## **FURTHER REVIEW** \$1.80 10¢ 15¢ 20¢ 25¢ 30¢ 40¢ 50¢ 60¢ \$1.00 \$1.10 \$1.20 \$1.30 \$1.40 \$1.50 \$1.60 \$1.70 1863 Actual: 6¢ 1865 I Adjusted: \$1.37 1865 Actual: 6¢ PRICES ADJUSTED TO 2022 DOLLARS Adjusted: \$1.06 1870 1878 **ACTUAL** Actual: 6¢ **PRICES** 1875 Adjusted: \$1.73 1880 Price lowered from **6¢** to **4¢** 1884 Actual: 4¢ 1885 Actual: Adjusted: \$1.17 6¢ 1886 Price lowered from **4¢** to **2¢** Adjusted: Actual: 2¢ \$1.71 Adjusted: 61¢ 1890 1895 1897 Actual: 2¢ 1900 Adjusted: 69¢ Between 1885 1905 and World War I, a first-class stamp cost 1910 2¢. That's between 58¢ and 69¢ in today's 1915 money. 1918 1920 Actual: 3¢ Price 1920 lowered from **3¢** Adjusted: 57¢ Actual: 2¢ Adjusted: 29¢ 1925 Actual: 2¢ 1930 1931 Adjusted: 38¢ 1933 1935 Actual: 3¢ Adjusted: 66¢ Economic 1940 pressures of the By Charles Apple | THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW Depression and World War II caused the The U.S. Postal Service announced it would 1945 effective cost of raise the price of mailing a first-class letter postage to go up. in July from 58 cents to 60 cents. Stamp prices then stayed at 3¢ for a 1950 Perhaps this seems like a lot of money to you. quarter century, Perhaps it doesn't. Either way, when you adjust slowly losing value the entire time. for inflation, the price to mail a first-class letter is roughly the same it was in 1886. Actual: 3¢ 1958 Adjusted: 30¢ **AS INFLATION RISES, SO** 1959 Actual: 4¢ 1960 Adjusted: 40¢ **DO POSTAGE PRICES** The rise in mailing a first-class letter to 60¢ in 1963 Actual: 5¢ July will be the fifth price increase in the past 1965 Adjusted: 47¢ six years. For nine months of 2016, mailing a first-class 1968 Actual: 6¢ Inflation letter cost 47¢. That rose to 49¢ in January 1970 Adjusted: 50¢ galloped 2017, to 50¢ a year later and then 5 cents to through the 55¢ the year after that. The current price of 1971 Actual: 8¢ 1970s and 58¢ was set in August. Adjusted: 57¢ 1980s. Here are all the price increases the post office 1975 Stamp has proposed for July: prices were 1976 Actual: 13¢ raised from Adjusted: 66¢ **Mailing a** 8¢ to 13¢ on first-class letter 1980 Dec. 31, 1980 Actual: 15¢ 60¢ 1 ounce or less 1975 — their Adjusted: 52¢ biggest **Mailing a** one-time 1985 I metered letter jump until 1 ounce or less 2019. **First-class letters:** 1988 Actual: 25¢ each additional 1990 Adjusted: 61¢ ounce Mailing a postcard to 1995 1995 Actual: 32¢ a U.S. address Adjusted: 60¢ \$1.30 2000 Mailing a letter 1 ounce or less overseas 2002 Actual: 37¢ Adjusted: 59¢ 2005 I In addition, the post office is raising rates for Stamp prices increased every certified mail, post office box rental fees, year between 2006 and 2009. money order fees and insurance for items mailed. 2009 Actual: 44¢ 2010 The post office says it also intends to spend Adjusted: 59¢ \$40 billion over the next 10 years updating 2016 its infrastructure. For the record, the post Price Actual: 49¢ office receives no tax money. All of its 2015 I

Adjusted: 60¢

Adjusted: 62¢

2019 Actual: 55¢

**July 10,** 

2022

60¢

lowered

from 49¢

to **47** 

40¢

50¢

60¢

10¢ 15¢ 20¢ 25¢ 30¢

2020

Sources: U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Inflation Calculator

operating expenses come from the sale of

postage products and services.