COTTON INCORPORATED SUPPLY CHAIN

INSIGHTS



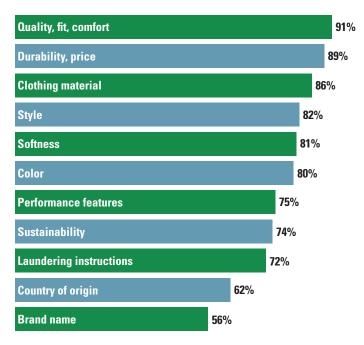
SUSTAINABLE CLOTHING

Concern for sustainability influences over three-quarters of consumers when they shop for food and household appliances, and 61% say it influences their clothing purchases. While traditional purchase drivers such as quality, fit, and comfort are most important, sustainability can be a differentiator to set a brand apart from others. Achieve this by tapping into consumer environmental concerns and signaling product quality and durability.

KEY INSIGHTS

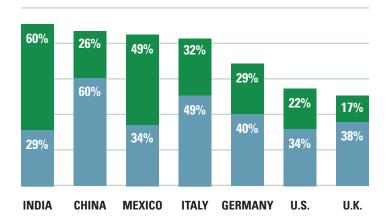
- Brands can capitalize on consumer perceptions of natural fibers by emphasizing their quality, durability, and sustainability.
- Cotton and other natural fibers are clear-cut winners in consumer perceptions of sustainability.
- Brands have an opportunity to build on emerging awareness of environmental concerns over synthetic fibers such as microfiber waste to promote more sustainable fiber options.

CLOTHING PURCHASE DRIVERS



IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINABILITY IN CLOTHING PURCHASE

■ Somewhat Important ■ Very Important



WHAT MAKES CLOTHING SUSTAINABLE?



NATURAL **56**%



100% COTTON **52**%



organic 47%



DURABLE OR LONG-LASTING



LESS IRRITATING
TO SKIN
AA%

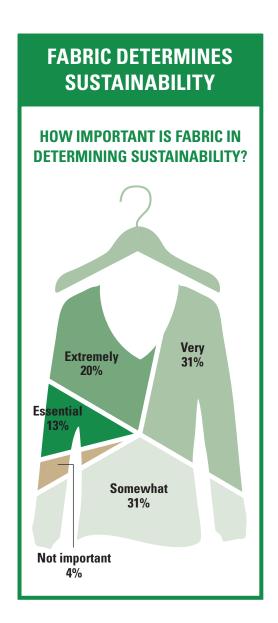


HIGH QUALITY



SUSTAINABILITY: CONCERNED CONSUMERS

Consumers consider fabric a determinate of sustainability, and they look for clothing made from natural fibers such as cotton. While only 25% of global consumers are aware of environmental issues surrounding synthetic fiber production and use, an increasing amount of media attention is bringing these to light. Consumers do have significant opinions on which fibers are safe for the environment, as fewer than 10% believe man-made fibers such as rayon, nylon, and polyester are sustainably produced.

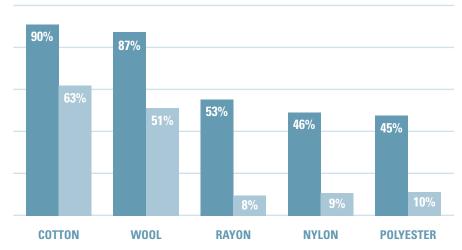




PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY

% saying the following fibers are...

Safe for Environment Sustainably Produced



TOP FIBER PRODUCTION CONCERNS









Microfiber waste
in the oceans from
synthetic fibers

Amount of chemicals to produce man-made fibers

emissions as a result of producing man-made fibers

Greenhouse gas

Amount of pesticides to produce cotton

U.K. GERMANY

U.S. ITALY INDIA **MEXICO**

CHINA

Sources: Cotton Council International & Cotton Incorporated 2017 Global Environment Survey – survey of 7,365 women & men, ages 18-60 in the U.S., U.K., India, China, Mexico, Germany, and Italy who have involvement in clothes shopping.