



Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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Highlights

February 2020 contained 29 days.

March 2020 contained 31 days.

Extra long staple cotton consumed on the cotton system was 729,000 pounds in March 2020, down 12 percent from February 2020 and down 27 percent from March 2019. March 2020 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 794,000 pounds, down 19 percent from February 2020 and down 49 percent from March 2019.

Total Manmade fiber consumed on the cotton system was 27.8 million pounds during March 2020, down 10 percent from February 2020 and down 26 percent from March 2019. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 93 percent was polyester staple.

Total number of spindles on the cotton system was 1.23 million during March 2020. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 669,000 in March 2020, up 13 percent from February 2020 and up 5 percent from March 2019.

Consumption and Stocks – United States: March 2020 with Comparisons

Item	March 2019	February 2020	March 2020
Extra long staple			
Consumed			
Running balesnumber	1,994	1,691	1,484
Weight1,000 pounds	994	826	729
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running balesnumber	3,113	1,968	1,604
Weight1,000 pounds	1,562	976	794
Rayon and acetate staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds	840	989	578
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds	2,306	914	600
Polyester staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds	35,204	28,472	25,830
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds	27,452	29,433	28,323
Other manmade fiber staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds	1,640	1,512	1,353
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds	2,910	1,779	2,193

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

Item	March 2019	February 2020	March 2020
Cotton-system spindles in place			
Ring spindles 1,000	952	917	917
Airjet spindles 1,000	35	26	26
Open-end spindles 1,000	311	287	290
Cotton-system spindles active			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton 1,000	638	593	669
million hours	450	400	357
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber 1,000	42	40	33
million hours	25	23	18
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends 1,000	538	539	451
million hours	357	348	232

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.

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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s 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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