

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**July  
2016**

**REPORTING PERIOD:  
01-31 JUL 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 July 31, 2016: 34

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.

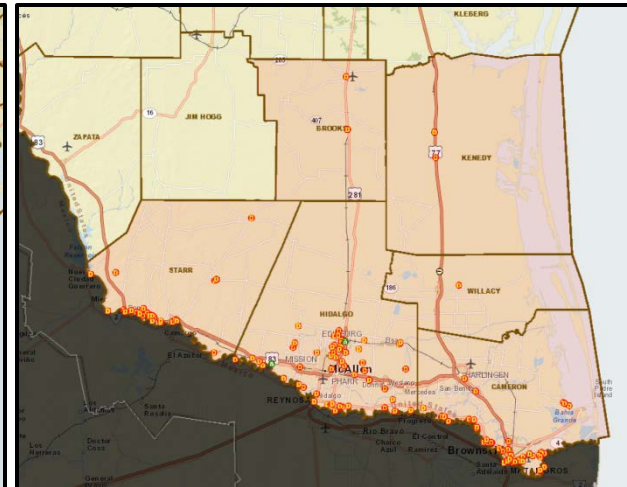
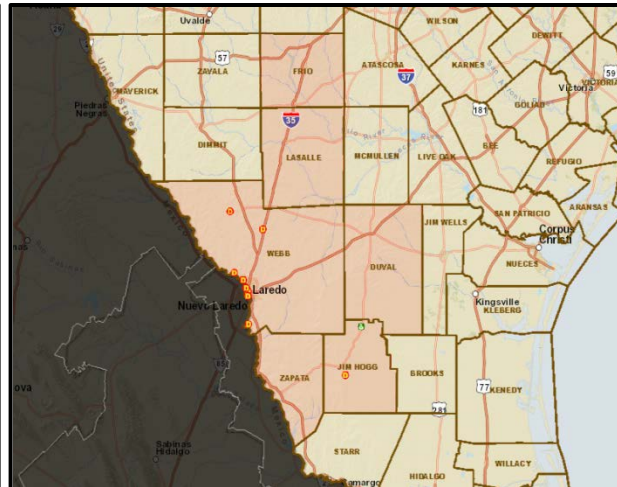
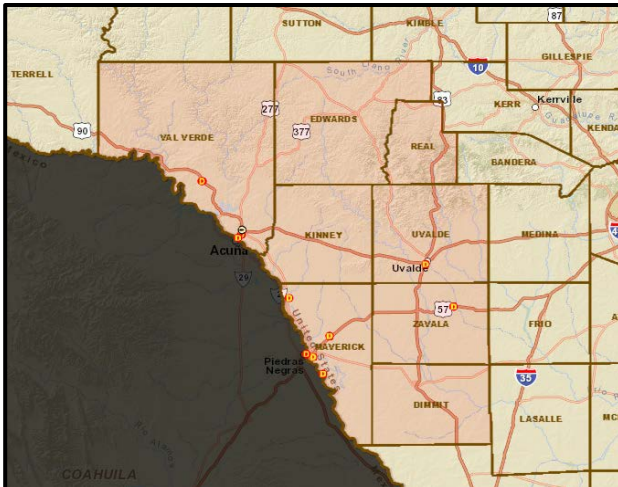
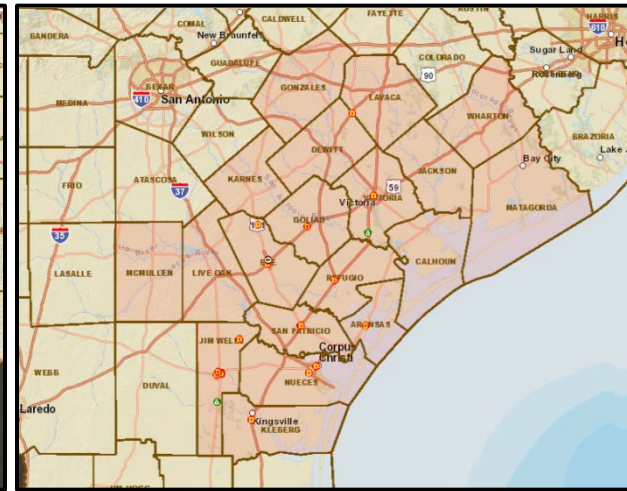
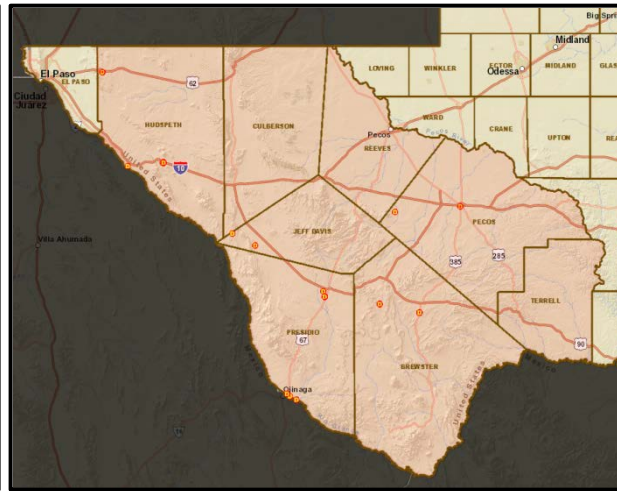
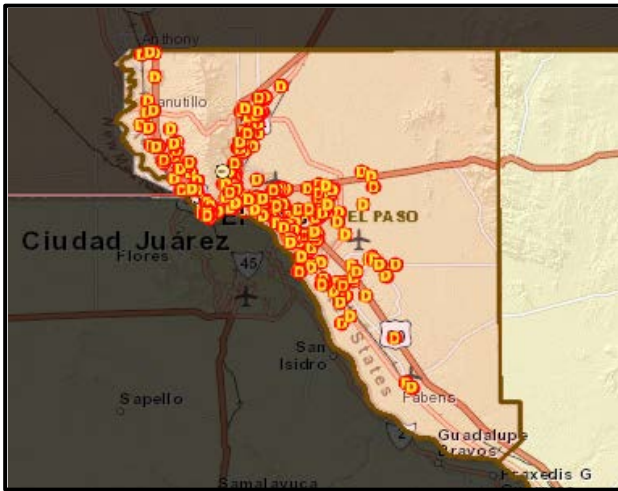


## OPERATION BORDER STAR

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>

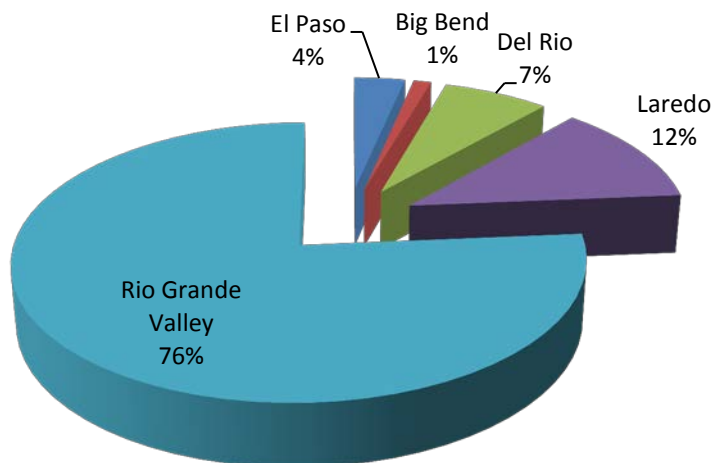


CY To Date – 2016	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL	2014 ONDCP Adjusted Value (Approximate)
Marijuana (~lbs)	86,082	24,600	4,696	88,859	242,939	350	447,526	\$2.7 Billion
Cocaine (~lbs)	421	14	394	1,215	3,231	780	6,055	\$372 Million
Methamphetamine (~lbs)	978	188	390	1,770	2,122	11	5,458	\$475 Million
Heroin (~lbs)	42	15	31	252	296	3	639	\$82 Million

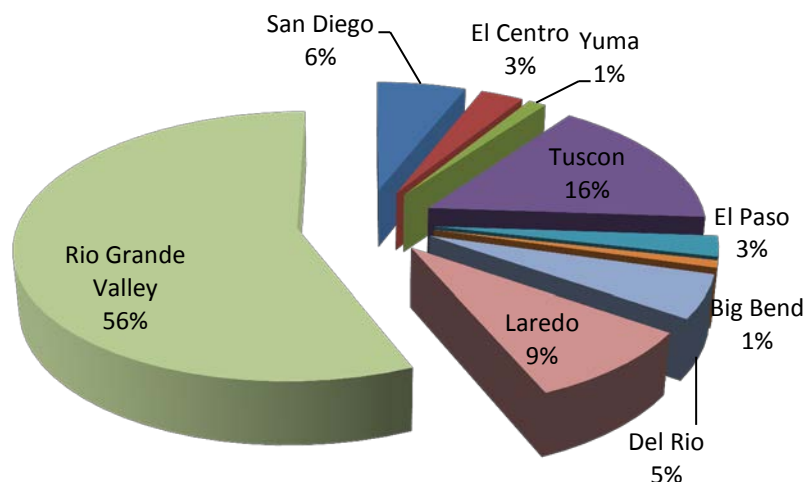




## Texas Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



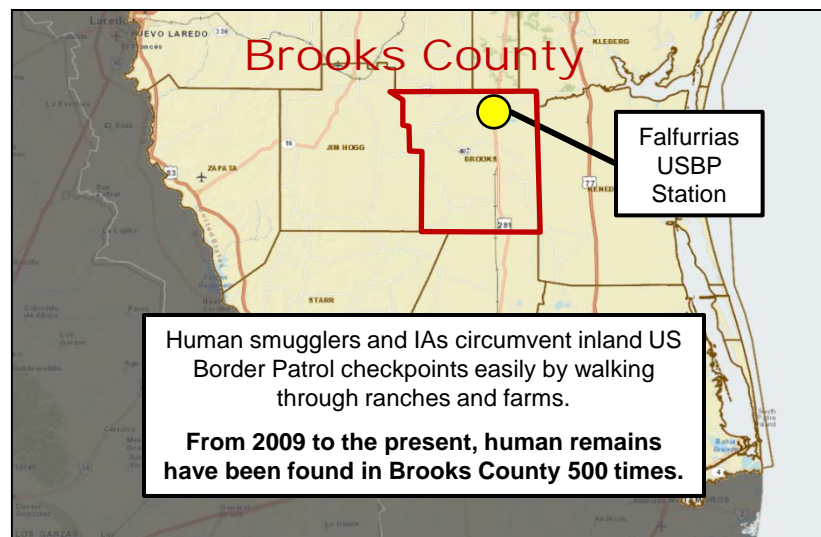
## Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions – CY 2014



Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	13,662	2,307	12,949	22,358	97,206	0	148,482

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	5,605	978	5,286	6,039	69,890	0	87,798

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





# MARFA SECTOR

Van Horn USBP Agents seized 1.05 lbs of marijuana and arrested two IAs on a ranch several miles west of Valentine. The marijuana was wrapped in a bundle. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.

Sierra Blanca USBP Agents arrested 12 IAs by a ranch south of Sierra Blanca. Five subjects were held in El Paso pending prosecution.



## DEL RIO SECTOR

On 16 JUL, a USBP Agent observed four subjects crossing a roadway south of Eagle Pass. USBP Agents located four IAs hiding behind pallets at an orchard. One of the IAs was identified as the principal alien smuggler.

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On 21 JUL, a TPWD Game Warden received information from Dimmit Co SO Deputies regarding IA subjects who had called 911. They stated that they had been lost in the brush for 15 days, and needed assistance. The Game Warden located the four IAs off a ranch road near Big Wells. Dimmit Co Deputies believed the IAs were part of a bailout that had occurred earlier that morning.

## LAREDO SECTOR

On 21 JUL, Webb Co SO Deputies responded to the report of a deceased person on a ranch near Bruni. USBP Agents advised that the female had been part of a group that had been apprehended nearby two days prior to the discovery. The decomposed body was turned over to Webb County Medical Examiner's Office.

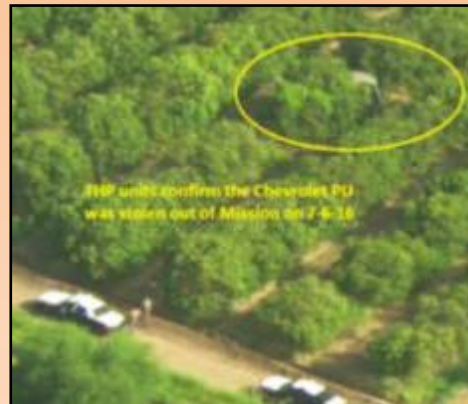


# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



DPS AVN assisted USBP with locating a group of seven IAs north of Sullivan City, and USBP took them into custody. AVN then assisted Pharr PD with a pursuit. The driver drove into a corn field, where he bailed out and attempted to hide among the corn stalks. AVN quickly spotted the driver, and he was arrested.

DPS AVN observed a Chevrolet pickup hidden in an orchard in Mission. A THP Trooper arrived and determined that it was stolen from Hidalgo County.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

AVN observed a Dodge pickup from which IAs had bailed out. A pursuit ensued, and the vehicle traveled through multiple properties before stopping at a residence near Edinburg. USBP ground units arrested the driver.



Weslaco USBP Agents seized 640.25 lbs of marijuana. The Agents observed subjects carrying bundles into a sugarcane field, set up a perimeter of the area, and conducted a thorough search. The Agents found the bundles and arrested 13 smugglers. The subjects and the narcotics were turned over to DEA.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to the Hollywood Camp Gate regarding a deceased person who had been found by a ranch worker. A cell phone and an El Salvador ID were found nearby.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in central Brooks County regarding a deceased person found by a USBP Agent.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in Encino regarding a deceased person. A cell phone was found with the body. USBP Agents brought the JP to the location.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in Encino regarding skeletal remains. The remains were transported to the Brooks Co SO.





# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch near Falfurrias regarding a deceased person.



A Kenedy Co SO Deputy responded to US Hwy-77 near the USBP checkpoint regarding a deceased person. The body was found with a Mexican ID.



A Brooks Co SO Investigator responded to a ranch in southwest Brooks County regarding a deceased person who was found on the property. Two spent shotgun shells were found near the body, which had a Guatemalan ID.



Brooks Co SO was dispatched to a ranch near Falfurrias regarding a deceased person. The remains were taken to the Brooks Co SO and the Webb County Medical Examiner's Office.

# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



Brooks Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch regarding skeletal remains. Clothing and documents found at the location identified the deceased as a Mexican male. The investigation is ongoing, and the autopsy is pending.



Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch regarding a deceased person. It was discovered under a tree with clothing that contained a Nicaraguan ID. The body was turned over to the local funeral home.



# COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 08 JUL, a Bee Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 1999 Ford Expedition, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed into a fence and an unknown number of subjects bailed out and absconded.

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On 12 JUL, a Goliad Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2004 Ford F-150 pickup when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a fence and lost control. After the vehicle stopped, seven subjects bailed out and absconded. The deputy seized a user amount of cocaine.

## DRAWBRIDGE ALERTS

On 13 JUL, USBP Agents were dispatched to a ranch near US-277 near Quemado regarding a Drawbridge alert. With assistance from CBP/Air & Marine, the Agents detained four IAs and seized 272.6 lbs of marijuana. A DEA Agent and a DPS Agent arrested the IAs.





2014–Present	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	56	428	251	1,210	526	2,474
Bailouts	0	64	575	357	1,133	481	2,610







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

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



TBSOC@dps.texas.gov  
Duty Phone: 512-424-7561  
Fax: 512-424-7041

