

CONSUMER SPENDING PICKS UP IN FEBRUARY

Personal income increased 0.2 percent in February after increasing the same percent in January. Wages and salaries rose 0.3 percent in February after rising 0.4 percent in January. Manufacturing wages and salaries slowed in February, while services picked up.

Current-dollar disposable personal income (DPI), after-tax income, increased 0.2 percent in February after remaining flat in January.

Real DPI, income adjusted for taxes and inflation, decreased 0.1 percent in February after decreasing 0.2 percent in January.

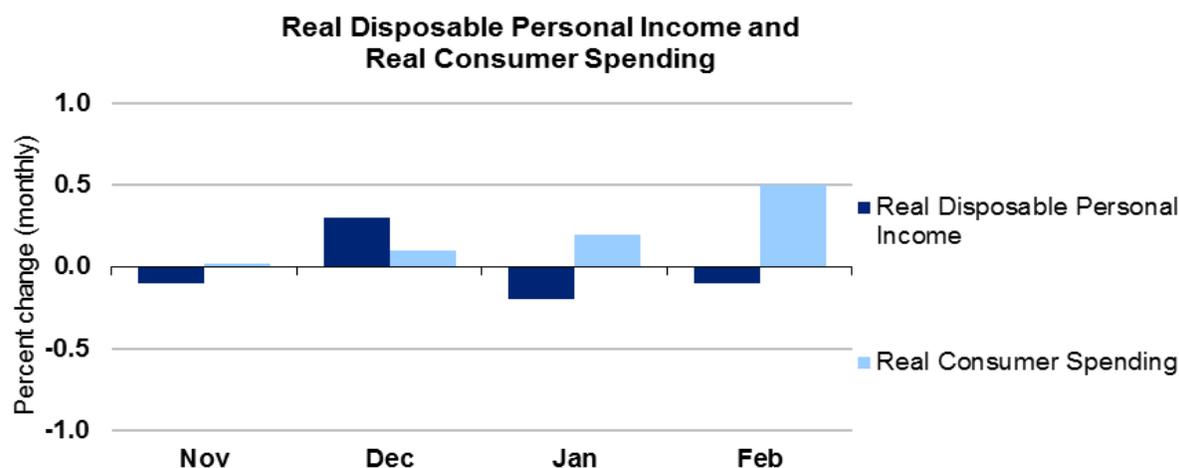
Real consumer spending, spending adjusted for price changes, increased 0.5 percent in February after increasing 0.2 percent in January. Spending on services increased 0.4 percent in February after decreasing 0.1 percent in January.

PCE prices increased 0.3 percent in February after increasing 0.2 percent in January. Excluding food and energy, the PCE price index increased 0.1 percent in February after increasing 0.2 percent in January.

Personal saving rate

Personal saving as a percent of DPI was 3.7 percent in February, the lowest it has been since August 2009. In January, the rate was 4.3 percent.

	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Personal Income	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%
Current-dollar DPI	0.4%	0.0%	0.2%
Real DPI	0.3%	-0.2%	-0.1%
Real PCE	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%
PCE Prices	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%
Personal Saving Rate	4.7%	4.3%	3.7%



BEA data—including GDP, personal income, the balance of payments, foreign direct investment, the input-output accounts, and economic data for states, local areas, and industries—are available on the BEA Web site: www.bea.gov. [E-mail alerts](#) are also available.

NOTE: On April 30, 2012, the March estimates of personal income and outlays will be released.