

## 123 Prices and Eligibility

### Overview

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### 1.0 Priority Mail Prices and Fees

#### 1.1 Price Application

Except under [1.3](#), [1.4](#), and [1.5](#), Priority Mail prices are charged per pound; any fraction of a pound is rounded up to the next whole pound. For example, if a piece weighs 1.2 pounds, the weight (postage) increment is 2 pounds. The minimum postage amount per addressed piece is the 1-pound price. The Priority Mail price up to 1 pound is based on weight only; prices for pieces weighing more than 1 pound are based on weight and zone. Other charges may apply. See [Exhibit 1.2, Priority Mail Prices—Retail](#).



# 123

## Retail Mail: Priority Mail Prices and Eligibility

### 1.2 Prices

[1-18-09]

#### Exhibit 1.2 Priority Mail Prices—Retail

Weight Not Over (pounds)	Zone <sup>1</sup> , 2, 3, 4, 5, 6						
	Local, 1 & 2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	\$4.95	\$4.95	\$4.95	\$4.95	\$4.95	\$4.95	\$4.95
2	4.95	5.20	5.75	7.10	7.60	8.10	8.70
3	5.50	6.25	7.10	9.05	9.90	10.60	11.95
4	6.10	7.10	8.15	10.80	11.95	12.95	14.70
5	6.85	8.15	9.45	12.70	13.75	15.20	17.15
6	7.55	9.25	10.75	14.65	15.50	17.50	19.60
7	8.30	10.30	12.05	16.55	17.30	19.75	22.05
8	8.80	10.70	13.10	17.95	18.80	21.70	24.75
9	9.25	11.45	13.95	19.15	20.30	23.60	27.55
10	9.90	12.35	15.15	20.75	22.50	25.90	29.95
11	10.55	13.30	16.40	22.40	24.75	28.20	32.40
12	11.20	14.20	17.60	24.00	26.95	30.50	34.80
13	11.50	14.55	18.10	25.30	28.90	31.70	36.00
14	11.90	15.20	18.90	26.45	30.50	33.50	37.80
15	12.40	15.85	19.85	27.25	31.15	33.85	38.60
16	12.80	16.40	20.45	27.85	31.85	34.60	39.55
17	13.25	16.95	20.85	28.50	32.70	35.50	40.60
18	13.50	17.50	21.30	29.10	33.35	36.15	41.55
19	13.95	17.90	21.60	29.80	34.15	37.10	42.60
20	14.30	18.15	22.00	30.30	34.80	37.80	43.55
21	14.70	18.40	22.35	30.80	35.35	38.45	44.40
22	15.05	18.75	22.70	31.50	36.15	39.35	45.50
23	15.40	19.00	23.35	32.05	36.80	40.00	46.30
24	15.75	19.20	24.05	32.70	37.55	40.95	47.45
25	16.10	19.50	24.85	33.25	38.10	41.55	48.25
26	16.45	19.70	25.65	33.95	39.00	42.45	49.80
27	16.90	20.00	26.40	34.40	39.55	43.05	51.65
28	17.40	20.25	27.10	34.85	40.10	43.70	53.55
29	17.95	20.45	27.90	35.30	40.60	44.30	55.25
30	18.50	20.75	28.65	35.80	41.15	44.90	57.10
31	19.00	20.95	29.45	36.25	41.70	45.50	59.00
32	19.50	21.45	30.20	36.70	42.25	46.60	60.85
33	19.75	22.00	30.90	37.15	42.80	47.90	62.60
34	19.95	22.60	31.45	37.95	44.05	49.20	64.45
35	20.20	23.15	31.90	38.75	45.25	50.55	66.30
36	20.40	23.75	32.30	39.60	46.40	51.90	68.15
37	20.60	24.25	32.75	40.35	47.60	53.25	70.00
38	20.80	24.85	33.15	41.15	48.95	54.50	71.80
39	21.05	25.35	33.55	42.00	50.15	55.90	73.70
40	21.45	25.90	33.90	42.85	51.30	57.15	75.45
41	21.90	26.40	34.30	43.25	52.50	58.55	76.90
42	22.30	26.90	34.65	44.15	53.65	59.90	77.95
43	22.75	27.35	35.00	45.15	54.95	61.25	78.95
44	23.15	27.90	35.35	46.15	56.10	62.60	79.90

Weight Not Over (pounds)	Zone <sup>1</sup> , 2, 3, 4, 5, 6						
	Local, 1 & 2	3	4	5	6	7	8
45	\$23.55	\$28.40	\$35.70	\$47.15	\$57.35	\$63.95	\$80.85
46	24.00	28.75	36.05	48.05	58.55	65.25	81.75
47	24.40	28.95	36.35	49.10	59.85	66.65	82.70
48	24.85	29.20	36.70	50.10	61.05	68.00	83.55
49	25.25	29.40	37.00	51.00	62.15	69.40	84.40
50	25.60	29.65	37.35	52.00	63.35	70.50	85.45
51	26.10	29.85	38.00	53.00	64.55	71.15	86.35
52	26.45	30.05	38.75	54.00	65.30	71.75	87.20
53	26.95	30.25	39.40	54.95	65.80	72.35	88.05
54	27.30	30.40	40.05	56.00	66.30	72.90	88.90
55	27.75	30.60	40.85	57.00	66.80	73.50	89.65
56	28.15	30.75	41.50	57.90	67.30	74.00	90.45
57	28.60	30.95	42.15	58.80	67.75	74.55	91.25
58	29.00	31.10	42.90	59.55	68.20	75.05	92.00
59	29.45	31.25	43.60	59.95	68.65	75.50	92.65
60	29.80	31.40	44.25	60.30	69.05	76.70	93.35
61	30.30	31.50	45.05	60.60	69.85	77.90	94.60
62	30.65	31.65	45.70	60.95	70.30	79.10	96.10
63	31.15	31.80	46.40	61.25	70.70	79.90	97.60
64	31.50	31.90	47.10	61.55	71.15	80.40	99.15
65	31.95	32.00	47.70	61.85	71.50	80.85	100.70
66	32.35	32.35	48.45	62.10	71.95	81.25	102.15
67	32.80	32.80	49.25	62.75	72.30	81.70	103.75
68	33.20	33.20	49.90	63.65	72.60	82.10	105.20
69	33.65	33.65	50.55	64.60	73.00	82.50	106.75
70	34.05	34.05	51.35	64.90	73.30	82.85	108.25

1. Parcels addressed for delivery to zones 1-4 (including local) that weigh less than 20 pounds but measure more than 84 inches in combined length and girth (but not more than 108 inches) are charged the applicable price for a 20-pound parcel (balloon price).
2. Parcels addressed for delivery to zones 5-8 that exceed 1 cubic foot (1,728 cubic inches) are charged based on the actual weight or the dimensional weight (as calculated in DMM 123.1.4), whichever is greater.
3. For keys and ID devices that weigh:
  - Up to 13 ounces, refer to retail First-Class Mail parcel prices.
  - More than 13 ounces but not more than 1 pound, \$5.69.
  - More than 1 pound but not more than 2 pounds, \$6.49.
4. \$4.95 is charged for matter sent in a Priority Mail flat-rate envelope or small flat-rate box provided by the USPS, regardless of weight or domestic destination.
5. \$10.35 is charged for material sent in a Priority Mail regular/medium flat-rate box provided by the USPS, regardless of weight or domestic destination.
6. \$13.95 is charged for material sent in a Priority Mail large flat-rate box provided by the USPS, regardless of weight to domestic addresses, and \$11.95 to APO/FPO and DPO destination addresses.

**1.3 Balloon Price**

Parcels addressed for delivery to Zones 1-4 (including Local) that weigh less than 20 pounds but measure more than 84 inches (but not more than 108 inches) in combined length and girth are charged the applicable zone price for a 20-pound parcel (balloon price).

**1.4 Dimensional Weight Price for Low-Density Parcels to Zones 5-8**

Postage for parcels addressed for delivery to Zones 5-8 and exceeding 1 cubic foot (1,728 cubic inches) is based on the actual weight or the dimensional weight (as calculated in 1.4.1 or 1.4.2), whichever is greater.

**1.4.1 Determining Dimensional Weight for Rectangular Parcels**

Follow these steps to determine the dimensional weight for a rectangular parcel:

- a. Measure the length, width, and height in inches. Round off (see 604.7.0) each measurement to the nearest whole inch.
- b. Multiply the length by the width by the height.
- c. If the result exceeds 1,728 cubic inches, divide the result by 194 and round up (see 604.7.0) to the next whole number to determine the dimensional weight in pounds.

**1.4.2 Determining Dimensional Weight for Nonrectangular Parcels**

Follow these steps to determine the dimensional weight for a nonrectangular parcel:

- a. Measure the length, width, and height in inches at their extreme dimensions. Round off (see 604.7.0) each measurement to the nearest whole inch.
- b. Multiply the length by the width by the height.
- c. Multiply the result by an adjustment factor of 0.785.
- d. If the final result exceeds 1,728 cubic inches, divide the result by 194 and round up (see 604.7.0) to the next whole number to determine the dimensional weight in pounds.
- e. If the dimensional weight exceeds 70 pounds, the mailer pays the 70-pound price.

**1.5 Flat-Rate Envelope and Boxes**

Any amount of material may be mailed in a USPS-produced Priority Mail flat-rate box or flat-rate envelope. When sealing a flat-rate box or flat-rate envelope, the container flaps must be able to close within the normal folds. Tape may be applied to the flaps and seams to reinforce the container, provided the design of the container is not enlarged by opening the sides and the container is not reconstructed in any way.

**1.5.1 Flat-Rate Envelope—Price and Eligibility**

[1-18-09] Each USPS-produced Priority Mail flat-rate envelope is charged \$4.95, regardless of the actual weight of the piece or its destination. Only USPS-produced flat-rate envelopes are eligible for the flat-rate envelope price.



### 1.5.2 Flat-Rate Boxes—Price and Eligibility

[1-18-09] Items to an APO/FPO and DPO address may be shipped in the Priority Mail large flat-rate box or in a special version of the box identified with the additional logo: “Americasupportsyoudomail.” If the special version of the APO/FPO flat-rate box is used for non-APO/FPO and DPO addresses, the domestic or international large flat-rate box prices will apply. Only USPS-produced flat-rate boxes are eligible for the flat-rate box prices. Each USPS-produced Priority Mail flat-rate box, regardless of the actual weight of the piece or its destination, is charged:

- a. \$4.95 for material sent in Priority Mail small flat-rate boxes to domestic and APO/FPO and DPO addresses.
- b. \$10.35 for material sent in Priority Mail regular/medium flat-rate boxes (FRB-1) or (FRB-2) to domestic and APO/FPO and DPO addresses.
- c. \$11.95 for material sent in a Priority Mail large flat-rate box to APO/FPO and DPO destination addresses (see 703.2).
- d. \$13.95 for material sent in a Priority Mail large flat-rate box to domestic destinations.

### 1.6 Prices for Keys and Identification Devices

WEIGHT NOT OVER (pounds)	PRICE <sup>1</sup>
1 pound	\$5.69
2 pounds <sup>2</sup>	6.49

1. Prices shown include \$0.74 fee.

2. Zone 4 postage charged for all pieces.

### 1.7 Keys and Identification Devices

Keys and identification devices (e.g., identification cards or uncovered identification tags) that weigh more than 13 ounces but not more than 1 pound are returned at the 1-pound Priority Mail price plus the fee. Keys and identification devices weighing more than 1 pound but not more than 2 pounds are mailed at the 2-pound Priority Mail price for zone 4 plus the fee. The key or identification device must bear, contain, or have securely attached the name and complete address of a person, organization, or concern, with instructions to return the key or identification device to that address and a statement guaranteeing payment of postage due on delivery.

### 1.8 Pickup on Demand Fee

[5-11-09] Per occurrence: \$15.30. May be combined with Express Mail and Package Services pickups (see 507.6.0, [Pickup on Demand Service](#)).

### 1.9 Determining Single-Piece Weight

To determine single-piece weight in any mailing of nonidentical-weight pieces, weigh each piece individually. To determine single-piece weight in a mailing of identical-weight pieces, weigh a sample group of at least 10 randomly selected pieces and divide the total sample weight by the number of pieces in the sample. Express all single-piece weights in decimal pounds rounded off to four decimal places.

**1.10 Computing Postage**

Determine single-piece weight increment for each piece and affix postage to each piece under [124.1.2, \*Affixing Postage—Single-Piece Mailings\*](#) (as applicable) or, for permit imprint mailings, multiply the number of addressed pieces at each price increment by the corresponding postage price.

**2.0 Basic Eligibility Standards for Priority Mail****2.1 Definition**

Priority Mail is an expedited service and may contain any mailable matter weighing no more than 70 pounds except for APO and FPO mail subject to [703.2.0, \*Overseas Military Mail\*](#), [703.4.0, \*Mail Sent by U.S. Armed Forces\*](#), and Department of State mail subject to [703.3.0](#). Priority Mail prices are based on zone and weight.

**2.2 Service Objectives**

All Priority Mail receives expeditious handling and transportation. The USPS follows uniform guidelines for distributing and delivering mail but does not guarantee delivery within the specified time. Local postmasters can provide more information.

**2.3 Matter Closed Against Postal Inspection**

Matter closed against postal inspection includes First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Express Mail. The USPS may open mail other than First-Class Mail, Priority Mail or Express Mail to determine whether the proper postage is paid. Material wrapped or packaged so that it cannot be examined easily or examined without destruction or serious damage is closed against postal inspection and is charged the appropriate First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, or Express Mail price.

**3.0 Content Standards for Priority Mail****3.1 Eligibility**

All mailable matter may be sent as Priority Mail, except matter prohibited by standards (e.g., certain hazardous materials).

**3.2 Matter Required to be Mailed as First-Class Mail**

Unless Express Mail is used, Priority Mail prices are required for a mailpiece that weighs more than 13 ounces when the mailpiece contains matter that must be mailed as First-Class Mail. Complete descriptions of matter requiring the use of First-Class Mail are provided in [133.3.0](#).

