



2022

**CHARITY
RETAIL
IMPACT
REPORT**



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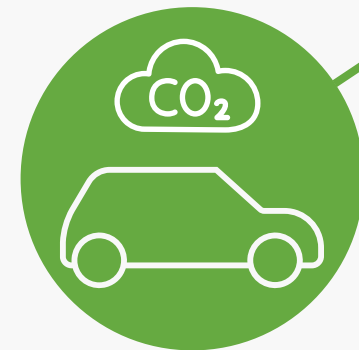
Our Impact



17.3K tonnes
Diverted from waste to
energy/landfill



62,230 tonnes
Carbon avoided by
reuse



=10.7 million
Cars removed
daily



8.1 million
Customer
transactions



7.3million
Garments sold



€65.5 million
Total income



892 CE/TUS
workers

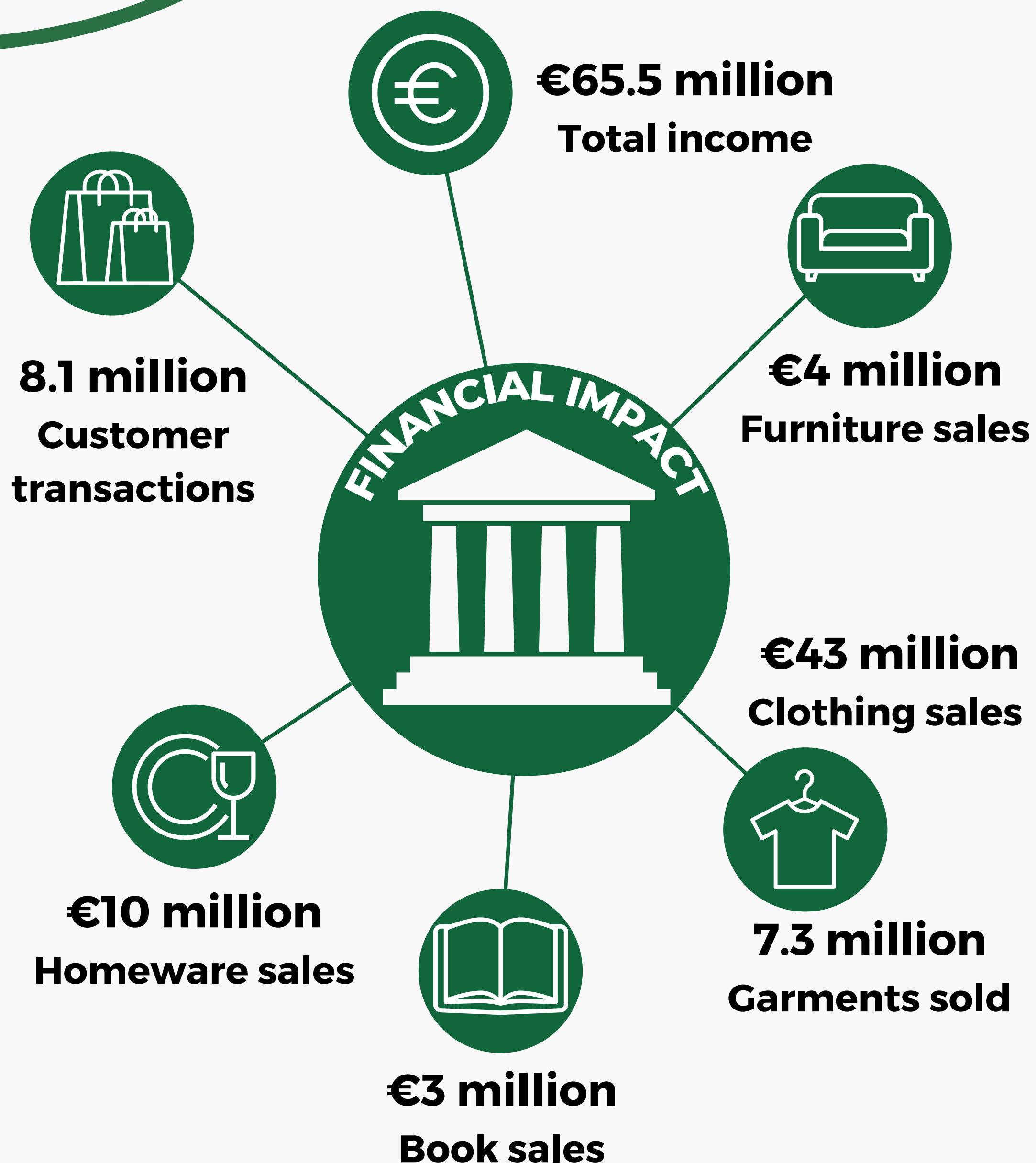


6,056
Volunteers



784 People
employed

Financial Impact



The turnover in 2022 for our 42 members operating 492 shops is €65.5 million. 2022 was a good year as it was the first full year of trading since 2019 because of the pandemic.

However success was not universal. There is a large gap between the most successful and least successful shop. The average turnover per shop was €125,000 with a variance from €50,000 at worst to €269,500 at best. The data is split into shop size.

- €125,000 - average turnover
- €107,500 - average turnover for charities with 1 shop
- €156,000 - average turnover for charities with 2-10 shops
- €124,800 - average turnover for charities with more than 10 shops

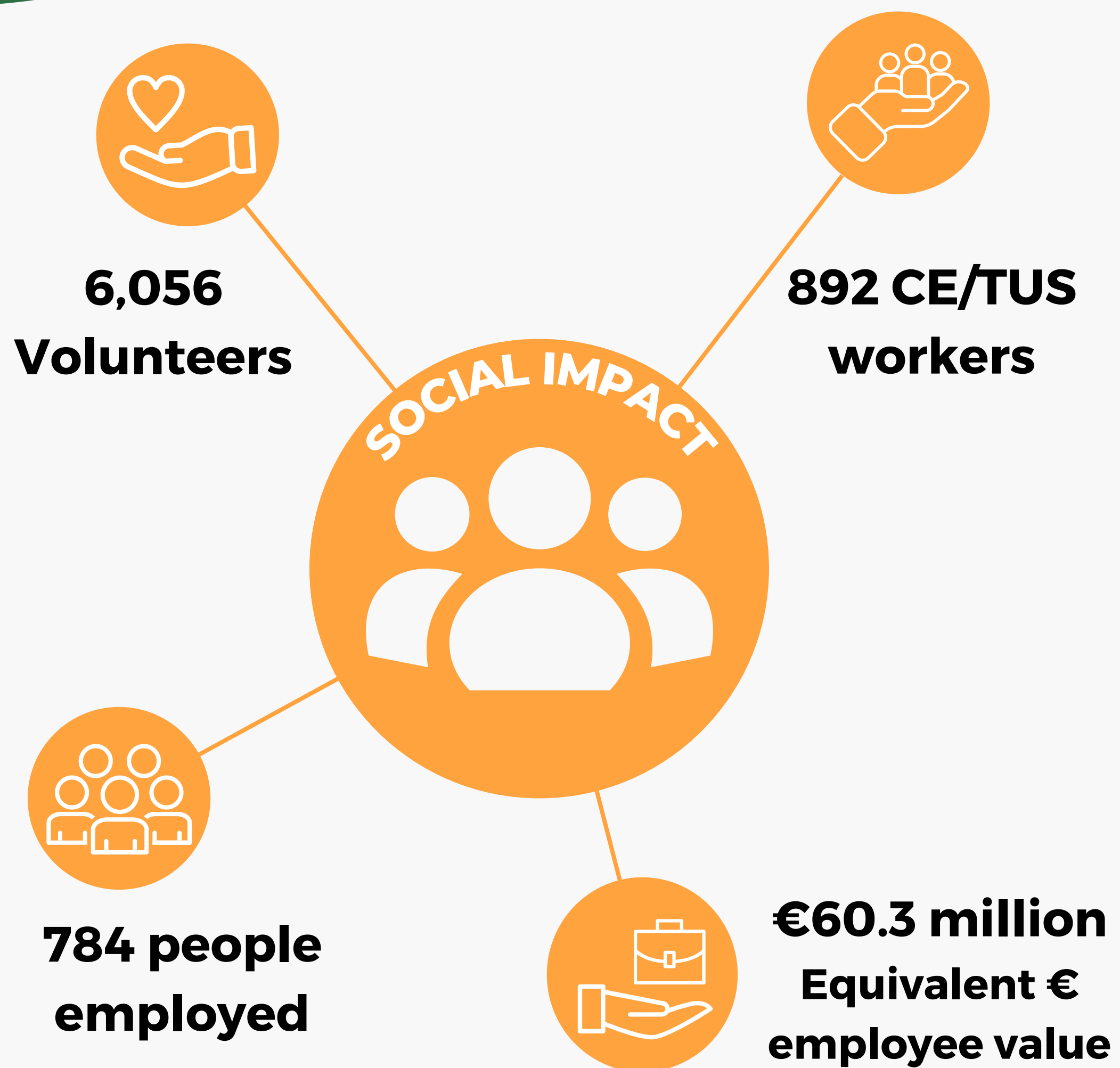
52% of our members operate 1 shop, 31% operate 2-10 shops and 17% operate more than 10 shops.

The reasons for this disparity are complex and include location, local resources, difficulty in recruiting shop managers due to full employment and getting the volunteer workforce up and running again post pandemic.

In some cases, smaller community based charities depend on their shop income for a large part of the revenue and so invest in their shops with people and resources. They are often at the heart of their local communities who support them with time, expertise and people.

Clothing sales account for the biggest proportion of sales at 66% or 7.3million garments sold. Clothing sales are likely to increase as we move to a more circular approach to fashion shopping. Our 8.1 million customers will only increase in number in future years.

Social Impact



Volunteers are at the heart of charity shops who would not be able to operate without them. We recognise this every year with our Martin Kenny Volunteer of the Year Award, in memory of Martin who was a founding member of our Association and the Head of Retail for NCBI.

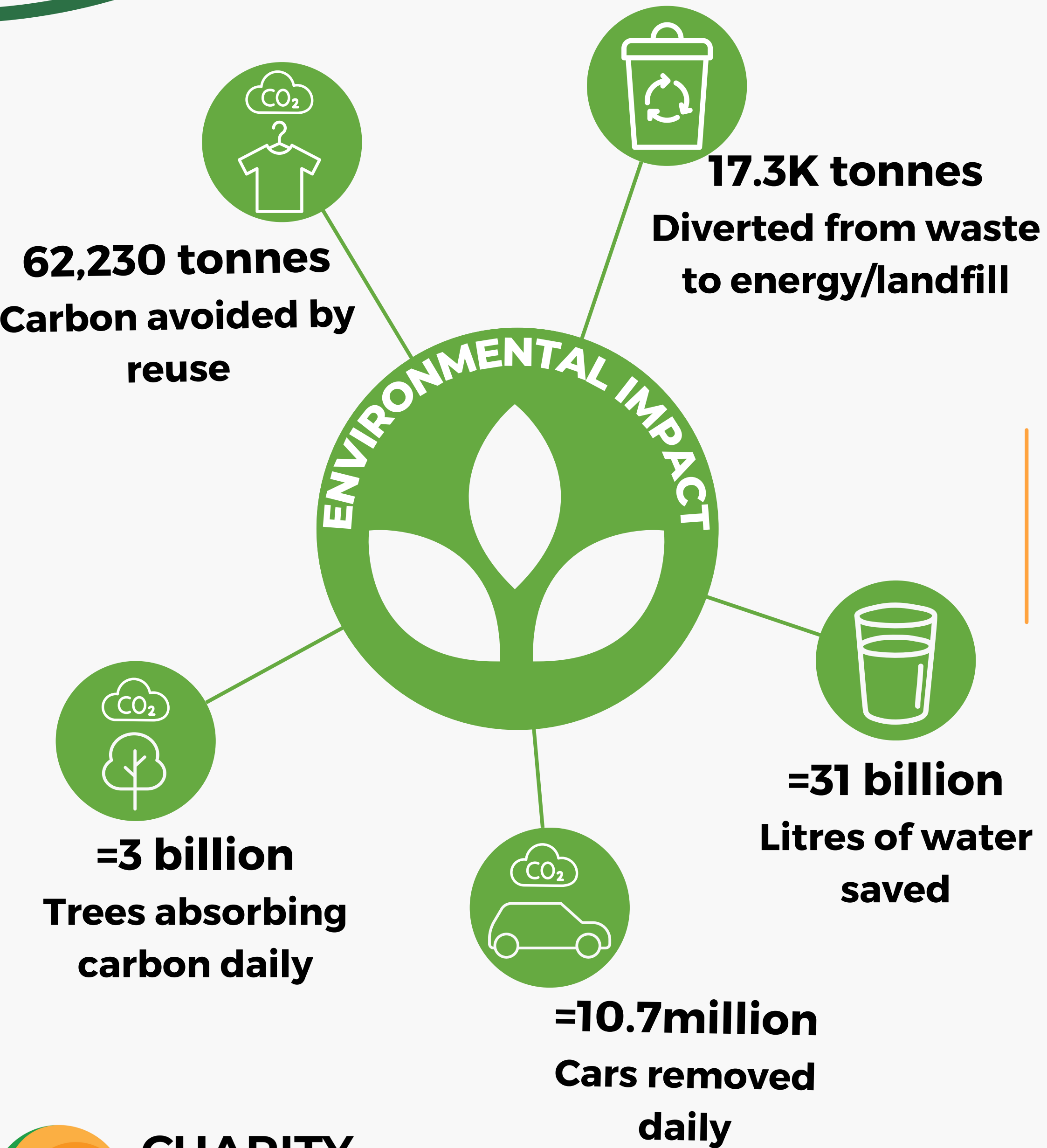
Over 6,000 people volunteered in charity shops in 2022, which is an amazing figure given the effects of the pandemic on many of them. In previous years this number has been higher and we hope that 2023 will see more people volunteering in our members' shops.

Many charity shops rely on the valuable work done by workers through the Community Employment and TUS schemes. This was especially true in 2022 as some shops struggled to recruit new volunteers. However, due to full employment, it is often difficult to attract people to join these schemes. Many who do often go on to become paid members of staff and, in some cases, shop managers. CE and TUS schemes create valuable opportunities for those who are distant from the labour force.

Of the 784 people employed, nearly half were shop managers who were generally full time, with slightly more full time Assistant Managers than part time. 100 people fell into the Other category. This category encompasses stockroom assistants, warehouse managers, van drivers and online and digital assistants. As the charity retail sector grows these support staff will grow in number and importance.

The equivalent employee value in financial terms came to a massive €60.3 million with volunteers contributing €28.5million. An amazing figure considering our turnover was €65.5million.

Environmental Impact

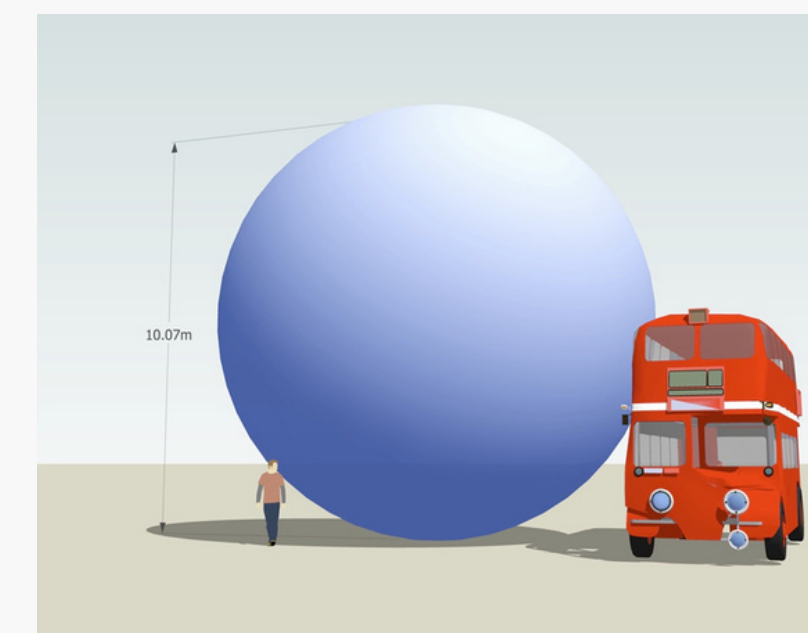


In 2022 our charity members diverted 17,300 tonnes away from landfill or waste to energy. This is the equivalent of 1,440 double decker buses. From 2024 the separate collection of textile waste will ensure that this figure grows.

Textile reuse makes a contribution to carbon emission targets. Reuse is now at the top of the waste hierarchy and, through buying from a charity shop, consumers can extend the life and reduce the carbon footprint of the goods they buy and donate.

62,230 tonnes of carbon equivalent emissions (CO₂e) were avoided through our members' shops in 2022.

This is what one tonne of carbon looks like. It is 10.07M high. Imagine 62,230 of them, and 1,440 double decker buses too!



This is the equivalent of 10.7 million cars removed from the road daily or 3 billion trees absorbing carbon daily.

Water is becoming an increasingly precious resource. The goods sold through our members' shops saved a massive 31 billion litres of water. This is equal to 632 million showers lasting 7 minutes in an ordinary shower using 49 litres of water.

Charity shops have been delivering on a huge environmental impact since they started operating in the middle of the last century, before sustainability and the circular economy were even conceived.

Background to the data

The data for this report was collected from 14 of our 42 members representing 399 shops out of a total of 492 shops or 81% of the total number of shops operated by our members.

52% of our members operate 1 shop, 31% operate 2-10 shops and 17% operate more than 10 shops.

The data was split into the 3 cohorts as noted above.

To reach total figures for 492 shops, each cohort's data was extrapolated to produce a total figure and account for the remaining 93 shops.

We asked for actual data for the whole of 2022 rather than average weekly data.

Therefore the figures produced are robust and we are confident that they are representative of our members in the charity shop sector for 2022.

If you would like any more information about the Impact of Charity Retail please contact Linda Ward on secretary@charityretail.ie

Who We Are



Charity Retail Ireland is the all island representative body for charities who operate in the retail space to fundraise for their causes. We are funded by our charity members and through corporate partnerships. Our members range from large national charities to local, community based charities and our 42 members operate 500 shops nationwide. All our members are registered with the Charities Regulator or the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland. All members have signed up to our Code of Charity Retailing that is a condition of their membership.

If you buy from or donate to a charity shop displaying the Charity Retail Ireland membership badge in their window, you can be assured that it is run by a registered charity and is a genuine charity shop. By supporting your local charity shop you will be supporting many essential services for your community and vital world-wide support and development.

Our Members

