

BUSINESS NEWS REPORTS

PERSONAL INCOME - October 1957

FOR RELEASE TO A.M.'S, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1957

OBE 57-100

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Personal income in October was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$345½ billion, \$1 billion lower than in September, the Office of Business Economics, U. S. Department of Commerce announced today. The October income flow was \$11½ billion, or 3½ percent, higher than in the same month of last year.

Wage and salary disbursements declined by \$1½ billion from September to October, while government transfer payments increased by about \$½ billion. Other types of income were little changed.

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 change in wage and salary disbursements from September to October reflected reductions in employment and hours worked per week, with average hourly earnings remaining at record levels. The bulk of the October decline in wage and salaries occurred in manufacturing industries. Payrolls in private nonmanufacturing industries were off slightly. Government wages and salaries were unchanged in October, as reductions in the Federal segment, civilian and military, offset a further rise in payments to State and local employees.

Over half of the October rise in transfer payments resulted from an increase in unemployment insurance benefits. Most of the remainder reflected higher old-age benefits.

Personal income in the first ten months of 1957 was at an annual rate of \$342½ billion -- \$17½ billion, or 5½ percent, higher than in the corresponding period of 1956.

Details of personal income in October and other recent periods are shown in the following table.

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Comm--DC--6747

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

	Oct. 1957	Sept. 1957	Aug. 1957	Oct. 1956	Sept. 1956	Aug. 1956	First ten months		Full year
							1957	1956	1956
TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME.....	345.6	346.6	346.8	334.1	331.1	329.3	342.7	325.1	326.9
Wage and salary disbursements, total.....	239.9	241.5	241.7	231.8	230.4	228.8	238.7	225.8	227.2
Commodity-producing industries ^{1/}	100.8	102.2	102.8	100.8	99.6	98.6	102.3	97.5	98.3
Distributive industries ^{1/}	64.6	64.8	64.7	60.8	60.9	60.5	63.6	59.8	60.1
Service industries ^{1/}	33.9	33.9	33.7	31.8	31.5	31.5	33.1	30.8	31.1
Government.....	40.6	40.6	40.5	38.4	38.4	38.2	39.7	37.7	37.9
Other labor income.....	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.9	7.5	7.5
Proprietors' and rental income.....	51.0	51.1	51.2	51.3	49.9	50.1	50.8	49.8	49.9
Personal interest income and dividends.....	31.7	31.6	31.6	30.2	30.1	29.9	31.2	29.4	29.5
Transfer payments ^{2/}	21.8	21.2	21.2	18.9	18.8	18.7	20.9	18.4	18.5
Less personal contributions for social insurance ^{3/}	6.8	6.8	6.9	5.8	5.7	5.8	6.8	5.7	5.7
Total nonagricultural income ^{4/}	330.3	331.3	331.3	317.7	316.1	314.1	327.4	309.9	311.7
Total agricultural income.....	15.3	15.3	15.5	16.4	15.0	15.2	15.3	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.