

## 2010 Shipping Services Price Change FAQ's

**Q: When are Postal Service shipping prices changing?**

**A:** January 4, 2010. This includes new prices for our Shipping Services: Express Mail, Priority Mail, Parcel Select (Destination Entry only), Parcel Return Service, Global Express Guaranteed, Express Mail International and Priority Mail International.

**Q: Are First-Class Mail prices changing in 2010?**

**A:** No. On Oct. 15, Postmaster General John Potter announced that the Postal Service will not seek an increase in prices for First-Class Mail and First-Class Mail International, Standard Mail, Periodicals, Parcel Post and some other services.

**Q: Where are the new prices listed?**

**A:** The January 2010 new prices are available at: [pe.usps.com](http://pe.usps.com).

**Q: How does the USPS price change compare to the other shipping companies' price changes?**

**A:** Postal Service shipping prices will increase by 3.3 percent, on average. By comparison, competitors have announced price increases of nearly 6 percent. Unlike other shipping companies, the Postal Service does not impose surcharges for fuel, residential delivery, or Saturday delivery.

**Q: Why are prices going up?**

**A:** The costs of doing business — for things like transportation, utilities, and health care benefits — have continued to increase. Many people do not realize that postal operations are not subsidized by tax dollars. We rely on the sale of postal products and services to cover our operating costs.

**Q: Are any prices going down?**

A: Yes. For example, the retail price for the Priority Mail Flat Rate Envelope will be reduced from \$4.95 to \$4.90.

**Q: Has the Postal Service considered cutting costs rather than raising prices?**

A: The Postal Service is aggressive about cutting its costs responsibly. Like many other businesses, the Postal Service cannot fully make up for the increase in its expenses by cutting costs. Many costs are influenced by outside factors such as transportation and economic conditions. However, for each of the past several years, the USPS has taken more than a billion dollars in costs out of the system. During fiscal year 2009, which ended September 30, cost reductions totaled more than \$6 billion. Labor-related costs account for about 80 percent of USPS expenses.

**Q: By how much are Priority Mail prices changing?**

A: On average, Priority Mail prices will increase by 3.3 percent.

**Q: By how much are Express Mail prices changing?**

A: On average, Express Mail prices will increase by 4.5 percent.

**Q: By how much are International Mail prices changing?**

A: On average, International Shipping Services prices will increase by 3.3 percent.

**Q: What are the new prices for flat-rated products?**

Domestic Flat Rate Envelopes and Boxes	Retail	Commercial	Commercial Plus
<b>Priority Mail —</b>			
Envelope	\$4.90	\$4.75	\$4.70
Small box	\$4.95	\$4.85	\$4.80
Medium box	\$10.70	\$10.20	\$9.77
Large box	\$14.50	\$13.95	\$13.40
Large box (APO/FPO/DPO)	\$12.50	\$11.95	\$11.40
<b>Express Mail —</b>			
Envelope	\$18.30	\$17.40	\$14.96

International Flat Rate Envelopes and Boxes	Canada/Mexico	All other Countries
<b>Priority Mail —</b>		
Envelope	\$11.45	\$13.45
Small box	\$11.45	\$13.45
Medium box	\$26.95	\$43.45
Large box	\$33.95	\$55.95
<b>Express Mail —</b>		
Envelope	\$26.95	\$28.95