



Transportation Checks and Roving Enforcement

First Semiannual, Fiscal Year 2024

August 26, 2024

Fiscal Year 2024 Report to Congress



**Homeland
Security**

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Message from the Acting Deputy Commissioner of CBP

August 26, 2024

I am pleased to submit the following report, “Transportation Checks and Roving Enforcement,” which covers the first half of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, as prepared by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

This report was compiled pursuant to direction set forth in Senate Report 118-85 and House Report 118-123, which accompany the FY 2024 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act (P.L. 118-47). The report provides a description of CBP authorities governing enforcement actions relating to roving patrol stops and requested statistics for October 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024.



Pursuant to congressional requirements, this report is provided to the following Members of Congress:

The Honorable Mark Amodei
Chairman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Lauren Underwood
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Chris Murphy
Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Katie Britt
Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

I would be pleased to respond to any questions that you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact my office at (202) 344-2001.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Flores", written in a cursive style.

Pete R. Flores
Acting Deputy Commissioner
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Executive Summary

This report includes the number of recorded roving patrol stops and transportation check and checkpoint statistics by U.S. Border Patrol Sector for October 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024, as well as a description of CBP policies governing enforcement actions of this nature.



Transportation Checks and Roving Enforcement First Semiannual, Fiscal Year 2024

Table of Contents

I.	Legislative Language.....	1
II.	Background.....	3
III.	Data Report.....	4
	A. Roving Patrol Stops	4
	B. Use-of-Force Incidents	5
	C. Checkpoints	6
IV.	Conclusion	13
V.	Appendix: List of Abbreviations	14

I. Legislative Language

This report was compiled pursuant to direction set forth in Senate Report 118-85 and House Report 118-123, which accompany the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act (P.L. 118-47).

Senate Report 118-85 states:

Transportation Checks and Roving Enforcement.—The Committee directs CBP to continue to collect and semiannually report to the Committee data pertaining to Border Patrol transportation and immigration checkpoints. The report shall exclude law enforcement sensitive information and include necessary redactions of all personal and identifying information about specific individuals. The report shall include, at a minimum, the total number of patrol stops made by CBP personnel during transportation checks and a description of the boarding of public conveyances by CBP personnel at air, maritime, and land environments, including ports and terminals. Additionally, the report shall include the following information when an arrest is made: the total number of arrests by location; the total number of use-of-force incidents during an arrest by location; the citizenship status of any individual arrested; and the total amount of drugs, currency, and firearms seized as a result of transportation checks. The report shall also include the following information pertaining to immigration checkpoints: the location of all tactical and permanent checkpoints that were in operation for any period of time; the total number of arrests by location; the total number of use-of-force incidents during an arrest by location; the citizenship status of subjects stopped or arrested following secondary inspection at checkpoints; and the total amount of drugs, currency, and firearms seized at checkpoints.

House Report 118-123 states:

Checkpoint, Transportation, and Roving Patrol Stops.—CBP shall continue to collect and report publicly on its website data pertaining to all checkpoints, transportation checks, and roving patrol stops, to be updated semi-annually with all necessary redactions of personally identifiable information about specific individuals. For roving patrols, the data should include:

- (1) the total number of use of force incidents and arrests by location;
- (2) the citizenship status of subjects arrested; and
- (3) the amount and type of property seized.

For transportation checks, the data should include:

- (1) a description of the boarding of public conveyance by CBP in air, maritime and ground stations, ports, and terminals when an arrest is made;
- (2) the total number of use of force incidents and arrests by location;
- (3) the citizenship status when an arrest is made; and
- (4) the amount and type of property seized.

For checkpoints, the data should include:

- (1) the location of all tactical and permanent checkpoints that were in operation for any period of time;
- (2) the total number of use of force incidents and arrests by location;
- (3) the citizenship status of subjects arrested following secondary inspection;
- (4) the amount and type of property seized; and
- (5) a description of how the agency uses information collected by cameras and license plate readers.

II. Background

U.S. Border Patrol (USBP), a component of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is responsible for securing U.S. borders between ports of entry. To secure the borders, USBP uses a layered approach, which includes patrolling the border itself and nearby areas, along with populated areas, where undocumented individuals can fade quickly into the general population. Additional approaches to border security include roving patrols and operating both permanent and temporary checkpoints.

Roving patrols are an integral part of USBP's in-depth defense strategy and are intelligence-driven, targeted enforcement actions, designed to contribute to CBP's goal of securing U.S. borders. Roving patrols contribute to disruption and degradation of transnational criminal organizations by targeting enforcement efforts against high-priority threats. Roving patrols also enhance situational awareness and instill safety in the traveling public and nearby communities.

Air and Marine Operations (AMO), another component of CBP, is responsible for securing U.S. borders in the air and maritime environments. AMO stops and boards vessels, generally within 12 nautical miles of the U.S. coast, exercising authorities under 19 U.S. Code (U.S.C.) § 1581, Boarding Vessels, and 19 U.S.C. § 1587, Examination of Hovering Vessels. Most of these stops occur as part of interdiction efforts in Southern California, the Caribbean, and South Florida, but also in the Great Lakes, in the waters of the Pacific Northwest, and on the Gulf Coast.

In the air environment, AMO fosters a positive relationship between the general aviation community and law enforcement partners through intelligence-based targeting and pilot interactions. AMO agents enforce laws where a pilot's operating certificate and related aircraft documents are inspected in conjunction with an individual's operation of an aircraft, regardless of an aircraft's connection to the border.

III. Data Report

A. Roving Patrol Stops

Roving patrol stops and associated investigative data are logged and maintained in the Intelligent Computer-Assisted Detection (ICAD) suite of applications. Border Patrol Agents (BPA) and support personnel, such as law enforcement communications assistants, enter pertinent operational and administrative data associated with roving patrol stops into the ICAD system. Examples of pertinent data include each instance of requested record checks, roving patrol stops, detection, apprehension, or seizure. These data points are required entries into ICAD, per agency policy. In addition to the ICAD suite of applications, apprehension and seizure data are logged into the e3 application, which is CBP’s system of record for these subsets of operational data.

This report covers the first half of FY 2024 (October 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024).

Roving Patrol Stops <i>October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024</i>					
Sector	Roving Patrol Stops	Average Duration in Minutes	e3 Events	Apprehensions Deportable	Total Encounters
Big Bend Sector, Texas (BBT)	3,201	19.50	46	161	191
Blaine Sector, Washington (BLW)	610	9.92	23	74	85
Buffalo Sector, New York (BUN)	101	12.97	30	97	106
Del Rio Sector, Texas (DRT)	3,751	15.57	301	1,013	1,067
Detroit Sector, Michigan (DTM)	539	7.88	20	47	54
El Centro Sector, California (ELC)	1,114	9.03	83	160	232
El Paso Sector, Texas (EPT)	3,436	12.89	238	1,446	1,547
Grand Forks Sector, North Dakota (GFN)	153	9.29	2	20	20
Houlton Sector, Maine (HLT)	594	8.28	15	22	31
Havre Sector, Montana (HVM)	119	11.06	5	9	9
Laredo Sector, Texas (LRT)	10,262	5.86	138	636	718
Miami Sector, Florida (MIP)	105	18.47	40	55	59

Roving Patrol Stops <i>October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024</i>					
Sector	Roving Patrol Stops	Average Duration in Minutes	e3 Events	Apprehensions Deportable	Total Encounters
New Orleans Sector, Louisiana (NLL)	81	14.21	82	127	148
Rio Grande Valley Sector, Texas (RGV)	7,784	12.73	156	292	335
Ramey Sector, Puerto Rico (RMY)	685	1.85	3	6	6
San Diego Sector, California (SDC)	2,003	3.45	394	859	1,205
Spokane Sector, Washington (SPW)	288	18.20	2	6	7
Swanton Sector, Vermont (SWB)	786	15.13	189	683	761
Tucson Sector, Arizona (TCA)	3,936	13.21	942	3,070	3,840
Yuma Sector, Arizona (YUM)	1,461	14.69	144	358	423
Totals	41,009	10.62*	2,853	9,141	10,844

* Sector times have already been averaged and averaging the totals provided will not yield the true average.

Data in the table are drawn from ICAD and e3 data sets. The Roving Patrol Stops column reflects the total number of agent dispatch events related to roving patrol investigative activity. Examples of investigative activity include agent requests for vehicle registration and criminal or border-crossing database information. Therefore, the total number of agent dispatches does not reflect the total number of roving patrol stops initiated by BPAs during this reporting period. Dispatch duration is determined by time-stamped updates, which indicate that the reporting agent resolved an investigative action or engaged in additional investigative activity.

Instances of investigative activity that result in a seizure or apprehension require creation of a record in e3. These instances are associated with unique e3 event identifiers in the ICAD data. An e3 number is an incident-level record, where single or multiple apprehended individuals or seized item data are logged. Therefore, associated e3 event numbers were referenced in determining the total number of individuals apprehended. The reason for stops resulting in arrests is recorded within the e3 event record, whether by the charge code or within the narrative format.

B. Use-of-Force Incidents

The Enforcement Action Statistical Analysis and Reporting system does not capture a “roving patrol stop” as a data point within a use-of-force and/or assault incident. Therefore, a statistical analysis query cannot be created to correlate uses of force and assaults to roving patrol stops. Additionally, USBP does not capture citizenship of apprehended individuals on the basis of post-

secondary inspections at checkpoints. However, CBP does publish use-of-force data on its public website at <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/cbp-use-force>.

C. Checkpoints

Immigration checkpoints are a significant component of USBP’s in-depth defense strategy. Securing the borders by using interior checkpoints and transportation checks, along with coordinated enforcement operations, is critical in carrying out USBP’s mission. Placing checkpoints in strategic locations increases USBP’s ability to deter, detect, and interdict illegal activity in routes of egress. Use of canine teams and technology significantly enhanced agents’ abilities to detect, identify, and interdict narcotics and undocumented individuals at checkpoints.

Please see the following tables for statistics on checkpoints. The date range is for the first half of FY 2024 (October 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024).

USBP Checkpoints		
Sector	Fixed	Tactical Ready*
BBT	4	24
DRT	5	13
ELC	2	3
EPT	7	11
LRT	5	9
RGV	2	3
SDC	6	19
TCA	0	22
YUM	3	7
Southwest Border (SB) Total	34	111
BLW	0	7
BUN	0	4
HLT	0	7
SWB	1	60
Northern Border (NB) Total	1	78
Totals	35	189

*Not all tactical-ready checkpoints are currently in operation.

USBP Nationwide Transportation Check* Apprehensions, Drugs in Pounds, Money, and Firearm Seizures Not at a Checkpoint from October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024	
<i>Apprehensions Data Includes Deportable and Non-deportable Individuals</i>	
Deportable Migrants	269
Non-Deportable Migrants	1
Marijuana (lbs.)	278.26
Methamphetamine (lbs.)	0.03
Other (lbs.)	4.96
Total Drugs (lbs.)	283.25
Money	\$3,722.00
Firearms	0

*Transportation Check includes the following Arrest/Seize Method Code - Descriptions:

- TCA - Transportation Check Aircraft,
- TCB - Transportation Check Bus,
- TCF - Transportation Check Freight Train, and
- TCP - Transportation Check Passenger Train.

USBP Nationwide Criminal Apprehensions at Checkpoints	
Fiscal Year	Apprehensions
2024 (October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024)	217

USBP Checkpoint Apprehensions			
Data include Deportable and Non-deportable Individuals			
<i>October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024</i>			
Border	Sector	Deportable	Non-deportable
SB	BBT	460	527
	DRT	301	134
	ELC	35	66
	EPT	1,053	288
	LRT	1,047	342
	RGV	897	696
	SDC	298	64
	TCA	60	48
	YUM	7	19
SB Total		4,158	2,184
NB	BLW	0	0
	BUN	7	0
	DTM	0	0
	GFN	0	0
	HLT	0	1
	HVM	0	0
	SPW	0	0
	SWB	25	2

USBP Checkpoint Apprehensions Data include Deportable and Non-deportable Individuals <i>October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024</i>			
Border	Sector	Deportable	Non-deportable
NB Total		32	3
Coastal Border (CB)	MIP	0	0
	NLL	0	0
	RMY	0	0
CB Total		0	0
Nationwide Total		4,190	2,187

USBP Nationwide Checkpoint Apprehensions and Property Seizures <i>October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024</i> <i>Apprehension Data Includes Deportable Individuals Only</i>					
Border	Sector	Apprehensions	Drugs (lbs.)	Money	Firearms
SB	BBT	460	2,263.69	\$3,600	16
	DRT	301	5.01	\$1,929	11
	ELC	35	2,320.94	\$32,849	0
	EPT	1,053	964.12	\$15,354	3
	LRT	1,047	4,011.58	\$48,053	7
	RGV	897	928.54	\$645	51
	SDC	298	497.44	\$66,762	1
	TCA	60	460.02	\$9,645	4
	YUM	7	39.01	0	1
SB Total		4,158	11,490.35	\$178,837	94
NB	BLW	0	0.00	0	0
	BUN	7	0.00	0	0
	DTM	0	0.00	0	0
	GFN	0	0.00	0	0
	HLT	0	0.00	0	0
	HVM	0	0.00	0	0
	SPW	0	0.00	0	0
	SWB	25	.80	0	0
NB Total		32	0.80	\$0	0
CB	MIP	0	0.00	0	0
	NLL	0	0.00	0	0
	RMY	0	0.00	0	0
CB Total		0	0.00	0	0
Nationwide Total		4,190	11,491.15	\$178,837	94

AMO Vessel Boardings and General Aviation Encounters

AMO Maritime Operations October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024				
Region	Branch	Missions	Underway Hours	Boardings
Northern Region (NR)	Bellingham Air & Marine Branch	145	762	1
	Great Lakes Air & Marine Branch	281	1,320	8
NR Total		426	2,082	9
Southeast Region (SER)	Houston Air & Marine Branch	86	566	19
	Jacksonville Air & Marine Branch	208	1,136	26
	Miami Air & Marine Branch	1,026	5,761	109
	New Orleans Air & Marine Branch	196	1,073	76
	Caribbean Air & Marine Branch	1,006	3,815	28
SER Total		2,522	12,351	258
Southwest Region (SWR)	McAllen Air & Marine Branch	416	2,056	37
	San Diego Air & Marine Branch	561	2,878	11
SWR Total		977	4,934	48
Nationwide Total		3,925	19,367	315

AMO Boardings Resultant Apprehensions, Arrests, and Seizures October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024						
Region	Branch	Apprehensions	Arrests	Seized Vessels	Seized Drugs (lbs.)	Seized Currency (USD)
NR	Bellingham Air & Marine Branch	0	0	0	0	0
	Great Lakes Air & Marine Branch	0	0	0	0	0
NR Total		0	0	0	0	0
SER	Houston Air & Marine Branch	0	2	0	0	0
	Jacksonville Air & Marine Branch	0	0	1	0	0
	Miami Air & Marine Branch	118	3	10	42	\$49,600
	New Orleans Air & Marine Branch	0	2	0	0	0
	Caribbean Air & Marine Branch	31	1	4	605	0
SER Total		149	8	15	647	\$49,600
SWR	McAllen Air & Marine Branch	11	8	4	0	0
	San Diego Air & Marine Branch	44	6	5	342	0
SWR Total		55	14	9	342	0
Nationwide Total		204	22	24	989	\$49,600

AMO General Aviation Encounters October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024		
Region	Branch	Encounters
NR	Great Lakes Air & Marine Branch	2
NR Total		2
National Air Training Center (NATC)	NATC – Oklahoma City	1
NATC Total		1
National Air Security Operations (NASO)	Grand Forks	1
NASO Total		1

SWR	McAllen Air & Marine Branch	2
	San Diego Air & Marine Branch	1
SWR Total		3
Nationwide Total		7

IV. Conclusion

CBP is committed to securing the Nation's borders while respecting the civil rights and civil liberties of all individuals. Roving patrols and checkpoints are essential tools in a multifaceted enforcement strategy to impede illicit cross-border activity.

V. Appendix: List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
AMO	Air and Marine Operations
BBT	Big Bend Sector, Texas
BLW	Blaine Sector, Washington
BPA	Border Patrol Agent
BUN	Buffalo Sector, New York
CB	Coastal Border
CBP	U.S. Customs and Border Protection
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DRT	Del Rio Sector, Texas
DTM	Detroit Sector, Michigan
ELC	El Centro Sector, California
EPT	El Paso Sector, Texas
FY	Fiscal Year
GFN	Grand Forks Sector, North Dakota
HLT	Houlton Sector, Maine
HVM	Havre Sector, Montana
ICAD	Intelligent Computer-Assisted Detection
lbs.	pounds
LRT	Laredo Sector, Texas
MIP	Miami Sector, Florida
NASO	National Air Security Operations
NATC	National Air Training Center
NB	Northern Border
NR	Northern Region
NLL	New Orleans Sector, Louisiana
RGV	Rio Grande Valley Sector, Texas
RMY	Ramey Sector, Puerto Rico
SB	Southwest Border
SDC	San Diego Sector, California
SER	Southeast Region
SPW	Spokane Sector, Washington
SWB	Swanton Sector, Vermont
SWR	Southwest Region
TCA	Tucson Sector, Arizona
U.S.C.	U.S. Code
USBP	U.S. Border Patrol
YUM	Yuma Sector, Arizona