

BUSINESS NEWS REPORTS

PERSONAL INCOME - November 1955

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Personal income in November was at an annual rate of \$311½ billion, about \$2 billion higher than in October, the Office of Business Economics, U. S. Department of Commerce, announced today.

The bulk of the October-November rise was in private industry wage and salary disbursements. Most other types of income rose moderately.

Personal income estimates include wages and salaries, the net income of proprietorships and partnerships -- farm and nonfarm -- as well as dividends and interest, net rents received by landlords, and other types of individual income. The annual rates, which are used to facilitate comparison with previous annual totals, represent the seasonally adjusted dollar totals for each month multiplied by 12.

Private wages and salaries were at an annual rate of \$179 billion in November, about \$1-¾ billion higher than in October. One-half of the rise took place in the auto industry, where there were increases in both employment and hours worked. A fourth of the payroll rise occurred in manufacturing industries other than autos, and was accounted for by advancing wage rates and employment. Among these industries, the largest gains were in primary metals and nonelectrical machinery. The remainder of the private payroll rise was widely scattered among nonmanufacturing industries.

The annual rate of transfer payments increased by about \$¼ billion in November, largely because of an increase in educational benefits paid to Korean veterans under Public Law 550. A larger number of veterans are taking advantage of the law this school year than last, and November was the first month to reflect the higher level of government disbursements.

Personal income in the first eleven months of 1955 was at an annual rate of \$302 billion, \$15 billion higher than in the corresponding period of 1954. Details for other recent periods are shown in the following table.

(OVER)

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TOTAL MANUFACTURING AND TRADE INVENTORIES, Monthly
WHOLESALESALES AND INVENTORIES, Monthly
MANUFACTURERS' SALES AND INVENTORIES, Monthly

PERSONAL INCOME, Monthly
CASH DIVIDEND PAYMENTS, Monthly
NATIONAL INCOME AND PRODUCT, Quarterly

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT SURVEY, Quarterly
FOREIGN GRANTS AND CREDITS, Quarterly
BALANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS, Quarterly

MONTHLY PERSONAL INCOME IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seasonally adjusted annual rates in billions of dollars)

	Nov. 1955	Oct. 1955	Sept. 1955	Nov. 1954	Oct. 1954	Sept. 1954	First eleven months		Full year 1954
							1955	1954	
Total personal income.....	311.4	309.2	307.9	290.8	288.4	287.9	301.9	287.0	287.6
Wage and salary disbursements, total.....	215.0	213.3	212.4	198.6	196.8	195.8	207.8	195.9	196.2
Commodity-producing industries <u>1/</u>	94.1	92.8	92.2	85.2	83.4	82.8	90.2	84.1	84.2
Distributive industries <u>1/</u>	56.6	56.4	56.4	52.5	52.7	52.5	54.9	52.2	52.3
Service industries <u>1/</u>	28.4	28.2	28.0	26.6	26.5	26.3	27.5	25.8	25.9
Government.....	35.9	35.9	35.8	34.3	34.2	34.2	35.2	33.8	33.8
Other labor income.....	7.1	7.1	7.1	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.9	6.6	6.6
Proprietors' and rental income.....	49.9	49.8	49.7	48.3	47.5	49.0	49.0	48.4	48.4
Personal interest income and dividends.....	27.6	27.4	27.1	24.9	24.9	24.7	26.3	24.5	24.7
Transfer payments <u>2/</u>	17.1	16.9	16.9	16.8	17.0	16.3	17.1	16.1	16.2
Less personal contributions for social insurance <u>3/</u> ...	5.3	5.3	5.3	4.5	4.5	4.5	5.2	4.5	4.5
Total nonagricultural income <u>4/</u>	296.4	294.4	293.0	275.9	273.8	272.1	287.2	271.3	271.9
Total agricultural income.....	15.0	14.8	14.9	14.9	14.6	15.8	14.7	15.7	15.7

1/ "Commodity-producing industries" consists of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, mining, contract construction, and manufacturing. "Distributive industries" consists of wholesale and retail trade, transportation, and communications and public utilities. "Service industries" comprises finance, insurance, and real estate and services.

2/ Consists mainly of veterans' payments and social insurance benefits.

3/ Data since January of 1952 represent contributions of both employees and self-employed persons.

4/ Equals personal income exclusive of net income of unincorporated farm enterprises, farm wages, agricultural net interest, and net dividends paid by agricultural corporations.