

Press release

UNIVERSAL POSTAL SERVICE

2022 rates: Arcep publishes its opinion on universal postal service pricing for 2022

Paris, 2 August 2021

Arcep is issuing its opinion on price changes in 2022 for mail and parcel delivery products that are part of the universal postal service.

Fourth year of Arcep's multi-annual price cap for 2019 to 2022

These price changes correspond to the fourth and final year of application of a multi-annual price cap that Arcep set for 2019 – 2022 in its Decision of 26 October 2017¹. The price cap set by this decision reflects the dramatic changes in the economic environment in which La Poste is operating, which has resulted in a structural decrease in the volume of mail handled by the universal postal service. It therefore helps give La Poste and the market clarity on possible future price changes for those products that are part of the universal postal service². This decision caps the nominal average annual increase for universal postal services at 5%, for the period running from 2019 to 2022. It has been up to La Poste to decide on how its prices will change, within the parameters of this price cap.

Price increase planned by La Poste falls within the parameters set by Arcep

The average 4.9% price increase that La Poste plans on applying in 2022 falls within this price cap. It is also adjusted according to the category of service (personal and small business mail, business mail, relational mail, direct marketing, registered mail, universal service parcels, universal service press items and international mail). The different changes by service category follow through on those made in the preceding years.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Moyenne 2016 – 2022
Courrier des particuliers et TPE	5,8%	5,0%	10,3%	10,1%	10,3%	10,0%	8,1%	8,5%
Courrier des entreprises	4,8%	5,0%	7,6%	7,0%	5,8%	5,2%	5,2%	5,8%
Courrier relationnel	2,8%	1,9%	1,8%	2,3%	3,5%	3,9%	4,2%	2,9%
Publicité adressée	0,3%	0,4%	1,8%	1,8%	1,1%	1,4%	2,3%	1,3%
Lettre recommandée	3,0%	2,3%	1,8%	2,1%	1,6%	2,1%	3,6%	2,4%
Colis relevant du SU	0,9%	1,0%	1,5%	1,4%	2,0%	3,9%	1,9%	1,8%
Autres (Presse SU, Services, Courrier international)	6,4%	5,2%	5,6%	5,4%	6,1%	5,4%	5,9%	5,7%
Ensemble du service universel	3,8%	3,3%	5,0%	5,0%	5,0%	5,1%**	4,9%	4,6%
Evolution des volumes économiques	-5,6%	-6,4%	-6,4%	-8,0%	-18,8%	-4,6%*	-4,6%*	-7,9%*
Inflation	0,2%	1,0%	1,8%	1,1%	0,5%	1,9%*	1,5%*	1,1%*

* prévisions

** avec prise en compte de l'augmentation tarifaire des colis outre-mer le 6 avril 2021

At constant volume, this will increase households' basket by 5.4%, or 2.06 euros, in 2022: from 38.06 euros to 40.12 euros. However, because service usage forecasts point to a steady decrease going forward due to changing user behaviours, average household spending in 2022 is expected to stand at 38.38 euros.

¹ [Arcep Decision No. 2017-1252 of 26 October 2017](#)

² The universal postal service includes obligations to provide a defined set of postal services: it represents three quarters of La Poste's mail business and close to a third of its parcel business. The bulk of transportation and press distribution solutions are excluded, and are part of a dedicated public service mandate.

Associated documents

- [Arcep Opinion No. 2021-1346 of 8 July 2021 on the La Poste rate proposal received on 14 June 2021, for mail and parcel delivery products in Metropolitan France, in French overseas territories and internationally, that are part of the universal postal service](#)
- [Press release of 6 November 2017: Arcep sets the multi-annual price caps for universal postal services from 2019 to 2022](#)






Arcep at a glance

The Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications, Postal Affairs and Print Media Distribution (Arcep), a neutral and expert arbitrator with the status of independent administrative authority (IAA), is the architect and guardian of internet, fixed and mobile communications and postal networks in France.

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