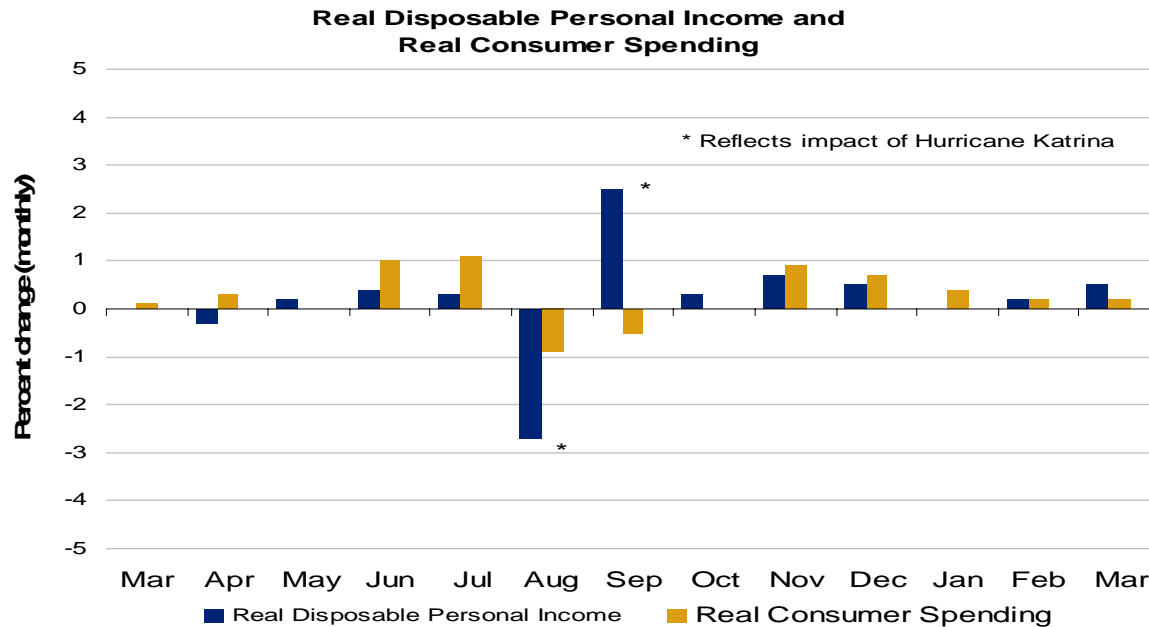


## PERSONAL INCOME, CONSUMER SPENDING ROSE IN MARCH

Personal income rose 0.5 percent in March after rising 0.3 percent in February, according to estimates released today by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Over the past twelve months, personal income has risen 5.6 percent. Real disposable personal income and real consumer spending also rose.



### Personal Income

Wages and salaries, the largest component of personal income, increased 0.4 percent in March, the same increase as in February.

Real disposable personal income, the amount of personal income available for spending or saving, increased 0.1 percent after rising 0.2 percent. Over the past twelve months, real disposable personal income has risen 2.1 percent.

### Consumer Spending

Real consumer spending increased 0.2 percent in March, the same increase as in February. The increase in March reflected an acceleration in spending on services and durable 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](http://www.bea.gov). [E-mail alerts](#) are also available.

NOTE: On May 26, 2006, the April estimate of Personal Income will be released.