



## Key Facts about the U.S. Textile Industry

- The U.S. textile industry is one of the largest manufacturing employers in the United States. In 2010, the overall textile sector, from fibers to final garments and other textile products, employed nearly 600,000 workers. Textile mills alone employed 255,000 workers.
- The U.S. textile industry is the third largest exporter of textile products in the world with exports growing 20 percent in 2010 to more than \$15 billion.
  - U.S. textile exports support a textile and apparel platform created by the NAFTA/CAFTA/Andean free trade areas that now employs nearly two million workers.
- The U.S. textile industry supplies more than 8,000 different textile products each year to the U.S. military.
- The U.S. textile industry has a long history of creating innovative, hi-tech products, from heart valve prosthesis and nanotube body armor to non-iron apparel and moisture wicking athletic wear.
- The U.S. textile industry invested more than \$15 billion in new plants and equipment from 2001 to 2009. U.S. textile shipments totaled \$51 billion in 2010.
- The U.S. textile industry increased productivity by 45 percent over the last 10 years, making textiles one of the top industries among all industrial sectors in productivity increases.
- In 2010, textile workers on average earned 155% more than clothing store workers (\$559 per week vs. \$219) and received health care and pension benefits.