

## IV. CUSTOMS CONTROLS AGAINST GOODS INFRINGING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

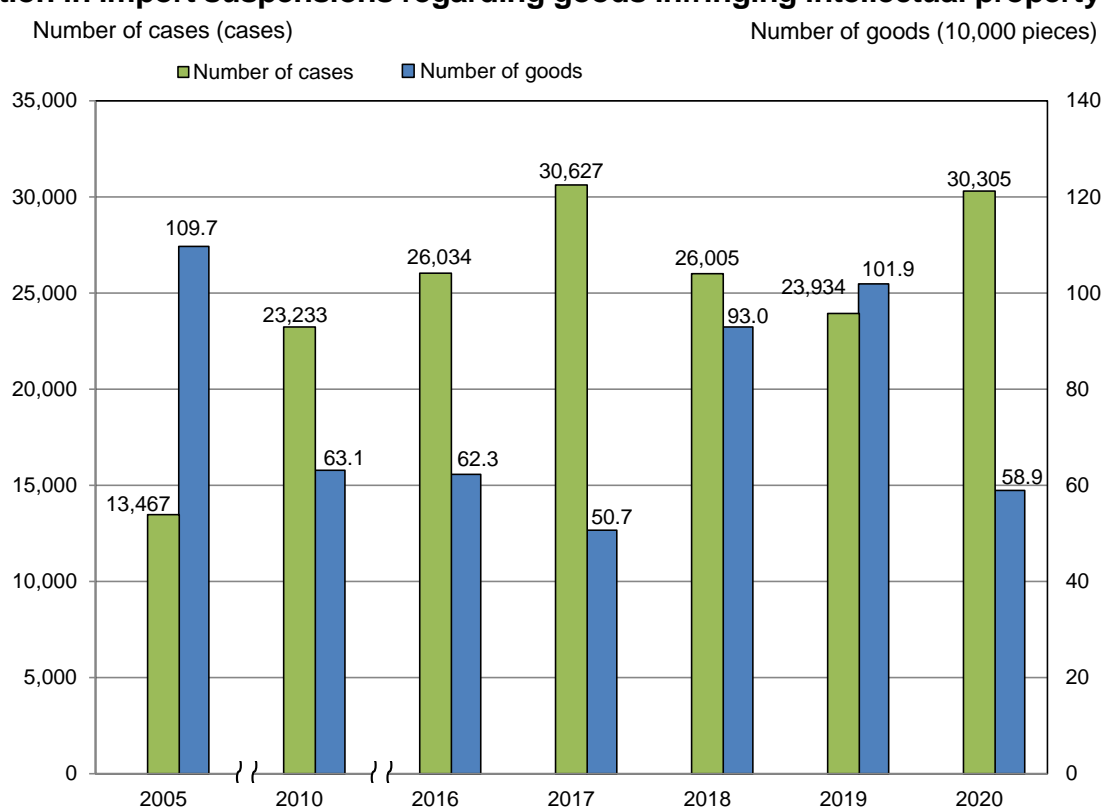
Goods infringing intellectual property rights are specified as articles prohibited from import or export under Article 69-2 and Article 69-11 of the Customs Act and are regulated by Customs at the border. When the goods are found to be infringing intellectual property rights, they are confiscated by Customs and the relevant person may be punished in some cases under Article 109 or other provisions of the Customs Act.

### 1. Import Suspensions Regarding Goods Infringing Intellectual Property Rights

#### (1) Transition in import suspensions (2020<sup>1</sup>)

The number of import suspensions by Customs regarding goods infringing intellectual property rights was 30,305 cases (up by 26.6% from the previous year), exceeding 30,000 cases for the first time in three years and thus maintaining a high level. The number of articles suspended from import was 589,219 (down by 42.2% (id.)).

#### Transition in import suspensions regarding goods infringing intellectual property rights



(Note) The "number of cases" refers to the number of import declarations or postal items that included goods infringing intellectual property rights whose import was prohibited by Customs. The "number of goods" means the number of goods infringing intellectual property rights whose import was prohibited by Customs.

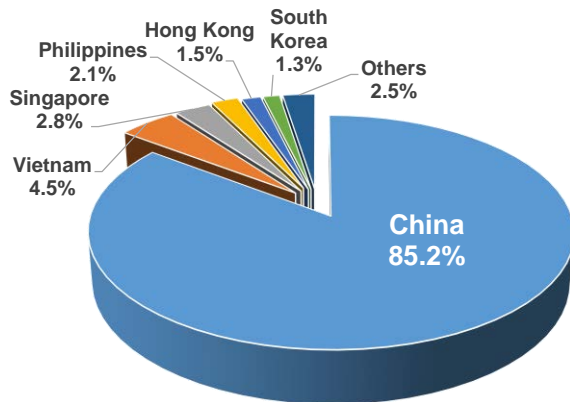
<sup>1</sup> Japan Customs' Website: [https://www.customs.go.jp/mizugiwa/chiteki/pages/g\\_001.htm](https://www.customs.go.jp/mizugiwa/chiteki/pages/g_001.htm)

## (2) Import suspensions by source

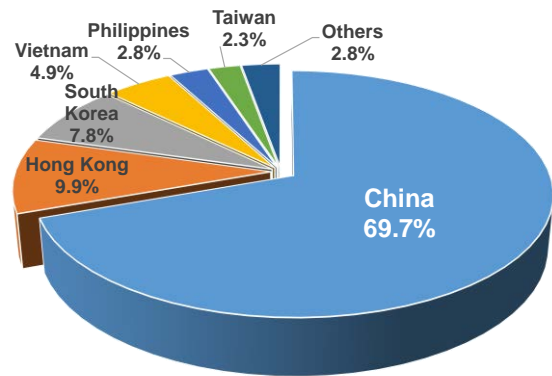
The number of import suspensions remains at a high level, with imports from China being the largest (25,828 cases; composition ratio: 85.2% [up by 30.4% from the previous year]). The number of goods suspended from import was also the largest for those from China (410,405 pieces; composition ratio: 69.7% [down by 31.1% (id.)]). China's composition ratios remain to be high both in terms of the number of cases and the number of articles.

### Composition ratio of import suspensions by source (2020)

(Based on the number of cases)



(Based on the number of pieces)



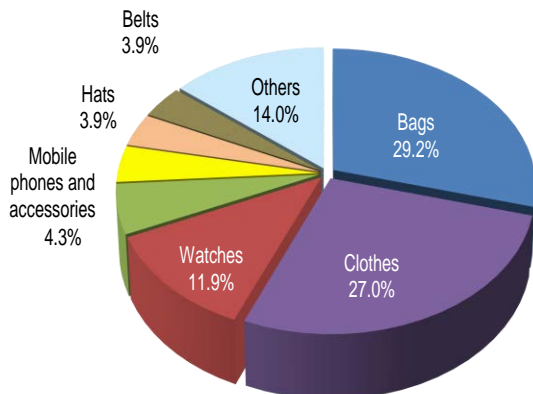
(Note) The total of composition ratios may not be 100% due to rounding.

## (3) Import suspensions by item

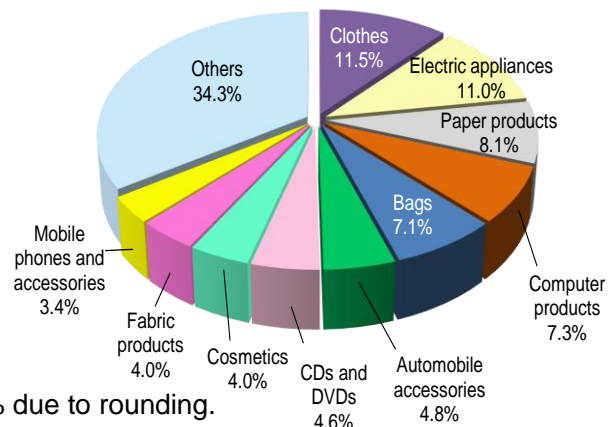
The number of import suspensions was the largest for bags, such as wallets and handbags, at 9,931 cases (composition ratio: 29.2%; up by 3.0% from the previous year), and the number of articles suspended from import was the largest for clothes at 67,582 pieces (composition ratio: 11.5%; up by 38.1% (id.)).

### Composition ratio of import suspensions by item (2020)

(Based on the number of cases)



(Based on the number of articles)



(Note) The total of composition ratios may not be 100% due to rounding.

**(4) Major import suspensions regarding goods infringing intellectual property rights**

◆ Goods often subject to import suspensions

Earphones (Design right)



Grip stand for smartphones, etc. (Patent right)



◆ Goods for which import suspensions increased in 2020

Watches (Trademark right)



DVDs (Copyright)



◆ Goods posing a risk to people's health and safety

Masks (Trademark right)



Motorcycle carburetors (Trademark right)



## 2. Accusation Case Related to Goods Infringing Intellectual Property Rights

Customs made accusations in a total of 10 smuggling cases of DVDs in which images of "Kimetsu no Yaiba" infringing copyrights are recorded, during the one-year period from January to December of 2020.

### [Case 1] Smuggling of goods infringing copyrights

Customs accused a Japanese national who attempted to smuggle 600 DVDs infringing copyrights by use of air cargo from Malaysia of violating the Customs Act.

(Dec. 2020; Yokohama Customs)



### [Case 2] Smuggling of goods infringing trademark rights

Customs accused a Japanese national who attempted to illicitly import 60 neck warmers infringing trademark rights and to smuggle 247 masks, etc. infringing trademark rights by the use of international mail from China of violating the Customs Act.

(Dec. 2020; Hakodate Customs)



### [Case 3] Smuggling of goods infringing trademark rights

Customs accused a Japanese national who attempted to smuggle 56 medals infringing trademark rights by the use of express small-lot air cargo from China of violating the Customs Act.

(Aug. 2020; Tokyo Customs)

