

# OFFICE OF TEXTILES AND APPAREL (OTEXA)

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

### El Salvador

**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

El Salvador is a member of the Central American Common Market (CACM). Member countries (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 are subject to non-preferential treatment as outlined below. All import duties (Impuesto Arancelario - D.A.I.) are *ad valorem* and are applied to the cost, insurance and freight (c.i.f.) value of the goods.

#### El Salvador: Tariffs (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

\* HS 6305.1000 - Sacks and bags, for packing of jute or other textile bast fibers is subject to a 70-percent tariff

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

For U.S. exports to receive the preferential tariff treatment provided by CAFTA-DR, the El Salvadorian importer should present to the El Salvadorian Customs authorities certification in support of the claim of preference. The El Salvadorian importer should work with the U.S. exporter to ensure that a U.S. good meets the relevant rule of origin prior to making a claim. On the [Customs Authority's Tariff Online Query website](#), companies can learn the import tariff under a Free Trade Agreement, if import permits are required, if there are import restrictions for a product, and specifically which government agency is responsible to issue the permits.

The ultimate responsibility for claiming preferential treatment lies with the El Salvadorian importer; however, 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 Aduanas \(DGA\)](#)
- [Ministerio de Hacienda](#) (Ministry of Finance)

## Standards

There are two types of standards in Salvadoran legislation: Mandatory Salvadoran Standards (NSO) and Recommended Salvadoran Standards (NSR). NSOs are primarily for products affecting human conditions and are based on international, regional, or foreign standards. NSOs cover textile and leather technology, and the clothing industry. NSRs are concerned with materials, procedures, products and services not covered by an NSO.

### Local standards organization and other resources:

- [La Organización Salvadoreña de Normalización - OSN](#) (The Salvadoran Standardization Organization)
- [Organización Salvadoreña de Reglamentación Técnica - OSARTEC](#) (Salvadoran Technical Regulation Organization)
- [The National Science and Technology Council - CONACYT](#)

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

[Return to Export Market Reports](#)