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Contact: Sue Brennan  
202.268.6363

[sue.brennan@usps.gov](mailto:sue.brennan@usps.gov)

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## **Postal Service Ready to Deliver Holiday Cheer**

*Approximately 16 billion pieces of mail, including 750 million packages to be delivered this holiday season*



WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service today announced it was ready to deliver a lot of cheer — in the form of roughly 16 billion cards, letters and packages — this holiday season.

The Postal Service, the largest e-commerce deliverer, is projecting about 750 million packages will be delivered this holiday season, a 12-percent increase in volume compared to last year.

“Our customers can count on the entire Postal Service workforce to deliver their holiday gifts, cards and letters,” said Megan J. Brennan, Postmaster General and CEO. “With the Postal Service’s unrivaled network and expanded 7-day a week delivery window, we are uniquely qualified to provide the highest levels of customer service and we are confident that’s exactly what we’ll do this holiday season.”

Additionally, the Postal Service is hiring more than 35,000 seasonal employees to help process and deliver increased volumes and meet the needs of its customers.

While the Postal Service already delivers packages on Sunday in most major cities, following the success of past holiday seasons, it will expand Sunday delivery operations to all locations with high package volumes beginning Nov. 27. More than five million packages are expected to be delivered each Sunday in December. Mail carriers will also deliver packages on Christmas Day in select locations.

### **Busiest Mailing and Delivery Days**

The Postal Service predicts that Monday, Dec. 19, will be the busiest mailing and shipping day for holiday packages, letters and cards. Thursday, Dec. 22, is expected to be the busiest delivery day for holiday packages, cards and letters. The Postal Service anticipates nearly 30 million packages will be delivered on the peak delivery day alone.

### **Skip the Trip and Ship Online**

Dec. 19 will also be the Postal Service’s busiest day online with more than 7 million customers predicted to visit [usps.com](http://usps.com) that day alone. Customers can avoid holiday hassles by visiting [usps.com](http://usps.com)

— the Postal Service’s website that will help make mailing and shipping easier than ever. Millions of customers will skip the trip to the Post Office altogether and take advantage of convenient online shipping this holiday season. Click-N-Ship and other online services allow customers to order free Priority Mail boxes, print shipping labels, purchase postage and even request free next-day Package Pickup from the mail carrier.

### **Holiday Advertising Campaign**

The 2016 holiday campaign emphasizes the proud tradition of delivering cheer and the value the Postal Service offers consumers and businesses during the holidays. The Postal Service holiday campaign will feature direct mail, TV, radio, print, digital and social media promotions.

The TV spot will begin airing today and can be viewed [here](#). The direct mail piece will be in more than 3 million homes the week of Thanksgiving.

### **2016 Christmas Shipping Deadlines**

The Postal Service recommends the following mailing and shipping deadlines:

- Nov. 7 – APO/FPO/DPO USPS Retail Ground
- Dec. 9 – APO/FPO/DPO Priority Mail & First Class Mail
- Dec. 15 – USPS Retail Ground
- Dec. 20 – First Class Mail
- Dec. 21 – Priority Mail
- Dec. 23 – Priority Mail Express

Additional news and information, including all domestic, international and military mailing and shipping deadlines, can be found at the Postal Service Holiday Newsroom at [usps.com/holidaynews](http://usps.com/holidaynews).

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

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Please Note: For broadcast quality video and audio, photo stills and other media resources, visit the USPS Newsroom at [about.usps.com/news/welcome.htm](http://about.usps.com/news/welcome.htm).

More USPS holiday news, including shipping deadlines and Santa mail, can be found at [usps.com/holidaynews](http://usps.com/holidaynews).

For reporters interested in speaking with a regional Postal Service public relations professional, please go to [about.usps.com/news/media-contacts/usps-local-media-contacts.pdf](http://about.usps.com/news/media-contacts/usps-local-media-contacts.pdf). Follow us on Twitter ([twitter.com/usps](https://twitter.com/usps)), Instagram ([instagram.com/uspostalservice](https://www.instagram.com/uspostalservice)), Pinterest ([pinterest.com/uspsstamps](https://www.pinterest.com/uspsstamps)), LinkedIn ([linkedin.com/company/usps](https://www.linkedin.com/company/usps)), subscribe to our channel on YouTube ([youtube.com/usps](https://www.youtube.com/usps)), like us on Facebook ([facebook.com/usps](https://www.facebook.com/usps)) and view our Postal Posts blog ([uspsblog.com](http://uspsblog.com)).

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