

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**April
2018**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-30 APR 2018**



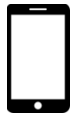
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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 February 28, 2018: 58

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



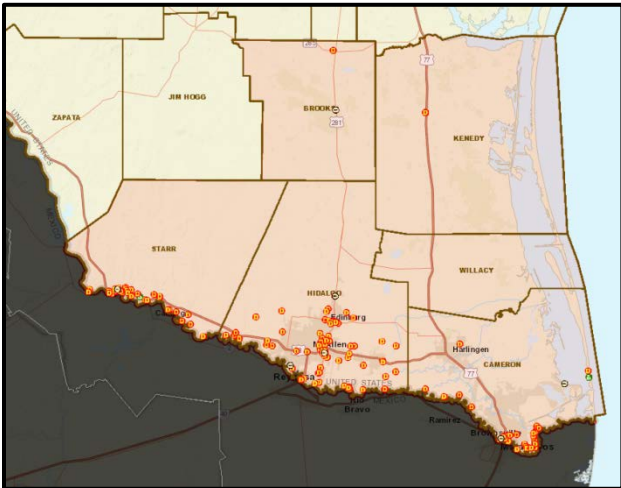
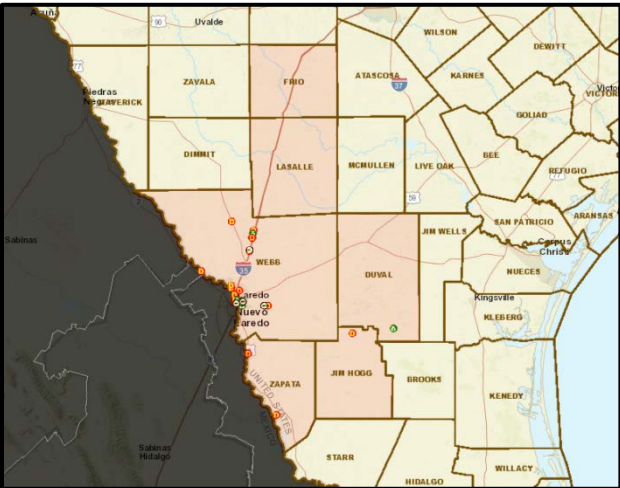
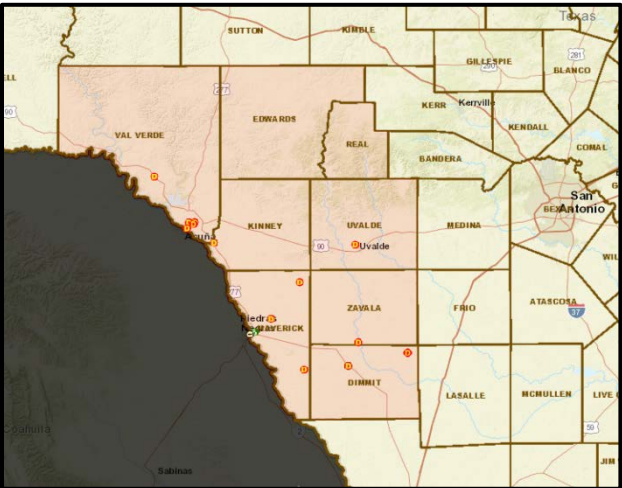
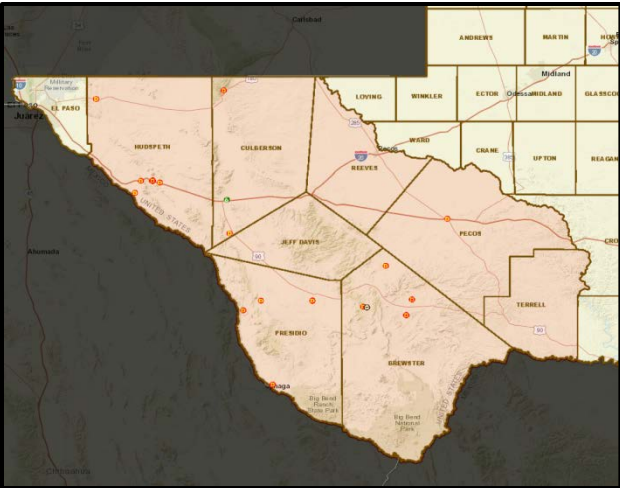
You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972, 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	TBSOC@dps.texas.gov	joic.elpaso@dps.texas.gov	joic.marfa@dps.texas.gov	joic.delrio@dps.texas.gov	joic.laredo@dps.texas.gov	joic.mcallen@dps.texas.gov	joic.victoria@dps.texas.gov

Seizures – CYTD 2018	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Marijuana (lbs)	20,704	13,576	756	43,793	95,785	13	174,626
Cocaine (lbs)	481	21	159	1,052	1,278	57	3,049
Methamphetamine (lbs)	348	29	635	1,686	1,074	< 1	3,772
Heroin (lbs)	63	26	< 1	109	67	--	265

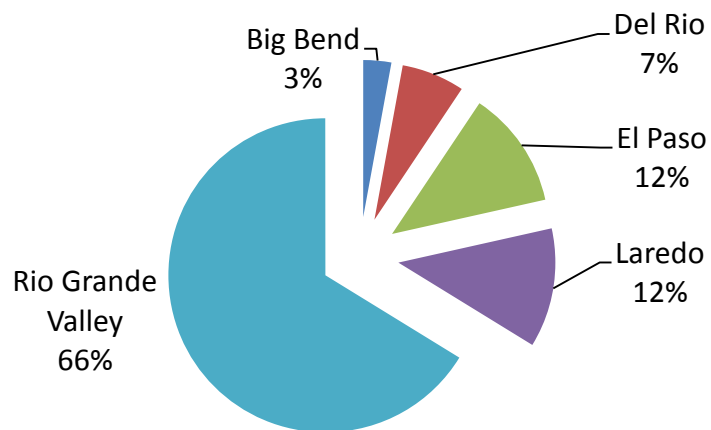




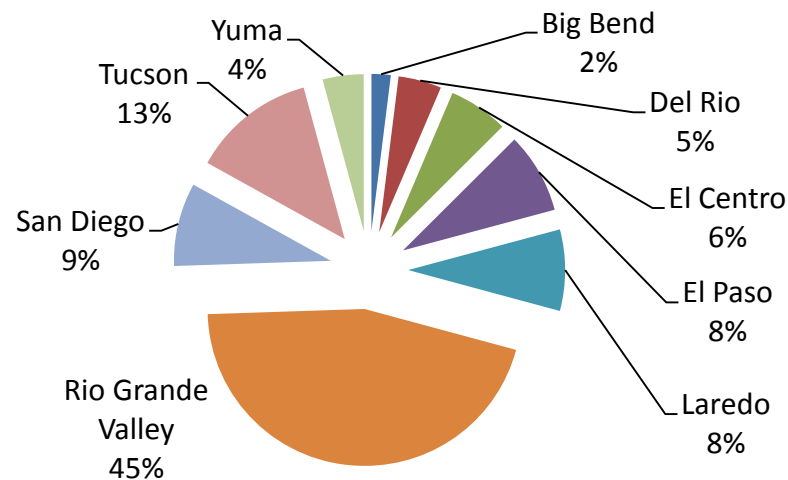
Sector Apprehension Comparisons



**Texas Border Sector Apprehensions
FY2017 (OCT-SEP)**



**Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions
FY2017 (OCT-SEP)**

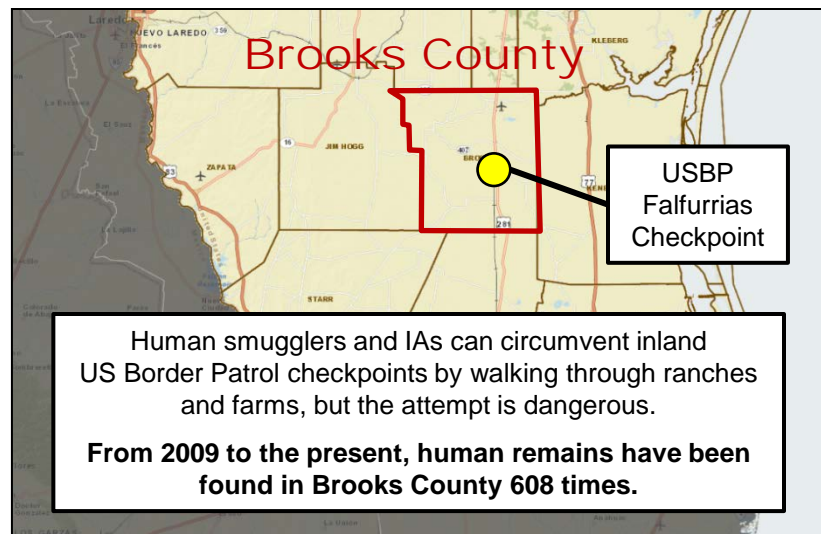


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	8,581	3,085	5,443	11,770	46,682	0	75,561

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	4,998	1,716	2,205	3,068	35,601	0	47,588

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)	FY 2017	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2014	FY 2013
Texas Border	31,827	47,192	31,109	58,312	27,827



MARFA SECTOR

On 04 APR, USBP Agents seized 185.19 lbs of abandoned marijuana on a ranch north of Candelaria. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.



On 05 APR, TPWD Game Wardens detained three IAs on a ranch northeast of Valentine. The subjects were referred to Van Horn USBP.

MARFA SECTOR

On 09 APR, USBP Agents, assisted by a TPWD Game Warden, apprehended four IAs on a ranch southeast of Marfa. The subjects were believed to have been dropped off by a vehicle in an effort to circumvent the US-67 Checkpoint. The subjects were processed.

On 09 APR, USBP Agents, assisted by TPWD Game Wardens, apprehended 14 IAs on a ranch east of Shafter. The subjects were processed.

On 22 APR, a Brewster Co SO Deputy detained an IA on a ranch northeast of Terlingua. The subject was referred to Alpine USBP Agents.

On 25 APR, a Brewster Co SO Deputy detained four IAs on a ranch north of Terlingua. The subjects were referred to Alpine USBP Agents.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 03 APR, a USBP Agent apprehended four IAs who were hiding in brush on a ranch in Del Rio. A juvenile IA was identified as the human smuggler.

On 04 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2000 GMC Sierra pickup on SH-85 in Brundage, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. On 05 APR, USBP Agents identified seven IAs who admitted having been in the pickup. The driver was not found. The IAs were processed, and the Deputy impounded the pickup.

On 08 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2007 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 pickup on SH-85 in Big Wells. The passenger of the vehicle is a known local scout for human smuggling, and the Deputy suspected that the two subjects were scouting. The subjects were checked and released. Approximately 15 minutes later, a Crystal City PD Officer conducted a traffic stop on a white 2005 Dodge Ram pickup, when a pursuit ensued. A Zavala Co SO Deputy assisted and located the pickup abandoned on a ranch near CR 2011 in Crystal City. USBP Agents were able to apprehend seven IAs who had been in the pickup, but the driver absconded. Dimmit Co SO impounded the vehicle, and USBP Agents processed the IAs.

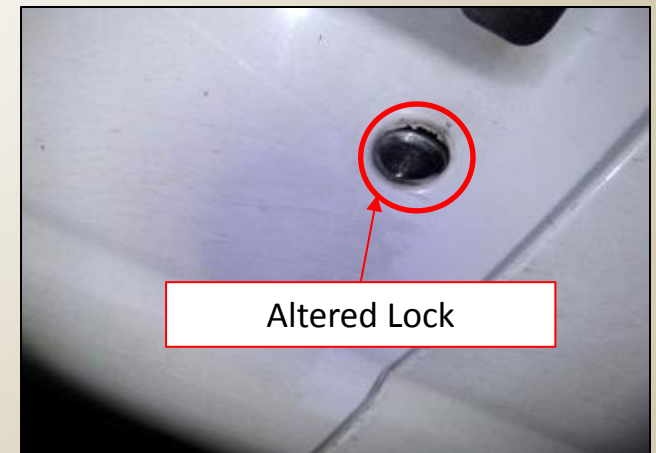
DEL RIO SECTOR

On 09 APR, Dimmit Co SO received a report from an off-duty USBP Agent that there were three IAs on his ranch near Crystal City. The Agent transported the IAs to FM 582, where the Deputy detained them. USBP Agents took custody and processed the IAs.

On 11 APR, a THP Trooper and a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2007 Ford Econoline E150 on US-83, north of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The van was driven through a fence onto a ranch south of Catarina, and two occupants bailed out. The Trooper and Deputy had observed a white 2005 Chevrolet Express G2500 van and a gray Dodge pickup travel in tandem with the Ford van prior to the bailout. The Trooper and Deputy conducted a traffic stop on the Chevrolet van on US-83, when another pursuit ensued. The Chevrolet van was driven onto the same ranch, not far from where the other vehicle had stopped, and 10 occupants bailed out. The Trooper and Deputy detained two IAs, and USBP Agents apprehended two additional IAs. The Chevrolet van had a stolen rear license plate, and was reported stolen from Kyle. The four IAs were processed by USBP, and the Trooper impounded both vehicles.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 14 APR, two Dimmit Co SO Deputies observed a white 2018 Ford F-150 pickup and a white 2011 Ford E-250 traveling in tandem on US-83 in Asherton. The Deputies conducted traffic stops on both vehicles, and pursuits ensued. The vehicles traveled onto FM 2522 and drove through a ranch fence. A THP Trooper and USBP Agents arrived on the scene to assist. The occupants of both vehicles fled, and the Agents apprehended an IA who admitted to having been a passenger in the E250. Both vehicles were reported stolen from San Antonio. The Deputies impounded both vehicles, and the IA was processed.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 16 APR, a USBP Agent on a ranch near FM 481 in Uvalde discovered several sets of footprints leading north. A CBP/OAM AVN Unit helped guide the Agents to four IAs, from whom they seized five bundles of marijuana and two socks filled with marijuana seeds, for a total of 234.50 lbs of marijuana. The IAs were arrested for Possession of a Controlled Substance. The drugs and IAs were referred to DEA.

On 21 APR, Kinney Co SO Deputies detained a group of four IAs on a ranch along US-277 in Kinney Co. USBP Agents responded to the location, and apprehended the subjects. Another Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2013 Ford Focus on US-277 in the same area. The driver was identified as the human smuggler for the apprehended IAs. At the Kinney Co Jail, a search of the subjects resulted in the seizure of 0.034 lbs of marijuana from one of the IAs, who was arrested for re-entry after deportation. The marijuana was referred to DEA. The remaining three IAs were processed.

On 25 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy and a USBP Agent were dispatched to a ranch east of Catarina regarding a white 2007 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup with a flat tire. A subject had absconded prior to the Deputy's arrival. The Deputy detained two IAs who had been smuggling the subject who absconded. The passenger had carpet on the soles of her shoes. The Agent verified that the IA driver had DACA status. The IA passenger was processed. The Deputy impounded the vehicle, and the driver was questioned and released.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 23 APR, a USBP Agent and a CBP/OAM AVN Pilot found four IAs hiding in the brush on a ranch near SH-163, north of Comstock. One of the IAs, a juvenile, was also identified as the human smuggler. The IAs were processed.

On 24 APR, USBP Agents apprehended an IA on a ranch east of Uvalde. During the course of arrest, the IA assaulted the Agent in an attempt to flee. The IA then brandished a twelve-inch kitchen knife and attempted to use it to flee from the Agent. The IA was arrested for Illegal Reentry and Assault on a Federal Agent, and was referred to the FBI.

On 25 APR, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a white 2008 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on US-57, east of Batesville, when the vehicle failed to yield. The pickup drove onto a ranch in Batesville, where the seven occupants bailed out. An IA was found, and admitted to having been a passenger. The pickup was impounded by a Zavala Co SO Deputy, and the IA was processed.

On 27 APR, a USBP Agent apprehended eight IAs who were hiding in brush on a ranch east of Eagle Pass. One IA was also identified as the human smuggler and arrested. The remaining IAs were processed.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 01 APR, Freer USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a black 2017 Ford F-250 pickup traveling eastbound toward TX-16. A short pursuit ensued, and the pickup was driven through a ranch fence and was later found abandoned. The pickup was reported stolen from San Antonio.

On 01 APR, Cotulla USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a red 2018 Chevrolet Silverado pickup traveling on IH-35 near Dilley. The pickup was driven onto a ranch past a gate guard, broke through an interior fence, and was found abandoned in brush. The pickup was reported stolen from San Antonio.

On 10 APR, Freer USBP Agents conducted a stop on a 2017 Ford F-250 pickup on SH-44 near Freer, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio.

LAREDO SECTOR



On 06 APR, Hebbronville USBP Agents responded to activity on a ranch near Hebbronville. The Agents stopped a 2011 Dodge Ram pickup on the ranch. The Agents found 754 lbs of marijuana in the vehicle and inside tool boxes. The driver was arrested, the marijuana was referred to DEA, and USBP seized the vehicle.

On 12 APR, THP Troopers conducted a traffic stop on a 2004 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup near Encinal, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup drove through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. The pickup was stolen from San Antonio.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 14 APR, Cotulla USBP Agents assisted Frio Co SO Deputies with a bailout from a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado 3500 pickup on a ranch near Dilley.
The pickup was stolen from Austin.

On 17 APR, Cotulla USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a 2009 Ford F-150 pickup near Cotulla. As Agents approached, the pickup drove onto a ranch. The Agents found the vehicle abandoned. The vehicle was stolen from Cedar Creek.

On 21 APR, Laredo North USBP Agents observed a pickup loaded with subjects on US-83. The Agents found the vehicle abandoned on a ranch.
The vehicle was stolen from Austin.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY



Rio Grande City USBP Agents seized 95.90 lbs of cocaine in Rio Grande City. The Agents found a subject attempting to hide in a ditch. A K-9 alerted to a horse trailer, and the Agents found three camouflage backpacks that contained the cocaine. DEA assumed custody of the subject and narcotics.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch near Falfurrias regarding a deceased person who had been discovered by USBP Agents. The remains were transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiners Office.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in eastern Brooks Co regarding a deceased person. The body was transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiners Office.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in eastern Brooks Co regarding human remains. The remains were transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiners Office.



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch near Falfurrias regarding human remains. The remains were transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiners Office.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 25 APR, THP Troopers, assisted by Live Oak Co SO Deputies, conducted a traffic stop on a 2017 Dodge Ram pickup on FM 2049, when a pursuit ensued. The driver crashed through a fence at a ranch near Three Rivers, and was found abandoned. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Victoria, was seized.

EI PASO SECTOR

On 18 APR, Clint USBP Agents were alerted to three subjects running through orchards near Fabens. The Agents apprehended the subjects and seized three backpacks containing a total of 137.60 lbs of marijuana.



DRAWBRIDGE



On 06 APR, Hebbronville USBP Agents responding to a Drawbridge alert conducted a vehicle stop on a 2015 Ford F-350 pickup on a ranch near Hebbronville. The vehicle failed to yield. When the vehicle came to a stop, the driver was apprehended. The Agents seized 492.60 lbs of marijuana and 66 lbs of cocaine from utility compartments on the back of the truck. The narcotics and driver were referred to DEA. The vehicle was seized by USBP.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	88	640	395	1,661	602	3,389
Bailouts	5	102	820	700	1,524	564	3,715

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



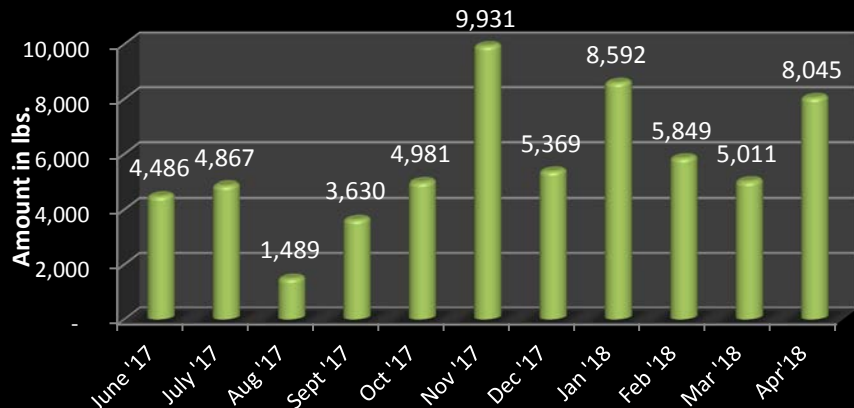


OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

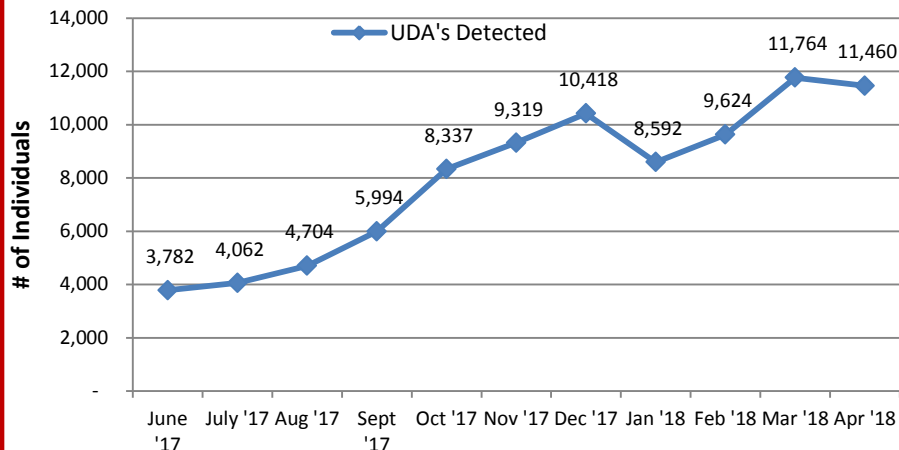
Statistical Summary – APR 2018



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – APR 2018

Detections	389,618
Marijuana Seized	465,395 lbs (>232 tons)
Cocaine Seized	227 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	15 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	31

Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2018

Detections	41,709
Narcotics Seized	27,497 lbs (>13 tons)

Note: Figures are based on initial reporting and are subject to change.



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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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