

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**January
2020**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-31 JAN 2020**



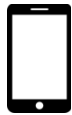
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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.



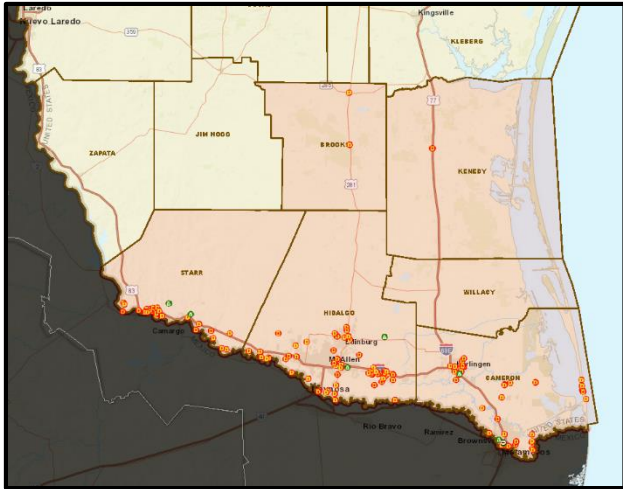
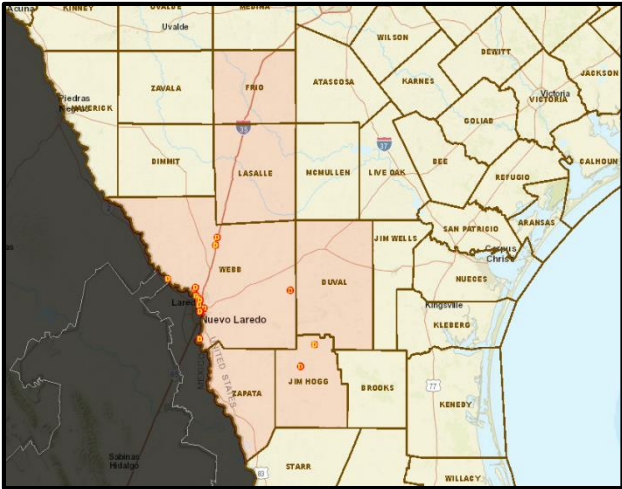
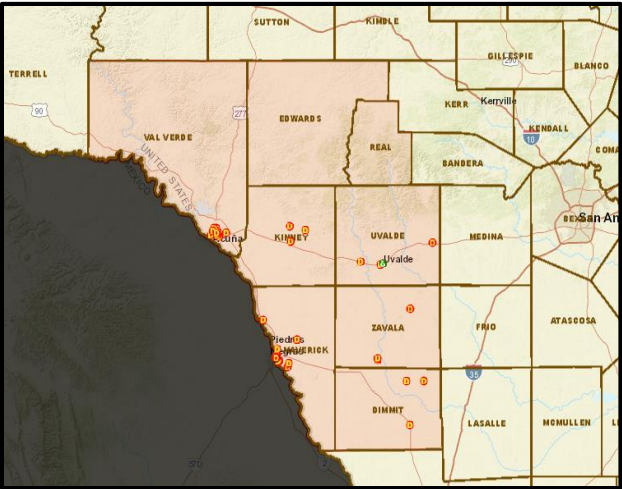
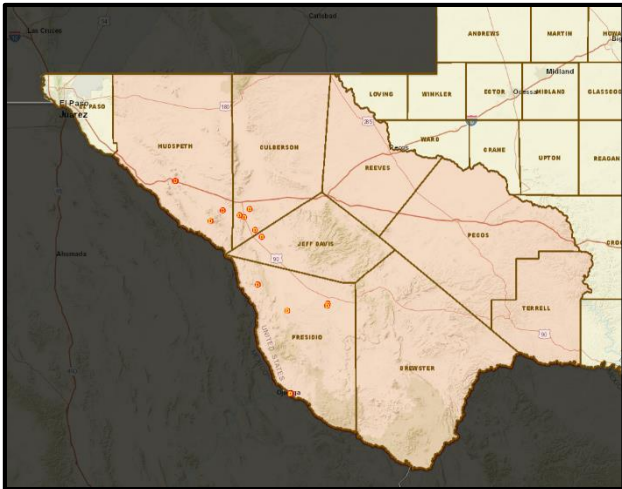
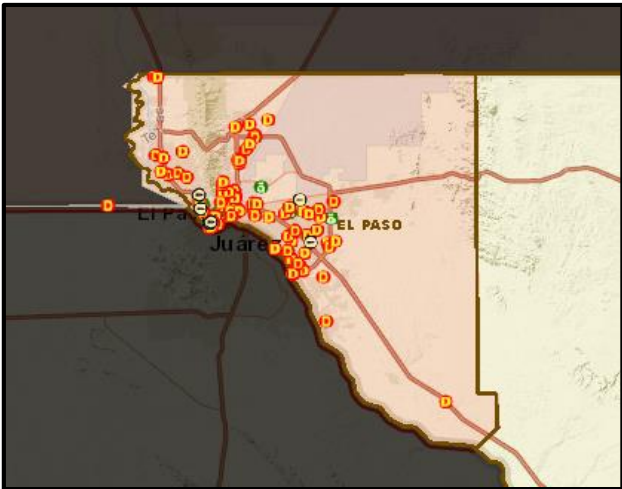
You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972,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



OPERATION BORDER STAR

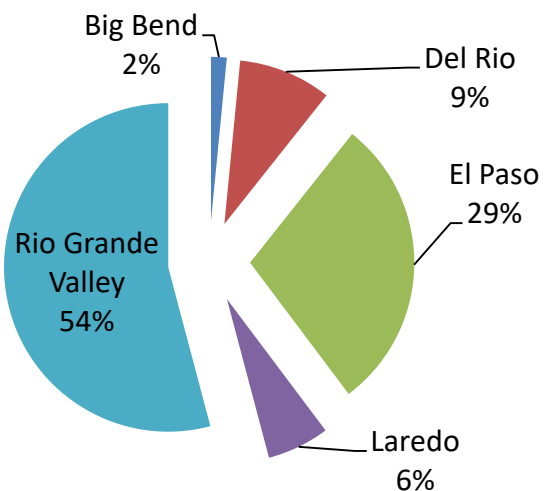
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181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

Seizures – CYTD 2020	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Marijuana (lbs)	4,275	3,275	94	4,998	12,870	1	25,513
Cocaine (lbs)	20	12	--	136	304	3	476
Methamphetamine (lbs)	472	1	58	357	852	1	1,742
Heroin (lbs)	3	5	< 1	9	25	--	42

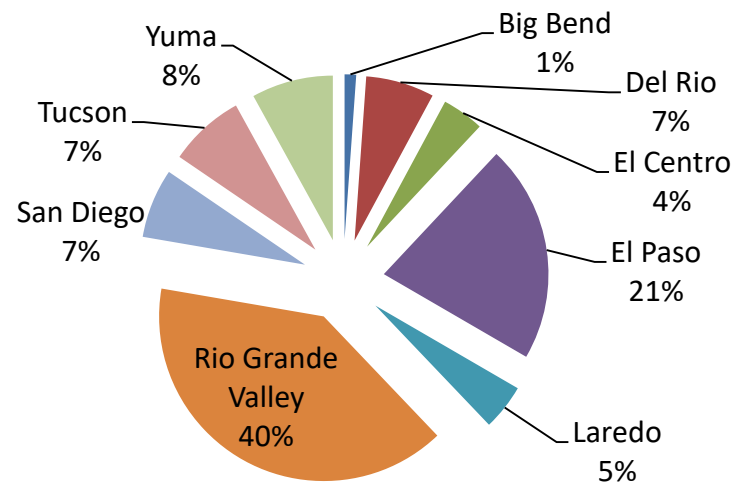




**Texas Border Sector Apprehensions
FY2019 (OCT-SEP)**



**Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions
FY2019 (OCT-SEP)**

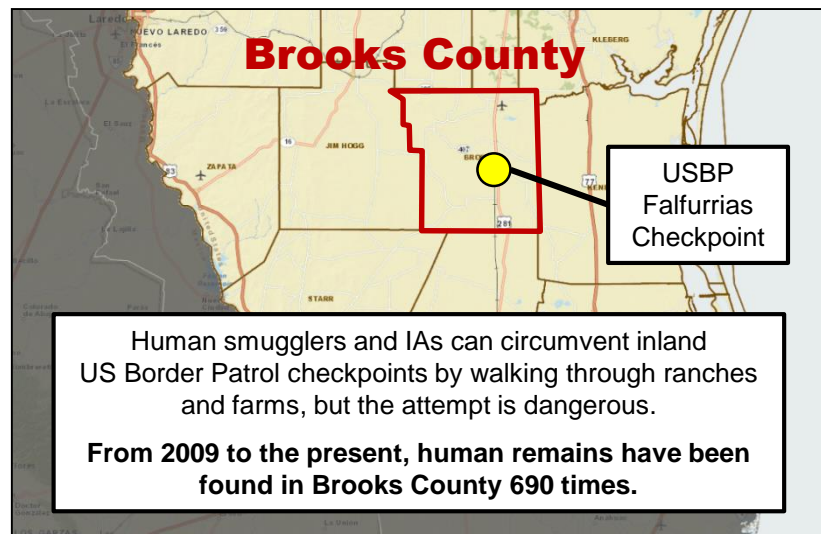


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	4,819	600	2,342	3,683	6,778	0	18,222

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	2,829	347	1,193	944	4,289	0	9,602

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)	FY 2019	FY 2018	FY 2017	FY 2016	FY 2015
Texas Border	57,603	34,383	31,827	47,192	31,109



BIG BEND SECTOR

On 06 JAN, Brewster Co SO Deputies detained five IAs on a ranch in central Brewster Co and referred them to USBP.

On 14 JAN, USBP Agents seized 398.41 lbs of marijuana that had been found abandoned in seven large bundles on a ranch northwest of Valentine. The case was referred to Alpine DEA.



On 11 JAN, USBP Agents seized 283.20 lbs of marijuana that was found abandoned on a ranch near US-90, south of Van Horn. Foot signs indicated that five subjects had absconded. The marijuana was in five burlap backpacks. The case was referred to Alpine DEA.



BIG BEND SECTOR

On 25 JAN, Brewster Co SO Deputies and USBP Agents apprehended 22 IAs on a ranch southwest of Marathon. The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 29 JAN, Terrell Co SO Deputies responded to a call from a concerned rancher southwest of Sanderson, regarding trespassers. The Deputies detained an IA. The subject was referred to USBP.

On 30 JAN, Brewster Co SO Deputies detained an IA on a ranch southeast of Marathon. The subject was referred to USBP.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 01 JAN, a USBP Agent inspected a 2017 Ford F-150 pickup in Brundage, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a fence onto a ranch east of Big Wells, and the occupants bailed out. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy assisted. The vehicle had a damaged door lock, was missing the rear seats, and had a fictitious rear license plate. The vehicle was stolen from Corpus Christi. The Agents apprehended two IAs hiding in the brush. The subjects were processed, and the vehicle was impounded.

On 11 JAN, a USBP Agent found five IAs hiding in the brush on a ranch west of Carrizo Springs. One of the IAs was unresponsive, and was transported to a hospital in San Antonio for treatment. The remaining IAs were processed.

On 13 JAN, a USBP Agent apprehended six IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch near US-90, west of Comstock. The Agent identified one of the IAs as the guide/human smuggler, and the subject was arrested. The remaining IAs were processed.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 17 JAN, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2000 Honda Passport, east of Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and several subjects bailed out. The vehicle was impounded.

On 19 JAN, a USBP Agent apprehended three IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch east of Quemado. The Agent identified one of the IAs as an MS-13 gang member. The gang member was arrested for re-entry after deportation, and the remaining IAs were processed.

On 20 JAN, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2011 Dodge Ram pickup on FM 190 in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and all subjects bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was missing its rear seats, and had numerous bags of discarded clothes. The vehicle was displaying a fictitious license plate and a registration sticker that matched the displayed plates. The legitimate license plate was found in the rear seat area, along with a third license plate. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio, and appeared to have been used for an IA-smuggling event. The vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 24 JAN, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2011 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on SH-85, east of Big Wells. The driver gave an inconsistent story for being in the area, and did not have a valid DL. The Deputy believed that the subject was scouting. The subject was arrested for No Driver License, and the vehicle was impounded. Later, the driver was identified as a Zeta cartel member and an IA. During the traffic stop, the Chief Deputy conducted a second stop on a teal Chevrolet pickup that had passed them, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a fence approximately five miles east of the Dimmit/Frio Co line, and all subjects bailed out and absconded. The IA was processed.

On 25 JAN, USBP Agents inspected a silver 2015 Dodge Ram pickup on US-277 in Del Rio, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out. Five IAs were apprehended, but the driver absconded. The vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR



On 25 JAN, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2014 Chevrolet Silverado pickup and a white 2015 GMC Sierra pickup on US-83 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The Deputy continued after the Sierra, which was driven onto a ranch. The occupants bailed out and absconded. The Sierra had indicators of being used in an IA-smuggling event, including a door handle that had been tampered with, a punched-out lock, and missing rear seats. The Sierra was displaying a fictitious plate, and was reported stolen from San Antonio. The Sierra was impounded. The Silverado was not located.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 25 JAN, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 1994 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on US-83 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence onto a ranch near FM 133, and seven occupants bailed out. The Deputy seized a small amount of cocaine from the vehicle. USBP Agents searched the area and apprehended four IAs and the USC driver, who was identified as the human smuggler. The driver was arrested for alien smuggling, the IAs were processed, and the Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 26 JAN, a USBP Agent apprehended three IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch south of Del Rio. The Agent identified one of the IAs as the guide/human smuggler. The IAs were processed.

On 26 JAN, a USBP Agent apprehended eight IAs who were hiding in the brush on a ranch in Comstock. The Agent observed a red 2007 BMW X3 in the area, and another Agent conducted an inspection on the vehicle. The USC driver was identified as the human smuggler. The subjects were processed.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 09 JAN, Laredo North USBP Agents responded to a report of possible IAs on a ranch in Laredo and found 235.40 lbs of abandoned marijuana in the brush. The marijuana was referred to DEA.



On 09 JAN, Laredo West USBP Agents encountered a 2018 GMC Sierra pickup on a ranch on SH-44. The vehicle was stolen from Houston. No arrests were made.



On 15 JAN, Freer USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a white 2003 Peterbilt TTST on FM 2050 near Bruni, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence. The Agents apprehended 71 IAs and seized 327.20 lbs of marijuana concealed in the sleeper. The driver was not located, but the IAs were processed, and the vehicle was seized.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 15 JAN, Cotulla USBP Agents recovered a stolen 2018 Ford F-150 pickup from a ranch along IH-35 near Laredo. The vehicle was referred to Webb Co SO.

On 21 JAN, Webb Co SO Deputies assisted USBP Agents with the recovery of human remains on a ranch near Laredo. The Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office took possession of the remains.

On 22 JAN, an Encinal PD Officer observed a 2008 Ford Escape that was reported stolen from Bexar Co. The Officer conducted a traffic stop near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence. The driver was arrested for a warrant.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 27 JAN, Freer USBP Agents encountered an abandoned 2015 Ford F-250 pickup on a ranch near Freer. The vehicle was stolen from Victoria.

On 28 JAN, Frio Co SO Deputies on FM 140 and SH-57 near Pearsall was waved down by a subject. The Deputies were advised of an abandoned white 2016 Ford F-150 pickup within a ranch. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was recovered.

On 29 JAN, Hebbronville USBP Agents were notified of a 2005 Ford F-250 King Ranch pickup that had become stuck after causing damage to a fence at a ranch near Hebbronville. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Rio Grande City, was recovered and referred to Jim Hogg Co SO.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 04 JAN, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents near the Donna POE, which led to the apprehension of four IAs and a driver who were attempting to blend in with field workers.



On 06 JAN, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northwestern Brooks Co and took a report of skeletal remains.

On 09 JAN, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch near Falfurrias and took a report of skeletal remains. Brooks Co SO assumed custody of the remains.

On 12 JAN, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northeastern Brooks Co regarding skeletal remains. The remains were recovered and transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 15 JAN, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks Co regarding skeletal remains. The remains were recovered and transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office.

On 16 JAN, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch near Falfurrias and took a report of skeletal remains. The Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office assumed custody of the remains.

On 18 JAN, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch near Falfurrias and took a report of skeletal remains. The Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office assumed custody of the remains.

On 20 JAN, DPS AVN assisted Hidalgo Co SO with a foot pursuit after a bailout. The Aircrew located a subject using a cell phone while walking around a residence, and guided Deputies and THP Troopers to the location. The subject was later determined to be one of the suspects who had been involved in the bailout. The Aircrew continued to scan the roadway and orchards around the residence and guided Troopers, who apprehended the second suspect. The two suspects were taken into custody by Hidalgo Co SO Deputies.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 22 JAN, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks Co regarding human remains. The Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office assumed custody of the remains.

On 23 JAN, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks Co regarding human remains. The remains were transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR



On 06 JAN, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch near Alice. A subject stated that his 2017 Ford F-250 pickup GPS had been pinging. The vehicle had been reported stolen from Patricio Co. The Deputy walked about 60 yards into the ranch and located the vehicle.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)*

Event	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	5	130	957	593	2,050	737	4,472
Bailouts	5	136	1,185	1,085	1,833	710	4,954

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

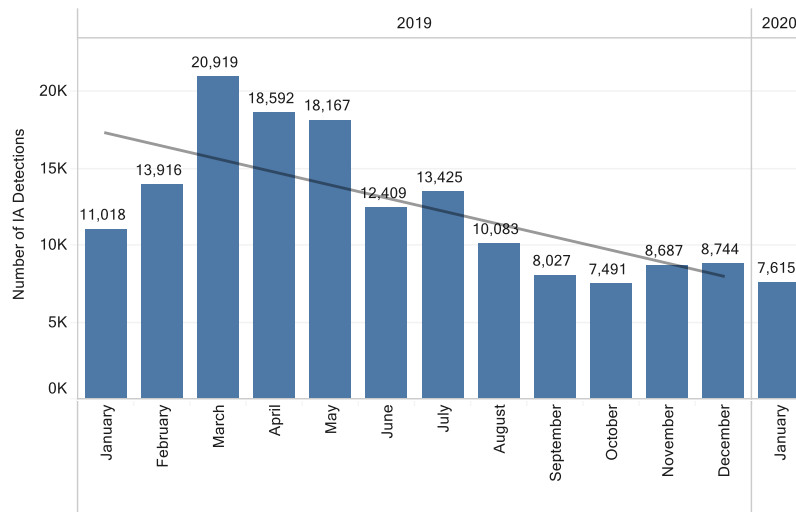




Statistical Summary – JAN 2020



Drawbridge IA Detections

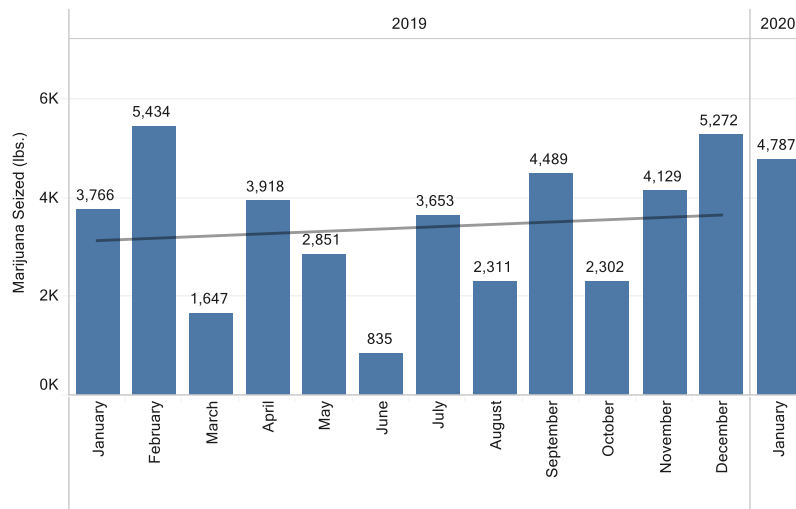


Operation Drawbridge Totals: Fiscal YTD 2020*

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	40,564
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	20,979
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	0
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	0
Meth Seized (lbs.)	0
Firearms Detected	4

* Figures are based on initial reporting and are subject to change.
* Fiscal Year is defined as September 1st through August 31st.

Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 - JAN 2020

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	641,127
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	539,747
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	549
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	40
Meth Seized (lbs.)	32
Firearms Detected	52

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

