



# Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

ISSN: 2378-2471

---

Released May 1, 2024, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## Highlights

**February 2024** contained 29 days.

**March 2024** contained 31 days.

**Extra long staple cotton** consumed on the cotton system was 331,000 pounds in March 2024, down 35 percent from February 2024 but up 31 percent from March 2023. March 2024 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 652,000 pounds, up 23 percent from February 2024 but down 60 percent from March 2023.

**Total Manmade fiber** consumed on the cotton system was 14.3 million pounds during March 2024, up 8 percent from February 2024 but down 52 percent from March 2023. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 93 percent was polyester staple.

**Total number of spindles** on the cotton system was 753,000 during March 2024. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 413,000 in March 2024, down less than 1 percent from February 2024 and down 20 percent from March 2023.

## Consumption and Stocks – United States: March 2024 with Comparisons

Item	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024
<b>Extra long staple</b>			
Consumed			
Running bales .....number	510	1,023	758
Weight .....1,000 pounds	253	507	331
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales .....number	3,266	1,070	1,307
Weight .....1,000 pounds	1,621	528	652
<b>Rayon and acetate staple</b>			
Consumed .....1,000 pounds	790	309	349
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) .....1,000 pounds	4,406	3,516	(D)
<b>Polyester staple</b>			
Consumed .....1,000 pounds	27,821	12,370	13,364
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) .....1,000 pounds	29,666	28,405	26,845
<b>Other manmade fiber staple</b>			
Consumed .....1,000 pounds	1,168	606	616
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) .....1,000 pounds	1,882	1,249	1,205

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

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

Item	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024
<b>Cotton-system spindles in place</b>			
Ring spindles .....1,000	713	520	520
Airjet spindles .....1,000	20	20	20
Open-end spindles .....1,000	240	213	213
<b>Cotton-system spindles active</b>			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton .....1,000	518	415	413
.....million hours	321	282	287
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber .....1,000	26	22	22
.....million hours	15	9	9
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends .....1,000	371	254	255
.....million hours	215	140	142

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](mailto:nass@usda.gov)

Nick Streff, Acting Chief, Crops Branch .....	(202) 720-2127
Chris Hawthorn, Head, Field Crops Section .....	(202) 720-2127
Irwin Anolik – Crop Progress and Condition.....	(202) 720-7621
Joshua Bates – Hemp, Oats, Soybeans.....	(202) 690-3234
Natasha Bruton – Barley, Cotton System Consumption, and Stocks, Grain Crushings .....	(202) 690-1042
David Colwell – Fats and Oils, Flour Milling Products .....	(202) 720-8800
Michelle Harder –County Estimates, Hay.....	(202) 690-8533
James Johanson – Rye, Wheat.....	(202) 720-8068
Greg Lemmons – Corn, Flaxseed, Proso Millet .....	(202) 720-9526
Becky Sommer – Cotton, Cotton Ginnings, Sorghum.....	(202) 720-5944
Travis Thorson – Sunflower, Other Oilseeds .....	(202) 720-7369
Chris Hawthorn – Peanuts, Rice .....	(202) 720-2127

## Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- 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](mailto: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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) (PDF), found online at [www.ascr.usda.gov/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).