

الهيئة الاتحادية للجمارك  
Federal Customs Authority



# Intellectual Property Rights Seizure Statistics 2020

هيئة اتحادية | Federal Authority

## Introduction

Products that infringe upon the Federal Laws on Trademarks (Federal Law No. 37 of 1992 on Trademarks and its amendments) and Copyrights (Federal Law No. 7 of 2002 on Copyrights and related rights) implemented in the UAE are subject to customs intervention as per the GCC Common Customs Law of 2008. The UAE Customs mitigate the economical, financial, and welfare risks posed by imports, exports, transit and transshipment of such illicit products.

UAE Customs strongly believes in the producers and the creative thinkers' rights in the different fields whether industrial, commercial or literary. It has seriously taken the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) into consideration through firmly combating the smuggling of counterfeit and fake goods and products and all that threatens public health and safety of the local community or violates the producers and trademark owners' rights. UAE Customs is also keen on maintaining international trade's legitimacy, as the UAE is considered a focal gateway for Western and Eastern trade movement. This is done through the customs risk management system which assists in targeting such illicit goods in at import or transit to the local market or free zones.

UAE Customs has made great efforts in educating and raising awareness of the IPR and the hazards and harms of using counterfeit products on the community and the health of its members. In addition, customs inspectors receive training courses throughout the year in order to increase their knowledge and understanding of how to differentiate between original and fake goods and original and duplicate trademark. Such workshops take place in participation with the trademark owners themselves which reflects positively on the inspectors' competencies and their efforts in protecting the local community and maintaining the Emirati people's health and safety.

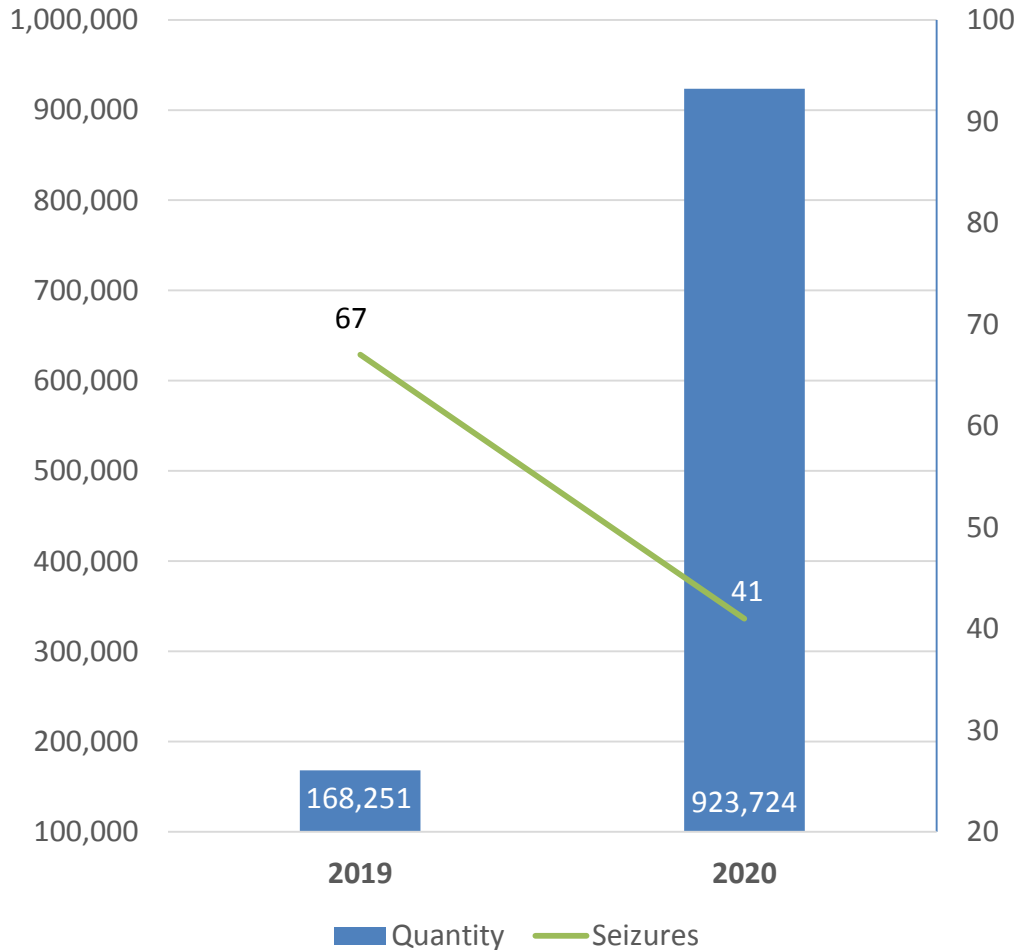
The information contained in this report does not constitute the official trade statistics of the UAE. The Statistics, and the projections based upon those statistics, are not intended to be used for economic or other forms of analysis, and are provided for the purpose of showcasing the work done by the UAE Customs.



## Executive Summary

In the fiscal year 2020, the UAE Customs processed 828,160,440,585 AED of imports, equating to 6,550,367 Customs Import Declarations. Customs continue to put IPR infringing goods as one of the priorities in safeguarding the economy, consumer, and international supply chain.

In 2020 the UAE Customs, with the efforts made by the various Local Customs Administrations (AbuDhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Ras ALKhaimah, Fujairah, and Umm ALQuwain) and with the support and oversight of the Federal Customs Authority (FCA) made successful raids and seizures in cooperation with various government entities, international partners, and private sector. With a total of 41 seizures consisting of 923,724 number of goods (quantity) in 2020, a decrease in number of seizures from the 67 made in 2019, but an increase in the quantity from 168,251 made in 2019. The total approximate value of the goods seized in 2020 reached 4,140,115 AED.



## Operational Highlights

- The number of seizures has decreased to 41 in 2020 from 67 in 2019, this is mainly due to the impact which COVID-19 has had on the international supply chain.
- The quantity seized on the other hand has increased dramatically to 923,724 in 2020 from the 168,251 in 2019.
- The approximate value of the goods seized was estimated to be 4,140,115 AED in 2020.



## Operational Highlights

- With the COVID-19 global pandemic, there has been significant impact on the international supply chain and the movement of goods. It has also shown to have impacted the means of transport and the types of goods that infringed intellectual property rights. The UAE in coordination with the various agencies and international partners worked to insure that goods intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic were not infringed and to protect the global social and healthcare welfare.
- The cooperation with the private sector has always been a priority for the UAE Customs especially in the combating of IPR infringed traffic of goods. The Federal Customs Authority has launched the “Customs Private Sector Consultative Group” to complement those that are held in the Local Customs Administrations. This Consultative Group will discuss all national level customs topics and issues in which the FCA would be able to benefit from the discussions in putting the customs policies and projects pertaining to Customs in the UAE.
- In the efforts of safeguarding society and the international supply chain, as well as taking into consideration the environmental impact of destructions of seized goods, the UAE customs has worked closely with various partners to destroy and recycle those goods. In 2020, all seizures made has been destroyed with an approximate of 98% of such destructions done through recycling. Media coverage of such destructions has been done widely in coordination and presence of the right holders to showcase to the public the impact of such trade on the economy, health and environment.
- The Federal Customs authority has worked on various initiatives in cooperation with the Local Customs Administration including the publication of the customs procedures pertaining to IPR complains and procedures. This is to insure that there is greater transparency and cohesiveness in the way that such procedures are presented in the UAE Customs. To that end, the information on such procedures could be found published on the FCA websites and the local customs administration (links and contacts are listed at the end of the report).

## Operational Highlights

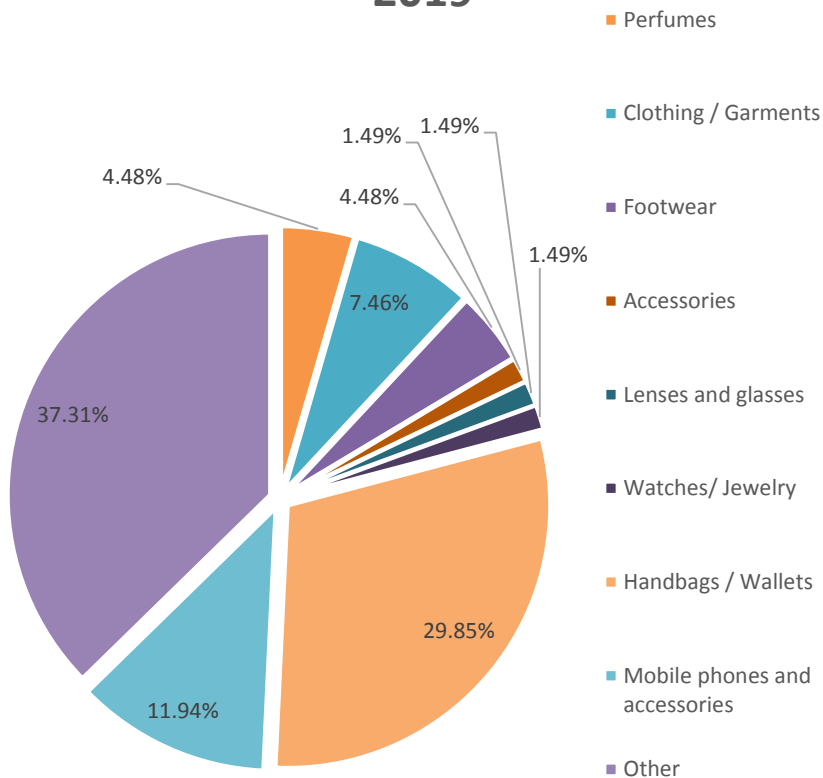
- With the importance of inter-agency cooperation, UAE Customs works in coordination with the various Local and Federal Government agencies to diminish the risks of IPR infringement in the UAE and in the international supply chain. This is done through various inter-agency committees as well as data sharing to support the risk management systems used in Customs to target illicit goods.
- The importance of cooperation between international customs administrations in supporting the exchange of information to assist in targeting illicit traffic of goods in the international supply chain has led to various interventions and raids made by customs. The Federal Customs Authority is implementing 17 ongoing Customs Mutual Assistance Agreements (CMAA) and working on others with partner customs administrations.
  - Several meetings has been held between the UAE and other international partners such as the US and EU to discuss cooperation and to exchange practices of IPR Enforcement.
- The UAE Customs has conducted over 44 events and workshops in connection with IPR in 2020 to promote the work done by customs in this field.
  - The 9th Regional IP Crime Conference for the Middle East and North Africa was co-hosted by Interpol, Dubai Police and Emirates IP Association (EIPA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, Customs, and Brand Owners' Protection Group (BPG) from the 16th – 17th November 2020.
  - The WCO Free Zone Conference which touched upon the role of customs in safeguarding the movement of goods through such zones and its connection with IPR was held from the 7th – 8th December 2020, in which the UAE participated as the one of the Keynote speakers.

## Operational Highlights

- The UAE Customs conducted over 124 training activities on IPR during 2020 in spite of the challenged of the pandemic, and utilized various technologies to continue and raise the capacity of the Customs inspectors and those working on IPR issues.
- Due to the role that the UAE plays in the global supply chain, especially through transshipments and re-exports, UAE Customs are vigilant through the use of their risk management systems to intercept illicit traffic of IPR infringing goods that is being transited or re-exported. Customs implement their rights to oversee goods that are imported and exported through the Free Zones in the UAE to mitigate potential trafficking of such goods. The UAE has contributed and worked closely with the World Customs Organization regarding the studies and best practices which they have done on the topic of Economic Zones.
- Working closely with the private sector and various partners to showcase the role of UAE Customs in combating illicit trade and in raising awareness of the economic, social, security and environment impact which such trade has on the UAE and international supply chain, the UAE Customs invited the various partners during the destruction or recycling activates that was taking place throughout 2020 which exceeded 40 destruction events.
- With the success and positive feedback from the private sector and international partners regarding the publication of the “Intellectual Property Rights Seizure Report” made by the FCA for 2019, the 2020 report has been made to continue raising the awareness of the work done by the UAE Customs in this matter, which now includes the approximate values of such seizures.

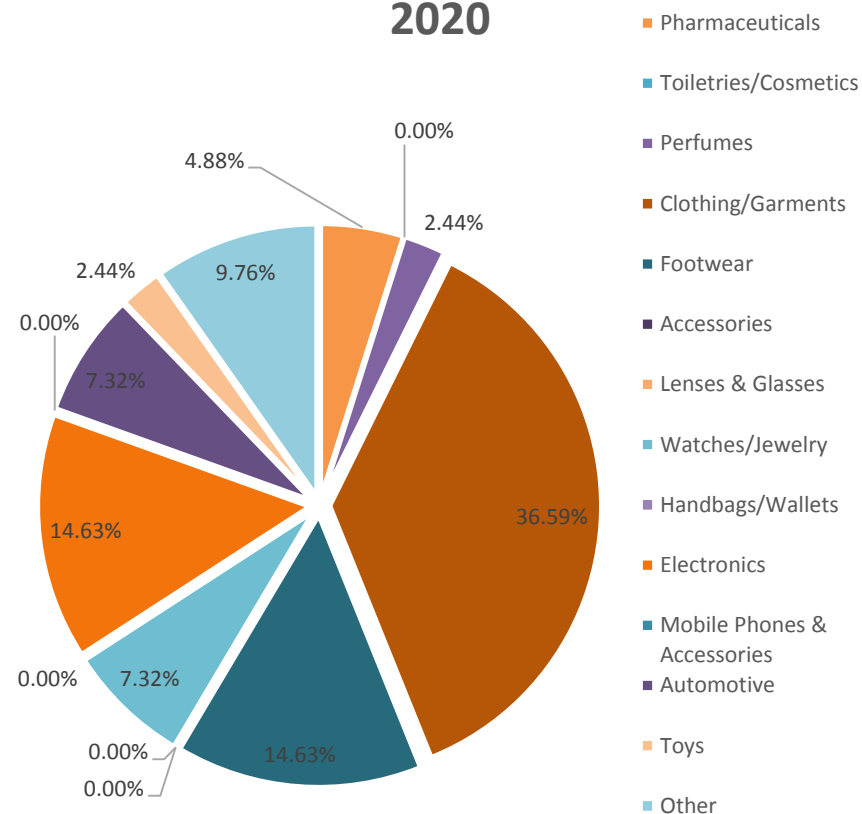
# Seizures by Product

2019



Total Number of Seizures: 67

2020



Total Number of Seizures: 41



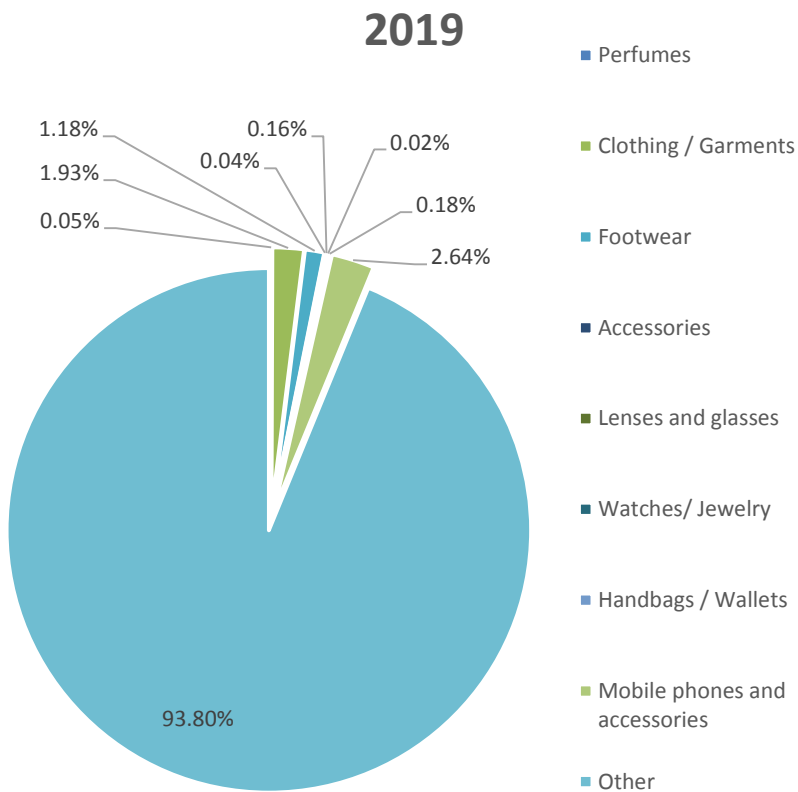
## Seizures by Product

2019		
Product	Seizures	% of Total *
Pharmaceuticals	0	0.00%
Toiletries/Cosmetics	0	0.00%
Perfumes	3	4.48%
Clothing / Garments	5	7.46%
Footwear	3	4.48%
Accessories	1	1.49%
Lenses and glasses	1	1.49%
Watches/ Jewelry	1	1.49%
Handbags / Wallets	20	29.85%
Electronics	0	0.00%
Mobile phones and accessories	8	11.94%
Automotive	0	0.00%
Other	25	37.31%
<b>Total Seizures</b>	<b>63</b>	

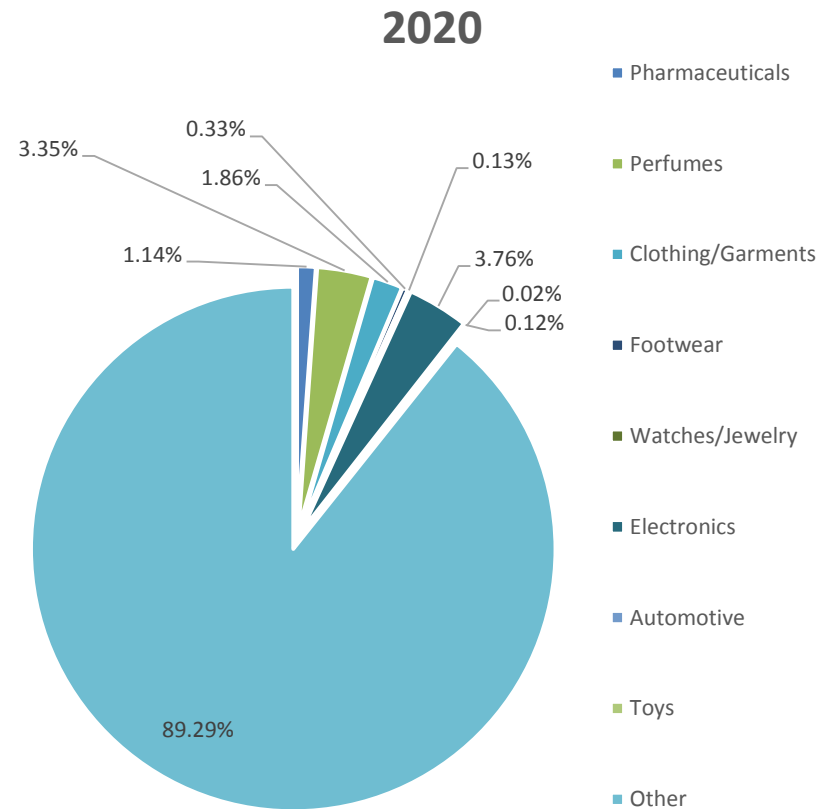
2020		
Product	Seizures	% of Total *
Pharmaceuticals	1	4.88%
Toiletries/Cosmetics	0	0.00%
Perfumes	1	2.44%
Clothing/Garments	15	36.59%
Footwear	6	14.63%
Accessories	0	0.00%
Lenses & Glasses	0	0.00%
Watches/Jewelry	3	7.32%
Handbags/Wallets	0	0.00%
Electronics	6	14.63%
Mobile Phones & Accessories	0	0.00%
Automotive	3	7.32%
Toys	1	2.44%
Other	5	9.76%
<b>Total Seizures</b>	<b>41</b>	

\*Seizures involving multiple product categories are included in the "Other" category. Because the individual percentage figures are rounded, in some cases, the sum of the rounded percentages for a given fiscal year is slightly higher or lower than 100 percent.

# Quantity by Product



Total Quantity: 168,251



Total Quantity: 923,724

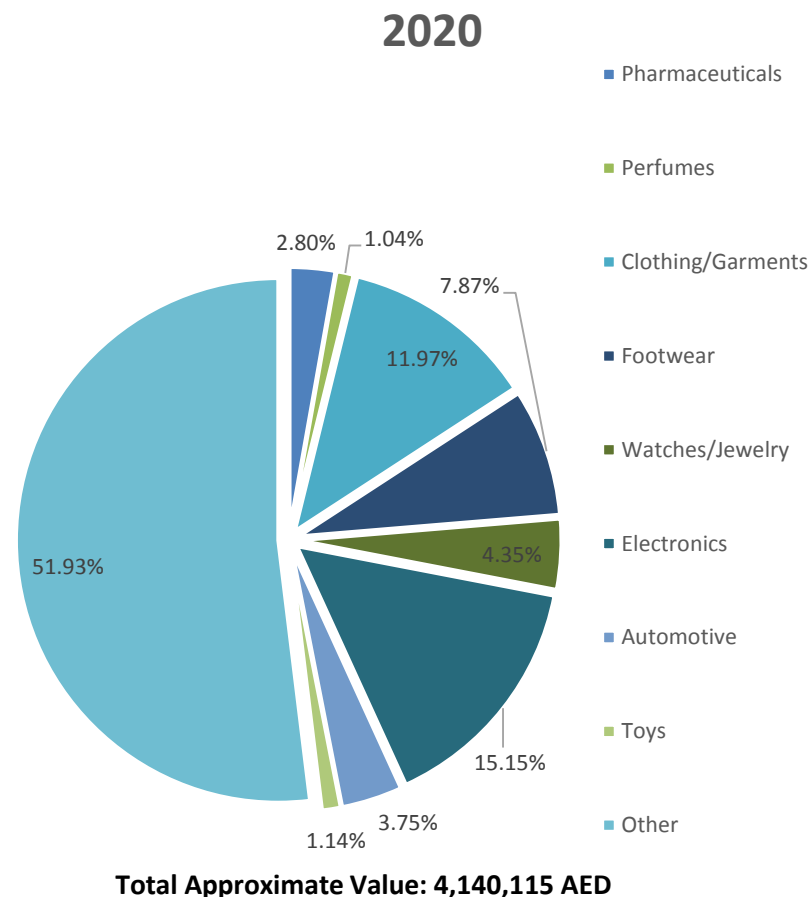
## Quantity by Product

2019		
Product	Quantity	% of Total *
Pharmaceuticals	0	0.00%
Toiletries/Cosmetics	0	0.00%
Perfumes	85	0.05%
Clothing / Garments	3,246	1.93%
Footwear	1,982	1.18%
Accessories	64	0.04%
Lenses and glasses	270	0.16%
Watches/ Jewelry	29	0.02%
Handbags / Wallets	309	0.18%
Electronics	0	0.00%
Mobile phones and accessories	4,441	2.64%
Automotive	0	0.00%
Other	157,825	93.80%
<b>Total Quantity of Seizures</b>	<b>168,251</b>	

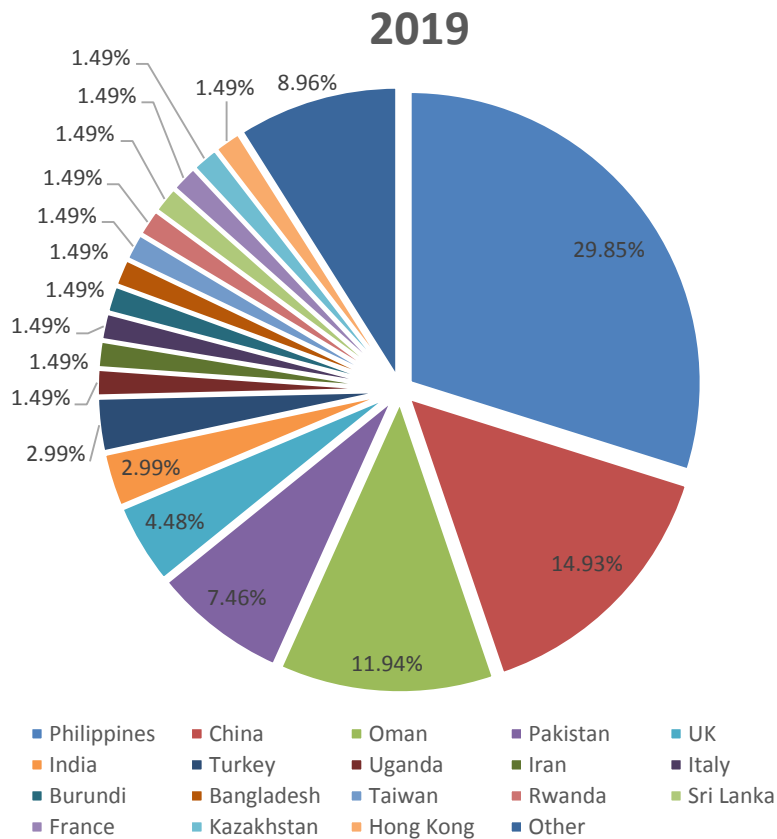
2020		
Product	Quantity	% of Total *
Pharmaceuticals	10,525	1.14%
Toiletries/Cosmetics	0	0.00%
Perfumes	30,960	3.35%
Clothing/Garments	17,153	1.86%
Footwear	3,056	0.33%
Accessories	0	0.00%
Lenses & Glasses	0	0.00%
Watches/Jewelry	1,244	0.13%
Handbags/Wallets	0	0.00%
Electronics	34,724	3.76%
Mobile Phones & Accessories	0	0.00%
Automotive	1,106	0.12%
Toys	144	0.02%
Other	824,812	89.29%
<b>Total Quantity of Seizures</b>	<b>932,724</b>	

# Approximate Value by Product

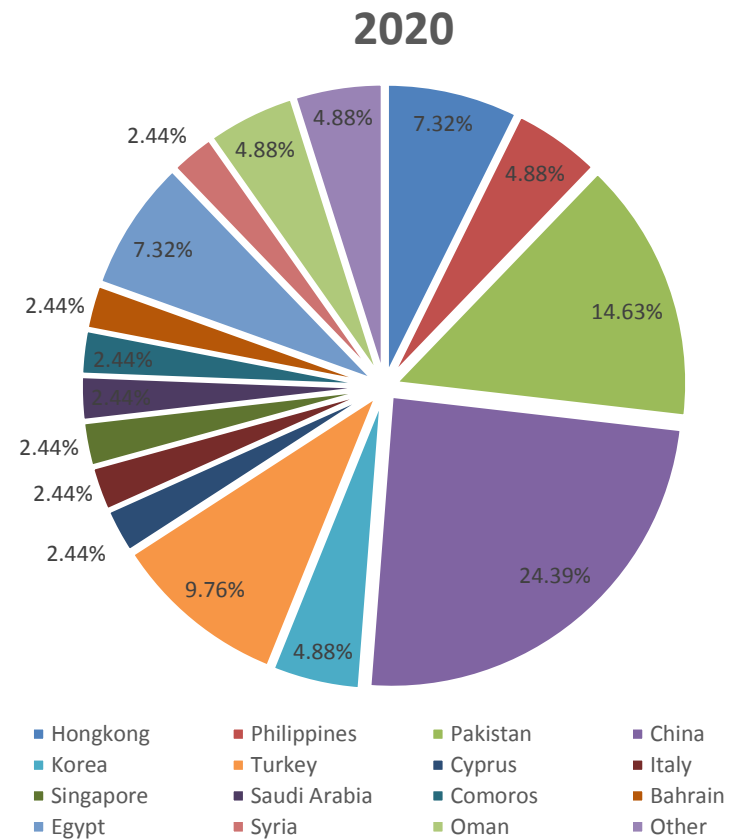
2020		
Product	Approximate Value (AED)	% of Total *
Pharmaceuticals	60500	1.46%
Toiletries/Cosmetics	0	0.00%
Perfumes	43845	1.06%
Clothing/Garments	502500	12.14%
Footwear	330100	7.97%
Accessories	0	0.00%
Lenses & Glasses	0	0.00%
Watches/Jewelry	182500	4.41%
Handbags/Wallets	0	0.00%
Electronics	635800	15.36%
Mobile Phones & Accessories	0	0.00%
Automotive	157300	3.80%
Toys	48000	1.16%
Other	2179570	52.65%
<b>Total Approximate Value of Seizures</b>	<b>4,140,115 AED</b>	



# Seizures by Economy



Total Seizures : 67



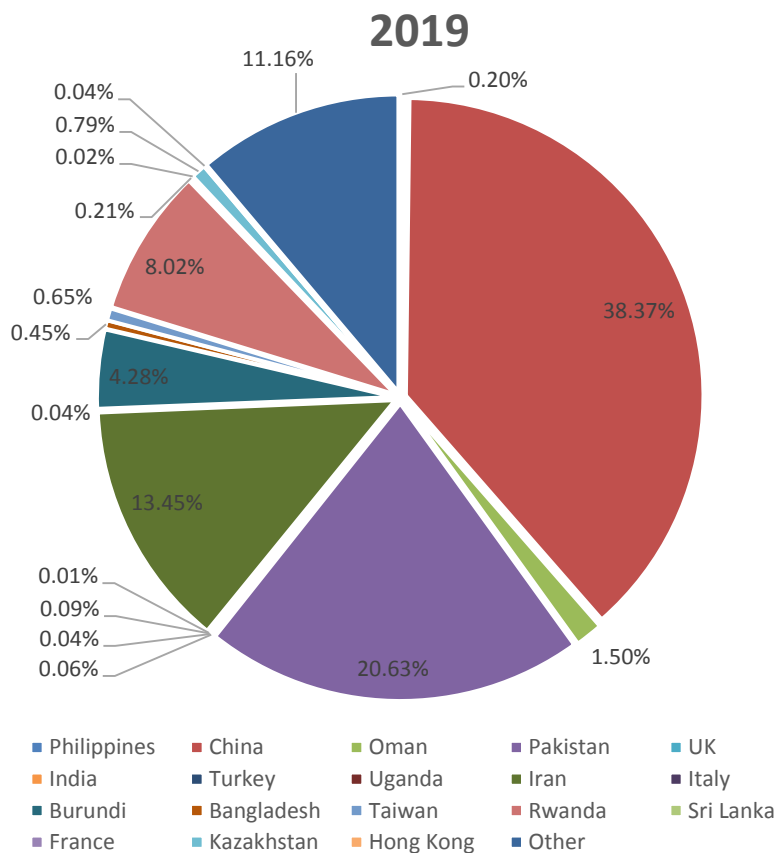
Total Seizures : 41

## Seizures by Economy

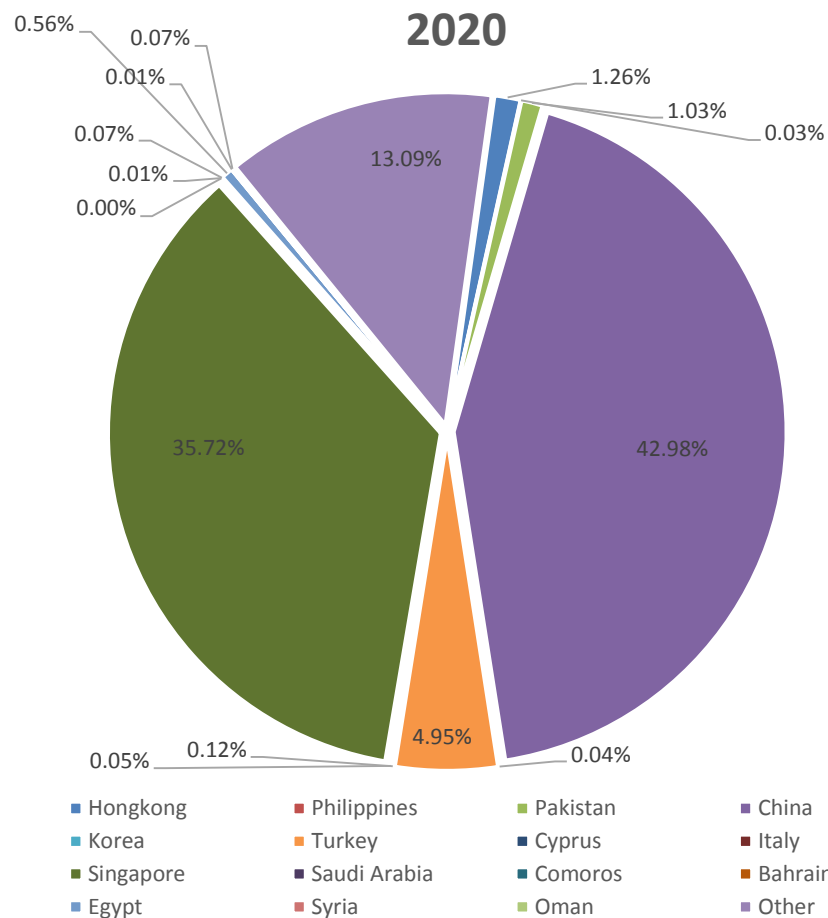
2019		
Economy	Seizures	% of Total *
Philippines	20	29.85%
China	10	14.93%
Oman	8	11.94%
Pakistan	5	7.46%
UK	3	4.48%
India	2	2.99%
Turkey	2	2.99%
Uganda	1	1.49%
Iran	1	1.49%
Italy	1	1.49%
Burundi	1	1.49%
Bangladesh	1	1.49%
Taiwan	1	1.49%
Rwanda	1	1.49%
Sri Lanka	1	1.49%
France	1	1.49%
Kazakhstan	1	1.49%
Hong Kong	1	1.49%
Other	6	8.96%
<b>Total Seizures</b>	<b>67</b>	

2020		
Economy	Seizures	% of Total *
Hong Kong	3	7.32%
Philippines	2	4.88%
Pakistan	6	14.63%
China	10	24.39%
Korea	2	4.88%
Turkey	4	9.76%
Cyprus	1	2.44%
Italy	1	2.44%
Singapore	1	2.44%
Saudi Arabia	1	2.44%
Comoros	1	2.44%
Bahrain	1	2.44%
Egypt	3	7.32%
Syria	1	2.44%
Oman	2	4.88%
Other	2	4.88%
<b>Total Seizures</b>	<b>41</b>	

# Quantity by Economy



Total Quantity: 168,251



Total Quantity: 923,724

## Quantity by Economy

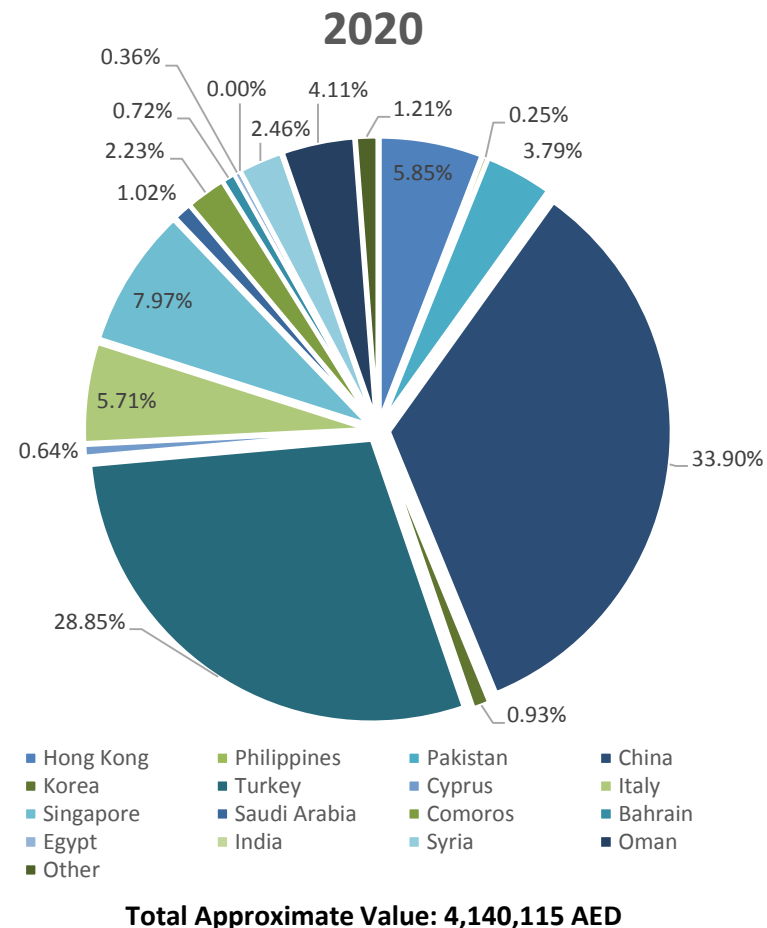
2019		
Economy	Quantity	% of Total *
Philippines	329	0.20%
China	64,557	38.37%
Oman	2,516	1.50%
Pakistan	34,702	20.63%
UK	105	0.06%
India	74	0.04%
Turkey	144	0.09%
Uganda	13	0.01%
Iran	22,631	13.45%
Italy	59	0.04%
Burundi	7,200	4.28%
Bangladesh	759	0.45%
Taiwan	1,100	0.65%
Rwanda	13,500	8.02%
Sri Lanka	346	0.21%
France	40	0.02%
Kazakhstan	1,335	0.79%
Hong Kong	64	0.04%
Other	17,078	11.16%
<b>Total Quantity</b>	<b>168,251</b>	

2020		
Economy	Quantity	% of Total *
Hongkong	11,653	1.26%
Philippines	301	0.03%
Pakistan	9,475	1.03%
China	396,986	42.98%
Korea	327	0.04%
Turkey	45,764	4.95%
Cyprus	1,080	0.12%
Italy	454	0.05%
Singapore	330,000	35.72%
Saudi Arabia	23	0.002%
Comoros	90	0.01%
Bahrain	636	0.07%
Egypt	5,199	0.56%
Syria	116	0.01%
Oman	660	0.07%
Other	120,960	13.09%
<b>Total Quantity</b>	<b>923,724</b>	

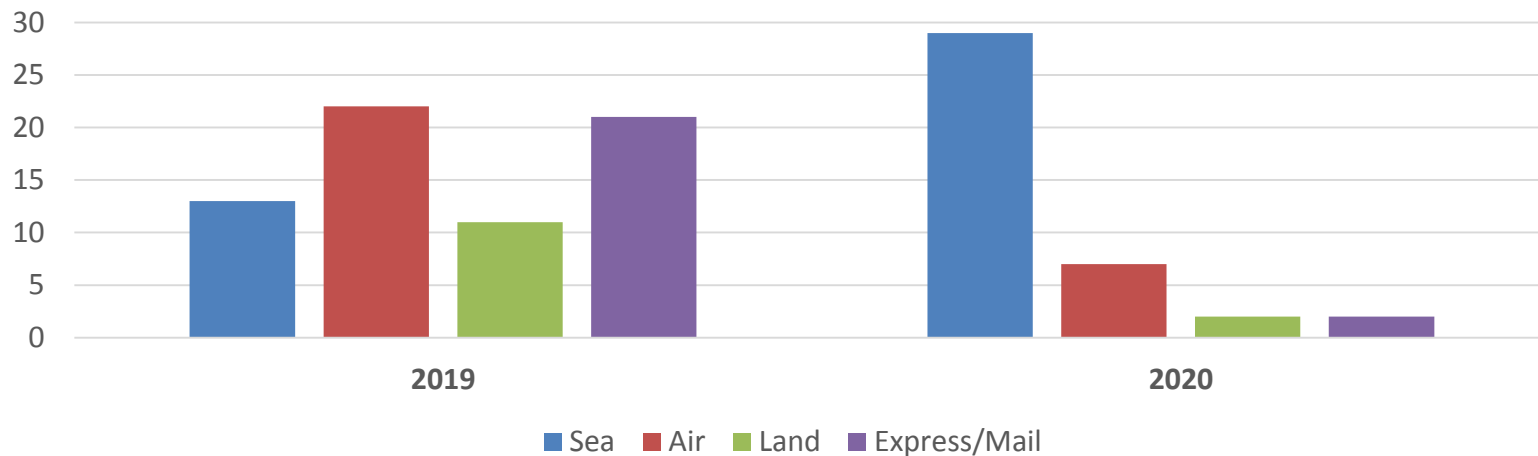


# Approximate Value by Economy

2020		
Economy	Approximate Value (AED)	% of Total *
Hong Kong	242,100	5.85%
Philippines	10,500	0.25%
Pakistan	157,100	3.79%
China	1,403,600	33.90%
Korea	38,300	0.93%
Turkey	1,194,370	28.85%
Cyprus	26,400	0.64%
Italy	236,200	5.71%
Singapore	330,000	7.97%
Saudi Arabia	42,300	1.02%
Comoros	92,300	2.23%
Bahrain	30,000	0.72%
Egypt	14,800	0.36%
India	0	0.00%
Syria	101,900	2.46%
Oman	170,000	4.11%
Other	50,245	1.21%
<b>Total Approximate Value by Economy</b>	<b>4,140,115 AED</b>	

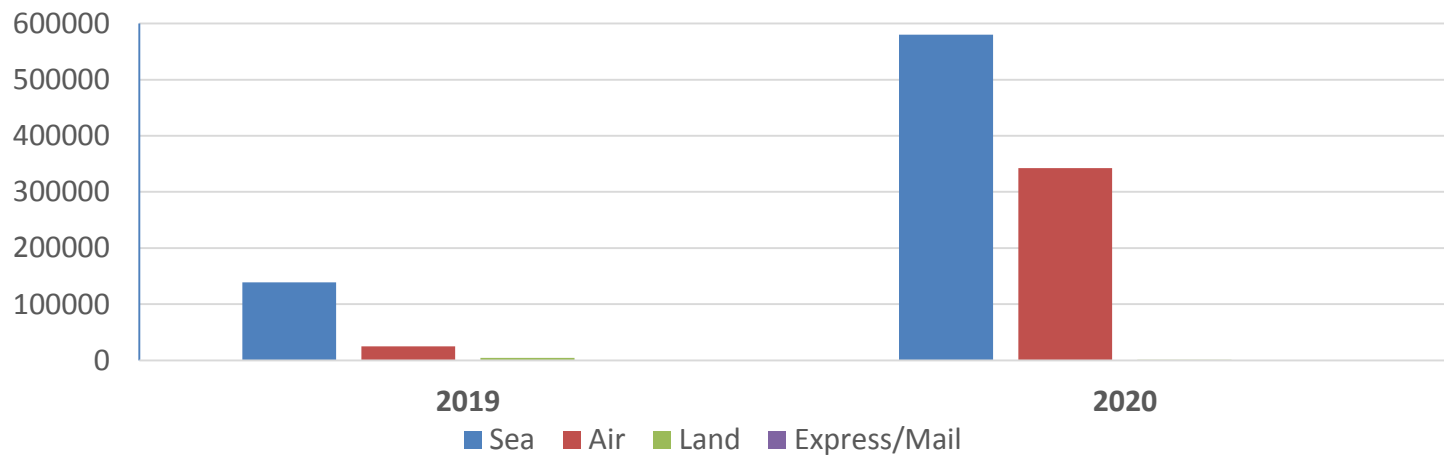


## Seizures by Points of Entry



Seizures				
Mode of Transport	2019		2020	
	Seizures	% of Total	Seizures	% of Total
Sea	13	19 %	29	70.73%
Air	22	33 %	8	19.51%
Land	11	16 %	2	4.88%
Express/Mail	21	31 %	2	4.88%
<b>Total Seizures</b>	<b>67</b>		<b>41</b>	

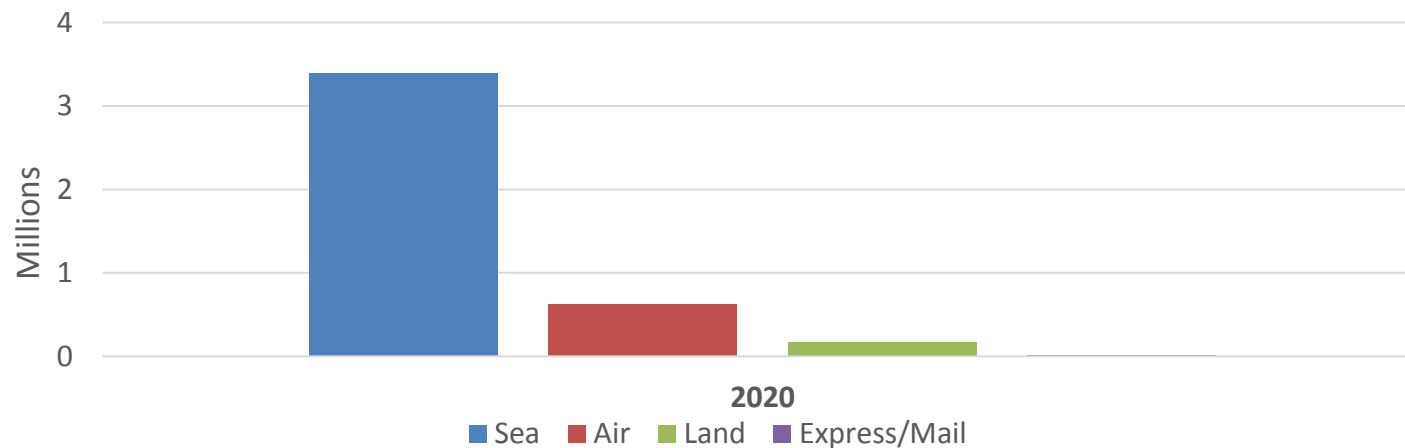
## Quantity by Points of Entry



Quantity				
Mode of Transport	2019		2020	
	Quantity	% of Total*	Quantity	% of Total*
Sea	138,743	82 %	580274	62.82%
Air	24,680	15 %	342489	37.08%
Land	4,285	3 %	660	0.07%
Express/Mail	543	0.3 %	301	0.03%
<b>Total Quantity</b>	<b>168,251</b>		<b>923,724</b>	

\*Seizures involving multiple product categories are included in the "Other" category. Because the individual percentage figures are rounded, in some cases, the sum of the rounded percentages for a given fiscal year is slightly higher or lower than 100 percent.

## Approximate Value by Points of Entry



Approximate Value		
Mode of Transport	2020	
	Approximate Value (AED)	% of Total
Sea	3,333,815	80.52%
Air	625,800	15.12%
Land	170,000	4.11%
Express/Mail	10,500	0.25%
<b>Total Value</b>	<b>4,140,115 AED</b>	

# UAE IPR References

**General Inquiries?** For any Customs inquiries contact [info@fca.gov.ae](mailto:info@fca.gov.ae)

**IPR Policy:** The UAE Customs IPR Policy is available on the [FCA IPR Webpage](#)

**Intelligence Sharing:** Kindly contact the designated Local customs below, or use the *FCA Customs Complaint Service* found in [www.fca.gov.ae](http://www.fca.gov.ae)

Local Customs IPR Contacts

Customs Administration	IPR Websites	Email	Contact Number
Abu Dhabi Customs	<a href="#">Abu Dhabi Customs IPR Procedure</a>	<a href="mailto:ics.ipr@adcutoms.ae">ics.ipr@adcutoms.ae</a>	800 555 +971 2 810 2249
Dubai Customs	<a href="#">Dubai Customs IPR Procedure</a>	<a href="mailto:client.relations@dubaicustoms.ae">client.relations@dubaicustoms.ae</a>	800 800 80 +9714 417 7777
Sharjah Customs	<a href="#">Sharjah Customs IPR Procedure</a>	<a href="mailto:jumruki@sharjahcustoms.gov.ae">jumruki@sharjahcustoms.gov.ae</a>	+971 6 528 1666
Ajman Customs	<a href="#">Ajman Customs Services</a>	<a href="mailto:info@apcd.ae">info@apcd.ae</a>	800 70 +971 6 747 0111
Ras AlKhaimah	<a href="#">RAK Customs Services</a>	<a href="mailto:info@customs.rak.ae">info@customs.rak.ae</a>	+ 971 7 233 3733
Fujairah	<a href="#">Fujairah Customs IPR</a>	<a href="mailto:info@fujcustoms.gov.ae">info@fujcustoms.gov.ae</a>	+971 9 288 2222
Umm AlQuwain	<a href="#">Federal Customs IPR Link</a>	<a href="mailto:customs@uaqport.ae">customs@uaqport.ae</a>	+971 6 765 5655