

# U.S. Postal Service Information

## A Guide for Activists

### Overview

There is no shortage of information about the Postal Service. This guide outlines some of the places where NALC activists can find information about the Postal Service and the types of data and reports that are available.

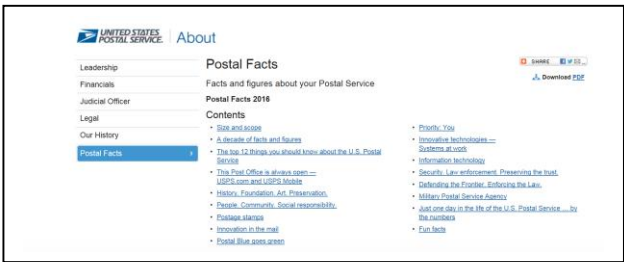

### Key Websites

Below is a list of three key websites. Each contains a large amount of information about the Postal Service. (The PRC and USPS OIG websites also have a sign-up for e-mail alerts. See the end of this document for more info).

Website	Description	Sample of information
<a href="http://USPS.com">USPS.com</a>	Public website of the Postal Service	Latest news releases, history, financial results, mail volume, postal store, mail tracking, etc.
<a href="http://PRC.gov">PRC.gov</a>	Public website of the Postal Regulatory Commission	Repository for PRC case filings, PRC and USPS reports, service performance reports, PAEA, CPI cap info, etc.
<a href="http://USPSOIG.gov">USPSOIG.gov</a>	Public website of the U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General	Audits, reports, while papers about many different USPS subjects

### Reports and Data

The following tables outline various information that is available on USPS.com, PRC.gov, and USPSOIG.gov.

I. USPS.com (Public website of the U.S. Postal Service)	
<p><b>1. Postal Facts (<a href="http://about.usps.com/who-we-are/postal-facts/welcome.htm">http://about.usps.com/who-we-are/postal-facts/welcome.htm</a>)</b> Each year the Postal Service publishes a fact book that contains a wide range of postal facts and figures. The fact book has a table with many different metrics going back 10 years (revenue, employees, mail volume, etc) and a number of interesting facts about the Postal Service. This is a good place to start for a relatively short overview of the USPS.</p>	
<p><b>2. Form 10-K (<a href="http://about.usps.com/who-we-are/financials/welcome.htm">http://about.usps.com/who-we-are/financials/welcome.htm</a>)</b> At the end of each fiscal year (the fiscal year ends 9/30), the Postal Service files a Form 10-K with the Postal Regulatory Commission. The 10-K is an annual report that describes the Postal Service's activity and financial performance over the course of the fiscal year. The most recently posted 10-K is titled, "Form 10-K FY 2015". Page 14 of this document has a table showing their "Controllable Income/(Loss)", pages 15-18 have details on volume and revenue by product, and page 20 has a summary of the number of employees who work at the Postal Service.</p>	



## I. USPS.com (Public website of the U.S. Postal Service)

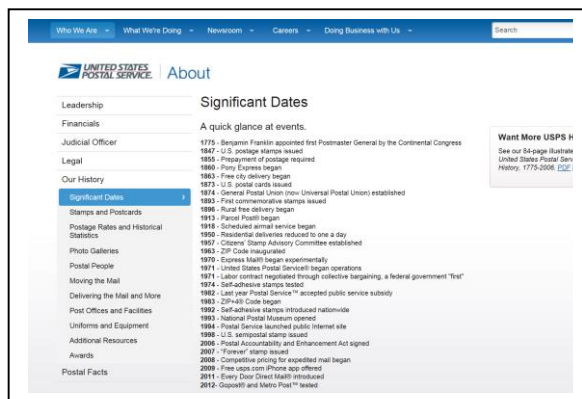
### 6. Integrated Financial Plan

(<http://about.usps.com/who-we-are/postal-facts/welcome.htm>) At the end of each fiscal year, the Postal Service creates a report forecasting their results for the next fiscal year. This report, called the “Integrated Financial Plan” is posted on the Postal Service’s website and on the Postal Regulatory Commission’s website (see next section).



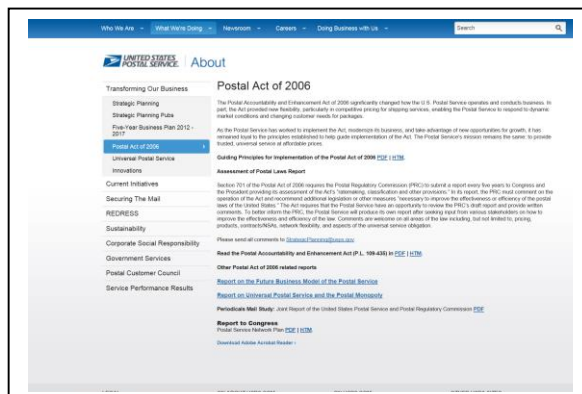
### 7. Postal History (<http://about.usps.com/who-we-are/postal-history/welcome.htm>)

The Postal Service website has a good section containing a lot of U.S. Postal Service/Post Office Department history. For example, it has reports showing the rates for domestic letters back to 1792, First-Class Mail volume since 1926, and delivery points since 1905. This section also has a number of short written reports on different aspects of the Postal Service.



### 8. USPS Office of Strategic Planning

(<http://about.usps.com/transforming-business/postal-act-2006.htm>) The USPS Office of Strategic Planning has several reports about the Postal Service, universal service and the mailbox monopoly, and the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act.







## II. PRC.gov (Public website of the Postal Regulatory Commission)

### 7. Case Information

(<http://www.prc.gov/dockets/active>) The PRC hears many cases throughout the year on postal subjects. PRC decisions in these cases can have major implications for the Postal Service. The “Case Information” section of the website lists all of the active cases.

The screenshot shows the 'DOCKET SEARCH' section of the PRC.gov website. It features a search bar with 'ENTER KEYWORDS', 'FILING PARTY', and 'DOCUMENT TYPE' dropdown menus. Below the search bar, the 'Active Cases' section displays a grid of case cards. Each card includes a case ID, a document icon, and a count. The cases listed are:

- A2016-1** (5 documents): Westbrookville, NY Post Office 12785
- ACR2015** (216 documents): Annual Compliance Review, 2015
- ACR2014** (267 documents): Annual Compliance Review, 2014
- C2009-1** (466 documents): Complaint of Gamefly, Inc.
- CP2016-155** (2 documents): Competitive Product Prices Priority Mail Contract 207 (MC2016-12) Negotiated Service Agreement
- CP2016-154** (2 documents): Competitive Product Prices Priority Mail Contract 206 (MC2016-21) Negotiated Service Agreement
- CP2016-153** (2 documents): Competitive Product Prices Global Expedited Package Services 3 (MC2016-28) Negotiated Service Agreement
- CP2016-152** (2 documents): Competitive Product Prices International Business Reply Service Competitive Contract 3 (MC2016-21) Negotiated Service Agreement
- CP2016-151** (2 documents): Competitive Product Prices Global Expedited Package Services 3 (MC2016-28) Negotiated Service Agreement

### 8. Frequently Asked Questions

(<http://www.prc.gov/faqs>) The PRC has a good page of frequently asked questions. It includes information about the PRC, proceedings and dockets, and postage price setting. It can be a good quick reference guide on regulatory subjects.

The screenshot shows the 'Frequently Asked Questions' page on PRC.gov. The page is organized into several sections with sub-headers:

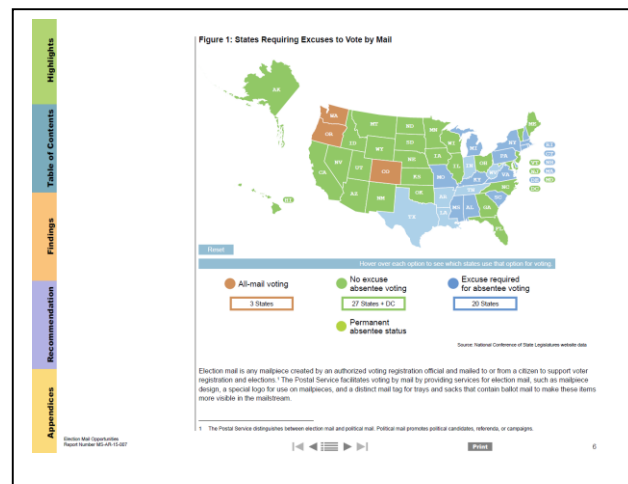
- THE COMMISSION**
  - WHAT IS THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION (PRC)?
  - WHAT AUTHORITY DOES THE PRC HAVE?
  - WHAT IS THE PRIVACY ACT?
  - HOW DO I MAKE A PRIVACY ACT REQUEST?
- COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS AND DOCKETS**
  - WHAT IS A DOCKET?
  - WHAT IS A PROCEEDING?
  - WHAT DO THE DOCKET LETTERS AND NUMBERS MEAN?
  - WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN A PRC PROCEEDING (DOCKET)? HOW?
- POSTAGE PRICE SETTING**
  - HOW ARE POSTAGE PRICES SET?
  - WHAT IS AN EXIGENT RATE CASE?
  - WHERE CAN I FIND CURRENT POSTAL PRICE INFORMATION?
  - WHAT ROLE CAN THE PUBLIC PLAY WHEN THE POSTAL SERVICE WANTS TO RAISE POSTAGE PRICES?

## III. USPSOIG.gov (Public website of the U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General)

### 1. Reports, Audits, White Papers

(<https://www.uspsig.gov/document-library>)

The USPS OIG produces a large number of reports, audits, and white papers each year. Topics cover all areas of the Postal Service. The document library contains over 1,800 individual items. A page from a recent sample report is shown at right.



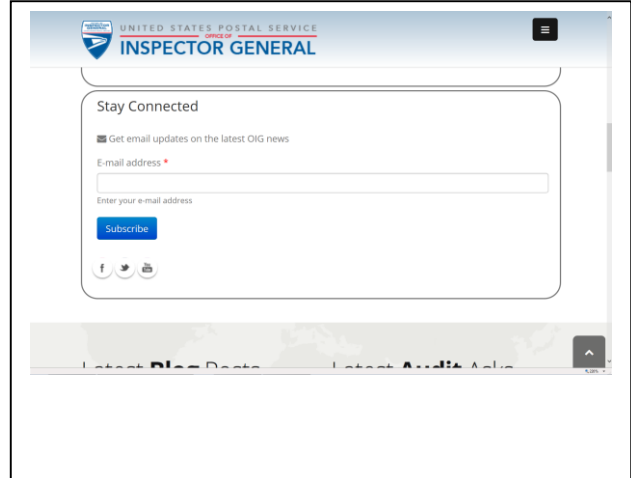
## E-Mail News and Alerts

The USPS OIG and PRC both allow people to sign-up to receive e-mail alerts about news and new reports. This can be a good way to stay up-to-date on new reports.

### HOW TO SIGN-UP FOR E-MAIL NEWS/ALERTS

#### USPS OIG

On the USPS OIG homepage, look for a section that says “Stay Connected”.



#### PRC

On the PRC homepage, look for a section titled “Subscribe for Alerts”.

