



Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

ISSN: 2378-2471

Released May 3, 2021, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Highlights

February 2021 contained 28 days.

March 2021 contained 31 days.

Extra long staple cotton consumed on the cotton system was 557,000 pounds in March 2021, up 12 percent from February 2021 but down 24 percent from March 2020. March 2021 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.49 million pounds, down 9 percent from February 2021 but up 88 percent from March 2020.

Total Manmade fiber consumed on the cotton system was 34.5 million pounds during March 2021, up 35 percent from February 2021 and up 25 percent from March 2020. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 93 percent was polyester staple.

Total number of spindles on the cotton system was 1.11 million during March 2021. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 585,000 in March 2021, up less than 1 percent from February 2021 but down 13 percent from March 2020.

Consumption and Stocks – United States: March 2021 with Comparisons

Item	March 2020	February 2021	March 2021
Extra long staple			
Consumed			
Running balesnumber	1,484	1,008	1,123
Weight1,000 pounds	729	498	557
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running balesnumber	1,604	3,180	3,059
Weight1,000 pounds	794	1,634	1,490
Rayon and acetate staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds			
	578	667	802
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds			
	600	558	1,272
Polyester staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds			
	25,736	23,243	31,919
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds			
	28,148	30,712	31,496
Other manmade fiber staple			
Consumed1,000 pounds			
	1,353	1,558	1,730
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)1,000 pounds			
	2,193	2,145	2,201

Spindles in Place, Active Spindles and Spindle Hours Operated – United States: March 2021 with Comparisons

Item	March 2020	February 2021	March 2021
Cotton-system spindles in place			
Ring spindles1,000	896	806	806
Airjet spindles1,000	26	26	26
Open-end spindles1,000	288	277	277
Cotton-system spindles active			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton1,000			
	669	584	585
million hours			
	357	385	398
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber1,000			
	33	29	29
million hours			
	18	14	15
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends1,000			
	449	400	389
million hours			
	231	237	255

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

Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch.....	(202) 720-2127
Chris Hawthorn, Head, Field Crops Section	(202) 720-2127
Irwin Anolik – Crop Weather	(202) 720-7621
Joshua Bates – Oats, Soybeans	(202) 690-3234
David Colwell – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports.....	(202) 720-8800
Becky Sommer – Cotton, Cotton Ginnings, Sorghum.....	(202) 720-5944
James Johanson – Barley, County Estimates, Hay	(202) 690-8533
Greg Lemmons – Corn, Flaxseed, Proso Millet	(202) 720-9526
Jean Porter – Rye, Wheat	(202) 720-8068
John Stephens – Peanuts, Rice.....	(202) 720-7688
Travis Thorson – Sunflower, Other Oilseeds	(202) 720-7369

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
- 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 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 agencies 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 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.

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, 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.