

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**February
2021**

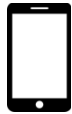
**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-28 FEB 2021**



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

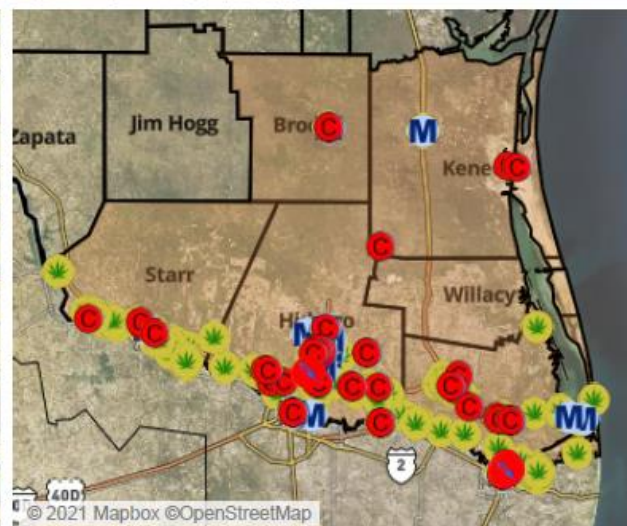
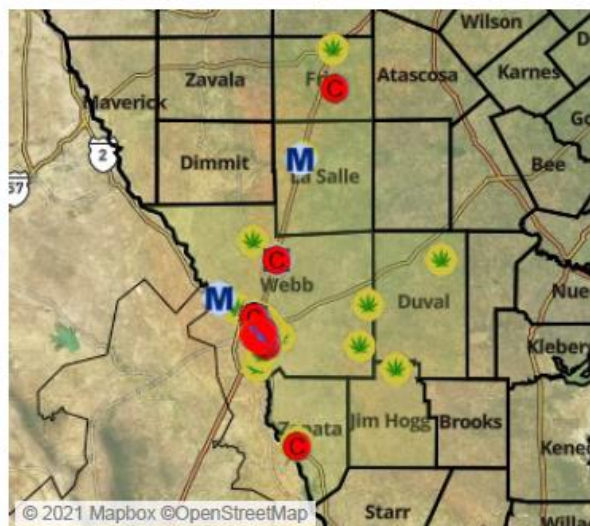
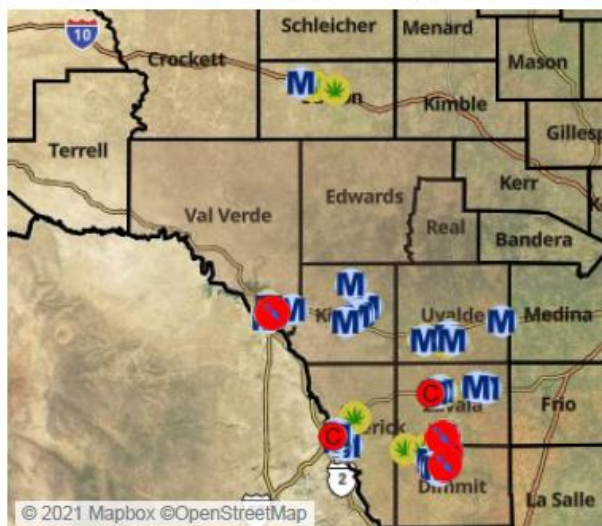
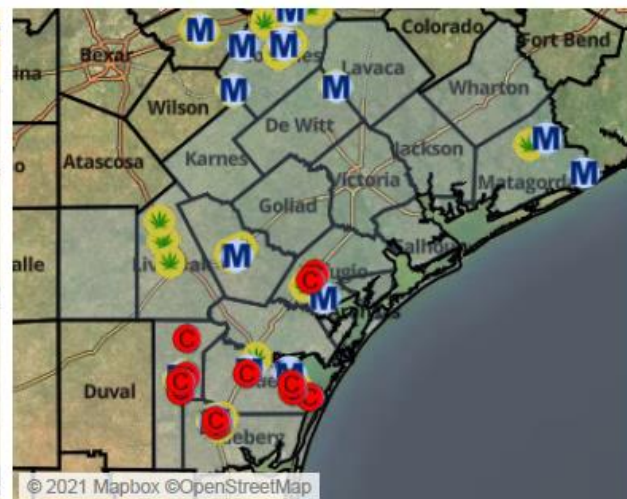
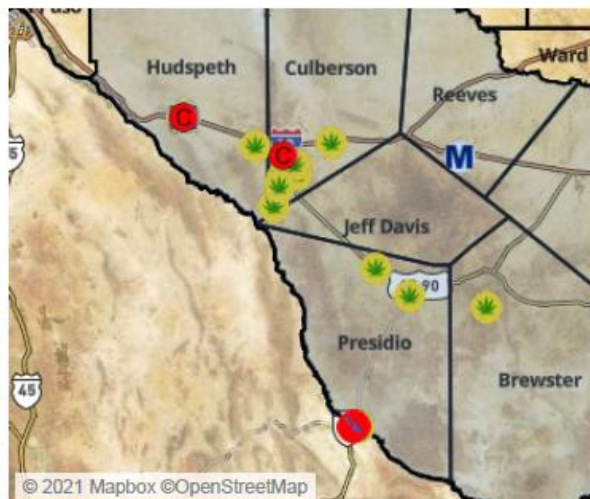
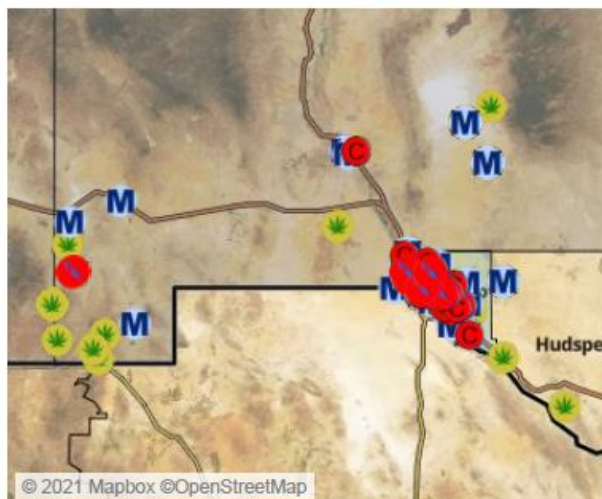
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181	(956) 289-5727	(361) 485-8500
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Ranch Border Operations Sector Assessment



CYTD 2021	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Va..	Coastal Bend	Total
Marijuana (lbs)	2,424	3,844	2	15,442	15,960	4	37,676
Cocaine (lbs)	398	33	32	767	1,239	33	2,502
Methamphetamine (lbs)	758	22	30	930	1,445	2	3,188
Heroin (lbs)	44	1	0	68	49	0	162



Maps depict narcotics seizures during the respective reporting month

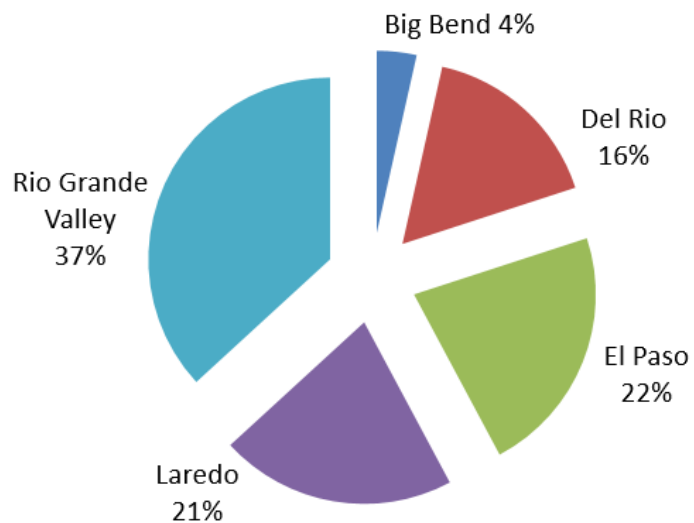


Sector Apprehension Comparisons



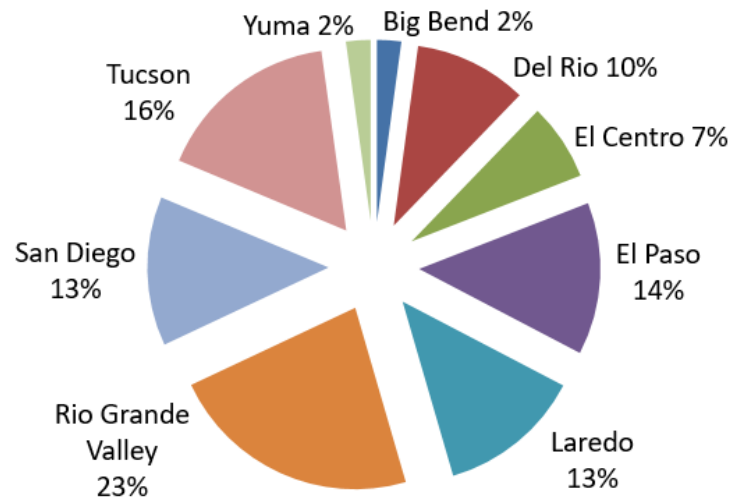
Texas Border Sector Apprehensions

FY2020 (OCT-SEP)



Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions

FY2020 (OCT-SEP)

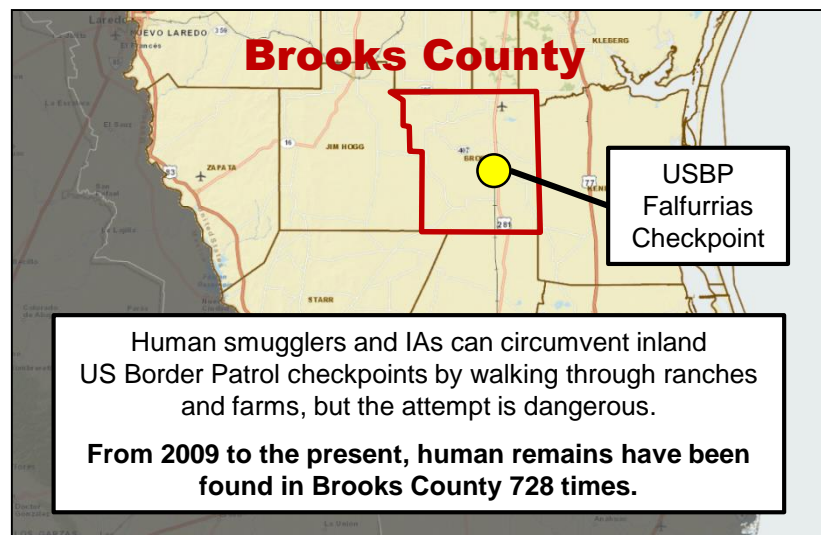


For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Total UA wT42	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	4,095	4,660	21,360	16,847	46,020	--	92,982

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2020	3,565	2,280	13,429	5,145	35,275	--	59,694

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 01 FEB, Brewster Co SO Deputies assisted USBP Agents by detaining 13 IAs on a ranch east of Marathon. The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 02 FEB, USBP Agents apprehended a group of 13 IAs on a ranch along US-90, northwest of Valentine. One of the subjects was identified as the guide of the group. The subjects were processed.

On 03 FEB, USBP Agents seized a gray 2006 Chevrolet Silverado pickup pulling a horse trailer and apprehended a LAPR human smuggler and 51 IAs during a vehicle stop northwest of Valentine. The IAs had been hiding in the horse trailer. The driver was referred to Alpine HSI, and the IAs were processed.



BIG BEND SECTOR

On 03 FEB, a Brewster Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch east of Panther Junction regarding two suspected IAs. The Deputy detained two IAs and referred them USBP.

On 08 FEB, Brewster Co SO Deputies detained nine IAs on a ranch southeast of Alpine. The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 09 FEB, a Brewster Co SO Deputy responded to a report of an IA who had stolen a Ford F-150 pickup on a ranch north of Marathon. The ranchers detained the subject until a Deputy arrived. The subject had also stolen two full boxes of food and water from a ranch trailer on the property. The ranchers suspected that more IAs were in the area. The subject was arrested.

On 14 FEB, a Brewster Co SO Deputy responded to a report of suspected IAs attempting to break into a rancher's residence during freezing weather. The Deputy found 13 IAs near the residence. The subjects were detained and referred to USBP.

BIG BEND SECTOR

On 24 FEB, USBP Agents and CBP OAM seized 174.95 lbs of marijuana and apprehended three IAs in the brush on a ranch southeast of Van Horn. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



On 25 FEB, USBP Agents seized 229.01 lbs of marijuana that was found abandoned on a ranch northwest of Marfa following a K-9 alert. The marijuana was contained in four large burlap backpacks. Four subjects are believed to have absconded. The marijuana was referred to Alpine DEA.

On 27 FEB, Brewster Co SO Deputies were dispatched to a ranch southeast of Marathon regarding two suspected IAs. The Deputies detained an IA, but the second subject absconded. The IA was referred to USBP.

On 28 FEB, USBP Agents apprehended a group of 29 IAs near a ranch southeast of Alpine. The Agents also identified the foot guide of the group.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 01 FEB, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a white 2019 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 1019, south of Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, where the driver and passenger bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was displaying a stolen license plate and was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.

On 01 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2019 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 2688, west of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence onto one ranch, and was found abandoned on another. The vehicle's door lock showed signs of tampering, and the vehicle was displaying license plates and registration from another vehicle. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.

On 04 FEB, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a white 2020 Ford F-350 pickup on FM 1908, north of Quemado. The vehicle stopped briefly, then sped away, and a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence. USBP Agents responded to assist, and located the truck four miles inside the ranch. A records check revealed that the vehicle was stolen from San Antonio. The vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 08 FEB, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2011 Hyundai Sonata on FM 1025, south of Batesville. The driver and passenger gave an implausible route of travel, and were suspected of scouting. During the stop, the Deputy observed a white 2020 Jeep Cherokee drive by with multiple occupants. The Deputy conducted a traffic stop on the Jeep on US-57, east of Batesville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, where six subjects bailed out and fled. One of the subjects was detained, identified as an IA, and referred to USBP. The vehicle was impounded. One of the occupants of the Hyundai was found to be the registered owner of the Jeep.

On 09 FEB, a Kinney Co SO Deputy detained four IAs on a ranch southwest of Brackettville. The subjects were referred to USBP.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 10 FEB, a TPWD Game Warden was flagged down by an IA on a ranch along FM 1908, southwest of Spofford. The subject was detained and referred to USBP.

On 10 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2018 Ford F-250 utility truck on a ranch east of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. Due to road conditions, the Deputy lost sight of the vehicle.

On 10 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2015 GMC Sierra pickup on FM 2688 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, where the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen from Houston. The vehicle was displaying a fictitious license plate, and had multiple indicators of being used for alien smuggling: missing rear seats, a punched-out door lock, a broken ignition, and numerous food and drink items. The vehicle also had a welded-on piece of metal that prevented it from sagging and bouncing when carrying a heavy load. The vehicle was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 13 FEB, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a white 2019 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 190, south of Brundage, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and was found abandoned on another road. The vehicle, which had a license plate from another vehicle and was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.

On 20 FEB, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 2019 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 pickup on FM 1019, south of Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and was found by a USBP Agent. The Agent apprehended an IA. The vehicle was reported stolen from Harris Co. The Trooper impounded the vehicle, and the Agent processed the IA.

On 24 FEB, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 2014 Ford F-150 pickup east of Big Wells. Several subjects bailed out, and a pursuit ensued. When the vehicle struck a ranch gate, the driver bailed out and absconded. The Trooper detained two IAs, who were referred to USBP. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 25 FEB, a USBP Agent inspected a 2013 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup at the Tactical Checkpoint on RR-674 in Kinney Co, when it failed to yield. Two subjects bailed out and fled after the vehicle struck a fence. The Agents detained an IA, but the driver absconded. The vehicle had a license plate from another vehicle and was reported stolen from San Antonio. The IA was processed, and a Kinney Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 25 FEB, DPS AVN observed a 2019 Ford F-250 pickup west of Spofford. USBP Agents conducted a vehicle stop, but the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, where the 19 occupants bailed out and fled. The Agents apprehended 18 IAs. One of the IAs was identified as the driver/human smuggler. The vehicle was stolen from Dallas. The IAs were processed, and a THP Trooper impounded the vehicle.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 03 FEB, THP Troopers conducted a traffic stop on a 2019 Nissan Titan pickup near Artesia Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence line, and was not located. The following day, Troopers were advised that USBP Agents had found the vehicle abandoned on the property. An inquiry on the vehicle revealed it as stolen from Bexar Co. The vehicle was recovered.

On 08 FEB, Cotulla USBP Agents encountered a 2015 GMC Sierra pickup near Derby. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, where the occupants bailed out and fled. The Agents apprehended nine IAs. The vehicle was reported stolen from Houston. The subjects were processed, and the vehicle was recovered.

On 11 FEB, Hebbronville USBP Agents assisted a THP Trooper with a bailout from a stolen 2014 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on a ranch near Hebbronville. The Agents conducted a search of the area where the bailout occurred, but no subjects were located. The vehicle was recovered and was referred to Duval Co SO.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 12 FEB, Laredo South USBP Agents, along with Webb Co Constable Pct. 3 Deputies, conducted a traffic stop on a 2018 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on US-59 near Laredo, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Humble, was recovered.

On 22 FEB, Cotulla USBP Agents assisted Frio Co SO Deputies in a pursuit of three vehicles traveling in tandem near Pearsall. Two of the vehicles were driven through a ranch fence and were later found abandoned. Both vehicles were identified as stolen. The third vehicle, a 2015 Dodge 2500 pickup, was seized by Frio Co SO and was also found to be stolen. Thirteen IAs were apprehended by USBP Agents.

On 22 FEB, Freer USBP Agents recovered a stolen 2016 Chevrolet Silverado pickup and apprehended five IAs near Freer. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, where the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was seized by Webb Co SO.

On 23 FEB, a Zapata Co SO Deputy received a call from a concerned citizen who had observed a subject in an SUV leaving a rifle at the gate entrance of a ranch in San Ygnacio. The Deputy seized a Talon TAC-GAR15, 5.56x45mm. No subjects were located.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 01 FEB, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Encino and referred human remains to the Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office.

On 03 FEB, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch near Falfurrias regarding human remains. The remains were transported to the Webb Co Medical Examiner's Office.

On 10 FEB, a Hidalgo Co Constable Pct. 4 Deputy assisted USBP Agents with a pursuit that ended when the vehicle crashed onto a ranch property at the northern edge of Hidalgo Co.

From 14-26 FEB, Brooks Co SO Deputies responded to four reports of skeletal remains being found on ranches in Falfurrias.

On 22 FEB, a Kenedy Co SO Deputy assisted USBP Agents with the apprehension of seven IAs on a ranch in Sarita. Nine additional subjects absconded. USBP Agents assumed custody of the subjects.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 03 FEB, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2016 GMC Sierra C2500 pickup in George West, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle turned west onto CR 304 before being driven through a ranch fence. The vehicle was not found.

On 05 FEB, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2019 Ford F-350 pickup in George West, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle turned right onto FM 3469 and was driven through a fence just inside Jim Wells Co. The vehicle, which was found abandoned, was reported stolen from Montgomery Co.

On 07 FEB, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 2011 Ford F-150 pickup in Premont, when a pursuit ensued. The Trooper lost sight of the vehicle in Concepcion. USBP Agents later found the vehicle in a wooded area on a ranch. The vehicle, which was stolen from Concepcion, was recovered.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 12 FEB, a THP Trooper observed a 2017 Chevrolet Silverado pickup in Duval Co. The Trooper conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence near Concepcion. The Trooper discontinued the pursuit, and the vehicle was later found abandoned. The vehicle was reported stolen from Houston.

On 18 FEB, Premont PD Officers assisted USBP Agents with a pursuit of three vehicles in Premont. One of the vehicles, a white 2008 Ford F-250 pickup, was driven through a ranch fence, and the Officers and Agents lost sight of the vehicle. The three vehicles were not located.

On 19 FEB, a THP Trooper was contacted by the staff of a ranch near Alice regarding an abandoned 2013 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup that had been found on the property. The vehicle was reported stolen from Jefferson Co SO.

On 20 FEB, Live Oak Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2017 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup on US-59 in George West, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through multiple fences and was later found abandoned. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Grandview, was recovered.

DRAWBRIDGE



On 24 FEB, Laredo North USBP Agents responded to a Drawbridge camera activation on a ranch near Laredo. The Agents apprehended a subject who is affiliated with the Cartel Del Noreste and seized 380.30 lbs of marijuana. The subject and marijuana were referred to DEA.



On 27 FEB, Cotulla USBP Agents responded to a Drawbridge camera activation near Pearsall. The Agents located a 2017 Dodge Ram 3500 pickup on FM 3352 near Pearsall. THP Troopers and Frio Co SO Deputies observed the vehicle being driven through a ranch fence. The vehicle, which was found abandoned and was reported stolen from Sanger, was impounded by Frio Co SO. The Agents apprehended five IAs in the area.



Total Pursuits and Bailouts – CYTD *

Event	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	2	9	66	33	39	17	166
Bailouts	1	18	88	40	26	10	183

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

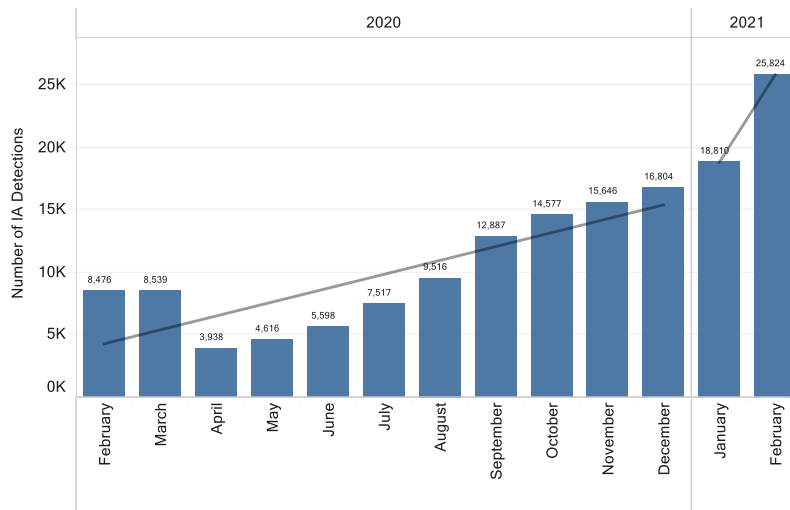




Statistical Summary – FEB 2021



Drawbridge IA Detections

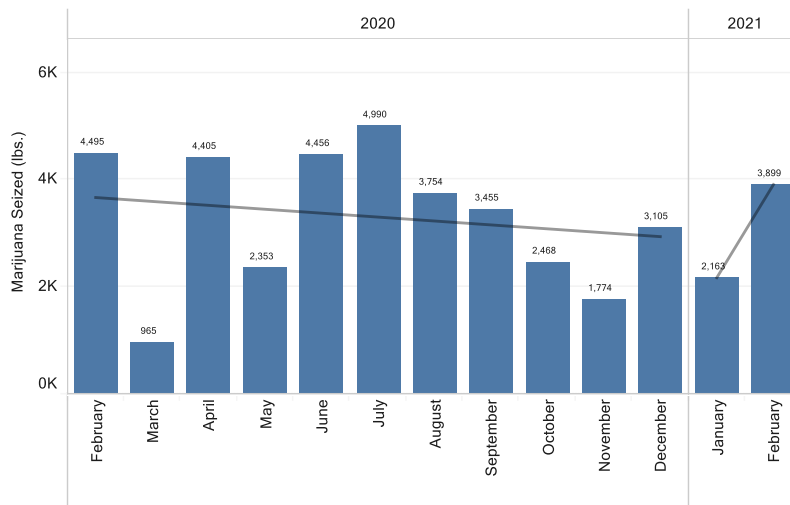


Operation Drawbridge Totals: FEB 2020 - FEB 2021

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	152,748
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	42,282
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	607
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	0
Meth Seized (lbs.)	169
Firearms Detected	5

Figures are based on initial reporting and are subject to change.

Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 - FEB 2021

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	793,841
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	582,029
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	1,156
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	40
Meth Seized (lbs.)	201
Firearms Detected	57

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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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