

# OFFICE OF TEXTILES AND APPAREL (OTEXA)

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

### Nicaragua

**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

Nicaragua is a member of the Central American Common Market (CACM). Member countries of CACM (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, 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 the 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. Nicaragua imposes ad valorem import duties (DAI) on a good's c.i.f. (cost, insurance and freight) value.

#### Nicaragua: 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	0 - 15

Nicaragua levies a selective consumption tax (ISC), which applies to a limited number of nonessential goods, such as certain travel goods, carpets and rugs, apparel and home furnishings. For a list of products subject to the ICS and the rates, which are applied to the c.i.f. value of imported goods, see the [DGA Circular CT-070-2003](#).

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

**CAFTA-DR Certificate of Origin**--For U.S. exports to receive the preferential tariff treatment provided by CAFTA-DR, the Nicaraguan importer should present to the Nicaraguan Customs authorities certification in support of the claim of preference. Although the ultimate responsibility for claiming preferential treatment lies with the Nicaraguan 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:

- [Dirección General de Servicios Aduaneros](#) - Nicaraguan Customs Authority

## Standards

**Local standards organization and other resources:**

- [Ministerio de Fomento, Industria y Comercio - MIFIC](#)

## 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.

Many of the standards requirements for labeling and marking in Nicaragua can be found in the [Consumer Defense Law \(1994/182\)](#), or by contacting the [Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Development, Technology, Standards, and Measurement Office](#).

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

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