

year improvement has been equally impressive. The latest profits per dollar of sales number is now estimated at near 3.9 percent — well above the year-earlier 3.3-cent reading. The same positive picture is noted when

profits are compared to dollar of stockholders equity — with the latest mill numbers here put at 8.7 cents versus only 7.7 cents a year earlier. More significantly, economic consulting firm Global Insight sees the upward

earnings trend continuing. This year's profit gain for mills making basic textile products, for example, should be around 2.5 percent — with 2015 and 2016 gains running a bit higher. Zero in on more highly fab-

ricated mill products, and the increase should be more impressive, averaging out at more than 5 percent over the 2014-16 period. Implication: healthy and viable domestic textile and apparel industries well into the future. **TV**

Textile Barometers

See www.TextileWorld.com for expanded textile industry financial news.

US Textile Indicators:

	Latest Month ⁺	Previous Month ⁺⁺	Year Ago
Textile mill employment (Bureau of Labor Statistics, thousands)	116.5	117.1	116.5
Mill product employment (BLS, thousands)	110.1	110.7	110.1
Textile mill weekly earnings (BLS)	\$589.57	\$596.68	\$570.21
Mill product weekly earnings (BLS)	\$513.00	\$498.17	\$497.17
Textile mill weekly hours worked (BLS)	41.1	41.7	41.0
Mill product weekly hours worked (BLS)	38.1	37.7	38.9
Textile mill production (Federal Reserve Board, 2007=100)	74.9	76.8	74.2
Textile product production (FRB, 2007=100)	72.1	71.2	70.1
Textile capacity utilization (FRB)	70.6	71.2	69.1
Producer price index, textiles & apparel (BLS, 1982=100)	145.5	145.8	143.3
Man-made fibers (1982=100)	125.8	126.6	124.4
Processed yarns & threads (1982=100)	142.3	142.2	142.3
Greige fabrics (1982=100)	141.5	142.2	141.5
Finished fabrics (1982=100)	154.2	154.0	150.9
Home furnishings (1982=100)	160.1	159.6	144.4
Carpet (1982=100)	185.4	183.5	179.0
Import price index, textile & fabrics (BLS, Dec. 2005=100)	102.1	102.1	101.6
Import price index, textile mill products (BLS, Dec. 2005=100)	114.4	114.4	115.6
*Manufacturers' textile mill sales (Dept. of Commerce, millions)	\$2,704	\$2,699	\$2,621
**Manufacturers' textile product sales (DOC, millions)	\$2,024	\$2,029	\$2,040
Manufacturers' textile mill inventories (DOC, millions)	\$3,451	\$3,455	\$3,312
Manufacturers' textile product inventories (DOC, millions)	\$3,152	\$3,146	\$3,045
Inventory-to-sales ratio, textile mills	1.28	1.28	1.26
Inventory-to-sales ratio, textile products	1.56	1.55	1.49
Clothing & accessories retail sales (DOC, millions, seasonally adjusted)	\$21,008	\$21,141	\$20,111
Imports (DOC, millions, April year-to-date total)	\$32,894	\$24,841	\$31,864
Exports (DOC, millions, April year-to-date total)	\$7,857	\$5,833	\$7,655

US Economic Indicators:

Employment (BLS, thousands)	145,814	145,669	143,919
Unemployment rate (BLS)	6.3	6.3	7.5
Industrial production index (FRB, 2007=100)	103.7	103.0	99.4
Consumer price index (BLS, 1982-84=100)	237.1	236.3	232.5
Producer price index, all commodities (BLS, 1982=100)	208.0	208.4	204.1
Personal income (DOC, billions)	\$14,417.3	\$14,301.3	\$13,925.9
Disposable personal income (DOC, billions)	\$12,719.0	\$12,622.8	\$12,296.9
Disposable personal income per capita (DOC)	\$40,017	\$39,776	\$38,961
Housing starts (DOC, thousands, seasonally adjusted)	1,001	1,071	915
Operating rates — all industries (FRB)	79.1	78.9	77.8

+ Preliminary ++ Revised

*Textile mill numbers include yarns, spinning, texturing, throwing and twisting, and all types of fabrics and finishing.

**Textile products numbers include carpet and rugs, curtains, draperies, other home textiles, canvas, tire cord, and fabric and textile bags.