HowGood Fair Labor Methodology

Who is HowGood?

HowGood is an independent research company with the world's largest database on food product sustainability. With data and analysis for more than 33,000 ingredients, chemicals, and materials, HowGood helps leading food brands, retailers and investors improve their environmental and social impact. Through in-depth, ingredient-level insights on factors ranging from greenhouse gas emissions to animal welfare to labor risk, HowGood data powers strategic decision-making for the sourcing, manufacturing, merchandising, and marketing of sustainable products. Brands identify opportunities to improve sustainability, drive greater transparency, and empower their consumers to make higher impact purchases. Visit howgood.com for more information.

What is HowGood's research methodology?

HowGood has more than 15 years of research on global food supply chains. The team consolidates and analyzes findings from over 600 accredited data sources and certifications. These include a range of resources such as international frameworks, NGO guidance and standards reports, peer reviewed life cycle assessment studies, journal articles, academic conference proceedings and texts, aggregated commercial databases, targeted industry studies, NGO research, government publications, and news reports from reputable outlets. HowGood employs the most industry-recognized methodologies and incorporates the latest scientific research. Metrics and impact assessments are updated on an ongoing, iterative basis, making HowGood's platform the leading-edge tool for product sustainability. In turn, HowGood is able to provide impact assessments that are accurate, comprehensive, and the most up-to-date. Through HowGood's sustainability intelligence platform, Latis, we are able to scale this approach across products, brands, and the entire food industry.

What does the Fair Labor attribute measure?

The Fair Labor attribute recognizes products that contain ingredients that do not pose a significant risk of contributing to child or forced labor practices, as defined by the U.S. Department of Labor *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* report. The determination is made according to an ingredient's crop and location combination.

How long does a product qualify for the Fair Labor attribute?

Products that qualify for Fair Labor receive access to the attribute for public-facing communications for one year. At the end of the annual contract, products must be reassessed based on the current industry benchmark to re-qualify.

What does the Fair Labor attribute mean for consumers?

The Fair Labor attribute provides consumers with a clear indicator of how sustainable a product is with respect to labor and working conditions. It's easy-to-digest and guides consumers toward more labor-friendly purchases. The Fair Labor attribute empowers shoppers to make decisions that are in line with their values and preferences. By purchasing Fair Labor products, consumers can take a step toward supporting products that embody ethical labor practices, and reducing demand for products that support child or forced labor.

What is HowGood's research methodology for assessing labor risk?

HowGood assesses labor risk based on a product's ingredients and the locations where the ingredients would be grown. If an ingredient within a product has been flagged by the U.S. Department of Labor *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* report for child or forced labor, then the product will not be eligible for the Fair Labor attribute. Products containing ingredients that have not been flagged for child or forced labor will be eligible for the attribute. Whenever a customer can provide us with primary data for the growing location of their ingredients, this is used. When a customer cannot provide the location, HowGood chooses a proxy for where the crop would be grown.

What data sources does HowGood use to assess labor risk?

HowGood uses the List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor published by the U.S. Department of Labor, as well as other reports from governments and NGOs as needed.