



# Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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## Highlights

**October 2018** contained 31 days.

**November 2018** contained 30 days.

**Extra long staple cotton** consumed on the cotton system was 814,000 pounds in November 2018, down 7 percent from October 2018 and down 27 percent from November 2017. November 2018 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.60 million pounds down 8 percent from October 2018 and down 3 percent from November 2017.

**Total Manmade fiber** consumed on the cotton system was 34.9 million pounds during November 2018, down 4 percent from October 2018 but up 12 percent from November 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 November 2018. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 647,000 in November 2018, down 2 percent from October 2018 and down 10 percent from November 2017.

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

Item	November 2017	October 2018	November 2018
<b>Extra long staple</b>			
Consumed			
Running bales ..... number	2,231	1,744	1,632
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	1,116	872	814
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales ..... number	3,287	3,473	3,196
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	1,648	1,738	1,597
<b>Rayon and acetate staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	638	1,131	872
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	1,591	1,031	1,427
<b>Polyester staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	28,970	33,408	32,461
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	21,735	20,478	21,827
<b>Other manmade fiber staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	1,626	1,943	1,545
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	2,261	3,012	3,037

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

Item	November 2017	October 2018	November 2018
<b>Cotton-system spindles in place</b>			
Ring spindles ..... 1,000	949	952	952
Airjet spindles ..... 1,000	33	34	35
Open-end spindles ..... 1,000	315	310	310
<b>Cotton-system spindles active</b>			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton ..... 1,000	722	658	647
million hours	477	501	437
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber ..... 1,000	49	41	42
million hours	24	23	22
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends ..... 1,000	505	573	586
million hours	315	427	356

## 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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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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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