

## CONSUMER SPENDING PICKS UP IN FEBRUARY

**Personal income** remained unchanged in February after increasing 0.3 percent in January. Wages and salaries, the largest component of personal income was also flat after increasing 0.4 percent in January.

**Real disposable personal income (DPI)**, income adjusted for inflation and taxes, was flat in February, after declining 0.4 percent in January.

**Real consumer spending**, spending adjusted for price changes, increased 0.3 percent in February, after increasing 0.2 percent in January.

**PCE prices** were flat in February, compared to a 0.2 percent increase in January. PCE prices excluding food and energy prices were also flat in February, as they were in January.

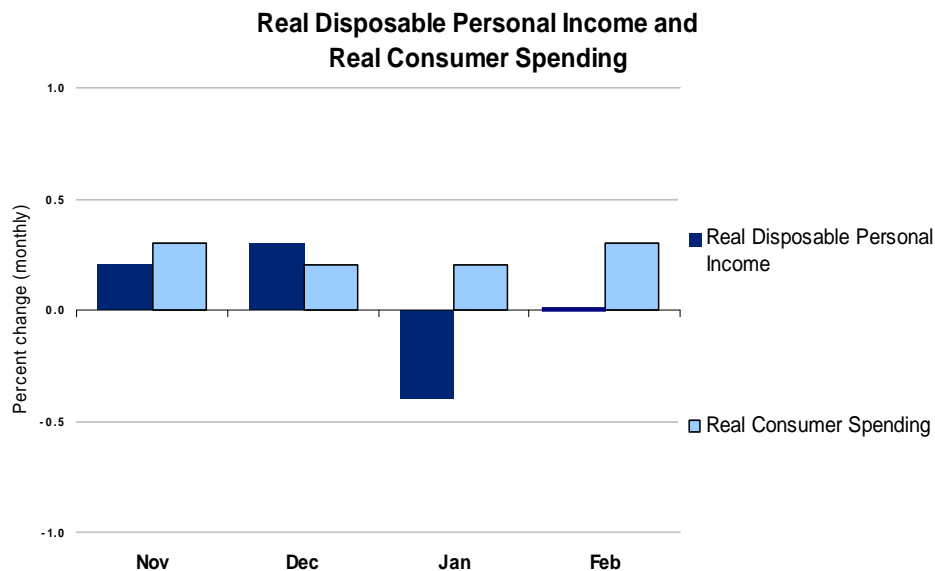
### Personal saving rate

Personal saving as a percent of disposable personal income was 3.1 percent in February.

|                 | Average,<br>last 12<br>months | January | February |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Personal Income | 0.2 %                         | 0.3 %   | 0.0 %    |
| Real DPI        | 0.1 %                         | -0.4 %  | 0.0 %    |
| Real PCE        | 0.1 %                         | 0.2 %   | 0.3 %    |
| PCE Prices      | 0.1 %                         | 0.2 %   | 0.0 %    |

|                      | 12-month<br>average | January | February |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------|----------|
| Personal Saving Rate | 4.1 %               | 3.4 %   | 3.1 %    |



BEA data—including GDP, personal income, the balance of payments, foreign direct investment, the input-output accounts, and economic data for states, local areas, and industries—are available on the BEA Web site: [www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov). [E-mail alerts](#) are also available.

NOTE: On May 3, 2010, the March estimates of personal income and outlays will be released.