



Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

ISSN: 2378-2471

Released February 22, 2019, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Highlights

November 2018 contained 30 days.

December 2018 contained 31 days.

Extra long staple cotton consumed on the cotton system was 732,000 pounds in December 2018, down 10 percent from November 2018 and down 15 percent from December 2017. December 2018 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.69 million pounds, up 6 percent from November 2018 and up 20 percent from December 2017.

Total Manmade fiber consumed on the cotton system was 30.8 million pounds during December 2018, down 12 percent from November 2018 but up 11 percent from December 2017. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 93 percent was polyester staple.

Total number of spindles on the cotton system was 1.30 million during December 2018. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 673,000 in December 2018, up 4 percent from November 2018 but down 8 percent from December 2017.

Consumption and Stocks – United States: December 2018 with Comparisons

Item	December 2017	November 2018	December 2018
Extra long staple			
Consumed			
Running bales number	1,715	1,632	1,473
Weight 1,000 pounds	858	814	732
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales number	2,832	3,196	3,375
Weight 1,000 pounds	1,410	1,597	1,689
Rayon and acetate staple			
Consumed 1,000 pounds	733	872	962
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) 1,000 pounds	921	1,427	1,890
Polyester staple			
Consumed 1,000 pounds	25,932	32,461	28,497
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) 1,000 pounds	21,379	21,827	23,810
Other manmade fiber staple			
Consumed 1,000 pounds	1,125	1,545	1,296
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) 1,000 pounds	2,315	3,037	2,742

Spindles in Place, Active Spindles and Spindle Hours Operated – United States: December 2018 with Comparisons

Item	December 2017	November 2018	December 2018
Cotton-system spindles in place			
Ring spindles 1,000	949	952	952
Airjet spindles 1,000	33	35	35
Open-end spindles 1,000	315	310	310
Cotton-system spindles active			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton 1,000	728	647	673
million hours	416	437	397
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber 1,000	38	42	39
million hours	15	22	18
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends 1,000	509	586	521
million hours	295	356	297

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.

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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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@nass.usda.gov.

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