

July 13, 2025 USPS® Rate Change – What you need to know

USPS® is raising rates on July 13, 2025, for the seventh time in 4 years with some of the largest increases in history and at a significantly higher pace than inflation. We can expect these rate spikes to continue as the USPS has stated that two increases per year will be their new norm.

Date	First-Class Mail® Retail Letters	First-Class Mail® Metered Letters	First-Class Mail® Flats	First-Class Mail® Auto Letters	First-Class Mail® Auto Flats	Marketing-Mail® Letters	Marketing-Mail® Flats
7/13/2025	6.8%	7.2%	8.7%	8.3%	9.9%	7.5%	13.4%
7/14/2024	7.4%	7.8%	10.3%	8.3%	7.6%	4.4%	5.5%
1/21/2024	3.0%	1.6%	3.0%	1.8%	1.2%	1.1%	3.8%
7/9/2023	4.8%	5.0%	5.0%	5.8%	16.7%	6.4%	8.0%
1/22/2023	5.0%	5.3%	4.0%	3.3%	8.0%	3.2%	6.1%
7/10/2022	4.2%	8.1%	10.9%	6.5%	13.0%	6.3%	7.8%
8/29/2021	5.5%	3.9%	16.0%	7.5%	17.3%	8.0%	9.0%
Last 4 Year Increase	36.7%	38.9%	57.9%	41.5%	73.7%	36.9%	34.7%

Postal Advocate has been creating comparison charts that go over the changes in rates to show how it will affect budgets. The reason we do this is to provide a true comparison versus the overall average % increase that the postal service talks about. Based on the type of mail you send, the increase could be higher or lower. Also, when you look at the new rate charts provided by the USPS®, they typically will not show the level of detail needed (Previous and new rates, side by side) to see these differences.

Hopefully, this will help you budget by seeing the impact of the most common services that you use today. At the bottom of this article there is a link to an excel tool where you can plug in your mail volumes to see the impact on your organization.

Here is a [link \(https://postaladvocate.com/rate-change-tools/\)](https://postaladvocate.com/rate-change-tools/) to a simple chart of all the rates below

First-Class Mail® Single Piece – 5% – 9% Increase

First-Class Mail® Retail						
Weight Ounces	Letters			Flats		
	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
1	\$0.73	\$0.78	6.8%	\$1.50	\$1.63	8.7%
2	\$1.01	\$1.07	5.9%	\$1.77	\$1.90	7.3%
3	\$1.29	\$1.36	5.4%	\$2.04	\$2.17	6.4%
6	N/A	N/A		\$2.87	\$3.00	4.5%
13	N/A	N/A		\$4.91	\$5.04	2.6%
Post Card	\$0.56	\$0.61	8.9%			

Metered Letters			
Weight Ounces	Letters		
	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
1	\$0.690	\$0.740	7.2%
2	\$0.970	\$1.030	6.2%
3	\$1.250	\$1.320	5.6%

The price of a stamped First-Class Mail® Single Piece letter and Metered letter are seeing a \$.05 increase to \$0.78 and \$0.74. There is still a \$.04 savings for metered mail making it 5% less than a postage stamp. A single-piece flat is increasing from \$1.50 - \$1.63. The rate for additional ounces does not change in this rate change. The price for postcards rose at the highest levels at 9%.

First-Class Mail® Commercial – 8% - 11% Increase

Commercial First-Class Mail®										
		Letters			Flats*			Post Cards		
	Weight Ounces	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
Automation 5 Digit	1	\$0.545	\$0.593	8.8%	\$0.874	\$0.970	11.0%	\$0.384	\$0.420	9.4%
Automation 3 Digit					\$1.132	\$1.235	9.1%			
Automation AADC	1	\$0.593	\$0.641	8.1%	\$1.212	\$1.331	9.8%	\$0.406	\$0.445	9.6%
Automation Mixed AADC	1	\$0.622	\$0.672	8.0%	\$1.355	\$1.488	9.8%	\$0.419	\$0.462	10.3%
Presorted (Non Automation)	1				\$1.400	\$1.540	10.0%			

Automation letters are going up 8-9% and Flats by 9-11%. There is still the same credit for Seamless acceptance of \$.002 and for Full Service Intelligent Mail at \$.005. The biggest change is there is a new SCF Pallet Discount that saves \$.004 for letters and \$.002 for flats. This is the first time this type of discount has been available for First-Class Mail® where it had only been option for Marketing Mail®.

With any increase, it becomes more important to look for ways to reduce costs. These are the options available:

	Single Piece Rates			Automation Mail with Barcodes		
Mail Piece Examples	First-Class Mail® Retail Single Piece	First-Class Mail® Metered Single Piece	Typical Presort Service - First-Class Mail®	First-Class Mail® - Automation	Marketing Mail® - Automation	Marketing Mail® Non Profit-Automation
1 Ounce #10 Envelope	\$0.78	\$0.74	\$0.686	.593-.686	\$.372-.433	\$.178-.239
3 Ounce Newsletter (6X9)	\$1.36	\$1.32	\$0.686	.593-.686	\$.372-.433	\$.178-.239
8 Ounce Flat (9X12)	\$3.56	\$3.56	\$3.450	\$2.90-.3.418	\$.997-1.412	\$.716-1.131
Post Card	\$0.61	\$0.61	\$0.462	.42-.462	n/a	n/a

- Use meters or online postage to save \$.04 on letters.
- Consider presort services if you run over 500 pieces per day or have one-time mailings over 1000 pieces.
- Automating your mailings in house or through third party mail services to have drastic postage savings.
- Presort and automation levels go up to 3.5 ounces for the same base rate.
- Flats and postcards can have the same automation rates as letters.
- Consider moving generic content mail from First Class to Marketing Mail®

Marketing Mail® – 2-14% Increase

Marketing Mail®							
		Letters			Flats		
	Weight Ounces	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
Automation 5 Digit	≤3.5	\$0.345	\$0.372	7.8%	\$0.687	\$0.770	12.1%
Automation 3 Digit	≤4				\$0.864	\$0.986	14.1%
Automation AADC/ADC	≤3.5	\$0.380	\$0.407	7.1%	\$0.971	\$1.101	13.4%
Automation Mixed AADC/ADC-Origin	≤3.5	\$0.402	\$0.433	7.7%	\$1.041	\$1.185	13.8%
Marketing Mail® Nonprofit							
		Letters			Flats		
	Weight Ounces	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
Automation 5 Digit	≤3.5	\$0.173	\$0.178	2.9%	\$0.451	\$0.503	11.5%
Automation 3 Digit	≤4				\$0.628	\$0.719	14.5%
Automation AADC/ADC	≤3.5	\$0.208	\$0.213	2.4%	\$0.735	\$0.834	13.5%
Automation Mixed AADC/ADC-Origin	≤3.5	\$0.228	\$0.239	4.8%	\$0.805	\$0.918	14.0%

Marketing Mail® Letter rates are increasing at approximately 7-8% while Flats are going up at 12-14%. Nonprofit is seeing a smaller increase on letters at 2-5%, but similar with the flats at 12-14%.

The biggest change is with heavy weight flats over 4 ounces. With these items, there is a per piece and per pound rate needed to calculate the total price. As you can see from the chart below, the per piece rate is going up 32-54% and the per pound rate is going down by 34-40%. The net impact is that flats from 5-7 ounces will see a 4% increase, while items over 7 ounces will average an 8% decrease.

Marketing Mail® Commercial Flats > 4 Oz							
		Per Piece			Per Pound		
	Weight Ounces	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
Automation 5 Digit	>4	\$0.428	\$0.624	45.8%	\$1.234	\$0.745	-39.6%
Automation 3 Digit	>4	\$0.605	\$0.840	38.8%	\$1.234	\$0.745	-39.6%
Automation AADC/ADC	>4	\$0.712	\$0.955	34.1%	\$1.234	\$0.745	-39.6%
Automation Mixed AADC/ADC-Origin	>4	\$0.782	\$1.039	32.9%	\$1.234	\$0.745	-39.6%
Marketing Mail® Nonprofit Flats > 4 Oz							
		Per Piece			Per Pound		
	Weight Ounces	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
Automation 5 Digit	>4	\$0.240	\$0.371	54.6%	\$1.042	\$0.690	-33.8%
Automation 3 Digit	>4	\$0.417	\$0.587	40.8%	\$1.042	\$0.690	-33.8%
Automation AADC/ADC	>4	\$0.524	\$0.702	34.0%	\$1.042	\$0.690	-33.8%
Automation Mixed AADC/ADC-Origin	>4	\$0.594	\$0.786	32.3%	\$1.042	\$0.690	-33.8%

The best way to save money on Marketing Mail is to move mail closer to its final location utilizing destination entry level discounts. This area is seeing the biggest changes. The DNDC (Destination Network Distribution Center) discount has been eliminated, and the DSCF (Destination sectional center facility) savings have been decreased by 35-58%. There are still the \$.003 SCF (Sectional Center Facility) Pallet, \$.005 Full Service Intelligent Mail, and \$.002 Seamless Acceptance discounts available.

	Destination Entry Discounts for Marketing Mail								
	Letters			Flats <4 Ounces			Flats >4 Ounces (Off LB Rate)		
	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Change	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Change	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Change
DNDC	\$0.027	\$0.000	-100.0%	\$0.071	\$0.000	-100.0%	\$0.448	\$0.000	-100.0%
DSCF	\$0.035	\$0.017	-51.4%	\$0.091	\$0.038	-58.2%	\$0.478	\$0.312	-34.7%

USPS Competitive Services – 0-26% Increases

In the past, we have only seen changes with the parcel segment on the January rate case, but we are now seeing changes this July. Priority Mail® rates have gone up in the less than 10LB segment for Retail at 6-10% and across all weights for the Commercial segment at 4-12%. We are not seeing any changes in Priority Mail® Express. Ground Advantage™ rates have gone up an incredible 26% in the less than 1LB Retail segment where Commercial rates are seeing a 2-6% increase across all weight segments. We encourage all entities to move to Commercial rates by using simple software utilities that can generate 4 x6 shipping labels vs. processing these items through a postage meter or at the retail counter

of the post office. As you can see, the savings are between 11-37% and some vendors will offer discounted cubic rate structures that save up to 89%.

USPS Priority Mail®		
Average % Increase	Retail	Commercial Base
Flat Rate	10%	12%
1-5LB	6%	8%
6-10LB	6%	10%
11-25LB	0%	9%
Over 25LB	0%	4%
USPS Priority Mail® Express		
Average % Increase	Retail	Commercial Base
Flat Rate	0%	0%
1-5LB	0%	0%
6-10LB	0%	0%
11-25LB	0%	0%
Over 25LB	0%	0%
USPS Ground Advantage™		
Average % Increase	Retail	Commercial Base
<1LB	26%	5%
1-5LB	3%	2%
6-10LB	0%	6%
11-25LB	0%	6%
Over 25LB	0%	3%

USPS Priority Mail®	
Average % Increase	Commercial Savings over Retail
Flat Rate	11%
1-5LB	17%
6-10LB	17%
11-25LB	20%
Over 25LB	13%
USPS Priority Mail® Express	
Average % Increase	Commercial Savings over Retail
Flat Rate	14%
1-5LB	14%
6-10LB	15%
11-25LB	13%
Over 25LB	12%
USPS Ground Advantage™	
Average % Increase	Commercial Savings over Retail
<1LB	37%
1-5LB	26%
6-10LB	27%
11-25LB	30%
Over 25LB	14%

USPS Special Services – -3-22% Increases

Special Services		Retail			Electronic		
		Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	New Rates 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
Certificate of Mailing		\$2.00	\$2.40	20.0%			
Registered™ without Insurance		\$16.80	\$19.70	17.3%			
Certified Mail™		\$4.40	\$5.30	20.5%			
Return Receipt		\$3.65	\$4.40	20.5%	\$2.32	\$2.82	21.6%
Insurance \$100		\$3.50	\$3.40	-2.9%			
Insurance \$500		\$9.15	\$7.45	-18.6%			
Marketing Mail® parcels Tracking					\$0.29	\$0.34	17.2%
Signature Confirmation		\$4.15	\$4.95	19.3%	\$3.50	\$3.95	12.9%
Annual Permit Fees		\$320.00	\$370.00	15.6%			
Business Reply Mail							
Permit Fee		\$320.00	\$370.00	15.6%			
Account Maintenance Fee		\$930.00	\$1,080.00	16.1%			
Quarterly Fee		\$3,200	\$3,670	14.7%			
Basic		\$1.07	\$1.23	15.0%			
High Volume		\$0.133	\$0.154	15.8%			
IMbA		\$0.020	\$0.022	10.0%			
QBRM Basic		\$0.050	\$0.054	8.0%			
QBRM High Volume		\$0.030	\$0.033	10.0%			

Special Services are seeing their largest rate hike in years averaging over 13%! The most common special service is Certified with Return Receipts where the overall increase of 21%. One bright spot is that the cost of USPS Insurance went down.

Additional Rate Change Items

First-Class Mail International®									
	1 Ounce			2 Ounce			Post Cards		
Group	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
Canada	\$1.55	\$1.70	9.7%	\$1.55	\$2.00	29.0%	\$1.55	\$1.70	9.7%
Mexico (Group 2)	\$1.55	\$1.70	9.7%	\$2.35	\$2.55	8.5%	\$1.55	\$1.70	9.7%
Group 3-5	\$1.55	\$1.70	9.7%	\$2.80	\$3.40	21.4%	\$1.55	\$1.70	9.7%
Group 6-9	\$1.55	\$1.70	9.7%	\$2.80	\$3.40	21.4%	\$1.55	\$1.70	9.7%

Library Mail				Media Mail			
Weight LB's	Single Piece			Weight LB's	Single Piece		
	Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase		Prior to 07/13/25	New Rates 07/13/25	% Increase
1	\$3.92	\$4.25	8.4%	1	\$4.13	\$4.47	8.2%
2	\$4.62	\$4.96	7.4%	2	\$4.87	\$5.22	7.2%
5	\$6.72	\$7.10	5.7%	5	\$7.09	\$7.47	5.4%
10	\$10.25	\$10.66	4.0%	10	\$10.82	\$11.22	3.7%

Conclusion

35-74% increases in 4 years are unheard of and impacting every organization. Mailers are going to need to look for savings strategies to help offset these changes. Our recommendation is to create visibility to all mailings and look for automation and commercial methods where applicable to reduce the cost and streamline production.

To budget for this increase, you need to look at the type of items you are sending, and the weight and zones that are most common, to truly estimate the impact. We have developed a budget calculator that you can download for free (<https://postaladvocate.com/rate-change-tools/>) that should help you better plan for this year. Some of the most popular USPS classes are going up at the highest rates but luckily there are ways to help mitigate this through automation and technology.

Class	Weight	% Of Class	% Change	Estimated Current Spend	Estimated New Spend	Difference
<u>First-Class Mail® Metered Letters</u>	1	85%	7.2%			
	2	10%	6.2%			
	3	5%	5.6%			
Total			7.0%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>First-Class Mail® Flats</u>			5.9%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>First-Class Mail® Automation Letters</u>			8.3%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>First-Class Mail® Automation Flats</u>			9.9%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Certified with Return Receipt</u>			21.0%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Priority Mail® Express Retail</u>			10.0%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Priority Mail® Express Commercial</u>			11.0%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Priority Mail® Retail</u>			23.0%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Priority Mail® Commercial</u>			5.0%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Ground Advantage® Retail</u>			23.0%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Ground Advantage® Commercial</u>			5.0%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Marketing Mail®</u>						
Letters			7.5%		\$0.00	\$0.00
Flats			13.4%		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Other Misc Mail</u>			7.0%		\$0.00	\$0.00
Total				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Adam Lewenberg, CMDSS, MDC, President/CEO of [Postal Advocate Inc.](http://www.postaladvocate.com), runs the largest Mail Audit and Recovery firm in the United States and Canada. They manage the biggest mail equipment, postage and mail related services portfolio in the world. Their mission is to help organizations with multi-locations and mail streams reduce expenses, recover lost postage funds, and simplify visibility and oversight. Since 2011, they have helped their clients save an average of 74% and over \$94 million on equipment, postage, shipping and outsourced mail service fees. He can be reached at (617) 372-6853 or adam.lewenberg@postaladvocate.com.

