

# OFFICE OF TEXTILES AND APPAREL (OTEXA)

## Market Reports Textiles, Apparel, Footwear and Travel Goods

### Mexico

**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

Textile and apparel goods manufactured in the United States enter Mexico duty free under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) if they qualify under the rules of the Agreement. For more information, see [NAFTA in the FTA section](#).

Products from the United States that do not qualify under the NAFTA rules are subject to Mexico's MFN rates of duty (see the tariff table below). Mexico applies percent ad valorem duties on the c.i.f. (cost, insurance and freight) value of imports.

#### Mexico: Ad valorem tariffs on Textiles, Apparel, Footwear and Travel Goods

	HS Chapter/Subheading	Tariff Rate Range (%)
Yarn		
-silk	5003-5006	0 – 10
-wool	5105-5110	0 – 10
-cotton	5204-5207	10
-other vegetable fiber	5306-5308	0 – 10
-man-made fiber	5401-5406/5501-5511	0 – 10
Woven Fabric		
-silk	5007	10
-wool	5111-5113	10
-cotton	5208-5212	10
-other vegetable fiber	5309-5311	10
-man-made fiber	5407-5408/5512-5516	10 - 15
Knit Fabric	60	0 – 10
Non Woven Fabric	5603	10
Industrial Fabric	59	0 – 10
Apparel	61-62	20 – 25
Home Furnishings including: bed, bath, kitchen linens, etc.	63	10 – 25
Carpet	57	15
Footwear	64	0 – 30
Travel Goods	4202	20

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

**\*\*The NAFTA Certificate of Origin should only be filled out if the product qualifies for NAFTA preferential treatment. Products not manufactured or produced within the NAFTA region DO NOT qualify for NAFTA preferential tariff treatment.\*\***

**Tariff Treatment of Low Value Exports**--In general, Mexico requires that the importer use a Mexican customs broker for all importations into Mexico. However, when low value shipments--those valued at less than \$US 2000--are sent to Mexico via a courier or package service, this requirement may be waived. For U.S.-made clothing and accessories shipments of 10 items or less, courier services, using informal entry procedures in Mexico, may opt to pay import duties applied at a rate of 22.92%. To qualify for this lower rate of duty, which can range up to 38.92%, the products must have marks or labels that distinguish them as originating in a NAFTA country.

**Annex 18**--Entries of certain textile and apparel products require that additional information be submitted to the Mexican Customs Authority, reported in a Document entitled "Annex 18." The additional information required varies by tariff classification and is listed in [this document](#) (which is only available in Spanish).

**Certificate of Origin (Annex III)**--Mexico has special origin certification requirements for textile, apparel and footwear products identical or similar to those subject to countervailing (CV) or anti-dumping (AD) duties. Such imports must be accompanied by an Annex III certificate of origin. AD or CV duties may be applied if documentation required to prove that the goods do not originate in a country subject to such duties is not provided.

**Post-importation Inspections**--Mexico's customs system makes use of customs advisors to assist with the verification of merchandise selected for physical inspection or for which particular problems have been identified. Reportedly, all imports of textile, apparel and footwear products are physically inspected.

The Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) requires prior import authorization for some leather and fur products.

For information on local customs requirements and documentation, see:

- [Administración General de Aduanas](#) (General Customs Administration)
  - Part of Mexico's [Servicio de Administración Tributaria \(SAT\)](#) (Tax Administration Service)
- [Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público - SHCP](#) -Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit (Hacienda)

## Standards

The [Dirección General de Normas - DGN \(Mexican Bureau of Standards\)](#) manages and coordinates the standardization activities in Mexico.

There are three types of standards in Mexico:

- NOMs – official standards – technical regulations, such as labeling requirements, issued by government agencies and ministries. NOMs are mandatory and are intended to establish specifications for goods, services or production processes in order to guarantee the safety of persons, as well as protect natural resources and the environment.
- NMX –“voluntary” standards – voluntary standards are issued by recognized national standard making bodies. NMXs are intended to guide producers and consumers and promote quality. Compliance is mandatory only when a claim is made that a product meets the NMX, when a NOM specifies compliance, and whenever applicable in government procurement. Organizations that develop NMXs for textile products include INNTEX - Instituto Nacional De Normalización Textil, A.C. (Mexican Institute of Textile Standardization).
- NRs -- reference standards -- NRs are drawn up by decentralized bodies of the Federal Public Administration in order to establish specifications for goods and services that are the subject of government procurement, when there is no NMX or any international standard or when these cannot be applied.

All domestic and imported products must comply with the corresponding technical regulations. For domestic products, compliance with the NOMs is verified both at the production and distribution sites; for imported products, verification usually takes place at the border. Some imports are exempt from compliance with NOMs, for example, samples and goods not intended for sale and those coming under special customs regimes (such as temporary import and bonded warehouses).

Some NOMs and NMXs relevant to textile, apparel, footwear and leather products follow:

- NOM-004-SCFI-2006 (as amended in 2011)--Commercial Information - Labelling of Textile Products, Articles of Apparel, Clothing Accessories and Household Linen
- NOM-004-SCFI-1993--Textiles, Clothing and Accessories Labelling Decree
- NOM-003-SCFI-1993--Domestic Electrical Appliances (includes HS 6301.10.01 - electrical blankets)
- NOM-020-SCFI-1993--Leather and Artificial Leather Labelling Decree
- NMX-A-2076-INNTEX-2013 and NMX-A-6938-INNTEX-2013--Fiber content/identity labeling standards (these replace NMX-A-099-INNTEX as referenced in NOM-004-SCFI-2006)
- NMX-A-240-INNTEX-2009--Care instructions
- NOM-113-STPS-2009, Safety - Personal protection equipment - Protective shoes - Classification, specifications, and test methods.
- NOM-050-SCFI-1994- General provisions for all products

The full texts of draft and enacted NOMs and some NMXs are available in the DGN library or on [DGN's webpage](#). To search for draft and enacted technical regulations and standards, see the [electronic NOM library](#). Draft texts of some [NMX standards](#) are available for free download. Most NMXs, however, are copyrighted and therefore only available for a fee directly from the standards development body that issued the draft standard. INNTEX publishes NMXs related to textiles and apparel in Spanish, but some are also available in English in ISO's standards catalogue.

Under the NAFTA, Mexico is required to recognize conformity assessment bodies (i.e., certification bodies or testing laboratories) in the United States and Canada on terms no less favorable than those applied to conformity assessment bodies in Mexico.

**Local standards organization and other resources:**

- SE-Secretaría de Economía (Ministry of Economy) - [Dirección General de Normas - DGN \(General Bureau of Standards\)](#)
- [Sociedad Mexicana de Normalización y Certificación, S.C. - NORMEX](#) - Mexican Standards & Certification Society
- Instituto Nacional de Normalización Textil, A.C. INNTEX - National Institute of Textile Standards

## Labeling

Mexico's labeling requirements are contained in numerous mandatory standards (NOMs) and voluntary standards (NMXs), which are listed below. On December 23, 2011, the Mexican government published amended labeling requirements for textile and apparel products in the Diario Oficial. This notice, which became effective on February 21, 2012, contains modifications to NOM-004-SCFI-2006. In general, the regulations apply to apparel, apparel accessories, textile products and home textiles, having a textile content greater than 50% of the product's total weight.

The [Diario Oficial notice of 23 Dec 2011](#) amends the labeling requirements and an unofficial summary follows. Please be sure to refer to an official source or check with your importer in Mexico for the specific labeling requirements.

In general, apparel and apparel accessories must bear a permanent, legible label with the following information in Spanish:

- Commercial brand name
- Fiber content (NMX-A-2076-INNTEX-2013 and NMX-A-6938-INNTEX-2013)
- Size
- Care instructions (NMX-A-240-INNTEX 2009 / NMX-A-3758-INNTEX 2014)\*
- Country of origin
- Manufacturer's or importer's name and address

\*Products imported, manufactured, or distributed before October 17, 2017 that comply with NMX-A-240-INNTEX-2009 can be distributed in the Mexican market until the stock is exhausted. Products imported, manufactured, or distributed after October 17, 2017 can be distributed in the Mexican market only until December 31, 2017. Beginning on January 1, 2018, the products must comply with NMX-A-3758-INNTEX 2014. See the official notification at <https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/265494/3735.pdf>.

For handbags, suitcases, purses, wallets, boxes, backpacks, umbrellas, seat covers, articles used for covering household electrical and other goods, furniture and bathroom furniture covers, cushions, cleaning supplies, painting canvas, baby diapers, textile belts, and other miscellaneous items, the label should include the following information:

- Fiber content (NMX-A-2076-INNTEX-2013 and NMX-A-6938-INNTEX-2013)
- Country of origin
- Manufacturer's or importer's name and address

Textile-related labeling NOMs and NMXs include:

- NOM-015-SCFI-1998 for toys, published on February 15, 1999 in the Diario Oficial.
- NOM-020-SCFI-1997 for leather and synthetic leather materials, published on April 27, 1998 in the Diario Oficial.
- NOM-050-SCFI-1994 general provisions for all products
- NOM-008-SCFI-2002: General System of Measurement Units, published in the Official Bulletin of the Federation on 27 November 2002.
- NMX-A-2076-INNTEX-2013 and NMX-A-6938-INNTEX-2013: Fiber content/identity labeling requirements
- NMX-A-240-INNTEX-2009: Textile industry-Clothing-Symbols in the care

Quantities for all goods must be provided in metric units and a comma must be used in place of the decimal point. Imported products using a period as a decimal point may be rejected by Mexican Customs officials.

Exporters can obtain an advanced ruling on their labels for a fee by obtaining a constancia from an authorized verification unit (VU), which will verify the conformity of imported products to the appropriate NOM. A constancia is a document certifying that the label in question complies with the relevant NOM. The principle is that when the document of conformity has been issued by an accredited VU, the importer should not encounter any problem, either during the customs clearance, nor when the product is put on the market. It has been reported that some VUs have included a clause of non-responsibility in their contracts that say they will not be responsible for any lack of compliance found in the retail phase on the labels they have checked. However, Mexican authorities have indicated that if a VU has checked the compliance of the label, it will be responsible if the same label is found not in conformity with the NOMs. Verification units are private companies and the importer negotiates the prices on the basis of the number of labels to be verified.

All products intended for retail sale in Mexico must bear a label in Spanish prior to their importation to Mexico.

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

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