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Andrew Demott

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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

8 April 2021

The cotton vs. polyester spread narrowed in March after PSF more significantly rose than cotton fibers on domestic markets 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. Historical data covering the past ten years are available for download.

Cotton and polyester prices continued to rise in March in China, India, and Pakistan.

Considering the average price over the past month, the cotton indicators gained 1% in China, 2.4% in India, and even 9.3% in Pakistan.

In the first two months of the year, a jump in US cotton futures helped in supporting prices on domestic markets.

More importantly, demand for cotton yarns surged, pushing up yarn prices and allowing spinners to accept higher cotton fiber prices.

In Pakistan, the cotton deficit boosted prices to record levels.

On the polyester market, PSF indicators jumped by 2.9% in China, 11% in India, and 9.3% in Pakistan, in local currency terms.

A sharp increase in material costs of polyester producers boosted price offers and triggered stock replenishment.

PSF prices more significantly rose than cotton prices, resulting in a lower price difference between a cheaper polyester and less expensive cotton.

Cotton and polyester prices are now retreating to lower levels, in line with weakness in demand until large inventories are digested later this quarter.

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

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U.S. Towels & Sheets

E.U. Knit Categories

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		
Mar 20	78.76	65.19	68.53	100	100	10	
Apr 20	72.99	61.85	65.14	93	95	g	
May 20	74.26	59.82	65.48	94	92	g	
Jun 20	76.55	59.22	60.56	97	91	8	
Jul 20	78.65	59.53	60.77	100	91	8	
Aug 20	81.74	60.72	60.89	104	93	8	
Sep 20	85.19	63.72	64.24	108	98	Ş	
Oct 20	94.39	67.89	72.56	120	104	10	
Nov 20	99.86	70.23	72.33	127	108	10	
Dec 20	102.63	72.15	73.82	130	111	10	
Jan 21	106.95	75.56	80.79	136	116	1′	
Feb 21	111.48	77.77	84.71	142	119	12	
Mar 21	111.20	79.53	94.30	141	122	13	
1-Month	-0.27	1.76	9.59				
1-Month	-0.25%	2.27%	11.32%				
3-Month	8.35%	10.24%	27.74%				
1-Year	41.19%	21.99%	37.60%				

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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			
Mar 20	38.96	51.31	48.54	100	100	10	
Apr 20	37.45	46.74	45.43	96	91	9	
May 20	36.75	45.99	44.77	94	90	9	
Jun 20	37.29	45.72	42.68	96	89	8	
Jul 20	35.08	46.53	42.74	90	91	8	
Aug 20	35.69	46.70	41.72	92	91	8	
Sep 20	36.14	42.64	41.91	93	83	8	
Oct 20	38.67	43.63	42.99	99	85	8	
Nov 20	38.50	46.56	45.34	99	91	9	
Dec 20	39.53	50.06	47.69	101	98	9	
Jan 21	43.23	54.11	52.98	111	105	10	
Feb 21	49.43	57.03	56.79	127	111	11	
Mar 21	50.24	63.25	63.25	129	123	13	
1-Month	1.63%	10.90%	11.39%				
3-Month	27.07%	26.35%	32.64%				
1-Year	28.95%	23.27%	30.30%				

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