



Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

ISSN: 2378-2471

Released May 1, 2015, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Special Note

The *Cotton System Consumption and Stocks* publication is a product of NASS's Current Agricultural Industrial Reports (CAIR) program. CAIR will provide a data series that was previously made available by the United States Census Bureau's Current Industrial Reports (CIR) program but discontinued in 2011. For the details on the CAIR program see,

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide_to_NASS_Surveys/Current_Agricultural_Industrial_Reports/index.asp.

Stocks held in public storage and compresses, previously summarized under the CIR program, can be obtained under the Farm Service Agency Bales Made Available for Shipment (BMASS) program:

http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/cottonflowreports_p.pdf

Monthly upland cotton consumption and stocks figures, previously summarized under the CIR program, can be obtained under the FSA Economic Adjustment Assistance Program report:

http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/cotton_consumption_report.pdf

Highlights

January 2015 contained 31 days.

February 2015 contained 28 days.

March 2015 contained 31 days.

Extra long staple cotton consumed on the cotton system was 1 million pounds in March 2015, down 4 percent from February 2015 and down 16 percent from January 2015. March stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.2 million pounds up 9 percent from February but down 31 percent from January.

Total Manmade fiber consumed on the cotton system was 31.9 million pounds during March 2015, up 45 percent from February 2015 and up 21 percent from January 2015. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, over 87 percent was polyester staple.

Total number of spindles on the cotton system was 1.09 million during March 2015, down 2 percent from February 2015 and down 1 percent from January 2015. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 597 thousand in March 2015, up 1 percent from February 2015 and up 2 percent from January 2015.

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. The first annual summary will be published in March of 2016.

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 Environmental, Economics, and Demographics 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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- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

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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