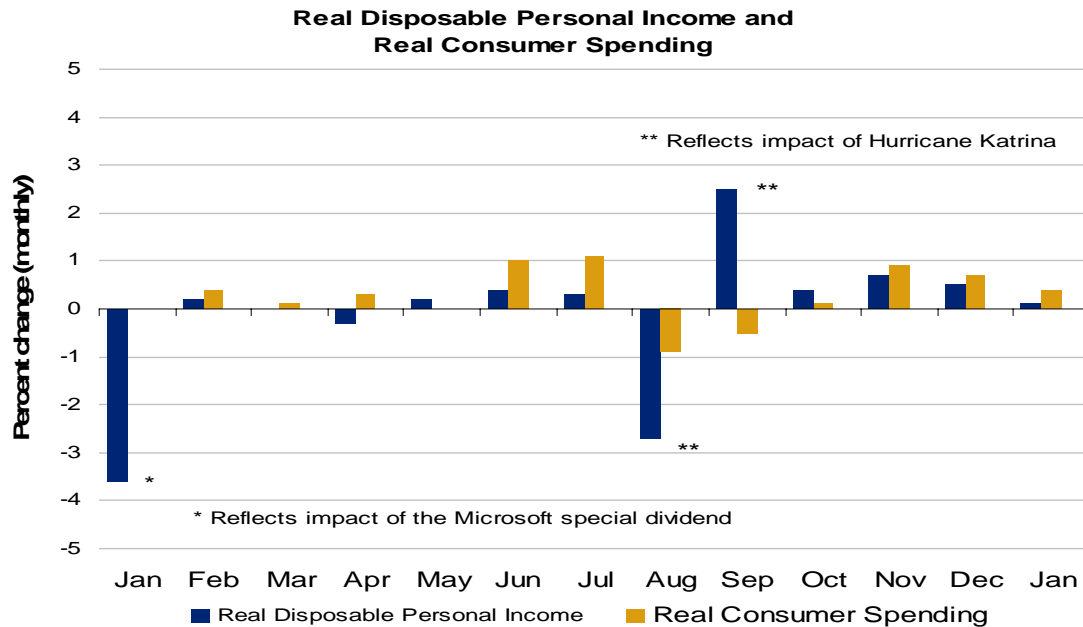


PERSONAL INCOME, CONSUMER SPENDING ROSE IN JANUARY

Personal income rose 0.7 percent in January after rising 0.5 percent in December, according to estimates released today by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Over the past twelve months, personal income has risen 5.8 percent. Real disposable personal income and real consumer spending also rose.



Personal Income

Wages and salaries, the largest component of personal income, grew 0.7 percent in January after growing 0.4 percent in December.

Personal current transfer receipts increased 1.8 percent after increasing 0.6 percent. The acceleration reflected payments from the new Medicare Prescription Drug Plan and cost-of-living adjustments to several federal programs.

Real disposable personal income, the amount of personal income available for spending or saving, increased 0.1 percent after rising 0.5 percent. Over the past twelve months, real disposable personal income has risen 2.2 percent.

Consumer Spending

Real consumer spending increased 0.4 percent in January after increasing 0.7 percent in December. The increase in January partly reflected an acceleration in spending on nondurable goods.

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. [E-mail alerts](#) are also available.

NOTE: On March 31, 2006, the February estimate of Personal Income will be released.