



# Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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## Highlights

**February 2019** contained 28 days.

**March 2019** contained 31 days.

**Extra long staple cotton** consumed on the cotton system was 994,000 pounds in March 2019, up 8 percent from February 2019 but down 8 percent from March 2018. March 2019 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.56 million pounds, down 8 percent from February 2019 and down 2 percent from March 2018.

**Total Manmade fiber** consumed on the cotton system was 37.7 million pounds during March 2019, up 13 percent from February 2019 but down 1 percent from March 2018. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 93 percent was polyester staple.

**Total number of spindles** on the cotton system was 1.30 million during March 2019. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 638,000 in March 2019, down 2 percent from February 2019 and down 12 percent from March 2018.

## Consumption and Stocks – United States: March 2019 with Comparisons

| Item   | March 2018 | February 2019 | March 2019 |
|--|------------|---------------|------------|
| <b>Extra long staple</b>                                       |            |               |            |
| Consumed   |            |               |            |
| Running bales ..... number                                     | 2,156      | 1,852         | 1,994      |
| Weight ..... 1,000 pounds                                      | 1,077      | 918           | 994        |
| Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)                    |            |               |            |
| Running bales ..... number                                     | 3,200      | 3,403         | 3,113      |
| Weight ..... 1,000 pounds                                      | 1,600      | 1,702         | 1,562      |
| <b>Rayon and acetate staple</b>                                |            |               |            |
| Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds                                    | 1,024      | 694           | 840        |
| Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds | 551        | 2,130         | 2,306      |
| <b>Polyester staple</b>  |            |               |            |
| Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds                                    | 35,598     | 31,034        | 35,204     |
| Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds | 18,686     | 26,448        | 27,452     |
| <b>Other manmade fiber staple</b>                              |            |               |            |
| Consumed ..... 1,000 pounds                                    | 1,570      | 1,739         | 1,640      |
| Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) ..... 1,000 pounds | 2,905      | 3,141         | 2,910      |

## Spindles in Place, Active Spindles and Spindle Hours Operated – United States: March 2019 with Comparisons

| Item  | March 2018 | February 2019 | March 2019 |
|---|------------|---------------|------------|
| <b>Cotton-system spindles in place</b>            |            |               |            |
| Ring spindles ..... 1,000                         | 952        | 952           | 952        |
| Airjet spindles ..... 1,000                       | 33         | 35            | 35         |
| Open-end spindles ..... 1,000                     | 319        | 311           | 311        |
| <b>Cotton-system spindles active</b>              |            |               |            |
| Spindles consuming 100% cotton ..... 1,000        | 722        | 653           | 638        |
| million hours                                     | 506        | 429           | 450        |
| Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber ..... 1,000 | 41         | 42            | 42         |
| million hours                                     | 23         | 20            | 25         |
| Spindles consuming mixtures or blends ..... 1,000 | 518        | 532           | 538        |
| million hours                                     | 348        | 328           | 357        |

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

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| Jannety Mosley – Crop Weather, Barley.....                    | (202) 720-7621 |
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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@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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