

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**February  
2020**

**REPORTING PERIOD:  
01-29 FEB 2020**



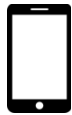
# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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.

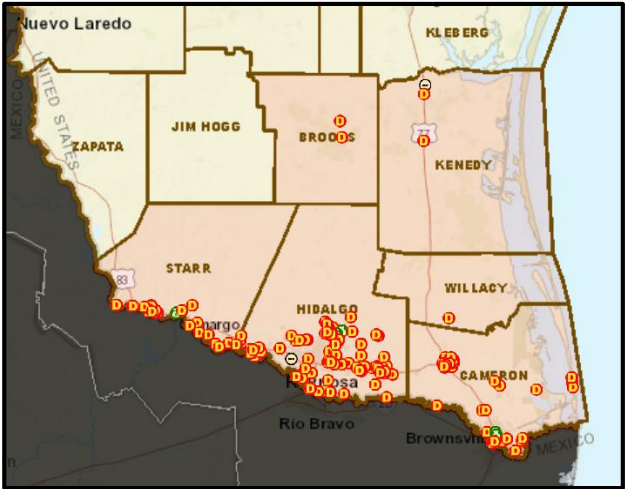
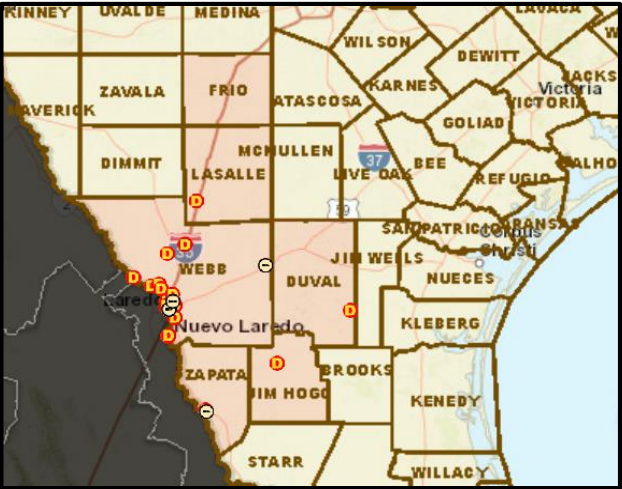
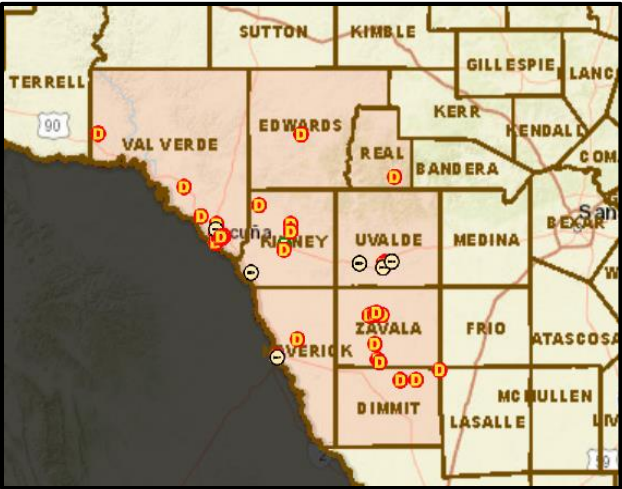
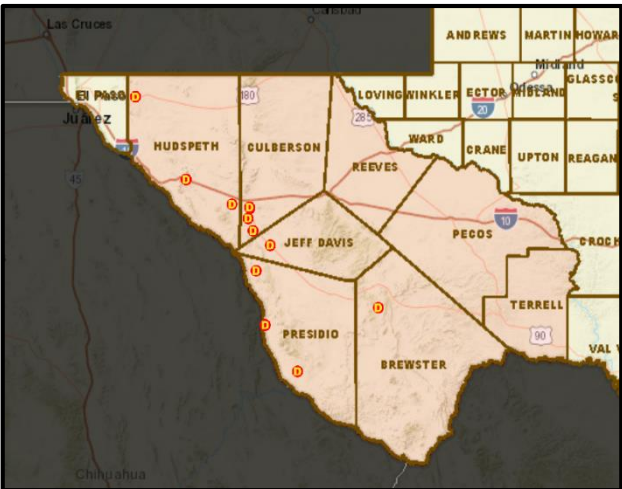
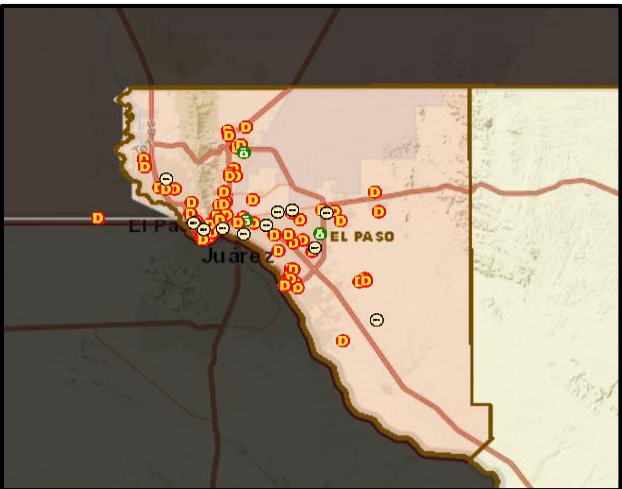


## OPERATION BORDER STAR

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	<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>

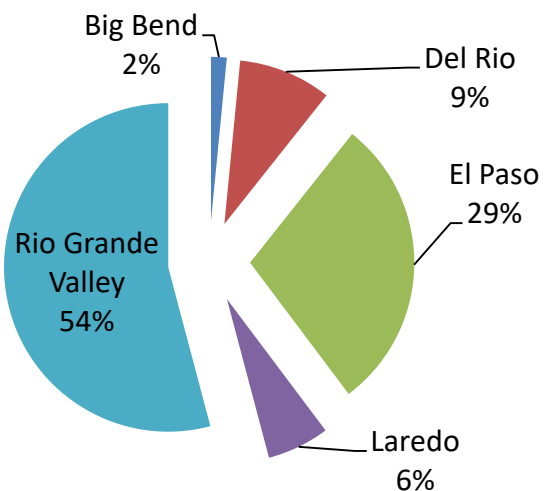


Seizures – CYTD 2020	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Marijuana (lbs)	9,565	5,887	169	9,204	21,694	9	46,529
Cocaine (lbs)	65	12	89	277	779	87	1,310
Methamphetamine (lbs)	2,067	1	183	991	3,121	1	6,364
Heroin (lbs)	3	10	< 1	18	34	--	65

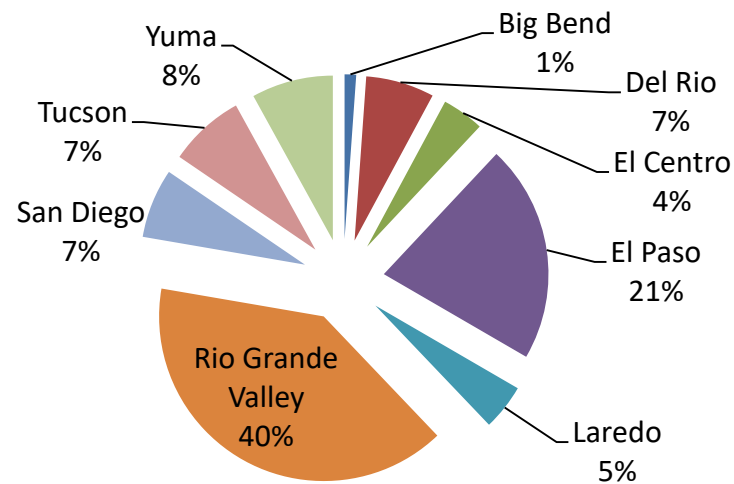




## Texas Border Sector Apprehensions FY2019 (OCT-SEP)



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

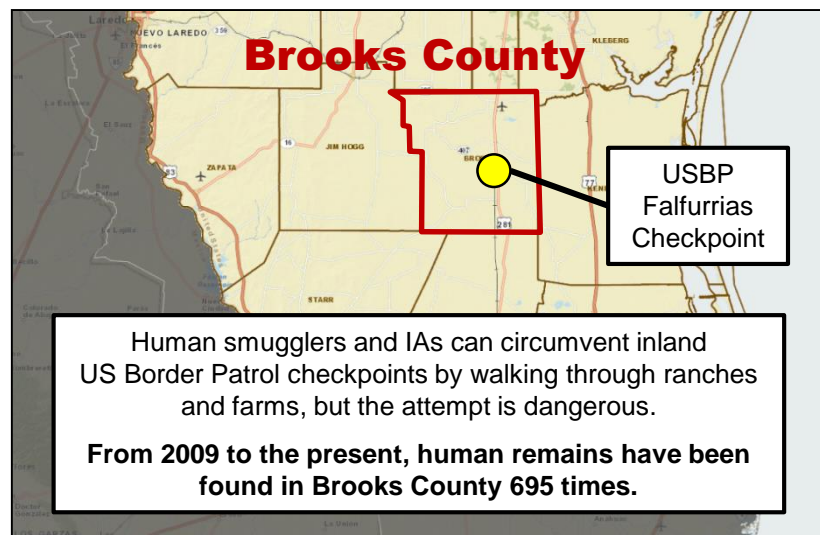


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	8,099	1,116	4,453	7,493	13,124	0	34,285

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	4,841	591	2,180	1,783	8,465	0	17,860

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 02 FEB, Brewster Co SO Deputies assisted USBP with the apprehension of an IA on a ranch south of Marathon. The subject was processed.



On 03 FEB, a USBP Agent conducted a vehicle stop on a 2003 Dodge Ram pickup south of Catarina, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, where the occupants bailed out and absconded.

# BIG BEND SECTOR

On 06 FEB, Brewster Co SO Deputies detained an IA on a ranch southwest of Marathon and referred him to USBP.

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On 13 FEB, USBP Agents observed four subjects on a ranch southwest of Van Horn. When approached, the subjects dropped duffel bags and fled. The Agents seized 211.34 lbs of marijuana and apprehended one of the subjects, who was identified as an IA. The subject and marijuana were referred to DEA.

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On 14 FEB, Brewster Co SO Deputies observed a group of subjects on a ranch southwest of Marathon. USBP Agents assisted, and 10 IAs were apprehended. The subjects were processed.

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On 24 FEB, USBP Agents, assisted by Brewster Co SO Deputies, apprehended nine IAs on a ranch south of Marathon. The subjects were processed.

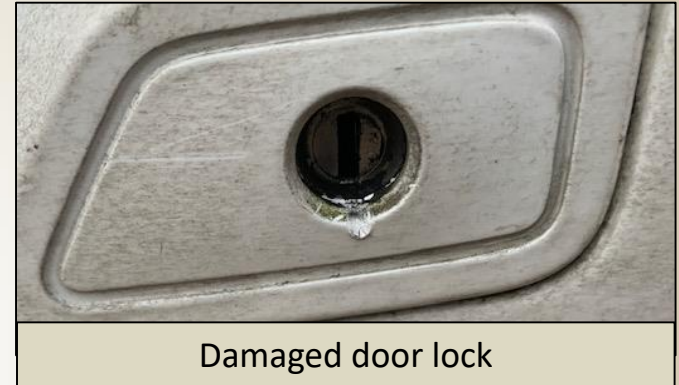
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On 27 FEB, a rancher notified USBP Agents of two abandoned bundles that had been found on his property north of Candelaria. The Agents seized 114.80 lbs of marijuana. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 09 FEB, a USBP Agent conducted an inspection on a white 2005 Ford F-450 pickup on FM 190, south of Brundage, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and several occupants bailed out. The Agent apprehended two IAs, but the driver absconded. The vehicle had a fictitious license plate, a door lock had been tampered with, and the vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle, and the IAs were processed.

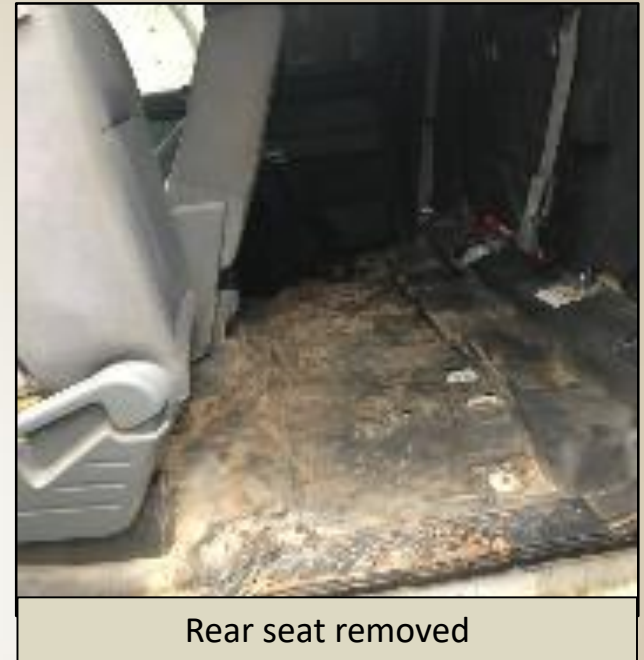


Damaged door lock

On 10 FEB, a Zavala Co SO Deputy and a USBP Agent were dispatched to a ranch south of Crystal City regarding a deceased juvenile subject in a river. The Agent identified the body as that of an IA.

# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 12 FEB, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2012 Ford F-150 pickup in Crystal City, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. USBP Agents assisted, but the subjects absconded. The Deputy impounded the vehicle.



Rear seat removed

On 12 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy observed a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado pickup being driven through a fence onto a ranch west of Big Wells. Ten subjects bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had a fictitious license plate and was reported stolen from Spring. The Deputy impounded the vehicle.



# DEL RIO SECTOR



Fake company logo

On 15 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2010 Ford F-150 pickup east of Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and several subjects bailed out. The Deputy detained one subject from the vehicle, and assisting USBP Agents identified the subject as an IA. The vehicle had the logo of an energy company, but the vehicle registration was for a person from Dallas. The cloned vehicle was impounded.

# DEL RIO SECTOR



Damaged door lock



Altered license plate

On 16 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2016 Dodge Ram pickup south of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had an altered license plate and a damaged door lock, and the rear seat had been removed.

The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. The Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 16 FEB, a USBP Agent inspected a 2012 Dodge Ram 3500 pickup south of Catarina.

The occupants drove away during the Agent's interview, and subsequently failed to yield.

The vehicle was driven through a ranch, and the two occupants bailed out. The vehicle had fictitious license plates and registration, a door handle had been tampered with, and the rear seat had been removed. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 17 FEB, USBP Agents inspected a brown 2011 Ford F-150 pickup at the Del Rio Checkpoint. The driver gave the Agent an inconsistent story, and the Agent observed that the back seat had been removed from the vehicle. After initially approaching the secondary inspection area, the driver sped off, and a USBP Agent followed in a service sedan. The F-150 was driven onto US-377 and then through a ranch fence. The driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. A THP Trooper assisted and impounded the vehicle.

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On 19 FEB, 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. The guide was arrested, and the remaining IAs were processed.

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On 21 FEB, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a white 2013 Ford F-350 pickup on FM 1019, east of Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. A USBP Agent was dispatched to search the area, but the occupants absconded. The vehicle had fictitious license plates, and was reported stolen from San Antonio. The vehicle was impounded.



# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 22 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2018 Ford F-350 pickup on FM 2522 in Asherton, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out and absconded after the vehicle became stuck in mud. The vehicle had a damaged door lock and fictitious license plates, and was reported stolen from San Antonio. The vehicle was impounded.

# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 25 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2015 Chevrolet Silverado pickup in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. USBP Agents and THP Troopers assisted. The vehicle crashed onto a ranch, and the occupants bailed out. Two IAs were apprehended, and the vehicle was impounded.

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On 26 FEB, USBP Agents seized 425.30 lbs of marijuana in nine bundles that had been found abandoned on a ranch near Langtry. The marijuana was referred to DEA.

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On 28 FEB, a Kinney Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch north of Brackettville and detained two IAs. The subjects were referred to USBP.

# LAREDO SECTOR



On 07 FEB, Zapata Co SO Deputies responded to reports of a group of subjects near the Zapata Co and Webb Co line. The Deputies found a ranch fence that had been damaged, and what they believe to be a human-smuggling route.



# LAREDO SECTOR

On 12 FEB, Laredo North USBP Agents conducted a traffic stop on a black 2012 Ford Fusion leaving a ranch near Laredo and seized 298.50 lbs of marijuana. The Agents arrested the driver and passenger after observing bundles in plain view on the rear seats. Additional bundles were found in the trunk of the vehicle.



# LAREDO SECTOR

On 22 FEB, USBP Cotulla Agents responded to a Drawbridge alert for a 2017 Ford F-250 pickup in Cotulla. THP Troopers and USBP Agents located the abandoned vehicle on a ranch, and the Agents apprehended nine IAs. The vehicle was stolen from Rockport.



On 29 FEB, Laredo North USBP Agents responded to reports of several subjects crossing the River near a ranch in Laredo. The Agents encountered the subjects on another ranch. The Agents seized 536.80 lbs of marijuana and referred it to DEA.

# RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 14 FEB, Brooks Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch in Falfurrias concerning human remains.

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On 20 FEB, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Encino concerning a deceased person. USBP Agents escorted the Deputy to the location of the body.

# COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 08 FEB, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2018 Chevrolet Silverado pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The Deputy lost sight of the vehicle after it was driven through a fence. The vehicle was later located in Alice.



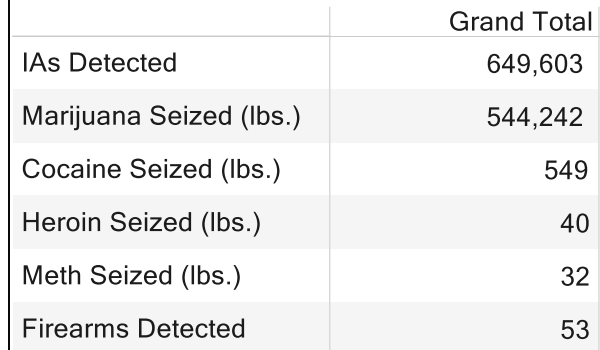


## Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)\*

Event	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	6	132	978	599	2,066	742	<b>4,523</b>
Bailouts	5	140	1,213	1,090	1,847	713	<b>5,008</b>

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





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

