

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**December  
2018**

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



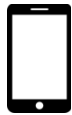
# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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

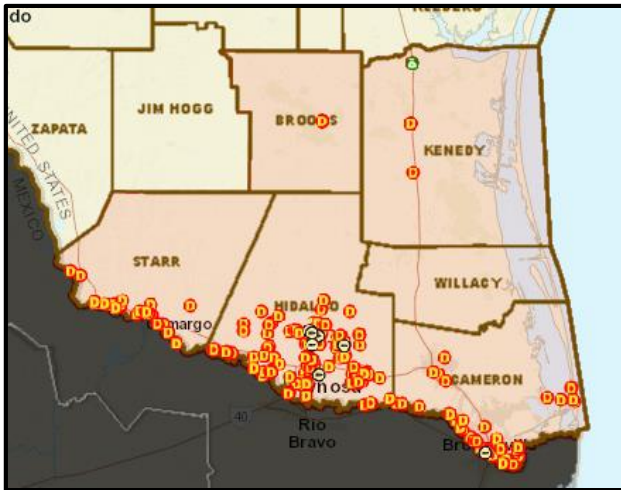
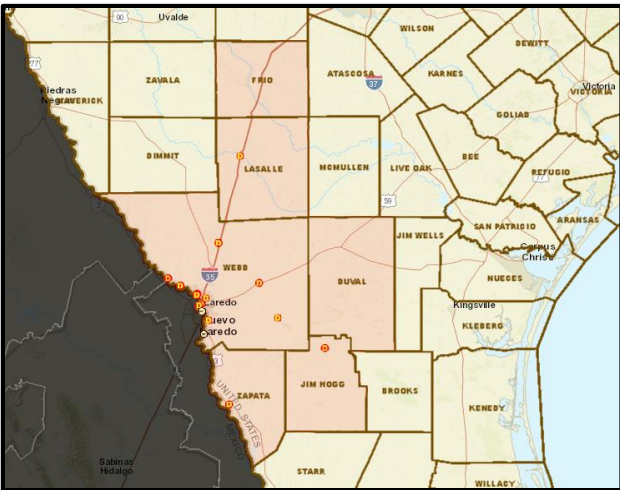
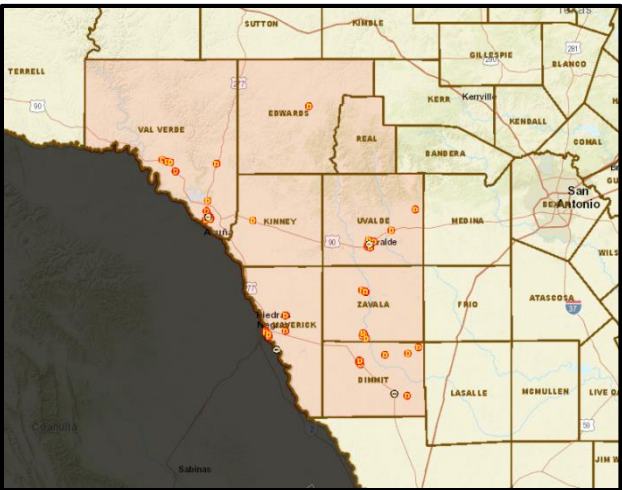
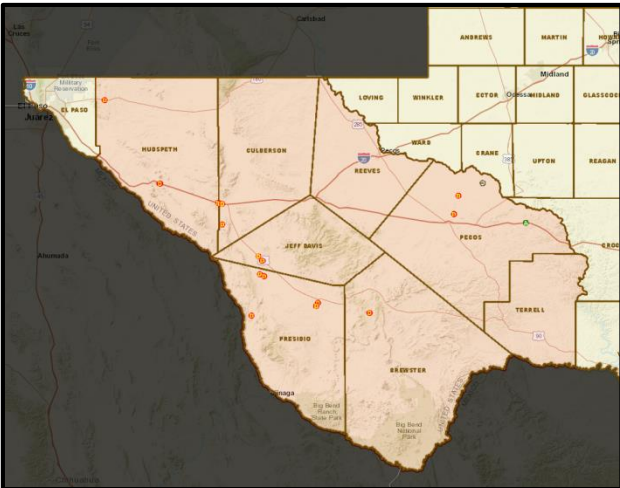
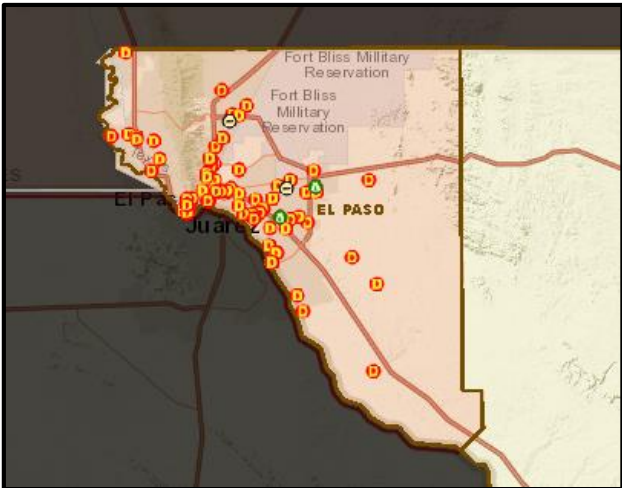
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181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



# Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment

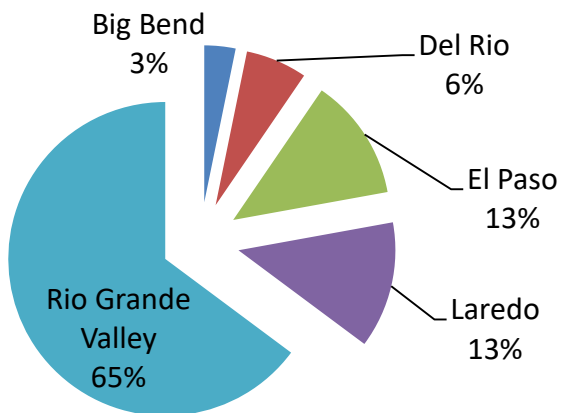


Seizures – CYTD 2018	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
<b>Marijuana (lbs)</b>	50,986	29,616	3,607	93,355	213,961	301	<b>391,825</b>
<b>Cocaine (lbs)</b>	1,114	110	489	4,190	3,862	163	<b>9,928</b>
<b>Methamphetamine (lbs)</b>	1,848	99	1,370	4,957	3,760	52	<b>12,085</b>
<b>Heroin (lbs)</b>	213	26	26	354	286	11	<b>917</b>

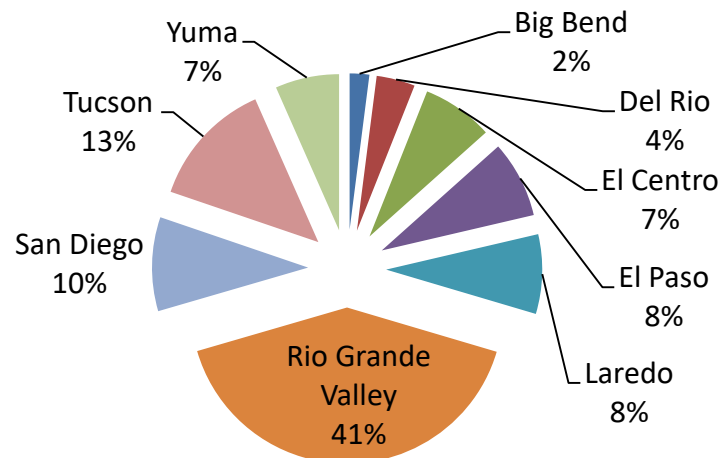




**Texas Border Sector Apprehensions  
FY2018 (OCT-SEP)**



**Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions  
FY2018 (OCT-SEP)**

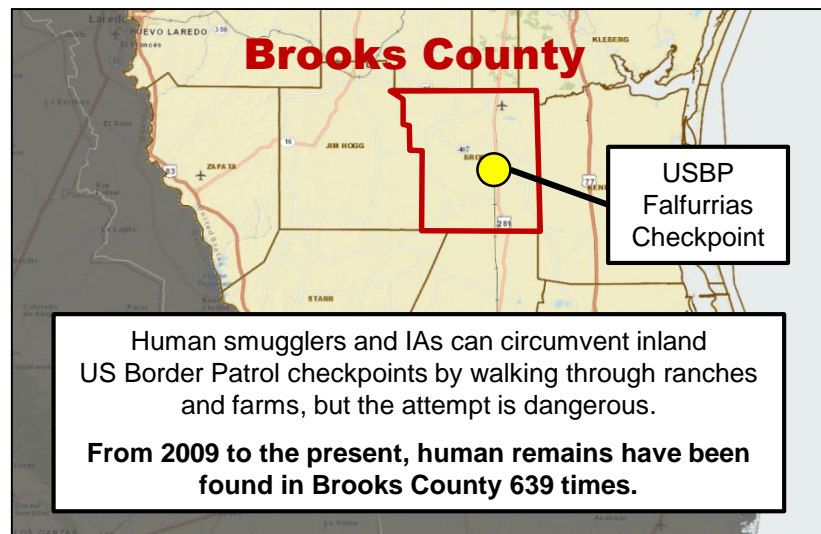


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	48,518	7,928	18,780	34,808	185,123	0	295,157

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2018	39,070	4,136	11,205	11,548	153,661	0	219,620

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 01 DEC, a Brewster Co SO Deputy responded to a report of a deceased person found in a bunkhouse on a ranch in northwest Brewster Co. The body was transported to the Alpine Funeral Home pending autopsy.

On 15 DEC, a Terrell Co SO Deputy received information from a rancher that two IAs were on his property southeast of Sanderson. USBP Agents responded to the ranch and apprehended two IAs.

On 16 DEC, USBP Agents seized 283.00 lbs of marijuana on a ranch west of Van Horn. Five subjects absconded. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.



On 21 DEC, USBP Agents apprehended eight IAs on a ranch north of Candelaria. One of the subjects had 0.001 lbs of heroin in their possession. The heroin was referred to DEA, and the IAs were processed.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 05 DEC, Kickapoo Tribal PD Officers observed two armed subjects on a ranch in Eagle Pass. The Officers detained an IA who had a rifle and 11 rds of ammo, but the other subject absconded. The rifle was reported stolen from Los Angeles, CA.

A USBP Agent arrested the IA for Illegal Entry, and the rifle and ammo were referred to ATF. The investigation is ongoing.

On 06 DEC, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy observed a brown 2018 Ford F-150 pickup and a tan 2004 Dodge Ram pickup traveling in tandem on FM 133 east of Catarina. When the Deputy conducted a traffic stop on the Ford pickup beside a ranch, the Dodge pickup sped away. Several subjects bailed out of the Ford and absconded. USBP Agents searched the area, with negative results. The vehicle's lock had been tampered with, and it was reported stolen from San Antonio. A THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on the Dodge pickup in La Salle Co. The Trooper questioned the driver, and the Deputy suspected he was scouting for the Ford. The driver was released with the vehicle.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 07 DEC, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2018 Ford F-350 pickup on US-83 south of Catarina. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and several occupants bailed out. A USBP Agent searched the area and apprehended seven IAs. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



On 07 DEC, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on two white Ford F-150 pickups that were parked beside a ranch on FM 2688 near Catarina. The vehicles failed to yield. The Agent found a white 2011 Ford F-150 after it was driven through a ranch fence and the driver bailed out and absconded. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle, which was reported stolen from Austin. The Agent suspected that the drivers of both of the vehicles had been scouting for IAs.

On 11 DEC, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado pickup in Catarina, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence west of Encinal. The driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded by a Webb Co SO Deputy.

# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 12 DEC, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2012 Chevrolet Suburban south of Batesville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and several subjects bailed out. The vehicle, which was not reported stolen at the time of incident, was impounded.

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On 19 DEC, USBP Agents encountered six IAs hiding in the brush on a ranch along FM 481 in Uvalde. One of the subjects was identified as the human smuggler and arrested for human smuggling, and the other five subjects were processed.

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On 20 DEC, a Kinney Co SO Deputy detained a group of subjects on a ranch near US-277, north of Quemado. USBP Agents apprehended 13 IAs.

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On 20 DEC, a Kinney Co SO Deputy observed five subjects on a ranch near US-277, north of Quemado. USBP Agents responded and encountered a group of four IAs. One additional subject absconded.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 20 DEC, a USBP Agent conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2018 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 2688, south of Catarina, when it failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and continued traveling. Later, additional Agents conducted an inspection on the same vehicle farther up a ranch road, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which had fictitious plates, was reported stolen from San Antonio. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy assisted and impounded the vehicle.

On 20 DEC, USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a white 2019 Ford F-350 pickup on FM 2688, west of Catarina, when it failed to yield and was driven through a ranch fence. All of the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Live Oak, was impounded by a Dimmit Co SO Deputy.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 22 DEC, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2017 Ford F-250 pickup on US-83, south of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup was driven onto a ranch north of Catarina, where the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. The Deputy impounded the vehicle.



On 23 DEC, USBP Agents identified multiple sets of footprints leading north from the River. CBP/OAM spotted a group of people in the brush on a ranch north of FM 2644 in El Indio and guided Agents to them. The Agents apprehended nine IAs, two of whom admitted to being human smugglers and were arrested for Re-entry After Deportation. The remaining seven subjects were processed.



On 25 DEC, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a blue 2017 Ford F-250 pickup on US-83, south of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup was driven through a ranch fence west of Encinal. The Deputy found the pickup abandoned. The pickup was reported stolen from Austin. A USBP Agent assisted the Deputy, and the Deputy impounded the vehicle.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On 05 DEC, Freer USBP Agents found an abandoned white 2002 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup at a ranch near Freer. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was seized by Duval Co SO.

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On 06 DEC, Laredo North USBP Agents found 239.31 lbs of abandoned marijuana on a ranch near Laredo.

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On 06 DEC, Laredo North USBP Agents responded to a report of suspicious activity at a ranch in Laredo. The Agents apprehended three subjects and discovered 295.60 lbs of marijuana in the brush. The subjects and the marijuana were referred to Webb Co SO.





# LAREDO SECTOR

On 15 DEC, Freer USBP Agents encountered a white 2017 Ford F-250 pickup on a ranch near Freer. The Agents observed a bailout by approximately fifteen subjects. Two IAs were apprehended, but the driver absconded with the remaining subjects. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was seized by Webb Co SO.

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On 23 DEC, Freer USBP Agents responded to a Drawbridge sensor activation on a ranch near Freer and found an abandoned brown 2018 Ford F-250 pickup. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was recovered.

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On 30 DEC, Freer USBP Agents observed a subject remove a lock from a ranch gate with bolt cutters, and drive onto a ranch near Laredo in a 2010 Ford F-350 pickup. The Agents located the vehicle abandoned, and identified it as stolen from San Antonio. The vehicle was referred to Webb Co SO.

# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 01 DEC, Brooks Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch in Falfurrias regarding skeletal remains. The Webb Co Medical Examiner assumed custody of the remains.

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On 08 DEC, Fort Brown USBP Agents responded to a report of multiple subjects near the levee. The Agents responded and observed three subjects carrying bundles in an open field. The subjects dropped the bundles and fled, but were apprehended. The Agents seized 102.49 lbs of marijuana. Cameron Co SO assumed custody of the subjects and the narcotics.



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On 11 DEC, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Falfurrias regarding human skeletal remains found by USBP Agents. The remains were referred to the Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office.

# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 15 DEC, USBP Agents seized 73.06 lbs of marijuana near Brownsville. The Agents, along with a K-9, discovered the marijuana abandoned, and also found three subjects hiding nearby in an orchard. The subjects were arrested. The subjects and narcotics were referred to DPS.



In multiple incidents, Hidalgo Co Constable Pct. 3 Deputies detained groups of IAs on farm properties in the Palmview area and referred them to USBP:

10 DEC – 51 IAs

12 DEC – 32 IAs

17 DEC – 11 IAs

18 DEC – 20 IAs



# COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 01 DEC, McMullen Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a white Ford F-250 pickup on SH-16 in Tilden, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven off the roadway and crashed into a fence. Several subjects bailed out into the brush. The Deputies detained a subject and referred him to USBP. The vehicle was identified as stolen from San Antonio.

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On 19 DEC, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy initiated a pursuit after a white 2013 Ford pickup failed to yield. The Deputy requested backup from George West PD Officers, who pursued the vehicle onto a ranch. After the vehicle crashed through a fence, the occupants bailed out and absconded. 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	102	716	451	1,811	629	<b>3,712</b>
Bailouts	5	113	913	871	1,656	619	<b>4,177</b>

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



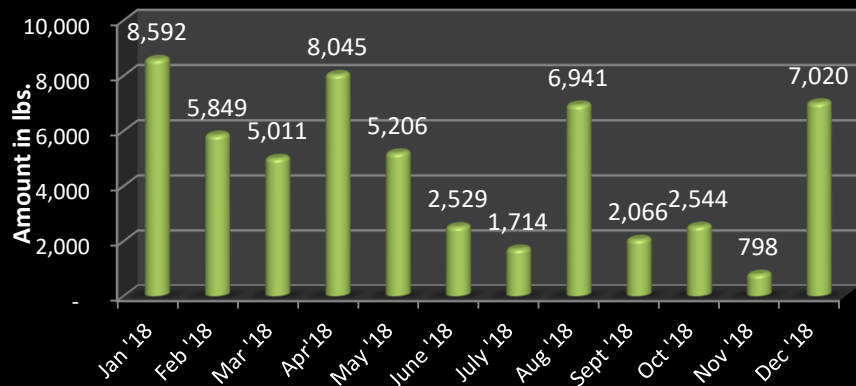


# OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

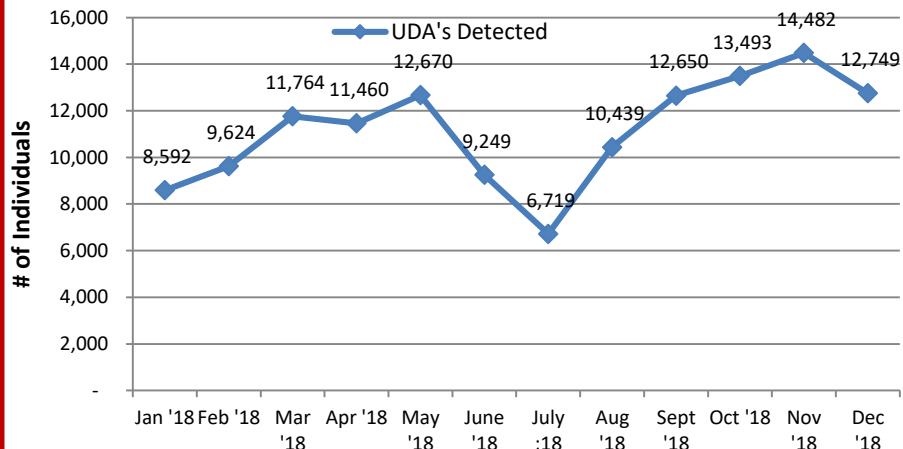
Statistical Summary – DEC 2018



## Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



## Drawbridge Stats



## Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – DEC 2018

Detections	482,069
Marijuana Seized	494,213 lbs (>247 tons)
Cocaine Seized	510 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	30 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	37

## Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2018

Detections	134,160
Narcotics Seized	56,602 lbs (>28 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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