

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**November  
2016**

**REPORTING PERIOD:  
01-30 NOV 2016**



# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



The Ranch BOSA is a monthly overview of drug/human smuggling and other criminal activity in south and west Texas. The purpose of this report is to inform ranch owners of emerging trends and relevant incidents.

South Texas Ranch Crime Index Total as of November 30, 2016: 40

The Ranch Crime index comprises rancher input of criminal traffic patterns occurring outside of main highways and roadways, and across ranch properties.



You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972, or through the JOIC contacts listed below.



## OPERATION BORDER STAR

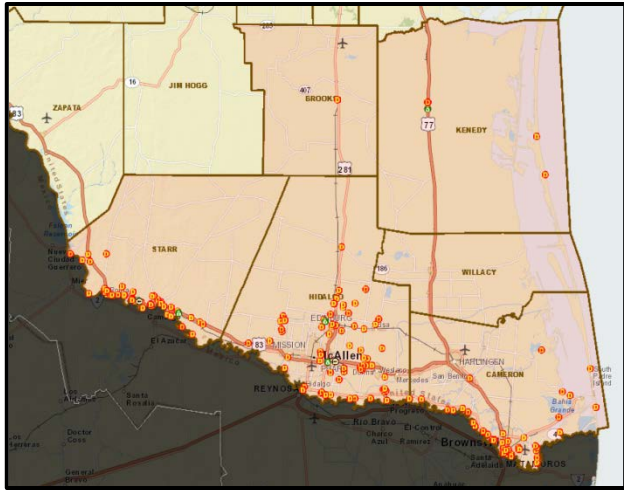
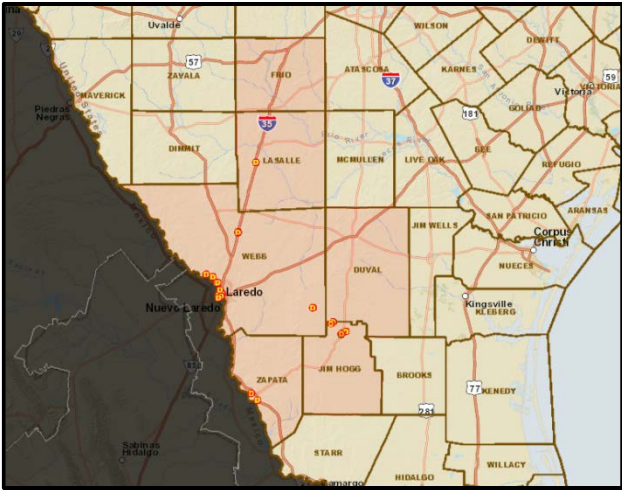
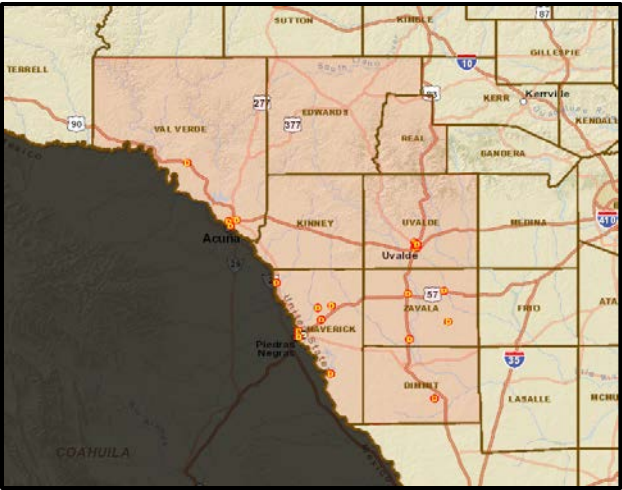
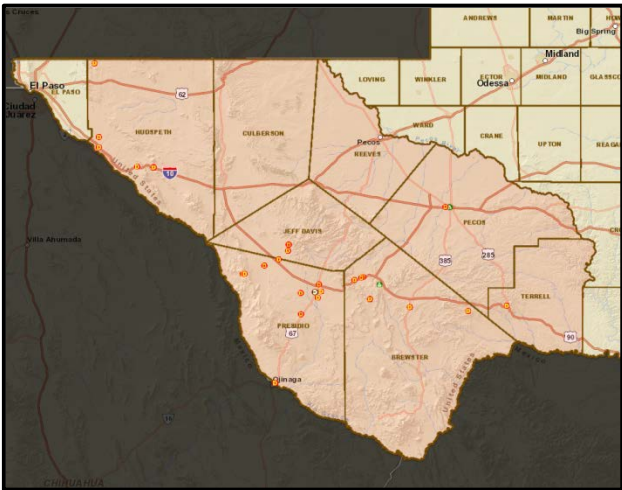
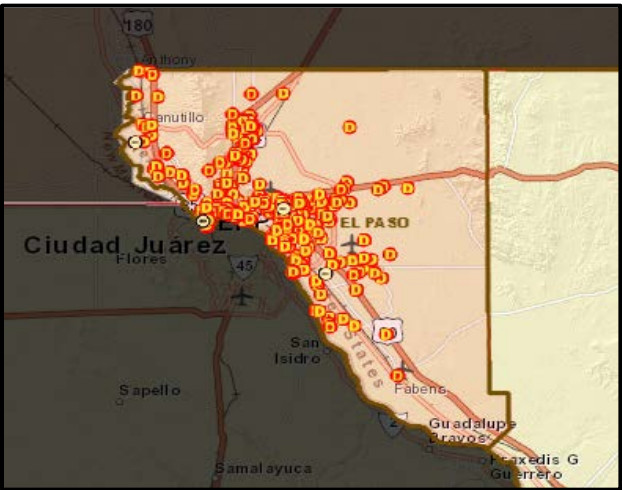
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181	(956) 289-5727	(361) 485-8500
Main E-mail	<a href="mailto:TBSOC@dps.texas.gov">TBSOC @dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.elpaso@dps.texas.gov">joic.elpaso @dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.marfa@dps.texas.gov">joic.marfa @dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.delrio@dps.texas.gov">joic.delrio @dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.laredo@dps.texas.gov">joic.laredo @dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.mcallen@dps.texas.gov">joic.mcallen @dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.victoria@dps.texas.gov">joic.victoria @dps.texas.gov</a>



# Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment

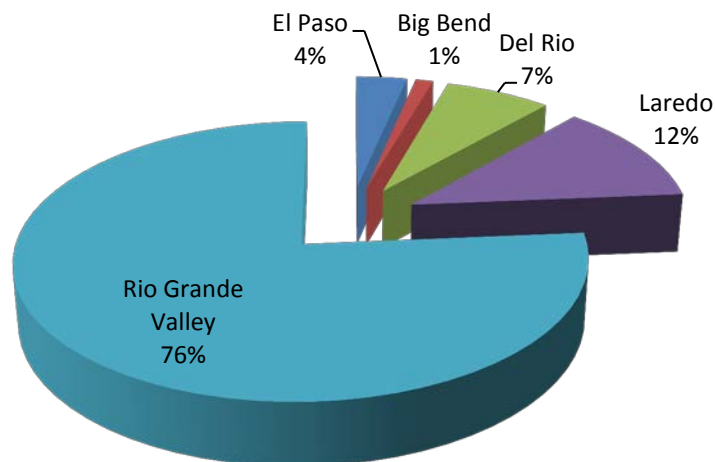


CY To Date – 2016	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL	2014 ONDCP Adjusted Value (Approximate)
<b>Marijuana (~lbs)</b>	114,054	44,842	12,030	116,166	347,051	914	635,056	<b>\$3.9 Billion</b>
<b>Cocaine (~lbs)</b>	669	30	400	1,624	4,971	833	8,527	<b>\$524 Million</b>
<b>Methamphetamine (~lbs)</b>	1,722	255	786	3,052	3,102	185	9,102	<b>\$792 Million</b>
<b>Heroin (~lbs)</b>	69	15	31	326	470	33	944	<b>\$121 Million</b>

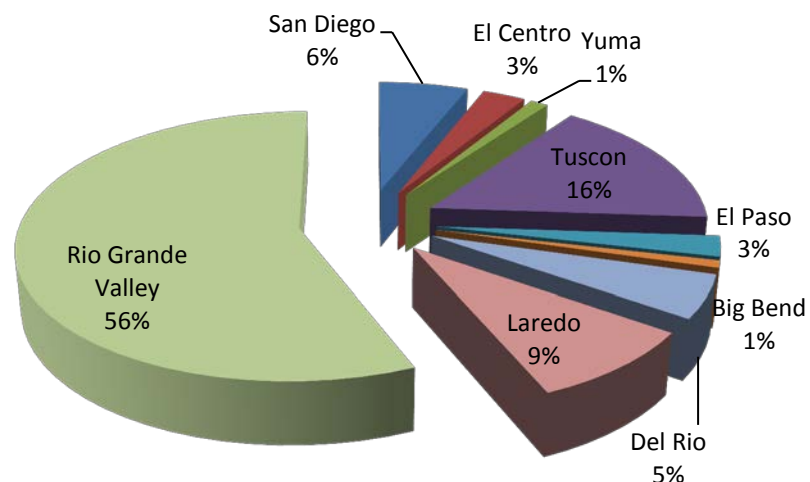




## Texas Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



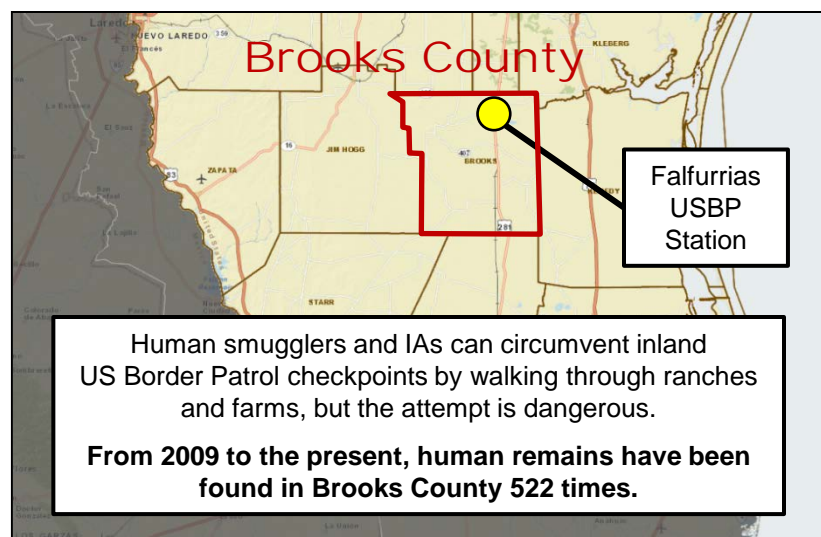
## Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	27,237	3,881	20,351	35,455	182,816	0	269,740

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	13,868	1,850	9,104	10,486	138,519	0	173,827

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)	FY-2016	FY-2015	FY-2014	FY-2013	FY-2012
Texas Border	47,192	31,109	58,312	27,827	15,485



# MARFA SECTOR

TPWD Game Wardens and Fort Stockton USBP Agents found multiple backpacks at a layup site for illegal traffic on a ranch north of Fort Stockton. In the backpacks were water containers, cell phone chargers, and a cell phone.

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Marfa USBP Agents apprehended seven IAs on a ranch in Marfa. One subject was held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and the remaining six were processed for removal.

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Marfa USBP Agents seized 269.90 lbs of marijuana and apprehended four IAs on a ranch in Marfa. One subject was released, and three subjects and the marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



# MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents apprehended five IAs, including one juvenile, on a ranch in Marfa. The subjects were processed for removal.

Van Horn USBP Agents apprehended 15 IAs on a ranch near Valentine. The subjects were held in Sierra Blanca pending removal proceedings.

USBP Agents seized 260.10 lbs of marijuana, and apprehended two IAs on a ranch near Marfa. The seven tape-wrapped bricks of marijuana were located inside five burlap sacks. The subjects and the marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.

USBP Agents seized 146.95 lbs of marijuana and apprehended three IAs, including one juvenile, on a ranch near Marfa. The marijuana was located in three burlap backpacks. The juvenile was processed for removal and the remaining two subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



# MARFA SECTOR

USBP Agents, assisted by CBP AVN, seized 128.95 lbs of marijuana and apprehended four juvenile IAs on a ranch near Marfa. The 28 cellophane-wrapped bricks of marijuana were inside four backpacks. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA, and the subjects were processed for removal.

Van Horn USBP Agents seized 256.65 lbs of marijuana and apprehended two subjects at a residence near a ranch in Marfa. Five subjects absconded from the area. The marijuana was found in five backpacks that were being stored in a tool shed on the property. The subjects and the marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 09 NOV, a USBP Agent observed a blue 1997 Ford F-150 pickup driving south on FM 186 in Carrizo Springs. A records check showed that the vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a stop on the vehicle, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence and into a creek bed. Several subjects bailed out and absconded. A search for subjects by Agents was negative. The vehicle was impounded.





# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 10 NOV 2016, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a brown 2006 Ford F-250 flatbed pickup when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove onto a ranch near Big Wells. The occupants bailed out and absconded, leaving all four doors and the tool box on the bed of the truck open. The tool box lid had a string attached, allowing it to be opened from the inside. USBP Agents conducted a search of the area, and apprehended four IAs. The IAs were processed per Sector guidelines, and the vehicle was impounded.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 08 NOV, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a white 2004 Ford F-250 pickup near Crystal City, when a pursuit ensued. A Zavala Co SO Deputy and a Crystal City PD Officer assisted with the pursuit on US 83. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. The Agent was able to apprehend two IAs, who were processed per Sector guidelines.

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On 07 NOV, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a green 2002 Ford Excursion in Batesville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was impounded.

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On 28 NOV, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a black 2008 Ford F-250 pickup near Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy located the vehicle, which was reported stolen out of San Antonio.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 24 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a blue 2016 Ford F-150 pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove onto a ranch north of Big Wells and through multiple fences. A ranch owner later found it abandoned in the brush. The vehicle displayed multiple LPs, and was reported stolen from Kyle.





# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 17 NOV, A USBP Agent observed a blue 2008 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 186 in Carrizo springs. The pickup was initially headed south, but was observed northbound several minutes later. The vehicle then crashed through a ranch fence, and several occupants bailed out and absconded. The pickup was reported stolen from San Antonio. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy was informed that the vehicle had been stolen with weapons inside, but the Deputy found only a box of 12-gauge shotgun shells.

On 21 NOV, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2012 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 191 in Crystal City, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and several subjects bailed out. A Zavala Co SO Deputy and USBP K-9 Unit found the driver and eight IAs. The pickup was stolen from San Antonio. The driver was arrested for alien smuggling, and the IAs were processed per Sector guidelines.



# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 18 NOV, a USBP Agent conducted a traffic stop on a white 2016 Ford F-350 pickup on US-83 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The pickup was reported stolen from San Antonio.

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On 19 NOV 2016, a USBP Agent was driving on FM 1433, near Carrizo Springs when he noticed vehicle parts near a ranch gate that had been knocked open. When the Agent drove through the gate, he noticed a high fence that had been bashed down, and he found a 2011 Ford F-150 pickup. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Austin.

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On 23 NOV, USBP Agents responded to a report of a paddle boat with eight subjects crossing the Rio Grande at a ranch near Eagle Pass. The Agents found six IAs hiding in the creek bed, and a juvenile IA was identified as the guide. The IAs were processed per Sector guidelines.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On 04 NOV, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies observed a 1999 Ford Expedition and a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on a private property near Hebbronville. The Deputies found nine IAs in the Expedition. As the Deputies advised USBP Agents, the IAs absconded into the brush. A search of the pickup revealed \$5,589 USD. The drivers of both vehicles were given warnings. The vehicles and currency were seized.

On 03 NOV, USBP Laredo Agents inspected a 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup near Laredo, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle veered off the road, crashed through a ranch fence, and was found abandoned in the brush. The vehicle was reported stolen out of San Antonio.

On 26 NOV, Duval Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2010 Toyota Tundra pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, continued through the brush, and was later found abandoned on a ranch in northeast Brooks County.



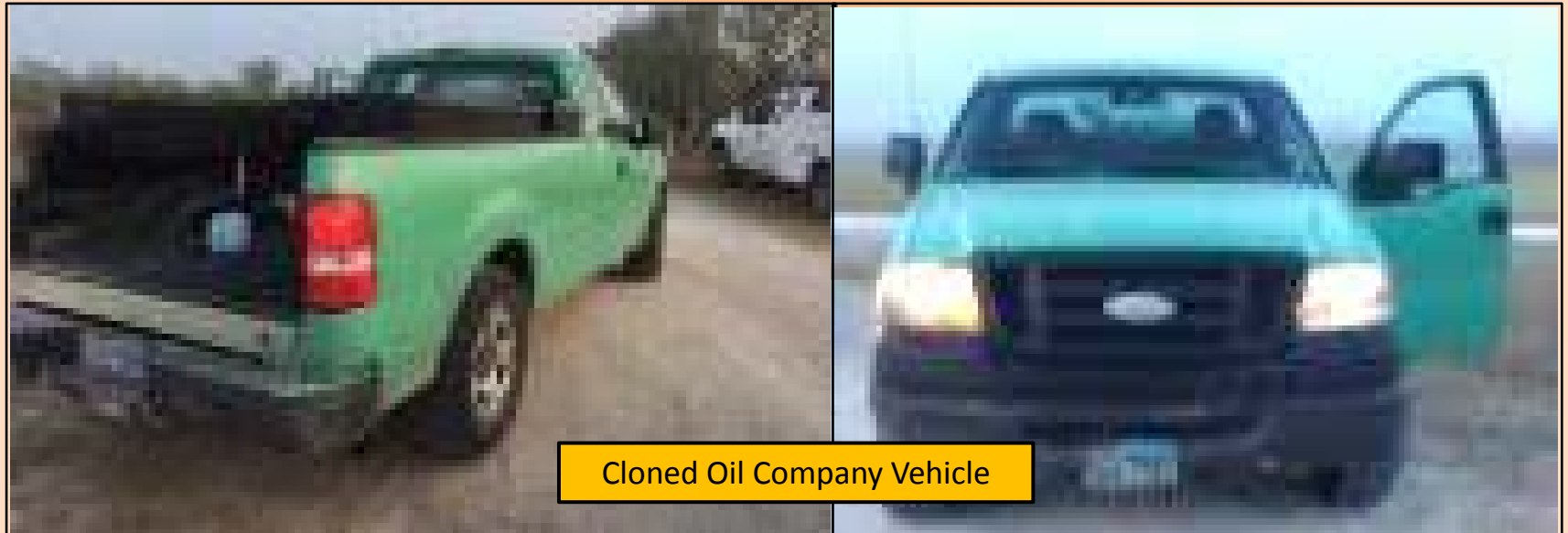
On 25 NOV, USBP Laredo Agents found 236.80 lbs of marijuana on a ranch near Laredo.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

Starr Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a Ford F-150 pickup that was traveling at a high rate of speed through a school zone, when a pursuit ensued. The LPs were registered to a different vehicle from New Braunfels. The Deputy observed ten subjects lying in the bed of the pickup. The pickup took a sharp turn and the subjects bailed out, USBP Agents were notified. The vehicle, which had been painted to resemble a Fesco oil company truck, was seized.

*ANALYST NOTE: See the previous (OCT 2016) ROSA for a detailed description of another cloned Fesco vehicle.*



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks County regarding skeletal remains.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northeast Brooks County regarding skeletal remains. The Deputy made contact with a ranch hand, and was taken to the location along with a JP.



A Brooks Co So Deputy responded to a ranch in central Brooks County regarding skeletal remains. The Deputy met with USBP Agent, was escorted to the location, and collected the remains.

# DRAWBRIDGE

On 24 NOV, USBP Agents and a K-9 responded to a Drawbridge alert at a ranch near Quemado. The Agents found six abandoned duffel bags containing a total of 340.50 lbs of marijuana.







## Total Pursuits and Bailouts (2014-Present)\*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	63	482	281	1,321	539	<b>2,689</b>
Bailouts	0	73	632	401	1,225	493	<b>2,824</b>

*\* Totals include all incidents reported by the JOICs, not merely those that are ranch-related*



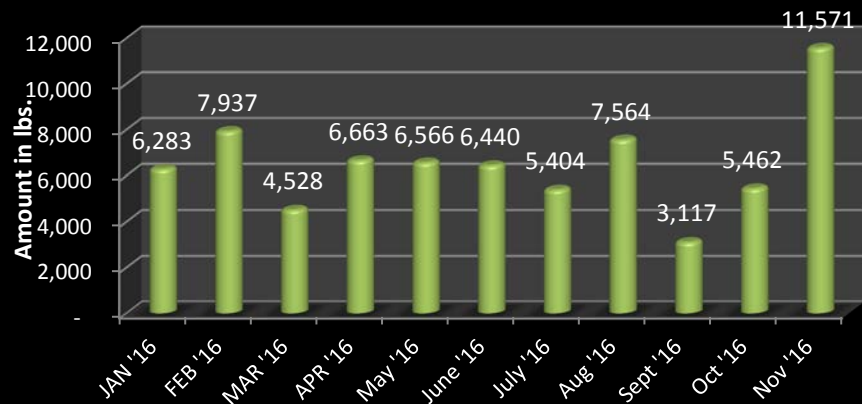


# OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

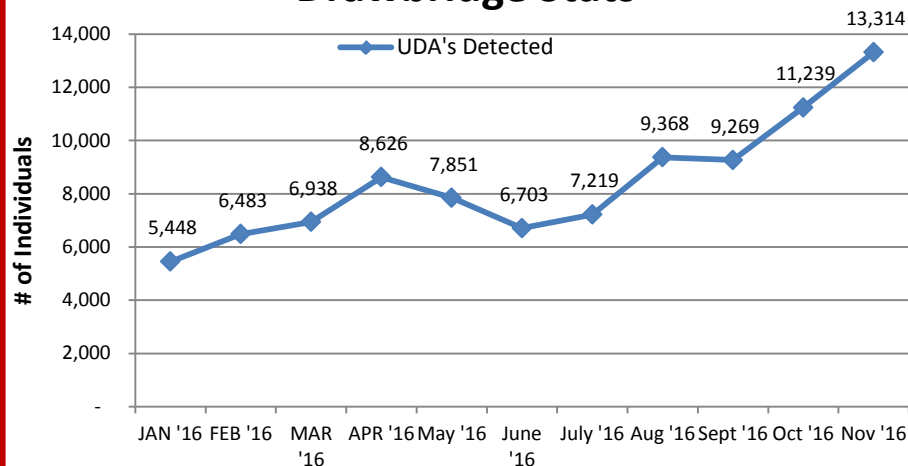
Statistical Summary – NOV 2016



## Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



## Drawbridge Stats



### OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: JAN 2012 – NOV 2016

Detections	263,532
Marijuana Seized	378,512 lbs (~189 tons)
Cocaine Seized	249 lbs
Meth Seized	17 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	31

### OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: CYTD 2016

Detections	92,458
Narcotics Seized	71,567 lbs (~36 tons)



If any comments or questions arise from this product, please contact:

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER**



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