

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**March  
2019**

**REPORTING PERIOD:  
01-31 MAR 2019**



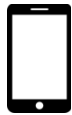
# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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.

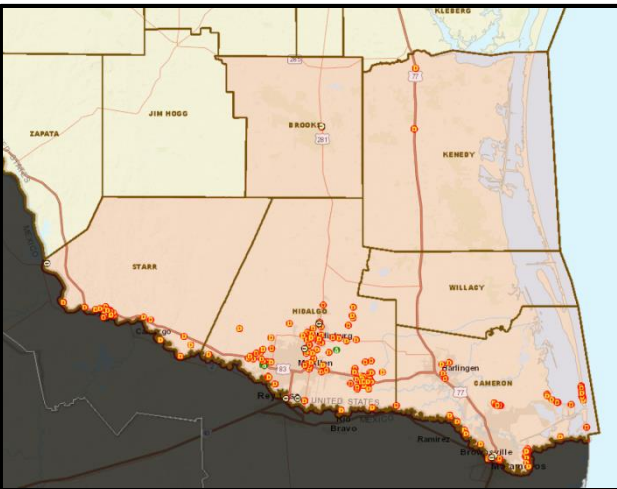
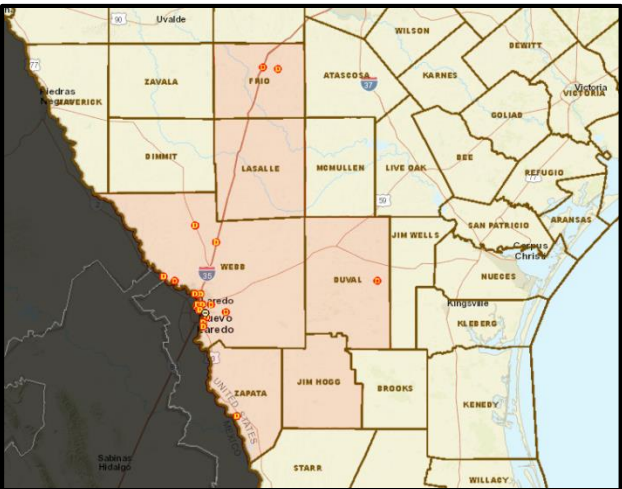
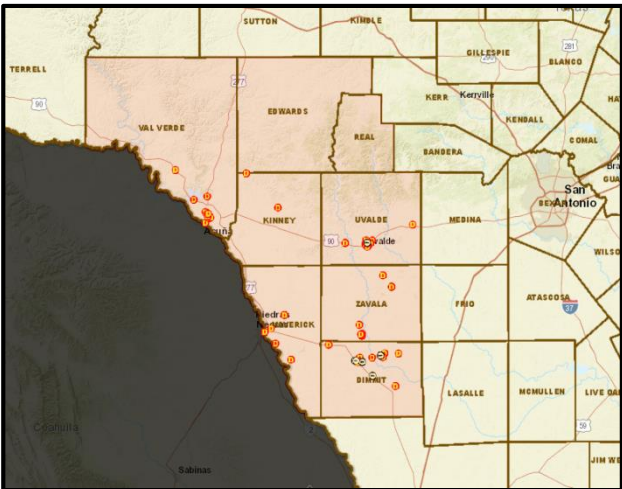
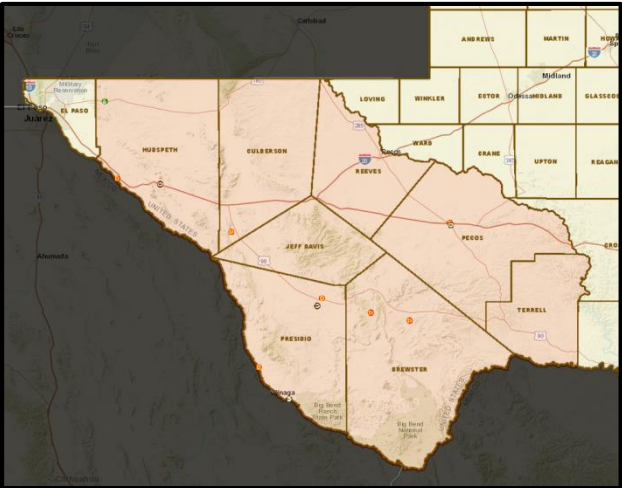
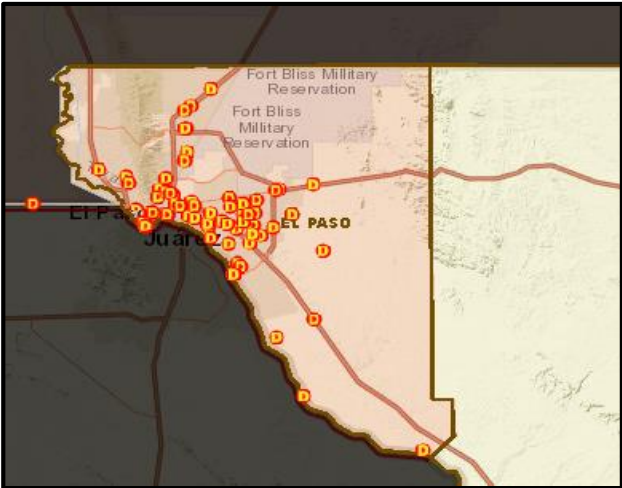


## OPERATION BORDER STAR

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>

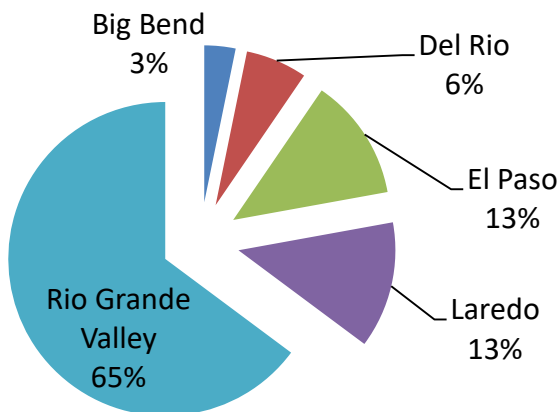


Seizures – CYTD 2019	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
<b>Marijuana (lbs)</b>	20,211	7,054	3,872	35,481	47,813	396	<b>114,826</b>
<b>Cocaine (lbs)</b>	205	49	18	658	1,644	120	<b>2,694</b>
<b>Methamphetamine (lbs)</b>	1,019	58	146	1,242	2,773	76	<b>5,313</b>
<b>Heroin (lbs)</b>	39	5	18	46	100	--	<b>207</b>

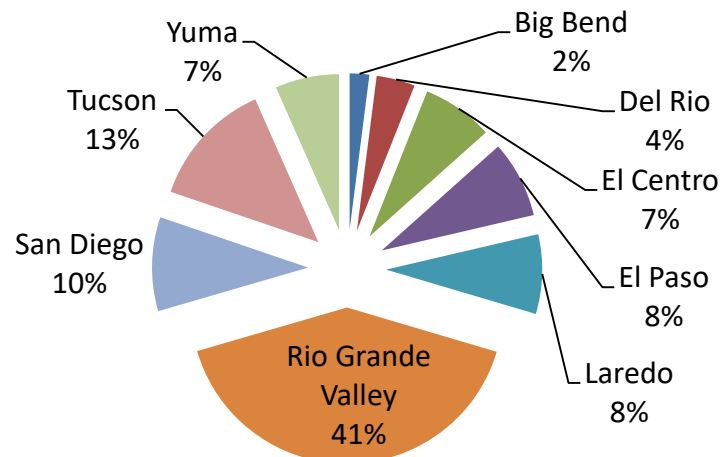




**Texas Border Sector Apprehensions  
FY2018 (OCT-SEP)**



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

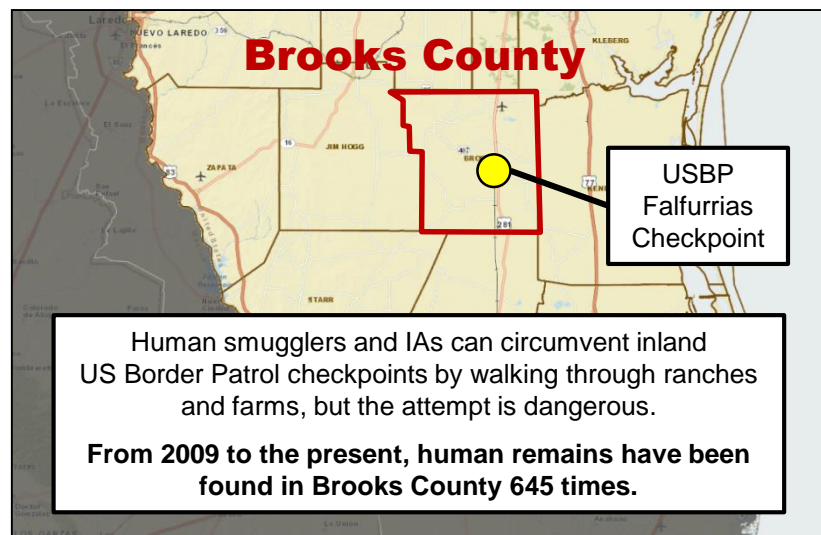


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2019	26,637	2,207	11,294	9,450	71,105	0	120,693

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2019	24,417	1,333	8,783	2,856	63,839	0	101,228

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 03 MAR, Presidio Co SO Deputies and TPWD Game Wardens detained four IAs on a ranch southwest of Fort Davis.

The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 24 MAR, USBP Agents seized a 2015 Ford F-150 pickup, a horse trailer, and a Palomino gelding horse, and apprehended two subjects at the Marfa Checkpoint. In an attempt to avoid legal fees, smuggling arrangements had been made in Ojinaga, and the horse had been transported to a residence in Presidio, where the owner took possession of the horse until it was encountered at the Marfa Checkpoint. The case was referred to USDA.



# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 02 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy observed three pickups driving in tandem in Carrizo Springs disregard a stop sign. The Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2012 Ford F-150 pickup, which was later identified as a scout vehicle. The pickups failed to yield and a pursuit ensued. Another Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a second vehicle, a 2015 Ford F-150 pickup, which attempted to strike the Deputy's vehicle, then drove onto a ranch west of Big Wells. Record checks indicated it was reported stolen from Austin. The Deputy detained four IAs from the vehicle, but the driver absconded. Another Deputy conducted a traffic stop on the third pickup, a 2014 Ford F-150 pickup, which stopped west of Big Wells. The driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was stolen from Austin. Dimmit Co SO impounded both stolen vehicles, and USBP processed the four IAs.



# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 04 MAR, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 2006 Saturn Vue in Carrizo Springs. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy and USBP Agents assisted. The driver was a scout for three IAs at a ranch, but the scout could not find the IAs. A search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of one full marijuana cigar and one partial cigar, with a total weight of 0.02 lbs of marijuana. The Dimmit Co SO Deputy arrested the subject.

On 04 MAR, a USBP Agent conducted a traffic stop on a 2019 Ford F-350 pickup by a ranch in Dimmit Co, when the vehicle failed to yield. The pickup was driven into the brush, where it was found abandoned, but some of the occupants were apprehended. The vehicle had a false front license plate, and the rear seat had been removed. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.



On 06 MAR, USBP Agents inspected a 2010 Ford F-150 pickup in Batesville, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle crashed through a ranch gate and into the brush. Two subjects bailed out and absconded. The door locks had been removed, and the vehicle had two different stolen license plates on it, as well as a stolen/fraudulent registration sticker. The vehicle was reported stolen from Cedar Park.

# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 05 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2009 Ford F-150 pickup in Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The license plate did not match the registration sticker. The vehicle also had a novelty USBP cap inside, and the back seat had been removed. The vehicle was impounded.



On 06 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2015 Ford F-150 pickup in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and fled. With the assistance of USBP Agents and CBP OAM, four IAs were apprehended. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio.

On 08 MAR, a Kinney Co SO Deputy informed USBP Agents of a group of subjects on a ranch road southeast of Del Rio. The Agents apprehended five IAs.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 08 MAR, a USBP Agent conducted a traffic stop on a 2016 Ford F-450 pickup south of Big Wells. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio.

On 09 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2013 Ford F-150 pickup in Brundage, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence south of Brundage, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Austin, was impounded.



On 09 MAR, a USBP Agent apprehended nine IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch north of El Indio. The Agent found 0.01 lbs of marijuana in the pockets of a juvenile IA. The marijuana was referred to DEA.

On 11 MAR, a Kinney Co SO Deputy informed USBP Agents of a group of subjects on a ranch southeast of Del Rio. The Agents apprehended six IAs.

# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 13 MAR, USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a gold 2002 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 2644 in Carrizo Springs. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and several subjects bailed out and fled. A search of the area resulted in the apprehension of seven IAs, but the driver absconded. The vehicle was impounded.

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On 14 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2014 Dodge Durango on SH-85 in Carrizo Springs. The vehicle initially stopped, and two subjects bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was then driven away, and a pursuit ensued until the vehicle struck a gate on Hearnese Road. The female driver bailed out, but was apprehended. A passenger who had remained in the vehicle was identified as an IA, and the driver was identified as a USC. Both subjects were identified as human smugglers. The driver was arrested by the Deputy, the IA was referred to USBP, and the vehicle was impounded.

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On 14 MAR, a USBP Agent was dispatched to US-377 in Rocksprings regarding a suspicious subject on a ranch. The Agent apprehended an IA who was walking along the road. The IA, who was also identified as a registered sex offender, was arrested for Re-entry After Deportation.

# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 15 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2016 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on US-83, north of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence east of Catarina, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was impounded.



On 20 MAR, USBP Agents discovered foot sign of subjects leading from the River to a ranch southeast of Del Rio. A National Guard Air Unit guided the Agents to a group of four subjects who were identified as IAs. One of the IAs, who was also identified as a human smuggler, was arrested for Reentry after Removal from the US. The other IAs were processed.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 21 MAR, a USBP Agent observed a suspicious white 2014 Ford F-150 pickup on US-83, south of Asherton. The license plate did not correspond with the year of the vehicle. The Agent passed the vehicle on FM 190 and observed subjects in the vehicle attempting to hide. When the Agent made a U-turn, the vehicle failed to yield and was driven through a ranch fence. The vehicle was found abandoned. The Agents apprehended six IAs who had been occupants of the vehicle. The vehicle was reported stolen from Austin. A THP Trooper assisted and impounded the vehicle.



On 24 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2018 Ford F-150 pickup on US-83, north of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The Deputy impounded the vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio.

# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 25 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2012 Ford Expedition on SH-85 in Carrizo Springs. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



On 26 MAR, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2017 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 2522 in Asherton, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was missing the rear seat, was impounded.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On 01 MAR, Hebbronville USBP Agents assisted THP Troopers after a bailout in Hebbronville. The vehicle, a 2017 Nissan Titan pickup, was found on a ranch, but all of the occupants had absconded. THP Troopers took custody of the vehicle, which was stolen from San Antonio.

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On 04 MAR, Webb Co SO Deputies observed two subjects climbing over fences in Rio Bravo. The subjects were identified as IAs and referred to USBP.

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On 04 MAR, a Webb Co Constable Precinct 3 Deputy encountered a stolen maroon 2016 Dodge 3500 pickup near Oilton. The vehicle was driven through a ranch gate, and multiple subjects bailed out with backpacks and ran into the brush. USBP Agents apprehended 18 IAs.

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On 06 MAR, Laredo North USBP Agents encountered a 2016 Ford F-250 pickup that was suspected of having been driven around the Laredo West Checkpoint. The Agents conducted a traffic stop, when the vehicle failed to yield and was driven through a ranch fence. The Agents were unable to pursue the vehicle due to the damaged fence. A short time later, the vehicle was located abandoned on the ranch. The vehicle, which was stolen from San Antonio, was seized.



# LAREDO SECTOR

On 09 MAR, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies observed a 2001 Mercury Grand Marquis and a 2003 Ford F-150 pickup driving in tandem near Hebbronville. The Deputies identified the driver of the pickup as having been involved in a previous smuggling investigation. The Deputies conducted a traffic stop on the Grand Marquis as it turned into a ranch off Chancaca Road, when a pursuit ensued. When the vehicle stopped, the driver bailed out and absconded. The Deputies advised USBP Checkpoint to hold the F-150 pickup. Both vehicles were recovered, and the driver of the F-150 was released. The driver of the Grand Marquis was not located.

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On 13 MAR, Laredo PD Officers assisted USBP Agents with a pursuit of a black 2004 Chevrolet Avalanche pickup. The vehicle crashed into a ranch fence, and three subjects, along with the driver, bailed out and absconded. Three IAs were detained and referred to USBP.

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On 13 MAR, Cotulla USBP Agents assisted a La Salle Co SO Deputy after a bailout near a ranch in Cotulla. The driver absconded. The vehicle, a white 2013 Ford F-250 pickup that was reported stolen from Noxapater, MS, was referred to La Salle Co SO.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On 26 MAR, Laredo West USBP Agents encountered a 2018 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on a ranch near Encinal and found eight IAs hiding in the bed. The driver absconded. The vehicle, which was stolen from San Antonio, was referred to Webb Co SO.

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On 27 MAR, Freer USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado 3500 pickup near SH-339, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch gate, and the subjects bailed out and absconded into the brush. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Natalia, was referred to Duval Co SO.

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On 28 MAR, Zapata USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a white 2007 Ford F-250 pickup near La Perla Ranch off US-83. The vehicle was identified as stolen from San Antonio. The vehicle was recovered, the driver was arrested, and the case was referred to THP.

# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 12 MAR, Fort Brown USBP Agents seized 711.23 lbs of marijuana. The Agents observed a 2005 Jeep Liberty being driven near a ranch by the River in Brownsville, and conducted a traffic stop. The driver made a U-turn toward the River, then bailed out and absconded into Mexico. The Agents found the marijuana in the cargo area of the vehicle.

DEA assumed custody of the narcotics. The vehicle was seized.



From 09-21 MAR, multiple encounters at a farming complex in Hidalgo Co led to the referral of groups of IAs to USBP by Peñitas PD Officers and Hidalgo Co Constable Precinct 3 Deputies. DPS AVN assisted in one of the incidents.

A total of 220 IAs were apprehended.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 13 MAR, DPS AVN assisted USBP in the Falfurrias area with two groups of IAs on ranch properties. A total of 20 IAs were apprehended.



# COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 05 MAR, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a green 2003 Ford F-250 pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch gate near US-59 in Live Oak, and two subjects bailed out and fled. One of the subjects, an IA who had been injured during the pursuit, returned for help. A USBP Agent assisted and took custody of the injured IA after he was medically examined. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.

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On 21 MAR, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a tan 2002 Ford F-250 pickup on US-59 and CR 133 in George West, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was found abandoned on railroad tracks after being driven through a ranch fence.

# COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 28 MAR, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2019 Ford F-250 pickup on US-59 and CR 139 in George West, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and found abandoned two miles away in the brush. The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio.

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On 29 MAR, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2007 Ford F-150 pickup near US-59 in George West, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence along CR 384, and several subjects with backpacks bailed out and absconded into the brush. The vehicle was seized. USBP Agents assisted with a search, but no subjects were found.



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

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	109	785	488	1,870	649	<b>3,904</b>
Bailouts	5	116	987	962	1,706	635	<b>4,411</b>

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





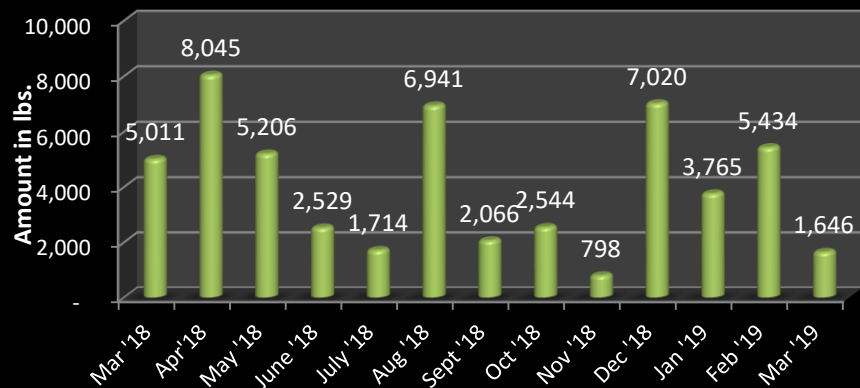


# OPERATION DRAWBRIDGE

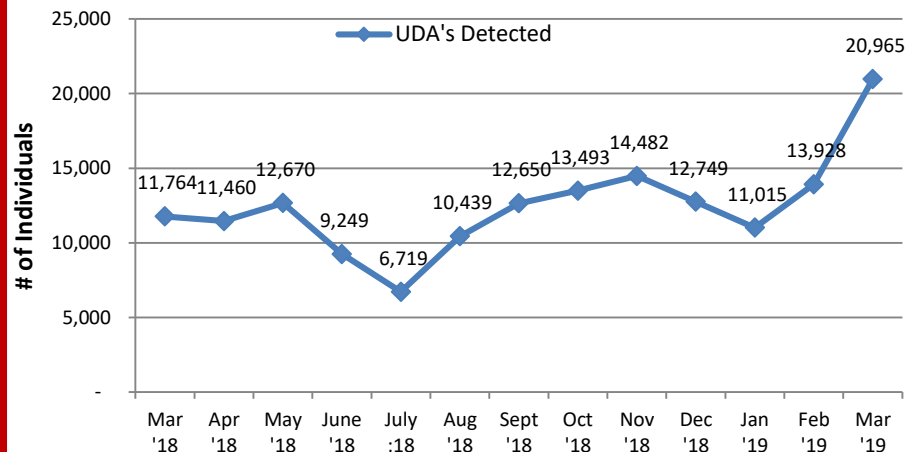
Statistical Summary – MAR 2019



## Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



## Drawbridge Stats



### Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – MAR 2019

Detections	527,977
Marijuana Seized	505,058 lbs (>252 tons)
Cocaine Seized	510 lbs
Methamphetamine Seized	30 lbs
Heroin Seized	2 lbs
Firearms Seized	39

### Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2019

Detections	45,908
Narcotics Seized	10,845 lbs

*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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