



Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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Highlights

August 2020 contained 31 days.

September 2020 contained 30 days.

Extra long staple cotton consumed on the cotton system was 518,000 pounds in September 2020, down 17 percent from September 2019. September 2020 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 674,000 pounds, down 50 percent from September 2019.

Total Manmade fiber consumed on the cotton system was 29.5 million pounds during September 2020, down 18 percent from September 2019. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 95 percent was polyester staple.

Total number of spindles on the cotton system was 1.15 million during September 2020. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 589,000 in September 2020, down 5 percent from August 2020 and down 9 percent from September 2019.

Consumption and Stocks – United States: September 2020 with Comparisons

Item	September 2019	August 2020	September 2020
Extra long staple			
Consumed			
Running balesnumber	1,263	(D)	1,049
Weight1,000 pounds	625	(D)	518
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running balesnumber	2,687	1,825	1,349
Weight1,000 pounds	1,343	910	674
Rayon and acetate staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds			
	1,029	(D)	705
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds			
	1,299	1,286	1,055
Polyester staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds			
	33,036	21,013	27,924
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds			
	37,430	23,239	22,887
Other manmade fiber staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds			
	1,692	607	852
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds			
	2,584	2,021	1,946

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Spindles in Place, Active Spindles and Spindle Hours Operated – United States: September 2020 with Comparisons

Item	September 2019	August 2020	September 2020
Cotton-system spindles in place			
Ring spindles 1,000	925	848	848
Airjet spindles 1,000	26	26	26
Open-end spindles 1,000	305	279	279
Cotton-system spindles active			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton 1,000			
	649	620	589
million hours			
	446	448	415
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber 1,000			
	53	30	27
million hours			
	29	13	12
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends 1,000			
	508	363	395
million hours			
	326	216	241

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

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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.

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