

OFFICE OF TEXTILES AND APPAREL (OTEXA)

Market Reports Textiles, Apparel, Footwear and Travel Goods

Guatemala

The following information is provided only as a guide and should be confirmed with the proper authorities before embarking on any export activities.

Import Tariffs

Guatemala is a member of the Central American Common Market (CACM). Member countries of CACM (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua) apply a common external tariff (CET) for products manufactured and imported from outside of the CACM. However, each CACM member is allowed to determine any product exceptions. Textile and apparel products are generally exceptions. For more information on this and other agreements, see the [Organization of American States \(OAS\) website](#).

The United States, Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic are partners in the U.S - Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR), which allows for increased opportunities for U.S. textile and apparel trade and business in the CAFTA-DR region. For example, qualifying U.S. textile and apparel products enter the CAFTA region duty free. For more information on benefits provided under this agreement, see the [CAFTA-DR in the FTA section](#).

U.S. exports that do not qualify under the CAFTA-DR will be subject to non-preferential treatment as outlined below. All import duties are ad valorem applied to the c.i.f. (cost, insurance and freight) value of goods.

Guatemala Tariffs (percent ad valorem) on Textiles, Apparel, Footwear and Travel Goods

	HS Chapter/Subheading	Tariff Rate Range (%)
Yarn		
- silk	5003-5006	0 - 5
- wool	5105- 5110	0 - 5
- cotton	5204-5207	5
- other vegetable fiber	5306-5308	5
- man - made fiber	5401-5406/5501-5511	0 - 5
Woven Fabric		
- silk	5007	10
- wool	5111-5113	10
- cotton	5208-5212	0 - 10
- other vegetable fiber	5309-5311	5 - 10
- man - made fiber	5407-5408/5512-5516	0 - 10
Knit Fabric	60	0 - 10
Non Woven Fabric	5603	0
Industrial Fabric	59	0 - 10
Apparel	61-62	0 - 15
Home Furnishings including: bed, bath, kitchen linens, etc.	63	0 - 15
Carpet	57	15
Footwear	64	0 - 15
Travel Goods	4202	15

To return to the Foreign Tariff Information webpage, click [here](#).

Inspections--Verification of the information provided in the declaration, and physical inspection of the goods to be imported takes place randomly. However, products susceptible to under-invoicing or wrong classification, as well as recidivistic importers, are subject to a more rigorous inspection. Among the products that are typically inspected more rigorously are white goods, tires, second-hand clothes, textiles, electric household appliances, and products shipped jointly.

Import permits--The importing company must register with the Ministry of Agriculture and obtain an import permit before importing cotton (HS 5201.0000 and 5202) and Other vegetable textile fibers; paper yarn and woven fabrics of paper yarn (5303.1010 and 5310).

CAFTA-DR Certificate of Origin--For U.S. exports to receive the preferential tariff treatment provided by CAFTA-DR, the Guatemalan importer should present to the Guatemalan Customs authorities certification in support of the claim of preference. Although the ultimate responsibility for claiming preferential treatment lies with the Guatemalan importer, the U.S. supplier should be ready to provide to the importer assistance and cooperation in producing accurate and well documented claims for preferential treatment. The exporter, importer, or producer of the goods may produce the certification where the goods originate.

For information on local customs requirements and documentation, see:

- [Superintendencia de Administración Tributaria – SAT](#) (Superintendence of Tax Administration)

Standards

Local standards organization and other resources:

- [Comision Guatemalteca de Normas - COGUANOR](#)

Labeling

Apparel and Home Textiles:

Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama have adopted the [Central American Technical Regulation \(RTCA\) 59.01.08:12 for the Labelling Requirements of Textiles and Textile Products](#). Under this mandatory standard, apparel and home textiles must have a permanent label, in Spanish, with the following information:

- Fiber content
- Size or dimensions
- Care instructions
- Country of origin
- Name of manufacturer, distributor or importer (based in the region)

Footwear:

Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala have adopted the [Central American Technical Regulation \(RTCA\) 61.01.03:12 Footwear and Parts: Labeling Requirement](#). The regulation requires that footwear be labeled in Spanish with the following information:

- material used on the parts of footwear
- name and address of manufacturer or distributor for domestic products
- name and address of importer or distributor for imported products
- country of origin
- size of the footwear

The label information must be placed on at least one shoe of each pair. Material used of the component parts can be expressed by text, pictograms or both.

See the [Secretariat for Economic Integration \(SIECA\) website](#) for more information on the RTCAs developed by the members of the Central American Integration System (SICA) -- Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

For more information on Guatemalan labeling requirements, see the [Comision Guatemalteca de Normas - COGUANOR](#).

For additional information on exporting textiles, apparel, footwear and travel goods, click [here](#).

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