

# BUSINESS NEWS REPORTS

PERSONAL INCOME - September 1959

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Personal income was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$379½ billion in September, a little lower than in August, the Office of Business Economics, U. S. Department of Commerce announced today. For the third quarter as a whole the annual rate was \$381 billion, the same as in the preceding quarter.

Wage and salary disbursements and farm proprietors' income were off slightly last month, after much more substantial declines in August. This September movement was largely offset by increases in government transfers and interest income.

Payrolls in the primary metals industry, mining, and transportation -- which felt the impact of the steel strike for the third consecutive month -- were further affected by work stoppages at copper refineries. Wages and salaries in the food processing industry reflected strikes at meat-packing plants.

The start of production on new models resulted in a large September payroll pickup in the automobile industry as well as smaller increases in those branches of the fabricated metals and electrical machinery industries which supply component parts. Other manufacturing industries showed no significant payroll changes from August.

Construction payrolls were down in September, as employment declined somewhat more than seasonally. In services and State and local governments employment gains resulted in larger wage and salary disbursements.

The decline in net farm income during the third quarter resulted from reduced wheat marketings and lower livestock prices, and from some rise in production expenses.

Government transfer payments were somewhat higher than in August. Disbursements under the insured unemployment programs reflected layoffs due to the secondary effects of the steel strike. Old-age and survivors' insurance benefits were also up moderately from the previous month.

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

(Over)

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

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

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT SURVEY, Quarterly  
BALANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS, Quarterly

MONTHLY PERSONAL INCOME

(Seasonally adjusted annual rates in billions of dollars)

	Sept. 1959	Aug. 1959	July 1959	Sept. 1958	Aug. 1958	July 1958	First 9 months 1959	1958	Full Year 1958
TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME.....	379.6	380.0	383.4	364.2	362.4	363.5	378.1	356.8	359.0
Wage and salary disbursements, total....	258.2	258.8	261.5	242.5	241.3	243.2	256.7	237.4	239.4
Commodity-producing industries.....	106.1	106.8	109.9	99.3	97.9	97.2	107.2	96.7	97.8
Manufacturing only.....	84.1	84.0	86.9	77.9	76.7	76.1	84.6	75.9	76.7
Distributive industries.....	68.1	68.3	68.4	64.1	64.3	63.8	67.3	63.5	63.8
Service industries.....	37.7	37.6	37.3	35.0	35.0	34.8	36.9	34.3	34.6
Government.....	46.2	46.0	45.9	44.1	44.1	47.4	45.3	42.9	43.2
Other labor income.....	10.2	10.1	10.1	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.9	9.3	9.3
Proprietors' income:									
Business and professional.....	34.7	34.9	34.9	32.8	32.6	32.4	34.3	32.1	32.4
Farm.....	9.6	10.0	11.4	14.3	14.2	14.1	11.9	14.2	14.2
Rental income of persons.....	12.0	12.0	12.0	11.9	11.9	11.8	12.0	11.8	11.8
Dividends.....	13.5	13.4	13.2	12.6	12.6	12.6	13.0	12.6	12.4
Personal interest income.....	23.0	22.7	22.4	20.6	20.5	20.4	22.0	20.3	20.4
Transfer payments <sup>1/</sup> .....	26.8	26.5	26.3	27.3	27.2	26.8	26.5	26.0	26.1
Less: Personal contributions for social insurance.....	8.3	8.4	8.4	7.1	7.1	7.2	8.3	7.0	7.0
Total nonagricultural income <sup>2/</sup> .....	366.2	366.3	368.2	346.1	344.5	345.7	362.3	338.9	341.1
Total agricultural income.....	13.4	13.7	15.2	18.1	17.9	17.8	15.8	17.9	17.9

1. Consist mainly of social insurance benefits and veterans' payments.

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