

Border Operations Sector Assessment

South Texas
Ranch Edition

**July
2021**

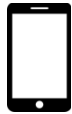
**REPORTING PERIOD:
01-31 JUL 2021**



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

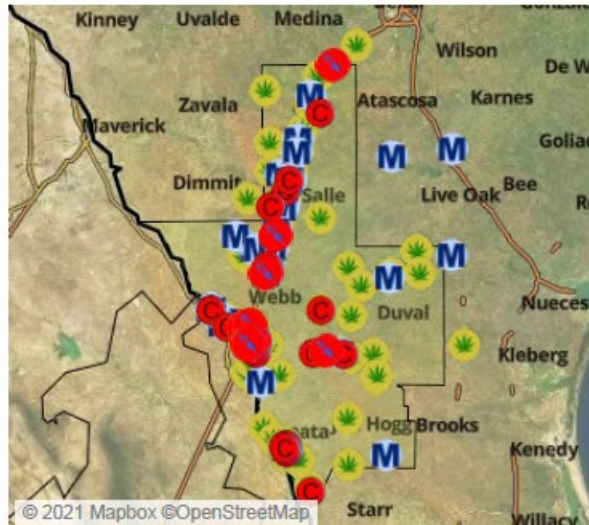
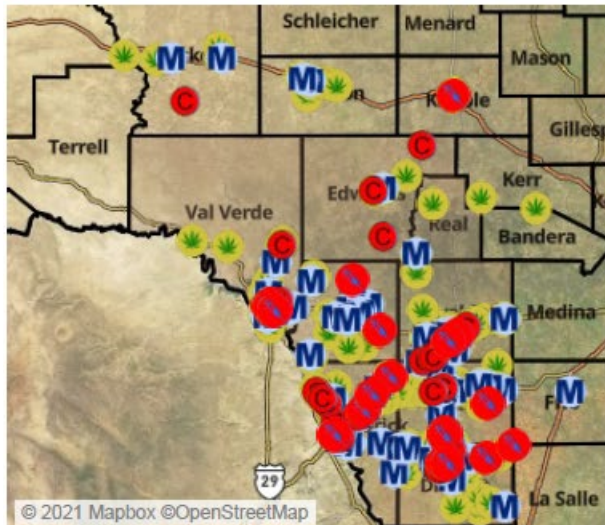
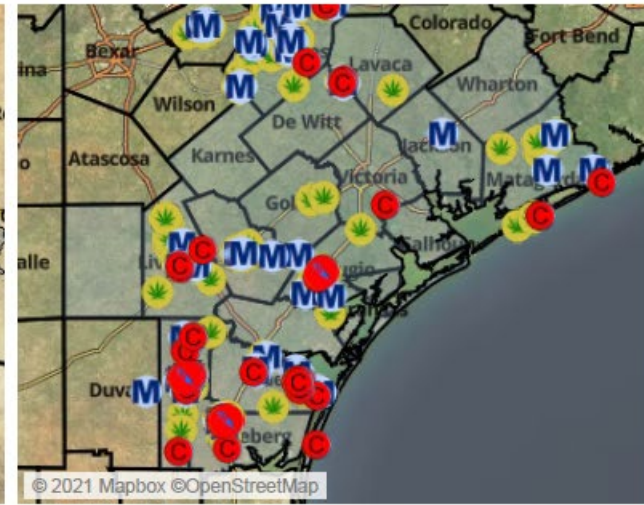
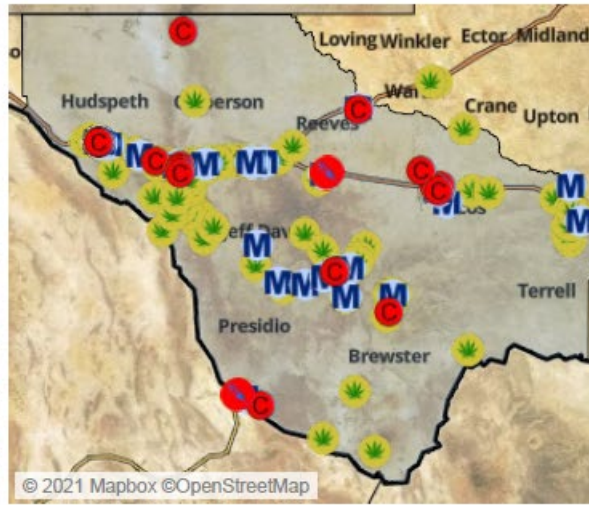
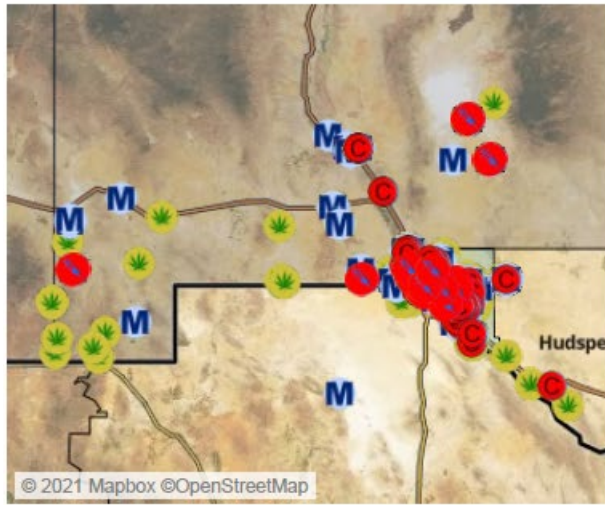
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181	(956) 289-5727	(361) 485-8500
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 2021	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Va..	Coastal Bend	Total
Marijuana (lbs)	4,311	15,333	55	28,958	68,111	231	116,998
Cocaine (lbs)	1,483	85	94	1,618	3,638	297	7,215
Methamphetamine (lbs)	3,949	110	345	9,057	8,121	99	21,681
Heroin (lbs)	171	5	48	287	381	1	894



Source: Operation Border Star

Maps depict narcotics seizures during the respective reporting month

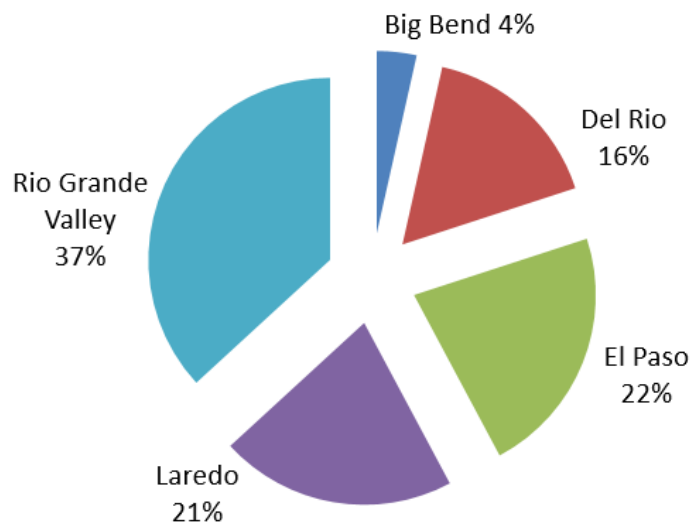


Sector Apprehension Comparisons



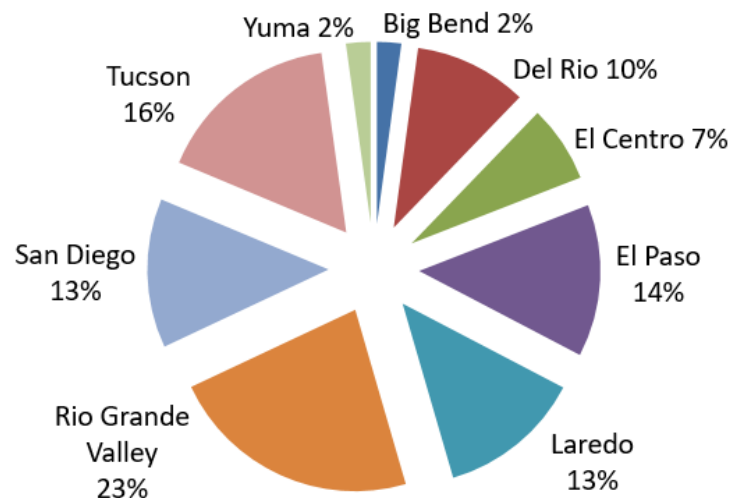
Texas Border Sector Apprehensions

FY2020 (OCT-SEP)



Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions

FY2020 (OCT-SEP)



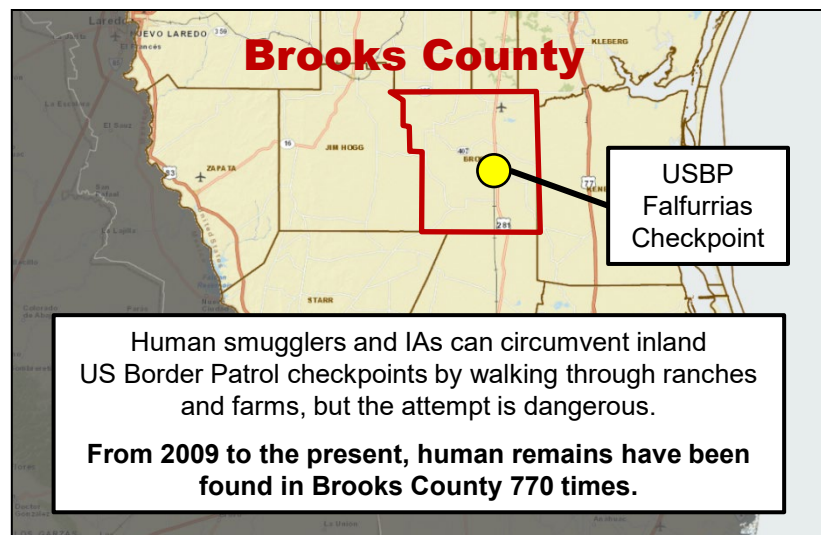
For more information, visit the USBP website at: <https://www.cbp.gov>

Total UA wT42	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2021	99,505	26,340	152,603	69,688	349,655	--	697,791

Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
CYTD 2021	70,477	12,845	110,252	22,281	302,626	--	518,481

Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)	FY 2020	FY 2019	FY 2018	FY 2017	FY 2016
Texas Border	20,459	57,603	34,383	31,827	47,192

Source: Customs and Border Protection Website



EI PASO SECTOR



On 13 JUL, ATTF Officers assisted El Paso Co SO Deputies regarding the recovery of a stolen 2013 Chevrolet Sonic. A property owner notified the Deputies that the vehicle was on their land. The Deputy identified the vehicle as stolen. The interior of the vehicle had been set on fire, and parts of the engine had been removed. The vehicle was removed from NCIC/TCIC and impounded.

BIG BEND SECTOR

On 04 JUL, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents with the apprehension of 10 IAs on a ranch near Valentine.



On 04 JUL, Brewster Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch southeast of Alpine regarding a group of 12 IAs in need of medical treatment. Two female IAs had to be carried out of the area before being transported by ambulance to a medical facility. All of the subjects were referred to USBP.

BIG BEND SECTOR

On 04 JUL, Marfa USBP Agents observed a white Jeep Grand Cherokee traveling east on US-90 toward Marfa with a weighed-down back end. The Agents conducted a vehicle stop, when the vehicle failed to yield.

The vehicle was driven off-road and onto a nearby ranch, and the Agents lost visual contact. When the Agents found the vehicle, they observed several subjects fleeing. The Agents tracked the subjects and encountered a group of 13 IAs. The group claimed that the driver and front passenger were not among them. The Agents assumed custody the vehicle and seized a Smith & Wesson revolver from under the passenger seat. The subjects were processed.

On 08 JUL, USBP Agents apprehended 12 IAs near a ranch southeast of Van Horn. One of the IAs had been charged with Aggravated Molestation of a Minor on 09 MAR in Pearson, GA. The subject had been convicted but had been returned to his native country. The subjects were processed.

BIG BEND SECTOR



On 09 JUL, DPS AVN observed a pickup parked in the desert south of IH-10 near Van Horn. The vehicle had been abandoned after traveling through a rest stop and a fence before coming to a stop in the desert.

All four doors were left open as a result of a possible bailout. The vehicle had been involved in an earlier pursuit with USBP and THP.

AVN directed USBP Agents to the vehicle, and they found signs of a group heading south. AVN assisted and found the group hiding in thick brush south of the vehicle. Eight IAs were referred to USBP.

BIG BEND SECTOR



On 16 JUL, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents with finding several IAs near a ranch in Valentine. Several subjects were found hiding in the brush. A total of seven IAs were referred to USBP.

On 17 JUL, USBP Agents tracked a group of subjects on a ranch south of Van Horn. The Agents apprehended seven IAs and seized 28.90 lbs of marijuana that was not associated with the IAs. The subjects were processed, and the marijuana was referred to DEA.

BIG BEND SECTOR

On 17 JUL, a Brewster Co SO Deputy detained three IAs on a ranch south of Marathon. The IAs were referred to USBP.

On 20 JUL, Sanderson USBP Agents apprehended a group of 13 IAs on a ranch southeast of Marathon. Among the group, a known guide was identified. The subjects were processed.

On 24 JUL, Van Horn USBP Agents apprehended a group of 10 IAs in the brush on a ranch northwest of Valentine. One subject is a load driver and guide for an Alabama-based ASO. The IAs were processed.

On 31 JUL, Presidio Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch north of Shafter and detained seven IAs. The subjects were referred to USBP.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 03 JUL, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy was dispatched regarding an abandoned vehicle on a ranch near Catarina. The vehicle, which was reported stolen by Live Oak PD, was impounded.

On 01 JUL, USBP Agents found an unresponsive subject on a ranch east of Eagle Pass. The Agents rendered aid, but the subject died a short time later. A Uvalde Co Justice of the Peace pronounced the subject deceased at the scene. The Agents identified the deceased subject as an IA.

On 14 JUL, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2015 Jeep Patriot on US-57 east of Batesville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch near the Frio Co line, where the occupants bailed out and absconded. A THP Trooper later detained the driver, who was walking along the highway, and referred him to Zavala Co SO. The vehicle was reported stolen from Corpus Christi.

On 22 JUL, a Zavala Co SO Deputy encountered a group of IAs walking along a fence line near US-57 in La Pryor. The group fled into the brush. A THP Trooper assisted, and seven IAs were detained and referred to USBP.

DEL RIO SECTOR

On 23 JUL, a TPWD Game Warden found an abandoned white 2011 Dodge Ram 5500 flatbed truck on a ranch south of Batesville. A Zavala Co SO Deputy assisted. The rear seat had been removed, the ignition showed signs of tampering, and the Deputy found the license plates on the rear floorboard. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio. The Deputy impounded the vehicle.



On 26 JUL, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch near Carrizo Springs regarding a deceased person found by USBP Agents. A funeral home assumed custody of the body.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 01 JUL, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a stolen vehicle south of Cotulla, when a pursuit ensued. USBP Agents later advised that the vehicle had been found abandoned on a ranch.

On 01 JUL, a THP Trooper responded to a report of an abandoned vehicle by a foreman at a ranch west of Cotulla. The vehicle, which was stolen and had a rear seat missing, had no damage to the ignition, but it could be started with a blank key. The vehicle was impounded.

On 01 JUL, a THP Trooper assisted a La Salle Co SO Deputy with a traffic stop, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a barbed-wire fence. The pursuit was terminated, but DPS AVN located the vehicle south of Dilley.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 04 JUL, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a Ford Expedition, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence and was found abandoned west of Artesia Wells.

On 05 JUL, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop, when a pursuit ensued on a ranch road east of Derby. The Trooper arrived at a ranch house but was unable to locate the vehicle.

On 06 JUL, Freer USBP Agents observed a stolen 2017 Toyota Tundra pickup west of Freer. When approached, the vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out and fled. The Agents apprehended five IAs. The vehicle was seized by THP.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 09 JUL, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on white 2019 Ford F-250 pickup on IH-35 in Encinal, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence. The Trooper's vehicle struck a fence post and was immobilized. Assisting Troopers located the vehicle abandoned on the ranch property. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.

On 09 JUL, DPS AVN assisted THP Troopers and Cotulla USBP Agents with a pursuit and bailout on a ranch near Encinal. The subjects absconded, but the vehicle was recovered by the Troopers.

On 10 JUL, a THP Trooper approached a vehicle with an unreadable LP, and the vehicle was driven through a fence on SH-44 near Laredo. The driver and passenger bailed out and absconded. Other Troopers and USBP Agents assisted. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.

On 12 JUL, a Webb Co Constable Pct. 3 Deputy assisted another Deputy with a pursuit of a blue 2018 Toyota Tundra pickup on SH-359 in Mirando City. The pursuit ended in Jim Hogg Co at a ranch south of Hebbronville. The driver was arrested, and three female IAs were referred to USBP. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 12 JUL, a La Salle Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch near Cotulla. The ranch owner had found a stolen 2019 Ford F-250 pickup that had been involved in a pursuit and bailout a few days prior. The vehicle was seized.

On 16 JUL, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop. The vehicle was driven off the road onto grass east of FM 1329 and stopped at a barbed-wire fence line. Approximately 20 subjects bailed out and absconded.

On 24 JUL, a THP Trooper received information regarding a white 2006 Ford Windstar traveling north on IH-35 after picking up a group of subjects. The Trooper conducted a traffic stop, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a livestock fence, and the occupants bailed out and fled. The driver and 14 IAs were found hiding in the brush and were detained. The IAs were referred to USBP. The driver, who was in possession of a debit card with a different name, was arrested. A DPS CID Special Agent assisted.

On 25 JUL, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a blue 2008 Buick Enclave on IH-35 in Artesia Wells, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven across a field and was later found abandoned. USBP Agents assisted in a search, and seven IAs were apprehended.

LAREDO SECTOR

On 23 JUL, Freer USBP Agents were advised of a 2015 Dodge Ram pickup at a ranch near FM 2050. The Agents responded and located the vehicle at the ranch gate. When approached, the occupants bailed out and absconded into the brush. The vehicle, which had been reported stolen from San Antonio, was seized by Webb Co SO.

On 27 JUL, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a white 2016 Kia Optima on SH-16 in Hebbronville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle reached a speed of 130 mph, and the driver had turned off the headlights. The vehicle was driven off the road and through a fence and rolled over several times. The juvenile driver and the passenger were located in the brush and were treated by EMS at the scene before being transported to a hospital. Pending medical clearance, the juvenile subject will be charged with evading arrest causing serious bodily injury, smuggling of persons causing serious bodily injury or death, failure to stop and render aid, and failure to comply with requirements.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

From 04-25 JUL, Brooks Co SO Deputies took reports of deceased persons found on ranches near Falfurrias in nine incidents.

Brooks Co assumed custody of eight of the bodies, and a funeral home assumed custody of the ninth body.

On 07 JUL, a Kenedy Co SO Deputy, along with USBP Agents, took a report of skeletal remains found on a ranch.

Kenedy Co SO assumed custody of the remains.

On 08 and 19 JUL, a Brooks Co SO Deputy took reports of deceased persons found on a ranch near Encino.

Brooks Co SO assumed custody of the two bodies.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 01 JUL, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy responded to a 2018 Ford F-150 pickup that was displaying a fictitious license plate. The Deputy located the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence at the Duval Co line and was found abandoned. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Humble, was impounded.

On 01 JUL, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2010 Ford F-150 pickup in Alice, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence. The driver and passengers bailed out and absconded. Jim Wells Co SO assumed custody of the vehicle.



On 04 JUN, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a stolen 2017 GMC Sierra 3500 pickup on US-281, north of Ben Bolt, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence at the intersection of CR 440 and CR 450. Approximately 20 subjects bailed out and absconded into the brush. No apprehensions were made. The vehicle was impounded.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 07 JUL, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2015 Ford F-150 pickup on US-37 near Argenta, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle had signs of human smuggling, including rubber mats in the bed of the truck and a lack of rear seats. The vehicle was impounded.

On 14 JUL, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a maroon 2019 Ford F-150 pickup on IH-37 in George West, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which had signs of human smuggling and was reported stolen from Houston, was impounded.

On 14 JUL, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a red 2015 Ford F-150 pickup on US-281 in Alice, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which had signs of human smuggling, was impounded.

On 15 JUL, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy assisted a Duval Co SO Deputy with a bailout on FM 716 and CR 425. The Jim Wells Co SO Deputy searched the area and made contact with a landowner, who advised that there were still subjects hiding in the brush. The Deputy drove to the entrance of the property and detained an IA. The subject was referred to USBP.

COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 18 JUL, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a stolen 2015 Chevrolet Suburban near George West, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through multiple ranches. The driver bailed out and absconded.

On 23 JUL, Yoakum PD Officers conducted a traffic stop on a 2006 Chevrolet Silverado pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through fences, and approximately 15 subjects bailed out.

On 29 JUL, a Goliad Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2017 Chevrolet Silverado pickup in Charco, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven across a property and was found abandoned.

On 30 JUL, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a Ford F-150 pickup in Premont, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch gate and was found abandoned. There was a carpet in the bed of the vehicle, and the rear seats had been folded up and contained clothing.





Total Pursuits and Bailouts – CYTD*

Event	El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	7	79	466	252	333	139	1,276
Bailouts	2	137	649	258	280	113	1,439

** Source: Operation Border Star. Totals include all incidents reported by the JOICs, not merely those that are ranch-related*

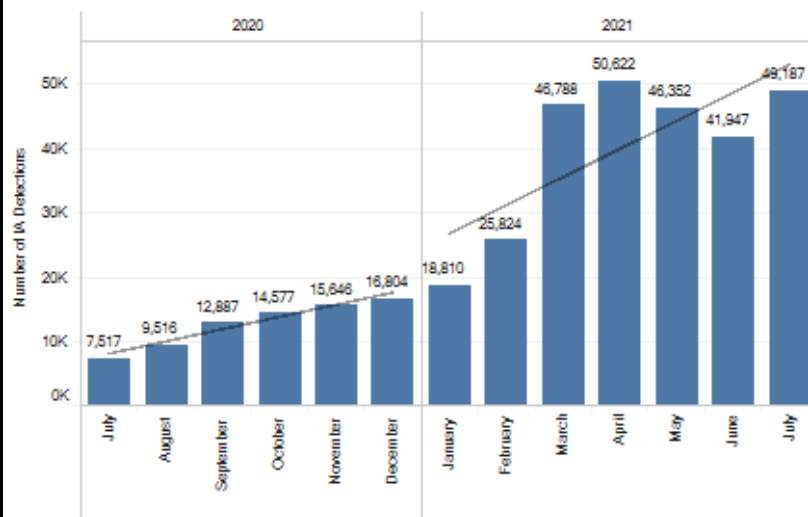




Statistical Summary – JUL 2021



Drawbridge IA Detections

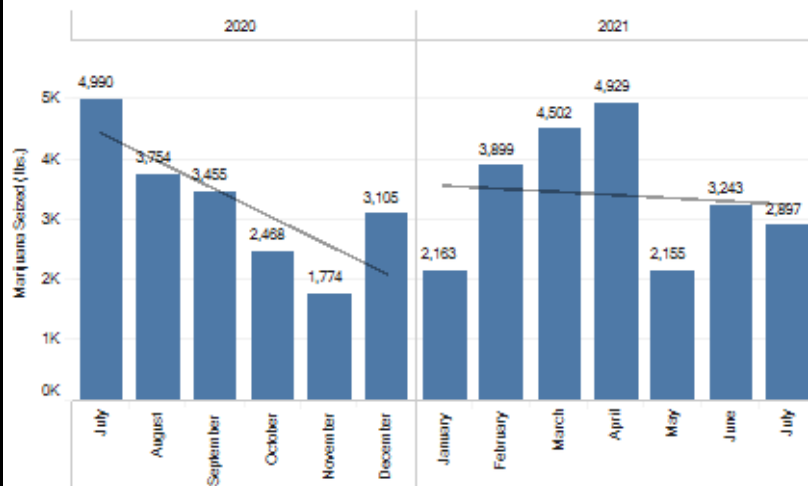


Operation Drawbridge Totals: JUL 2020 - JUL 2021

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	356,477
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	43,334
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	607
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	0
Meth Seized (lbs.)	157
Firearms Detected	12

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

Drawbridge Initiated Marijuana Seizures



Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 - JUL 2021

	Grand Total
IAs Detected	1,028,737
Marijuana Seized (lbs.)	599,755
Cocaine Seized (lbs.)	1,156
Heroin Seized (lbs.)	40
Meth Seized (lbs.)	201
Firearms Detected	65

Source: Operation Drawbridge

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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



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