

# Personal Income and Outlays, February 2022

Personal income increased \$101.5 billion, or 0.5 percent at a monthly rate, while consumer spending increased \$34.9 billion, or 0.2 percent, in February. The increase in personal income primarily reflected an increase in compensation of employees that was partly offset by a decrease in government social benefits. The personal saving rate (that is, personal saving as a percentage of disposable personal income) was 6.3 percent in February, compared with 6.1 percent in January.



### Personal income

In February, personal income increased, primarily reflecting an increase in compensation of employees that was partly offset by a decrease in government social benefits.

- Within compensation of employees, the increase primarily reflected an increase in private wages and salaries, based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) Current Employment Statistics. Wages and salaries of services-producing industries increased \$62.8 billion, while wages and salaries of goods-producing industries increased \$17.7 billion.
- Within government social benefits, a decrease in "other" benefits was partly offset by increases in Medicare and Medicaid. Within "other" benefits, the decrease primarily reflected a decline in the Provider Relief Fund as well as a decrease in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits. Additional information on factors affecting monthly personal income can be found on <u>Effects of</u> <u>Selected Federal Pandemic Response Programs on Personal Income</u>.

BEA data—including GDP, personal income, the balance of payments, foreign direct investment, the input-output accounts, and regional economic data—are available at <u>www.bea.gov</u>. <u>E-mail alerts</u> are also available. Estimates of March 2022 Personal Income and Outlays will be released on April 29, 2022.



#### **Consumer spending**

Personal outlays increased in February, primarily reflecting an increase in consumer spending for services. Consumer spending for goods declined.

- Within services, the increase primarily reflected an increase in food services and accommodations (led by food services) based on data from the Census Monthly Retail Trade Survey.
- Within goods, the decrease primarily reflected a decrease in motor vehicles and parts (led by new motor vehicles, specifically, light trucks), based on unit sales data from Wards Intelligence. The decrease was partly offset by an increase in gasoline and other energy goods (led by motor vehicle fuels, lubricants, and fluids),



based on data from the Energy Information Administration.



## Changes in Consumer Spending, February 2022 Consumer spending increased \$34.9 billion

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Seasonally adjusted, annual rates

#### PCE price index

The personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index for February increased 6.4 percent from one year ago, reflecting increases in both goods and services. Energy prices increased 25.7 percent while



food prices increased 8.0 percent. Excluding food and energy, the PCE price index for February increased 5.4 percent from one year ago.



Compared to January, the PCE price index increased 0.6 percent, reflecting increases in both goods and services. Energy prices increased 3.7 percent while food prices increased 1.4 percent. Excluding food and energy, the PCE price index increased 0.4 percent from January to February.

For a comparison of PCE prices to BLS consumer price indexes, refer to NIPA <u>Table 9.1U. Reconciliation</u> of Percent Change in the CPI with Percent Change in the PCE Price Index.