

Cybert
BUSINESS NEWS REPORTS

PERSONAL INCOME - December 1956 and Total Year

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1957

OBE 57-12

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Personal income in December was at an annual rate of \$333½ billion, unchanged from November, the Office of Business Economics, U. S. Department of Commerce announced today.

Wage and salary disbursements advanced by \$1½ billion in December, in line with recent months. The increase was equally divided among transportation equipment manufacturing, other manufacturing, and non-manufacturing industries. Interest and transfer payments were also higher. These gains were offset, however, by a decline in dividend receipts reflecting a smaller than usual volume of year-end extra and special payments, and by a reduction in farm proprietors' income. This reduction was attributable to a further drop in soil bank payments from the large outlays made at the initiation of the program.

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.

The year as a whole

For the full year 1956, personal income amounted to \$325 billion, \$19 billion, or 6 percent, higher than in 1955.

Increases ranging from 6½ to 8½ percent took place in wages and salaries, nonfarm business income, interest, dividends, and transfer payments. Farm proprietors' income was essentially unchanged from 1955 to 1956, after declining in the previous four years. Rental income was fractionally lower in 1956.

The rise in the large wage and salary component over 1955 amounted to \$15 billion, or 7 percent. Payrolls in private industries outside of manufacturing increased by 8 percent, manufacturing payrolls by 7 percent, and government payrolls by 4½ percent.

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

	Dec. 1956	Nov. 1956	Oct. 1956	Dec. 1955	Nov. 1955	Oct. 1955	Full year	
							1956	1955
Total personal income.....	333.5	333.5	332.5	317.5	314.5	311.6	325.2	306.1
Wage and salary disbursements, total.....	232.5	231.0	229.7	218.2	217.2	215.3	225.1	210.4
Commodity-producing industries ^{1/}	102.1	101.1	100.6	94.5	94.2	93.3	97.7	90.9
Distributive industries ^{1/}	60.9	60.6	60.2	57.6	57.3	56.7	59.5	55.4
Service industries ^{1/}	31.2	31.1	30.9	29.4	29.3	28.9	30.3	28.2
Government.....	38.3	38.2	38.0	36.7	36.4	36.4	37.6	35.9
Other labor income.....	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.0
Proprietors' and rental income.....	51.2	51.7	52.3	49.2	49.6	49.1	50.5	49.1
Personal interest income and dividends.....	29.2	30.3	30.2	30.2	28.1	27.9	29.4	27.3
Transfer payments ^{2/}	19.2	19.1	18.9	18.0	17.7	17.4	18.7	17.6
Less personal contributions for social insurance ^{3/}	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.8	5.2
Total nonagricultural income ^{4/}	318.3	317.9	316.3	302.8	299.4	296.9	310.0	290.9
Total agricultural income.....	15.2	15.6	16.2	14.7	15.1	14.7	15.2	15.2

^{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.