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CBP Releases Fiscal Year 2013 Statistics

On January 17, 2014, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) released a summary of Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 border enforcement efforts.

“From border security to travel facilitation and trade enforcement,” said Acting Commissioner Thomas S. Winkowski, “these statistics illustrate CBP’s combined efforts in FY 2013 to accomplish its critical mission.”

Securing and Facilitating Record Levels of Trade and Travel

CBP has focused on reducing barriers to fast, efficient and secure travel to and from the United States, which supported 16 percent growth in international airport arrivals since 2009. At airports, CBP officers processed more than 102 million international travelers, an increase of more than 4 percent from FY 2012. Overall, in FY 2013, CBP officers processed more than 360 million travelers at U.S. air, land, and sea ports.

This year, CBP processed more than \$2.3 trillion in trade while enforcing U.S. trade laws that protect the nation’s economy and the health and safety of the American public. CBP processed nearly 25 million cargo containers through the nation’s ports of entry and conducted more than 24,000 seizures of goods that violated intellectual property rights, with a total retail value of \$1.7 billion, a 38 percent increase in value from FY 2012.

Enforcement Efforts At and Between Ports of Entry

U.S. Border Patrol apprehensions totaled 420,789 nationwide in FY 2013, 16 percent above FY 2012, but 42 percent below FY 2008 levels. While Border Patrol apprehensions of Mexicans in FY 2013 remained largely unchanged from FY 2012, apprehensions of individuals from countries other than Mexico, predominately individuals from Central America, increased by 55 percent.

At ports of entry in FY 2013, CBP officers arrested 7,976 people wanted for serious crimes, including murder, rape, assault and robbery. Officers also stopped more than 132,000 inadmissible aliens from entering the U.S. through ports of entry. Additionally, CBP agriculture specialists conducted approximately 1.6 million interceptions of prohibited plant materials, meat, and animal byproducts at ports of entry while also stopping more than 160,000 potentially dangerous pests.

CBP continues to deploy proven, effective surveillance technology tailored to operational requirements along the highest trafficked areas of the Southwest Border. CBP’s air assets, including the Unmanned Aircraft Systems and P-3 programs, flew more than 61,000 hours in enforcement missions combined in FY 2013. Air and Marine operations contributed to the seizure of more than 1.1 million pounds of narcotics and the apprehension of 629 individuals involved in illicit activities.

The full FY 2013 summary is available on the [CBP Website](http://www.cbp.gov). For more information, please contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

Automated Passport Control Arrives at Sea-Tac



Automated Passport Control has arrived at Sea-Tac Airport.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) recently announced the installation of Automated Passport Control (APC), an expedited customs entry process that will allow arriving eligible international passengers to clear customs more efficiently, while still ensuring the same high standard of safety and security. This partnership between CBP and Sea-Tac Airport will help travelers move more quickly through the CBP inspection process by allowing entry of passport information at a self-service kiosk.

Sea-Tac is the latest airport to implement the self-service kiosks, which are currently in use in Vancouver, Toronto, Chicago, Dallas-Fort Worth, Montreal, Miami, and JFK-New York.

Instead of filling out a declaration card and taking their travel documents to a CBP officer, international travelers (U.S. and Canadian citizens) who are eligible and choose to use APC can proceed directly to a self-service kiosk in the CBP passport-control area. Travelers will follow the on-screen instructions to scan their U.S. or Canadian passport, answer the customs declaration questions using the touch screen, receive a receipt confirming their information and proceed to the CBP officer to finalize processing.

For additional information, please visit the [CBP Website](http://www.cbp.gov) or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

The Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) serves as the single point of contact within CBP for communications between CBP and Congress.

OCA is committed to addressing any question or concern you may have related to CBP’s complex mission. Please contact us:

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Please visit CBP’s [Congressional Resources](http://www.cbp.gov) webpage for Frequently Asked Questions, News and Events, and other CBP Resources.

Illicit Cross-Border Tunnel Discovered in Nogales, AZ



Federal authorities in the United States and Mexico discover an illicit tunnel in Nogales, AZ.

On January 8, 2014, Federal authorities in the United States and Mexico foiled would-be smuggling attempts by discovering an incomplete, cross-border tunnel during a bi-national border sweep in Nogales, AZ.

Nogales Border Patrol agents assigned to the International Liaison Unit and the Border

Enforcement Security Task Force (BEST), together with federal police from Mexico, located an incomplete tunnel yesterday west of the DeConcini Port of Entry. BEST is a multi-agency Department of Homeland Security initiative to identify, disrupt and dismantle criminal organizations seeking to exploit vulnerabilities along U.S. borders.

After observing freshly disturbed dirt within the channel floor of a drainage system, authorities discovered a tunnel originating in Mexico and extending 133 feet into the United States. The incomplete tunnel, measuring approximately three feet high, did not open up into the country.

Tunnels continue to be used by transnational criminal organizations attempting to operate in the southern Arizona corridor. Border Patrol's Tucson Sector continues to work closely with strategic partners in Mexico to detect tunnels being constructed, and to prevent their completion prior to movement of illegal contraband or persons across the border.

For additional information, please visit the [CBP Website](#) or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.



CBP canine handlers train at the Front Royal Canine Center.

PLAY VIDEO

VIDEO: CBP's Front Royal Canine Center

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has recently released a video that provides a valuable inside look at the CBP Canine Center in Front Royal, WV, (CCFR) part of the CBP Canine Program. Under the direction of the Office of Training and Development (OTD), the CBP Canine Program offers certified training based upon numerous federal and internationally recognized standards.

CCFR trains dogs that will be deployed to work at U.S. ports of entry. The dogs are trained in detection of either narcotics or currency and firearms. CCFR also trains handlers who undergo a rigorous two-week training where they learn to handle the dog.

"We take a good look at the dog for about five to seven weeks prior to the handlers ever showing up to get the dog pre-trained," says Jeff Gabel, CCFR Training Operations Supervisor. "Then we pair the dogs accordingly to what port they are going to, what the workload is going to be, and what their priorities are going to be."

CCFR has luggage belts on site as well as a vehicle pad to create simulated experiences in a controlled environment. Later, the canine team will train in a real world environment, at warehouses and airports, where there is high activity and lots of noise. The trainers want to expose the dogs to these activities so that the dog's first experience isn't in the field.

"You can't beat the dog," says Gabel. "For the last 20 years we've been told that one day somebody is going to build a dog nose, but they haven't done it yet; there is no replacing the dog's nose."

For additional information about CBP's Canine Program, please watch the video on CCFR, visit the [CBP Website](#), or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

CBP Enforcement News



CBP Officers Seize \$150,000 in Counterfeit U.S. Currency

Jamaica, NY — On December 14, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) seized 1500 counterfeit \$100 Federal Reserve Notes. CBP officers had selected a woman returning from Columbia for a random baggage examination. The bags were examined by officers and were found to have a strong odor of glue. Upon further inspection, CBP found alterations to the bags; concealed within the alterations were several suspected counterfeit U.S. \$100 bills.

— Visit the [CBP Newsroom](#) for the full story.



CBP Officers Intercept Half-ton of Marijuana in Scrap Shipment

San Luis, AZ — On December 12, 2013, a Mexican national was arrested at the Port of San Luis after U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers discovered 1,041 pounds of marijuana co-mingled within a shipment of scrap aluminum. After the 44-year-old man was referred for a secondary inspection of a Peterbilt tractor-trailer, officers found 44 packages filled with marijuana worth nearly \$469,000.

— Visit the [CBP Newsroom](#) for the full story.



CBP Officers Seize \$924,000 of Marijuana in Watermelon Shipment

Nogales, AZ — On December 12, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers arrested a Mexican national for attempting to smuggle nearly 1,850 pounds of marijuana into the United States. CBP officers had referred the 32-year-old man for an additional inspection of his tractor-trailer at the Mariposa Port of Entry. After a CBP narcotics detection canine alerted to the presence of drugs inside the vehicle's cargo area, officers discovered and removed 200 packages of marijuana worth \$924,000.

— Visit the [CBP Newsroom](#) for the full story.

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