



HOLIDAY 2013 — Dates, Deadlines and Facts

BUSIEST MAILING / DELIVERY DAYS

- **BUSIEST MAILING DAY** – CARDS, LETTERS, PACKAGES **MONDAY** **DECEMBER 16**
- **BUSIEST DELIVERY DAY** – CARDS AND LETTERS **WEDNESDAY** **DECEMBER 18**
- **BUSIEST DELIVERY DAY** – PACKAGES **THURSDAY** **DECEMBER 19**

- ✳ **The Postal Service is projecting 14.7 billion cards will be delivered from Thanksgiving to New Year’s Eve / 13.1 billion cards, letters and packages will be delivered between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve.** (Holiday volume between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Eve for 2012 was 15.2 billion / 16.5 billion pieces in 2011)
- ✳ **On AVERAGE, the Postal Service processes 528 million pieces of mail every day**
- ✳ **During the HOLIDAY season, that volume increases to 545 million pieces of mail daily** (560 million, 2012)
- ✳ **We expect to process about 607 million pieces of mail on December 16** (658 million, 2012)

We recommend customers send packages before or by the following dates for arrival in time for the holidays.

DOMESTIC MAILING DEADLINES

DOMESTIC MAIL CLASS / PRODUCT	DEADLINE DATE
FIRST CLASS MAIL	DECEMBER 20
PRIORITY MAIL	DECEMBER 21
PRIORITY MAIL EXPRESS*	DECEMBER 23
STANDARD POST	DECEMBER 14
DNDC DROP SHIP	DECEMBER 19
DDU DROP SHIP	DECEMBER 21

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

INTERNATIONAL MAILING DEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL MAIL ADDRESSED TO	GLOBAL EXPRESS GUARANTEED (GXG)	PRIORITY MAIL EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL (PMEI)	PRIORITY MAIL INTERNATIONAL (PMI)	FIRST-CLASS MAIL
AFRICA	DEC-17	DEC-10	DEC-2	DEC-2
ASIA/PACIFIC RIM	DEC-16	DEC-14	DEC-9	DEC-9
AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND	DEC-16	DEC-14	DEC-9	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-10	DEC-2	DEC-2
MEXICO	DEC-18	DEC-14	DEC-11	DEC-9
EUROPE	DEC-18	DEC-14	DEC-12	DEC-9
MIDDLE EAST	DEC-16	DEC-14	DEC-12	DEC-9

2013 Holiday Season Import Dates*

SURFACE		AIR		PEMS
LC/AO	CP	LC/AO	CP	
DEC-9	DEC-3	DEC-16	DEC-14	DEC-17

*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)

2013 HOLIDAY SEASON IMPORT DATES

DECEMBER 03 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 14 LAST DAY TO SEND PRIORITY PACKAGES VIA AIR TRANSPORTATION

DECEMBER 16 LAST DAY TO SEND LETTERS, FLATS AND SMALL PACKAGES VIA AIR TRANSPORTATION

DECEMBER 17 LAST DAY TO SEND PRIORITY EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE ITEMS (ANY SHAPE)

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-12
APO/FPO AE ZIP 093	N/A	DEC-3	DEC-3	DEC-3	NOV-26	NOV-12
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 094-098	DEC-17	DEC-10	DEC-10	DEC-3	NOV-26	NOV-12
APO/FPO AA ZIP 340	DEC-17	DEC-10	DEC-10	DEC-3	NOV-26	NOV-12
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966	DEC-17	DEC-10	DEC-10	DEC-3	NOV-26	NOV-12

¹ PMEMS IS AVAILABLE TO SELECTED 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.