

Media Mail®



First-Class Mail®

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|  
.com®



Priority Mail®



Priority Mail Express™

## 2014 USPS POSTAGE RATE INCREASE GUIDE

On January 26, 2014, the U.S. Postal Service will implement a postage rate increase for all mail classes including First-Class Mail, Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express (formerly Express Mail®) along with many special services. With private carriers such as UPS® and FedEx® raising ground shipping rates by an average of 4.9% for 2014, the USPS® is still the cost-effective leader for all your mailing and shipping needs. This 2014 USPS Postage Rate Increase Guide gives a description of each rate change, new service, and mail class to help keep you informed.



# What's new in 2014?

Listed below are the 2014 USPS Commercial Base (online postage) prices by mail class.

Mail Class	2014 Price	2013 Price	Increase
First-Class Mail Letter (1 oz.) - Retail/Post Office Rate*	\$0.49	\$0.46	\$0.03
<b>NEW!</b> First-Class Mail Letter (1 oz.) - Metered Mail/Stamps.com Rate	\$0.48	N/A	NEW!
First-Class Letters - Additional Ounces	\$0.21	\$0.20	\$0.01
First-Class Flat/Large Envelope - 1 oz.	\$0.98	\$0.92	\$0.06
First-Class Flat/Large Envelope - Additional Ounces	\$0.21	\$0.20	\$0.01
First-Class Letters International - 1 oz.	\$1.15	\$1.10	\$0.05
Postcards	\$0.34	\$0.33	\$0.01
Priority Mail Express (formerly Express Mail) - 0.5 lb.	\$13.09 and up	\$13.09 and up	\$0.00 and up
Priority Mail - 1 lb.	\$5.05 and up	\$5.05 and up	\$0.00 and up
First-Class Package Service - 1 oz.	\$1.93	\$1.69	\$0.24
Parcel Select® - 1 lb.	\$5.55 and up	\$5.42 and up	\$0.13
Media Mail - 1 lb.	\$2.69	\$2.53	\$0.16
Standard Post - 1 lb.	\$5.60 and up	\$5.60 and up	\$0.00 and up
Global Express Guaranteed® - 0.5 lb.	\$48.40 and up	\$47.45 and up	\$0.95 and up
Priority Mail Express International™ (previously known as Express Mail International) - 0.5 lb.	\$33.24 and up	\$32.59 and up	\$0.65 and up
Priority Mail International - 1 lb.	\$27.13 and up	\$27.40 and up	-\$0.27 and up**
First-Class Package International Service - 1 lb.	\$9.50 and up	\$9.50 and up	\$0.00 and up

\* Retail/Post Office Rate: Prices paid when going to Post Office to purchase postage.

\*\* Commercial Base Rates for Priority Mail International are going down for certain weights and zones.

98%



of USPS mail carriers now carry real-time package tracking scanners, allowing them to send tracking info back to the USPS website within minutes.



Free Saturday Delivery from the USPS equals to 52 more service days per year.



**Tip:** Start Selling Internationally to Grow Revenue

Only 15% of online buyers are U.S. based. Tap into the vast international market to grow sales and expand your business.

# What's new in 2014?

Listed below are the new USPS products and services for both domestic and international mail classes that have been introduced for 2014.

## Domestic

The USPS has introduced a **new First-Class Mail letter rate** for the "Metered Mail" category, which includes online postage providers and postage meters. This new rate is \$0.48, one cent below the retail/Post Office rate of \$0.49 for First-Class Mail Letters.

~~49¢~~  
**48¢**

A new **"Zone 9" delivery zone** has been introduced to represent U.S. territories and freely associated states (Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau) for Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express (formerly Express Mail).

Zone  
**9**

A new morning delivery service option will become available for Priority Mail Express. For an extra \$5.00 fee, **Priority Mail Express packages can be delivered to their destinations by 10:30am.**

**10:30**  
 am

## International

### Priority Mail International:

The maximum weight for Rate Group 2 (Mexico) has been increased to 70 lbs. from 44 lbs.

**70** lbs

### Commercial Plus Pricing:

The minimum annual package volume threshold for cubic pricing and other Commercial Plus offerings will be lowered to 50,000 packages.

**50K**

### USPS International Tracking:

The following countries are now also eligible for USPS Tracking™: Estonia, Finland, Gibraltar, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Portugal, and Singapore.

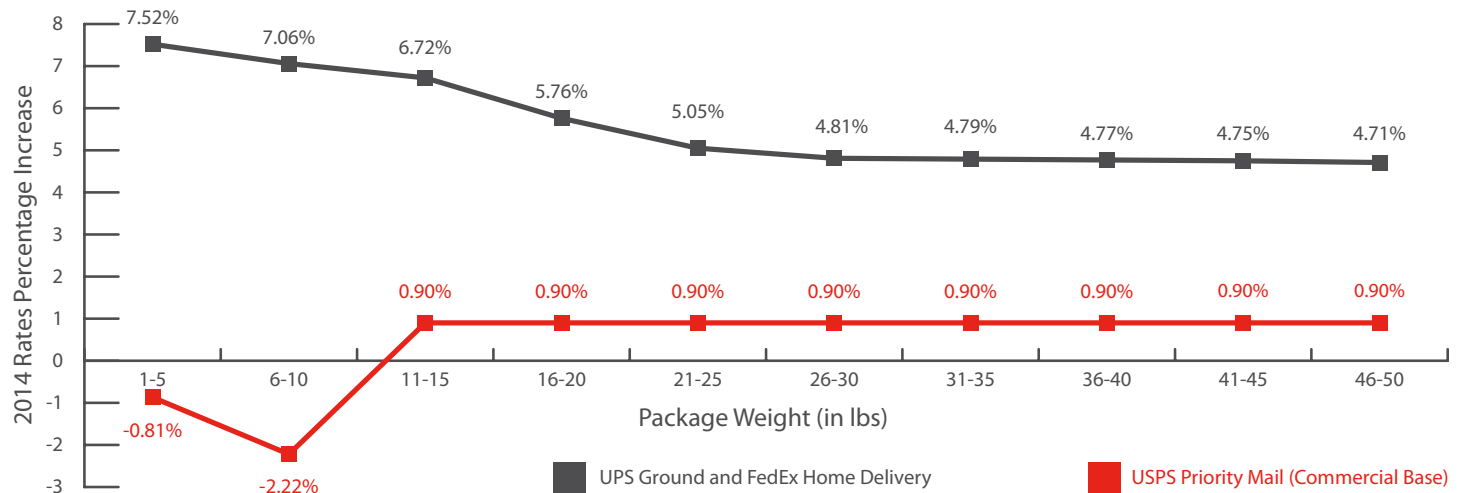
**TRACKING**

# Shipping to a residence?

While all shipping carriers increase rates annually, the USPS continues to be the low cost leader for shipping packages to a residence in 2014.

## Annual Shipping Rate Increase Comparison UPS Ground, FedEx Home Delivery® and USPS Priority Mail

2014 Shipping Rate Increase is Lowest for the USPS, Specifically for Popular Shipping Weights



\*Metered Mail/Stamps.com Rate

## Still need more reasons to choose USPS over other carriers?

- Free daily package pick-up
- Lowest costs for packages under 3 lbs.
- No fuel surcharges (UPS/FedEx charge up to 7.50% per package)
- No residential surcharges (UPS/FedEx charge \$2.90 per package)
- Delivery every day to every address in the U.S.
- No extra charge for Saturday deliveries
- No hidden costs with USPS shipping
- Delivery to Military Addresses (APO/FPO addresses) and P.O. Boxes
- Flat rate boxes—if it fits it ships®!



# First-Class Mail (Letters, Postcards and Flats)

First-Class Mail is a service that delivers envelopes weighing up to 3.5 ounces and flats up to 13 ounces, making it ideal and cost effective for letters, bills, large envelopes, and postcards. Offers delivery in one to three days in the U.S.



## Changes to First-Class Mail in 2014

- First-Class Mail Letter (1 oz.) retail rate will increase three cents from \$0.46 to \$0.49. Each additional ounce will cost an extra \$0.21 (one cent increase from 2013).
- **NEW!** The USPS has introduced a new First-Class Mail letter rate for the "Metered Mail" category, which includes online postage providers and postage meters. This new rate would be \$0.48, one cent below the Post Office or retail rate of \$0.49 for First-Class 1 oz. Letters.
- First-Class Mail Flats/Large Envelopes (1 oz.) rates will increase six cents from \$0.92 to \$0.98. Each additional ounce will cost an extra \$0.21 (one cent increase from 2013).
- Postcard rates will increase one cent from \$0.33 to \$0.34.

First-Class Mail Letters	Post Office/Retail/Stamps.com Postage Rates		
	2014 Postage Rates	2013 Postage Rates	Increase
First-Class Mail Letter (1 oz.)	\$0.49	\$0.46	\$0.03
<b>NEW!</b> First-Class Mail Letter (1 oz.) - Metered Mail/Stamps.com Rate*	\$0.48	N/A	NEW!
First-Class Mail Letter - each additional ounce	\$0.21	\$0.20	\$0.01
First-Class Mail Flat/Large Envelope (1 oz.)	\$0.98	\$0.92	\$0.06
First-Class Mail Flat/Large Envelope - each additional ounce	\$0.21	\$0.20	\$0.01
First-Class Mail Letter International (1 oz.)	\$1.15	\$1.10	\$0.05
Postcard	\$0.34	\$0.33	\$0.01

\*Metered Mail/Stamps.com Rate

## When to Use

Use First-Class Mail if your mailpiece is less than 13 ounces and you don't require overnight delivery or USPS Tracking.

## Pros

- Fast delivery anywhere across the U.S. in one to three days
- Rates not affected by distance
- No Saturday delivery charges or fuel and residential surcharges

## Cons

- Maximum weight of only 3.5 ounces for letters
- Maximum weight of only 13 ounces for flat/large envelope
- First-Class Mail letters and flats are not eligible for USPS Tracking

# Priority Mail Express (formerly Express Mail)

Priority Mail Express is the fastest service offered by the USPS and it provides regular and overnight delivery to most U.S. addresses, including P.O. Boxes. Offers delivery in one to two days in the U.S. with a maximum weight of 70 pounds.



## Changes to Priority Mail Express in 2014

- Priority Mail Express rates will continue to start at \$13.09 for online postage.
- For the purchase of Priority Mail Express postage online, the maximum discount off retail rates will decrease to 54% (previously 63%).

Priority Mail Express	Post Office/Retail Postage Rates		Stamps.com Postage Rates	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Priority Mail Express Flat Rate Envelope	\$19.99	\$19.95	\$18.11	\$18.11
Priority Mail Express Padded Flat Rate Envelope	\$19.99	\$19.95	\$18.11	\$18.11
Priority Mail Express Flat Rate Legal Envelope	\$19.99	\$19.95	\$18.11	\$18.11
Priority Mail Express Flat Rate Box	\$44.95	\$39.95	\$44.95	\$39.95
Priority Mail Express (0.5 lb.)	\$16.95 and up	\$14.10 and up	\$13.09 and up	\$13.09 and up
Priority Mail Express (1 lb.)	\$17.95 and up	\$16.05 and up	\$15.13 and up	\$15.13 and up
Priority Mail Express (2 lb.)	\$19.15 and up	\$18.10 and up	\$15.58 and up	\$15.58 and up
Priority Mail Express (3 lb.)	\$20.05 and up	\$21.55 and up	\$15.94 and up	\$15.94 and up

## When to Use

Use Priority Mail Express when you need a mailpiece delivered as fast as possible, regardless of price.

## Pros

- Two price options—Flat Rate and by weight/distance
- Money-back guarantee\*
- Includes Free Package Pickup™ at your door, \$200 in insurance, signature confirmation and delivery status info with the USPS Track & Confirm tool
- Delivery 365 days per year
- USPS provides free labels, envelopes and boxes

- No Saturday delivery charges or fuel and residential surcharges
- Up to 54% discount for buying postage online

## Cons

- Most expensive USPS Mail Class



# Priority Mail

Priority Mail is an expedited service that provides delivery anywhere in the U.S. within two to three days. Maximum weight is 70 pounds.



## Changes to Priority Mail in 2014

- Priority Mail rates will continue to start at \$5.05 for online postage.
- For the purchase of Priority Mail postage online, the maximum discount off retail rates will increase to 35% (previously 20%).

Priority Mail	Post Office/Retail Postage Rates		Stamps.com Postage Rates	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Priority Mail Flat Rate Envelope	\$5.60	\$5.60	\$5.05	\$5.05
Priority Mail Padded Flat Rate Envelope	\$5.95	\$5.95	\$5.70	\$5.70
Priority Mail Flat Rate Legal Envelope	\$5.75	\$5.75	\$5.25	\$5.25
Priority Mail Small Flat Rate Box	\$5.80	\$5.80	\$5.25	\$5.15
Priority Mail Medium Flat Rate Box	\$12.35	\$12.35	\$11.30	\$11.30
Priority Mail Large Flat Rate Box	\$17.45	\$16.85	\$15.80	\$15.30
Priority Mail APO/FPO/DPO Large Flat Rate Box	\$15.45	\$14.85	\$13.80	\$13.30
Priority Mail Regional Rate Box A	\$6.07 and up	\$6.07 and up	\$5.32 and up	\$5.32 and up
Priority Mail Regional Rate Box B	\$6.91 and up	\$6.91 and up	\$6.16 and up	\$6.16 and up
Priority Mail Regional Rate Box C	\$16.00 and up	\$15.86 and up	\$15.25 and up	\$15.11 and up
Priority Mail (1 lb.)	\$5.60 and up	\$5.60 and up	\$5.05 and up	\$5.05 and up
Priority Mail (2 lb.)	\$5.80 and up	\$5.80 and up	\$5.32 and up	\$5.32 and up
Priority Mail (3 lb.)	\$6.50 and up	\$6.60 and up	\$5.49 and up	\$5.49 and up

## When to Use

Use Priority Mail if you are shipping more than 13 ounces, specifically if you want fast delivery for a low price.

## Pros

- Three price options—Flat Rate, Regional Rate and by weight/distance
- Free USPS Tracking for online postage customers
- Includes Free Package Pickup and shipping supplies
- No Saturday delivery charges or fuel and residential surcharges
- Up to 35% discount for buying postage online

## Cons

- More expensive than other low-cost USPS mail classes
- Less expensive options, like First-Class Package Service, may be equally as fast

# First-Class Package Service (Parcels)



First-Class Package Service is a fast, affordable delivery service for packages weighing up to 13 ounces. Offers one to three day delivery in the U.S.

## Changes to First-Class Package Service in 2014

- First-Class Package Service rates will start at \$1.93 (previously at \$1.69) for online postage.
- For the purchase of First-Class Package Service postage online, the maximum discount off retail rates will increase to 22% (previously 18%).

First-Class Package Service	Post Office/Retail Postage Rates		Stamps.com Postage Rates	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
First-Class Package Service (1 oz.)	\$2.32	\$2.07	\$1.93	\$1.69
First-Class Package Service (2 oz.)	\$2.32	\$2.07	\$1.93	\$1.69
First-Class Package Service (3 oz.)	\$2.32	\$2.07	\$1.93	\$1.69
First-Class Package Service (4 oz.)	\$2.50	\$2.24	\$2.01	\$1.86
First-Class Package Service (5 oz.)	\$2.68	\$2.41	\$2.09	\$2.04



### Tip: Use First-Class Package Service for Small Parcels

If you are sending a small package under 13 ounces, the cheapest, quickest way to track and ship it is with First-Class Package Service. The service typically provides next-day delivery to local destinations and includes free USPS Tracking.

## When to Use

Use First-Class Package Service if your package is 13 ounces or less.

## Pros

- Offers significant savings over Priority Mail Express or Priority Mail for packages weighing 13 ounces or less
- Delivery within 3 days in most cases
- Best-priced USPS service for packages up to 13 ounces
- Includes free USPS Tracking
- Up to 22% discount for online postage customers

## Cons

- Limited to packages weighing 13 ounces or less





# Parcel Select (non-presort)

Parcel Select is designed for large and medium sized shippers looking for an economical ground delivery service. The mail class offers the lowest cost option from the USPS for ground delivery. Price is determined by distance, weight and dimensions of the mailpiece. Offers U.S. delivery within two to eight days, depending on destination. Maximum weight is 70 lbs.



## Changes to Parcel Select in 2014

- Parcel Select rates will start at \$5.55 (previously at \$5.42) for online postage.

Packages	Post Office/Retail/Stamps.com Postage Rates		
	2014 Postage Rates	2013 Postage Rates	Increase
Parcel Select (1 lb.)	\$5.55 and up	\$5.42 and up	\$0.13 and up
Parcel Select (2 lb.)	\$5.75 and up	\$5.47 and up	\$0.28 and up
Parcel Select (3 lb.)	\$6.45 and up	\$6.14 and up	\$0.31 and up
Parcel Select (4 lb.)	\$7.30 and up	\$6.88 and up	\$0.42 and up
Parcel Select (5 lb.)	\$8.65 and up	\$7.76 and up	\$0.89 and up



### Tip: Use Parcel Select to Save on Heavy Items

When cost savings are all-important, Parcel Select is your best option for shipping heavy items. You can save up to 42% compared to Priority Mail rates and ship packages that measure up to 130" in length and girth.

## When to Use

Use Parcel Select if low shipping rates are more important than delivery speed, and your package weighs over 10 pounds.

## Pros

- Includes free USPS Tracking
- Lowest cost for ground delivery
- Delivery in two to eight days
- Hold for Pickup available for additional fee

## Cons

- Much slower than other mail classes
- Maximum combined length and girth of 130" — combined measurement of the longest side and the distance around the thickest part of package can't be more than 130".
- Only available to purchase online

# Standard Post (formerly Parcel Post)

Standard Post is a low-cost ground service for less-than-urgent deliveries and oversized packages. Price is determined by distance, weight and dimensions of the mailpiece. Offers U.S. delivery within two to eight days, depending on destination. Maximum weight is 70 pounds.



## Changes to Standard Post in 2014

- Standard Post rates will continue to start at \$5.60 (same as a 1 lb. retail Priority Mail package going to Zones 1 and 2).
- Standard Post can **only** be purchased at the Post Office.

Standard Post	Post Office/Retail postage rates		
	2014 Postage Rates	2013 Postage Rates	Increase
Standard Post (1 lb.)	\$5.60 and up	\$5.60 and up	\$0.00 and up
Standard Post (2 lb.)	\$5.80 and up	\$5.80 and up	\$0.00 and up
Standard Post (3 lb.)	\$6.50 and up	\$6.60 and up	-\$0.10 and up
Standard Post (4 lb.)	\$7.35 and up	\$7.45 and up	-\$0.10 and up
Standard Post (5 lb.)	\$8.70 and up	\$8.85 and up	-\$0.15 and up

## When to Use

Use Standard Post if your shipment is ineligible for Media Mail, low shipping rates are more important than speed, and your package weighs over 10 pounds.

## Pros

- Delivery in two to eight days
- An economical way to send packages
- Ships larger packages that are too big for Priority Mail Express and Priority Mail
- Priced the same as Priority Mail for Zones 1 to 4 and lower than Priority Mail Express
- Includes free USPS Tracking

## Cons

- Much slower than most other mail classes
- Standard Post can only be purchased at the Post Office



# Media Mail

Media Mail is a service restricted to the delivery of books, film, audio and other recorded media. Offers U.S. delivery within two to eight days, depending on destination. Maximum weight of 70 pounds.



## Changes to Media Mail in 2014

- Media Mail rates will start at \$2.69 (previously at \$2.53).

Media Mail	Post Office/Retail/Stamps.com Postage Rates		
	2014 Postage Rates	2013 Postage Rates	Increase
Media Mail (1 lb.)	\$2.69	\$2.53	\$0.16
Media Mail (2 lb.)	\$3.17	\$2.98	\$0.19
Media Mail (3 lb.)	\$3.65	\$3.43	\$0.22
Media Mail (4 lb.)	\$4.13	\$3.88	\$0.25
Media Mail (5 lb.)	\$4.61	\$4.33	\$0.28



### Tip: Use Media Mail for Eligible Items

If you regularly send books, CDs or DVDs, Media Mail is a cost-effective mail service. Rates are based on the weight and size of your mail piece, not the distance to the destination. This makes Media Mail particularly valuable for packages being sent long distances. You can save big if your mail qualifies.

## When to Use

Use Media Mail if you're sending media-specific items as defined by the USPS and longer transit times are acceptable.

## Pros

- Cheapest service for anything over 13 ounces
- Intended and ideal for educational materials
- Pricing is based on weight, not distance
- No Saturday delivery charges or fuel and residential surcharges

## Cons

- Much slower than most other mail classes
- Limited to books, sound recordings, recorded video tapes, printed music, or recorded computer-readable media (such as CDs, DVDs, and diskettes)
- Packages could be opened by USPS employees to verify contents meet Media Mail restrictions



# Global Express Guaranteed

Global Express Guaranteed is the USPS' fastest international service that offers date-specific delivery in one to three business days\* to over 190 countries. Transportation and delivery is managed by FedEx Express. Maximum package weight is 70 pounds.



## Changes to Global Express Guaranteed in 2014

- Global Express Guaranteed rates will start at \$48.40 (previously \$47.45) for online postage.

Global Express Guaranteed	Post Office/Retail Postage Rates		Stamps.com Postage Rates	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Global Express Guaranteed (0.5 lb.)	\$51.50 and up	\$49.95 and up	\$48.40 and up	\$47.45 and up
Global Express Guaranteed (1 lb.)	\$60.75 and up	\$58.95 and up	\$56.52 and up	\$55.41 and up
Global Express Guaranteed (2 lb.)	\$65.00 and up	\$63.10 and up	\$59.60 and up	\$58.43 and up
Global Express Guaranteed (3 lb.)	\$69.25 and up	\$67.25 and up	\$64.73 and up	\$63.46 and up

## When to Use

Global Express Guaranteed is the only USPS option if you need a package delivered internationally within one to three business days.

## Pros

- Delivery abroad in one to three business days\*
- Money-back guarantee\*\* to virtually all international destinations serviced by the USPS
- Free Package Pickup at your door
- Includes \$100 in insurance coverage and delivery tracking info with the USPS Track & Confirm tool

## Cons

- Most expensive USPS international mail class
- Dimension limitations
- Select countries have weight restrictions on shipments that could be lower than 70 pounds



# Priority Mail Express International

(formerly Express Mail International)

Priority Mail Express International is an international service offering delivery to over 190 countries within three to five days.

Offers date-specific delivery and a money-back guarantee when shipping to the following countries: Australia, China, France (except for Corsica and Monaco), Hong Kong, Japan, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Spain (except for the Canary Islands), South Korea and Singapore. Maximum weight of 70 pounds.



## Changes to Priority Mail Express International in 2014

- Priority Mail Express International rates will start at \$33.24 (previously \$32.59) for online postage.
- For the purchase of Priority Mail Express International postage online, the maximum discount off retail rates will stay at 10% (similar to 2013).

Priority Mail Express International	Post Office/Retail Postage Rates		Stamps.com Postage Rates	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Priority Mail Express International (0.5 lb.)	\$35.25 and up	\$33.95 and up	\$33.24 and up	\$32.59 and up
Priority Mail Express International (1 lb.)	\$38.75 and up	\$37.35 and up	\$36.19 and up	\$35.48 and up
Priority Mail Express International (2 lb.)	\$42.90 and up	\$41.40 and up	\$39.27 and up	\$38.50 and up
Priority Mail Express International (3 lb.)	\$47.05 and up	\$45.45 and up	\$43.11 and up	\$42.27 and up
Priority Mail Express International Flat Rate Box - Canada	\$66.95	\$64.95	\$61.60	\$64.95
Priority Mail Express International Flat Rate Box - Other Countries	\$84.95	\$79.95	\$78.25	\$79.95
Priority Mail Express International Flat Rate Envelopes - Canada	\$35.95	\$34.95	\$33.00	\$34.95
Priority Mail Express International Flat Rate Envelopes - Other Countries	\$46.50	\$44.95	\$42.75	\$44.95

## When to Use

Use Priority Mail Express International if you have time-sensitive shipments that must be delivered in three to five days, specifically if the delivery destination qualifies for date-specific delivery and a money-back guarantee.

## Pros

- Delivery abroad in one to three business days\*
- Money-back guarantee\*\*
- Free Package Pickup at your door
- Includes \$100 in insurance coverage and delivery tracking info with the USPS Track & Confirm tool

## Cons

- Most expensive USPS international mail class
- Dimension limitations
- Select countries have weight restrictions on shipments that could be lower than 70 pounds

# Priority Mail International

Priority Mail International is an international, cost-effective service that delivers mailpieces and packages weighing up to 70 pounds to over 190 countries. Offers international delivery in six to 10 days.



## Changes to Priority Mail International in 2014

- Priority Mail International rates are going down for online postage customers in 2014 and will start at \$27.13 (prev. \$27.40).
- Online postage prices for Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes and Boxes will decrease in 2014 and start at \$19.50 (previously \$19.95).
- For the purchase of Priority Mail International postage online, the maximum discount off retail rates will increase up to 12% (previously up to 9%).
- The maximum weight for Rate Group 2 (Mexico) has been increased to 70 lbs. from 44 lbs.

Priority Mail International	Post Office/Retail Postage Rates		Stamps.com Postage Rates	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Priority Mail International (1 lb.)	\$29.25 and up	\$28.25 and up	\$27.13 and up	\$27.40 and up
Priority Mail International (2 lb.)	\$31.60 and up	\$30.60 and up	\$28.47 and up	\$28.76 and up
Priority Mail International (3 lb.)	\$33.95 and up	\$32.95 and up	\$30.66 and up	\$30.97 and up
Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes - Canada	\$20.55	\$19.95	\$19.50	\$19.95
Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes - Other Countries	\$24.75	\$23.95	\$23.50	\$23.95
Priority Mail International Small Flat Rate Box - Canada	\$20.55	\$19.95	\$19.50	\$19.95
Priority Mail International Small Flat Rate Box - Other Countries	\$24.75	\$23.95	\$23.50	\$23.95
Priority Mail International Medium Flat Rate Box - Canada	\$42.25	\$40.95	\$40.15	\$40.95
Priority Mail International Medium Flat Rate Box - Other Countries	\$61.75	\$59.95	\$58.65	\$59.95
Priority Mail International Large Flat Rate Box - Canada	\$55.75	\$53.95	\$52.95	\$53.95
Priority Mail International Large Flat Rate Box - Other Countries	\$80.50	\$77.95	\$76.50	\$77.95

## When to Use

Use Priority Mail International if you have time-sensitive shipments that must be delivered in 6 to 10 days.

## Pros

- Delivery in 6 to 10 days
- Two affordable price options—Flat Rate or by weight/distance
- Includes delivery info with the USPS Track & Confirm tool
- Free Package Pickup
- Commercial Base discount of up to 12%

## Cons

- More expensive than First-Class Package International Service

# First-Class Package International Service

First-Class Package International Service is the USPS' most affordable international service for the delivery of small packages to over 190 countries. Maximum weight is four pounds. Delivery time varies by destination.



## Changes to First-Class Package International Service in 2014

- Online postage rates for First-Class Package International Service will not increase in 2014 and will continue to start at \$9.50 for packages.
- First-Class Package International Service now offers Commercial Base discounts of up to 13% off retail rates (previously 10%).
- First-Class Package International Service will include free electronic USPS Tracking to 12 additional countries along with Canada. These countries are Estonia, Finland, Gibraltar, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Portugal and Singapore.

First-Class Package International Service	Post Office/Retail Postage Rates		Stamps.com Postage Rates	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
First-Class Package International Service - Price Group 1 Canada (1 lb.)	\$10.95	\$10.55	\$9.50	\$9.50
First-Class Package International Service - Price Group 2 Mexico (1 lb.)	\$15.05	\$15.05	\$13.55	\$13.55
First-Class Package International Service - Price Group 3 - 5 Asia, Europe, Aus (1 lb.)	\$16.75	\$16.75	\$15.08	\$15.08
First-Class Package International Service - Price Group 6 - 9 Other Countries (1 lb.)	\$16.25	\$16.25	\$14.63	\$14.63



### Tip: Check the USPS website frequently.

The International Service Updates page on [usps.com](http://usps.com) is a great resource for international shippers. Learn about current mailing conditions worldwide and stay updated on potential delays in mail delivery caused by natural disasters or labor disputes in destination countries. Communicate any delays to buyers early to clearly manage expectations.

## When to Use

Use First-Class Package International Service if you are shipping small, inexpensive items such as books, health and beauty products, clothing, or accessories weighing under four pounds.

## Pros

- Most affordable international service
- Delivery time varies by destination
- Ideal for low value small packages

## Cons

- Exact delivery times are unknown and can be in excess of 21 days
- USPS Tracking available to select countries only





# USPS Special Services

Special Services	Description	Post Office/Retail Postage Rates		Stamps.com Postage Rates	
		2014	2013	2014	2013
Certified Mail™	Provides proof of mailing at time of mailing and the date and time of delivery or attempted delivery. Purchasing Certified Mail service allows customers to then purchase Restricted Delivery service or a Return Receipt.	\$3.30	\$3.10	\$3.30	\$3.10
Registered Mail™	Provides the sender with a mailing receipt and, upon request, electronic verification that an article was delivered. The most secure service that the USPS offers.	\$11.95 and up	\$11.20 and up	\$11.95 and up	\$11.20 and up
USPS Tracking	Provides the mailer with information about the date and time an article was delivered. This service is FREE on Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, First-Class Package Service and Parcel Select packages when you use Stamps.com.	\$1.05	\$0.90	\$0.23	\$0.20
Signature Confirmation™	Provides the date and time of delivery or attempted delivery and the name of the person who signed for the item.	\$2.90	\$2.70	\$2.35	\$2.20
Certificate of Mailing	Provides ability to mail an article for which the mailer has not been paid and have its price and the cost of the postage collected from the recipient. The recipient has the option to pay the charges using either cash or check.	\$1.30	\$1.20	\$1.30	\$1.20
Collect on Delivery	Provides ability to mail an article for which the mailer has not been paid and have its price and the cost of the postage collected from the recipient. The recipient has the option to pay the charges using either cash or check.	\$6.95 and up	\$6.45 and up	\$6.95 and up	\$6.45 and up
Return Receipt (at time of mailing)	Provides a mailer with evidence of delivery (to whom the mail was delivered and date of delivery), along with information about the recipient's actual delivery address. Choose from a return receipt by mail or electronically.	\$2.70	\$2.55	\$2.70	\$2.55
Restricted Delivery	Restricted Delivery service ensures that only a specified person will receive a piece of mail. This service is only available if you also purchase Certified Mail, Insured Mail, COD, or Registered Mail.	\$5.05	\$4.75	\$5.05	\$4.75
Adult Signature (Basic)	Provides electronic confirmation of the delivery or attempted delivery of the mailpiece and, upon request, the recipient's signature. Recipient must furnish proof of age via a driver's license, passport, or other government-issued photo identification that lists age or date of birth prior to delivery.	Must be purchased online	Must be purchased online	\$5.20	\$4.95
Adult Signature (Person Specific)	Provides the same service as Adult Signature Required with the additional restriction of limiting delivery to a specific addressee or authorized agent who is 21 years of age or older. If the specific addressee is not 21 years of age or older, the mailpiece will be returned to sender.	Must be purchased online	Must be purchased online	\$5.45	\$5.15

# Frequently Asked Questions

Are Forever Stamps purchased prior to January 26, 2014 still valid to use once the new rates go into effect?

Yes, [Forever Stamps](#) purchased from the Post Office (or another location) will remain valid and can be used to mail a one-ounce first class letter, even after January 26, 2014.

I have a supply of stamps printed with \$0.46 from Stamps.com. Can I use those or do I need to add additional postage to the letters?

Since the "Metered Mail" rate or Stamps.com rate is now \$0.48 to send a one-ounce first class letter, you will need to add postage worth 2 cents to your letter in order for it to be delivered by the USPS.

How do I get Commercial Base discounts for printing postage online?

If you print shipping labels using Stamps.com (or any online postage vendor), you automatically qualify to receive Commercial Base pricing. These rates should be automatically calculated when you print postage.

Can I buy \$0.48 "Metered Rate" postage stamps at the Post Office?

No, the new "Metered Rate" \$0.48 postage stamps can only be printed using an approved PC Postage/online postage vendor such as Stamps.com or through a postage meter. The "Metered Rate" \$0.48 stamps cannot be purchased at the Post Office.

Newspapers are calling the 2014 USPS rate increase an "exigent" rate increase. What does that mean?

By law, the USPS is only allowed to raise annual rates based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). For any rate that is greater than the CPI, the USPS must request a special "exigent" rate increase that must be approved by the Postal Rate Commission. For 2014, the USPS requested the exigent rate increased which was approved by the Postal Rate Commission in December 2013.

Are Priority Mail Regional Rate Boxes the same as Priority Mail Flat Rate in appearance?

Regional Rate boxes are similar in size, but have different actual dimensions compared to Priority Mail Flat Rate options. As an example, Regional Rate Box A is sized at 10 $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 7 $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 5" (top loading). That is just a little smaller than the Priority Mail Flat Rate Medium Box.

Are online postage rates for Priority Mail International decreasing in 2014?

Yes, for certain weight and zone combinations, the Commercial Base (online postage) price for Priority Mail International will be lower than what it was for 2013.

What areas will the new delivery zone, "Zone 9" cover?

The new delivery zone, "Zone 9" will represent deliveries going to U.S. territories and freely associated states (Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau) for Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express.

Has there been any increase in 2014 for First-Class Package International Service?

While the overall increase for First-Class Package International Service is 0.8% from 2013 to 2014, the Commercial Base (online postage) prices have stayed the same as last year.

When do I need to include that plastic envelope on my package for the Customs Forms?

The USPS Form 2976-A Customs Form (customs envelope) includes 4 copies of the standard Customs Form. You would attach this on Priority Mail International or Priority Mail Express International packages, but you can use the USPS 2976 Customs Form (1 page) for First-Class Package International Service packages.