

CONSUMER SPENDING SUBSIDIES AFTER RISE IN AUGUST

Personal income was unchanged in September, after increasing 0.1 percent in August. Wages and salaries, the largest component of personal income, decreased 0.2 percent in September after increasing 0.2 percent in August.

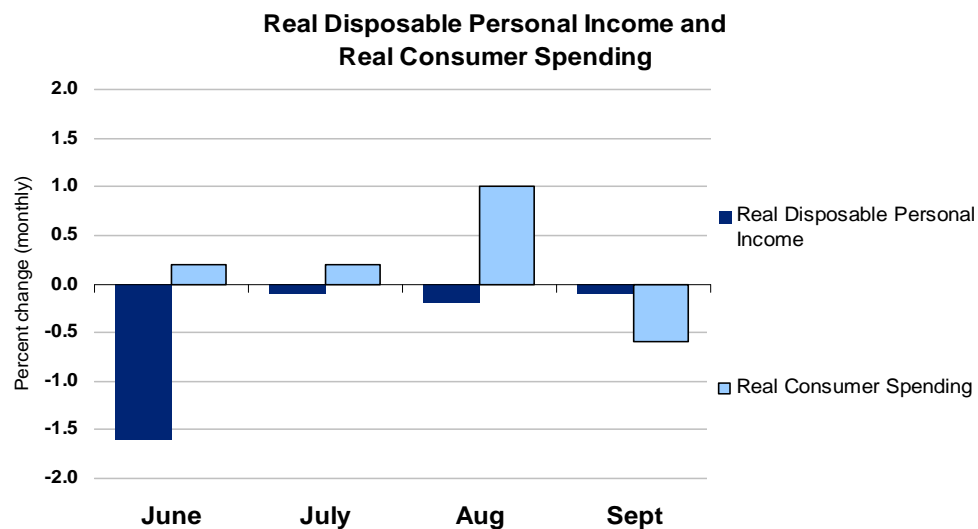
Real disposable personal income, income adjusted for inflation and taxes, fell 0.1 percent in September, reflecting higher PCE prices, as was the case in August.

Real consumer spending, spending adjusted for price changes, fell 0.6 percent in September, after increasing 1.0 percent in August. In August, the spike in spending reflected the federal CARS program (“cash for clunkers”).

PCE prices increased 0.1 percent in September. Energy prices rose, but were offset by lower food prices. So excluding food and energy, prices also rose 0.1 percent.

Personal saving as a percent of disposable income was 3.3 percent in September.

	Average, last 12 months	August	September
Personal Income	-0.2 %	0.1 %	0.0 %
Real DPI	0.1 %	-0.2 %	-0.1 %
Real PCE	0.0 %	1.0 %	-0.6 %
PCE Prices	0.0 %	0.3 %	0.1 %
	12-month average	August	September
Personal Saving Rate	4.0 %	2.8 %	3.3 %



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 November 25, 2009, the October estimates of Personal Income and Outlays will be released.