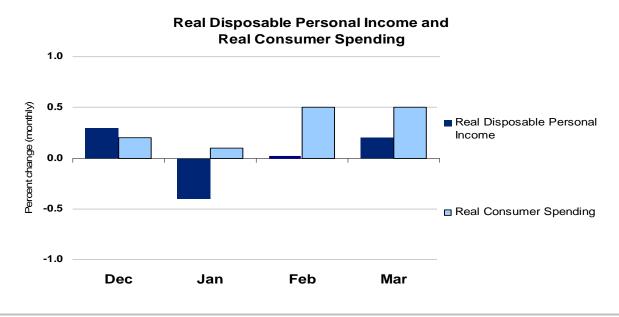


## **CONSUMER SPENDING RISES IN MARCH**

<b>Personal income</b> increased 0.3 percent in March after increasing 0.1 percent in February. Wages and salaries, the largest component of personal income, increased 0.2 percent after increasing 0.1 percent.		Average, last 12 months	February	March
	Personal Income	0.2 %	0.1 %	0.3 %
<b>Real disposable personal income (DPI),</b> income adjusted for inflation and taxes, increased 0.2 percent in March compared to no change in February.	Real DPI	0.1 %	0.0 %	0.2 %
<b>Real consumer spending,</b> spending adjusted for price changes, increased 0.5 percent in March, the same increase as in February.	Real PCE	0.2 %	0.5 %	0.5 %
<b>PCE prices</b> increased <b>0.1 percent</b> in March, compared to virtually no change in February. Excluding food and energy, prices were also up 0.1 percent in March after virtually no change in February.	PCE Prices	0.2 %	0.0 %	0.1 %
<b>Personal saving rate</b> Personal saving as a percent of disposable personal income was 2.7 percent in March.	Personal Saving Rate	12-month average 4.0 %	February 3.0 %	March



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: <u>www.bea.gov</u>. <u>E-mail alerts</u> are also available.

NOTE: On May 28, 2010, the April estimates of personal income and outlays will be released.