Textile Barometers

U.S. TEXTILE/APPAREL MARKET INDICATORS:	Latest Month	Previous Month	Year Ago
Employment (Bureau of Labor Statistics, thousands)#	448.7	454.5	516.1
Production workers (BLS, thousands)#	375.3	381.9	431.1
Average hourly earnings (BLS)#	$11.45	$11.36	$11.27
Weekly hours worked (BLS)#	40.0	39.7	40.9
Unemployment rate, textile mill workers (BLS)#	12.8	9.4	3.3
Textile production index (Fed. Reserve Board, 1992=100)	84.7	84.4	92.8
Knit goods production index (FRB, 1992=100)*	67.8	68.5	94.8
Man-made fibers output index (FRB, 1992=100)*	88.3	83.7	101.1
Textile capacity utilization (FRB)	73.4	72.9	75.6
Consumer price index, apparel ex footwear (BLS, 1982-84=100)	121.9	123.0	125.9
Producer price index, textiles & apparel (BLS, 1982=100)#	120.7	120.8	121.7
Man-made fibers (1982=100)#	107.2	107.7	109.9
Processed yarns & threads (1982=100)#	102.5	103.4	107.7
Greige fabrics (1982=100)#	112.3	113.7	114.4
Finished fabrics (1982=100)#	122.6	122.5	121.8
Home furnishings (1982=100)#	123.3	122.5	121.3
Carpet (1982=100)#	125.2	124.0	126.4
Apparel retail sales (Dept. of Commerce, billions)	$14.074	$14.165	$14.182
Textile manufacturers' sales (DOC, billions)*	$6.581	$6.542	$7.026
Inventories (DOC, billions)*	$10.829	$10.891	$11.805
Inventory-sales ratio*	1.645	1.665	1.680
Imports (DOC, millions, year-to-date total)#	$67,796	$60,432	$67,624
Exports (DOC, millions, year-to-date total)#	$14,298	$12,889	$15,846
U.S. ECONOMIC INDICATORS:			
Employment (BLS, millions)	134.084	134.562	135.478
Unemployment rate (BLS)	5.7%	5.4%	4.0%
Disposable personal income (DOC, billions, annual rates)	N/A	$7,437.2	$7,183.6
Real disposable personal income per capita (1996$, a.r.)*	$23,588	$24,189	$23,937
Consumption outlays, clothing (DOC, billions, a.r.)	N/A	$272.982	$275.681
Industrial production index (FRB, 1992=100)	137.1	137.6	148.2
Housing starts (DOC, millions, a.r.)	1.645	1.521	1.559
Consumer price index (BLS, 1982-84=100)	177.6	177.6	174.3
Foreign exchange value of dollar (FRB, March 1973=100)	105.55	104.27	103.16

\# Not seasonally adjusted, otherwise all indicators adjusted for seasonality.   * October, otherwise latest month is November.