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[My Account](#)

[Sign Out](#)

[Home](#) [Content](#) [Reports](#) [Database](#) [Subscriptions](#) [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](#)

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 March 2020

Cotton and polyester have reacted differently to the coronavirus outbreak in February. The cotton vs. polyester price difference has moved into different directions in China, India, and Pakistan. 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.

The average price of cotton indicators has dropped by 2.8% in February in China, over the coronavirus outbreak, as textile mills were unable to restart production after holidays.

However, cotton prices were still up 2.7% from their average level in November, or three months earlier.

In India, cotton prices have slightly declined, only losing 1.5% whatever the fall in Chinese demand for Indian cotton fibers and yarns.

The cotton market continues being supported by massive buying from the state-controlled CCI (Cotton Corporation of India), to maintain revenues of cotton farmers at a minimum level.

In Pakistan, the cotton shortages have continued supporting prices, amid rising imports.

The polyester market has experienced a new fall in fiber prices in China, where the average market indicator has slid by 5.3% in February, and in Pakistan, where the polyester market has been pressured by the fall in Chinese prices.

The benchmark indicator has dropped to 175 rupees per kilo or 3.1%.

In India, PSF prices have resisted until they have been slightly lowered at the start of March.

From a year earlier, polyester prices have heavily fallen in dollar terms, losing 28% in China, 16.7% in India, and 18.2% in Pakistan.

Compared with polyester, cotton has stayed unchanged in China, in February, rising 11.8% in Pakistan, and falling 9% in India, in local currency terms.

The cotton vs. PSF price difference has jumped 75% in a single year in India, even rising 79% in Pakistan.

In China, the cotton price was 100% higher than the polyester price in February, but was only 27% above the PSF price in India and 38% higher in Pakistan.

Market trends should continue favoring the rise in polyester use to the detriment of cotton.

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](#)

Price Database

Fiber Prices

[Cotton International](#)
[Cotton China](#)
[Cotton India & Pakistan](#)
[Cotton Fundamentals](#)
[Polyester Chain](#)
[Polyester Staple Fibers](#)
[Polyester Filament Yarns](#)
[Viscose, Modal, Tencel](#)
[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](#)

Cotton Prices in China, India and Pakistan						
In US Cents per Pound						
Month	China 328 US cts /Lb	India Shankar-6 US cts /Lb	Pakistan KCA Spot US cts /Lb	China 328 US cts /Lb	India Shankar-6 US cts /Lb	Pakistan KCA Spot US cts /Lb
Feb 19	104.36	75.02	75.47	100	100	100
Mar 19	105.31	79.23	75.21	101	106	100
Apr 19	105.77	84.54	75.73	101	113	100
May 19	100.12	82.93	73.10	96	111	97
Jun 19	93.01	83.67	68.84	89	112	91
Jul 19	93.32	82.17	63.82	89	110	85
Aug 19	87.00	76.33	60.52	83	102	80
Sep 19	82.83	73.76	64.74	79	98	86
Oct 19	81.35	74.37	69.60	78	99	92
Nov 19	84.39	72.34	71.64	81	96	95
Dec 19	85.00	70.52	69.04	81	94	91
Jan 20	89.53	71.35	71.09	86	95	94
Feb 20	90.43	71.69	70.93	87	96	94
1-Month	0.90	0.34	-0.16			
1-Month	1.01%	0.48%	-0.22%			
3-Month	7.16%	-0.90%	-0.99%			
1-Year	-13.35%	-4.44%	-6.02%			
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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 /Lb	US cts /Lb	US cts /Lb	US cts	US cts	US cts
				1 Year= 100		
Feb 19	59.38	66.34	63.14	100	100	100
Mar 19	59.67	67.89	62.86	100	102	100
Apr 19	59.78	67.20	62.05	101	101	98
May 19	53.90	66.69	59.26	91	101	94
Jun 19	49.45	63.13	55.13	83	95	87
Jul 19	53.54	64.80	57.81	90	98	92
Aug 19	46.26	60.33	53.73	78	91	85
Sep 19	46.68	57.97	53.70	79	87	85
Oct 19	45.63	55.92	54.49	77	84	86
Nov 19	43.57	53.51	53.53	73	81	85
Dec 19	44.46	53.51	52.26	75	81	83
Jan 20	45.24	54.75	53.35	76	83	84
Feb 20	42.85	55.25	51.68	72	83	82
1-Month	-5.29%	0.91%	-3.13%			
3-Month	-1.67%	3.25%	-3.46%			
1-Year	-27.84%	-16.71%	-18.16%			
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