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A Primer on the U.S. Postal Service's Large Price Increases

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How much?

6.8 percent on first-class mail prices.

6.9 percent on all mail products and services.

One of the largest price increases in the Postal Service's history.

When?

August 29, 2021, barring extraordinary and unexpected action.

Previous increases?

1.8 percent (first-class mail) and 1.5 percent (other categories) on January 24, 2021.

Annual increases were previously tied to annual changes in the Consumer Price Index, per the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act.

The process?

November 30, 2020: Final Rule from the Postal Regulatory Commission established a new framework for rate increases above the rate of inflation.

Additional Resources

[U.S. Postal Service -- May 28, 2021 Press Release on Rate Increase](#)

[Postal Regulatory Commission Final Rule on Rate Increases -- November 30, 2020](#)

[Consumer Price Index -- Historical Changes Since 2016](#)