

UFF-HUMANA

Collection and distribution of textiles in 2021



Textile Transparency Report 2021

1 Methodology

1.1 Data collection

This report is based on data collected from European Humana organisations and from sorting centres receiving textiles from these collection organisations. Data from the collection organisations were collected through a survey in the form of a spreadsheet to be filled in.

Collection organisations

The collection organisations were asked to provide quantitative information on the amounts of textiles they collected and sold in 2021, as well as qualitative data on how they register data on the textiles they handle.

Sorting centres

The list of sorting centres to be contacted was established based on the reports from the collection organisations. Sorting centres were contacted if it had received more than 100 tonnes from at least one of the collection organisations in 2021. The sorting centres are asked to provide data on all textiles that are received from and sorted at their location, as required of them according to the Humana People to People Code of Conduct.

Comparison with previous results

The collected data is registered in the database which Mepex has compiled as part of the work with previous years' reports. In the registration process, the data were checked for consistency and quality, and where necessary, the sorting centres were asked to clarify. All communication with the sorting centres has been done in writing.

1.2 Assumptions and calculations

Assumption on quality and averages

The sorting centres do not have specific information on the fate of textiles collected by any single supplier (e.g., UFF Humana) as the textiles are mixed with textiles from other collection organisations in the sorting process. We assume that for each sorting centre, the

quality of the textiles from the selected collection organisation is at least equal to the average quality of the total amount of textiles received at the sorting centre.

Consequently, the distribution of possibilities for utilization (e.g., reuse, material recycling, disposal as waste) for the textiles sent to a given sorting centre equals the average results for all the textiles received at that sorting centre.

The overall distribution of possibilities for utilization of the textiles and where the textiles from UFF Humana end up is then calculated as a weighted average based on the amounts of textiles sold to each sorting centre.

Calculations

The calculations are made based on the reports from the sorting centres. Percentages are calculated in relation to the amount of textiles arriving at the sorting centres. This means that waste removed by the collector prior to export is not included in the calculation.

Textiles accounted for is calculated as the share of textiles sold from the collection organisation to sorting centres which have reported, in relation to the total amount of textiles sold by that collection organisation.

1.3 Sources of uncertainty

Shipments in transit

There are some examples of minor differences between the amounts of textiles reported as received by the sorting centres and the amounts sent by the collection organisation. This difference is attributed to the transit of shipments, i.e., shipments sent late in the year and received at the sorting centres early in the next year. We have no reason to think that these differences influence the overall results.

Interpretation of the survey form

In the reporting for 2020, the survey form was updated with the aim of improving the understanding of the composition of the received textiles. To this end, the sorting centres are asked to report on "reuse" in four categories: clothes, shoes, accessories (e.g.,

belts and hats) and other textiles (e.g., bed linen, towels and similar).

In addition, they are asked to provide information on the type of material recycling. We are aware that the definitions given in the form are interpreted in slightly different ways, which might affect the balance between reuse and material recycling.

Furthermore, the sorting centres use different labelling systems for their qualities, which means there is an interpretation done to match the survey form.

2 Textile collection 2021

The reported amounts of textiles collected by UFF-Humana and sold to sorting centres in 2021 is shown in Table 1.

Before export, contaminated textile waste and non-textile waste were removed by the collector. The waste is handled by waste management companies in Denmark and not included in the results in this report.

Table 1 - Reported amounts of used textiles collected and sold from UFF-Humana 2021

	Amount (tonnes)	Comment
Collected textiles in 2021	2 113	Textiles excluding waste
Textiles sent to domestic pilot project	40	Textiles excluding waste
Net sales from warehouse storage	23	
Total sales 2021	2 089	
Waste removed by UFF-Humana	72	Waste removed at the warehouse of UFF-Humana. Not included in further calculations.

3 Sorting centres receiving textiles from UFF-Humana

In 2021, UFF-Humana sold used textiles to 8 different sorting centres. Five of these were not asked to report as they received less than 100 tonnes of textiles from UFF-Humana in 2021, however one of them reported anyway as part of the reporting for other Humana organisations.

The remaining three sorting centres that was asked to report have replied but one of them have been omitted from the calculations due to insufficient data quality, except for Figure 1.

The quality of the three reports used for the calculations are mostly satisfactory. In some cases, it is not clear if the waste reported from

the sorting centres arises from the sorted textiles alone or if it includes waste from other parts of the business. The textile content in the waste is also often hard to determine.

Overall, this is not expected to affect the results as the reported amounts of waste are small compared to the amount of textiles.

Figure 1 shows that the textiles from Denmark are sent to Bulgaria, Lithuania, and Slovakia. HPP Slovakia received 39 % of the textiles reported by the sorting centres, which means that the overall results are significantly influenced by the report from this sorting centre.

Figure 2 illustrates the share of textiles from UFF-Humana compared to the overall amounts of textiles received at the sorting centres.

As the figure shows, the textiles collected by UFF-Humana only represent a small fraction of

the total amount of incoming textiles. It should therefore be noted that the results in the following sections may not necessarily be representative of the quality of the textiles collected in Denmark.

Table 2 – Overview of reported amounts of textiles sent and received in 2021 per sorting centre

Sorting centre	Short name	Textiles sent from UFF-Humana (tonnes)	Received at sorting centres (tonnes)
Humana People to People Slovakia s.r.o.	HPP Slovakia	737	737
One World Clothes Trade Bulgaria Ltd.	OWCT Bulgaria	584	584
UAB HUMANA LT ¹	HPP Lithuania	38	38
JSC Resna ¹		555	536
GS Europe		95	Not required to report
Linatex		39	Not required to report
Phu Vila		22	Not required to report
Vpa Baltic		19	Not required to report
Total		2 089	
Total amounts reported ²		1 359 ³	
Total amounts unreported ⁴		730	

¹ Insufficient data quality. Handled as not reported in parts of the calculations.

² Sum of the amounts Humana Sweden reports having sold to the sorting centres that have reported.

³ JSC Resna is not included in this calculation

⁴ Calculated as the sum of the amounts Humana Sweden reports having sold to sorting centres that have not reported, including small sorting centres (<100 tonnes).

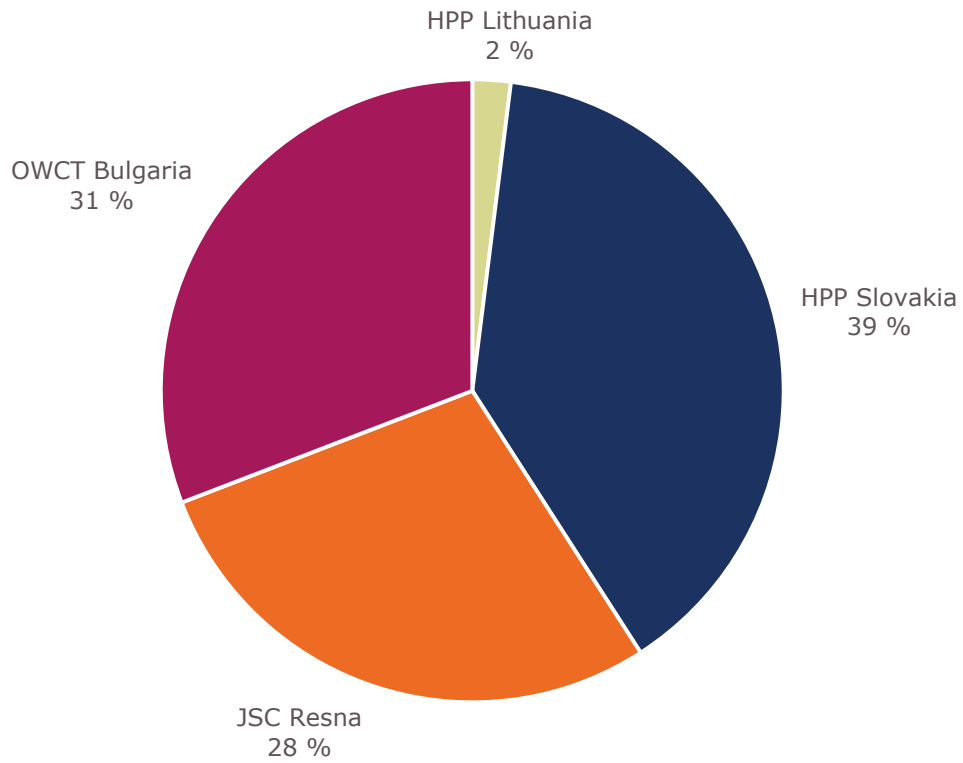


Figure 1 - Sorting centres buying textiles from UFF-Humana 2021

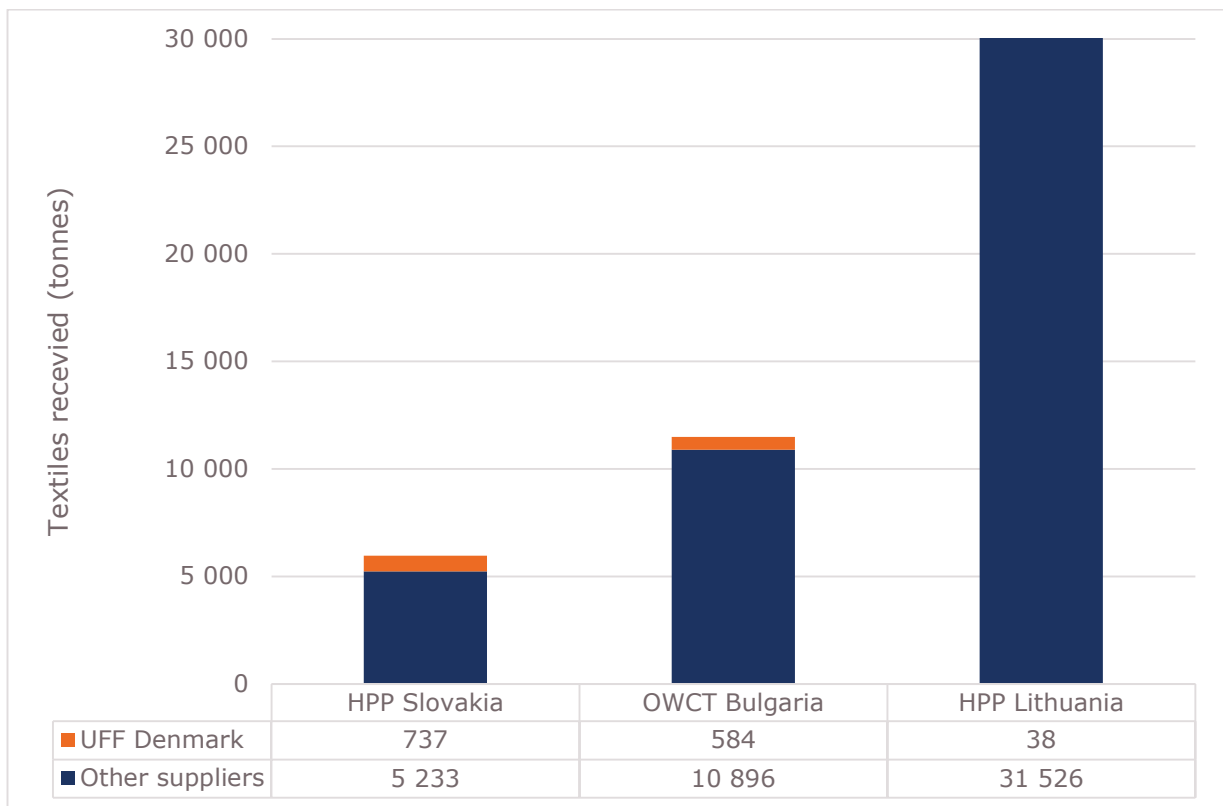


Figure 2 - Share of textiles reported received from UFF-Humana at sorting centres – 2021

4 Utilization of the collected textiles

The distribution of possibilities for utilization of the textiles collected by UFF Humana from 2021 is shown in Figure 3. A comparison to the previous three years is shown in Figure 4.

While there was a decline in the share of textiles categorized as going to reuse in 2020 compared to 2019, this year's reports indicate an increase compared to 2020.

Looking at the period 2020-2021, the share of textiles going to reuse is overall slightly lower than in the years before. Based on previous revisions of several of the sorting centres, we know that the sorting centres will always produce as much of the reusable categories as

possible as this is where the economic potential is. Therefore, the sorting itself is not expected to be a reason for the decline in textiles for reuse.

We find it more likely that the decline is linked to the quality of the incoming textiles. A possible explanation is that as a bigger share of the used textiles available on the market is being collected, the amount of textiles of poorer quality increases, which consequently decreases the average quality.

We also expect that the more detailed reporting and stricter definitions applied in the reporting since 2020 might also have clarified the distinction between reuse and material recycling.

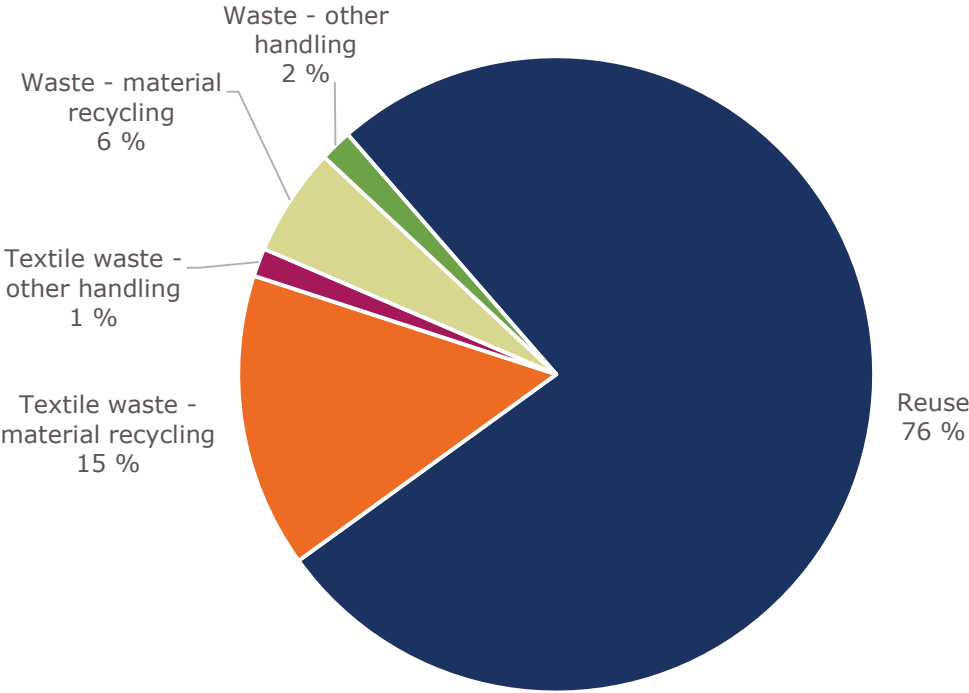


Figure 3 - Distribution of utilization of the textiles collected by UFF Humana in 2021

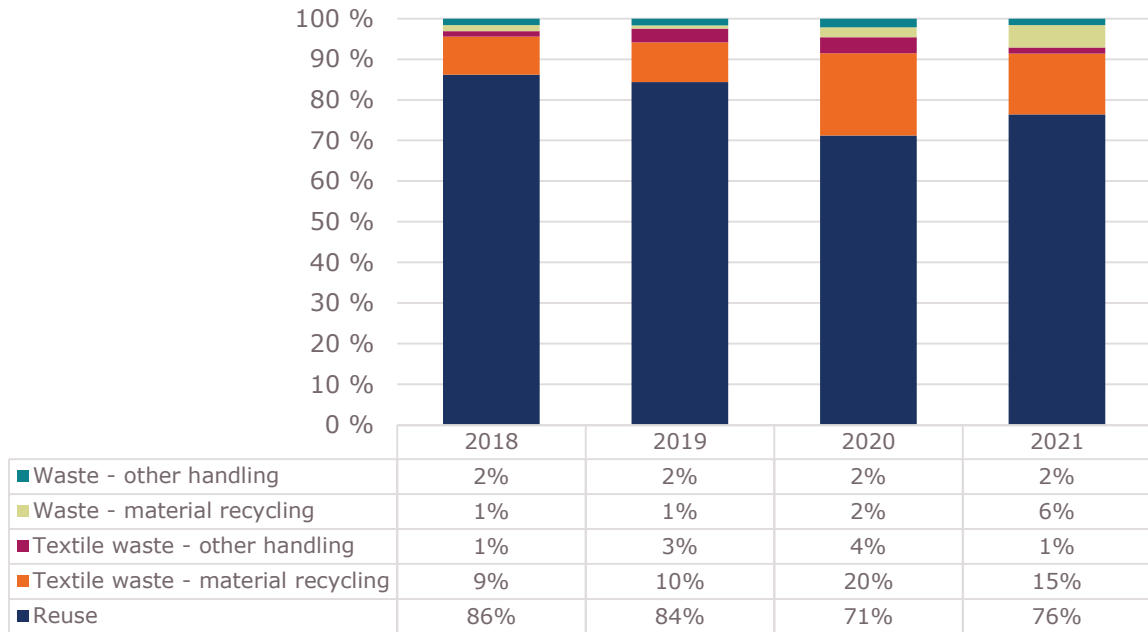


Figure 4 - Purposes of textiles collected by UFF-Humana in the period 2018-2021

5 Geographical distribution

The geographical distribution of sorted textiles and waste originally collected by UFF-Humana is displayed in Figure 5.

The distribution between the different regions is qualitatively similar to the previous year, with Europe being the region that receives the largest amount of the textiles. Most of the

remaining textiles are being sold to Africa and Asia, but the shares going to these regions is less than in 2020.

In this analysis, note that Asia covers a very large area and many industries, including India, Pakistan and Turkey.

All sorting centres report that waste handling is handled by local actors.

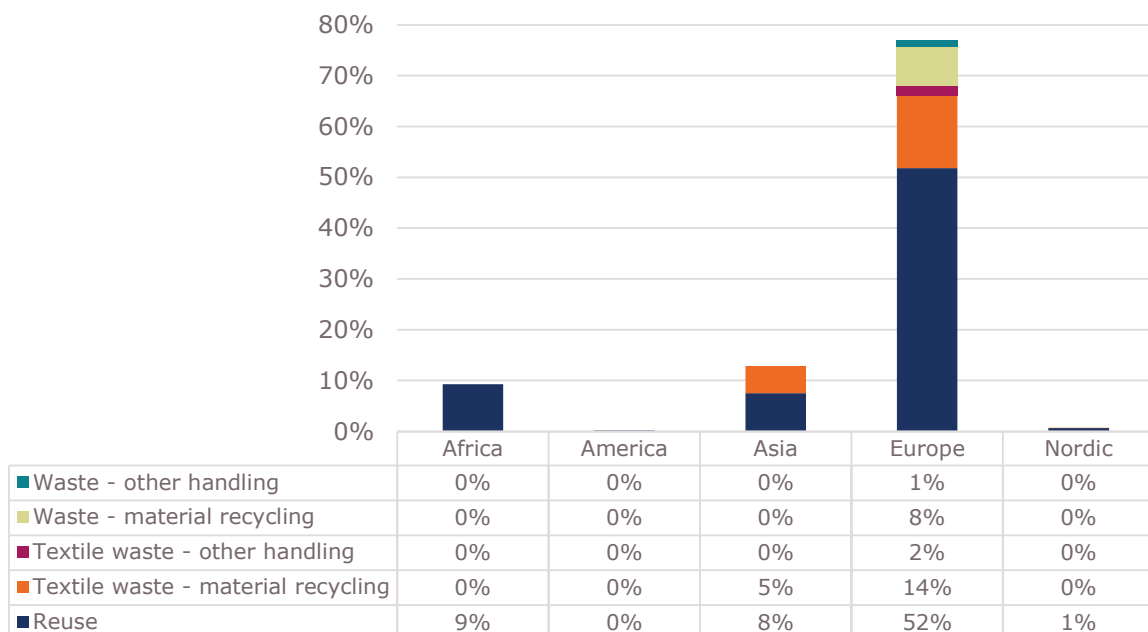


Figure 5 - Recipient continents of collected textiles and waste - 2021