

# Fashion Revolution's Out of Sight report finds a lack of transparency persists in fashion supply chains

The 2021 update to '<u>Out of Sight: A Call for Transparency From Field To Fabric</u>' shows that supply chain transparency amongst 63 major fashion brands and retailers is increasing; but progress remains too slow and too shallow.

## Key findings:

- Only 2 out of 63 brands are disclosing a full list of their textile production sites, an increase of 1 from last year.
- 49 out of 63 brands are now disclosing the first-tier manufacturers where their garments are cut and sewn, an increase of 2 from last year.
- 29 brands are disclosing processing facilities such as dyehouses, while only 28 brands are disclosing production sites such as fabric mills.
- 44% of brands are disclosing at least *some* of their textile production sites. This is an increase of 13 percentage points since last year.

A lack of visibility of supply chains can allow exploitative, unsafe working conditions and environmental destruction to thrive while obscuring who has the responsibility and power to redress these issues. For many years, there have been reports of labour abuses in textile mills, informal workshops, tanneries, dyehouses and farms around the world that supply materials to the global fashion industry, such as recent investigations into the <u>forced labour</u> of <u>Uyghur</u> people to produce cotton and textiles in Xinjiang, China. A lack of transparency from global fashion brands surrounding where their cotton is produced prevents a chain of accountability for this human rights crisis.

Anyone, anywhere should be able to find out how, where, by whom and under what conditions their clothes are made. This is why Fashion Revolution has been calling for greater transparency and accountability across the global fashion industry since the Rana Plaza building collapsed in Bangladesh in 2013, which killed more than a thousand garment workers.

"There is a real need for transparency beyond the first tier of manufacturing, where millions of hidden workers face labour abuses to make the fabrics in our clothes," says Ciara Barry, Policy & Research coordinator at Fashion Revolution. "Brands must urgently take responsibility for the environmental and human rights impacts across their entire supply chains. This starts with disclosing all textile production facilities in their supply chains."

### Calls to action:

- This report calls for major brands and retailers to expand supply chain transparency by disclosing all textile production facilities in their supply chains.
- This report also calls on citizens everywhere to demand greater transparency beyond the first tier by asking brands #WhoMadeMyFabric? on social media.
- We're also inviting producers to share their stories using #IMadeYourFabric, so we can connect more closely with the people who produce the fabrics and raw materials in the clothes we wear.

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### About the #WhoMadeMyFabric campaign

Supply chains in the global garment and textiles industry are notoriously opaque. They are also long, complex, fragmented, and continuously evolving. In fact, supply chains are more like webs than linear chains, with networks of agents, contractors and subcontractors. This is a problem because fragmented and opaque supply chains can allow exploitative and unsafe working conditions to thrive while obscuring who has the responsibility and power to redress them.

In response, Fashion Revolution calls on citizens everywhere to demand greater transparency beyond the first tier of the supply chain by askin<u>g #WhoMadeMyFabric</u>. Throughout 2021, thousands of Fashion Revolutionaries have helped us call on major fashion brands and retailers to publicly disclose the processing facilities and textile mills in their global supply chains by using our email, social media and product review tools.

#### About Fashion Revolution

<u>Fashion Revolution</u> is the world's largest fashion activism movement, campaigning globally for a fashion industry that conserves and restores the environment and values people above growth and profit. In order to achieve this goal, Fashion Revolution conducts research that shines a light on the fashion industry's practices and impacts, highlights where brands and retailers are moving too slowly and incentivises and promotes transparency and accountability across the supply chain.

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Download the Out of Sight report <u>here</u> Download #WhoMadeMyFabric and #IMadeYourFabric imagery <u>here</u>

For further information about the report or for interview and imagery requests, please contact press@fashionrevolution.org