

FACT SHEET

PROCESSING FACILITIES

The Postal Service has nine different types of processing facilities:

Processing and Distribution Centers — P&DCs process and dispatch mail coming in from Post Offices and collection boxes in a specific geographic location.

Customer Service Facilities — CSFs are Post Offices, stations or branches that contain processing equipment.

Network Distribution Centers — NDCs consolidate the processing of mail to increase operational efficiency, decrease costs and maintain service while expanding the surface transportation reach. Formerly Bulk Mail Centers (BMCs)

Logistics and Distribution Centers — LDCs provide mail processing and distribution to local Post Office as well as other smaller distribution facilities, and are equipped with fixed mechanization for mail processing.

Annexes — Annexes provide the larger facilities with additional capacity for processing and distribution.

Surface Transfer Centers — STCs distribute, dispatch, consolidate and transfer First-Class Mail, Priority mail and Periodicals within a specialized surface transportation network.

Air Mail Centers — AMCs process and distribute inbound and outbound domestically flown mail for that specific geographic location. The one remaining AMC is located in Puerto Rico.

Remote Encoding Centers — RECs process video images of letter mail. The mail remains at the P&DC. REC employees work from a scanned image of an envelope to provide extracted information to determine a barcode for the envelope.

International Service Centers — ISCs process and distribute inbound and outbound international mail.

How many of each kind of processing facility are there? Has the number changed in the past five years?

PROCESSING FACILITY TYPE		2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Processing and Distribution Centers	P&DC	251	260	268	269	269	269	269
Customer Service Facilities	CSF	115	164	195	195	195	195	195
Network Distribution Centers	NDC	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
Logistics and Distribution Centers	LDC	10	13	14	14	14	11	11
Annexes	—	46	51	61	64	66	66	66
Surface Transfer Centers	STC	10	11	20	20	14	17	14
Air Mail Centers	AMC	1	1	12	20	29	77	79
Remote Encoding Centers	REC	2	2	3	6	10	12	15
International Service Centers	ISC	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Total Processing Facilities		461	528	599	614	623	673	675