

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**April
2016**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-30 APRIL 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 April 30, 2016: 31

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

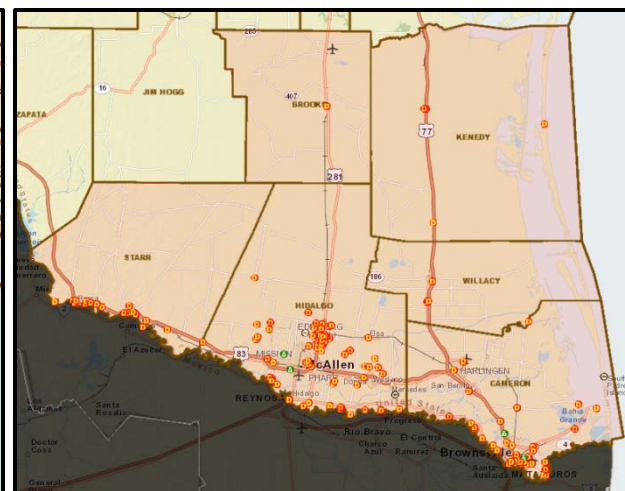
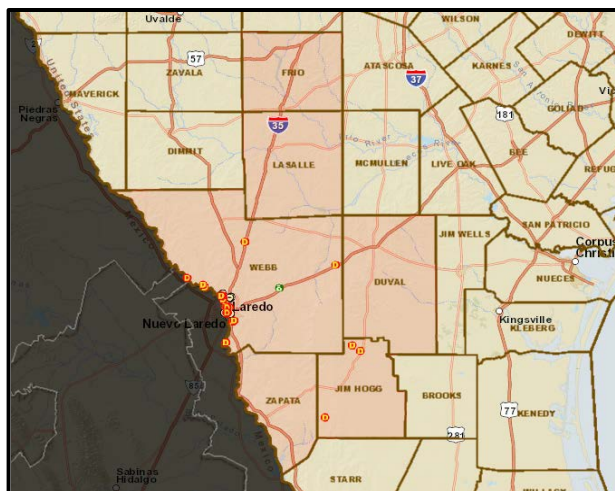
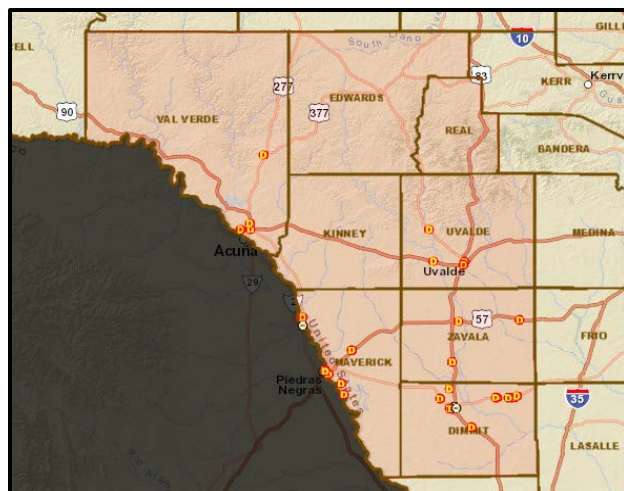
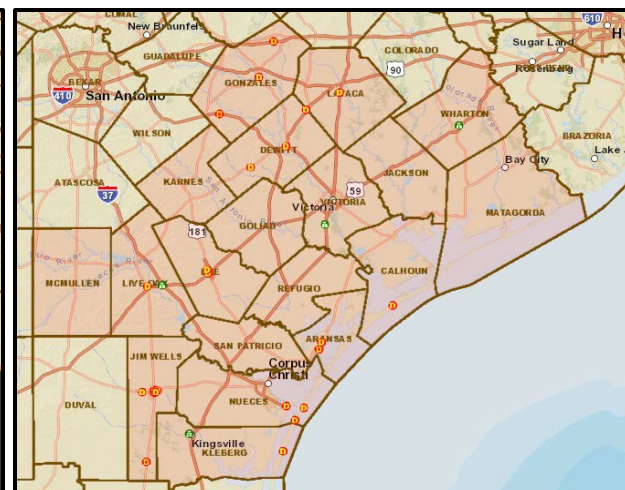
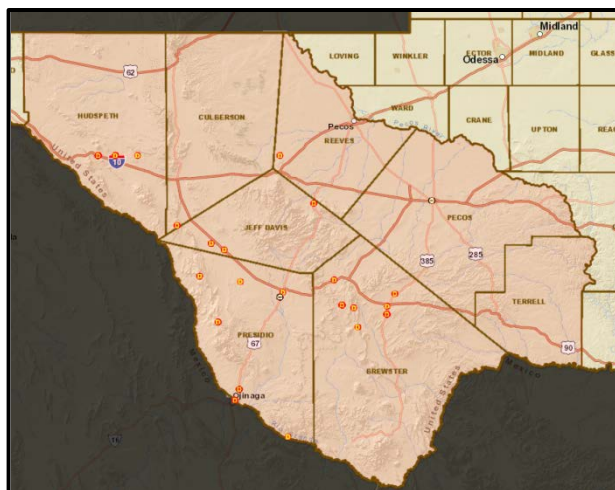
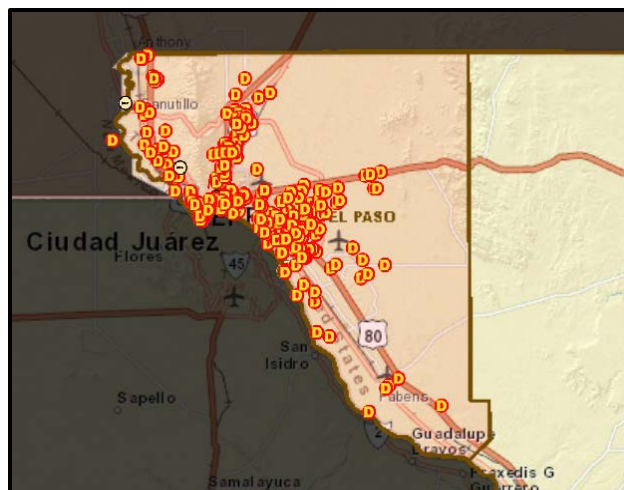
You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972,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



OPERATION BORDER STAR

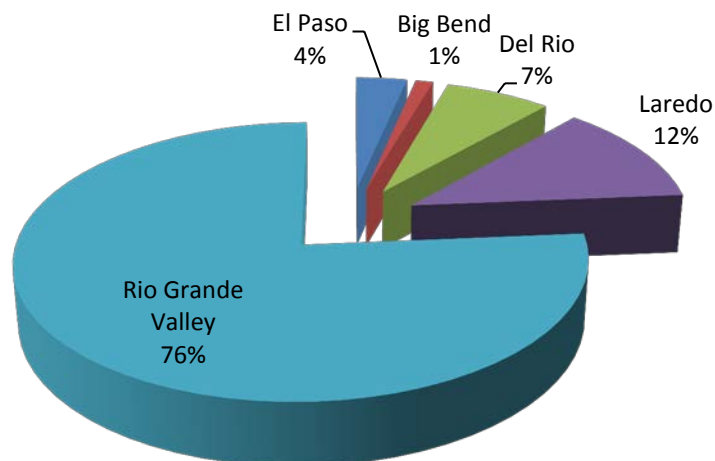
| JOIC Contact Information | Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin) | El Paso JOIC (El Paso) | Big Bend JOIC (Marfa) | Del Rio Sector (Del Rio) | Laredo Sector (Laredo) | Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen) | Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria) |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Main Phone # | (512) 454-7561 | (915) 680-6500 | (432) 729-4506 | (830) 778-7837 | (956) 764-3181 | (956) 289-5727 | (361) 485-8500 |
| Main Email | 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 |

| CY To Date – 2016 | El Paso | Marfa | Del Rio | Laredo | RGV | Coastal Bend | TOTAL | 2014 ONDCP Adjusted Value (Approximate) |
|------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------------|---------|---|
| Marijuana (~lbs) | 56,502 | 13,991 | 3,312 | 54,851 | 143,948 | 312 | 272,917 | \$1.7 Billion |
| Cocaine (~lbs) | 220 | 13 | 10 | 784 | 1,894 | 456 | 3,377 | \$208 Million |
| Methamphetamine (~lbs) | 535 | 96 | 213 | 1,074 | 1,571 | 2 | 3,490 | \$304 Million |
| Heroin (~lbs) | 18 | 14 | 31 | 236 | 121 | 3 | 424 | \$55 Million |

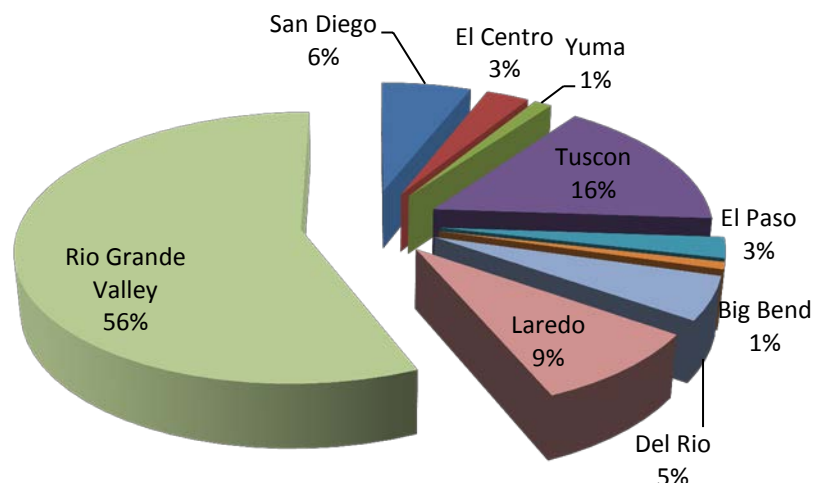




Texas Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014

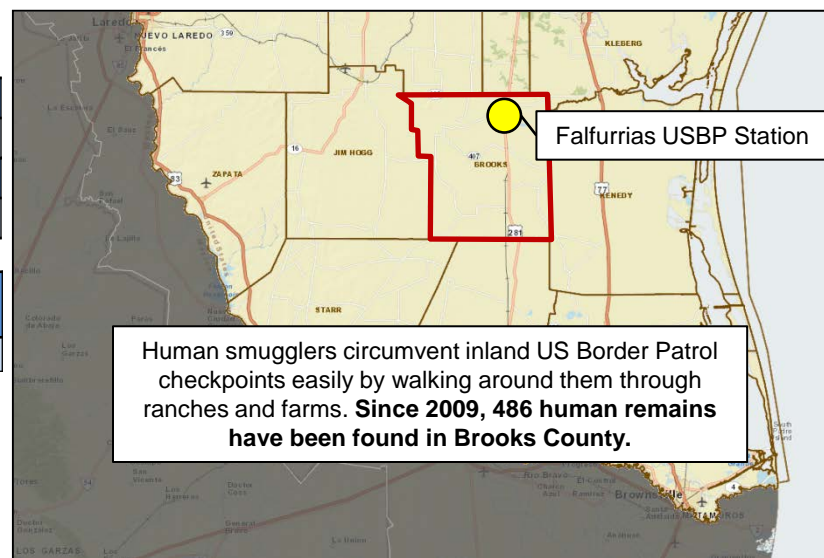


Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



| IAs | El Paso | Marfa | Del Rio | Laredo | RGV | Coastal Bend | TOTAL |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|--------|--------|--------------|--------|
| YTD-2016 | 6,564 | 1,510 | 7,046 | 12,664 | 47,702 | 0 | 75,486 |
| OTMs | El Paso | Marfa | Del Rio | Laredo | RGV | Coastal Bend | TOTAL |
| YTD-2016 | 2,182 | 660 | 2,359 | 2,943 | 32,298 | 0 | 40,442 |

| Unaccompanied Alien Children | FY-2015 | FY-2014 | FY-2013 | FY-2012 | FY-2011 |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Texas Border | 31,109 | 58,312 | 27,827 | 15,485 | 9,871 |



MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents arrested ten IAs on a ranch west of Marfa. Three subjects were held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and the other seven were processed for removal.

Sanderson USBP Agents located a group of eight subjects on a ranch northwest of Sanderson, and seized 453.50 lbs of marijuana. As Agents approached the subjects, they dropped their packs and absconded. The marijuana was referred to Eagle Pass DEA.



MARFA SECTOR

Sierra Blanca USBP Agents arrested six IAs on a ranch southwest of Allamore. The subjects were processed for removal.

Presidio USBP Agents arrested 11 IAs on a ranch southwest of Marfa. Three subjects were held in Marfa pending prosecution, and eight subjects were processed for removal.

Marfa USBP Agents arrested four IAs on a ranch south of Valentine. Two subjects were held in Marfa pending prosecution, and the other two were processed for removal.

Marfa USBP Agents arrested six IAs on a ranch northwest of Marfa. Three subjects were held in Sierra Blanca, pending prosecution, one was held in Marfa pending disposition, and the other two were processed for removal.

Texas Game Wardens, assisted by Presidio Co SO and Marfa USBP Agents, detained eight IAs on a ranch west of Marfa. Four subjects were held in Marfa pending prosecution, and the other four were processed for removal.

MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents seized 296.25 lbs of marijuana and arrested an IA on a ranch west of Marfa. Five subjects absconded. The marijuana was located near the subject inside five military-style backpacks and sugar-sack backpacks. The subject has a suspected affiliation with the Paisas gang. The subject and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.

Marfa USBP Agents seized 337.20 lbs of marijuana and arrested an IA on a ranch northeast of Ruidosa. Five subjects absconded. The marijuana consisted of 16 cellophane-wrapped bricks inside six burlap sacks. The subject and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



MARFA SECTOR

A ranch west of Marfa was the site of six separate IA-arrest actions by USBP Agents during the month of April:

- Thirteen IAs, including a juvenile – two were held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, three were held pending processing, and eight were processed for removal
- Ten IAs – two were processed for removal, one was held in Marfa pending prosecution, and seven were held in Marfa pending disposition
- Sixteen IAs – seven were held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and nine were processed for removal
- Eleven IAs, including a juvenile – one was held in Marfa pending prosecution, and ten were processed for removal
- Nine IAs, including two juveniles – all were processed for removal
- Thirteen IAs – one was held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and twelve were processed for removal

Total Arrests: 72

MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents seized 319.15 lbs of marijuana and arrested six IAs, including one juvenile, walking near a ranch east of Valentine. The marijuana was in large, military-style duffel bags. Five subjects and the marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA, and one subject was processed for removal.



Van Horn USBP Agents arrested five IAs on a ranch road southeast of Valentine. One subject was held in Sierra Blanca pending prosecution, and four were held pending processing.

Marfa USBP Agents arrested six IAs and seized 345.75 lbs of marijuana on a ranch west of Marfa. The marijuana bundles were in six burlap sacks. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA for prosecution.

Alpine USBP Agents arrested 16 IAs, including three juveniles, walking on a ranch southwest of Alpine. Four subjects were held in Marfa pending prosecution, and 12 were processed for removal.

MARFA SECTOR

Van Horn USBP Agents seized 298.45 lbs of marijuana and arrested six IAs, including four juveniles, hiding in the brush near a ranch northwest of Valentine. The marijuana was found in six military-style duffel bags hidden in the brush. Two subjects and the marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA, and four subjects were processed for removal.



Presidio USBP Agents seized 1257.50 lbs of marijuana, \$700 USD, two horses, a red Dodge pickup, and a horse trailer, with one arrest, during a traffic stop on US 67, north of Presidio. The Agents found the marijuana under the floorboards of the horse trailer and in the auxiliary gas tank of the pickup truck. The subject and marijuana were referred to Presidio HSI. The horses were referred to the US Department of Agriculture, and the vehicles and currency were referred to USBP Asset Forfeiture.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 02 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy was dispatched a ranch road in Catarina following a call from ranch security regarding an abandoned white 2011 Ford F-150 pickup. The vehicle was reported stolen out of San Antonio, and was impounded.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 01 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy observed a black 2010 Ford F-150 pickup traveling west on SH-85 near FM-468, Big Wells. A records check on the license plate indicated that it was stolen. The Deputy conducted a traffic stop, and a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a fence and into brush. USBP Agents assisted, and located the vehicle, but the occupants had bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio, and was impounded.

On 15 APR, USBP Agents responded to a call from a farm owner who had found a rifle, a magazine, and 31 rds near the River south of Quemado. The weapon was not reported stolen, and was turned over to the Maverick Co SO.

On 07 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy observed three subjects jump a fence and start walking south on US-83, Carrizo Springs. A USBP Agent identified the three subjects as IAs, and apprehended them.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 30 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch north of Catarina regarding an attempted oil theft by subjects with a semi tanker truck. Two subjects absconded, but a guard detained a third. The tanker had siphoned 140 barrels of oil. The case was turned over to the FBI, and the vehicle was impounded.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 14 APR, a USBP Agent conducted traffic stops on two vehicles traveling in tandem on a ranch southeast of Big Wells. The first vehicle, a blue 2006 Chevrolet Silverado pickup, stopped on a ranch road, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The second vehicle, a white 2012 Ford F-150 pickup, stopped southeast of Big Wells, and its occupants also bailed out and absconded. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy was dispatched to assist. Record checks on the Silverado indicated that it was stolen from New Braunfels. The F-150 was reported stolen from San Marcos. Both vehicles were impounded.



DEL RIO SECTOR

On 07 APR, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a maroon 2007 Dodge Ram north of Brackettville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a fence, and five subjects bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was impounded by USBP.

On 25 APR, USBP Agents with a K-9 in an orchard south of Eagle Pass discovered two abandoned duffel bags containing a total of 223.40 lbs. of marijuana. The Agents seized the marijuana, and turned it over to HSI.

On 06 APR, a USBP Agent was notified of a tan pickup with subjects lying down in the back headed north on a ranch road. CBP Aviation had observed two pickups traveling in tandem on FM-186. One of the vehicles, a tan 2000 Ford pickup, stopped, and several subjects bailed out on FM-186 south of Carrizo Springs. Occupants of the second vehicle, a tan 1999 Chevrolet Silverado pickup, bailed out on US-83. The Agents apprehended total 13 IAs. The drivers of both vehicles absconded, and the vehicles were impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 29 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch east of Big Wells. The Deputy encountered an abandoned tan 2000 GMC Sierra pickup that was stolen from Round Rock. The vehicle was impounded.



On 22 APR, a Edwards Co SO Deputy was dispatched regarding a suspicious subject on a ranch in Rocksprings. The subject was located, arrested, and taken to the Edwards Co Jail. On 23 APR, the owner of the ranch reported that a Polaris ATV and a rifle were stolen by the same subject. A records check indicated that the subject was using a false name. The subject was then arrested for failure to identify, and for an Arkansas warrant. On 26 APR, the stolen Polaris ATV and rifle were recovered after they were reported to have been found abandoned. The subject confessed to the thefts, and was arrested for theft, and theft of a weapon.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 13 APR, a DPS Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a gray Chevrolet Silverado pickup in Brundage, and the vehicle drove onto a ranch. The occupants bailed out. USBP Agents and a CBP-AVN helicopter assisted, and seven IAs were apprehended. the driver absconded. The vehicle was impounded.

On 22 APR, a USBP Agent detained eight IAs on a ranch west of the Maverick/Dimmit County line. A ranch employee stated that a ranch house had been broken into, and that \$80 USD and several personal items had been stolen. Two of the IAs admitted to participating in the residential burglary. One of the burglary subjects was identified as a Paisas gang member. A Maverick Co SO Deputy arrested the two burglary suspects.

On 25 APR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2001 Dodge Ram pickup on US-83, north of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. USBP Agents were dispatched to assist. The vehicle traveled onto a ranch, where several subjects bailed out. USBP Agents apprehended six IAs. The vehicle was impounded.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 14 APR, USBP Cotulla Agents encountered a tan pickup on IH-35. A license plate check indicated that the vehicle should have been a Black 2007 Chevrolet Silverado out of San Antonio. The vehicle exited IH-35, drove onto a ranch south of Cotulla, and got stuck in a creek. The Agents apprehended three subjects. The VIN on the pickup indicated that it was a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado pickup reported stolen from Houston.

On 25 APR, a Webb Co SO Deputy seized a 2007 Ford F-150 pickup involved in a bailout. The vehicle was reported stolen from a ranch north of Laredo.

On 20 APR, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2001 Dodge Ram pickup, when a pursuit ensued near Hebbronville. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. The vehicle was seized.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 18 APR, THP Troopers conducted a traffic stop on a 2004 Ford F-150 pickup near Guerra, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle veered off the road, and crashed through a ranch fence. The Troopers found the vehicle abandoned with approximately 521 lbs of marijuana. The narcotics and vehicle were seized by DPS.

On 25 APR, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2001 Mazda Tribute near Hebbronville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence, and was found abandoned.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY



A Brooks Co So Deputy responded to a ranch in northeast Brooks County regarding a deceased person. The Justice of the Peace pronounced the subject dead.

A Kenedy Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in central Kenedy County regarding a deceased person found by one of the hunting guides. The Deputy met with USBP Agents and was guided to the body, which did not have any identification on it.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks County regarding skeletal remains. Upon arrival, the Deputy and a USBP Agent found several human bones, but no clothing or identification.



RIO GRANDE VALLEY

Brooks Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch in northwest Brooks County regarding skeletal remains. The Deputies arrived and made contact with USBP Agents and the ranch hand who had located a skull four miles into the ranch. The skull was recovered and stored at the Brooks Co SO.



Harlingen USBP Agents seized 357.25 lbs of marijuana and a GMC pickup. The Agents encountered a fence broken by a vehicle and, with AVN, found a GMC pickup loaded with bundles. A search led to the apprehension of seven subjects. None of the subjects claimed the contraband. DEA assumed custody of the narcotics and two adult subjects. The vehicle was seized. Four juvenile IAs were processed accordingly.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 10 APR, a Gonzales Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2006 Chevrolet 1500 pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed into a fence, and two subjects absconded. Eight IAs who had been detained were released on instructions by federal agents. The vehicle was confirmed stolen from Houston. No arrests were made.





| 2014–Present | El Paso | Marfa | Del Rio | Laredo | Rio Grande Valley | Coastal Bend | TOTAL |
|--------------|---------|-------|---------|--------|-------------------|--------------|-------|
| Pursuits | 3 | 49 | 398 | 234 | 1,135 | 505 | 2,324 |
| Bailouts | 0 | 61 | 539 | 331 | 1,058 | 465 | 2,454 |



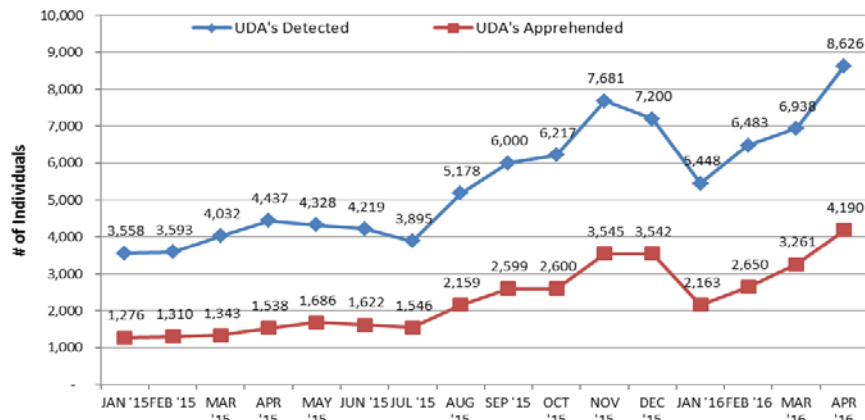


OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

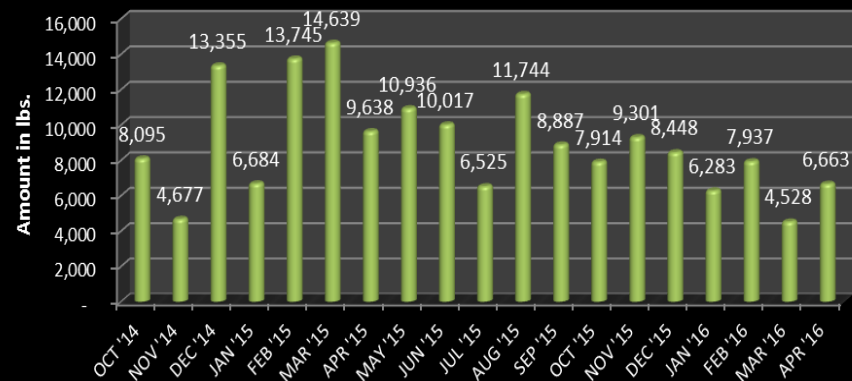
Statistical Summary – APR 2015



Drawbridge Stats



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: JAN 2012 – APR 2016

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Detections | 198,569 |
| Apprehensions | 89,614 |
| Marijuana Seized | 332,388 lbs (~166 tons) |
| Cocaine Seized | 205 lbs |
| Meth Seized | 17 lbs |
| Heroin Seized | 2 lbs |
| Firearms Seized | 27 |

OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE TOTALS: CY 2016

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Detections | 27,495 |
| Apprehensions | 12,264 |
| Narcotics Seized | 25,413 lbs (~12.7 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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