



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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POSTAL NEWS

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Postal Service ready for busiest mailing, delivery days next week

Americans will place more than 900 million pieces of mail with the U.S. Postal Service on Monday, Dec. 18, the busiest mailing day of the year. About 280 million pieces of that total will be cards and letters. This is an increase of about 230 million in volume over the average mailing day.

The Postal Service also is seeing a dramatic increase in holiday mail to military installations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For the first 14 days in December, there have been 12 more 747 cargo aircraft dispatched with mail to the Middle East than during the same period last year. That is almost an extra 747 lift a day every day. Last year, the Postal Service delivered more than 10.5 million pounds of mail to military installations overseas during the holiday period. This year, more than 16 million pounds of mail have been delivered since Nov. 1.

What/ When: **Monday, Dec. 18 – Busiest mailing day of the year**
Wednesday, Dec. 20 – Busiest delivery day of the year

Where: 37,000 Post Offices and stations
269 Processing and Distribution Centers
15 million Post Office Boxes
Blue street collection boxes
251,038 delivery routes
Your home or business

Who: 700,000 Postal Service employees across the country
Postmasters, retail clerks, letter carriers, distribution center employees, call center operators, Postal Service executives

Covering the Story

In person: Visit a local Post Office
Arrangements can be made by contacting media representatives in local markets.
[Go to USPS.com](http://USPS.com) and click on the Holiday Press Room. Once inside, click on the “USPS Local Media Contact” sheet. Contacts are listed alphabetically by state.

Online: Information on free package pickup, customized postage, greeting cards, shipping options, stamps, forwarding or holding mail
[Visit USPS.com/holiday](http://USPS.com/holiday) for customer convenience
[Visit the Holiday Press Room](http://USPS.com/holiday/pressroom) at USPS.com for fact sheets, numbers, PDFs and press releases

B-Roll: DVD of package volume, mail being processed, slates of packing tips
[Call 202.278.3118](tel:202.278.3118)

Audio: MP3 downloads on packing tips, letters being processed, packages being sorted, Post Office lobby nat sound, packing and wrapping
[Go online: USPS.com](http://USPS.com), click on the Holiday Press Room