



United States Congress

Joint Economic Committee

EST. 1946

Republicans

March 2024

Personal Consumption Expenditures

Released April 26, 2024

Headline personal income increased by 0.51 percent m/m (\$122B).

- Real disposable personal income (DPI) per capita rose by 0.15 percent m/m. That means after tax income rose faster than prices.

Real personal consumption expenditures (PCE) rose by 0.51 percent m/m (\$80.6B).

Headline PCE price index inflation rose by 0.32 percent m/m.

- All goods PCE price index inflation rose by 0.14 percent m/m.
 - Durable goods PCE price index inflation rose by 0.07 percent m/m.
 - Nondurable goods PCE price index inflation rose by 0.19 percent m/m.

Core PCE inflation rose by 0.32 percent m/m.

- Core PCE price index inflation excludes the more volatile food and energy indices.

Nominal personal savings decreased 0.4 percentage points to 3.2 percent.

Over the past 12 months:

- Core PCE price index inflation has risen by 2.82 percent.
 - The Federal Reserve's 2 percent target refers to core PCE price index (PCEPI) inflation. Given y/y core PCE inflation is 2.82 percent, inflation remains well above the Fed's 2 percent target.

Table 1. Income & Consumption Indicators

Apr 26, 2024

After seasonal adjustment

	Mar 2024	Feb 2024	Difference
Income and Outlays (m/m growth)			
Real Disposable Personal Income (DPI)	0.18%	-0.10%	0.27pp
Real Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE)	0.51%	0.48%	0.03pp
PCE Price Index (m/m growth)			
Headline	0.32%	0.34%	-0.02pp
Core (ex. food and energy)	0.32%	0.27%	0.05pp
PCE Price Index (y/y growth)			
Headline	2.71%	2.50%	0.21pp
Core (ex. food and energy)	2.82%	2.84%	-0.02pp

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, JEC Republican Calculations

* Discrepancy from monthly figures due to rounding

Table 2. Inflation Forecast Error

Apr 26, 2024

	Actual	Cleveland Fed Forecast	Error
PCE Price Index (m/m growth)			
Headline	0.32%	0.32%	0.00pp
Core (ex. food and energy)	0.32%	0.30%	0.02pp
PCE Price Index (y/y growth)			
Headline	2.71%	2.65%	0.06pp
Core (ex. food and energy)	2.82%	2.74%	0.08pp

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, JEC Republican Calculations

Q1 2024 (Advance Estimate)

Gross Domestic Product

Released April 25, 2024

Core Statistics

- Real GDP grew at an annualized rate of 1.6 percent (\$89.6 billion) in Q1 2024.
 - The largest contributors to the GDP growth were consumer spending (1.68 percent), residential investments (0.52 percent), and nonresidential fixed investments (0.39 percent).
 - This is the lowest real GDP growth since Q2 2022.
- In 2023, real GDP grew 2.5 percent, increasing from 1.9 percent in 2022.
- Current-dollar (nominal) GDP grew at an annualized rate of 4.8 percent (\$327.5 billion) in Q1 2024. The size of the U.S. Economy is \$28.3 trillion.
- For more information, see *Table 1. Gross Domestic Product*.

Economic Context

- The real GDP growth in Q1 2024 was significantly below (1.11 percentage point) the [Atlanta Fed GDPNow](#) estimate. The difference was largely driven by weaker than expected consumer spending, but all the subcategories besides investment came in weaker than the Atlanta Fed nowcast estimated.
 - For more information, see *Table 2. GDP Forecast Error*.
- Note, this is the advanced estimate and is subject to two more revisions.
- Debt-to-GDP ratio: Publicly held debt stands at 97.1 percent and total public debt stands at 122.3 percent. Total public debt includes intergovernmental transfers.
 - This quarter, the increase in total public debt has outpaced nominal economic growth by \$258 billion.
 - Over the past year, the increase in total public debt has outpaced nominal economic growth by \$1.7 trillion.
 - While over the past year, the nominal size of the economy has grown 5.5 percent (\$1.47 trillion), total public debt has grown 9.9 percent (\$3.13 trillion).

Table 1. Gross Domestic Product

Apr 25, 2024

		Q1 2024	Q4 2023	Difference
Size of the U.S. Economy (billions)				
Nominal GDP		\$28,285	\$27,957	\$327.5
Real GDP		\$22,769	\$22,679	\$89.6
GDP Growth Rates (pps)				
Nominal GDP		4.8	5.0	-0.2
- GDP Deflator		3.1	1.6	1.5
= Real GDP		1.6	3.4	-1.8
Contribution of Subcomponents (pps)				
Consumer spending	+	1.7	2.2	-0.5
Nonresidential fixed investment	+	0.4	0.5	-0.1
Residential investment	+	0.5	0.1	0.4
Change in private inventories	+	-0.4	-0.5	0.1
Net exports	+	-0.9	0.3	-1.1
Government spending	+	0.2	0.8	-0.6
Total Real GDP growth	=	1.6	3.4	-1.8
Subcomponent Growth Rate (pps)				
Consumption		2.5	3.3	-0.8
Investment		3.2	0.7	2.5
Exports		0.9	5.1	-4.2
Imports		7.2	2.2	5.0
Government expenditures		1.2	4.6	-3.4

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, JEC Republican Staff

* Discrepancy from quarterly figures due to rounding

Table 2. GDP Forecast Error

Apr 25, 2024

Subcomponent Contributions (pps)		Actual	Atlanta Fed GDPNow	Error
Consumer spending (PCE)	+	1.68	2.20	-0.52
Nonresidential fixed investment	+	0.39	0.24	0.15
Residential investment	+	0.52	0.47	0.05
Change in private inventories	+	-0.35	-0.09	-0.26
Net exports	+	-0.86	-0.53	-0.33
Government spending	+	0.21	0.41	-0.20
Total Real GDP Growth	=	1.59	2.70	-1.11

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, JEC Republican Staff

* Discrepancy from quarterly figures due to rounding

Upcoming Data Releases

Date	Time (EST)	Release	Source
May 01	2:00 PM	FOMC Meeting	Federal Reserve
	2:30 PM	Chair Powell Presser	Federal Reserve
May 03	8:30 AM	Employment Situation	Bureau of Labor Statistics
May 15	8:30 AM	Consumer Price Index	Bureau of Labor Statistics
May 31	8:30 AM	Personal Income and Outlays	Bureau of Economic Analysis

Legend

m/m = month over month; q/q = quarter over year; y/y = year over year
SA = seasonally adjusted; SAAR = seasonally adjusted annual rate
pp = percentage points