



Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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Highlights

November 2020 contained 30 days.

December 2020 contained 31 days.

Extra long staple cotton consumed on the cotton system was 618,000 pounds in December 2020, down 9 percent from November 2020 and down 4 percent from December 2019. December 2020 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1,897,000 pounds, up 70 percent from November 2020 and up 90 percent from December 2019.

Total Manmade fiber consumed on the cotton system was 24.1 million pounds during December 2020, down 18 percent from November 2020 and down 10 percent from December 2019. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 93 percent was polyester staple.

Total number of spindles on the cotton system was 1.16 million during December 2020. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 588,000 in December 2020, down 2 percent from November 2020 and down 5 percent from December 2019.

Consumption and Stocks – United States: December 2020 with Comparisons

Item	December 2019	November 2020	December 2020
Extra long staple			
Consumed			
Running bales number	1,311	1,379	1,253
Weight 1,000 pounds	645	681	618
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales number	2,002	2,280	3,955
Weight 1,000 pounds	997	1,115	1,897
Rayon and acetate staple			
Consumed 1,000 pounds	731	545	630
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) 1,000 pounds	1,628	951	771
Polyester staple			
Consumed 1,000 pounds	24,720	27,999	22,426
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) 1,000 pounds	33,314	22,016	23,177
Other manmade fiber staple			
Consumed 1,000 pounds	1,322	791	1,041
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) 1,000 pounds	1,880	1,575	1,214

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

Item	December 2019	November 2020	December 2020
Cotton-system spindles in place			
Ring spindles 1,000	917	848	848
Airjet spindles 1,000	26	26	26
Open-end spindles 1,000	291	283	283
Cotton-system spindles active			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton 1,000	618	599	588
million hours	337	423	369
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber 1,000	38	21	21
million hours	18	10	10
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends 1,000	540	395	405
million hours	262	235	218

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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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agencies archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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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