



# Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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## Highlights

**September 2018** contained 30 days.

**October 2018** contained 31 days.

**Extra long staple cotton** consumed on the cotton system was 872,000 pounds in October 2018, down 21 percent from September 2018 and down 27 percent from October 2017. October 2018 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.74 million pounds up 2 percent from September 2018 but down 5 percent from October 2017.

**Total Manmade fiber** consumed on the cotton system was 36.5 million pounds during October 2018, up 1 percent from September 2018 and up 25 percent from October 2017. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 92 percent was polyester staple.

**Total number of spindles** on the cotton system was 1.30 million during October 2018. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 658,000 in October 2018, up 3 percent from September 2018 but down 9 percent from October 2017.

## Consumption and Stocks – United States: October 2018 with Comparisons

Item	October 2017	September 2018	October 2018
<b>Extra long staple</b>			
Consumed			
Running bales ..... number	2,378	2,208	1,744
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	1,190	1,103	872
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales ..... number	3,685	3,394	3,473
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	1,833	1,698	1,738
<b>Rayon and acetate staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	853	1,104	1,131
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	980	1,670	1,031
<b>Polyester staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	26,541	33,354	33,408
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	20,815	20,587	20,478
<b>Other manmade fiber staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	1,717	1,548	1,943
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	2,239	3,298	3,012

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

Item	October 2017	September 2018	October 2018
<b>Cotton-system spindles in place</b>			
Ring spindles ..... 1,000	949	952	952
Airjet spindles ..... 1,000	33	29	34
Open-end spindles ..... 1,000	315	314	310
<b>Cotton-system spindles active</b>			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton ..... 1,000	724	640	658
million hours	545	435	501
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber ..... 1,000	41	37	41
million hours	20	20	23
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends ..... 1,000	511	583	573
million hours	375	383	427

## 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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