

U.S. TEXTILE/APPAREL MARKET INDICATORS:	Latest Month	Previous Month	Year Ago
Employment (Bureau of Labor Statistics, thousands)#	478.1	485.9	534.2
Production workers (BLS, thousands)#	398.8	406.6	447.4
Average hourly earnings (BLS)#	\$11.37	\$11.31	\$11.09
Weekly hours worked (BLS)#	40.8	39.3	41.2
Unemployment rate, textile mill workers (BLS)#	9.6	9.1	3.3
Textile production index (Fed. Reserve Board, 1992=100)	91.1	91.8	102.6
Knit goods production index (FRB, 1992=100)*	91.5	92.2	101.0
Man-made fibers output index (FRB, 1992=100)*	90.0	95.4	105.5
Textile capacity utilization (FRB)	75.4	75.7	82.8
Consumer price index, apparel ex footwear (BLS, 1982-84=100)	123.7	125.1	126.1
Producer price index, textiles & apparel (BLS, 1982=100)#	121.3	121.8	121.4
Man-made fibers (1982=100)#	108.3	111.6	107.9
Processed yarns & threads (1982=100)#	106.8	107.2	108.1
Greige fabrics (1982=100)#	113.8	115.2	112.5
Finished fabrics (1982=100)#	123.0	123.0	123.0
Home furnishings (1982=100)#	122.3	122.9	122.3
Carpet (1982=100)#	126.4	126.2	124.2
Apparel retail sales (Dept. of Commerce, billions)	\$14.253	\$14.404	\$13.991
Textile manufacturers' sales (DOC, billions)*	\$6.688	\$6.733	\$7.273
Inventories (DOC, billions)*	\$11.573	\$11.598	\$11.565
Inventory-sales ratio*	1.730	1.723	1.590
Imports (DOC, millions, year-to-date total)#	\$25,041	\$19,395	\$23,462
Exports (DOC, millions, year-to-date total)#	\$5,940	\$4,482	\$6,113
U.S. ECONOMIC INDICATORS:			
Employment (BLS, millions)	135.103	135.354	134.843
Unemployment rate (BLS)	4.4%	4.5%	4.1%
Disposable personal income (DOC, billions, annual rates)	N/A	\$7,241.9	\$6,963.5
Real disposable personal income per capita (1996\$, a.r.)*	\$23,871	\$23,875	\$23,587
Consumption outlays, clothing (DOC, billions, a.r.)	N/A	\$291.329	\$281.871
Industrial production index (FRB, 1992=100)	143.1	144.2	147.2
Housing starts (DOC, millions, a.r.)	1.622	1.629	1.573
Consumer price index (BLS, 1982-84=100)	177.5	176.8	171.3
Foreign exchange value of dollar (FRB, March 1973=100)	105.03	105.09	99.31
# Not seasonally adjusted, otherwise all indicators adjusted for seasonality. * April, otherwise latest month is May.			