



Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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Highlights

August 2016 contained 31 days.

September 2016 contained 30 days.

Extra long staple cotton consumed on the cotton system was 0.98 million pounds in September 2016, down 3 percent from August 2016 but up 18 percent from September 2015. September 2016 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.14 million pounds down 9 percent from August 2016 and down 48 percent from September 2015.

Total Manmade fiber consumed on the cotton system was 31.4 million pounds during September 2016, down 11 percent from August 2016 and down 10 percent from September 2015. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 88 percent was polyester staple.

Total number of spindles on the cotton system was 1.25 million during September 2016. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 713 thousand in September 2016, up 3 percent from August 2016 and up 21 percent from September 2015.

Consumption and Stocks – United States: September 2016 with Comparisons

Item	September 2015	August 2016	September 2016
Extra long staple			
Consumed			
Running bales	1,652	1,996	1,938
Weight	826	1,005	975
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales	4,390	2,333	1,960
Weight	2,188	1,251	1,136
Rayon and acetate staple			
Consumed			
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)	598	1,502	1,330
.....	(D)	598	511
Polyester staple			
Consumed			
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)	30,005	31,432	27,653
.....	27,232	38,358	22,161
Other manmade fiber staple			
Consumed			
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)	4,253	2,137	2,391
.....	3,719	2,175	4,417

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Spindles in Place, Active Spindles and Spindle Hours Operated – United States: September 2016 with Comparisons

Item	September 2015	August 2016	September 2016
Cotton-system spindles in place			
Ring spindles	736	856	875
Airjet spindles	30	32	32
Open-end spindles	365	348	344
Cotton-system spindles active			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton	591	694	713
..... million hours	407	453	446
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber	33	34	29
..... million hours	19	19	15
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends	446	469	472
..... million hours	300	294	307

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 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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