

## How We Serve You



The National Weather Service Forecast Office in Brownsville, Texas serves the eight most South counties of South Texas with the lower four counties consisting of the upper, middle and lower Rio Grande Valley.



National Weather Service meteorologists are on-staff, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition to providing public forecasts, watches, warnings, and advisories, we also provide services for customers in the aviation community. In fact, we have at least one forecaster dedicated to serving aviation interests on-shift at all times. The purpose of this pamphlet is to highlight the services that are available to our



## Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAFs)

Our primary aviation responsibility at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Brownsville is to issue Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAFs). Routine TAFs are valid for a 24-hour period and issued four times daily: 00Z, 06Z, 12Z, and 18Z, and are amended (updated) as conditions require. TAFs will include information about wind speed and direction, visibility, present weather, such as fog or thunderstorms if applicable, cloud cover and heights, and low-level wind shear.

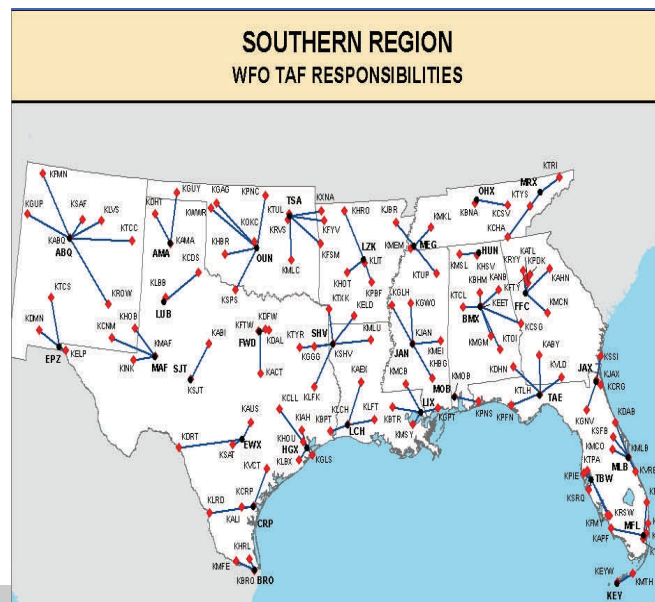


The National Weather Service in Brownsville produces TAFs for three airports in the Rio Grande Valley:

### Brownsville/South Padre Island (KBRO)

### Valley Int'l Harlingen (KHRL)

### McAllen Miller (KMFE)



## New TAF Format

On November 5, 2008, with the 0000 UTC issuance, the NWS changed the TAF format to conform to international standards outlined in ICAO Annex 3. The change included the initiating of 30-hour TAFs for high-impact U.S. Airports. To accommodate the extended TAF period, the format of ALL TAFs changed.

TAF sites within the Brownsville NWS Area of Service continue to receive TAFs for a 24-hour period. Only the time format changed, as shown below.

**New TAF Format**  
Effective 1800 UTC 5 November 2008

**Valid date of TAF**  
2<sup>nd</sup> at 1800 UTC through 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2400 UTC

**Date of PROB30 Group**  
2<sup>nd</sup> at 0400 UTC through 2<sup>nd</sup> at 0600 UTC

**TAF**  
KXXX 241732Z 2418/2524 11006KT 4SM -SHRA BKN030  
FM242300 22006KT 3SM -SHRA OVC030 PROB30 2504/2506 VRB20G35KT  
1SM TSRA BKN015CB  
FM 250600 250010KT 4SM -SHRA OVC050  
TEMPO 2508/2511 2SM -SHRA OVC030=

**Date of FM group**  
2<sup>nd</sup> at 2300 UTC

**Date of TEMPO Group**  
2<sup>nd</sup> at 0800 UTC through 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1100 UTC

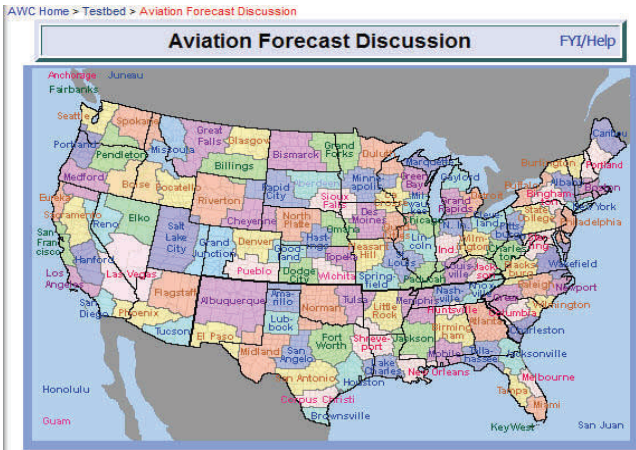
The new TAF format will include a date with every time group. This will meet the new international standard. The NWS will produce 30-hour TAFs for [these high-impact airports](#).

### Airports That Receive 30-hr TAFs

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| KATL - The William B. Hartsfield Atlanta Int'l | KMSP - Minneapolis-St Paul Int'l/Wold-Chamberlain |
| KBDL - Bradley Int'l                           | KOAK - Metropolitan Oakland Int'l                 |
| KBOS - General Edward Lawrence Logan Int'l     | KONT - Ontario International                      |
| KBWI - Baltimore-Washington Int'l              | KORD - Chicago-O'Hare Int'l                       |
| KCLE - Cleveland Hopkins Int'l                 | KPHL - Philadelphia Int'l                         |
| KCVG - Covington/Cincinnati                    | KPIT - Pittsburgh Int'l                           |
| KDEN - Denver Int'l                            | KSAN - San Diego Int'l - Lindbergh Field          |
| KDFW - Dallas/Fort Worth Int'l                 | KSDF - Louisville, Int'l Standiford Field         |
| KDTW - Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County       | KSEA - Seattle-Tacoma Int'l                       |
| KEWR - Newark Liberty Int'l                    | KSFO - San Francisco Int'l                        |
| KIAD - Washington Dulles Int'l                 | KSLC - Salt Lake City Int'l                       |
| KIAH - Houston - George Bush Intercontinental  | KSTL - Lambert-St Lewis Int'l                     |
| KIND - Indianapolis Int'l                      | KSWF - Stewart Int'l                              |
| KJFK - John F. Kennedy Int'l                   | PANC - Ted Stevens Anchorage Int'l                |
| KLAX - Los Angeles Int'l                       | PHNL - Honolulu                                   |
| KMKE - General Mitchell Int'l                  | PAFA - Fairbanks                                  |

## Aviation Forecast Discussion

In addition to our regularly issued general forecast discussions, we also offer a separate forecast discussion specially tailored for aviation interests. Issued four times daily, the aviation forecast discussion explains the aviation forecast in greater detail than a traditional TAF would. It highlights possible hazards in the forecast that may not be mentioned in the TAF due to a low level of confidence that the event will occur.



## Additional Information

### Internet Links:

NWS Brownsville Homepage - [www.weather.gov/rqv](http://www.weather.gov/rqv)

Find your local weather forecast, watches, warnings, and advisories here.

Aviation Weather Center - [www.aviationweather.gov](http://www.aviationweather.gov)

From TAFs, aviation AFDs, SIGMETs, Convective SIGMETs, AIRMETs, observations, forecast models, and anything else related to aviation weather, you'll find it here.

Snapshot of the Aviation Weather Center's JAVA Tool webpage.

Aviation Digital Data Service (ADDs)

Local forecast by City, ST or Zip Code

City, St. Go

Home METARS TAFs PIREPs AIR/SIGMETs Satellite Radar

Advertisements SIGMET/AIRMET Center Weather

Forecasts Convective Turbulence Icing Winds/Temps Prog Charts TAF / FA

Observations PIREPs METARS Radar Satellite

Java Tools

Related Information Home Flight Folder Standard Briefing Aviation Testbed Aviation Links

Contact Us FAQ Feedback Site Information

METARs Java Tool

TAF VICTORIA, TX  
 KVOT 232301Z 240004Z 18014KT P6SM SCT 120 SCT 250  
 FM240200 18000KT P6SM SCT 120 BKN250  
 FM240300 25000KT 3SM BR SCT002 BKN120  
 TEMPO 2409/2412 1SM BR BKN002 BKN120  
 FM241200 30015020KT P6SM BKN012 DVC100  
 FM241800 01014KT P6SM BKN025 BKN100=

Map: METAR Data Options: Show METARs: Overlays:

Overview...  All  All  TAFs

Reset  Temp  Ceiling  Allimeter  More  ARTCC Boundaries

Unzoom  Weather  Visibility  Wind  Default  Counties

Auto-update  Dewpoint  Sky Cover  Station ID  Fewer  Highways

Data Key...  Rivers



Aviation Weather Center



## Contact Us

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