



2026 UPS GRI Key Takeaways

When 5.9% Isn't Just 5.9%

The UPS 2026 General Rate Increase (GRI) of 5.9%, effective December 22, 2025, may look familiar—but the details tell a different story. Many areas, such as certain weight breaks, are climbing beyond the headline figure of 5.9%. Nearly every accessorial—including Large Package and Additional Handling—is rising above the average, and new rule changes could add even more unexpected costs. What appears standard on paper may have a greater impact on your margins in practice.

Notable 2026 UPS GRI takeaways to keep in mind:

#1

The average increase percentage in these services is lower in 2026 than it was in 2025 (Next Day is 5.5% vs. 6.1%; Next Day Saver is 5.4% vs. 5.8%; 2 Day is 5.5% vs. 6.6%; 3 Day is 5.4% vs. 5.6%; and Ground is 5.7% vs. 5.9%).

#2

The Domestic Air average increase percentage is higher for 1-5 lbs. at 6.2% and 11-70 lbs. at 5.8%, compared to 6-10 lbs. and 71-99 lbs. with a 4.9% increase.

#3

The Ground average increase percentage is higher for 1-5 lbs. and 11-75 lbs. at 6%, compared to 6-10 lbs. at 5.5% and 76-99 lbs. at 5%.

#4

The overall average surcharge increase is 7.2% with long zone Large Package Surcharges increasing by up to 10%.

#5

Additional Handling and Large Package Surcharges will increase by around 7.1%. Keep in mind this is on top of the off-cycle increases incurred during 2025.

#6

The average increase for Residential and Delivery Area Surcharges (DAS) is 6.7%.

#7

UPS will now assess an LPS surcharge to packages with cubic size >17,280 in. and an AHS Surcharge to packages with a cubic size >10,368 in. This change matches the rule change FedEx is making and walks back the LPS/AHC rule change previously announced by UPS.

Use the QR code to receive our complete UPS GRI analysis immediately when it is published.



TransImpact will provide a no-obligation analysis that shows how the 2026 GRI will impact your shipping costs based on your historical data and contract.

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