

# Ramped-up enforcement

In an ongoing push to fortify the Southwestern border, apprehensions of illegal border-crossers are on the decline.

## How Border Patrol efforts and results have changed

From 2005 to 2009, more Border Patrol agents were deployed to the Southwest border and more tactical infrastructure, such as border-security fence and vehicle barriers, was constructed. In the same time, apprehensions of undocumented immigrants declined significantly, but seizures of drugs and cash were on the rise.

*Note: Unless otherwise noted, all figures shown on map refer to fiscal year 2009 and changes since fiscal 2005.*

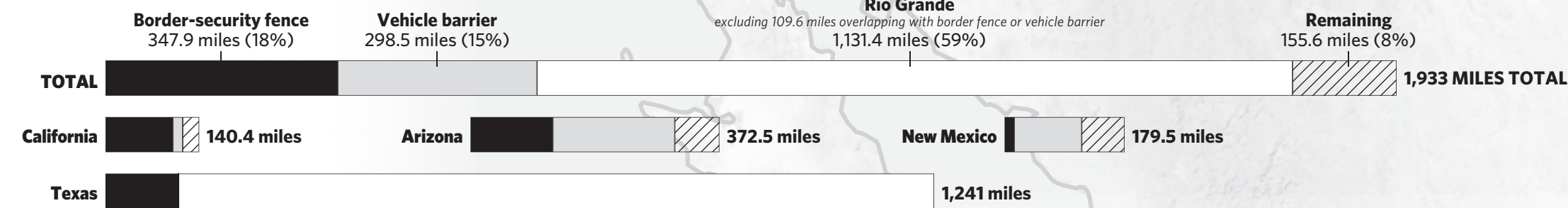
**Border Patrol agents** .....**17,408** (up 76%)  
**Miles of barriers** .....**646.4** (up 380%)  
**Apprehensions**..... **540,865** (down 53.8%)  
**Drug seizures** (pounds)\* .....**672,696** (up 39.2%)  
**Cash seizures** (outbound).**\$37,169,509** (up 393%)

\* Change from 2006 to 2009.



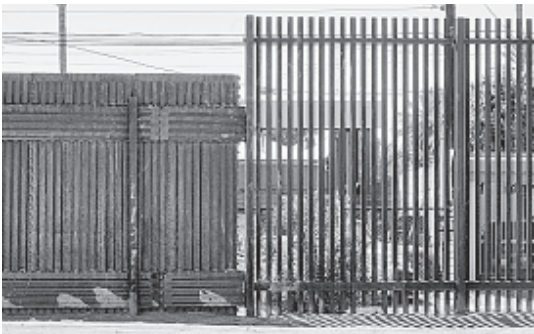
## How much border fence exists

Nearly 650 miles, or about one-third, of the border is lined with border-security fence or vehicle barrier.



## Types of barriers along the border

**Border-security fence** includes fencing in place prior to 2006 (left) and newer, taller fencing (center, right) designed to be more difficult to climb.

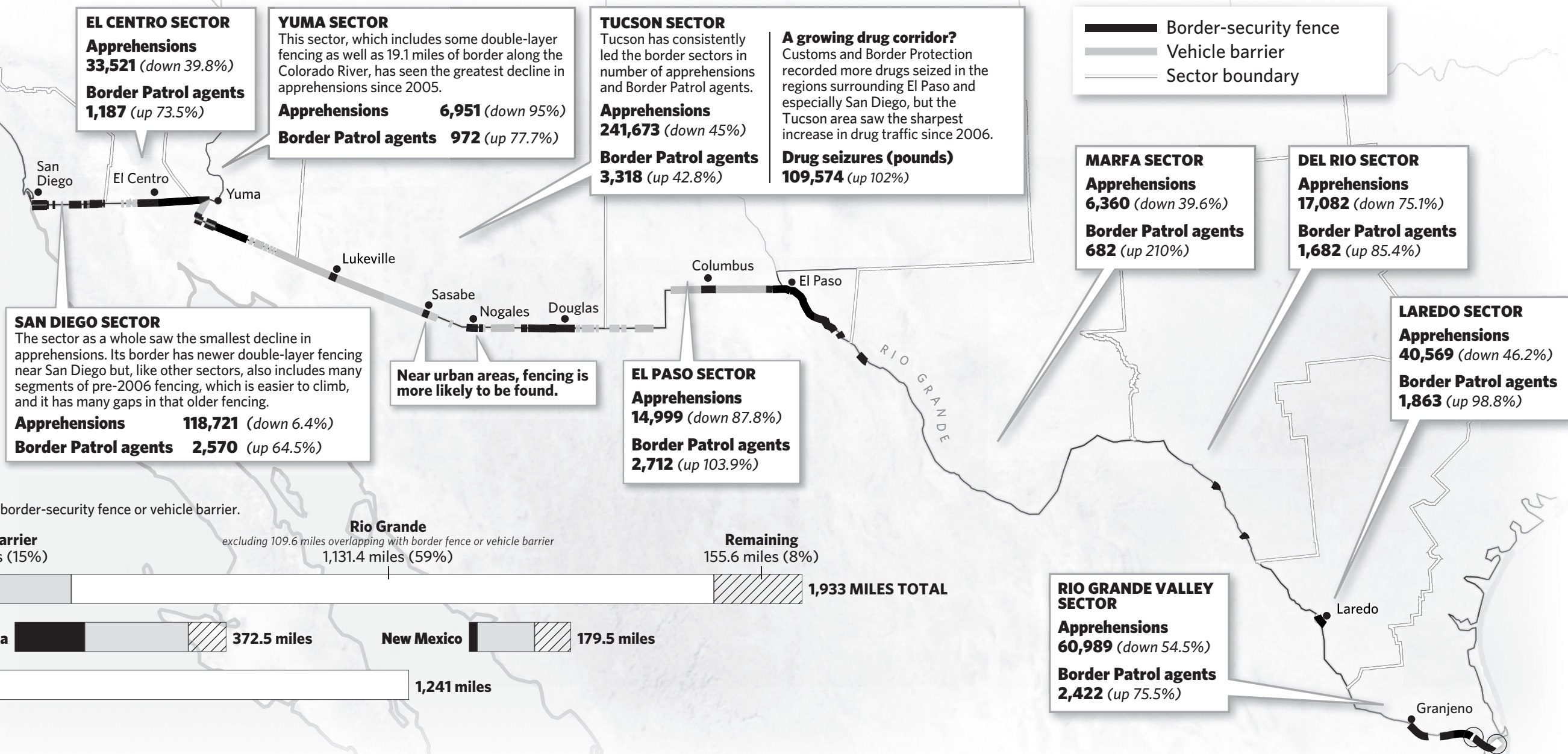


**Vehicle barriers** are built to block vehicles but reportedly have been crossed with ramps. They can't stop pedestrians.



**Additional border barriers are under construction in southern Texas, one area where the urban environment on each side of the border has made the prevention of drug-trafficking more difficult.**

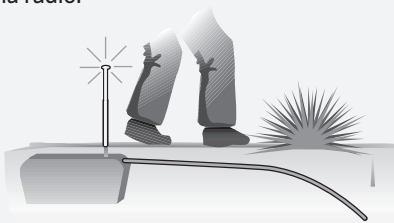
Sources: Patrol and apprehension data from Customs and Border Protection. Map and fence data from American Border Patrol, a border watchdog group, and Customs and Border Protection.



## High-tech tools and a 'virtual fence'

In addition to personnel and tactical infrastructure such as the border fence, Customs and Border Protection also relies on several technological tools to monitor and respond to situations on the border. They include:

- » **Remote video-surveillance systems**, cameras mounted on poles with a direct feed to a command center.
- » **Mobile surveillance systems**, manned trucks equipped with a monopole holding up a day-and-night camera and radar apparatus. They communicate with a command center via radio.
- » **Unattended ground sensors**, seismic sensors used to detect motion and alert a command center.



» **SBI<sup>net</sup>**, the technology component of CBP's wide-ranging program known as the Secure Border Initiative. This technology component, commonly referred to as a virtual fence, combines the above tools and pulls the data into a "common operating picture" in an attempt to provide agents with a complete sense of the surveyed region and quickly guide them to border-crossers.

The first of two deployments is in place along 23 miles of the border near the Sasabe port of entry. It is undergoing testing, and agents are conducting early operations with it. The system includes:

- » 9 sensor towers.
- » 8 communication towers.
- » 200 unattended ground sensors.

The second deployment is under construction over 30 miles near the Lukeville port of entry. It will include:

- » 6 sensor towers.
- » 5 communication towers.
- » 200 unattended ground sensors.