



MOVING COMMUNICATION FORWARD



## The EMA Wednesday Report

Wednesday, May 6, 2020

Good Morning/Good Afternoon:

Here is Wednesday report Number 8.

### **Latest from USPS...**

#### **USPS Wednesday Meeting**

- Recovery of mail volume continues, but at a slow pace.
- The USPS is now working on a reimbursement scheme for key International Mailers.
- Hot spots continue in New York and New Jersey, and all BME's are operating except Westchester in New York that was down for cleaning and will then be re-opened.

#### **USPS Friday Meeting**

- Through Wednesday, total mail volume was down 23 percent.
- Package deliveries were up 63 percent.
- Note that these were spot observations, but mail volume appears to be picking up.

#### **USPS Monday Meeting**

- Postal Task Force released a report for the last week in April. Again, this is a spot report, the final will be released after the Board of Governors Meeting next Friday.
- Mail volume is down 27 percent and this number has been stable for the last several weeks. Remember, we are measuring from an economy that is essentially closed down.
- Single-piece First Class is down 21.7 percent, Presort First is down 3.3 percent.
- Marketing Mail is down 45.3 percent, Flats are down 30.1 percent.
- Stamp sales over the internet are way up. Normal week is 60,000 books and last week was 300,000 books so people are writing and sending things by mail. There is also a large movement to support the USPS by purchasing stamps.
- USPS is catching up with FAST Appointments to drop off bulk mail at USPS locations.
- The USPS team talked about a significant increase in pharmaceutical fulfillment that is contributing to the growth in packaging sales.

#### **Latest from American Forest and Paper**

There was no AF&PA briefing on Friday.

#### **Latest from Department of Homeland Security and FEMA**

- CESA COVID-19 call continued to discuss shortages of PPE that are being resolved across all state and local governments. Businesses are encouraged to coordinate with their state on availability of PPE.

- Shipments of testing drugs and other materials are catching up with demand. In some states that bought on the international market there seems to be more than adequate supply. Approximately 6-8 million test kits are delivered per week depending on State priorities.
- Cloth masks (PPE) are still in short supply and are shipped on a priority basis to state governments based on need.

### Key Web Links...

- The EMA website, [www.envelope.org](http://www.envelope.org), has many cross-links to other sites and is the go to page for our industry. We put new information on it every week so you can branch over to other organizations that have the information you need.

### Legislative Briefings

- The House Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee staff briefed postal stakeholders on the 29<sup>th</sup>.
- They indicated that the \$75 billion request by the USPS Board of Governors for COVID-19 Funding and clean up was being moved forward. Bills will be introduced in the House and Senate.
- Key stakeholder groups will be kept apprised of progress.

### Press

Great article on the USPS from the *New Yorker*, here it is:

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/annals-of-communications/we-cant-afford-to-lose-the-postal-service>.



This is a great picture of the President giving an award to a Postal Delivery Employee for going above and beyond for his neighbors. This young man was honored for delivering groceries to elderly neighbors after he had completed his route.

It just goes to show that the USPS is an essential service and the people of this country truly care. While the President may disagree with the manner in which the USPS is managed, he cannot disagree with the heart and soul of our nation that wants a postal service, and especially the people that process the mail and walk the route every day. They are true national heroes.

Until Next Time,

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