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BUSINESS NEWS REPORTS**PERSONAL INCOME - May 1958**

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Personal income in May was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$344½ billion, about \$1 billion higher than in April, the Office of Business Economics, U. S. Department of Commerce announced today.

Wage and salary disbursements in May advanced by \$3/4 billion to an annual rate of \$234 billion. This was the first month-to-month rise in payrolls since August of last year. Most of the remainder of the increase in personal income from April to May occurred in government transfer payments.

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.

Payrolls in the contract construction industry increased in May as employment continued upward from the low levels reached during the bad weather earlier this year. Gains occurred also in trade, finance, farming, and government. Payrolls in manufacturing were off slightly in total, with the changes from April quite limited in most major industry groups.

The April-May increase in government transfer payments centered largely in old-age benefits.

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

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

	May 1958	April 1958	Mar. 1958	May 1957	April 1957	Mar. 1957	First 5 months 1958	1957	
TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME.....	344.3	343.1	342.2	343.2	341.1	340.2	343.1	339.9	346.3
Wage and salary disbursements.....	233.9	233.2	233.8	238.3	237.1	237.2	234.5	236.6	
Commodity-producing industries <u>1/</u>	95.1	94.7	95.1	102.4	102.4	102.3	95.6	102.1	
Distributive industries <u>1/</u>	63.5	63.4	63.7	63.4	62.7	63.0	63.9	62.7	
Service industries <u>1/</u>	34.4	34.3	34.3	33.0	32.9	32.6	34.3	32.6	
Government.....	40.9	40.8	40.7	39.5	39.1	39.3	40.7	39.2	
Other labor income.....	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	
Proprietors and rental income.....	51.6	51.4	51.3	51.1	51.1	51.1	51.2	51.0	
Personal interest and dividends.....	31.8	31.8	31.7	31.2	31.0	30.9	31.8	30.9	
Transfer payments <u>2/</u>	26.1	25.7	24.4	21.6	20.8	20.0	24.6	20.3	
Less personal contributions for social insurance <u>3/</u>	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.7	
Total nonagricultural income <u>4/</u>	327.1	326.0	325.4	327.5	325.3	324.5	326.4	324.2	
Total agricultural income.....	17.2	17.1	16.8	15.7	15.8	15.7	16.7	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.