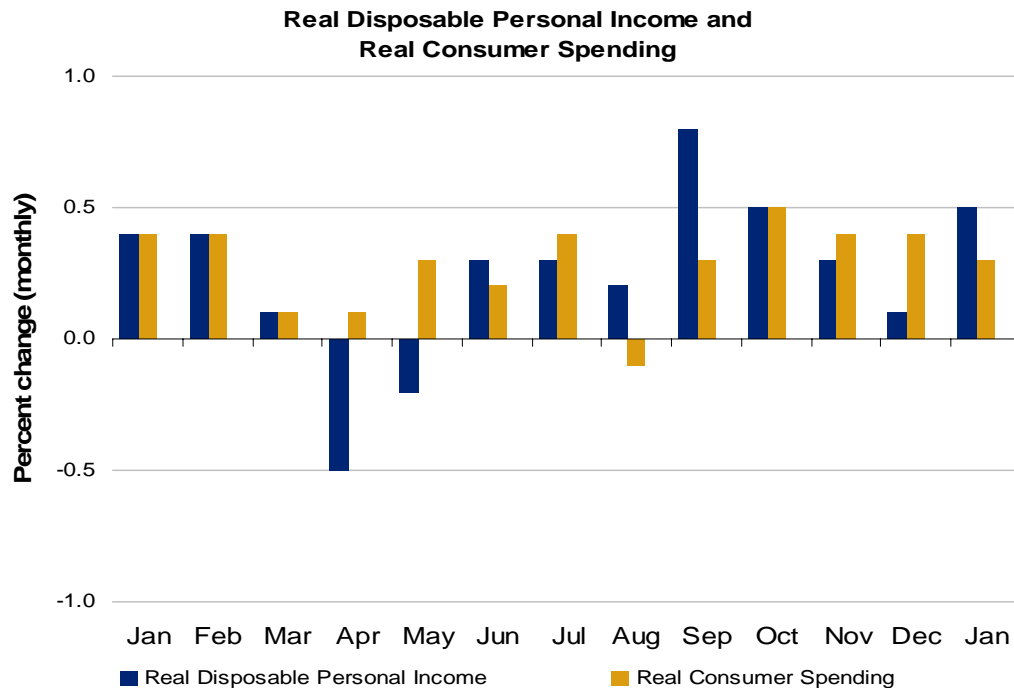


PERSONAL INCOME GROWTH ACCELERATES

Real disposable personal income, the income available after taxes for consumer spending or saving, increased 0.5 percent in January after increasing 0.1 percent in December, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Real consumer spending increased 0.3 percent, slightly less than in the previous month.



Personal Income

Personal income, a broad current-dollar measure that includes all sources of income, rose 1.0 percent in January, after increasing 0.5 percent in December.

Wages and salaries, which account for more than half of personal income, increased 1.2 percent after increasing 0.5 percent in December. The growth reflected bonus payments and the exercise of stock options. Growth accelerated strongly in the services industries.

Real Consumer Spending

The growth in spending in January reflected strong spending on trucks and recreational vehicles, home electricity and gas, and medical services.

Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) Prices

The PCE price index rose 0.2 percent in January, after rising 0.3 percent in December. Excluding food and energy, the index increased 0.3 percent, compared with 0.1 percent.

Personal Saving Rate

Personal saving as percent of disposable personal income was -1.2 percent in January. In December, the rate was -1.4 percent.

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 March 30, 2007, the February estimates of Personal Income and Outlays will be released.