

[Home](#)

[Content](#)

[Reports](#)

[Database](#)

[Subscribe](#)

[Trial Access](#)

[Alerts](#)

[Contacts](#)

Topics

FIBER Home

- [Cotton](#)
- [Polyester](#)
- [Viscose](#)
- [Spandex & Nylon](#)
- [Wool & Acrylic](#)
- [Linen & Luxury](#)
- [Price Comparison](#)

YARN Home

- [International](#)
- [China](#)
- [India](#)
- [Pakistan](#)
- [Bangladesh](#)
- [Price Comparison](#)

CLOTHING Home

- [Trade Environment](#)
- [Country Reports](#)
- [US Apparel Imports](#)
- [EU Clothing Imports](#)

COUNTRIES

- [China](#)
- [India](#)
- [Pakistan](#)
- [Bangladesh](#)
- [Vietnam](#)
- [Indonesia](#)
- [Cambodia](#)
- [Sri Lanka](#)
- [Myanmar](#)
- [Turkey](#)
- [Country Index](#)

Cotton and Polyester Prices in China, India, and Pakistan, in local currency and US\$ terms

Cotton and Polyester Price Comparison: China, India, and Pakistan

Monthly Report

6 September 2019

Cotton and polyester prices have everywhere declined in August and in the first days of September, however in different ways depending on countries. Cotton has significantly decreased in China, but the price difference continues favoring polyester use. Our monthly report delivers a comparative view of the average cotton and polyester prices in China, India, and Pakistan, including the latest and historical trends of the cotton/polyester price difference. Our charts cover the past 5-year period. Full historical data covering the past ten years are available for download.

Cotton and polyester prices have continued to decline in August and in the first days of September, however in different ways depending on countries.

Most important, cotton prices have significantly fallen in China.

The market indicator has lost 581 yuan per metric ton if comparing the average level in the first week of September, with average August prices.

From its level in June, the cotton indicator has fallen by 8.4% in China, which is very unusual in this country.

The decrease reflects the weakness in demand, anticipating a fall of apparel exports to the United States.

Such a drop in material costs could, however, improve the competitive advantage of China's textile exports, as cotton prices have fallen at a slower pace in India, even recovering in the last days in Pakistan.

The significant decline of the renminbi should also help exporters in maintaining their sales on a large number of markets outside the United States.

On the polyester market, PSF prices have less clearly dropped in the past two weeks in China, after plunging by early August.

In the first week of September, PSF is still down 5.7% from its average level in June, having only dropped by 2.1% in India and down 3.7% in Pakistan.

Pakistani PSF prices have recently plunged from 203 rupees in July to only 180 rupees in the first week of September.

The cotton vs. PSF price difference has narrowed in August but remains significant in China where cotton is 83% above the polyester price.

In India, cotton is only 25% more expensive than polyester, and the difference even falls to 20% in Pakistan.

The lack of decisive advantage for PSF is further limiting its use in both countries, which are still excessively focused on cotton processing.

Cotton & Polyester Price Database

More data are available in our Price Database (daily and historical series):

[Polyester Staple Fibers \(PSF\) in China, India, and Pakistan](#)

[China Cotton Market](#)

[India & Pakistan Cotton Markets](#)

Price Database

Fiber Prices

- [Cotton International](#)
- [Cotton China](#)
- [Cotton India & Pakistan](#)
- [Cotton Fundamentals](#)
- [Polyester Chain](#)
- [Polyester Staple Fibers](#)
- [Polyester Filament Yarns](#)
- [Viscose Chain](#)
- [Spandex & Nylon](#)
- [Wool & Acrylic](#)
- [Linen & Luxury](#)
- [Fiber Price Comparison](#)

Yarn Prices

- [Yarns International](#)
- [Yarns China](#)
- [Yarns India](#)
- [Yarns Pakistan](#)
- [Yarns Bangladesh](#)
- [Yarn Price Comparison](#)

Clothing Imports

- [U.S. Cotton Categories](#)
- [U.S. MMF Categories](#)
- [U.S. Knit Products](#)
- [U.S. Woven Products](#)
- [U.S. Towels & Sheets](#)
- [E.U. Knit Categories](#)
- [E.U. Woven Categories](#)
- [E.U. Knit Products](#)
- [E.U. Woven Products](#)
- [E.U. Towels & Bed Linen](#)

Cotton Prices in China, India and Pakistan						
In US Cents per Pound						
Month	China	India	Pakistan	China	India	Pakistan
	328	Shankar-6	KCA Spot	328	Shankar-6	KCA Spot
	US cts	US cts	US cts	US cts	US cts	US cts
	/Lb	/Lb	/Lb	1 Year = 100		
Sep 18	108.07	83.64	80.42	100	100	100
Oct 18	104.65	80.88	78.84	97	97	98
Nov 18	101.77	81.14	79.94	94	97	99
Dec 18	101.42	79.70	76.92	94	95	96
Jan 19	103.02	77.55	76.27	95	93	95
Feb 19	104.36	75.02	75.47	97	90	94
Mar 19	105.31	79.23	75.21	97	95	94
Apr 19	105.77	84.54	75.73	98	101	94
May 19	100.12	82.93	73.10	93	99	91
Jun 19	93.01	83.67	68.84	86	100	86
Jul 19	93.32	82.17	63.82	86	98	79
Aug 19	87.00	76.33	60.52	81	91	75
Sep 19	82.06	74.63	62.53	76	89	78
1-Month	-4.94	-1.71	2.01			
1-Month	-5.67%	-2.24%	3.32%			
3-Month	-11.77%	-10.81%	-9.17%			
1-Year	-24.07%	-10.78%	-22.25%			
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Polyester Staple Fiber Prices in China, India and Pakistan						
In US Cents per Pound						
Month	China	India	Pakistan	China	India	Pakistan
	US cts	US cts	US cts	US cts	US cts	US cts
	/Lb	/Lb	/Lb	1 Year= 100		
Sep 18	73.99	70.24	72.47	100	100	100
Oct 18	68.58	72.53	70.65	93	103	97
Nov 18	59.73	72.25	63.54	81	103	88
Dec 18	58.41	64.34	61.21	79	92	84
Jan 19	58.58	62.83	61.75	79	89	85
Feb 19	59.38	66.34	63.14	80	94	87
Mar 19	59.67	67.89	62.86	81	97	87
Apr 19	59.78	67.20	62.05	81	96	86
May 19	53.90	66.69	59.26	73	95	82
Jun 19	49.45	63.13	55.13	67	90	76
Jul 19	53.54	64.80	57.87	72	92	80
Aug 19	46.26	60.33	53.66	63	86	74
Sep 19	44.91	59.64	52.18	61	85	72
1-Month	-2.92%	-1.15%	-2.76%			
3-Month	-9.18%	-5.52%	-5.35%			
1-Year	-39.31%	-15.09%	-27.99%			
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