



# Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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## Highlights

**November 2016** contained 30 days.

**December 2016** contained 31 days.

**Extra long staple cotton** consumed on the cotton system was 1.34 million pounds in December 2016, up 31 percent from November 2016 and up 47 percent from December 2015. December 2016 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.16 million pounds down slightly from November 2016 and down 26 percent from December 2015.

**Total Manmade fiber** consumed on the cotton system was 25.1 million pounds during December 2016, down 9 percent from November 2016 and down 8 percent from December 2015. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 91 percent was polyester staple.

**Total number of spindles** on the cotton system was 1.27 million during December 2016. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 751 thousand in December 2016, up 2 percent from November 2016 and up 23 percent from December 2015.

## Consumption and Stocks – United States: December 2016 with Comparisons

Item	December 2015	November 2016	December 2016
<b>Extra long staple</b>			
Consumed			
Running bales ..... number	1,838	2,034	2,794
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	914	1,026	1,340
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales ..... number	3,131	2,274	2,271
Weight ..... 1,000 pounds	1,563	1,164	1,160
<b>Rayon and acetate staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	777	1,417	798
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	1,401	1,404	2,325
<b>Polyester staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	24,567	24,764	22,935
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	23,751	26,387	24,097
<b>Other manmade fiber staple</b>			
Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds	1,891	1,417	1,373
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds	2,861	1,684	2,140

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

Item	December 2015	November 2016	December 2016
<b>Cotton-system spindles in place</b>			
Ring spindles ..... 1,000	741	867	892
Airjet spindles ..... 1,000	30	32	32
Open-end spindles ..... 1,000	365	344	344
<b>Cotton-system spindles active</b>			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton ..... 1,000	609	735	751
million hours	326	468	390
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber ..... 1,000	31	30	30
million hours	13	13	11
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends ..... 1,000	445	454	458
million hours	257	246	234

## 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

Jody McDaniel, Chief, Environmental, Economics, and Demographics Branch .....	(202) 720-6146
Scott Shimmin, Head, Environmental and Demographics Section.....	(202) 720-0684
Stephanie Brennan – Field Crops Chemical Use .....	(202) 690-0392
Natasha Bruton – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports.....	(202) 720-7644
Courtney Charles– Current Agricultural Industrial Reports.....	(202) 690-3226
Ryan Cowen - Farms, Land in Farms, Census of Agriculture.....	(202) 690-3233
Doug Farmer – Vegetable Chemical Use .....	(202) 720-7492
Virginia Harris – Census of Agriculture.....	(502) 582-5293
Megan Lipke – Census of Agriculture .....	(202) 720-5881
Dominique Sims – Census of Agriculture.....	(202) 690-4752
Theresa Varner – Farm Labor, Chemical Use.....	(202) 690-2284

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