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South Texas Market Intelligence

Rio Grande Valley edition | Transportation infrastructure

The Rio Grande Valley: Connected for Growth

Starr, Hidalgo, Cameron and Willacy counties, Texas | November 2026



12	6	4	1
International roadway crossings	Principal airports	Navigation ports	Space launch facility

A strategically connected U.S. border economy

The Rio Grande Valley spans **Starr, Hidalgo, Cameron and Willacy counties**. Its competitive advantage is multimodal: international road crossings, commercial aviation, Gulf and inland waterway ports, freight rail connectivity and a major space launch facility. [1–3]

This briefing counts **Texas-side assets only**. Facilities located in northern Mexico are excluded.

Where the 23 counted assets sit

County	Crossings	Airports	Ports	Space	Total
Starr	●●●	–	–	–	**3**
Hidalgo	●●●●●	●●●	–	–	**8**
Cameron	●●●●	●●●	●●●	●	**11**
Willacy	–	–	●	–	**1**

Cameron County holds 11 of the 23 counted assets and Hidalgo County holds 8. Willacy County has no international crossing; its counted asset is Port Mansfield.

12

International roadway crossings

Vehicle-capable crossings from Falcon Heights to Brownsville, including the Lake Falcon Dam crossing, which is not a conventional bridge. The Brownsville West Rail Bridge and Los Ebanos Ferry are documented separately and are not included. [1, 2]

6

Principal airports

The principal facilities inventoried by the RGV MPO: three with commercial airline service and three serving general and business aviation. [3, 4]

4

Navigation ports

Port districts and harbors, from the deepwater Port of Brownsville to Port Mansfield, which is not equivalent to a major freight seaport. [4, 5]

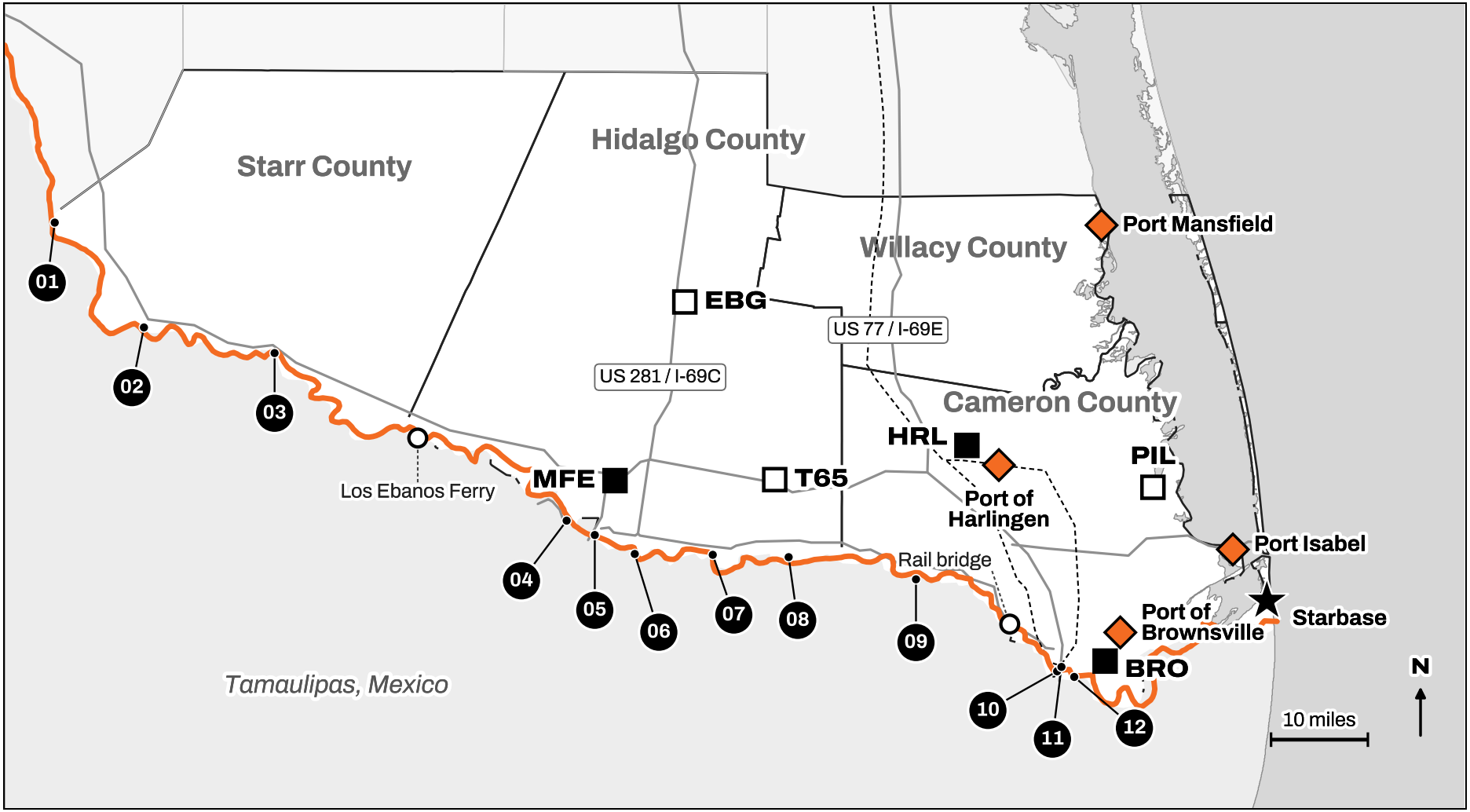
1

Space launch facility

SpaceX Starbase at Boca Chica, Cameron County: an aerospace manufacturing, testing and launch asset. [6]

The asset base on the map

All 23 counted facilities, plotted from published coordinates. Crossings are detailed on page 4; airports, ports and Starbase on pages 5 to 7.

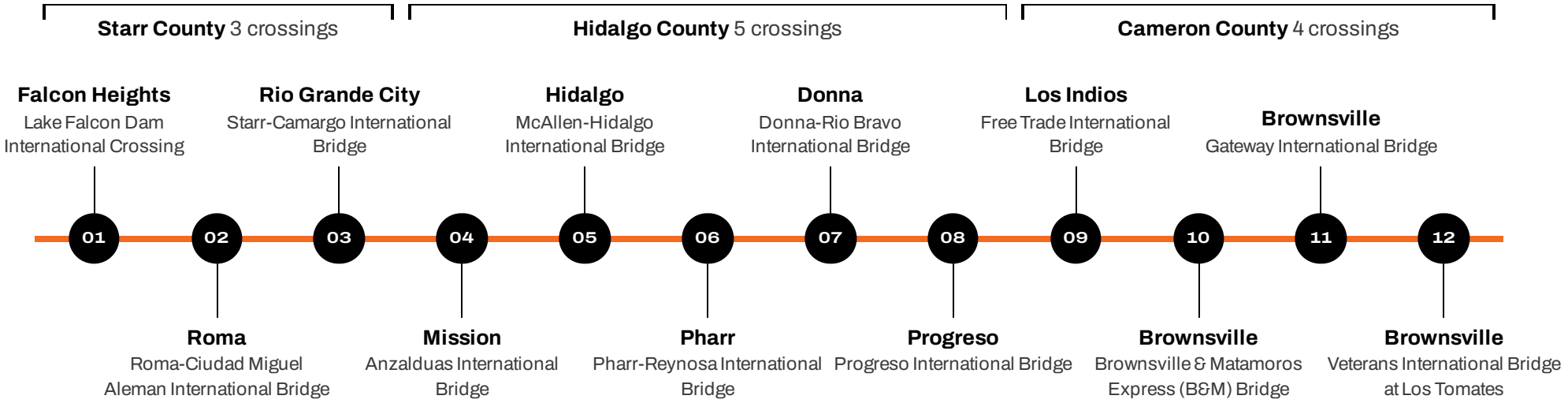


01 International roadway crossing
Rail bridge or ferry (not counted)
Airport, commercial service
Airport, general aviation
Navigation port
Space launch facility
Rio Grande, international border
Major highway
Freight rail, generalized

Facility coordinates [7, 8]; base geography, highways and rail [9]. Positions are approximate and for orientation only.

International roadway connectivity

Twelve vehicle-capable crossings, shown in sequence from west to east. Page 3 shows actual locations. [1, 2]



Schematic sequence, not to scale. Willacy County has no international crossing; its navigation asset, Port Mansfield, appears on page 6.

Excluded from roadway count

Brownsville West Rail Bridge

Dedicated international freight rail crossing. [1, 2]

Excluded from roadway count

Los Ebanos Ferry

Hand-operated international ferry crossing in Hidalgo County. Check service availability separately. [1, 2]

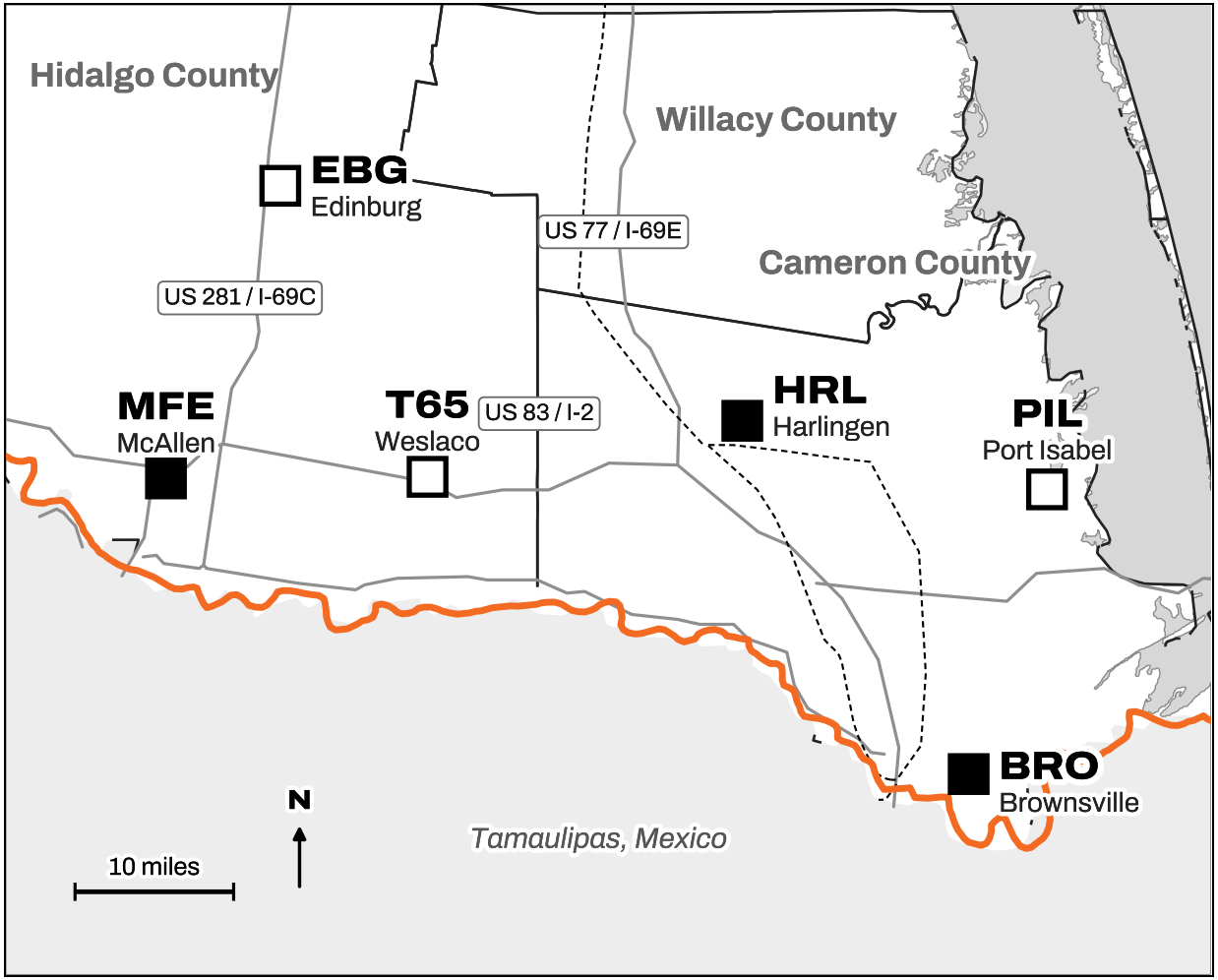
Access varies by crossing

Truck and pedestrian access

Commercial-truck eligibility and pedestrian availability differ by bridge and can change with expansion projects or customs operations. Confirm current access with CBP and the bridge operator.

Six principal airports

Three with commercial airline service and three serving general and business aviation. [3, 4]



- Commercial airline service
- General and business aviation

Commercial airline service

MFE — **McAllen International Airport**
McAllen, Hidalgo County

HRL — **Valley International Airport**
Harlingen, Cameron County

BRO — **Brownsville/South Padre Island International Airport**
Brownsville, Cameron County

General and business aviation

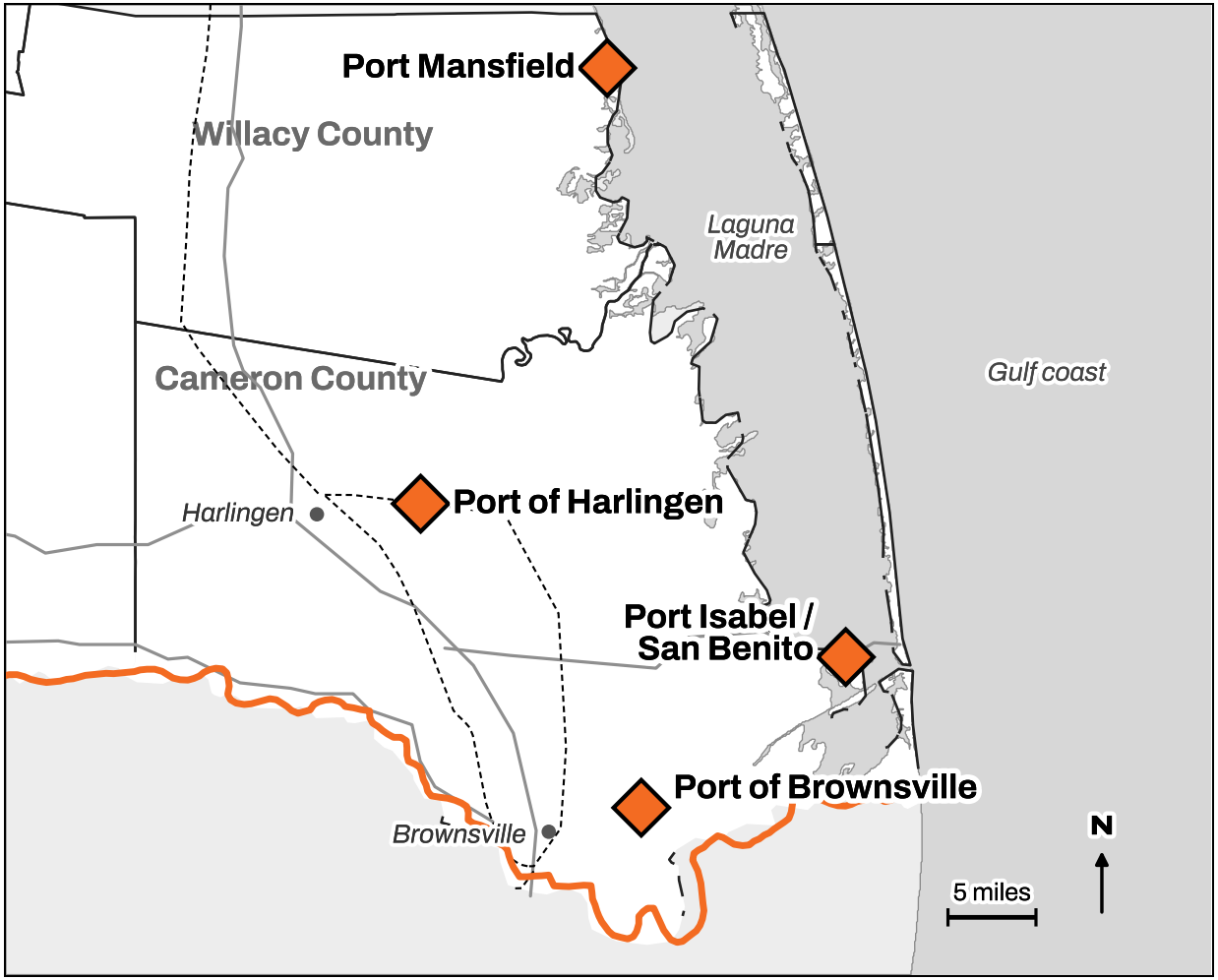
EBG — **South Texas International Airport at Edinburg**
Edinburg, Hidalgo County

T65 — **Mid-Valley Airport**
Weslaco, Hidalgo County

PIL — **Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport**
Near Port Isabel, Cameron County

Four navigation ports

Port districts and harbors along the Cameron and Willacy county coast, from a deepwater gateway to a coastal harbor. [4, 5]



Port of Brownsville
Deepwater commercial port and industrial maritime gateway
Cameron County

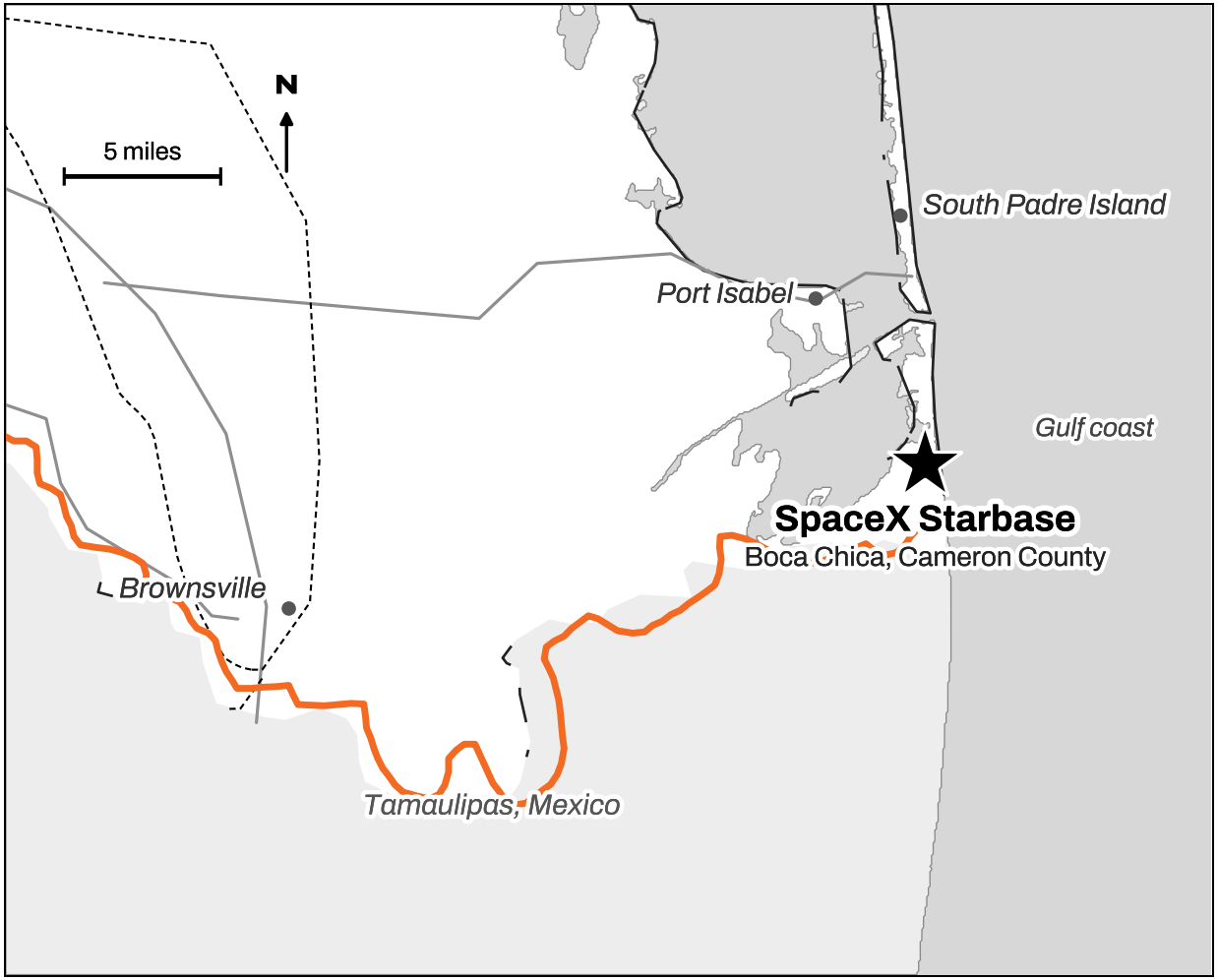
Port of Harlingen
Inland barge and waterway freight port
Cameron County

Port Isabel / San Benito Navigation District
Working waterfront, fishing and marine industry
Cameron County

Port Mansfield
Coastal harbor and marine and recreational facilities; not equivalent to a major freight seaport
Willacy County

One space launch facility

SpaceX Starbase at Boca Chica, on the Cameron County coast. [6]



★ **SpaceX Starbase**
Boca Chica, Cameron County

A significant aerospace manufacturing, testing and launch asset, operated by SpaceX.

It is a dedicated space launch facility, not a general-purpose public spaceport.

The launch site sits about 20 miles east of downtown Brownsville in a straight line, measured between the published coordinates used for this map.

Methodology and primary references

A transparent definition of the Rio Grande Valley asset base.

Geography

Starr, Hidalgo, Cameron and Willacy counties, Texas. Mexican-side facilities are excluded.

Counting rules

Roadway bridges and crossings include vehicle-capable dam crossings; rail and ferry assets are identified separately. Airports are the six principal facilities listed by the RGV MPO. Navigation ports include four port districts and harbors rather than solely deepwater freight seaports. County assignments for the distribution table follow each facility's location. [1–5]

Research standard

Counts are based on named facilities and stated definitions, not an undifferentiated regional marketing total. Crossing modes and operating hours may change; this report is not an operational border-crossing advisory.

Source dates

Source publication dates differ. TxDOT 2024 crossing data were current as of November 2024; the RGV MPO 2050 plan was adopted in 2025.

Limits of this briefing

Facility counts should not be read as confirmation of current bridge hours, pedestrian permissions, truck access, construction status or customs processing capacity. Maps are for orientation only: facility positions are plotted from published coordinates and are approximate, and highway and rail lines are generalized. This is a curated secondary-source infrastructure inventory, not a government-certified facility census.

1 Texas Department of Transportation. 2024 Texas-Mexico International Border Crossings Guide.
https://www.txdot.gov/content/dam/docs/tpp/international-trade/2024-border-crossing-guide.pdf

2 Texas Department of Transportation. Texas-Mexico border crossings overview.
https://www.txdot.gov/projects/projects-studies/statewide/texas-mexico-border-crossings.html

3 Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan: airports and freight network.
https://www.rgvmpo.org/home/showpublisheddocument/2710/639013938894800000

4 Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council. Area Plan FFY2024–2026: regional infrastructure inventory.
https://www.lrgvdc.org/downloads/packets/5.B.1.%20LRGV%20Area%20Plan%20Template%20%28FFY%202024%20-%20FFY%202026%29.pdf

5 Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization. Freight Planning: international bridges and freight infrastructure.
https://www.rgvmpo.org/our-work/freight-planning

6 Federal Aviation Administration. Commercial space transportation and launch oversight.
https://www.faa.gov/space

7 OurAirports open airport database. Airport coordinates.
https://ourairports.com/data/

8 Wikipedia, List of crossings of the Rio Grande (crossing coordinates); Wikipedia and USGS GNIS place records (port and Starbase coordinates).
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_crossings_of_the_Rio_Grande

9 Base geography: GSHHG shoreline and WDB II international boundary (full resolution); U.S. county boundaries; highways and rail from Natural Earth 1:10m.
https://www.naturalearthdata.com

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