

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**October  
2018**

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



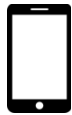
# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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.

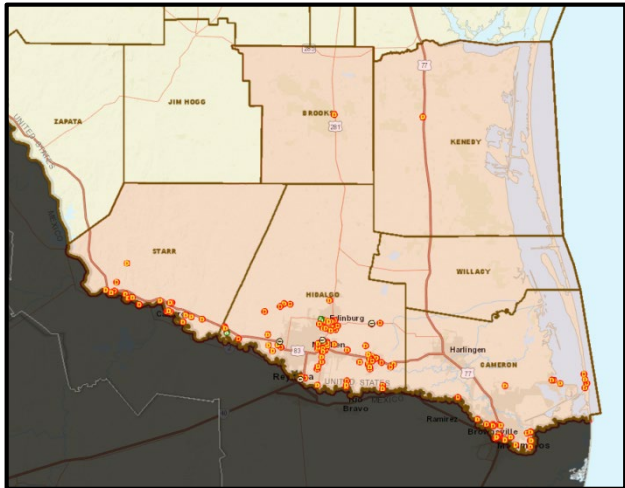
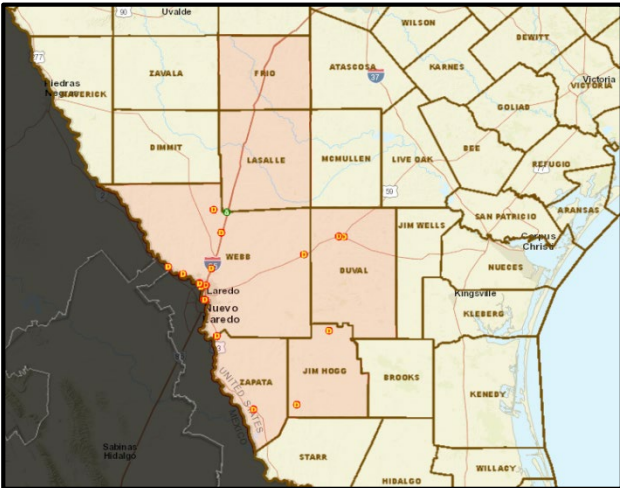
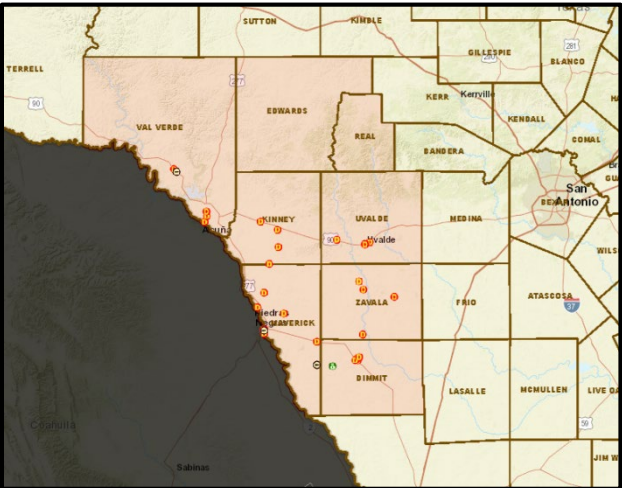
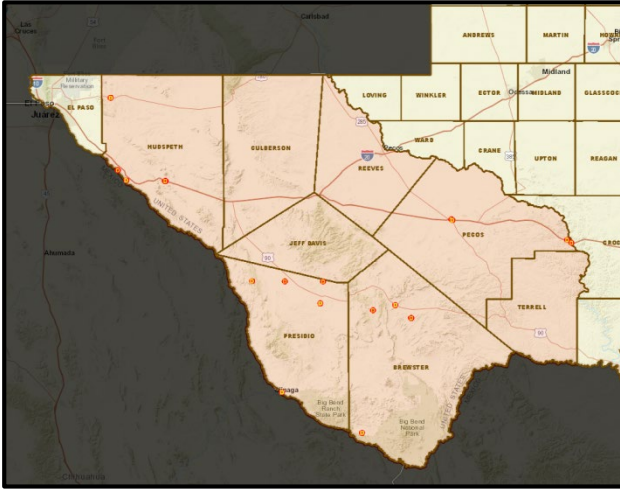
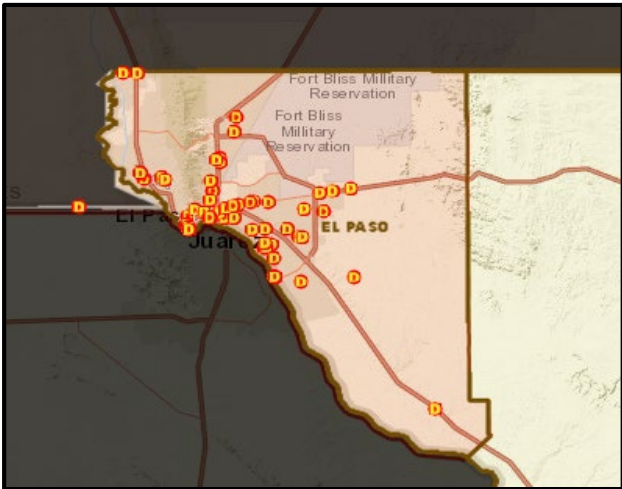


## OPERATION BORDER STAR

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	<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>



Seizures – CYTD 2018	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
<b>Marijuana (lbs)</b>	43,781	26,576	2,536	78,821	183,862	299	<b>335,876</b>
<b>Cocaine (lbs)</b>	1,011	83	462	3,612	3,036	143	<b>8,348</b>
<b>Methamphetamine (lbs)</b>	1,490	83	1,254	4,176	3,139	40	<b>10,181</b>
<b>Heroin (lbs)</b>	193	26	26	346	256	< 1	<b>847</b>

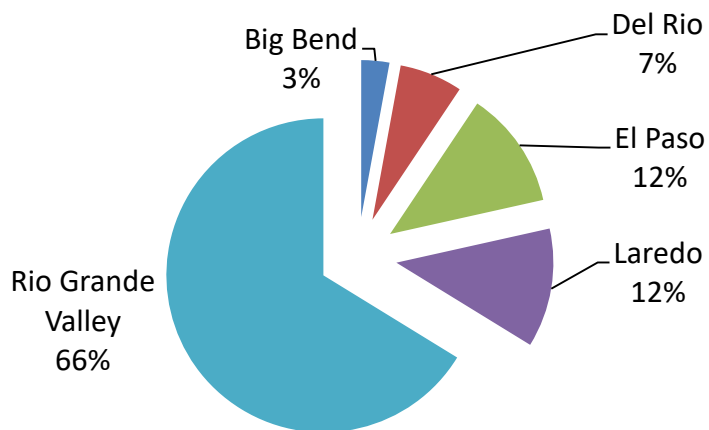




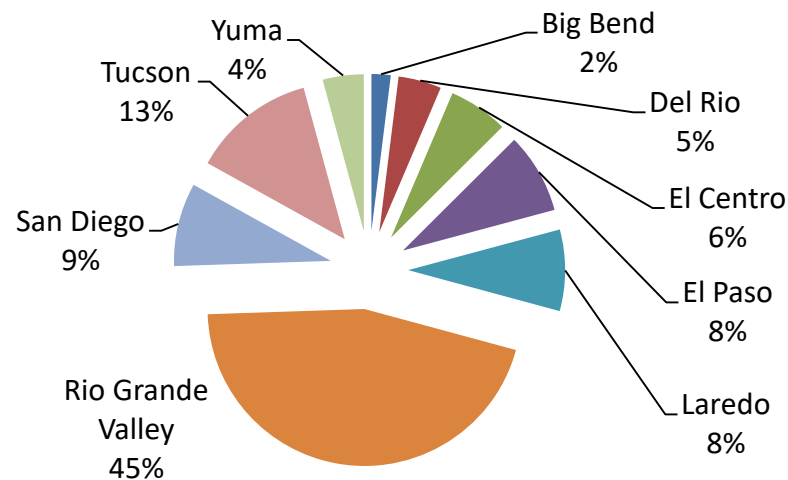
# Sector Apprehension Comparisons



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



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

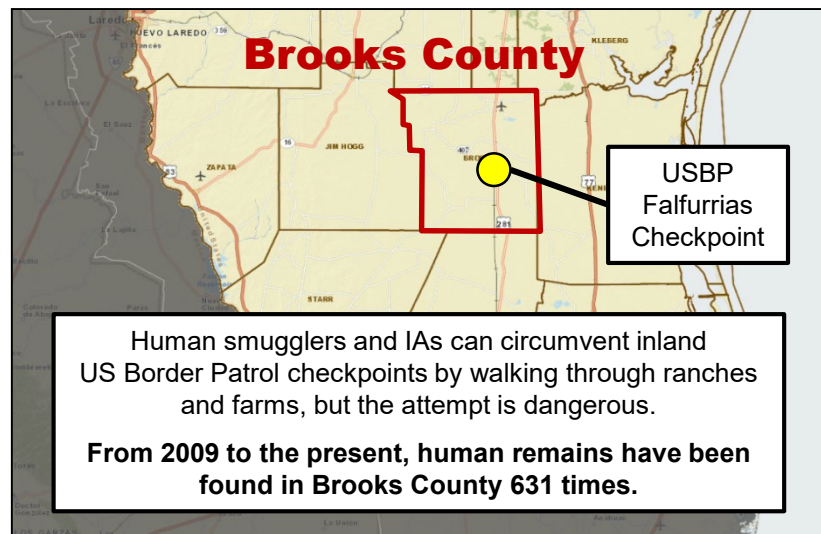


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	33,507	6,944	14,991	30,190	149,216	0	234,848

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	25,145	3,538	8,298	9,965	121,850	0	168,796

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 OCT, Presidio USBP Agents seized 278.99 lbs of marijuana in six burlap backpacks and apprehended six IAs on a ranch northwest of Marfa. The IAs and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.

On 27 OCT, USBP seized 44.84 lbs of marijuana that had been found abandoned in a large burlap backpack on a ranch north of Candelaria. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.

On 28 OCT, USBP seized 166.39 lbs of marijuana and apprehended three IAs on a ranch north of Candelaria. Two additional subjects absconded. The marijuana was found in three large burlap backpacks. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



On 27 OCT, a Terrell Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch south of Sanderson regarding a break-in reported by the ranch owner. Backpacks with various documents, a cell phone, eight radios, and other electronics were found. Based on the documents, it is believed that the group responsible for the break-in had previously been apprehended in July.

# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 04 OCT, a Kinney Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a green 1997 Ford F-150 pickup on SH-131 in Brackettville, and 14 subjects bailed out of the vehicle at a ranch. The Deputy detained the juvenile driver and an IA passenger. Another Deputy used a scope truck to guide USBP Agents to a group of five additional IAs. The Agents arrested the driver as the human smuggler and impounded the vehicle. The six IAs were arrested by the Agents.

On 05 OCT, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a 2004 Chevrolet Silverado pickup near a ranch south of Carrizo Springs. The vehicle failed to yield, and was driven through a ranch fence, where several occupants bailed out. The Agent detained six IAs, but the driver absconded. The IAs were processed by USBP, and a Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 07 OCT, a Kinney Co SO Deputy assisted USBP Agents in detaining five IAs on a ranch near Brackettville.

On 07 OCT, a Kinney Co SO Deputy assisted USBP Agents in detaining four IAs on a ranch near Spofford.

On 08 OCT, a Brackettville USBP Agent detained two IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch near FM 693 in Spofford. The Agent recovered items that the IAs had stolen at the ranch. The IAs were processed, and the stolen property was referred to Kinney Co SO.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 09 OCT, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2008 Dodge Nitro on US-83 in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence, and the occupants bailed out. USBP Agents responded to assist, and a search of the area resulted in the apprehension of eight IAs. The vehicle was impounded.

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On 13 OCT, USBP Agents observed a group of subjects cross from Mexico into the US. The subjects, who were encountered by the Agents on a ranch in El Indio, were identified as four IAs. One of the subjects was a human smuggler. The smuggler was arrested, and the other IAs were processed.

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On 14 OCT, USBP Agents conducted an inspection on a white 2013 Ford F-250 pickup in Catarina. The vehicle failed to yield, and crashed through a gate and a barbed-wire fence. The occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Austin, was referred to Dimmit Co SO.

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On 16 OCT, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a white 2018 Ford F-250 pickup on US-83, near Catarina, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle crashed through several ranch fences before stopping. Several occupants bailed out, and the Agent apprehended five IAs. The vehicle had false license plates, and was reported stolen from San Antonio. The IAs were processed, and a Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On 06 OCT, Duval Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a blue 2012 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on SH-16 in Duval Co. A short pursuit ensued, and the vehicle was driven through a fence at FM 2359. The Deputy lost track of the vehicle inside the ranch property. The Deputy returned with a USBP Agent, and they found the vehicle abandoned. The vehicle was reported stolen.

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On 06 OCT, Webb Co SO Deputies made contact with a subject walking along IH-35 near Laredo. The subject attempted to cross a barbed-wire fence, but was stopped and identified as an IA. The subject was referred to USBP.

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On 07 OCT, Laredo West USBP Agents at the US-83 Checkpoint referred a white 2018 Chevrolet Silverado pickup for a secondary inspection after a K-9 alert, when a pursuit ensued. When the vehicle came to a stop, the Agents discovered 218.30 lbs of marijuana concealed under oil-field equipment. The driver was arrested, and the marijuana and vehicle were seized. An inquiry on the vehicle revealed it to be an Express 4x4 rental.



# LAREDO SECTOR

On 10 OCT, Laredo West USBP Agents found an abandoned 2019 Ford F-450 pickup at a ranch near Encinal. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio.

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On 12 OCT, Freer USBP Agents observed a Ford F-150 pickup in Freer that was stolen from Austin. After a pursuit, the vehicle was found abandoned on a ranch. A stolen handgun was found in the vehicle.

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On 16 OCT, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 pickup near Hebbronville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through two ranch gates before coming to a stop. The Deputies observed 30 subjects abscond from the vehicle. No apprehensions were made.

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On 16 OCT, Encinal PD Officers conducted a traffic stop on a black 2004 Ford F-150 pickup on US-44 near Encinal, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed into a ranch fence and the driver absconded into the brush. The Officers detained the passenger, who was an IA. The subject was referred to USBP and the vehicle was seized.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On 18 OCT, Duval Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a white 2004 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on US-59 near Freer, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and was found abandoned approximately 500 yards into the property. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.

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On 24 OCT, a Jim Hogg Co SO Deputy observed a silver 2006 Jeep Commander crash through a ranch fence near FM 1017 in Hebbronville. Fifteen subjects bailed out and absconded into the brush. The Deputy detained two IAs and referred them to USBP.

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On 25 OCT, THP Troopers conducted a traffic stop on a white 2016 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on SH-44 near Encinal, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence. The driver and eight passengers bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen from Bexar Co.

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On 30 OCT, Laredo North USBP Agents responded to a report of activity at a ranch in Laredo. The Agents apprehended two subjects and found 282.40 lbs of marijuana in the brush. The subjects and the marijuana were referred to Webb Co SO.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

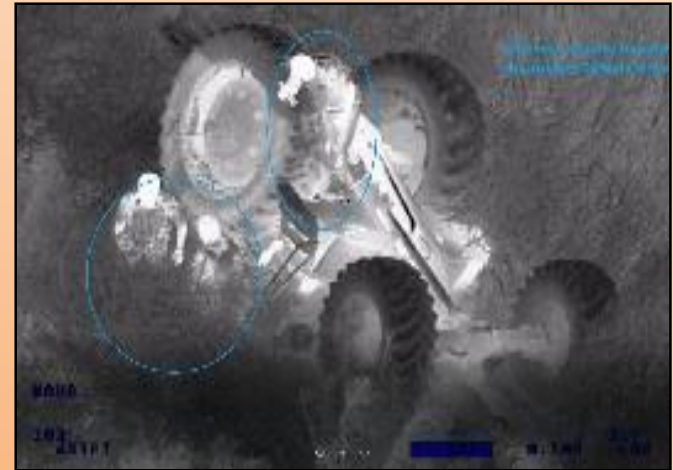
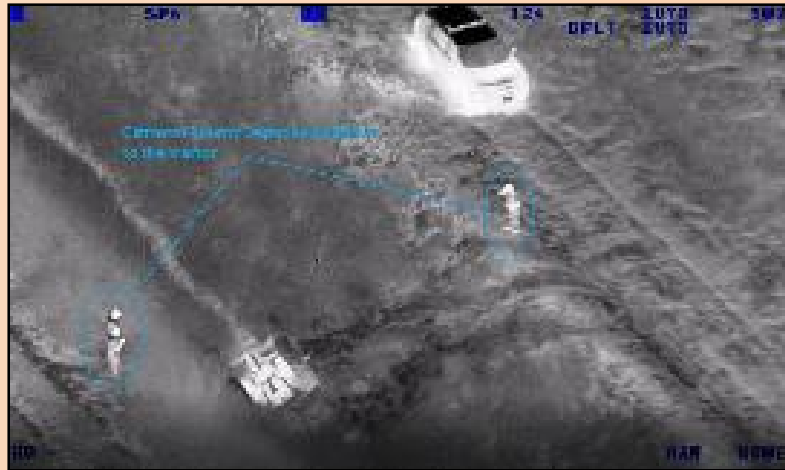
On 04 OCT, Rio Grande City USBP Agents seized 348.30 lbs of marijuana from a 1995 GMC Yukon. The Agents conducted a traffic stop, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle came to a stop after crashing through a chain-link fence. Starr Co SO Deputies assisted the Agents with apprehending the driver, who had bailed out. The vehicle was seized. DEA assumed custody of the narcotics and the subject.



On 04 OCT, a Starr Co SO Deputy responded to a pursuit involving a 2002 Chevrolet Avalanche pickup. The vehicle crashed into a ranch fence, multiple subjects bailed out, and 13 IAs were apprehended. USBP took custody of the IAs, and the vehicle was seized.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



On 08 OCT, DPS AVN assisted Cameron Co SO in a search for a missing rancher in the San Benito area. The Aircrew found an overturned tractor in a deep canal and directed the Deputies to its location. The Deputies found the rancher deceased at the site.

On 18 OCT, a Hidalgo PD Officer seized 0.005 lbs of marijuana following a pursuit and bailout from a gold Ford SUV. The subject was apprehended and arrested after climbing over several fences. The Officer recovered a baggie of marijuana thrown away by the subject.

On 30 OCT, Hidalgo Co Constable Pct. 3 Deputies detained 52 IAs at a farm property near the border. All of the subjects were referred to USBP.

# RIO GRANDE VALLEY



On 16 OCT, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northeast Brooks County regarding skeletal remains discovered by USBP Agents. The remains were placed into Brooks Co evidence.

On 16 OCT, a Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in northeast Brooks County regarding skeletal remains discovered by USBP Agents. The remains were sent to the Webb Co Medical Examiner.



On 17 OCT, a Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in east Brooks County regarding skeletal remains discovered by USBP. The remains were placed into Brooks Co evidence.

On 20 OCT, a Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in north Brooks County regarding a deceased person. The body was transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiner.



# COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 03 OCT, Jim Wells Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2015 Ford F-250 pickup near Premont, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. The vehicle was seized.







## Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)\*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	99	694	441	1,764	624	3,625
Bailouts	5	109	884	854	1,621	609	4,082

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



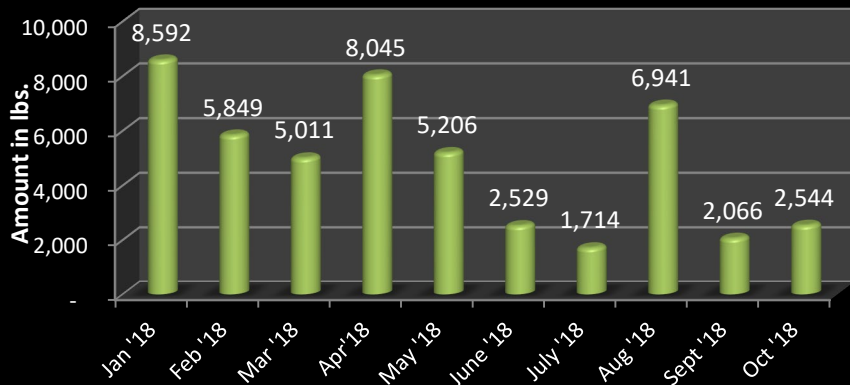


# OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

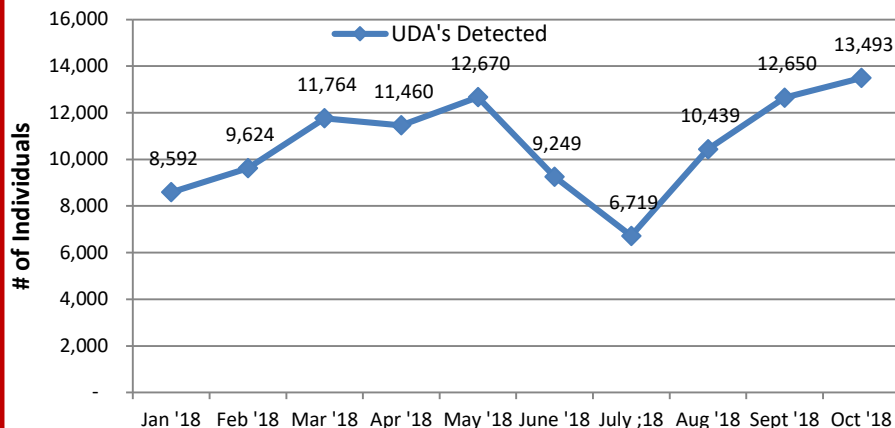
Statistical Summary – OCT 2018



## Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



## Drawbridge Stats



### Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – OCT 2018

Detections	454,838
Marijuana Seized	486,395 lbs (>243 tons)
Cocaine Seized	422 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	30 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	36

### Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2018

Detections	106,929
Narcotics Seized	48,707 lbs (>24 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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