

The History of Postage Rates in the United States

Compiled by Andrew K. Dart

Effective date	Per ½ Ounce		
March 3, 1863	3¢		
October 1, 1883	2¢		
	Per Ounce		
July 1, 1885	2¢		
			Remarks
November 3, 1917	3¢		Higher rate during the war
July 1, 1919	2¢		
		Postcards	
Sometime in 1898		1¢	
July 6, 1932	3¢		
January 1, 1952		2¢	
August 1, 1958	4¢	3¢	
January 7, 1963	5¢	4¢	ZIP Code begins
January 7, 1968	6¢	5¢	
May 16, 1971	8¢	6¢	
March 2, 1974	10¢	8¢	
	Each Additional Ounce		
September 14, 1975	10¢	9¢	7¢
December 31, 1975	13¢	11¢	9¢
May 29, 1978	15¢	13¢	10¢
March 22, 1981	18¢	17¢	12¢
November 1, 1981	20¢	17¢	13¢

October 1, 1983				ZIP+4 is implemented
February 17, 1985	22¢	17¢	14¢	"D" stamps
April 3, 1988	25¢	20¢	15¢	"E" stamps
February 3, 1991	29¢	23¢	19¢	"F" stamps
January 1, 1995	32¢	23¢	20¢	"G" stamps
January 10, 1999	33¢	22¢	20¢	"H" stamps
January 7, 2001	34¢	21¢	20¢	Nondenominated stamps
July 1, 2001	34¢	23¢	21¢	
June 30, 2002	37¢	23¢	23¢	Flag and Antique Toy stamps
January 8, 2006	39¢	24¢	24¢	
May 14, 2007	41¢	17¢	26¢	
May 12, 2008	42¢	17¢	27¢	
May 11, 2009	44¢	17¢	28¢	
April 17, 2011	44¢	20¢	29¢	Second-ounce increase