



# Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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## Highlights

**December 2020** contained 31 days.

**January 2021** contained 31 days.

**Extra long staple cotton** consumed on the cotton system was 481,000 pounds in January 2021, down 2 percent from December 2020 and down 37 percent from January 2020. January 2021 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 2.16 million pounds, up 23 percent from December 2020 and up 171 percent from January 2020.

**Total Manmade fiber** consumed on the cotton system was 29.7 million pounds during January 2021, up 23 percent from December 2020 but down 13 percent from January 2020. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 91 percent was polyester staple.

**Total number of spindles** on the cotton system was 1.12 million during January 2021. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 587,000 in January 2021, down less than 1 percent from December 2020 and down 10 percent from January 2020.

## Consumption and Stocks – United States: January 2021 with Comparisons

Item	January 2020	December 2020	January 2021
<b>Extra long staple</b>			
Consumed			
Running bales ..... number	1,531	989	987
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	763	489	481
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales ..... number	1,599	3,649	4,520
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	799	1,758	2,163
<b>Rayon and acetate staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	964	630	1,056
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	1,282	771	635
<b>Polyester staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	30,739	22,400	27,106
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	34,337	23,235	21,745
<b>Other manmade fiber staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	2,623	1,041	1,561
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	2,587	1,214	1,755

## Spindles in Place, Active Spindles and Spindle Hours Operated – United States: January 2021 with Comparisons

Item	January 2020	December 2020	January 2021
<b>Cotton-system spindles in place</b>			
Ring spindles ..... 1,000	896	826	806
Airjet spindles ..... 1,000	26	26	26
Open-end spindles ..... 1,000	283	283	283
<b>Cotton-system spindles active</b>			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton ..... 1,000	649	589	587
million hours	503	370	420
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber ..... 1,000	37	25	31
million hours	21	12	17
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends ..... 1,000	488	407	403
million hours	350	218	249

## 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@usda.gov](mailto: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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