



This is our season!

Holiday 2014 – Dates, Deadlines and Facts



Busiest Mailing / Delivery Days

- Busiest mailing day for cards, letters and packages:
Monday, December 15
- Busiest delivery day for cards and letters:
Wednesday, December 17
- Busiest delivery day for packages:
Thursday, December 18

Mail-By Dates for Domestic Mail

- December 15, Standard Post
- December 20, First-Class Mail
- December 20, Priority Mail
- December 23, Priority Mail Express

- The Postal Service is projecting 15.5 billion cards, letters and packages will be delivered from Thanksgiving to New Year's Eve. The increase from last year is due to the increase in advertising mail and package volume; 12.7 billion cards, letters and packages will be delivered between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve.

(Holiday volume between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve for 2013 was 14.7 billion pieces; 2012 was 15.2 billion pieces; and 2011 was 16.5 billion pieces.)

- On average, the Postal Service processes 523 million pieces of mail every day.
- During the holiday season, that volume increases to 553 million pieces of mail daily. The increase from last year is due to the increase in advertising mail and package volume *(545 million in 2013; 560 million in 2012).*
- The Postal Service expects to process about 640 million pieces of mail on December 15. The increase from last year is due to the increase in advertising mail and package volume *(607 million in 2013; 658 million in 2012).*

- The Postal Service is projecting 470 million packages will be delivered this holiday season, a 12% increase over last year's volume of 420 million. *(2013 was 420 million packages; a 12% increase over 2012 volume of 383 million.)*
- About 3 million customers will skip the trip to the Post Office this year and use Click-N-Ship to mail packages — 10 percent more than last year.
- Beginning December 3, the National Operations Center will be staffed around the clock, seven days a week, to monitor and coordinate mail transportation nationwide.



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Holiday 2014 — Dates and Deadlines



2014 Domestic Mailing Deadlines

| Domestic Mail Class / Product | Deadline Date |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| First-Class Mail | December 20 |
| Priority Mail | December 20 |
| Priority Mail Express* | December 23 |
| Standard Post | December 15 |
| DNDC Drop Ship | December 19 |
| DDU Drop Ship | December 22 |

* Priority Mail Express postage refund eligibility is adjusted for shipments mailed Dec. 22-25.

2014 Holiday Season Import Dates*

| Surface | | Air | | PEMS |
|---------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| LC/AO | CP | LC/AO | CP | |
| Dec-9 | Dec-6 | Dec-15 | Dec-13 | Dec-18 |

* Provides mailing guidelines for foreign postal partners in order to meet December 25 delivery.

Mail Class By Code:

LC – Letters, Aerogramme's (USPS No Longer Offers Outbound Aerogramme's), Cards and Letter Package
AO – Newspapers, Magazines, Matter For The Blind, Printed Matter, Small Package
CP – Packages - Standard Post (Surface), Priority (Air)

2014 Military Mailing Deadlines

| Military Mail Addressed To | Priority Mail Express Military Service (PMEMS) ¹ | First-Class Mail Letters and Cards | Priority Mail | Parcel Air Lift (PAL) ² | Space Available Mail (SAM) ³ | Standard Post |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| APO/FPO AE ZIPS 090-092 | Dec-17 | Dec-10 | Dec-10 | Dec-3 | Nov-26 | Nov-8 |
| APO/FPO AE ZIP 093 | N/A | Dec-3 | Dec-3 | Dec-3 | Nov-26 | Nov-8 |
| APO/FPO AE ZIPS 094-098 | Dec-17 | Dec-10 | Dec-10 | Dec-3 | Nov-26 | Nov-8 |
| APO/FPO AA ZIP 340 | Dec-17 | Dec-10 | Dec-10 | Dec-3 | Nov-26 | Nov-8 |
| APO/FPO AP ZIPS 962-966 | Dec-17 | Dec-10 | Dec-10 | Dec-3 | Nov-26 | Nov-8 |

¹ PMEMS is available to select Military/Diplomatic Post Offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to an APO/FPO/DPO address.

² PAL is a service that provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available

for Standard Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface price for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

³ SAM parcels are paid at Standard Post prices with maximum weight and size limits of 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM parcels are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis.

2014 Holiday Season Import Dates

December 06 — Last day to send Parcel Post packages via surface transportation.

December 09 — Last day to send letters, flats and small packages via surface transportation.

December 13 — Last day to send Priority packages via air transportation.

December 15 — Last day to send letters, flats and small packages via air transportation.

December 18 — Last day to send Priority Mail Express service items (any shape).

2014 International Mailing Deadlines

| International Mail Addressed To | Global Express Guaranteed (GXG) | Priority Mail Express International (PMEI) | Priority Mail International (PMI) | First-Class Package International Service (FCPIS) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Africa | Dec-18 | Dec-10 | Dec-02 | Dec-2 |
| Asia/Pacific Rim | Dec-17 | Dec-14 | Dec-09 | Dec-9 |
| Australia/New Zealand | Dec-17 | Dec-14 | Dec-09 | Dec-9 |
| Canada | Dec-19 | Dec-16 | Dec-12 | Dec-9 |
| Caribbean | Dec-18 | Dec-14 | Dec-12 | Dec-9 |
| Central & South America | Dec-18 | Dec-12 | Dec-02 | Dec-2 |
| Mexico | Dec-19 | Dec-14 | Dec-09 | Dec-9 |
| Europe | Dec-18 | Dec-14 | Dec-12 | Dec-9 |
| Middle East | Dec-17 | Dec-14 | Dec-12 | Dec-9 |

