

## Domestic Rates for Letters and Postcards

Prior to the middle of the 19th century, rates were based on the number of sheets in a letter and the distance it was traveling. In 1845, rates were based on the weight of a letter and the distance it was going. Beginning in 1863, domestic letter rates became "uniform," that is, they were based solely on weight, regardless of distance.

Postage listed below is in cents.

### Letters

Effective Date	Per		
	1/2 Ounce		
March 3, 1863	3		
March 3, 1883	2		
	Per Ounce		
July 1, 1885	2		
November 3, 1917	3		
July 1, 1919	2		
July 6, 1932	3		
August 1, 1958	4		
January 7, 1963	5		Zip code starts
January 7, 1968	6		
May 16, 1971	8		
March 2, 1974	10		
	First	Each	
	Ounce	Additional	
		Ounce	
September 14, 1975	10	9	
December 31, 1975	13	11	
May 29, 1978	15	13	
March 22, 1981	18	17	A
November 1, 1981	20	17	B
October 1, 1983			
February 17, 1985	22	17	+4 zip starts
April 3, 1988	25	20	D
February 3, 1991	29	21	E
January 1, 1995	32	21	F
January 10, 1999	33	21	G
January 7, 2001	34	21	H
June 30, 2002	37	23	
January 8, 2006	39	24	
May 14, 2007	41	17	
May 12, 2008	42	17	
May 11, 2009	44	17	

## Postal cards (Postal Service Issued) and Postcards (Privately Manufactured)

Effective Date	Postal Cards	Postcards
May 1, 1873	1	--
July 1, 1898	1	1
November 3, 1917	2	2
July 1, 1919	1	1
April 15, 1925	1	2
July 1, 1928	1	1
January 1, 1952	2	2
August 1, 1958	3	3
January 7, 1963	4	4
January 7, 1968	5	5
May 16, 1971	6	6
March 2, 1974	8	8
September 14, 1975	7	7
December 31, 1975	9	9
May 29, 1978	10	10
March 22, 1981	12	12
November 1, 1981	13	13
February 17, 1985	14	14
April 3, 1988	15	15
February 3, 1991	19	19
January 1, 1995	21	21
January 10, 1999	21	21
January 7, 2001	21	21
June 30, 2002	23	23
January 8, 2006	24	24
May 14, 2007	26	26
May 12, 2008	27	27
May 11, 2009	28	28

[http://www.usps.com/history/history/his4\\_5.htm#DOM](http://www.usps.com/history/history/his4_5.htm#DOM)