

# Retailers committed to phasing out PFAS as a class from textiles and other products

A growing chorus of major retailers, from Lowe's to Target, are adopting policies to phase out and ban PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) from textiles and other products. This action is driven by increasing evidence of drinking water contamination by PFAS, the potential for serious health impacts from exposure to these chemicals, increasing government regulation, and pressure from NGOs and consumers to act.

This fact sheet shows the commitments of **7 retail chains with a combined total of more than 8,000 stores and over \$260 billion in annual sales** that have committed to eliminate or reduce PFAS in textiles and other products.

Retailer	Details of commitment	Number of U.S. stores <sup>1</sup>	Total annual U.S. sales <sup>1</sup>
	The Home Depot, the U.S.'s largest home improvement chain, <a href="#">announced</a> in September 2019 that the company <a href="#">will stop purchasing for distribution</a> any carpets or rugs with PFAS by the end of 2019.	1,973	\$102.1 billion
	IKEA <a href="#">restricted</a> PFAS in textile materials in its products in 2016.	50	\$5.3 billion
	Lowe's, the U.S.'s second-largest home improvement chain, <a href="#">announced</a> a commitment in early 2021 that "All fabric protection sprays are free of PFAS chemicals" and in <a href="#">October 2019</a> stated that all indoor residential carpet and rugs bought by Lowe's for sale in its stores would be free of PFAS by January 2020.	1,727	\$65.5 billion
	In early 2021, Office Depot released a <a href="#">restricted substance list</a> showing that PFAS is restricted in disposable foodware, furniture, and textiles.	1,307	\$6 billion
	In late 2020, REI <a href="#">announced</a> it is restricting PFAS in all private-label and brand-name ski wax products and treatments for gear and clothing by spring 2023.	168	\$3.1 billion
	Staples published a <a href="#">restricted substance list</a> in October 2019 that designated the PFAS class as a priority for "safer alternatives innovation" in disposable foodware, furniture, and textiles.	1,093	\$6.9 billion
	In 2020, Target <a href="#">expanded</a> its policy to address PFAS as a class in textiles, building on its announcement that it had phased out a subset of the PFAS class from own-brand textiles.	1,868	\$77.1 billion
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>8,186 stores</b>	<b>\$266 billion in sales</b>

<sup>1</sup>The number of stores and sales cover 2019 and U.S. locations only. The numbers for all but REI come from here: <https://nrf.com/resources/top-retailers/top-100-retailers/top-100-retailers-2020-list>; for REI, the numbers come from here: <https://www.rei.com/newsroom/article/rei-co-op-publishes-2019-full-year-financial-results#:~:text=SE-ATTL%20%E2%80%93%20Today%2C%20Seattle%2Dbased,digital%20and%20in%2Dstore%20offerings>.