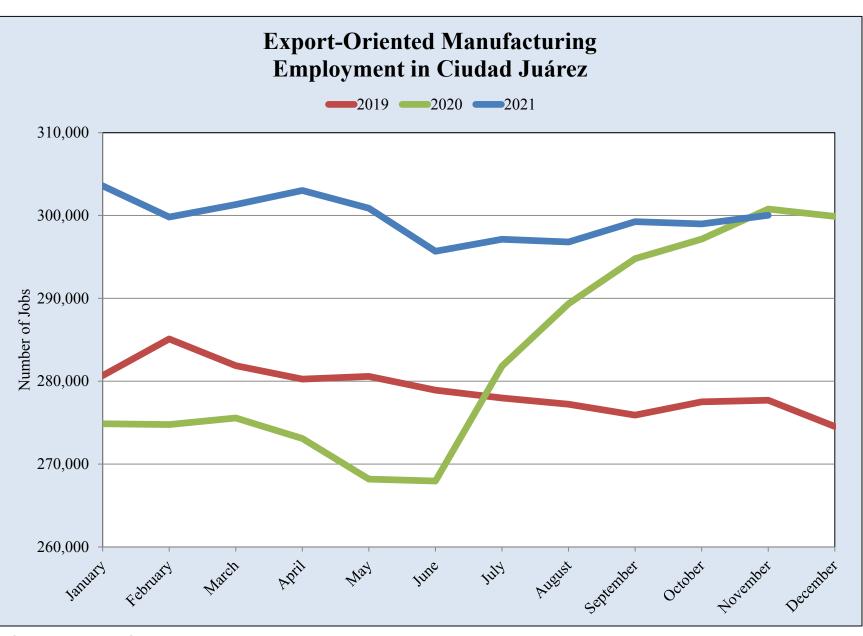
Source: Groupo Aeroportuario Centro Norta - OMA

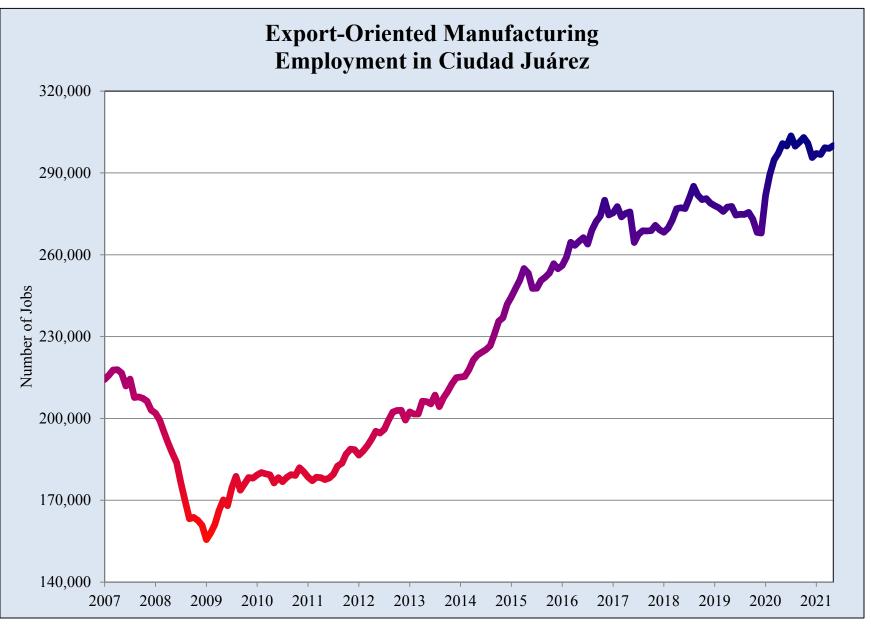
International Passengers Chihuahua City International Airport

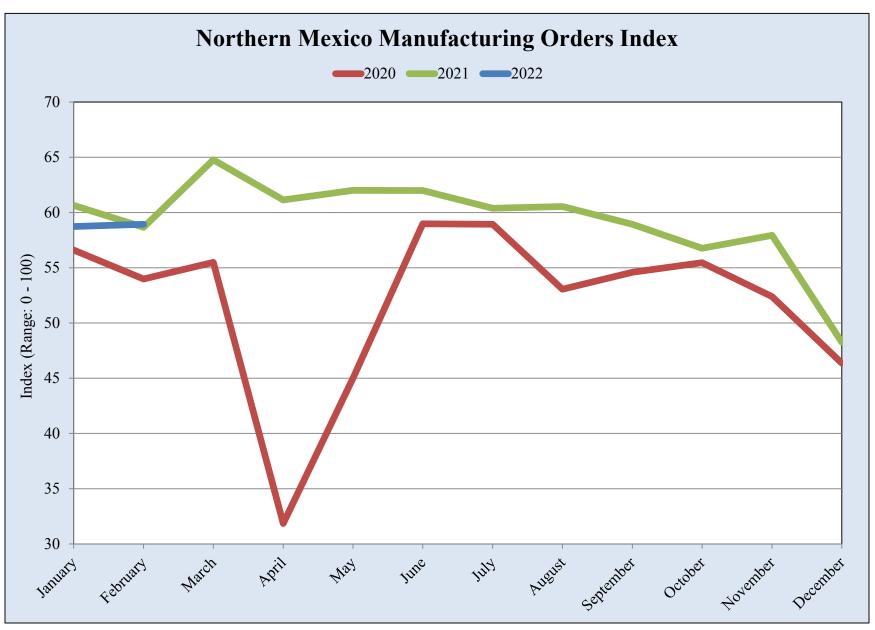




International Passengers Chihuahua City International Airport



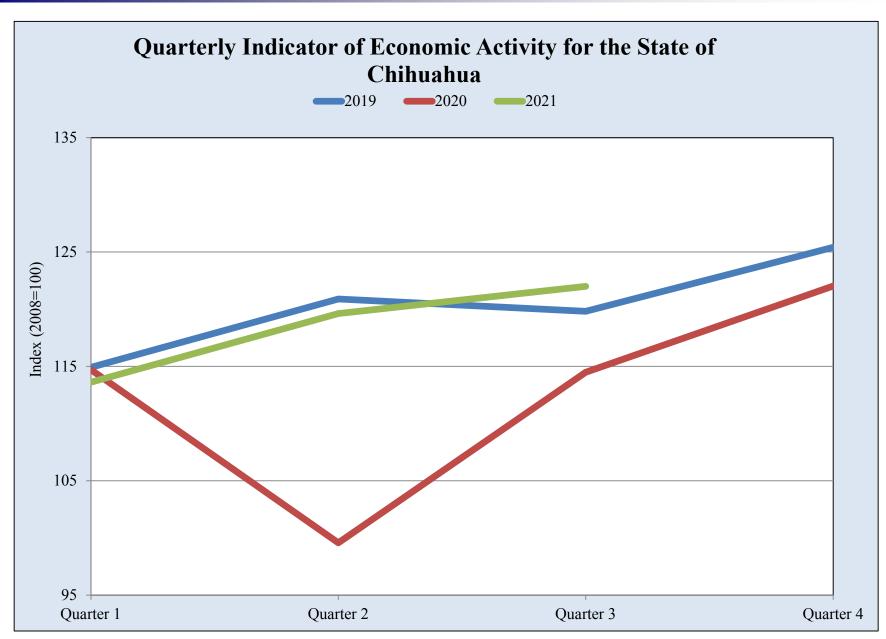


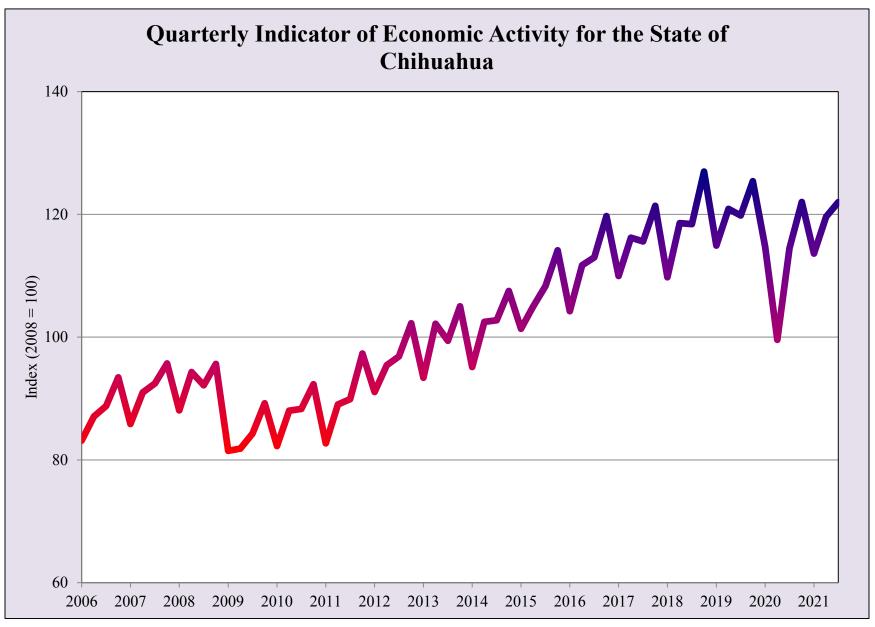


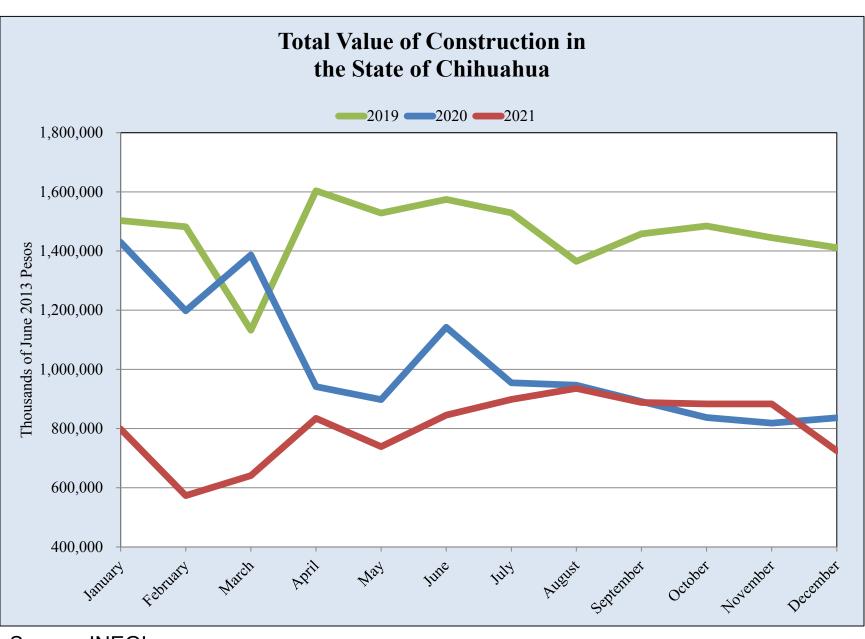
Source: Banco de México

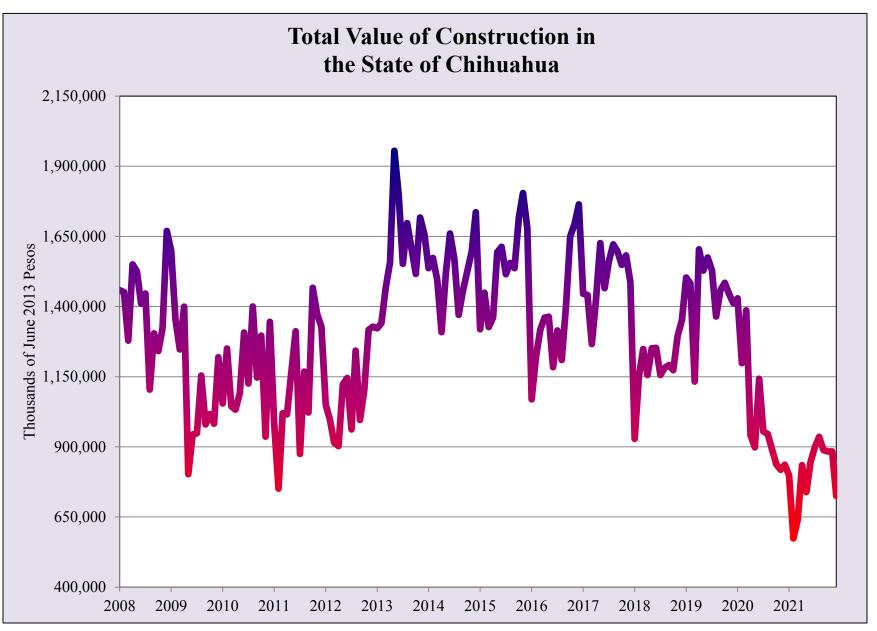
Northern Mexico Manufacturing Orders Index Index (Range: 0 - 100) 05

Source: Banco de México

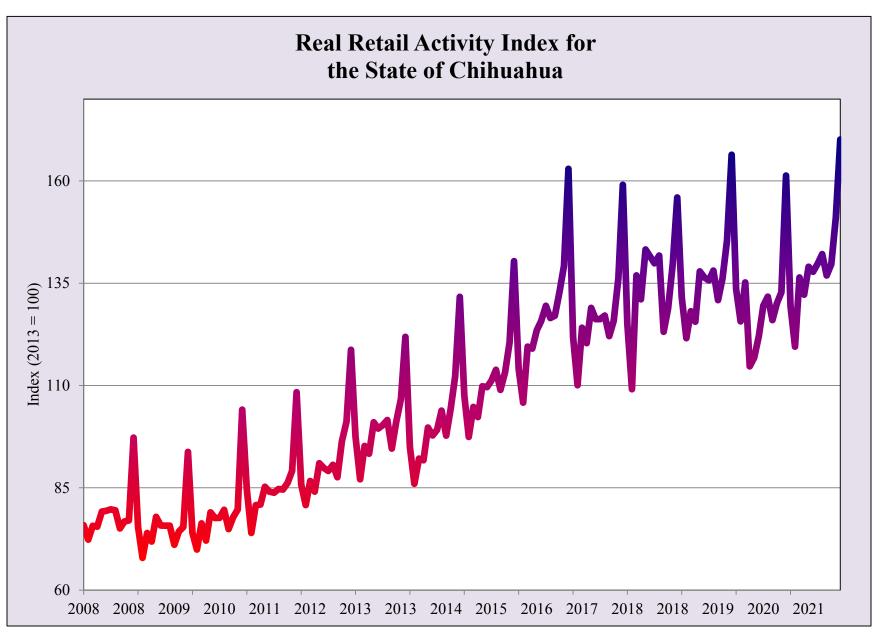














Short-Term Outlook to 2022

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