

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**August
2018**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-31 AUG 2018**



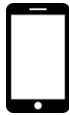
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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.

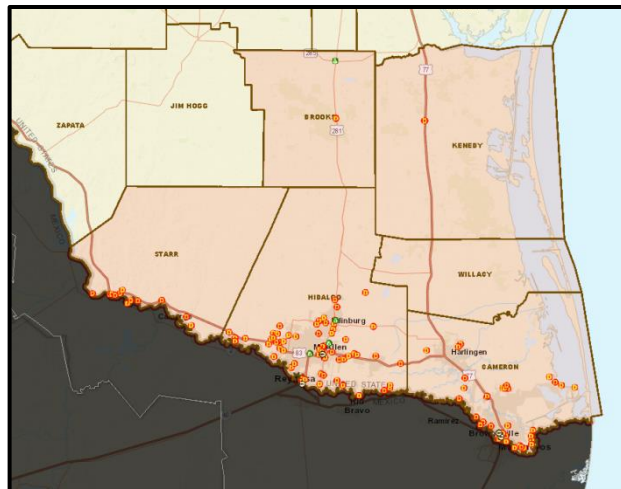
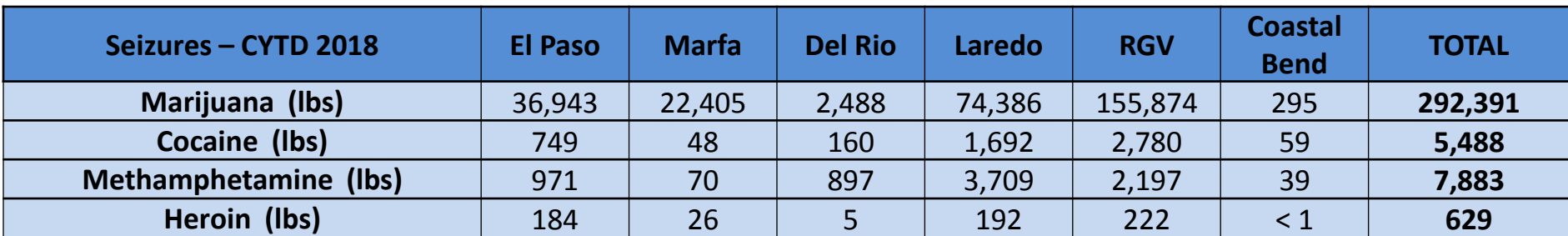


You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972,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

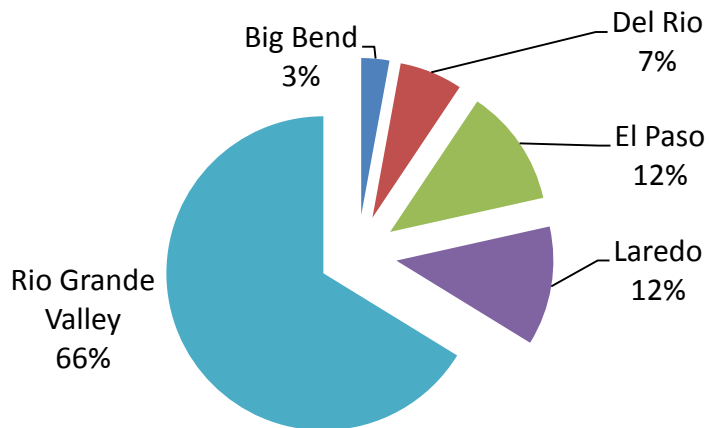




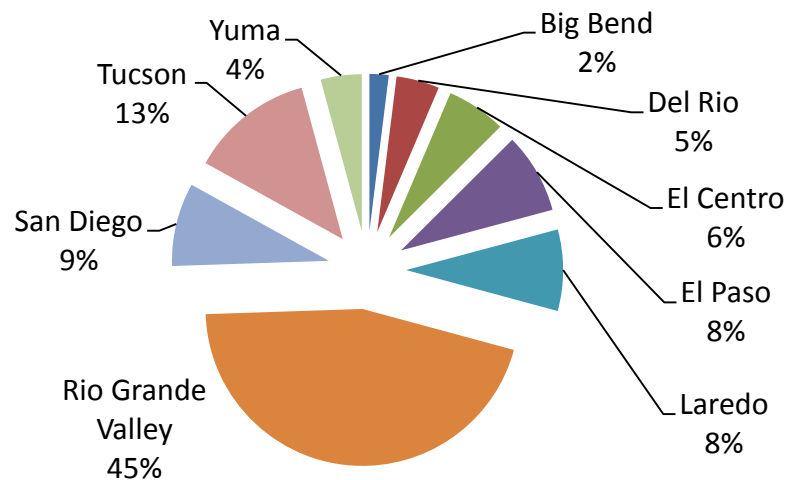
Sector Apprehension Comparisons



**Texas Border Sector Apprehensions
FY 2017 (OCT-SEP)**



**Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions
FY 2017 (OCT-SEP)**

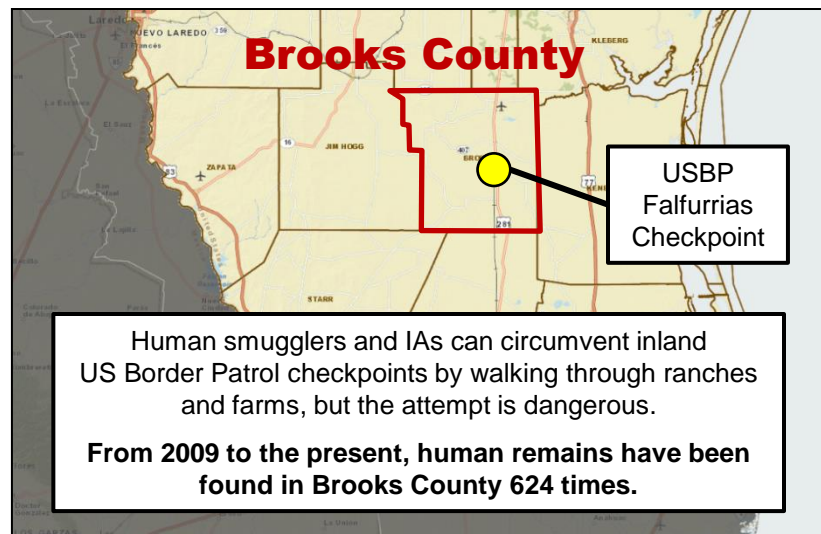


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	22,037	5,711	11,468	23,322	110,337	0	172,875

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	15,461	2,948	6,186	7,654	88,403	0	120,652

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



EI PASO SECTOR

On 08 AUG, USBP Agents encountered horse tracks leading north. While a responding Agent was en route to assist, he observed a white 2014 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup (TX LPs) enter IH-10 from the shoulder near mile marker 81, directly north of the Agent who was following the tracks. The responding Agent conducted a vehicle stop, and while questioning the driver, noticed a strong odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. During further questioning, the driver freely admitted having picked up marijuana along IH-10. Eight cellophane-wrapped bundles containing a total of 180.50 lbs of marijuana were found in the bed of the pickup. A search of the area resulted in Agents locating two horses that appeared to have been used to carry the marijuana across the border to IH-10. No subjects were found in the vicinity. The horses were transported to a USDA quarantine facility.



MARFA SECTOR

On 09 AUG, Terrell Co SO Deputies responded to a report from a rancher regarding a deceased person who had been found at a hunting camp southeast of Sanderson. The body was transported to a funeral home in Lubbock pending autopsy.

On 26 AUG, USBP Agents seized 221.34 lbs of abandoned marijuana on a ranch north of Candelaria. Five subjects were observed absconding to Mexico. The marijuana, which was found in five large backpacks, was referred to Alpine DEA.

On 24 AUG, USBP Agents seized 176.45 lbs of marijuana and apprehended three IAs near a water tank on a ranch south of Van Horn. The marijuana was found in three sugar-sack backpacks. An additional three subjects absconded. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



LAREDO SECTOR

On 03 AUG, Hebbronville USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a gold 2018 Ford F-350 pickup near Realitos. The driver failed to yield, and crashed through a ranch fence. The Agents apprehended 22 IAs. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Boerne, was referred to Duval Co SO.

On 09 AUG, Hebbronville USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a 2005 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 pickup. The driver failed to yield, and crashed through a ranch fence. The driver and several subjects bailed out of the vehicle and absconded into brush. The Agents identified the vehicle as stolen from San Antonio, and referred it to Duval Co SO.

On 24 AUG, USBP Agents observed two subjects cross the Rio Grande River into the US. The Agents detained the two subjects on a ranch in Normandy, and identified them as IAs. One of the IAs had four bundles containing a total of 4.09 lbs of marijuana in a backpack. Maverick Co SO Deputies assisted and arrested the subject with the marijuana. The second subject was identified as a juvenile IA and processed.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

In multiple incidents, groups of IAs were detained on farm properties in the Palmview area and referred to USBP:

13 AUG – 8 IAs

15 AUG – 50 IAs (total from three incidents)

16 AUG – 20 IAs (total from three incidents)

17 AUG – 15 IAs (total from two incidents)

21 AUG – 27 IAs (total from two incidents)

22-29 AUG – 190 IAs (total from eight incidents)

On 20 AUG, a Hidalgo PD Officer detained an IA on a ranch. The IA was referred to USBP.

On 20 AUG, a Kenedy Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch regarding a deceased person that had been discovered in a pasture. The deceased had a Colombian passport, and was referred to the Kenedy Co Medical Examiner's Office.

On 20 AUG, a Starr Co SO Investigator assisted USBP Agents and THP Troopers with a pursuit of a blue 2007 Chevrolet Malibu that had been involved in a human-smuggling incident. The driver and several subjects bailed out of the vehicle at a ranch near Roma and absconded across the River. The vehicle was seized.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 04 AUG, a Kinney Co SO Deputy observed two people trespassing on a ranch east of Del Rio. The Deputy then discovered an abandoned white 2014 Chevrolet Cruze under a bridge in Brackettville. The Deputy returned to the area approximately 20 minutes later and observed a gray 2009 Ford Mustang parked next to the Cruze. The female driver of the Mustang stated that she had come to the area to be alone, and was released. The Deputy was unable to make contact with the occupants of the Cruze before it left the area, but suspected that the occupants of both vehicles had been scouting for IAs.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 25 AUG, a Gonzales Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2007 Ford F-150 pickup on US-90A near Shiner. The vehicle failed to yield and a pursuit ensued. The driver crashed the vehicle through a gate, then bailed out and absconded. The Deputy searched the vehicle and seized small amounts of US dollars and Mexican pesos. An inquiry on the vehicle revealed that it was stolen from Alice.

DRAWBRIDGE

On 19 AUG, Fort Brown USBP Agents responded to a Drawbridge alert indicating activity east of Brownsville. The Agents observed three subjects with bundles walking from the River into an open field. The Agents, along with Texas Rangers SOG Operators and USBP K-9 units, apprehended the three subjects and seized a total of 126.80 lbs of marijuana in three bundles.





Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	95	668	419	1,722	612	3,519
Bailouts	5	107	858	742	1,581	591	3,884

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





OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

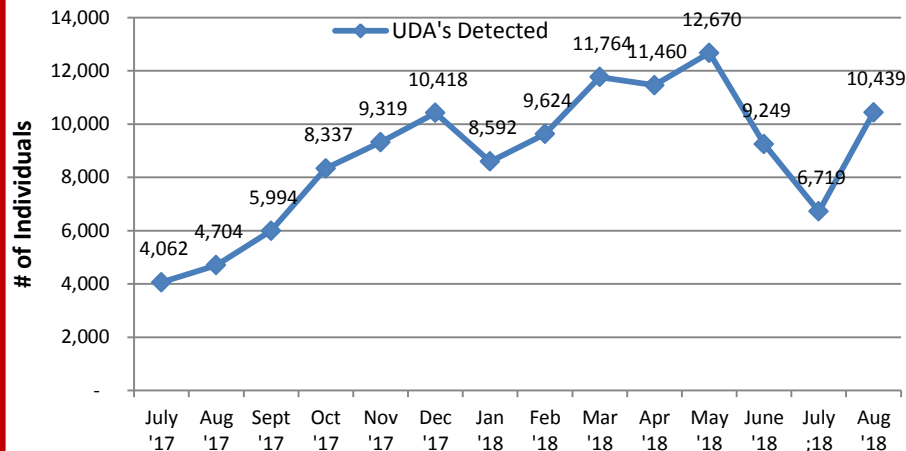
Statistical Summary – AUG 2018



Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Drawbridge Stats



Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – AUG 2018

Detections	428,695
Marijuana Seized	481,785 lbs (>240 tons)
Cocaine Seized	294 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	30 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	34

Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2018

Detections	80,786
Narcotics Seized	43,969 lbs (>21 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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