

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**September
2020**

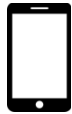
**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-30 SEP 2020**



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.



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

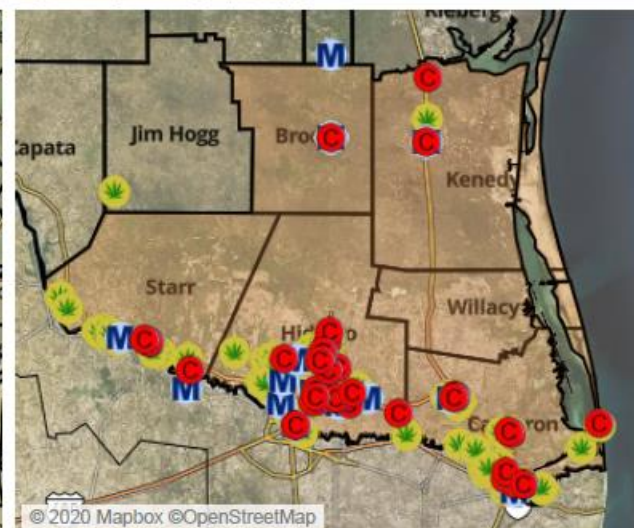
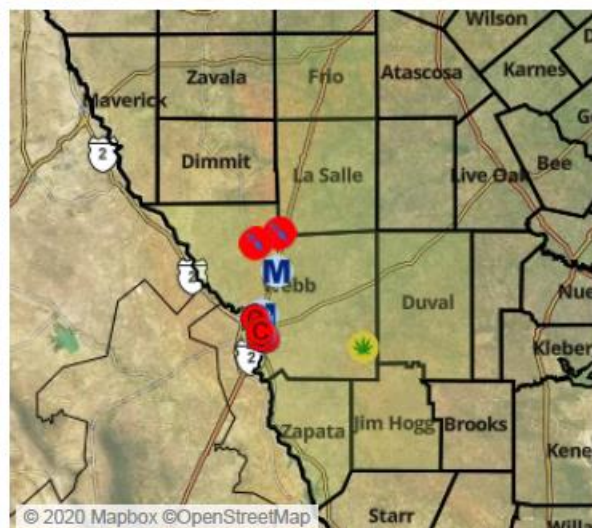
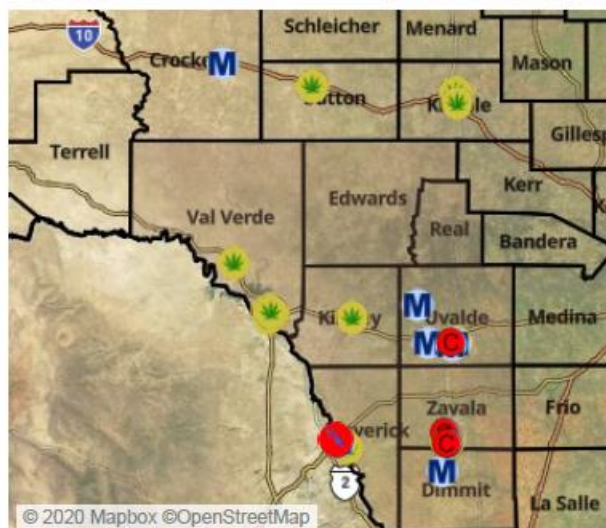
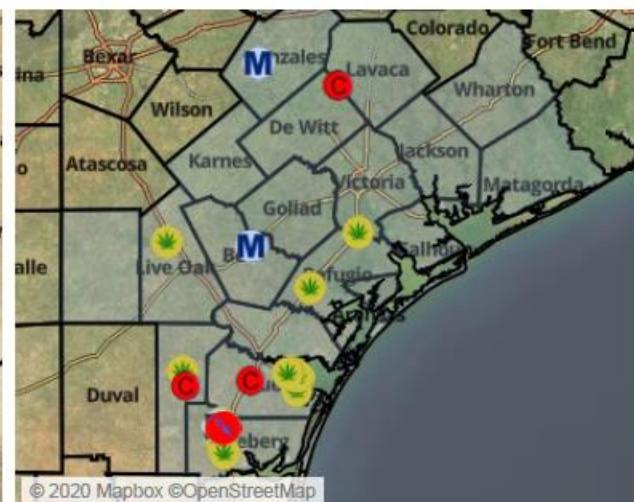
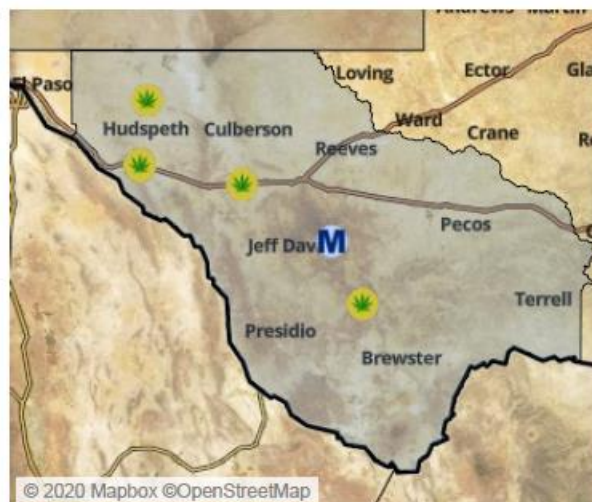
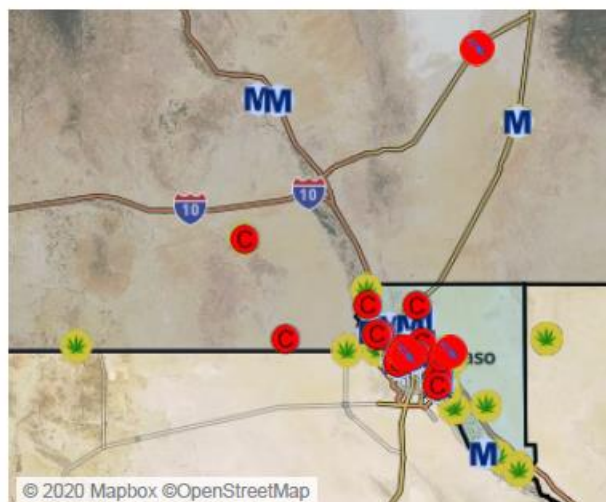
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181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



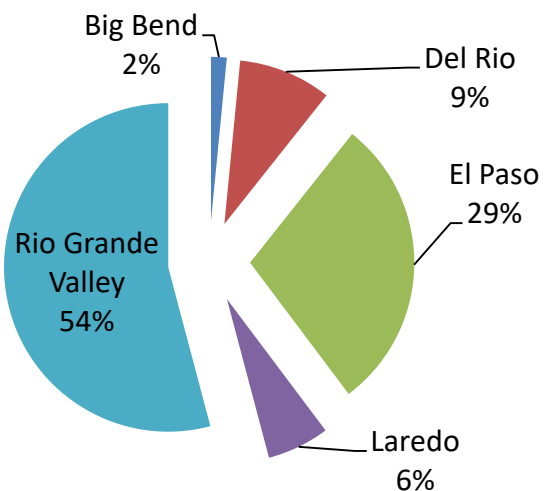
CYTD 2020	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Va..	Coastal Bend	Total
Marijuana (lbs)	23,353	20,888	737	66,779	104,721	356	216,833
Cocaine (lbs)	1,058	139	207	940	4,124	260	6,729
Methamphetamine (lbs)	4,973	180	1,082	9,060	12,296	17	27,608
Heroin (lbs)	197	10	86	128	404	38	862



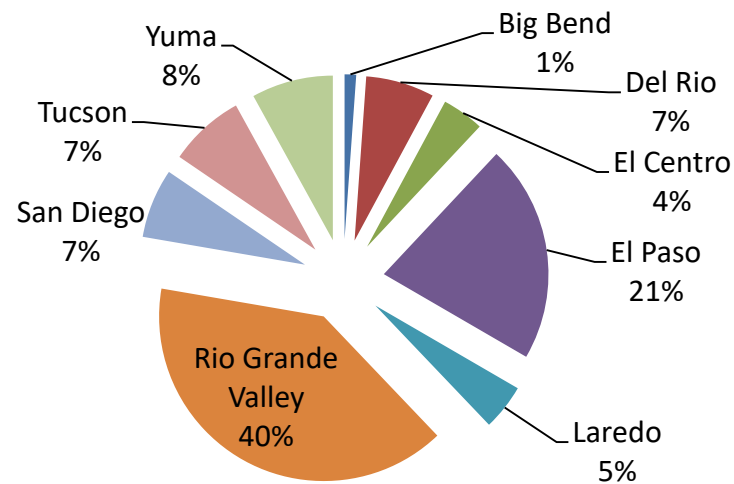
Maps depict narcotics seizures during the respective reporting month



Texas Border Sector Apprehensions FY2019 (OCT-SEP)



Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions FY2019 (OCT-SEP)

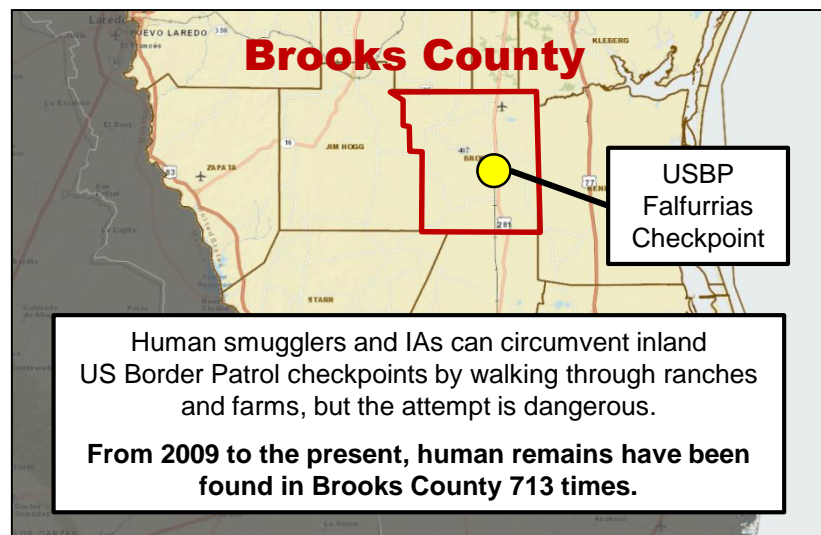


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	15,457	4,499	28,367	41,553	64,016	--	153,892

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	9,809	1,630	11,749	5,392	29,518	--	58,098

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



EI PASO SECTOR

On 07 SEP, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup in Sandia, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through three fences, then stopped, and the occupants bailed out and fled. An IA was detained and referred to USBP. The vehicle was stolen from Liberty Co.

On 13 SEP, a USBP Agent responded to a sensor activation indicating an illegal entry east of the Tornillo POE and observed wet footprints leading north from the River toward SH-20. The Agent found one backpack in a pecan orchard and another backpack in an irrigation canal. The two backpacks were transported to Clint Station and broken down to reveal four bundles containing a total of 90.05 lbs of marijuana.



On 18 SEP, a USBP Agent observed foot sign leading north from the River toward the border fence, approximately two miles east of the Tornillo POE. Other Agents responded to the north side of the fence and observed wet foot sign leading north from the ditch by the fence. Two subjects were apprehended while attempting to hide in a cotton field nearby. The Agents discovered a large bundle wrapped in brown packaging tape near the subjects. The bundle tested positive as 50.50 lbs of marijuana.

BIG BEND SECTOR

On 15 SEP, USBP Agents apprehended an IA after responding to a call from a concerned citizen regarding a subject on their property near a ranch northwest of Shafter. A records check revealed a positive criminal history for the subject, including a conviction of lewd acts with a child in Redwood City, CA in 2014.

On 18 SEP, USBP Agents apprehended an IA after his family reported that he had become lost. The Agents were able to locate the IA on a ranch west of Valentine.

On 20 SEP, TPWD Game Wardens and USBP Agents detained and apprehended 10 IAs on a ranch north of Marfa.

On 28 SEP, Jeff Davis Co SO Deputies detained two IAs near a ranch on SH-166, west of Fort Davis. The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 30 SEP, USBP Agents apprehended 16 IAs in a field near SH-17, south of Fort Davis.

On 30 SEP, USBP Agents apprehended 19 IAs on a ranch near US-90, west of Dryden. One of the IAs was identified as the guide/human smuggler.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 03 SEP, a Maverick Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch near Eagle Pass regarding USBP Agents observing a group of subjects. The Deputy detained eight IAs and referred them to USBP.

On 05 SEP, a Zavala Co SO Deputy received a report regarding two suspicious subjects at a ranch along FM 393, west of Crystal City. The Deputy detained two IAs and referred them to USBP.

On 07 SEP, a Kinney Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2018 Dodge pickup east of Brackettville, when a pursuit ensued. A USBP Agent assisted. A THP Trooper spiked the vehicle's tires, and the vehicle was driven through a fence onto a ranch north of Uvalde. Four subjects bailed out, and the Agent detained the USC driver and the remaining USC passenger as the human smugglers. The Kinney Co SO Deputy detained an IA. A Uvalde Co SO Deputy assisted with the search, but the three other subjects absconded. The Trooper arrested the driver, and the IA and passenger were processed. The Kinney Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 15 SEP, a Zavala Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch east of La Pryor regarding a suspicious subject. The Deputy detained an IA and referred him USBP.

DEL RIO SECTOR



Traffic cone carried to disguise the vehicle as a work truck.

On 17 SEP, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy investigated an abandoned blue 2008 GMC Sierra pickup on a ranch near FM 133, east of Catarina. Inside the vehicle there was trash and a backpack, and the back seat was missing, indicating that it was possibly being used for smuggling. The vehicle displayed plates that did not match the VIN. A records check indicated it was stolen from San Antonio. The Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 20 SEP, USBP Agents conducted an inspection on a white 2018 Dodge Caravan on FM 186, west of Carrizo Springs, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence. The driver bailed out and fled, but was apprehended and was identified as an IA. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy responded to assist, and impounded the vehicle.

On 22 SEP, USBP Agents inspected a 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe south of Junction, when the vehicle failed to yield. An Edwards Co SO Deputy assisted. The vehicle was driven through Junction and onto SH-41 into Kerr Co. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and five of the occupants bailed out and absconded. The Deputy detained the driver and an IA passenger. The IA was referred to USBP. The Deputy arrested the driver, and the vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 23 SEP, a Kinney Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch west of Spofford regarding a USBP camera alert. The Deputy assisted USBP Agents in apprehending seven IAs.

On 24 SEP, an Edwards Co SO Deputy assisted USBP Agents with a 2018 Chevrolet Sonic and a 2019 Ford F-350 pickup that had been driving in tandem south of Rocksprings. The Deputy conducted a traffic stop on the Chevrolet. During the stop, the Ford passed the Deputy's location. The Deputy followed the Ford onto US-377 and then onto FM 674, where it was driven through a ranch fence and found abandoned. The Ford was reported stolen from San Antonio. The Chevrolet was released with the driver, and the Ford was impounded.

On 24 SEP, a Maverick Co SO Deputy was dispatched to the Eagle Pass South USBP Station regarding a gray 2017 Chevrolet Silverado pickup that USBP Agents had found abandoned on a nearby ranch on 19 SEP. The Agents had the vehicle towed to their station. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Harris Co, was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 26 SEP, a USBP Agent at the Del Rio Checkpoint on US-277 observed a 2004 Ford F-150 pickup stop before reaching the checkpoint. Several subjects exited the vehicle and entered a ranch, and the vehicle made a U-turn. The Agent conducted an inspection on the vehicle on US-277, and detained the LAPR driver. Additional Agents searched the ranch, and nine IAs were apprehended. The driver was arrested, the IAs were processed, and the vehicle was impounded.



On 26 SEP, a Kinney Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2016 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup that had stopped along RR 674, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and was found abandoned. CBP OAM and USBP Agents searched the area. The vehicle had a damaged center console, a missing rear seat, and fictitious license plates. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Live Oak, was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 26 SEP, a Kinney Co SO Deputy observed a 2013 Chrysler 300 and a 2014 Nissan Altima traveling in tandem north of Brackettville. A USBP Agent conducted an inspection on the Chrysler 300, four subjects bailed out onto a ranch, and the vehicle failed to yield. The Agent searched the ranch, and the four IAs were apprehended. The Deputy found the Chrysler after the remaining occupants bailed out, and the USC driver and juvenile USC passenger were detained. Another Deputy conducted a traffic stop on the Nissan, and two USC occupants were detained. The occupants were identified as scouts for the Chrysler, and the Agent identified all four USC subjects as human smugglers. The Deputy arrested the driver of the Chrysler, and impounded the vehicle. The remaining subjects were processed.

On 27 SEP, a USBP Agent observed a 1984 Ford F-250 pickup pull over to the side of US-277 north of Del Rio. The Agent then observed ten individuals exit the vehicle and climb over a fence onto a ranch. The vehicle then made a U-turn and was driven back south toward Del Rio. A second Agent inspected the vehicle and discovered a USC human smuggler/driver. Three of the individuals who had gone onto the ranch were found with the aid of a USBP K-9 Unit, and were identified as three IAs. The driver and IAs were processed. The smuggler had been involved in a previous incident on 12 SEP.

DEL RIO SECTOR



On 29 SEP, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2016 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup south of Big Wells. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and was found abandoned. A USBP Agent and a Dimmit Co SO Deputy searched the area, and two IAs were detained. The vehicle had fraudulent license plates, and was reported stolen from San Antonio. The IAs were processed, and the vehicle was impounded.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 03 SEP, Encinal PD Officers conducted a traffic stop on a 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe pulling a horse trailer, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle came to a stop as it was driven into the brush, and the driver bailed out and fled as the vehicle caught fire. The Officers rescued 15 IAs from the horse trailer. The subjects were referred to USBP. The driver was located and arrested.

On 10 SEP, THP Troopers were advised of USBP Agents dealing with a bailout involving a 2017 Dodge Ram 3500 pickup pulling a horse trailer on SH-44, 10 miles west of Encinal. The Agents reported that the vehicle had left a ranch, and that the driver had bailed out and absconded when approached. The Agents apprehended 40 IAs who were hiding in the horse trailer. The vehicle was reported stolen from Wilson Co. The subjects were processed and the vehicle was recovered by THP.

On 14 SEP, Freer USBP Agents encountered a gold 2017 Ford F-350 dually pickup near the main gate of a ranch northwest of Freer. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Mathis, was referred to Duval Co SO.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 18 SEP, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 2019 Ford F-250 pickup in La Salle Co, when a pursuit ensued. The Ford was driven through two barbed wire fences onto a ranch near Encinal. The Trooper continued the pursuit by following the muddy tire tracks. The vehicle, which was found abandoned, had been stolen from TPWD in San Antonio.

On 22 SEP, Freer USBP Agents responded to reports of an abandoned 2008 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on a ranch near Concepcion. The vehicle was identified as having been involved in a bailout, and an inquiry on the vehicle revealed it as stolen from Alice. The vehicle was recovered.

On 24 SEP, Laredo West USBP Agents responded to reports of a 2005 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup with a horse trailer entering a ranch off US-83 near Laredo. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio, but the horse trailer was not stolen. The vehicle and trailer were recovered by THP. A few hours later, during an inventory of the vehicle, a K-9 alerted, leading to the seizure of 0.001 lbs of heroin from the center console. The narcotics were referred to DEA.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 26 SEP, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup on US-59 in Freer, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle continued traveling down the fence line before being driven into the brush. The Trooper was unable to follow, but called USBP, who had a gate key. USBP Agents located the vehicle and 11 IAs. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.

On 26 SEP, Freer USBP Agents assisted THP Troopers with a pursuit of a 2016 Dodge Ram pickup near US-59 in George West. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Cedar Park, was recovered after being driven through a fence north of Freer.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 21 SEP, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northern Brooks Co regarding a deceased subject discovered by USBP Agents. The Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office assumed custody of the body and the personal effects.

On 25 SEP, a Starr Co SO Deputy responded regarding a white 2014 Chevrolet Silverado pickup involved in a pursuit with USBP Agents. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch property in northern Starr Co, causing damage to a fence. Eight IAs were apprehended by USBP Agents. The vehicle was seized.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 23 SEP, Jim Wells Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2017 Ford F-150 pickup near Alice. After coming to a stop, the Ford activated red and blue emergency lights and then sped off, leading to a pursuit. After several miles, the vehicle was driven through a gate and into the brush. The vehicle, which was located abandoned, contained plywood, and the rear seats had been removed. It was reported stolen from Harris Co. The vehicle was recovered.

On 24 SEP, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2018 Ford F-250 pickup in Alice, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a barbed wire fence onto a property near Alice. The Deputy observed approximately 15 subjects bail out and flee into the property. The vehicle was reported stolen from Pennsylvania. One IA was detained and referred to USBP.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts – CYTD *

Event	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	9	25	151	64	146	64	459
Bailouts	2	28	175	62	88	34	389

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

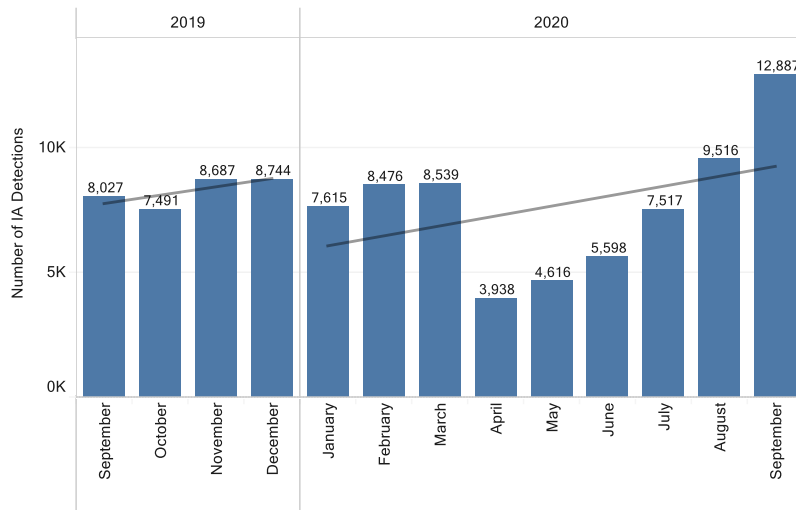




Statistical Summary – SEP 2020



Drawbridge IA Detections

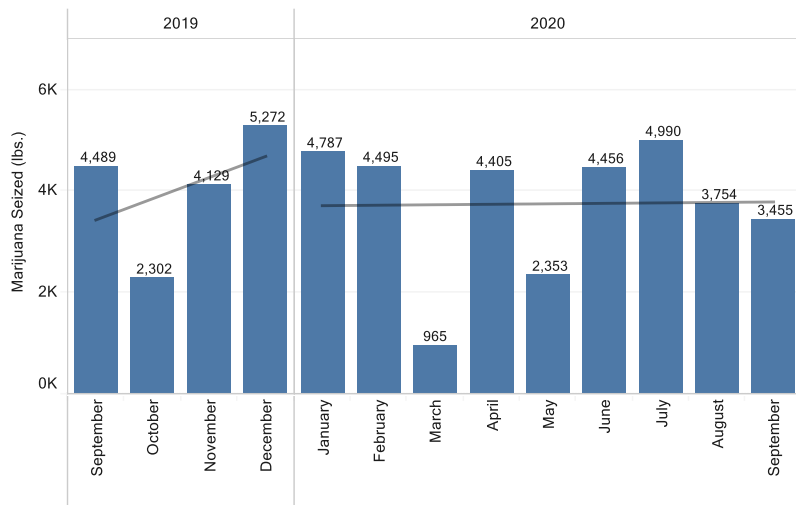


Operation Drawbridge Totals: Fiscal YTD 2020*

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	12,887
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	3,455
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	0
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	0
Meth Seized (lbs.)	0
Firearms Detected	1

* 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 - SEP 2020

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	702,180
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	568,620
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	1,156
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	40
Meth Seized (lbs.)	44
Firearms Detected	54

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

