SUPPORTING STATISTICS

Redress is pleased to provide a selection of external statistics and resources to support the understanding of fashion's impact on the environment, from environmental impact, consumption, production and waste to economic impact, and to underpin the Redress Design Award and its mission.

For further information or for interviews with representatives from Redress and the Redress Design Award, please contact Danie Liu, PR & Marketing Assistant: danie@redress.com.hk.

CURRENT TEXTILE AND CLOTHING WASTE ISSUES

(Globally) Every second, the equivalent of one rubbish truck of textiles is landfilled or burned globally.
Source: Ellen Macarthur Foundation (2017), A New Textiles Economy: Redesigning Fashion's Future

(Globally) An estimated 92 million tons of textile waste is created annually from the fashion industry.
Source: Global Fashion Agenda and The Boston Consulting Group, Inc. (2017), Pulse of the Fashion Industry

In China, the total annual production of pre- and post-consumer textile waste is estimated to be around 20 million tonnes, yet the textile waste recycling rate was less than 20% in 2018.
Source: CBG (2016), 中国废旧纺织品回收利用情况分析; 商务部流通业发展司 (2019), 《中国再生资源回收行业发展报告》

In Hong Kong, approximately 143,080 tonnes of textiles were sent into landfills in 2018, which is 392 tonnes per day, an increase in 81% since 2011.
Source: Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department (2019) Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong - Waste Statistics for 2018

(Globally) The fashion industry contributes to around 10% of global greenhouse gas emissions due to its long supply chains and energy intensive production. The industry consumes more energy than the aviation and shipping industry combined.
Source: UNFCCC (2019), UN Helps Fashion Industry Shift to Low Carbon

(Globally) Textile waste is estimated to increase by about 60% between 2015 and 2030, with an additional new 57 million tons of waste being generated annually, reaching an annual total of 148 million tons, which is equivalent to annual waste of 17.5kg per capita across the planet.
Source: Global Fashion Agenda and The Boston Consulting Group, Inc. (2017), Pulse of the Fashion Industry

IMPACTS OF COVID-19 ON THE FASHION INDUSTRY

(Globally) From April to May 2020, sales decreased by 60-70% in the worldwide fashion and luxury industry – with footfall in retail and recreation stores down by 44% in the U.S., 52% in Germany, 78% in India, and 59% in Brazil.
Source: Apparel Coalition (2020), Weaving a Better Future: Rebuilding a More Sustainable Fashion Industry After COVID-19

The European textile industry is one of the most affected [by Covid-19], according to the UN, with losses of 538 million dollars. It is followed by the textile industries of Vietnam, Turkey and Hong Kong, which have already lost $207 million, $164 million and $107 million, respectively.
Source: The Global Fashion Business Journal (2020), The UN quantifies the impact of the coronavirus on the fashion industry: 1.5 billion dollars.

According to the magazine Textilwirtschaft, the service provider Cycle 8 estimates the value of unsold textile goods due to Covid-19 in Europe at 136 billion euros.
Source: TAZ (2020), Viele Textilsammler vor dem Aus

Analysis based on the MGFI (McKinsey Global Fashion Index) shows there will be around EUR 35 billion to 45 billion in overstock from the spring/summer 2020 season.
Source: Mckinsey & Company (2020), A perfect storm for fashion marketplaces.

In total UK citizens are set to dispose of 67 million items of clothing as the UK comes out of lockdown.
Source: Wrap (2020), Citizen Insights Clothing Behaviours During Covid-19 Lockdown

According to a recent survey among European textile and clothing companies, short term prospects for the industry are dramatic: 60% of companies expect sales to drop by half (and 30% expects a reduction of even 80%).
Source: EURATEX (2020) Euratex Enters In Constructive Dialogue With European Commission To Develop Recovery Strategy For Textile And Apparel Industry

Around two in five (41%) UK citizens have disposed of textiles during the Covid-19 lockdown – most commonly items of clothing (cited by 37%), followed by shoes/footwear (19%), bedding (12%), bags/handbags (10%), clothing accessories (10%) and household textiles (10%).
Source: Wrap (2020), Citizen Insights Clothing Behaviours During Covid-19 Lockdown

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE OUTLOOK OF FASHION INDUSTRY

Digitalisation in the fashion industry

3D design collaborations and video conferences for sample approval are the most promising trends, with around 45% of executives expecting them to become part of the digital transformation. 37% expect virtual prototyping to become common practice.
Source: Global Fashion Agenda (2020), CEO Agenda 2020 COVID-19 Edition

Companies that have implemented 3-D design and virtual sampling report shortening the sampling process by 2 weeks or more, and they often see reductions of 50 per cent in the number of samples needed and the costs involved.
Source: Mckinsey & Company (2018), McKinsey Apparel Go-to-Market Process Survey 2018

Consumers value brands that prioritise people and planet

Consumers expect that a brand's ethical commitments won't be paused during this pandemic. In a survey of almost 6,000 consumers in US, UK, Germany, Italy, and China, consumers indicated that they very favourably viewed brands that paid their furloughed employees, repurposed facilities to produce PPE, or donated to their communities.
Source: Apparel Coalition (2020), Weaving a Better Future: Rebuilding a More Sustainable Fashion Industry After COVID-19.

71% of consumers are indicating a shift towards investments in higher quality garments and a deepened interest in circular business models such as resale, rental or refurbishment following COVID-19.
Source: Global Fashion Agenda (2020), CEO Agenda 2020 COVID-19 Edition

DESIGNERS HOLD GREAT POWER

Around 80% of a product's environmental impact is locked in at the design stage.
Source: WRAP (n.d.), WRAP and the circular economy

Extending the active life of 50% of UK clothing by 9 months would decrease the UK's carbon footprint by 8%, water footprint by 10% and waste footprint by 4%, per tonne of clothing.
Source: WRAP (2017), Valuing Our Clothes: the cost of UK fashion.