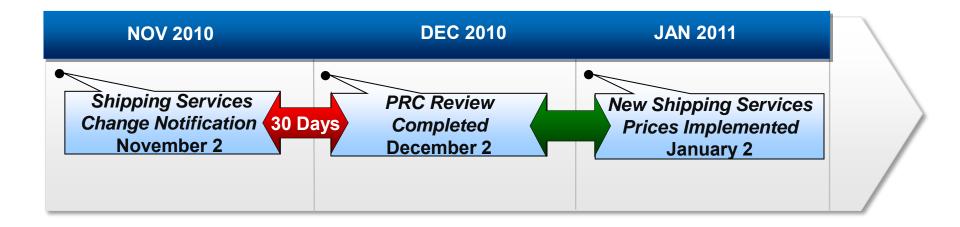


# Shipping Services Price Change

## Effective January 2, 2011



### **Price Change Timeline**



January 2, 2011 Shipping Services Price Change Prepared by Pricing Implementation, U.S. Postal Service Dec



### **Shipping Services Highlights**

- Innovations respond to market demand
- 3.6% overall average increase
- Postal Service remains the best value in shipping



### **Shipping Services Innovations**

- New! Legal Flat Rate Envelope
  - □ All Express Mail and Priority Mail price categories
- New! Padded Flat Rate Envelope
  - □ All Priority Mail price categories
- New! Regional Rate Box\*
  - Priority Mail Commercial Base
  - Priority Mail Commercial Plus
- New! Critical Mail\*
  - Priority Mail Commercial Plus



#### Domestic Use Only

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### **Domestic Shipping Services**

Product	Overall Average Increase
Express Mail	4.6%
Priority Mail	3.5%
Parcel Select	4.4%
Parcel Return Service	3.1%









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#### **Express Mail – Retail Prices**

Average Retail Increase – 5.0%

- Starting price (1/2 pound) \$13.25
- Flat Rate Envelope (no change) \$18.30
- New! Legal Flat Rate Envelope

\$18.30



#### **Express Mail – Commercial Base Prices**

- Commercial base prices
  - □ No price changes
  - □ Flat Rate Envelope price still \$17.40
    - New! Includes Legal Flat Rate Envelope
  - Approved payment method required





### **Express Mail – Commercial Plus Prices**

#### Commercial plus prices

New! Minimum volume threshold lowered to 5,000

- □ On average, prices reduced 5%
- Approved payment method required

New! IBI meter now qualifies for Commercial Plus price





#### **Priority Mail – Retail Prices**

Average Retail Increase – 3.9%

<ul> <li>All Flat Rate Envelopes</li> </ul>	\$ 4.95
<ul> <li>Small Flat Rate Box</li> </ul>	\$ 5.20
<ul> <li>Medium Flat Rate Box</li> </ul>	\$10.95
<ul> <li>Large Flat Rate Box</li> </ul>	\$14.95
<ul> <li>Large Flat Rate Box APO/FPO/DPO</li> </ul>	\$12.95



### **Priority Mail — Hold For Pickup Service**

- New! Available for online and commercial Priority Mail
  - Excludes Critical Mail
- Hold For Pickup label required
- Intelligent Mail Package Barcode (IMpb) required
- At least one other authorized extra service required





- Average 6.6% lower than Retail prices
- Approved payment method required
- Flat Rate Envelope\*
   \$4.75
- Legal and Padded Flat Rate Envelopes \$4.95
- Flat Rate Box prices start at: \$5.00

\*Includes Small FRE, Window FRE, and Gift Card FRE



- New! Regional Rate Box
- Affordable shipping for small and dense packages
- Price based on box and zone
  - Regional Rate Box A
    - > 15-pound maximum, starts at \$4.97
  - Regional Rate Box B
    - > 20-pound maximum, starts at \$5.81





#### Regional Rate Box

- □ USPS-produced packaging required
  - > Top-loading and side-loading boxes for each box category
  - > Boxes must be ordered online at usps.com/shop
- Commercial plus mailers also qualify
- Merchandise Return Service (MRS) parcels also qualify
  - > Returned at Priority Mail prices
- □ Approved payment methods required



- Average 13.6% below Retail prices
  - □ Prices start at \$4.30
- Account volume thresholds apply
  - □ New! Threshold reduced from 100,000 to 75,000
    - > Includes combined total volume of letters, flats and/or parcels
  - □ New! Volume threshold for letters and/or flats 5,000
    - > Excludes Padded Flat Rate Envelope



- Approved payment methods required
  - New! IBI meters now qualify for commercial plus prices
- New! Regional Rate Box also available
  - □ Annual account volume thresholds *do not* apply
  - Postage paid at commercial base prices



- New! Critical Mail
- Attractive offering for entertainment, hospitality, tourism, real estate and membership services
- Travels in automation mailstream
  - Fast, consistent time-in-transit offering
- Free USPS-produced packaging required
  - □ Drives "open first" behavior
  - □ Available only by calling: 1-800-610-8734
- Optional free electronic Delivery Confirmation



#### Critical Mail requirements

- □ Intelligent Mail Barcode (IMb) required
  - Must only match greatest depth of code achievable from address
- □ Requires mailpiece sample approval
  - > Approved by HQ Shipping Services
- □ 5,000 letters and/or flats annual volume threshold
  - Flat Rate Envelopes qualify (padded FRE excluded)
- □ Approved postage payment methods
  - > PC Postage and Permit Imprint



- Critical Mail Letters \$3.50
  - □ Letters must be automation compatible
    - > 3-ounce weight limit
    - > 1/4 inch maximum thickness
- Critical Mail Flats \$4.25
  - □ Flats must be automation compatible
    - > 13-ounce weight limit for flats
    - > ¾ inch maximum thickness

- Customer commitment agreement required
  - Contact account manager, or HQ Shipping Services

Cana approx



- Price based on cubic measurement and zone
   □ Five price tiers starting at \$4.30
- Approved payment method required
   Permit imprint (with requirements) or PC Postage
- New! Changes to measurement formula
  - Round down each measurement to the nearest ¼ inch
     Dimensions cannot exceed 18 inches in length
- New! Merchandise Return Service now eligible



#### Cubic measurement formula

- 1. Measure the length, width, and height in inches
- 2. New! Round down each measurement to the nearest  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch *Example:* 6  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 5  $\frac{7}{8}$ " x 6  $\frac{3}{8}$ " is rounded down to 6" x 5  $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 6  $\frac{1}{4}$ "
- 3. Multiply length by width by height and divide by 1728 *Example:* 6" x 5  $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 6  $\frac{1}{4}$ " = 215.6, divided by 1728 = 0.125
  - > Piece exceeds 0.10 Tier 1 maximum threshold
  - It is calculated at Tier 2 (0.101 to 0.20)



#### **Parcel Select**

Destination Entry	Average Increase
DDU	8.0%
DSCF	0.2%
DNDC	0.6%
Nondestination Entry	Average Increase
ONDC	9.8%
NDC Presort	7.7%
Barcoded Nonpresort	7.6%



#### **Parcel Select**

- Hold For Pickup service
  - New! Limited to barcoded, nonpresorted parcels
- New! Zoned one-pound price
  - Previously the same price across all zones





#### **Parcel Return Service**

Average Increase by Category	
Return Network Distribution Center (RNDC)	0.9%
Return Delivery Unit (RDU)	8.0%

- Mailers provide a label to customers for merchandise return
- Permit holder pays postage for returns



### **New Method For Weight Calculation**

- Determining single-piece weight calculations
  - Applicable to:
    - > Express Mail
    - > Priority Mail (except Critical Mail)
    - > Parcel Select
    - > Parcel Post
    - > Bound Printed Matter
    - > Media Mail
    - Library Mail
  - □ Round off weight in decimal pounds to two decimal places
    - > Previously rounded to four decimal places

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## **International Shipping Services**

- Global Express Guaranteed (GXG)
- Express Mail International
- Priority Mail International
- International Priority Airmail (IPA)
- International Surface Air Lift (ISAL)
- Direct Sacks of Printed Matter to One Addressee (M-bags)
- International Extra Services







### **Global Express Guaranteed (GXG)**

Average Overall Increase	<b>Commercial Base Price</b>
3.7%	10% lower than Retail

New! Postage payment by permit indicia

□ Requires use of Global Shipping Software

- IBI meter no longer eligible for commercial base price



#### **Express Mail International**

Average Overall Increase	<b>Commercial Base Price</b>
3.1%	8% lower than Retail

- Commercial base prices
  - Express Mail Corporate Account and IBI postage meter no longer eligible
- Flat Rate Envelope (including Legal FRE)
  - □ Only Canada has separate price
- Price groups increase from 10 to 17
- International Return Receipt no longer available



#### **Priority Mail International**

Average Overall Increase	<b>Commercial Base Price</b>
3.8%	5% lower than Retail

Commercial base prices for selected destinations

□ IBI postage meter no longer eligible

- Multiple sizes for Flat Rate Envelopes and Boxes
   One price for Canada & Mexico, one price for rest of world
- Price groups increase from 10 to 17



#### **Other International Mail Changes**

Product	Average Overall Increase
Airmail M-Bag	5.8%
International Priority Airmail (IPA)	3.3%
No price change for IPA M-Bag	
International Surface Air Lift (ISAL)	6.4%
No price change for ISAL M-Bag	
International Extra Services	7.9%
International Postal Money Orders	
Express Mail International Insurance	
Priority Mail International Insurance	



## **Other Competitive Products**

#### Competitive P.O. Boxes

- □ New fee group designation C1
- "Baker's dozen" pricing
  - Prices to be published in upcoming Postal Bulletin

#### Premium Forwarding Service

- □ Overall increase: 5%
- □ Application fee no change
- □ Weekly fee increases to \$14.75







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#### **Other Competitive Products**

- Address Enhancement Services
  - □ Price increase ranges from 4.2% to 10%
    - > Address Element Correction (AEC)
    - Address Matching System Application Program Interface (AMS API)
    - Topological Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing (TIGER/ZIP+4)



#### Resources

#### Postal Explorer – pe.usps.com

□ Prices, downloadable price files & Federal Register notices

Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) & International Mail Manual (IMM)

□ Link to the *Postal Bulletin* 

#### DMM Advisory

□ Subscribe via e-mail: dmmadvisory@usps.com

#### MailPro

□ View online and subscribe at usps.com/mailpro





## **Questions?**