

Pieces of Mail Handled, Number of Post Offices, Income, and Expenses Since 1789

Figures ending in "000" have been rounded to the nearest thousand; figures ending in "000,000" have been rounded to the nearest million. Numbers for some years were revised in later years; the most recent figures are shown. Where blanks appear, statistics are not available. Source: *Annual Report of the Postmaster General*.

Year	Pieces of Mail Handled	Number of Post Offices	Income	Expenses
1789		75	\$ 7,510	\$ 7,560
<i>Income and expenses listed for 1789 are for three months only.</i>				
1790		75	37,935	32,140
1791		89	46,294	36,697
1792		195	67,443	54,530
1793		209	104,746	72,039
1794		450	128,947	89,972
1795		453	160,620	117,893
1796		468	195,066	131,571
1797		554	213,998	150,114
1798		639	232,977	179,084
1799		677	264,846	188,037
1800		903	280,804	213,994
1801		1,025	320,442	255,151
1802		1,114	327,044	281,916
1803		1,258	351,822	322,364
1804		1,405	389,449	337,502
1805		1,558	421,373	377,367
1806		1,710	446,105	417,233
1807		1,848	478,762	453,885
1808		1,944	460,564	462,828
1809		2,012	506,633	498,012
1810		2,300	551,684	495,969
1811		2,403	587,246	499,098
1812		2,610	649,208	540,165
1813		2,708	703,154	631,011
1814		2,670	730,270	727,126
1815		3,000	1,043,065	748,121
<i>Income first exceeded one million dollars in 1815.</i>				
1816		3,260	961,782	804,022
1817		3,459	1,002,973	916,515
1818		3,618	1,130,235	1,035,832
<i>Expenses first exceeded one million dollars in 1818.</i>				
1819		4,000	1,204,737	1,117,861
1820		4,500	1,111,927	1,160,926

Year	Pieces of Mail Handled	Number of Post Offices	Income	Expenses
1821		4,650	1,059,087	1,165,481
1822		4,709	1,117,490	1,167,572
1823		4,043	1,130,115	1,156,995
1824		5,182	1,197,758	1,188,019
1825		5,677	1,306,525	1,229,043
1826		6,150	1,447,703	1,366,712
1827		7,300	1,524,633	1,469,959
1828		7,530	1,659,915	1,689,945
1829		8,004	1,707,418	1,782,132
1830		8,450	1,850,583	1,932,708
1831		8,686	1,997,811	1,936,122
1832		9,205	2,258,570	2,266,171
1833		10,127	2,617,011	2,930,414
1834		10,693	2,823,749	2,910,605
1835		10,770	2,993,556	2,757,350
1836		11,091	3,408,323	2,841,766
1837		11,767	4,101,703	3,288,319
1838		12,519	4,238,733	4,430,662
1839		12,780	4,484,657	4,636,536
1840		13,468	4,543,522	4,718,236
1841		13,778	4,407,726	4,499,687
1842		13,733	4,546,850	4,627,717
1843		13,814	4,296,225	4,374,754
1844		14,103	4,237,288	4,298,513
1845		14,183	4,289,842	4,320,732
1846		14,601	3,487,199	4,076,037
1847	124,173,000	15,146	3,880,309	3,979,542
1848		16,159	4,555,211	4,326,850
1849		16,749	4,705,176	4,479,049
1850		18,417	5,499,985	5,212,953
1851		19,796	6,410,601	6,278,402
1852		20,901	5,184,526	7,108,459
1853		22,320	5,240,725	7,982,757
1854		23,548	6,255,586	8,577,424
1855		24,410	6,642,136	9,968,342
1856		25,565	6,920,822	10,405,286
1857		26,586	7,353,952	11,508,058
1858		27,977	7,486,793	12,722,470
1859		28,539	7,968,484	15,754,093
1860		28,498	8,518,067	14,874,601
1861		28,586	8,349,296	13,606,759
1862		28,875	8,299,821	11,125,364
1863		29,047	11,163,790	11,314,207
1864		28,878	12,438,254	12,644,786

Year	Pieces of Mail Handled	Number of Post Offices	Income	Expenses
1865		28,882	14,556,159	13,694,728
1866		29,389	14,386,986	15,352,079
1867		25,163	15,237,027	19,235,483
1868		26,481	16,292,001	22,730,793
1869		27,106	17,314,176	23,698,132
1870		28,492	18,879,537	23,998,838
1871		30,045	20,037,045	24,390,104
1872		31,863	21,915,426	26,658,192
1873		33,244	22,996,742	29,084,946
1874		34,294	26,471,072	32,126,415
1875		35,547	26,791,314	33,611,309
1876		36,383	28,644,198	33,236,488
1877		37,345	27,531,585	33,486,322
1878		38,253	29,277,517	34,165,084
1879		40,588	30,041,983	33,449,899
1880		42,989	33,315,479	36,542,804
1881		44,512	36,785,398	39,592,566
1882		46,231	41,876,410	40,482,021
1883		46,820	45,508,693	43,282,944
1884		48,434	43,325,959	47,224,560
1885		51,252	42,560,844	50,046,235
1886	3,747,000,000	53,614	43,948,423	51,004,744
1887	3,495,100,000	55,157	48,837,609	53,006,194
1888	3,576,100,000	57,376	52,695,177	56,458,315
1889	3,860,200,000	58,999	56,175,611	62,317,119
1890	4,005,408,000	62,401	60,882,098	66,259,548
1891	4,369,900,000	64,329	65,931,786	73,059,519
1892	4,776,575,000	67,119	70,930,475	76,980,846
1893	5,021,841,000	68,403	75,896,993	81,581,681
1894	4,919,090,000	69,805	75,080,479	84,994,112
1895	5,134,281,000	70,064	76,983,128	87,179,551
1896	5,693,719,000	70,360	82,499,208	90,932,670
1897	5,781,002,000	71,022	82,665,462	94,077,242
1898	6,214,447,000	73,570	89,012,618	98,053,523
1899	6,576,310,000	75,000	95,021,384	101,632,161
1900	7,129,990,000	76,688	102,353,579	107,740,268
1901	7,424,390,000	76,945	111,631,193	115,554,921
<i>The number of Post Offices peaked in 1901. The growth of rural free delivery, which became a permanent service in 1902, contributed to subsequent declines in the number of Post Offices.</i>				
1902	8,085,447,000	75,924	121,848,047	124,785,697
1903	8,867,467,000	74,169	134,224,443	138,784,488
1904	9,502,460,000	71,131	143,582,624	152,362,117
1905	10,187,506,000	68,131	152,826,585	167,399,169

Year	Pieces of Mail Handled	Number of Post Offices	Income	Expenses
1906	11,361,091,000	65,600	167,932,783	178,449,779
1907	12,255,666,000	62,658	183,585,006	190,238,288
1908	13,364,069,000	60,704	191,478,663	208,351,886
1909	14,004,577,000	60,144	203,562,383	221,004,103
1910	14,850,103,000	59,580	224,128,658	229,977,225
1911	16,900,552,000	59,237	237,879,824	237,648,927
1912	17,588,659,000	58,729	246,744,016	248,525,450
1913	18,567,445,000	58,020	266,619,526	262,067,541
1914		56,810	287,934,565	283,543,769
1915		56,380	287,248,165	298,546,026
1916		55,935	312,057,689	306,204,033
1917		55,414	329,726,116	319,838,718
1918		54,347	388,975,962	324,833,728
1919		53,084	436,239,126	362,497,636
1920		52,641	437,150,212	454,322,609
1921		52,168	463,491,275	620,993,674
1922		51,950	484,853,541	545,644,209
1923	23,054,832,000	51,613	532,827,925	556,850,966
1924		51,266	572,948,778	587,376,916
1925		50,957	599,591,478	639,281,648
1926	25,483,529,000	50,601	659,819,801	679,704,053
1927	26,686,556,000	50,266	683,121,989	714,577,492
1928	26,837,005,000	49,944	693,633,921	725,699,766
1929	27,951,548,000	49,482	696,947,578	782,343,648
1930	27,887,823,000	49,063	705,484,098	803,667,219
1931	26,544,352,000	48,733	656,463,383	802,484,840
1932	24,306,744,000	48,159	588,171,923	793,684,323
1933	19,868,456,000	47,641	587,631,364	699,887,186
1934	20,625,827,000	46,506	586,733,166	630,732,934
1935	22,331,752,000	45,686	630,795,302	696,503,235
1936	23,571,315,000	45,230	665,343,356	753,616,212
1937	25,801,279,000	44,877	726,201,110	772,743,145
1938	26,041,979,000	44,586	728,634,051	772,307,506
1939	26,444,846,000	44,327	745,955,075	784,549,842
1940	27,749,467,000	44,024	766,948,627	807,629,180
1941	29,235,791,000	43,739	812,827,735	836,858,580
1942	30,117,633,000	43,358	859,817,491	873,950,372
1943	32,818,262,000	42,654	966,227,288	952,529,098
1944	34,930,685,000	42,161	1,112,877,174	1,068,986,872
<i>Income and expenses first exceeded one billion dollars in 1944.</i>				
1945	37,912,067,000	41,792	1,314,240,132	1,145,002,246
1946	36,318,158,000	41,751	1,224,572,173	1,353,654,000
1947	37,427,706,000	41,760	1,299,141,041	1,504,799,000
1948	40,280,374,000	41,695	1,410,971,284	1,687,805,000

Year	Pieces of Mail Handled	Number of Post Offices	Income	Expenses
1949	43,555,108,000	41,607	1,571,851,202	2,149,322,000
1950	45,063,737,000	41,464	1,677,486,967	2,222,949,000
1951	46,908,410,000	41,193	1,776,816,354	2,341,399,000
1952	49,905,875,000	40,919	1,947,316,280	2,666,860,000
1953	50,948,156,000	40,609	2,091,714,112	2,742,126,000
1954	52,213,170,000	39,405	2,268,516,717	2,667,664,000
1955	55,233,564,000	38,316	2,349,476,528	2,712,150,214
1956	56,441,216,000	37,515	2,419,353,664	2,883,305,122
1957	59,077,633,000	37,012	2,496,614,310	3,044,438,004
1958	60,129,911,000	36,308	2,550,220,791	3,440,810,346
1959	61,247,220,000	35,750	3,035,231,808	3,640,368,053
1960	63,674,604,000	35,238	3,276,588,433	3,873,952,908
1961	64,932,859,000	34,955	3,423,058,716	4,249,413,744
1962	66,493,190,000	34,797	3,557,040,595	4,331,617,483
1963	67,852,738,000	34,498	3,879,127,992	4,698,527,911
1964	69,676,477,000	34,040	4,276,123,326	4,927,824,958
1965	71,873,166,000	33,624	4,483,389,833	5,275,839,877
1966	75,607,302,000	33,121	4,784,186,482	5,726,522,930
1967	78,366,572,000	32,626	5,101,982,384	6,249,026,677
1968	79,516,731,000	32,260	5,660,111,244	6,680,971,666
1969	82,004,501,000	32,064	6,255,883,348	7,278,849,508
1970	84,881,833,000	32,002	6,472,737,791	7,982,551,936
1971	86,983,000,000	31,947	8,751,484,000	8,955,264,000
<i>Effective July 1, 1971, the Post Office Department was transformed into the United States Postal Service, an independent establishment of the executive branch of the Government of the United States.</i>				
1972	87,156,084,000	31,686	9,308,379,000	9,585,369,000
1973	89,683,439,000	31,385	9,824,540,000	9,926,441,000
1974	90,098,108,000	31,000	10,758,759,000	11,295,339,000
1975	89,265,979,000	30,754	11,548,104,000	12,574,205,000
1976	89,767,903,000	30,521	12,843,714,000	13,922,736,000
1977	92,223,912,000	30,521	14,709,939,000	15,310,169,000
1978	96,913,154,000	30,518	15,854,566,000	16,219,619,000
1979	99,828,883,000	30,449	17,825,629,000	17,529,303,000
1980	106,311,062,000	30,326	18,752,915,000	19,412,587,000
1981	110,130,400,000	30,242	20,408,000,000	21,369,000,000
1982	114,049,205,000	30,155	23,307,000,000	22,826,000,000
<i>The Postal Service last received a public service subsidy (taxpayer dollars) in 1982.</i>				
1983	119,381,409,000	29,990	24,370,667,000	24,083,073,000
1984	131,544,620,000	29,750	26,192,554,000	26,357,353,000
1985	140,097,956,000	29,557	28,705,691,000	29,207,201,000
1986	147,375,805,000	29,344	30,817,927,000	30,716,595,000
1987	153,930,574,000	29,319	32,178,112,000	32,519,689,000
1988	160,953,625,000	29,203	35,553,000,000	36,119,000,000

Year	Pieces of Mail Handled	Number of Post Offices	Income	Expenses
1989	161,603,264,000	29,083	38,415,000,000	38,371,000,000
1990	166,300,770,000	28,959	39,654,830,000	40,489,884,000
1991	165,850,600,000	28,912	43,884,472,000	42,119,000,000
1992	166,443,400,000	28,837	46,695,800,000	45,652,878,000
1993	171,220,000,000	28,728	47,582,000,000	46,321,600,000
1994	178,039,400,000	28,657	49,383,400,000	48,455,200,000
1995	180,733,700,000	28,392	54,293,500,000	50,730,200,000
1996	183,439,500,000	28,189	56,402,000,000	53,113,000,000
1997	190,888,100,000	28,060	58,216,000,000	55,131,000,000
1998	196,904,700,000	27,952	60,072,000,000	57,786,000,000
1999	201,576,300,000	27,893	62,726,000,000	60,642,000,000
2000	207,882,200,000	27,876	64,540,000,000	62,992,000,000
2001	207,462,600,000	27,876	65,834,000,000	65,640,000,000
2002	202,821,900,000	27,791	66,463,000,000	65,234,000,000
2003	202,184,700,000	27,556	68,529,000,000	63,902,000,000
2004	206,105,600,000	27,505	68,996,000,000	65,851,000,000
2005	211,742,700,000	27,385	69,907,400,000	68,281,000,000
2006	213,137,700,000	27,318	72,650,400,000	71,681,000,000
2007	212,234,000,000	27,276	74,778,100,000	80,105,000,000
2008	202,703,000,000	27,232	74,932,000,000	77,738,000,000
2009	176,744,000,000	27,161	68,090,500,000	71,830,000,000
2010	170,859,000,000	27,077	67,052,000,000	75,426,000,000
2011	168,297,000,000	26,927	65,711,000,000	70,634,000,000
2012	159,835,000,000	26,755	65,223,000,000	80,964,000,000
2013	158,222,000,000	26,670	67,318,000,000	72,128,000,000
2014	155,532,000,000	26,669	67,830,000,000	73,178,000,000
2015	154,321,000,000	26,615	68,928,000,000	73,826,000,000
2016	154,342,000,000	26,611	71,498,000,000	76,899,000,000
2017	149,491,000,000	26,410	69,636,000,000	72,210,000,000

HISTORIAN
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
MARCH 2018