

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**August
2020**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-31 AUG 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

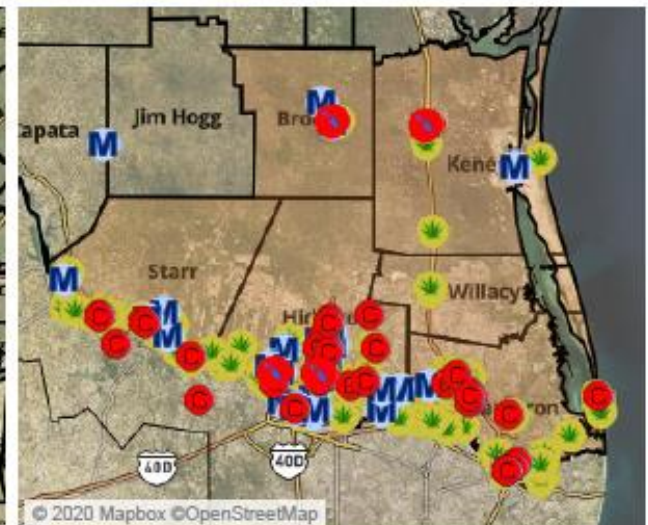
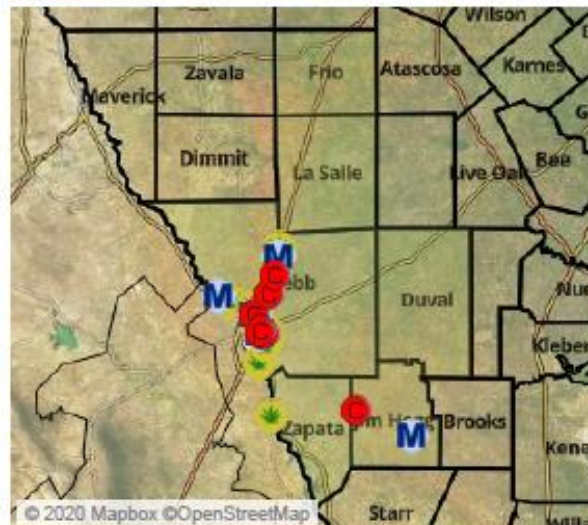
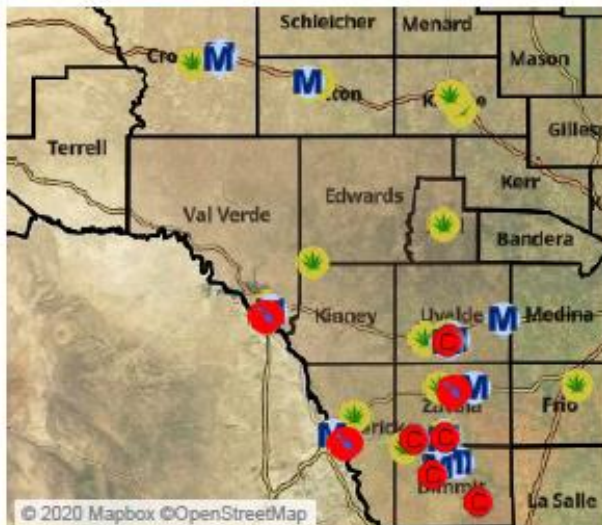
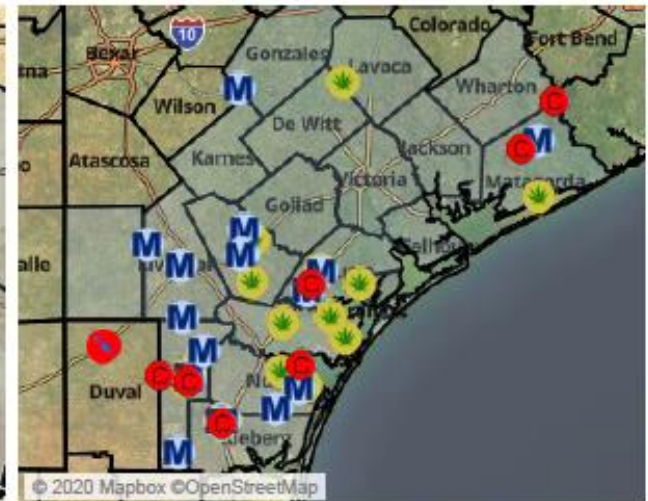
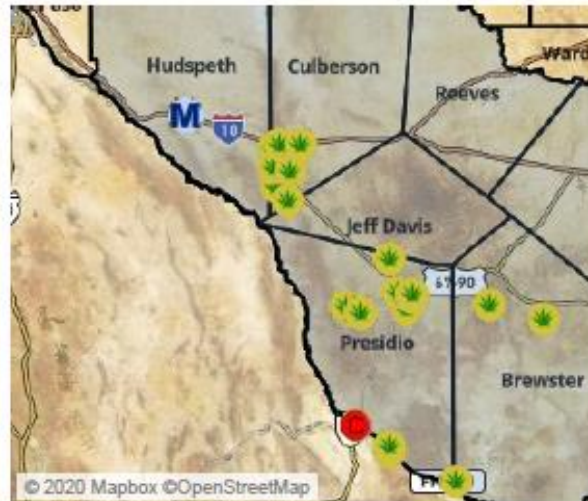
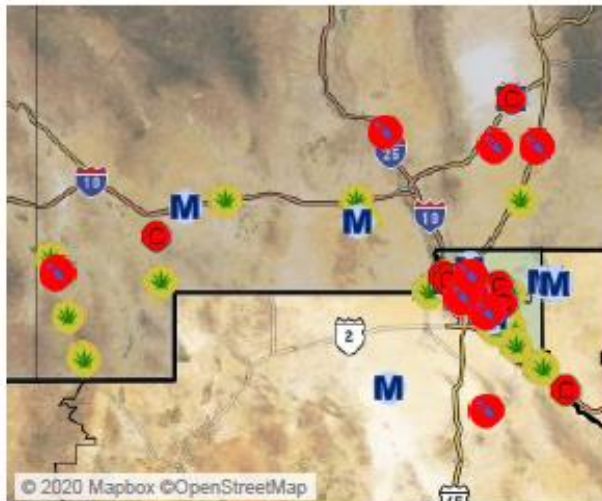
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181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



Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment



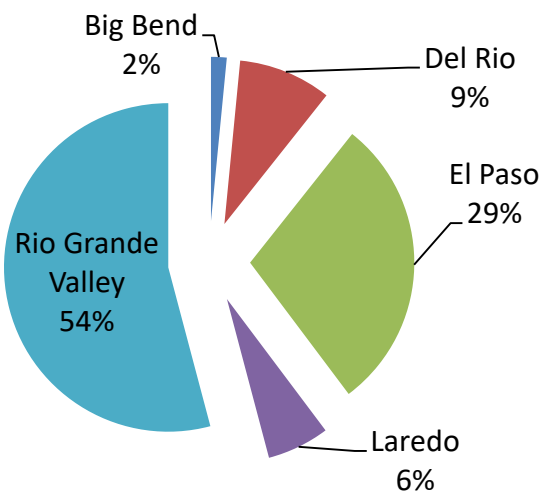
CYTD 2020	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	Total
Marijuana (lbs)	20,928	20,534	735	65,582	96,172	349	204,301
Cocaine (lbs)	801	139	179	790	3,344	181	5,433
Methamphetamine (lbs)	4,202	180	1,058	8,352	11,274	16	25,081
Heroin (lbs)	161	10	54	108	360	38	731



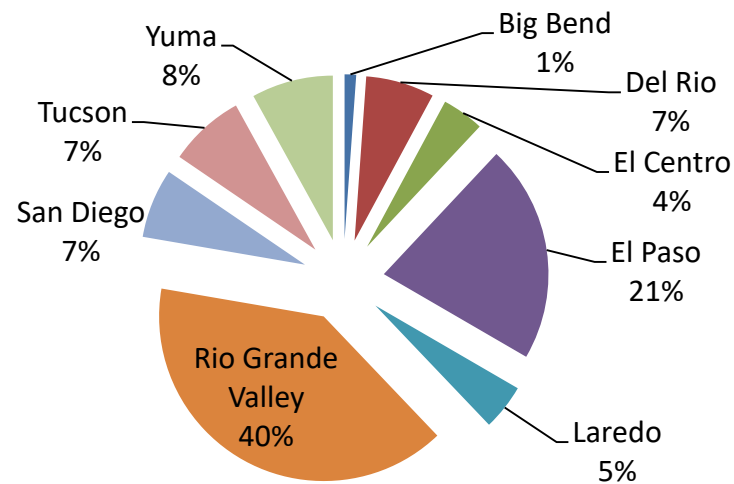
Maps depict narcotics seizures during the respective reporting month



Texas Border Sector Apprehensions FY2019 (OCT-SEP)



Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions FY2019 (OCT-SEP)

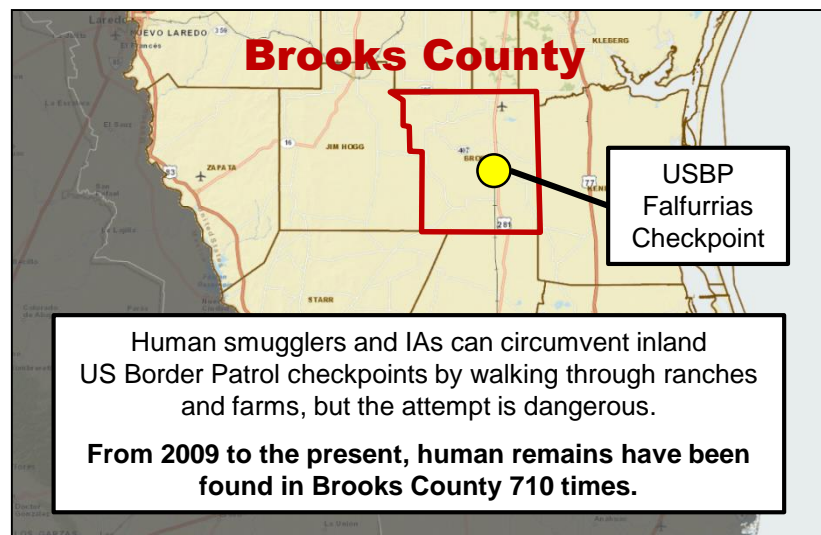


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	14,171	3,366	23,277	33,815	50,408	--	125,037

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	8,775	1,250	9,470	4,538	23,297	--	47,330

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 07 AUG, Brewster Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch southwest of Marathon and detained six IAs. The subjects were referred to USBP and were processed.

On 09 AUG, USBP Agents seized an SUV and apprehended two human smugglers and eight IAs following a vehicle stop at a business in Marfa after observing the vehicle drop off eight subjects at the entrance of a ranch on US-67, south of Marfa. The IAs were processed, and the driver and front passenger were referred to Alpine HSI.

On 10 AUG, Brewster Co SO Deputies received a report of a white 2000 Toyota pickup that had been stolen from a ranch on US-385, 35 miles south of Marathon. The vehicle was believed to have been stolen on 09 AUG with an unknown direction of travel. The investigation is ongoing.

BIG BEND SECTOR

On 13 AUG, USBP Agents seized 111.65 lbs of marijuana and apprehended two IAs on a ranch southwest of Van Horn. The marijuana was found in two large burlap backpacks. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.

On 16 AUG, USBP Agents seized 175.66 lbs of marijuana after observing three subjects walking north across a ranch south of Van Horn. As the Agents approached, the three subjects absconded. The marijuana was referred to El Paso DEA.

On AUG 18, Brewster Co SO Deputies responded to a call from a concerned rancher who advised that there were eight IAs in the front yard of his property southeast of Marathon who wanted to surrender to authorities. A Deputy responded to the ranch and took eight IAs into custody. The subjects were referred to USBP.

BIG BEND SECTOR

On 24 AUG, Brewster Co SO Deputies detained 16 IAs on a ranch southeast of Marathon. The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 26 AUG, USBP Agents seized 116.31 lbs of marijuana and apprehended three IAs on a ranch southeast of Van Horn. The marijuana was in two burlap backpacks. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



On 30 AUG, USBP Agents, assisted by CBP OAM, seized 197.84 lbs of marijuana and apprehended five IAs on a ranch northwest of Marfa. The marijuana was in five burlap backpacks. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 04 AUG, a Kinney Co SO Deputy detained three IAs on a ranch along RR 1908, south of Brackettville after assisting USBP Agents with a camera alert. The IAs were referred to USBP.



On 21 AUG, a Kinney Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2013 Ford F-450 pickup in Brackettville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, where its occupants bailed out. USBP Agents apprehended 12 IAs from the vehicle, but the driver absconded. The vehicle, which was stolen from Hempstead, was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 23 AUG, a USBP Agent inspected a Ford work truck north of Brackettville. When the Agent exited the patrol vehicle, the vehicle sped away. The vehicle failed to yield and then drove through a ranch fence. Eight subjects bailed out and fled. Three IAs were apprehended. The vehicle had been repainted and cloned to resemble a work truck with license plates from another vehicle, and a registration check revealed that the 2017 Ford F-250 pickup was reported stolen from San Antonio. The IAs were processed, and a Kinney Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 30 AUG, USBP Agents inspected a 2019 Chevrolet Silverado pickup east of Brackettville, when the vehicle failed to yield. A short time later, the vehicle stopped, and the occupants bailed out. Kinney Co SO Deputies assisted. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. The vehicle was impounded. At a nearby ranch, the Deputies detained three suspicious subjects and referred them to the USBP Agents who identified them as three IAs. The IAs were processed.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 03 AUG, Zapata USBP Agents responded to a Drawbridge camera activation on a ranch near San Ygnacio regarding a Dodge Ram pickup and a Ford F-350 pickup exiting the ranch. The Agents located the light-blue 2002 Dodge Ram pickup abandoned on the side of the road nearby, and then encountered the white 2006 Ford F-350 pickup. The Agents conducted a traffic stop on the Ford pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The driver bailed out and fled, but was apprehended. The Agents seized 233.35 lbs of marijuana from the vehicle. The driver was arrested and referred to DEA with the marijuana. Both vehicles were impounded.



On 06 AUG, Laredo North USBP Agents assisted Encinal PD with a 2015 Chevrolet Silverado pickup that had been driven through a fence at a ranch near Encinal. The Agents apprehended eight IAs. The vehicle was identified as stolen from Dale.

On 08 AUG, Webb Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2004 Chevrolet Silverado pickup near Laredo, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven into a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and fled. CBP OAM assisted by locating the subject, who was arrested.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 11 AUG, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies received information regarding a 2010 Dodge Ram pickup and a 2019 Ford F-150 pickup that had stopped by a ranch on SH-16 near Hebbronville. The witness stated that a group of people exited the vehicle before it was driven away. The Deputies located the Dodge and conducted a traffic stop. The driver advised that he did not have a driver license or identification. The Deputies seized the vehicle. The driver of the Ford stopped to pick up the other driver, and the Deputies took his information. Both subjects were released.

On 11 AUG, Webb Co Constable Pct. 3 Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a stolen 2006 Ford F-250 pickup traveling in tandem with a 2013 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup near Aguilares, when a pursuit of the Ford ensued. The driver of the Dodge attempted to block the Deputies as the Ford struck a fence and 12 subjects bailed out. The Deputies apprehended the driver of the Ford and detained 11 IAs. The Deputies were later advised that the Dodge had been stopped and that the driver had been identified as a scout and arrested. The IAs were referred to USBP, the vehicles were seized, and the driver of the Ford was arrested.

On 18 AUG, Freer USBP Agents encountered a 2018 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on a ranch near Mirando City. The vehicle, which was stolen from San Antonio, was recovered and referred to Webb Co SO.

LAREDO SECTOR



On 21 AUG, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents with a search near a ranch in Laredo. One group of USBP Agents apprehended six IAs, while another group of USBP Agents, along with AVN, followed five additional IAs. A USBP Agent became dehydrated and required medical assistance. Laredo USBP Agents observed a raft crossing to Mexico with eight occupants. A total of 11 IAs were apprehended and processed.

On 25 AUG, Jim Hogg Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2013 GMC Sierra pickup that had been seen traveling in tandem with an SUV that had been driven through a ranch fence. The driver stated that he had been going to Hebbronville from Roma to take tires to his sister, but had decided to go back home instead. The driver's information was taken, and he was released with the vehicle. He was believed to be a scout.



On 22 AUG, Laredo North USBP Agents encountered four subjects near a ranch in Laredo. The subjects absconded to Mexico. A search revealed 268.40 lbs of marijuana in the brush nearby. The marijuana was referred to DEA.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 02 AUG, a Brooks Co SO Deputy, assisted by USBP Agents, took a report of a deceased person on a ranch in Falfurrias. A funeral home assumed custody of the remains.

On 06 AUG, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks Co regarding a deceased person found on the ranch.

On 08 AUG, a Brooks Co SO Deputy took a report of human remains found on a ranch in Falfurrias. The Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office assumed custody of the remains.

On 15 AUG, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch near Falfurrias regarding a deceased person discovered by USBP Agents. The body was fully clothed, but no other personal items were found. The Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office assumed custody of the body.

On 17 AUG, a Brooks Co SO Deputy, assisted by USBP Agents, took a report of a deceased person on a ranch in Falfurrias.

On 27 AUG, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Falfurrias regarding human remains that had been discovered by USBP Agents. The Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office assumed custody of the body, and the Deputy assumed custody of some personal items, including a cell phone.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 17 AUG, Jim Wells Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2015 Toyota Tundra pickup on US-281 near Ben Bolt, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Karnes Co, was recovered by Live Oak Co SO.

On 18 AUG, Live Oak Co SO Communication received a 911 call from a subject seeking medical help for himself and another subject after a bailout from earlier that day. A Live Oak Co SO Deputy went to the scene of the bailout, but could not find anyone. The subject provided his new location, which was a ranch along CR 171. The Deputy located the two subjects, had them evaluated by EMS, and referred them to USBP.

On 22 AUG, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2013 Chevrolet Silverado pickup, when a pursuit ensued near George West. George West PD assisted. The vehicle was driven through multiple fields and properties, and was eventually found abandoned on a ranch. The vehicle was stolen from Houston.

On 23 AUG, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch near Clegg and conducted a license plate inquiry on a 2017 GMC Sierra pickup, revealing that it had been stolen from Harris Co. The Deputy conducted a traffic stop, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and was later impounded after being found abandoned.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts – CYTD *

Event	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	9	23	136	49	130	53	400
Bailouts	2	26	157	52	75	27	339

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

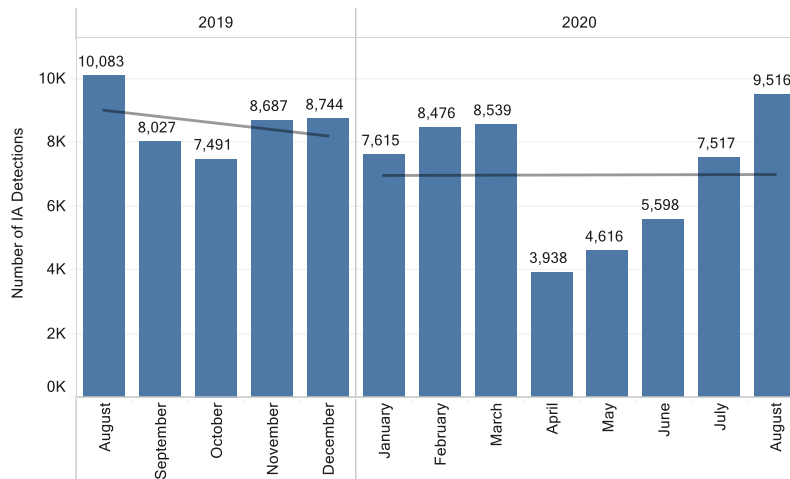




Statistical Summary – AUG 2020



Drawbridge IA Detections

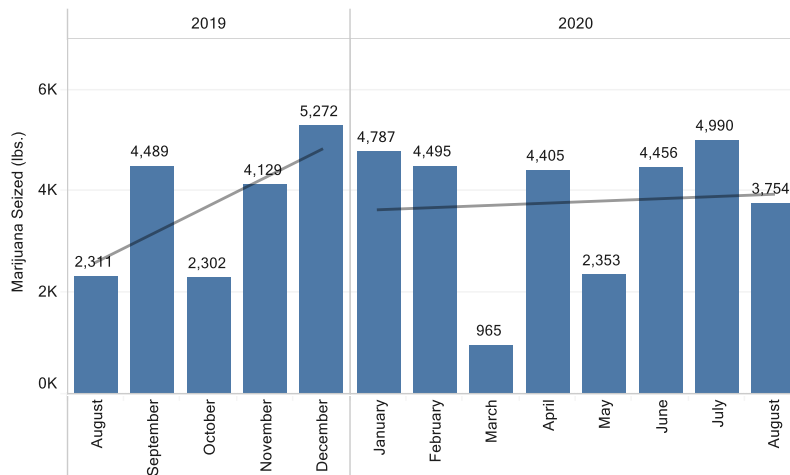


Operation Drawbridge Totals: Fiscal YTD 2020*

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	88,764
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	46,397
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	607
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	0
Meth Seized (lbs.)	12
Firearms Detected	5

* 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 - AUG 2020

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	689,293
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	565,165
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	1,156
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	40
Meth Seized (lbs.)	44
Firearms Detected	53

If any comments or questions arise from this product, please contact:

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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