

OFFICE OF TEXTILES AND APPAREL (OTEXA)

Market Reports Textiles, Apparel, Footwear and Travel Goods

Bahrain

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

On August 1, 2006, the U.S.-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement was implemented. Under the agreement, U.S. exports of qualifying textiles and apparel goods to Bahrain receive duty free treatment. For fabric, apparel, and made-up goods made of cotton or man-made fiber that do not meet the rules of origin requirements, a trade preference level (TPL) of 65 million square meter equivalents (SME) annually for a duration of ten years will be implemented, in order to allow time for U.S. and Bahraini producers to develop and expand business contacts. For more information on the agreement, see the [U.S.-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement in the FTA section](#).

Bahrain is part of the [Gulf Cooperation Council \(GCC\)](#), an economic and political policy-coordinating forum for the six member states Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. Bahrain implemented a GCC unified customs tariff in January 2003 to facilitate regional trade. In accordance with the GCC Customs Union, Bahrain imposes a **Zero to five-percent tariff** on the cost, insurance, and freight (c.i.f.) invoice value of most imported products, including textile, apparel, footwear and travel goods products.

Additional Import Taxes and Fees: Bahrain is essentially tax-free, but a few products are subject to tax.

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

Standards

Bahrain's Standards and Metrology Directorate - BSMD, within the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, is responsible, for issuing Bahrain's standards or preparing standards to meet national requirements. Bahrain generally follows international or GCC standards. As part of the GCC Customs Union, the six Member States are working toward unifying their standards and conformity assessment systems. However, each member state currently continues to apply either its own standard or a GCC standard, causing confusion among some U.S. businesses.

Local standards organization and other resources:

- [Standards and Metrology Directorate \(BSMD\)](#)
- [GCC Standardization Organization](#)

Labeling

Labels of textile goods must include the country of origin, the composition, the care instructions, and the size. Stickers are not accepted. Arabic labels are required on all products sold in Bahrain.

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

[Return to Export Market Reports](#)