

Enforcement of the Antimonopoly Act in FY2025 (Summary)

June 8, 2026
Japan Fair Trade Commission

Key Features of FY2025

● Strict Enforcement Targeting Price-Fixing Cartels Affecting Daily Life

The JFTC issued cease and desist orders and surcharge payment orders to companies involved in price-fixing cartels concerning gasoline, an essential commodity; sesame oil and roasted sesame seeds; and products for special vehicles and trailers.

● Proactive Response to Anticompetitive Conduct by Digital Platform Operators

The JFTC issued a cease and desist order to Google LLC for its trading on restrictive terms with Specified Android OEMs*. The JFTC also opened an investigation into a suspected violation of the Antimonopoly Act by Microsoft Corporation and others.

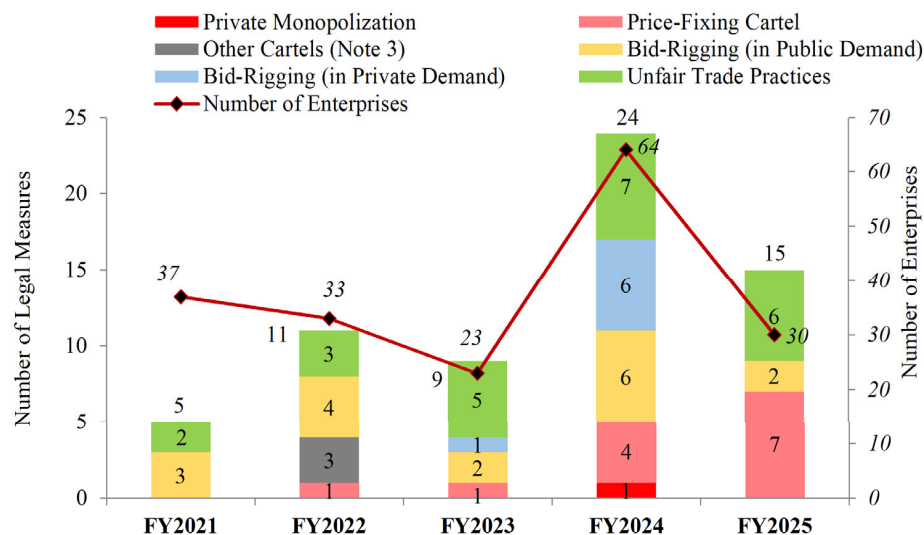
* “Specified Android OEMs” mean enterprises manufacturing and distributing the Specified Android Smartphones.

● Addressing Conduct that Unfairly Disadvantages SMEs and Other Businesses

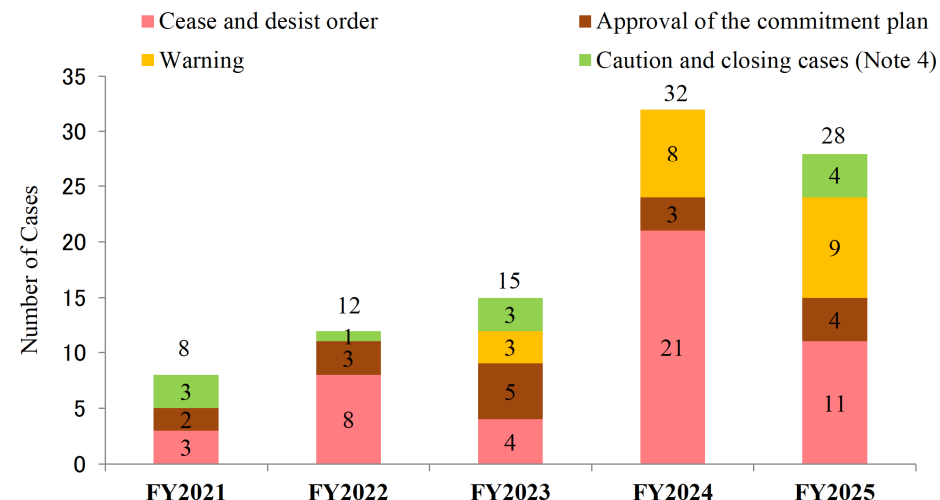
A cease and desist order and a surcharge payment order were issued to a motorcycle wholesaler for abusing its superior bargaining position over dealers. The JFTC has also efficiently and effectively addressed other abuses of superior bargaining position, such as requests made by large-scale retailers and others to their suppliers, through measures such as approving commitment plans, issuing warnings, or giving cautions, depending on the case.

15 Legal Measures (11 Cease and Desist Orders and Four Approvals of Commitment Plans)

【Number of Legal Measures (Note 1)】



【Number of Cease and Desist Orders, etc.】



(Note 1) “Legal Measures” consist of Cease and Desist Orders, Surcharge Payment Orders, and approvals of Commitment Plan. If a Cease and Desist Order and a Surcharge Payment Order are jointly issued for a single case, the number of legal measures is counted as one.

(Note 2) If a case relating to both provisions concerning Private Monopolization and Unfair Trade Practices, such case is classified as Private Monopolization.

(Note 3) “Other Cartels” are cartels involving quantity, sales channels, prohibitions on customer movement, facility restrictions, etc.

(Note 4) “Caution, closing cases” only include cases for which summaries were published.

Total Amount of Surcharge: Approx. 9.55 billion JPY

Amount of Surcharge after FY2021

Fiscal year	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
Surcharge Payment Order					
Amount of Surcharge (JPY Billion) (Note 5)	2.18	101.98	0.22	3.7	9.55
Number of Enterprises	31	21	16	33	36

(Note 5) Amount of Surcharge is rounded down to the nearest 10 million yen.

Products and Services Involved in Cases Published by the JFTC in FY 2025

IT, Digital Sectors	Public Procurement and Industrial Goods Services	Areas Closely Related to People's Lives		
<p>Google and Specified Android OEMs: Transactions on Implementation of Search Functionality</p> <p><u>Trading on Restrictive Terms</u></p>	<p>Products for Special Vehicles</p> <p><u>Price-Fixing Cartel</u></p> <p>Surcharge Payment Order</p>	<p>Transactions between Large-Scale Retailers and Their Suppliers</p> <p><u>Abuse of Superior Bargaining Position</u></p>	<p>Gasoline</p> <p><u>Price-Fixing Cartel</u></p> <p>Surcharge Payment Order</p>	<p>Olympic and Paralympic Games: Planning Test Events, etc.</p> <p><u>Bid-Rigging (in Public Procurement)</u></p> <p>Surcharge Payment Order</p>
<p>Microsoft's Transactions Related to Cloud Services</p>	<p>Trailers</p> <p><u>Price-Fixing Cartel</u></p> <p>Surcharge Payment Order</p>	<p>Management Contracts for Live Streamers</p> <p><u>Trading on Restrictive Terms, Interference with a Competitor's Transactions</u></p>	<p>Transactions Related to Visa Card Payments</p> <p><u>Trading on Restrictive Terms</u></p>	<p>Sesame Oil and Roasted Sesame Seeds</p> <p><u>Price-Fixing Cartel</u></p> <p>Surcharge Payment Order</p>
<p>Inspection Services for Overbridges on Railways</p> <p><u>Bid-Rigging (in Public Procurement)</u></p> <p>Surcharge Payment Order</p>	<p>Harley-Davidson Japan's Transactions with Its Dealers</p> <p><u>Abuse of Superior Bargaining Position</u></p> <p>Surcharge Payment Order</p>	<p>Specified Toyota Cars and Body Coatings, etc.</p> <p><u>Tie-in Sales</u></p>	<p>All-Season Tires for Automobiles</p> <p><u>Resale Price Maintenance</u></p>	<p>Resale Price Maintenance</p>

Purple:
Cease and Desist Order

Orange:
Approval of the Commitment Plan

Green:
Warning and Caution

Blue:
Investigation Started

● Nine Cease and Desist Orders

Alleged Conduct	Cases	Summary
Price-Fixing Cartel	Manufacturers of Sesame Oil and Roasted Sesame Seeds (Four Cases) (May 2025)	The manufacturers had jointly agreed to raise the prices of sesame oil and roasted sesame seeds. (Amount of Surcharge: 21.98 million JPY)
Bid-Rigging (in Public Procurement)	Participants in Biddings for the Outsourcing Contracts of Planning Test Events, etc. regarding the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 Ordered by TOCOG (June 2025)	The participants had conspired to decide prospective winners and ensure that those winners would win the contracts for specified test events and Games-related services ordered by the Tokyo Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (TOCOG). (Amount of Surcharge: 3,175.92 million JPY)
Price-Fixing Cartel	Manufacturers of Products for Special Vehicles (September 2025)	The manufacturers had jointly agreed to raise the selling prices of specified products for special vehicles. (Amount of Surcharge: 2,601.89 million JPY)
Price-Fixing Cartel	Manufacturers of Trailers (September 2025)	The manufacturers had jointly agreed to raise the selling prices of specified trailers. (Amount of Surcharge: 3,323.64 million JPY)
Price-Fixing Cartel	Hokushin Branch of the Nagano Prefecture Petroleum Business Association (November 2025)	The Hokushin Branch determined the amount and timing of price revisions for specified gasoline sold by its members, and instructed its members to revise their selling prices based on those decisions. (Amount of Surcharge: 116.58 million JPY)
Bid-Rigging (in Public Procurement)	Participants, etc. in biddings for inspection services for overbridges on railways operated by Central Japan Railway Company, ordered by local governments, etc. (December 2025)	The six companies, including the bidding participants and Central Japan Railway Company, had conspired to decide prospective winners and allowed those winners to win contracts for specified overbridge inspection services. (Amount of Surcharge: 102.25 million JPY)

● Two Cease and Desist Orders

Alleged Conduct	Cases	Summary
Trading on Restrictive Terms	Google LLC (April 2025)	<p>Google LLC has been preventing Specified Android OEMs and the Specified MNO* from implementing Search Functionality of other General Search Service providers on Specified Android Smartphones.</p> <p>* “Specified MNO” means an enterprise that provides mobile communications services as telecommunications services in Japan and has entered into an RSA with Google LLC. “RSAs” mean agreements entitled “Google Mobile Revenue Share Agreement,” “Google Mobile Incentive Agreement,” etc.</p>
Abuse of Superior Bargaining Position	Harley-Davidson Japan K.K. (September 2025)	<p>Harley-Davidson Japan unilaterally set retail sales targets for specified dealers that could only be achieved through self-registration of Harley-Davidson motorcycles, including three-wheeled motor vehicles called “trikes,” and compelled those dealers to conduct business in accordance with those targets. (Amount of Surcharge: 211.47 million JPY)</p>

● Four Approvals of the Commitment Plans

Alleged Conduct	Cases	Summary
Trading on Restrictive Terms	Visa Worldwide Pte Limited (July 2025)	<p>With respect to the default rates of the interchange fees for transactions in certain industry categories paid by Visa cards that are incurred in processing settlement, Visa Worldwide had been applying preferential rates to credit card companies that had entered into a license agreement with Visa Worldwide in cases where they transmit the data related to the Visa card sales within a certain number of days from the date of purchase or the date of authorization, and had been determining the date of authorization based on transaction identifier data generated by the Transaction Processing Network provided by Visa Worldwide.</p> <p>In these circumstances, in February 2018, Visa Worldwide notified the credit card companies that, with respect to the transactions in certain industry categories described above, it would apply preferential rates to them only in a case where they transmit the data related to the Visa card sales within a certain number of days from the date of authorization, and Visa Worldwide has implemented this since November 2021.</p>
Resale Price Maintenance	DUNLOP TYRE JAPAN, LTD. (August 2025)	DUNLOP TYRE JAPAN, LTD. set Suggested Retail Prices for its all-season automobile tires called “SYNCHRO WEATHER” and, under its policy of maintaining retail prices, requested retailers to sell the tires at those prices.

Alleged Conduct	Cases	Summary
Abuse of Superior Bargaining Position	Nishimuta Co., Ltd. (September 2025)	Nishimuta Co., Ltd. engaged in conduct such as making suppliers provide monetary contributions under names such as “product management fees” and “logistics support fees,” without clearly explaining the calculation basis or use of the money, or even when the burden exceeded a reasonable scope in light of the direct benefits to the suppliers. It also had suppliers dispatch their employees, etc. without bearing the costs normally necessary for such dispatch.
Abuse of Superior Bargaining Position	LOPIA CO., LTD. (December 2025)	LOPIA CO., LTD. required its suppliers to dispatch their employees, etc. for product display and shelf-stocking work in connection with new store openings, store reopenings following renovations, or shelf rearrangements. This included work relating to products other than those supplied by the respective suppliers, without prior agreement on the dispatch conditions or LOPIA bearing the costs normally required for such dispatch.

Cease and Desist Order to Google LLC (April 2025)

Google LLC imposed the following requirements on Specified Android OEMs and the Specified MNO, preventing other General Search Service providers' Search Functionality from being implemented on Specified Android Smartphones:

1. Under MADAs*, Google LLC required Specified Android OEMs to preinstall Google Search and other Google apps together with Google Play, and to place their icons and widgets in designated positions on device screens.
2. Under RSAs, Google LLC made payments to Specified Android OEMs and the Specified MNO on condition that they would not preinstall competing search apps, among other requirements.

* MADAs mean agreements entitled "Mobile Application Distribution Agreement."



Cease and Desist Order (Trading on Restrictive Terms)

Investigation Opened into a Suspected Violation of the Antimonopoly Act by Microsoft Corporation, etc. (March 2026)

Microsoft Corporation, etc. are suspected of preventing providers of cloud services competing with Microsoft Azure from obtaining cloud service transactions by imposing the following conditions on licensees and prospective licensees of Microsoft software and services, such as Windows Server, Windows Client, Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft 365, and Visual Studio:

1. Not allowing users to use the Microsoft software and services in combination with competing cloud services; or
2. Modifying or setting the trade terms so that users bear higher costs when using the Microsoft software and services with competing cloud services than when using them on Microsoft Azure.

Abuse of a Superior Bargaining Position (1/3)

In FY2025, the JFTC took legal measures concerning three companies: Harley-Davidson Japan K.K., a motorcycle wholesaler, for its conduct toward dealers; and Nishimuta Co., Ltd. and LOPIA CO., LTD., retailers, for their conduct toward suppliers.

The Task Force on Abuse of Superior Bargaining Position took the lead in issuing warnings to four companies concerning their conduct toward suppliers: (1) Shinmei Denzai Co., Ltd., an electrical materials wholesaler; and three major regional retailers, (2) DELICIA Co., Ltd., (3) KAMASHIN, Inc., and (4) ZAG ZAG Co., Ltd.

In addition, cautions were also issued in cases such as:

- Requests from large-scale retailers and others to suppliers
- Requests from shippers to logistics operators
- Cases related to price pass-through due to the recent sharp rise in labor costs, raw material prices, and energy costs

A total of 27 cautions were issued concerning these matters.

(Unit: Cases)

FY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Cease and Desist Orders and Surcharge Payment Orders	0	0	0	0	1
Approval of Commitment Plans	0	0	2	1	2
Warnings	0	0	0	3	4
Cautions	46	55	67	41	27

Abuse of a Superior Bargaining Position (2/3)

● Major Cases Where the Task Force on Abuse of Superior Bargaining Position Issued Warnings (Four Cases)

1. Shinmei Denzai Co., Ltd. (Published on September 25, 2025)

From no later than April 1, 2022 to July 6, 2025, Shinmei Denzai Co., Ltd. engaged in the following conduct toward its suppliers:

- (1) It sent request letters in the name of its representative director around June every year and made suppliers provide monetary contributions for its own benefit under the name of “sponsorship for appreciation sales,” without clearly explaining the basis for calculating the amounts, even though the suppliers could not obtain benefits such as sales promotion effects through such contributions.
- (2) It made suppliers provide monetary contributions for its own benefit under the name of “cooperation membership fees,” without clearly explaining the basis for calculating the amounts, even though the suppliers could not obtain benefits such as sales promotion effects through such contributions.

2. DELICIA Co., Ltd. (Published on February 26, 2026)

DELICIA Co., Ltd. made suppliers dispatch their employees, etc. for its own benefit to display products, etc. at its stores when opening new stores, reopening renovated stores, or changing sales floors, without bearing the usual costs necessary for the dispatch, from at least April 1, 2022 to July 6, 2025.

Abuse of a Superior Bargaining Position (3/3)

● Major Cases Where the Task Force on Abuse of Superior Bargaining Position Issued Warnings

3. KAMASHIN, Inc. (Published on March 5, 2026)

KAMASHIN, Inc. engaged in the following conduct in its transactions with suppliers from at least March 1, 2022 to December 7, 2025.

- (1) When opening new stores or reopening renovated stores, KAMASHIN, Inc. made suppliers provide economic benefits under the name of “open sponsorship” to secure the profits of those stores. Specifically, it required suppliers to supply all products in their first delivery to the stores at prices discounted by 50% or 100% from the usual delivery prices, without clearly explaining the basis for calculating the amounts. Although the suppliers could not obtain benefits such as sales promotion effects through such discounts, KAMASHIN, Inc. made them provide economic benefits equivalent to the difference between the discounted prices and the usual delivery prices.
- (2) When opening new stores, reopening renovated stores, changing shelf layouts, or selling osechi products (traditional Japanese New Year foods), KAMASHIN, Inc. made suppliers dispatch their employees, etc. for its own benefit to display products, etc. at the stores concerned, including products not supplied by those suppliers. It did so without agreeing in advance with the suppliers on the terms and conditions for the dispatch and without bearing the usual costs necessary for the dispatch.

4. ZAG ZAG Co., Ltd.(Published on March 12, 2026)

ZAG ZAG Co., Ltd. made suppliers dispatch their employees, etc. for its own benefit from at least August 20, 2024 to December 23, 2025. The employees were dispatched to display products at ZAG ZAG’s stores when opening new stores or reopening renovated stores, without ZAG ZAG bearing the usual costs necessary for the dispatch.

Unjust Low Price Sales

- **Warning to Murakami Shoji Corporation (Published on February 19, 2026)**

Murakami Shoji Corporation is suspected of having continuously supplied regular gasoline at prices substantially below the costs required for its supply at two service stations in Fukuchiyama City, Kyoto Prefecture, during certain periods between July 1 and August 31, 2025. This conduct may have caused difficulties to the business activities of other regular gasoline retailers in the surrounding area.

- **JFTC promptly handled reports on retail businesses such as liquor, petroleum products, and home appliances, and issued cautions concerning conduct which could lead to unjust low price sales.**

(Unit: Cases)

FY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Liquors	29	37	29	18	7
Petroleum products	206	151	233	186	124
Home appliances	1	0	0	1	0
Others	8	4	55	48	28
Total	244	192	317	253	159

- **Strengthening enforcement efforts concerning businesses that have repeatedly received cautions (such as follow-up investigations)**