

## RAILWAYS

Several important rail links pass through Monterrey. This includes routes to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico City, and the gulf port of Tampico, as well as to Torreón and Saltillo.

## AIRPORTS

*Mariano Escobedo International Airport* offers flights throughout Mexico as well as to the United States. There are direct flights to Chicago, Dallas, San Antonio, Houston and Los Angeles. The *Del Norte* Air Terminal serves private aircraft. It is large enough to handle Boeing 727 aircraft and it features full customs and immigration facilities.

Now that the federal government is proceeding with plans for airport privatization, the state has advanced a proposal to modernize *Mariano Escobedo International Airport* and convert it into a duty-free zone. This would be similar to the arrangements at the Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston airports. Only 10 percent of more than 2,000 acres of airport property has been developed so far. The federal government has allocated US \$2.7 million for infrastructure improvements at the airport. This is in preparation for the privatization of the airport, which is expected in early 1997 once the new airport law has been approved by the federal congress.

## MONTERREY AND THE NORTHEASTERN CITIES

