

Transition Risk Series

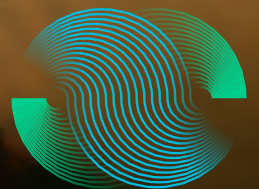
MARKET TRENDS

Sustainability as business opportunity in fashion and apparel

Centre for
Risk Studies



**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**
Judge Business School



Risilience
Intelligently driving sustainability

Changing market demand is reshaping global business

Transition to the future low-carbon and nature-positive economies is presenting companies with unprecedented market challenges and risks that call for a new approach to achieving business success.

According to the World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2024, environmental risks make up more than half of the top-ten risks over the next ten years, with extreme weather events, critical change to Earth's systems, and biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse making the top three¹. Considering more than half of the world's gross domestic product (GDP), equivalent to an estimated US \$58 trillion, is moderately or highly dependent on nature, rising from US \$44 trillion in 2020², these risks cannot be ignored.

Consumers are increasingly aware of the impacts of the climate and nature crises, and are looking to brands to demonstrate environmental stewardship. Purchasing power is shifting to support more sustainable products

and services, and the preference for businesses to be seen as less environmentally damaging is forecast to be an enduring trend³, and one that can lead to bottom-line growth. As market conditions change, market share is up for grabs and organisations that successfully pivot their value proposition to align with the future market will outperform their peers.

Corporates are also under scrutiny from global regulatory mandates. Mechanisms that are driving more sustainable business practices and shaping economic trends are changing markets and the ways in which business operates.

Companies must move with market conditions and prepare the ground to become profitably sustainable. This change process requires access to data and analytics to provide strategic insight into changing markets in the transition to a net-zero and nature-positive future.

¹ <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2024/01/everything-you-need-to-know-about-climate-and-nature-at-davos-2024/>

² <https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2023/pwcboosts-global-nature-and-biodiversity-capabilities.html>

³ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2023/09/25/the-10-biggest-business-trends-for-2024-everyone-must-be-ready-for-now/>

The business of change

In the context of this transition, there are both macro-scale and micro-level changes that present risks and opportunities to business.

Macroeconomic demand shifts

When the world was locked down in 2020, in response to the COVID 19 pandemic, once-bustling cities and high streets fell silent leaving bricks-and-mortar retail without customers. The same conditions that brought economic devastation to some favoured others. Amazon and Netflix benefitted from the new restrictions that created a captive audience; the e-commerce brand providing home deliveries of vital goods reported record revenues while the streaming service experienced a spike in subscribers – 183m global sign-ups by the close of Q1, a 23 per cent jump from a year earlier, as home entertainment provided welcome distraction to housebound viewers⁴.

These demand shifts reflect the wider macroeconomic market forces that shape world economies, bringing both risks to mitigate and opportunities to seize. The World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs 2023 report cites the green transition, technological change, supply-chain transformations and changing consumer expectations as all generating demand for new jobs across industries and regions⁵.

Transition to the net-positive economy will see significant shifts in macrotrends. As demands on certain sectors increase, such as the need for critical minerals to produce lithium-ion batteries, these changes can profoundly impact a company's market size and bottom line.

A number of core economic changes, known as megatrends, are expected as part of the transition to a low-carbon and nature-positive economy:

- Decarbonisation of electricity generation
- Increasing electrification of economic activity
- Shifts in transport activity (including modes and fuel sources)
- Phasing out of fossil fuels
- Changes in agriculture demand patterns
- Decarbonisation of cement and steel production

The impacts from these six demand shifts will be felt beyond the sectors they are directly associated with, due to the effects that propagate other industries through their supply chains; both business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer (B2C). The speed and extent of these sector-level changes are determined by the emission pathway, to include the Paris Ambition, Paris Agreement, stated policy, current policy and no policy, which will each have different consequences for the market.

Microeconomic demand shifts

A surge of interest in sustainable fashion has resulted in a boom in second-hand fashion sales, according to the RetailX Global Fashion 2024 report. Consumers keen to find unusual rather than fast-fashion items, as well as the appeal of retro and vintage, has led to new marketplaces appearing in the US and UK. Forecasts anticipate growth to continue in other regions, including China and India. The global market is expected to reach \$351bn by 2027, with part of that growth coming from developing interest in second-hand fashion in the Middle East⁶.

Micro-level changes emerge from variations in consumer demand as preferences shift towards buying more seemingly sustainable products and services potentially affecting a company's market share within a sector. To remain competitive, companies must have a view of and be sufficiently agile to adapt to changes in demand.

Analytics that enable a company to keep abreast of shifts in consumer demand, and quantify the risks and opportunities that emerge from these changes, can offer organisations early warning of future market trends, establishing a business advantage.

The power of purchasing

Deloitte research⁷ cites a growing trend of consumers becoming more environmentally conscious. The annual survey into consumer attitudes to sustainability and sustainable behaviours found that more consumers are taking into consideration durability and repairability when making a purchase, and whether products are labelled as responsibly sourced or manufactured, or support biodiversity. The same survey reports that a third of consumers said their trust in brands would be improved if brands were recognised as an ethical/sustainable provider by an independent third party.

This change in consumer demand is expected to grow. Forbes names customer demand for sustainable business as one of its top societal trends for 2024⁸, with people preferring companies with a solid commitment to reducing their environmental footprint, noting that "green solutions often lead to bottom-line growth". Barclays Bank reports a 'recommerce revolution', with reusing, reselling and renting worth almost £7 billion to the UK economy, as consumers embrace more sustainable shopping habits⁹.

Consumer markets will likely be disrupted by new entrants offering more alternative sustainable products and services, which appeal to this growing market demand. The speed and extent of these product-level changes are also determined by the emission pathway, to include the Paris Ambition, Paris Agreement, stated policy, current policy and no policy, each of which will have different consequences for sales of a particular product or service.

The possible emission pathways are also tied to changes in consumer demand that will help to determine whether the world will experience an orderly or disorderly transition. Policies can drive responsible consumer demands that call for sustainable purchasing and support diets that contribute to net-zero and nature-positive goals. Alternatively, our current choices and levels of consumption could continue but become less carbon intensive over time.

Purchasing habits will be influenced by various climate- and nature-related trends simultaneously. Customers will make choices according to what they care about most; buy fashion made from more sustainable (less environmentally damaging – net-zero and nature-positive) materials, reduce plastic packaging, stop meat consumption and limit the number of flights taken.

These changes in consumer demand bring both risk and opportunity. The vulnerability of individual companies to the revenue shocks that can arise from changes in consumer trends will also depend on various attributes of the products and services, as well as the characteristics of customers; including geography and demography. Furthermore, the ability of a company to optimise commercial opportunities emerging from these changes will also depend on the organisation's agility and operational structure.

⁴ <https://www.ft.com/content/844ed28c-8074-4856-bde0-20f3bf4cd8f0>

⁵ https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Future_of_Jobs_2023.pdf

⁶ <https://internetretailing.net/second-hand-clothing-big-business-in-us-and-uk-global-fashion-report-finds/>

⁷ <https://www2.deloitte.com/uk/en/pages/consumer-business/articles/sustainable-consumer.html>

⁸ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2023/09/25/the-10-biggest-business-trends-for-2024-everyone-must-be-ready-for-now/>

⁹ <https://home.barclays/news/press-releases/2023/10/recommerce-revolution--reusing--reselling-and-renting-worth-almo/>

Sector focus: fashion and apparel

In the transition to the net-zero and nature-positive future, fashion and apparel brands find themselves the subject of increasing regulatory scrutiny. The attention is justified; globally the sector produces more greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions than the shipping and aviation sectors combined¹⁰.

The challenge is a double bind; the sector both contributes to environmental damage and is affected by climate-and-nature-related risks. According to the McKinsey and the Business of Fashion 2024 State of Fashion report, more than \$65 billion of apparel exports are at risk of being wiped out by climate events such as flooding and extreme heat¹¹. Many fashion and apparel operations are highly dependent on nature but have a significant nature-negative impact on the very resources they depend on¹².

Fashion brands often come with large and intricate supply chains. A crucial aspect of net-zero strategies for large corporate organisations involves decarbonising Scope 3 emissions. According to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, Scope 3 emissions encompass 15 categories across upstream and downstream activities within the value chain. Reducing these emissions is no easy task and demands large-scale collaboration with suppliers, focusing on education, enablement, incentives, monitoring, investment, shared responsibility, contractual obligations, and alignment of net-zero and nature-positive goals.

The pressure to disclose credible and rigorous transition plans that qualify and quantify on a wide range of environmental, social and governance topics is increasing. Brands seen to fall short of expectations may face restricted access to capital and loss of brand value. In fact, businesses that fail to prioritise sustainability and operate with integrity risk losing their social licence to operate. Consumers are keeping watch on the business behaviour of brands too and are prepared to flex their purchasing power in support of companies that best align with their sustainability principles.

There are opportunities in re-setting the business model to support more sustainable practices and some brands are responding creatively to the challenges. Outdoor apparel and gear company Patagonia has leveraged climate and nature analytics, data, technology and information flows to meet its ambitious climate and nature goals, while achieving business success. Incorporating circularity into processes can also be advantageous and there are companies, like Nudie Jeans, that design clothes for durability, promote trade-in programmes, repair services and second-hand sales as part of their re-use initiative.

Danish fashion brand Ganni has pledged to directly invest in the local environment of its suppliers to promote biodiversity by 2025. As part of its strategic Gameplan focus on climate action and biodiversity, the company implemented nature-positive insetting through a partnership with one of its suppliers based in Portugal and STRIX, a Portuguese biodiversity consultancy, to install solar panels and improve biodiversity in the surrounding area. After installing solar panels, STRIX conducted a biodiversity assessment of the flora and fauna in the area and began introducing native species of plants to attract insects, bird and bat life. It also conducted a biodiversity workshop for employees to explain the importance of these strategic initiatives¹³. Sustainability is a key part of Ganni's business and it reflects on and communicates its progress annually through its Responsibility Reports on the company website¹⁴.

Fashion brands that are preparing for the low-carbon and nature-positive economy will be best positioned to survive and thrive shifts in market demand towards more sustainable products and services, and even reap the rewards. By taking effective action, they can better position themselves to capitalise on the commercial opportunities of a profitably-sustainable future.

¹⁰ <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/sectors/apparel-and-footwear>

¹¹ <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/retail/our-insights/state-of-fashion>

¹² <https://www.cisl.cam.ac.uk/news-and-resources/publications/fashioning-nature-positive-future-biodiversity-roadmap-exploring>

¹³ <https://www.sustainablebrandplatform.com/articles/carbon-insetting-in-fashion-supply-chains>

¹⁴ <https://responsibilityreport2022.ganni.com/>

Pioneering sustainability: the journey of Wardrobe Inc.

The following section presents a hypothetical case study of a global fashion company, Wardrobe Inc., which explores the business transformation required on the journey to achieve profitable sustainability in the net-positive future.

Wardrobe Inc.'s decade of transformation

As we stand in the year 2034, Wardrobe is on track to meet its nature and climate targets. Our case study reflects on the transformative journey of Wardrobe Inc. over the past ten years to illustrate and understand the strategic pivot of a once-traditional fast-fashion giant into a beacon of sustainability and industry leadership.

A decade ago, Wardrobe Inc. was indistinguishable from any other player in the fast-fashion industry, with a sprawling network of over 7,000 retail stores worldwide and manufacturing hubs across continents. Driven by rapid production cycles and cost efficiencies, the company's business model was increasingly at odds with evolving market demands, and a rising global consciousness around environmental and ethical practices.

The early 2020s served as a critical inflection point for Wardrobe Inc. Alerted by early warning signs and shifting consumer preferences, the company's leadership acknowledged a stark reality: adapt to the burgeoning demands for sustainability or face potential obsolescence. This was a period of intense scrutiny, where traditional practices met with public and regulatory disfavour, compelling a comprehensive reassessment of its operations.

This case study explores how Wardrobe Inc. addressed these challenges head-on by transforming its approach to not only survive but thrive. From redefining product lines to investing in sustainable technologies and revising supply chain logistics, the company's journey reflects a broader industry shift towards more ethical and sustainable practices. By integrating sustainability into its core, Wardrobe Inc. not only reshaped its identity but also set new standards for the apparel sector.

In the following sections, we will detail the strategies employed by Wardrobe Inc., the obstacles they overcame and the opportunities they seized. This narrative not only captures a company's evolution but points to the changing dynamics in consumer behaviour and market demand that are likely to influence the future of fashion.

Charting the journey towards sustainability: making key strategic decisions

2024: strategic emission reductions

In response to global calls for more decisive action against climate change, Wardrobe Inc. set an ambitious goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2040. The company overhauled its supply chain, opting for renewable energy sources and redesigned logistics to minimise its carbon footprint. These initiatives significantly enhanced energy and water efficiency across the company's operations, and throughout its supply chain.

Wardrobe engaged Risilience to help establish its emissions-reduction targets and determine the quantity of emissions reductions that would be required under different climate scenarios. This required investment in data that underpinned every part of the company's strategic transition and was essential for identifying the climate-and-nature footprint of Wardrobe's value chain.

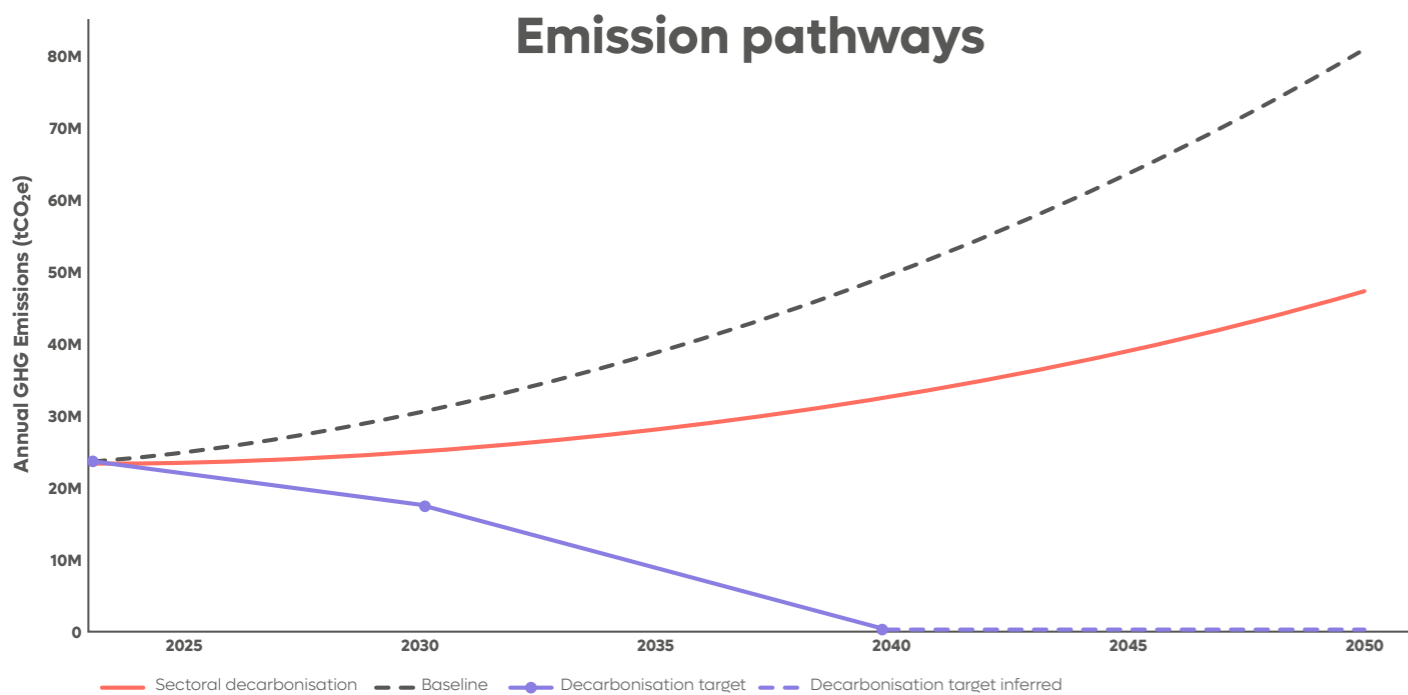


Figure 1: Wardrobe's emissions-reduction targets under different climate scenarios

2026: launching Nature's Wardrobe

Two years later, to achieve its ambitious net-zero targets, Wardrobe Inc. embarked on a significant shift in the way it operates, investing in new materials and technology. It launched the company's first major sustainability initiative in the shape of an entirely new product line called Nature's Wardrobe. This new product line centred on integrating eco-friendly materials into its products, marking a pivotal commitment to sustainability as a core strategic direction.

Despite facing initial hurdles, such as increased costs and complex supply-chain adjustments, this move was critical

in positioning Wardrobe Inc. as a leader in sustainable fashion, helping to mitigate broader business risks.

By shifting away from environmentally harmful products, data analytics showed that Wardrobe Inc.'s climate-related risks decreased from 8.7 per cent of annual revenue to just 1.6 per cent¹⁵ of annual revenue in 2030. Wardrobe Inc. was also able to determine the potential for market-demand shifts under different climate scenarios using the market-demand projections for the different climate pathways.

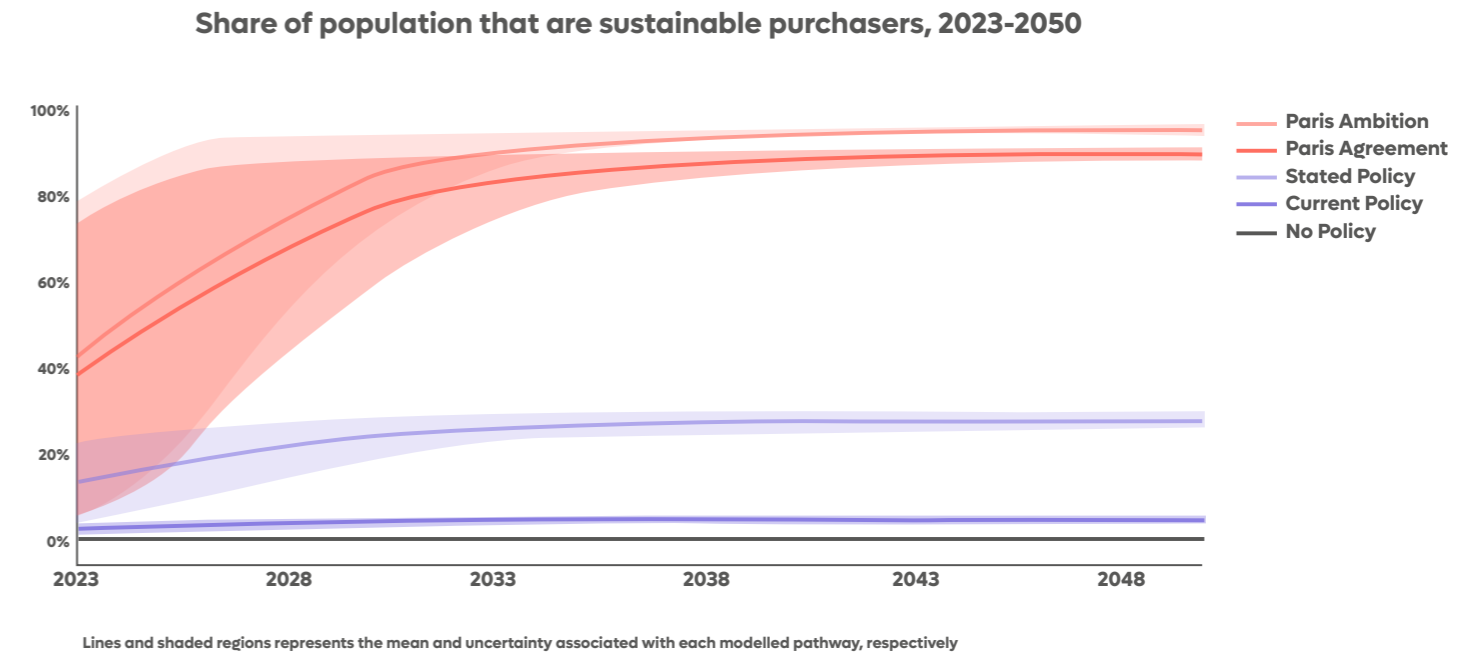


Figure 2: the potential for market-demand shifts under different climate scenarios

¹⁵ Wardrobe Inc. is a fictional company but these numbers are representative of a similar-sized company in the apparel sector.



2028: advancing circular fashion

Building on early lessons, Wardrobe Inc. expanded its sustainability efforts to embrace circular fashion principles. The company invested in innovative technologies for material upcycling and launched customer-engagement programmes that encouraged garment recycling. Customers could return used garments to stores in exchange for discounts on future purchases, a strategy that reduced waste and strengthened the brand's appeal among environmentally-conscious consumers.

By advancing circular fashion initiatives, Wardrobe Inc. was able to empower its customers to join the company on its journey towards a net-zero and nature-positive future. Also, using Risilience analytics to quantify the losses caused by the global transition to a low-carbon economy, expressed as earnings-value-at-risk (EV@Risk), the company was able to focus on the products with the highest transition risks to the business. As shown below, apparel, footwear and sports gear were identified as the first product categories to include as part of the new circular-economy philosophy.

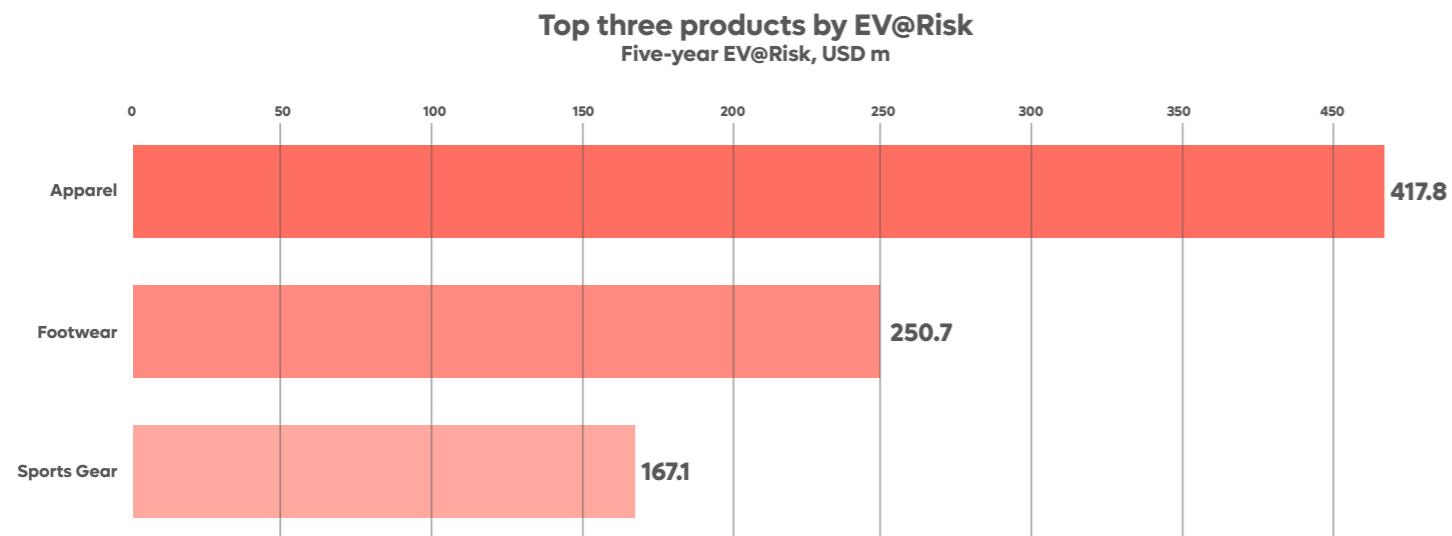


Figure 3: top three products by earnings-value-at-risk

2030: industry leadership and advocacy

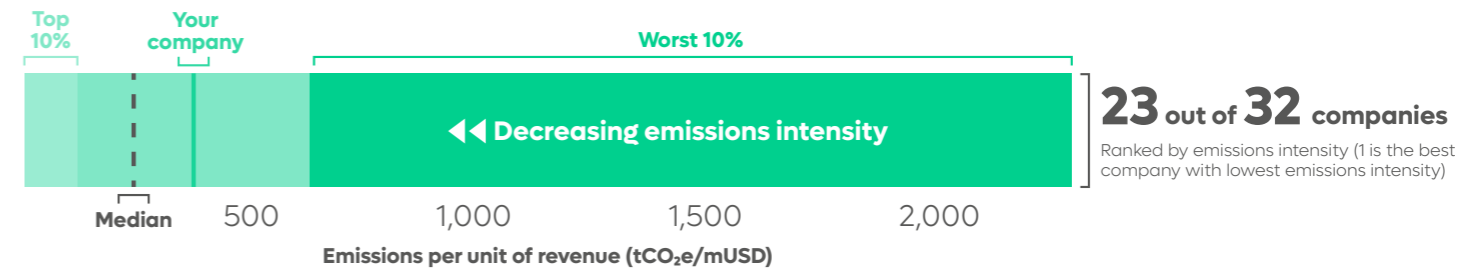
With a robust internal sustainability framework in place, Wardrobe Inc. took a proactive role in shaping industry standards. The company became a key player in international forums, advocating for sustainable practices and pushing other companies to adopt greener strategies. Through transparent sharing of sustainability metrics and active participation in policy dialogues, Wardrobe

Inc. cemented its reputation as both a leader and a role model within the fashion industry, increasing its brand value.

Using platform technology, Wardrobe Inc. was able to benchmark and assess its own progress compared to its peers.

Emissions intensity relative to peers

Emissions intensity relative to peers in the Consumer Durables & Apparel sector. The best ten per cent of companies have the lowest emission intensities in their industry.



2032: innovating for the future

Currently, Wardrobe Inc. continues to innovate with its Nature's Wardrobe line, highlighting strong market demand for natural, zero-carbon and nature-positive fibres. The company is investing heavily in the research and development of next-generation eco-friendly materials, and exploring new business models that prioritise durability and reparability of garments. It is now investing

in hemp and bamboo as alternative natural materials that are seen as having the most potential for reaching Wardrobe Inc.'s ambitious net-zero and nature-positive targets. Wardrobe Inc. is not only shaping the future of fashion but also demonstrating that sustainability can be synonymous with profitability.

Key success factors to address market-demand risks

Adapting to consumer trends

Faced with the volatility of consumer demand, particularly among Millennials and Gen Z who prefer brands with strong sustainability credentials, Wardrobe Inc. refined its product offerings and marketing strategies to highlight its environmental commitments. As reported

by the Nielsen Global Sustainability Report¹⁶ 66 per cent of consumers are willing to pay more for sustainable products, prompting Wardrobe Inc. to align its strategies with consumer expectations.

Balancing regulatory impacts

As environmental regulations tighten, the associated compliance costs were expected to drive up retail prices, affecting consumer purchasing behaviour. Wardrobe Inc.'s leadership decided early on its sustainability journey to adopt Sustainability Intelligence to manage and

financially quantify its climate-and-nature-related risks, build credible transition plans and undertake regulatory reporting using a consistent framework that can provide a system of record that is auditable and rigorous.

Mitigating reputational risks

The risk of reputational damage from perceived greenwashing or inadequate sustainability efforts can be substantial. To avoid this, Wardrobe Inc. provided transparent communication about its sustainability achievements and progress towards meeting future targets. It used best-in-class standards and frameworks reporting tools to guide decision-making throughout this

journey. It also provided open channels of communication for different stakeholders across multiple forums to invite feedback on ways Wardrobe could do better and move faster towards its sustainability goals. All of these actions helped Wardrobe to build and maintain consumer trust within its market segment.

¹⁶ The Nielsen Global Corporate Sustainability Report. <https://www.nielsen.com/about-us/responsibility-and-sustainability/esg-report/>

The climate-and-nature impacts of different T-shirt materials

As part of Wardrobe Inc.'s transition to being net zero and nature positive, the company undertook a comprehensive assessment of different raw-material feedstocks to make its new product line. In the table below, different material types are compared for a typical T-shirt, showing a comparison of the climate-and-nature impacts for

a range of materials. The data in this table represents industry average estimates for the environmental impacts of different materials.^{17,18,19,20} The values shown are approximate and may vary depending on specific production processes and supply-chain factors.

T-SHIRT MATERIAL	STANDARD COTTON	ORGANIC COTTON	RECYCLED COTTON	POLYESTER	BAMBOO	HEMP
Scope 1 GHG emissions (kg CO2e)	1.7	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.0	0.8
Scope 2 GHG emissions (kg CO2e)	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.6	0.8	0.6
Scope 3 GHG emissions (kg CO2e)	2.5	1.8	2.1	3.0	1.5	1.2
Water usage (litres)	2,700	1,800	2,200	1,000	1,500	1,200
Land usage (m2)	5.2	3.9	4.5	0.8	2.7	2.1
Chemical usage (kg)	0.2	0.1	0.15	0.05	0.08	0.03
Durability (years)	3-5	4-6	4-6	5-7	5-7	6-8
Quality	Medium	High	Medium	Low	High	High

¹⁷ <https://blogs.furman.edu/nwilliams/environmental-impact/>

¹⁸ <https://theconversation.com/following-a-t-shirt-from-cotton-field-to-landfill-shows-the-true-cost-of-fast-fashion-127363>

¹⁹ <https://www.swagcycle.net/thinking-about-the-life-of-a-t-shirt/>

²⁰ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hemp>

Standard cotton T-shirt

GHG emissions:	Relatively high across all scopes due to the energy-intensive nature of cotton farming and processing.
Water usage:	Extremely high; as cotton cultivation is one of the most water-intensive crops.
Land use:	Requires significant amounts of land, contributing to deforestation and habitat loss.
Chemical use:	High; use of pesticides and fertilisers, which can pollute waterways and affect soil health.
Overall durability:	Medium; cotton is durable but can shrink and fade over time.
Quality:	Good; offers comfort and breathability but varies with fabric treatment and weave.

Organic cotton T-shirt

GHG emissions:	Lower than standard cotton due to reduced chemical inputs and sometimes more sustainable farming practices.
Water usage:	Still high but generally more efficiently managed with better water conservation techniques compared to conventional cotton.
Land use:	Higher than standard cotton due to lower yields but managed more sustainably.
Chemical use:	Low; avoids synthetic pesticides and fertilisers, benefiting soil health and reducing pollution.
Overall durability:	Medium; similar to standard cotton.
Quality:	Excellent; often softer and perceived as more breathable and comfortable.

Polyester T-shirt

GHG emissions:	Relatively high, mainly due to the energy-intensive nature of the production process, which involves deriving materials from petroleum.
Water usage:	Low in terms of actual consumption compared to natural fibres but potential for significant pollution, due to chemical treatments and dyeing processes involved.
Land use:	Minimal; polyester is synthetic and does not require agricultural land, eliminating impacts from land conversion and use.
Chemical use:	High; the production of polyester involves various chemicals, particularly in the polymerisation process to create the fibres and during dyeing.
Overall durability:	Very high; polyester is known for its strength and resistance to shrinking and stretching, making it very durable over time.
Durability:	High; polyester garments typically exhibit excellent resistance to wear and tear.
Quality:	Good; polyester fabrics are strong, durable and resistant to many environmental degrading factors but they can lack the breathability and comfort of natural fibres.

Bamboo T-shirt

GHG emissions:	Lower than conventional fibres but depends heavily on the chemical process used.
Water usage:	Lower than cotton, benefiting from bamboo's efficient growth with little water.
Land Use:	Efficient per unit of fibre due to bamboo's fast growth rate.
Chemical use:	High if processed using the conventional viscose method, which is chemical-intensive.
Overall durability:	Medium; depends on the processing method but generally offers good durability.
Quality:	Good; typically soft with a silky feel, hypoallergenic and moisture-wicking properties.

Hemp T-shirt

GHG emissions:	Very low; hemp absorbs CO2 efficiently and requires minimal input for cultivation.
Water usage:	Low; requires significantly less water than cotton.
Land use:	Efficient; hemp can produce more fibre per acre than cotton.
Chemical use:	Low; grows well without the need for chemical pesticides or fertilisers.
Overall durability:	High; known for its strength and longevity, outlasting cotton.
Quality:	Excellent; becomes softer with each wash and is known for its durability and comfort.

Recycled cotton T-shirt

GHG emissions:	Lower than virgin cotton, especially in Scope 3, due to reduced raw-material processing.
Water usage:	Much lower as it eliminates the need for water in cotton cultivation.
Land use:	Reduced as it relies on post-consumer or post-industrial waste instead of new cotton crops.
Chemical use:	Low; fewer chemicals are needed since the cotton is already processed.
Overall durability:	Medium; shorter fibre lengths from recycled materials can affect durability.
Quality:	Good; careful processing can retain the quality close to that of new cotton garments.

Using these broadly-defined criteria it is then possible to score these criteria against a consistent framework. The following scoring framework was developed:

Scoring criteria – each out of ten:

- Lower GHG emissions score higher
- Lower water usage scores higher
- Lower land use scores higher
- Lower chemical use scores higher
- Higher durability scores higher
- Higher quality scores higher

CRITERIA	STANDARD COTTON	ORGANIC COTTON	RECYCLED COTTON	POLYESTER	BAMBOO	HEMP
Scope 1 GHG emissions	6	8	8	4	10	10
Scope 2 GHG emissions	6	8	8	4	10	10
Scope 3 GHG emissions	4	8	6	2	8	8
Water usage	4	8	6	10	8	8
Land usage	4	8	6	10	6	6
Chemical usage	6	8	8	10	8	10
Durability	6	8	8	8	8	10
Quality	6	10	8	6	10	10
Average score	5.3	8.3	7.3	6.8	8.5	9.0

By surfacing this information, Wardrobe Inc. was able to diversify its raw-material sources, moving away from standard cotton, which is known for its high emissions and poor environmental impact, towards more sustainable options, such as recycled cotton, organic cotton, bamboo

and hemp, for its Nature’s Wardrobe line. This shift in raw-material strategy also helped reduce the company’s vulnerability to physical climate risks, as extreme weather events were beginning to negatively impact cotton yields.

Moving markets: preparing for competitive advantage

Decarbonising an organisation’s transition plan will help a business to adapt to changes in demand driven by increasing global regulation that requires organisations to quantify their climate-and-nature-related risks and opportunities. Positioning a business strategy towards sustainability has potential to build long-term brand value and competitive advantage as demand trends change and consumers flex their purchasing power more mindfully.

Climate and nature come with a series of complex interdependencies, which is why a shared view of sustainability makes good business sense. Data are key to developing the necessary insights required for a holistic view of an organisation’s entire value chain. Actionable information is critical to defining end goals and underpins the company’s business transition to a net-zero and nature-positive future at every stage.

Adopting the appropriate platform technology, tools and frameworks early in the process of business transition will deliver Sustainability Intelligence that leads to better-informed strategic decision-making aligned to company vision, targets and goals.

Understanding how changes in market demand could impact a business requires financial quantification of the associated risks and opportunities, which provides valuable insights to build an actionable and credible transition strategy.

As global business moves towards a net-zero and nature-positive future, organisations must prepare for changes in demand at both the macro and micro level as market forces reshape world economies and impact corporate bottom lines.

Thriving in this dynamic sustainability landscape requires a new approach to business success. Organisations that make data-driven and financially-quantified decisions will be best positioned to optimise opportunities and claim competitive advantage on their journey to becoming profitably sustainable.



MARKET TRENDS

Sustainability as business opportunity in fashion and apparel

At Risilience, our mission is to help global businesses transition to the net-positive economy. Our award-winning platform and advisory services drive actionable Sustainability Intelligence, connecting climate and nature, to deliver better disclosures, better risk insights and better transition strategy.

Our technology enables you to quantify the financial impact of climate-and-nature-related risks and opportunities to make better business decisions that lead to better business outcomes.

We developed our environmental frameworks in partnership with the University of Cambridge Centre for Risk Studies to enable you to deliver credible and rigorous sustainability disclosures, and transition plans, on your journey to net positive.

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