Designation: D5586/D5586M – 10

# Standard Tables of Body Measurements for Women Aged 55 and Older (All Figure Types)[1,2]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5586/D5586M; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## INTRODUCTION

These tables were developed from original research conducted by Reich and Goldsberry[3] at the University of Arizona in 1993. The study included 6786 subjects represented geographically by 38 states. Subjects were measured in 58 body locations, 45 of which duplicated measurements published by the U.S. Department of Commerce as PS 42-70[2] based on research conducted in 1942 by O'Brien and Shelton[4] including 1970 revisions. The 13 additional measurements provided in the 1993 technical report further depict physiological changes that occur in the older female figure. The PS 42-70 data, represented by only 2 % of older women, continues to be used as a baseline for measurements and proportions for all adult women in the domestic sizing system. These tables reflect the proportions and maturity patterns of women aged 55 and older, not currently represented in adult female figure types and size categories of the domestic sizing system now in use. Further description of this market segment and consumer sizing issues are outlined by Goldsberry.[5]

## 1. Scope

1.1 This document represents research methodology and the tables represent charted data from subjects. Some terminology is specific to the research. The data represent the first body measurements ever taken of women aged 55 and older and is not a standard of average current apparel industry practices as represented in all other sizing standards.

1.2 These tables list body measurements of adult women age 55 and over. The body measurements tables can be used as a baseline in designing apparel for adult women in this age group, taking into account such factors as fabric type, desired ease of body movement, styling, and fit.

1.3 Measurement tables correspond to the figure types and numerical size designations in the PS 42-70 database. Until body measurements of all adult women are updated, companies will have to analyze the older customer's differences by body measurements and proportions instead of hang tag numbers, and adapt them to currently marketed sizes and figure types. Companies especially affected are those who are today using smaller numbered hang tag designations, who offer mainly S, M, and L sizes, or who have adjusted their charts from the PS 42-70 database to reflect the specific body measurements of their 1990's customer.

1.4 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*[6]

D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles

D5219 Terminology Relating to Body Dimensions for Apparel Sizing

[1] These tables are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D13 on Textiles and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.55 on Body Measurement for Apparel Sizing.

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[2] U.S. Department of Commerce, *Voluntary Product Standard: Body Measurements for the Sizing of Women's Patterns and Apparel*, NIST No. PS 42-70, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1971.

[3] Reich, N., and Goldsberry, E., *Development of Body Measurement Tables for Women 55 and Older and the Relationship to Ready-to-Wear Garment Size*, ISR-06, PCN: 33-000006-18, ASTM Institute for Standards Research, Philadelphia, PA, 1993.

[4] O'Brien, R., and Shelton, W. C., *Women's Measurements for Garment and Pattern Construction*, Miscellaneous Publication No. 454, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1941.

[5] Goldsberry, E., *Women 55 and Older: How Well is the Domestic Apparel Sizing System Addressing Their Needs?* ISR-08, PCN: 33-000008-18, ASTM Institute for Standards Research, Philadelphia, PA, 1993.

[6] For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

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