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LABOR RELATIONS



April 6, 2022

Mr. Ivan D. Butts
President
National Association of Postal
Supervisors
1727 King Street, Suite 400
Alexandria, VA 22314-2753

Dear Mr. Butts:

As a matter of general interest, the Postal Service filed notice with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) today of price changes to take effect July 10, 2022. The Postal Service is requesting PRC approval for a two-cent increase in the price of a First-Class Mail Forever stamp from 58 cents to 60 cents. The requested rate change is part of the Postal Service's balanced approach to achieve financial sustainability and service excellence as laid out in our "Delivering for America" 10-year plan.

The proposed prices, which have been approved by the Postal Service Board of Governors, would raise First-Class Mail prices approximately 6.5 percent which is lower than the Bureau Labor Statistics annual inflation rate of 7.9 percent as of the end of February. The price changes also reflect a judicious implementation of the Postal Service's pricing authority provided by the PRC.

If favorably reviewed by the PRC, the single-piece letter additional ounce price would increase to 24 cents, the metered mail 1-ounce price would increase to 57 cents and the price of a postcard stamp would increase to 44 cents. A one-ounce letter mailed to other countries would increase to \$1.40 cents. The Postal Service is also seeking price adjustments for Special Services products including Certified Mail, Post Office Box rental fees, Money Order fees and the cost to purchase insurance when mailing an item.

We have enclosed a Press Release, Price Change Fact Sheet and "Talking Points and Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ) relevant to this matter.

Please contact Bruce Nicholson at extension 7773 if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David E. Mills".

David E. Mills
Director
Labor Relations Policies and Programs

Enclosures



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 6, 2022

Contact: David P. Coleman
david.p.coleman@usps.gov
usps.com/news



U.S. Postal Service Announces New Prices for 2022

Two Cents Increase for Forever Stamp

WASHINGTON, DC — Today the United States Postal Service filed notice with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) of price changes to take effect July 10, 2022. The new prices, if favorably reviewed, include a two-cent increase in the price of a First-Class Mail Forever stamp from 58 cents to 60 cents.

The proposed prices, approved by the Governors of the U.S. Postal Service, would raise First-Class Mail prices approximately 6.5 percent which is lower than the Bureau Labor Statistics annual inflation rate of 7.9 percent as of the end of February. The price changes reflect a judicious implementation of the Postal Service's pricing authority provided by the Postal Regulatory Commission.

If favorably reviewed by the PRC, the single-piece letter additional ounce price would increase to 24 cents, the metered mail 1-ounce price would increase to 57 cents and the price of a postcard stamp would increase to 44 cents. A one-ounce letter mailed to other countries would increase to \$1.40 cents. The Postal Service is also seeking price adjustments for Special Services products including Certified Mail, Post Office Box rental fees, Money Order fees and the cost to purchase insurance when mailing an item.

The proposed Mailing Services price changes include:

Product	Current Prices	Planned Prices
Letters (1 oz.)	58 cents	60 cents
Letters (metered 1 oz.)	53 cents	57 cents
Letters additional ounce(s)	20 cents	24 cents
Domestic Postcards	40 cents	44 cents
International Letter (1 oz.)	\$1.30 cents	\$1.40 cents

As inflation and increased operating expenses continue, these price adjustments will help with the implementation of the Delivering for America plan, including a \$40 billion investment in core Postal Service infrastructure over the next ten years. With the new prices, the Postal Service will continue to provide the lowest letter-mail postage rates in the industrialized world and offer a great value in shipping.

The PRC will review the prices before they are scheduled to take effect. The complete Postal Service price filing with prices for all products can be found on the PRC site under the Daily Listings section at prc.gov/dockets/daily. The Mailing Services filing is Docket No. R2022-1. The price change tables are also available on the Postal Service's Postal Explorer website at pe.usps.com/PriceChange/Index.

The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products, and services to fund its operations.

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Please Note: For U.S. Postal Service media resources, including broadcast-quality video and audio and photo stills, visit the [USPS Newsroom](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Subscribe to the [USPS YouTube channel](#), like us on [Facebook](#) and enjoy our [Postal Posts blog](#). For more information about the Postal Service, visit [usps.com](#) and [facts.usps.com](#).

July 2022 Price Change Talking Points and Q&A

Mailing Services Talking Points

- The First-Class Mail Single-Piece Forever stamp price will increase to 60 cents.
- The price for domestic postcard stamps will increase to 44 cents.
- The First-Class Mail meter price for 1-ounce letters will increase to 57 cents.
- The First-Class Mail single-piece letter additional ounce price will increase to 24 cents, so a 2-ounce stamped letter, such as a typical wedding invitation, will increase to 84 cents.
- Postage price changes at the class level are capped at the rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus additional authority granted by Postal Regulatory Commission. The Postal Service continues to offer a great value in mailing and has some of the lowest rates in the industrialized world.
- The Postal Service is self-funded and generally does not receive tax dollars for operating expenses. It relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.
- The new prices have been filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC). If favorably reviewed by the PRC, the new prices will become effective July 10, 2022.
- All new prices are posted on the Postal Explorer website: pe.usps.com.
- Forever stamps purchased before the price change can continue to be used after the new prices go into effect, with no additional postage needed for a 1-ounce mailing.
- The complete Postal Service price filing with the new prices for all products can be found on the PRC website under the Daily Listings section: prc.gov/dockets/daily.

Domestic First-Class Mail — our most profitable product — has declined by 47 percent compared to 2007, and is expected to continue to decline as a result of diversion to digital communications and the increase in online transactions.

10. What will the price of the new semipostal stamps be?

Effective July 10, 2022, the pricing for all semipostal stamps currently on sale will remain at 75 cents. The semipostal price includes the First-Class Mail single-piece postage rate plus an amount to fund causes that have been determined to be in the national public interest. By law, revenue from sales (minus postage and the reasonable reimbursement costs to the Postal Service) is transferred to a selected executive agency or agencies. The current semipostal stamps are:

- Breast Cancer Research
- Alzheimer's Awareness
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Save Vanishing Species

All semipostal stamps are available for purchase at Post Offices, online at usps.com, and by phone order at 1-800-STAMP 24.

11. Is the Postal Service filing price changes for domestic Competitive Products at this time?

No. While, in the past the Postal Service has filed both the Competitive Products and Market Dominant price change proposals at the same time, at the present time no decision has been made to change the prices of domestic competitive products.

12. Is the Postal Service filing International Competitive Products price change information?

No. While, in the past the Postal Service has filed both the Competitive Products and Market Dominant price change proposals for Domestic and International products at the same time, at the present time no decision has been made to change the prices of International Competitive products.

13. When can the Domestic Competitive Product price change announcement be expected?

The timing and magnitude of the Domestic Competitive Product price change is decided by the USPS Board of Governors. At the present time, no decision has been made regarding possible future price changes to domestic Competitive products.

14. What is the Consumer Price Index (CPI) price cap for the price change?

The CPI price cap for this price change is 5.1 percent. By law, the average price changes for each class of mail must be equal to or less than the rate of inflation (as measured by CPI) plus additional rate authorities granted by PRC. The combined price increase is 6.5 percent.

15. What is the overall increase in Mailing Services prices?

First-Class Mail, Marketing Mail and Special Services each will see price increase of about 6.5 percent while Periodicals and Package Service price will increase about 8.5 percent. The overall increase is about 6.6 percent.

16. How much is the price of a First-Class Mail stamp going up?

The First-Class Mail Single Piece Forever stamp will increase to 60 cents.

17. How are the stamped envelope prices changing?

Like First-Class Mail stamps, the price of postage on stamped envelopes will increase to 60 cents, while the price for the stamped envelope (with postage) 76 cents. Prices for postcard postage will rise to 44 cents.

18. Can I still use my old Forever stamps? What about stamps that are NOT Forever stamps?

Yes, you can still use any Forever stamp. What makes the Forever stamp special is it covers first-ounce postage even if the price of a stamp changes. Yes, you can still use stamps that are not Forever stamps, but you will need to add additional postage to total 60 cents to mail a First-Class Mail letter weighing 1 ounce.

19. How are other First-Class Mail prices changing?

Single-piece letters additional ounces — increase to 24 cents

Single-piece Metered Mail — increase to 57 cents

Postcards — increase to 44 cents

Letters to all international destinations (1 oz.) — increase to \$1.40

20. How much are USPS Marketing Mail Letters prices changing?

USPS Marketing Mail Letters will receive a 6.2 percent price increase on average.

21. What about nonprofit letters? Are they changing?

Overall nonprofit letters are increasing 4.3 percent. Nonprofit Automation 5-Digit Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) letters will increase 4.2 percent while Origin Automated Area Distribution Center (AADC) letter prices will increase 4.5 percent. Nonprofit letter rates will continue to be a low-cost method to raise funds and increase awareness for nonprofit organizations. Nonprofit Letter prices have fallen farther below their Commercial counterpart than in previous years.

22. How much are Periodicals (which includes newspapers and magazines) prices changing?

The overall Periodicals price increase is 8.5 percent. In fiscal year 2021, the cost coverage for Periodicals was approximately 53 percent, well below the statutory requirement that each class of mail cover 100 percent of its attributable costs.

23. What is the percent change for Package Services products?

Media/Library Mail price will increase is 8.9 percent and Alaska Bypass price will increase 6.5 percent. The prices for Bound Printed Matter Flats will increase by 4.2 percent and Bound Printed Matter Parcels will increase by 10.5 percent.



2022 Price Change Fact Sheet

Overview

On April 6, 2022, the United States Postal Service filed notice with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) of price changes to Mailing Services to take effect July 10, 2022.

Key Points

- The new prices approved by the Governors of the Postal Service will raise First-Class Mail prices approximately 6.5 percent.
- Mailing Services price increases are based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), additional rate authority, and recent directives by the Postal Regulatory Commission.
- The new prices will include an increase in the price of a First-Class Mail Forever stamp, to 60 cents.
- The single-piece letter additional ounce price will increase to 24 cents, so a 2-ounce stamped letter, such as a typical wedding invitation, will now cost 84 cents.
- The prices of postcard stamps will increase to 44 cents.
- The Postal Service has some of the lowest letter mail postage rates in the industrialized world and also continues to offer a great value in shipping.
- Unlike some other shippers, the Postal Service does not add surcharges for fuel, residential delivery, or regular Saturday delivery.
- Summarized price changes for Mailing Services typically used by consumers are:

Product	Current	New
Letters additional ounce(s)	20 cents	24 cents
Letters (metered 1 oz.)	53 cents	57 cents
Domestic Postcards	40 cents	44 cents
Letters (1 oz.)	58 cents	60 cents
International letters (1 oz)	\$1.30	\$1.40

- Upon favorable review by the Postal Regulatory Commission, the price change is scheduled to take effect on July 10, 2022.
- The complete Postal Service price filings with the new prices for all products can be found on the PRC site under the Daily Listings section at <https://www.prc.gov/dockets/daily> For the Mailing Services filing, see Docket No. R2022-1. The price change tables are also available on the Postal Service website at <https://pe.usps.com/PriceChange/Index>.
- The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products, and services to fund its operations.