

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 550,500 workers in 2017. The U.S. government estimates that one textile manufacturing job in this country supports three other jobs.
- U.S. textile and apparel shipments totaled \$77.9 billion in 2017.
- In 2016, the United States was the fourth largest individual country exporter of textile-related products (fiber, yarn, fabric, and non-apparel sewn products) in the world.
- In 2017, U.S. fiber, textile, and apparel exports combined were \$28.6 billion.
- Excluding cotton and wool fiber, two-thirds of U.S. textile supply chain exports went to Western Hemisphere trade partners in 2017.
- The U.S. textile supply chain exported to more than 200 countries and dependencies in 2017, with 34 importing more than \$100 million.
- 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 \$20 billion in new plants and equipment from 2006 to 2016. 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 labor productivity by 60% since 2000.
- In 2017, hourly and nonsupervisory textile mill workers on average earned 136% more than apparel store workers (\$646 per week vs. \$274) and received health care and pension benefits.