

KEY FACTS ABOUT THE U.S. TEXTILE INDUSTRY

- The U.S. textile industry supply chain—from textile fibers to apparel and other sewn products—employed 565,000 workers in 2016. The U.S. government estimates that one textile manufacturing job in this country supports three other jobs.
- U.S. textile and apparel shipments totaled \$74.4 billion in 2016.
- The U.S. industry is the fourth largest exporter of textile-related products in the world. Fiber, textile, and apparel exports combined were \$26.3 billion in 2016.
- Two-thirds of U.S. textile exports went to our Western Hemisphere free trade partners in 2016. The U.S. textile industry exported to more than 200 countries, with 26 countries importing \$100 million or more.
- The U.S. textile industry supplies more than 8,000 different textile products to the U.S. military.
- The United States is the world leader in textile research and development, with the U.S. textile complex developing next generation textile materials such as conductive fabric with antistatic properties, electronic textiles that can monitor heart rate and other vital signs, antimicrobial fibers, lifesaving body armor, and new fabrics that adapt to the climate to make the wearer warmer or cooler.
- The U.S. textile industry invested \$17.9 billion in new plants and equipment from 2006 to 2015. Recently U.S. manufacturers have opened new facilities throughout the textile production chain, including recycling facilities to convert textile and other waste to new textile uses and resins.
- U.S. textile mills have increased productivity by 52% since 2000.
- In 2016, hourly and nonsupervisory textile mill workers on average earned 154% more than apparel store workers (\$648 per week vs. \$255) and received health care and pension benefits.