



# Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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## Highlights

**April 2024** contained 30 days.

**May 2024** contained 31 days.

**Extra long staple cotton** consumed on the cotton system was 363,000 pounds in May 2024, up 14 percent from April 2024 and up 181 percent from May 2023. May 2024 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 642,000 pounds, up 5 percent from April 2024 but down 55 percent from May 2023.

**Total Manmade fiber** consumed on the cotton system was 14.3 million pounds during May 2024, down 9 percent from April 2024 and down 44 percent from May 2023. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 91 percent was polyester staple.

**Total number of spindles** on the cotton system was 753,000 during May 2024. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 407,000 in May 2024, down less than 1 percent from April 2024 and down 23 percent from May 2023.

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

Item	May 2023	April 2024	May 2024
<b>Extra long staple</b>			
Consumed			
Running bales .....	262	641	732
Weight .....	129	319	363
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales .....	2,857	1,221	1,276
Weight .....	1,417	613	642
<b>Rayon and acetate staple</b>			
Consumed .....	743	388	516
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) .....	4,021	(D)	(D)
<b>Polyester staple</b>			
Consumed .....	24,025	14,568	13,026
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) .....	23,365	25,198	24,693
<b>Other manmade fiber staple</b>			
Consumed .....	1,033	729	786
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) .....	1,418	1,192	1,228

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

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

Item	May 2023	April 2024	May 2024
<b>Cotton-system spindles in place</b>			
Ring spindles .....	686	520	520
Airjet spindles .....	20	20	20
Open-end spindles .....	234	213	213
<b>Cotton-system spindles active</b>			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton .....	532	408	407
..... million hours	358	307	267
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber .....	24	27	25
..... million hours	12	13	16
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends .....	320	253	255
..... million hours	144	158	136

## 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)

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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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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