



# Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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## Highlights

**April 2019** contained 30 days.

**May 2019** contained 31 days.

**Extra long staple cotton** consumed on the cotton system was 826,000 pounds in May 2019, down 15 percent from April 2019 and down 18 percent from May 2018. May 2019 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.38 million pounds, down 9 percent from April 2019 and down 22 percent from May 2018.

**Total Manmade fiber** consumed on the cotton system was 35.0 million pounds during May 2019, down 4 percent from April 2019 but up 1 percent from May 2018. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 93 percent was polyester staple.

**Total number of spindles** on the cotton system was 1.28 million during May 2019. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 672,000 in May 2019, up 1 percent from April 2019 but down 3 percent from May 2018.

## Consumption and Stocks – United States: May 2019 with Comparisons

Item	May 2018	April 2019	May 2019
<b>Extra long staple</b>			
Consumed			
Running bales ..... number	2,026	1,952	1,657
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	1,007	970	826
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales ..... number	3,561	3,039	2,758
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	1,779	1,526	1,384
<b>Rayon and acetate staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	1,016	619	999
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	1,554	2,343	2,574
<b>Polyester staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	31,985	34,018	32,451
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	22,610	29,939	33,671
<b>Other manmade fiber staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	1,800	1,749	1,591
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	2,819	2,546	2,745

## Spindles in Place, Active Spindles and Spindle Hours Operated – United States: May 2019 with Comparisons

Item	May 2018	April 2019	May 2019
<b>Cotton-system spindles in place</b>			
Ring spindles ..... 1,000	952	952	948
Airjet spindles ..... 1,000	33	35	26
Open-end spindles ..... 1,000	319	312	308
<b>Cotton-system spindles active</b>			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton ..... 1,000	690	663	672
..... million hours	481	493	472
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber ..... 1,000	39	39	46
..... million hours	22	20	28
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends ..... 1,000	545	526	509
..... million hours	354	359	320

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** *Cotton System Consumption and Stocks* is part of the Current Agricultural Industrial Reports (CAIR) program. CAIR reports are administered under NASS's Census of Agriculture program. Response to CAIR surveys are required by law (Title 7, U.S. Code). Data are collected from all known mills that consume cotton.

The census universe was determined during operation profile interviews which were completed for each potential facility to identify the presence of cotton consumption and spindle activity in 2014.

In the Cotton and Manmade Fiber Staple survey questionnaires, mills are asked for previous calendar month data on cotton and manmade fiber consumed, stocks and spindle activity. Mills are mailed questionnaires with the options of completing the survey by mail or by Electronic Data Reporting (EDR). For surveys not received in a reasonable amount of time, telephone follow-up is conducted.

**Estimating Procedures:** Imputation is done for operations with non-response by using historical data and current data relationships. Data for reporting firms are added to estimates for non-reporting firms to obtain National totals.

**Revision Policy:** Data are revised the following month based on late reports or corrected data. Final figures are published in the annual summary of the following year.

**Reliability:** Approximately 50 reports are received each month which represent about 95 percent of total spindles. Monthly data can vary due to different firms reporting month to month. Survey data are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions and mistakes in reporting and in processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized by carefully reviewing all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@usda.gov](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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