



Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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Highlights

December 2023 contained 31 days.

January 2024 contained 31 days.

Extra long staple cotton consumed on the cotton system was 581,000 pounds in January 2024, up 25 percent from December 2023 and up 46 percent from January 2023. January 2024 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 748,000 pounds, down 25 percent from December 2023 and down 56 percent from January 2023.

Total Manmade fiber consumed on the cotton system was 16.0 million pounds during January 2024, up 11 percent from December 2023 but down 43 percent from January 2023. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 93 percent was polyester staple.

Total number of spindles on the cotton system was 753,000 during January 2024. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 409,000 in January 2024, down 1 percent from December 2023 and down 28 percent from January 2023.

Consumption and Stocks – United States: January 2024 with Comparisons

Item	January 2023	December 2023	January 2024
Extra long staple			
Consumed			
Running balesnumber	794	934	1,174
Weight1,000 pounds	397	463	581
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running balesnumber	3,396	2,011	1,438
Weight1,000 pounds	1,687	999	748
Rayon and acetate staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds	560	350	502
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds	5,032	3,513	3,535
Polyester staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds	26,084	13,626	15,000
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds	33,981	27,594	27,512
Other manmade fiber staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds	1,505	513	547
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds	1,815	1,326	1,314

Spindles in Place, Active Spindles and Spindle Hours Operated – United States: January 2024 with Comparisons

Item	January 2023	December 2023	January 2024
Cotton-system spindles in place			
Ring spindles1,000	713	592	520
Airjet spindles1,000	20	20	20
Open-end spindles1,000	252	213	213
Cotton-system spindles active			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton1,000	568	412	409
.....million hours	376	182	291
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber1,000	31	19	19
.....million hours	16	7	10
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends1,000	339	195	263
.....million hours	190	69	149

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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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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