

Trends in US textile and clothing imports, April 2014 edition

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Abstracts

This 2014 update contains analysis and insight into the USA's top ten foreign suppliers of textiles and clothing in 2013, along with more specific information on cotton coats, wool coats, cotton dresses, cotton knitted shirts, cotton woven shirts, cotton skirts, man-made fibre skirts, cotton trousers, blue denim trousers, cotton and man-made fibre baby garments, cotton pile towels, and other cotton apparel. The report also includes appendices containing information and data on exchange rates, the effect of quota liberalisation on US imports, the impact of China's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and historical trends in US imports, as well as an outlook for 2014 and beyond. In 2013 US textile and clothing imports rose in volume terms to a record high, following declines in the previous two years, and China remained by far the USA's biggest textile and clothing supplier. Moreover, US imports from the country rose in volume and value terms. Among the other nine supplying countries which ranked among the top ten, the strongest growth was in imports from Bangladesh, India and Vietnam. Elsewhere, imports from Cambodia, El Salvador, Honduras, Indonesia, Mexico and Pakistan rose marginally or declined and all six countries lost market share in value and volume terms. In terms of fibre type, cotton continued to account for the largest share of US apparel imports, although its share was down for the fifth consecutive year. The average price of US textile and clothing imports fell, due largely to a decline in the average price of imports from China. By contrast, there were increases in the average prices of imports from seven of the USA's ten largest supplying countries.

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