

PUTNAM PREMIER INCOME TRUST  
Form N-Q  
June 27, 2013

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM N-Q**

**QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF  
REGISTERED  
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY**

Investment Company Act file number: (811-05452)

Exact name of registrant as specified in charter: Putnam Premier Income Trust

Address of principal executive offices: One Post Office Square, Boston, Massachusetts 02109

Name and address of agent for service: Robert T. Burns, Vice President  
One Post Office Square  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109

Copy to: John W. Gerstmayr, Esq.  
Ropes & Gray LLP  
800 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02199-3600

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (617) 292-1000

Date of fiscal year end: July 31, 2013

Date of reporting period: April 30, 2013

Item 1. Schedule of Investments:

## Putnam Premier Income Trust

The fund's portfolio  
4/30/13 (Unaudited)

### MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES (42.7%)(a)

Principal  
amount      Value

### FORWARD CURRENCY CONTRACTS at 4/30/13 (aggregate face value \$415,894,054) (Unaudited)

Counterparty	Currency	Contract type	Delivery date	Value	Aggregate face value	Unrealized appreciation/ depreciation
<b>Bank of America N.A.</b>						
	British Pound	Sell	6/19/13	\$2,187,537	\$2,159,643	\$(27,894)
	Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	3,536,161	3,484,987	(51,174)
	Chilean Peso	Buy	7/17/13	2,468,759	2,452,956	15,803
	Euro	Sell	6/19/13	5,068,653	4,930,393	(138,260)
	Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	2,986,132	3,118,239	132,107
	Peruvian New Sol	Buy	7/17/13	3,036,436	3,112,895	(76,459)
	Swiss Franc	Sell	6/19/13	2,059,567	2,037,487	(22,080)
<b>Barclays Bank PLC</b>						
	Australian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	423,498	420,290	3,208
	Brazilian Real	Buy	7/17/13	3,470,134	3,441,625	28,509
	British Pound	Sell	6/19/13	6,260,421	6,028,293	(232,128)
	Canadian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	4,288,913	4,271,460	17,453
	Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	4,328,448	4,268,718	(59,730)
	Chilean Peso	Buy	7/17/13	2,810,558	2,792,859	17,699
	Euro	Sell	6/19/13	16,065,533	15,919,282	(146,251)
	Indonesian Rupiah	Buy	5/15/13	1,907,403	1,900,974	6,429
	Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	4,432,120	4,758,757	326,637
	Malaysian Ringgit	Buy	5/15/13	2,858,753	2,815,828	42,925
	Mexican Peso	Sell	7/17/13	1,717,315	1,701,669	(15,646)
	New Taiwan Dollar	Buy	5/15/13	203,134	201,628	1,506
	Norwegian Krone	Buy	6/19/13	2,124,446	2,140,312	(15,866)
	Norwegian Krone	Sell	6/19/13	2,124,446	2,117,958	(6,488)

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	Polish Zloty	Buy	6/19/13	635,263	639,700	(4,437)
	Russian Ruble	Buy	6/19/13	990,233	990,312	(79)
	South Korean Won	Buy	5/15/13	2,915,876	2,907,828	8,048
	South Korean Won	Sell	5/15/13	2,915,876	2,864,457	(51,419)
	Swedish Krona	Buy	6/19/13	2,977,903	2,953,067	24,836
	Swiss Franc	Sell	6/19/13	1,004,121	974,178	(29,943)
	Turkish Lira	Buy	6/19/13	2,080,515	2,048,294	32,221
	Turkish Lira	Sell	6/19/13	2,080,515	2,041,502	(39,013)
<b>Citibank, N.A.</b>						
	Australian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	10,269,934	10,278,567	(8,633)
	Brazilian Real	Buy	7/17/13	2,301,151	2,306,985	(5,834)
	British Pound	Sell	6/19/13	2,539,108	2,463,193	(75,915)
	Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	2,023,325	1,977,235	(46,090)
	Euro	Sell	6/19/13	4,939,815	4,893,600	(46,215)
	Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	5,170,269	5,510,031	339,762
	New Taiwan Dollar	Buy	5/15/13	203,134	203,739	(605)
	New Taiwan Dollar	Sell	5/15/13	203,134	201,276	(1,858)
	Singapore Dollar	Buy	5/15/13	338,233	333,501	4,732
	Singapore Dollar	Sell	5/15/13	338,233	333,776	(4,457)
	South African Rand	Buy	7/17/13	638,171	637,789	382
	South Korean Won	Buy	5/15/13	2,600,525	2,604,552	(4,027)
	South Korean Won	Sell	5/15/13	2,600,525	2,548,433	(52,092)
	Swedish Krona	Buy	6/19/13	2,222,595	2,193,401	29,194
	Swiss Franc	Sell	6/19/13	4,256,755	4,193,316	(63,439)
	Thai Baht	Buy	5/15/13	1,954,688	1,914,716	39,972
	Turkish Lira	Buy	6/19/13	1,115,384	1,114,756	628
<b>Credit Suisse International</b>						
	Australian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	8,518,314	8,534,088	(15,774)
	Brazilian Real	Buy	7/17/13	1,589,291	1,574,643	14,648
	British Pound	Buy	6/19/13	231,689	290,200	(58,511)
	Canadian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	338,971	338,680	291
	Chilean Peso	Buy	7/17/13	2,858,125	2,841,611	16,514
	Chinese Yuan	Buy	5/15/13	2,214,092	2,187,520	26,572
	Czech Koruna	Sell	6/19/13	49,622	33,731	(15,891)
	Euro	Sell	6/19/13	13,423,052	13,288,137	(134,915)
	Indonesian Rupiah	Buy	5/15/13	638,461	639,824	(1,363)
	Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	1,965,722	1,993,594	27,872
	Mexican Peso	Sell	7/17/13	2,389,878	2,387,443	(2,435)
	New Taiwan Dollar	Buy	5/15/13	386,860	387,880	(1,020)
	Norwegian Krone	Sell	6/19/13	31,558	15,267	(16,291)
	Philippine Peso	Buy	5/15/13	1,289,070	1,310,547	(21,477)
	Polish Zloty	Buy	6/19/13	546,300	534,012	12,288
	Russian Ruble	Buy	6/19/13	2,075,559	2,121,813	(46,254)
	South African Rand	Sell	7/17/13	657,898	610,680	(47,218)
	South Korean Won	Buy	5/15/13	3,368,208	3,393,413	(25,205)
	South Korean Won	Sell	5/15/13	3,368,208	3,308,740	(59,468)
	Swedish Krona	Buy	6/19/13	1,700,356	1,801,120	(100,764)
	Swiss Franc	Sell	6/19/13	4,332,935	4,275,237	(57,698)
	Turkish Lira	Buy	6/19/13	713,635	717,048	(3,413)
<b>Deutsche Bank AG</b>						
	Australian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	97,730	97,153	577
	Brazilian Real	Buy	7/17/13	628,086	635,603	(7,517)
	British Pound	Buy	6/19/13	2,684,613	2,623,748	60,865
	British Pound	Sell	6/19/13	2,684,613	2,594,410	(90,203)
	Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	1,269,285	1,260,414	(8,871)
	Euro	Sell	6/19/13	1,738,513	1,728,909	(9,604)
	Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	3,555,819	3,749,730	193,911
	Mexican Peso	Sell	7/17/13	2,087,049	2,053,179	(33,870)
	Norwegian Krone	Sell	6/19/13	3,530,390	3,472,583	(57,807)
	Polish Zloty	Buy	6/19/13	1,076,732	1,065,446	11,286
	Singapore Dollar	Buy	5/15/13	2,294,641	2,281,190	13,451
	Singapore Dollar	Sell	5/15/13	2,294,641	2,262,253	(32,388)

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South Korean Won	Buy	5/15/13	2,038,478	2,049,475	(10,997)
South Korean Won	Sell	5/15/13	2,038,478	2,008,140	(30,338)
Swedish Krona	Buy	6/19/13	2,323,693	2,363,444	(39,751)
Swiss Franc	Sell	6/19/13	3,451,586	3,389,758	(61,828)
Turkish Lira	Buy	6/19/13	340,471	338,164	2,307
<b>Goldman Sachs International</b>					
British Pound	Sell	6/19/13	1,512,968	1,492,435	(20,533)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	1,723,691	1,679,749	(43,942)
Euro	Sell	6/19/13	8,606,145	8,531,801	(74,344)
Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	532,738	580,553	47,815
Norwegian Krone	Sell	6/19/13	2,039,415	2,055,319	15,904
<b>HSBC Bank USA, National Association</b>					
Australian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	7,527,196	7,535,878	(8,682)
British Pound	Sell	6/19/13	651,276	627,176	(24,100)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	1,491,038	1,448,540	(42,498)
Euro	Sell	6/19/13	4,837,062	4,806,317	(30,745)
Indian Rupee	Buy	5/15/13	413,801	410,109	3,692
Japanese Yen	Buy	5/15/13	2,046,167	2,114,991	(68,824)
Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	2,046,167	2,133,931	87,764
Norwegian Krone	Buy	6/19/13	10,767	10,618	149
Norwegian Krone	Sell	6/19/13	10,767	10,731	(36)
Philippine Peso	Buy	5/15/13	624,787	637,496	(12,709)
Russian Ruble	Buy	6/19/13	1,300,466	1,350,706	(50,240)
South African Rand	Buy	7/17/13	638,182	637,772	410
South Korean Won	Buy	5/15/13	2,600,525	2,624,012	(23,487)
South Korean Won	Sell	5/15/13	2,600,525	2,548,261	(52,264)
Swiss Franc	Sell	6/19/13	319,249	322,984	3,735
Thai Baht	Buy	5/15/13	634,299	641,342	(7,043)
Turkish Lira	Buy	6/19/13	1,051,053	1,051,334	(281)
<b>JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A.</b>					
Australian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	144,431	144,667	(236)
Brazilian Real	Buy	7/17/13	3,488,938	3,463,649	25,289
British Pound	Buy	6/19/13	4,268,857	4,277,100	(8,243)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	1,079,338	1,044,404	(34,934)
Chilean Peso	Buy	7/17/13	1,861,031	1,849,311	11,720
Chinese Yuan	Buy	5/15/13	1,574,646	1,552,319	22,327
Euro	Sell	6/19/13	8,027,431	7,936,657	(90,774)
Hungarian Forint	Buy	6/19/13	638,744	640,542	(1,798)
Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	4,327,607	4,536,258	208,651
Malaysian Ringgit	Buy	5/15/13	2,214,494	2,175,365	39,129
Mexican Peso	Sell	7/17/13	1,581,501	1,565,912	(15,589)
New Taiwan Dollar	Buy	5/15/13	77,790	84,947	(7,157)
Norwegian Krone	Buy	6/19/13	1,425,662	1,403,229	22,433
Polish Zloty	Buy	6/19/13	259,001	255,891	3,110
Russian Ruble	Buy	6/19/13	618,394	610,007	8,387
South Korean Won	Buy	5/15/13	1,773,883	1,787,321	(13,438)
South Korean Won	Sell	5/15/13	1,773,883	1,750,083	(23,800)
Swedish Krona	Buy	6/19/13	3,330,163	3,379,789	(49,626)
Swiss Franc	Sell	6/19/13	1,607,863	1,635,663	27,800
Turkish Lira	Buy	6/19/13	72,657	84,103	(11,446)
<b>State Street Bank and Trust Co.</b>					
Australian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	1,294,515	1,296,636	(2,121)
Brazilian Real	Buy	7/17/13	328,863	325,370	3,493
British Pound	Sell	6/19/13	32,765	3,628	(29,137)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	3,560,041	3,521,351	(38,690)
Chilean Peso	Buy	7/17/13	2,807,865	2,791,349	16,516
Colombian Peso	Buy	7/17/13	2,443,896	2,444,102	(206)
Czech Koruna	Buy	6/19/13	682,743	673,335	9,408
Czech Koruna	Sell	6/19/13	682,743	678,080	(4,663)
Euro	Sell	6/19/13	10,168,659	9,992,981	(175,678)
Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	7,223,708	7,714,894	491,186
Mexican Peso	Sell	7/17/13	2,254,310	2,215,710	(38,600)

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	Polish Zloty	Buy	6/19/13	898,586	886,637	11,949
	South Korean Won	Buy	5/15/13	2,573,115	2,595,899	(22,784)
	South Korean Won	Sell	5/15/13	2,573,115	2,533,980	(39,135)
	Swedish Krona	Buy	6/19/13	4,259,428	4,161,287	98,141
	Swiss Franc	Buy	6/19/13	6,210,121	6,127,418	82,703
	Swiss Franc	Sell	6/19/13	6,210,121	6,126,668	(83,453)
	Turkish Lira	Buy	6/19/13	1,168,614	1,166,230	2,384
<b>UBS AG</b>						
	Australian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	6,355,669	6,367,617	(11,948)
	British Pound	Sell	6/19/13	907,035	856,343	(50,692)
	Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	2,819,972	2,790,845	(29,127)
	Chilean Peso	Buy	7/17/13	1,263,556	1,268,984	(5,428)
	Czech Koruna	Buy	6/19/13	642,717	633,896	8,821
	Czech Koruna	Sell	6/19/13	642,717	638,112	(4,605)
	Euro	Sell	6/19/13	8,118,065	8,034,517	(83,548)
	Hungarian Forint	Buy	6/19/13	638,745	640,579	(1,834)
	Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	3,480,379	3,595,053	114,674
	Mexican Peso	Sell	7/17/13	1,588,049	1,550,406	(37,643)
	New Taiwan Dollar	Buy	5/15/13	1,226,496	1,229,310	(2,814)
	Norwegian Krone	Sell	6/19/13	142,381	150,433	8,052
	Philippine Peso	Buy	5/15/13	1,294,354	1,306,763	(12,409)
	Russian Ruble	Buy	6/19/13	82,431	83,883	(1,452)
	Singapore Dollar	Buy	5/15/13	2,294,641	2,280,527	14,114
	Singapore Dollar	Sell	5/15/13	2,294,641	2,262,271	(32,370)
	Swedish Krona	Buy	6/19/13	2,065,270	2,044,776	20,494
	Swiss Franc	Sell	6/19/13	3,343,125	3,256,820	(86,305)
	Turkish Lira	Buy	6/19/13	629,488	621,982	7,506
<b>WestPac Banking Corp.</b>						
	Australian Dollar	Buy	7/17/13	5,800,523	5,811,012	(10,489)
	British Pound	Sell	6/19/13	2,173,561	2,145,068	(28,493)
	Canadian Dollar	Sell	7/17/13	1,456,160	1,446,021	(10,139)
	Euro	Sell	6/19/13	4,397,593	4,357,263	(40,330)
	Japanese Yen	Sell	5/15/13	1,965,722	2,020,303	54,581
	Mexican Peso	Sell	7/17/13	2,092,877	2,053,159	(39,718)
<b>Total</b>						<b>\$(932,513)</b>

**FUTURES CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at 4/30/13 (Unaudited)**

	<b>Number of contracts</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Expiration date</b>	<b>Unrealized appreciation/ (depreciation)</b>
Australian Government Treasury Bond 3 yr (Short)	106	\$12,077,308	Jun-13	\$(146,391)
Australian Government Treasury Bond 10 yr (Long)	5	647,517	Jun-13	25,443

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Canadian Government Bond 10 yr (Long)	60	8,143,729	Jun-13	282,654
Euro-Bobl 5 yr (Short)	38	6,342,091	Jun-13	(45,165)
Euro-Dollar 90 day (Long)	2,624	654,196,000	Jun-13	159,096
Japanese Government Bond 10 yr (Short)	2	2,965,174	Jun-13	5,222
Japanese Government Bond 10 yr Mini (Long)	16	2,373,452	Jun-13	(2,528)
U.K. Gilt 10 yr (Short)	12	2,237,010	Jun-13	(112,057)
U.S. Treasury Note 10 yr (Short)	602	80,282,344	Jun-13	(390,706)
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$(224,432)</b>

**WRITTEN OPTIONS OUTSTANDING at 4/30/13 (premiums \$33,819) (Unaudited)**

	<b>Expiration date/strike price</b>	<b>Number of contracts</b>	<b>Value</b>
U.S. Treasury Notes 10 yr futures 6s (Call)	May-13/\$134.00	87	\$20,391
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$20,391</b>

**FORWARD PREMIUM SWAP OPTION CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at 4/30/13 (Unaudited)**

<b>Counterparty</b>	<b>Fixed right or obligation % to receive or (pay)/ Floating rate index/Maturity date</b>	<b>Expiration date/strike</b>	<b>Contract amount (depreciation)</b>	<b>Unrealized appreciation/ depreciation</b>
<b>Barclays Bank PLC</b>				
	1.90/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jun-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/1.90	\$41,374,000	\$165,496
	(1.1875)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-18 (Purchased)	Jul-13/1.1875	87,802,000	(7,551)

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(2.40)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/2.40	41,374,000	(433,188)
2.40/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jun-13/2.40	41,875,000	322,017
1.961/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-23 (Written)	May-13/1.961	2,310,000	7,508
2.1875/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jul-13/2.1875	22,609,000	5,878
0.7675/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-16 (Written)	Jul-13/0.7675	72,436,000	(72)

**Citibank, N.A.**

2.40/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jun-13/2.40	41,875,000	320,344
2.40/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jun-13/2.40	11,849,598	86,858

**Credit Suisse International**

1.90/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/1.90	48,825,000	179,676
(1.2125)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-18 (Purchased)	Jul-13/1.2125	263,404,000	(103,254)
(1.39)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-18 (Purchased)	May-13/1.39	171,262,000	(356,225)
(2.40)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/2.40	48,825,000	(484,832)
2.40/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jun-13/2.40	41,875,000	318,669
2.386/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-23 (Written)	May-13/2.386	44,100,000	282,240
0.876/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-16 (Written)	May-13/0.876	141,291,000	73,471
2.22/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jul-13/2.22	67,827,000	69,184
0.785/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-16 (Written)	Jul-13/0.785	217,308,000	18,037

**Deutsche Bank AG**

1.90/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/1.90	48,825,000	183,582
(1.2075)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-18 (Purchased)	Jul-13/1.2075	87,801,000	(26,340)
(1.4075)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-18 (Purchased)	May-13/1.4075	85,631,000	(185,819)
(1.37)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-18 (Purchased)	May-13/1.37	171,262,000	(342,524)
(1.38)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-18 (Purchased)	May-13/1.38	171,262,000	(351,087)
(2.40)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/2.40	48,825,000	(476,532)
2.40/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jun-13/2.40	41,875,000	326,625
2.395/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-23 (Written)	May-13/2.395	44,100,000	276,948
2.38/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-23 (Written)	May-13/2.38	44,100,000	272,097
2.425/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-23 (Written)	May-13/2.425	22,050,000	145,530
0.87/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-16 (Written)	May-13/0.87	141,291,000	73,471
0.865/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-16 (Written)	May-13/0.865	141,291,000	70,646
0.8975/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-16 (Written)	May-13/0.8975	70,646,000	40,268
2.225/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jul-13/2.225	22,609,000	25,774
0.785/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-16 (Written)	Jul-13/0.785	72,436,000	(3,622)

**Goldman Sachs International**

1.90/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/1.90	23,730,725	65,022
(1.195)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-18 (Purchased)	Jul-13/1.195	87,801,000	(20,194)
(1.37625)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-18 (Purchased)	May-13/1.37625	85,631,000	(169,549)
(1.42125)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-18 (Purchased)	May-13/1.42125	85,631,000	(173,831)
(2.40)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/2.40	23,730,725	(207,881)

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2.44/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-23 (Written)	May-13/2.44	22,050,000	138,915
2.386/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-23 (Written)	May-13/2.386	22,050,000	134,505
0.90/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-16 (Written)	May-13/0.90	70,646,000	35,323
0.876/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/May-16 (Written)	May-13/0.876	70,646,000	35,323
2.215/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jul-13/2.215	22,609,000	15,374
0.7775/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-16 (Written)	Jul-13/0.7775	72,436,000	1,449
(1.90)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jun-23 (Written)	Jun-13/1.90	47,351,077	(247,646)
<b>JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A.</b>			
1.90/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jun-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/1.90	16,594,873	51,444
(1.1875)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-18 (Purchased)	Jul-13/1.1875	87,802,000	40
(1.1875)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-18 (Purchased)	Jul-13/1.1875	87,802,000	(13,170)
(2.40)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jun-23 (Purchased)	Jun-13/2.40	16,594,873	(163,294)
0.7675/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-16 (Written)	Jul-13/0.7675	72,436,000	8,049
2.1875/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jul-13/2.1875	22,609,000	5,878
0.7675/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-16 (Written)	Jul-13/0.7675	72,436,000	1,449
2.1875/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Jul-23 (Written)	Jul-13/2.1875	22,609,000	(2,606)
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$(12,127)</b>

**TBA SALE COMMITMENTS OUTSTANDING at 4/30/13 (proceeds receivable \$77,167,735) (Unaudited)**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Principal amount</b>	<b>Settlement date</b>	<b>Value</b>
Federal National Mortgage Association, 3s, May 1, 2043	\$56,000,000	5/13/13	\$58,576,874
Government National Mortgage Association, 3s, May 1, 2043	18,000,000	5/21/13	19,120,781
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$77,697,655</b>



**OTC INTEREST RATE SWAP CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at  
4/30/13 (Unaudited)**

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**OTC TOTAL RETURN SWAP CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at 4/30/13 (Unaudited)**

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**OTC CREDIT DEFAULT CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at 4/30/13  
(Unaudited)**

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***Key to holding's currency abbreviations***

AUD Australian Dollar  
BRL Brazilian Real  
CAD Canadian Dollar  
CHF Swiss Franc

CLP	Chilean Peso
CZK	Czech Koruna
EUR	Euro
GBP	British Pound
INR	Indian Rupee
JPY	Japanese Yen
PLN	Polish Zloty
RUB	Russian Ruble
SEK	Swedish Krona

### **Key to holding's abbreviations**

ADS	American Depository Shares: represents ownership of foreign securities on deposit with a custodian bank
bp	Basis Points
EMTN	Euro Medium Term Notes
FRB	Floating Rate Bonds: the rate shown is the current interest rate at the close of the reporting period
FRN	Floating Rate Notes: the rate shown is the current interest rate at the close of the reporting period
IFB	Inverse Floating Rate Bonds, which are securities that pay interest rates that vary inversely to changes in the market interest rates. As interest rates rise, inverse floaters produce less current income. The rate shown is the current interest rate at the close of the reporting period.
IO	Interest Only
JSC	Joint Stock Company
MTN	Medium Term Notes
OAD	Open Joint Stock Company
OJSC	Open Joint Stock Company
PO	Principal Only
TBA	To Be Announced Commitments

### **Notes to the fund's portfolio**

Unless noted otherwise, the notes to the fund's portfolio are for the close of the fund's reporting period, which ran from August 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013 (the reporting period). Within the following notes to the portfolio, references to "ASC 820" represent Accounting Standards Codification ASC 820 *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, references to "Putnam Management" represent Putnam Investment Management, LLC, the fund's manager, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Putnam Investments, LLC and references to "OTC", if any, represent over-the-counter.

- (a) Percentages indicated are based on net assets of \$851,590,864.
  - (b) The aggregate identified cost on a tax basis is \$996,616,962, resulting in gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation of \$38,703,440 and \$20,771,156, respectively, or net unrealized appreciation of \$17,932,284.
- (NON) Non-income-producing security.
- (STP) The interest rate and date shown parenthetically represent the new interest rate to be paid and the date the fund will begin accruing interest at this rate.

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(PIK) Income may be received in cash or additional securities at the discretion of the issuer.

(AFF) Affiliated company. The rate quoted in the security description is the annualized 7-day yield of the fund at the close of the reporting period. Transactions during the period with Putnam Money Market Liquidity Fund and Putnam Short Term Investment Fund, which are under common ownership or control, were as follows:

Name of affiliate	Market value at the beginning of the reporting period	Purchase cost	Sale proceeds	Investment income	Market value at the end of the reporting period
Putnam Money Market Liquidity Fund *	\$51,748,870	\$379,467,735	\$431,216,605	\$54,374	\$—
Putnam Short Term Investment Fund *	—	135,241,212	90,515,529	8,089	44,725,683
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$51,748,870</b>	<b>\$514,708,947</b>	<b>\$521,732,134</b>	<b>\$62,463</b>	<b>\$44,725,683</b>

\* Management fees charged to Putnam Money Market Liquidity Fund and Putnam Short Term Investment Fund have been waived by Putnam Management.

(SEG) This security, in part or in entirety, was pledged and segregated with the broker to cover margin requirements for futures contracts at the close of the reporting period.

(SEGSF) This security, in part or in entirety, was pledged and segregated with the custodian for collateral on certain derivative contracts at the close of the reporting period.

(c) Senior loans are exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, but contain certain restrictions on resale and cannot be sold publicly. These loans pay interest at rates which adjust periodically. The interest rates shown for senior loans are the current interest rates at the close of the reporting period. Senior loans are also subject to mandatory and/or optional prepayment which cannot be predicted. As a result, the remaining maturity may be substantially less than the stated maturity shown. Senior loans are purchased or sold on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis and may be settled a month or more after the trade date, which from time to time can delay the actual investment of available cash balances; interest income is accrued based on the terms of the securities.

Senior loans can be acquired through an agent, by assignment from another holder of the loan, or as a participation interest in another holder's portion of the loan. When the fund invests in a loan or participation, the fund is subject to the risk that an intermediate participant between the fund and the borrower will fail to meet its obligations to the fund, in addition to the risk that the borrower under the loan may default on its obligations.

(F) Is valued at fair value following procedures approved by the Trustees. Securities may be classified as Level 2 or Level 3 for ASC 820 based on the securities' valuation inputs.

(P) Security was pledged, or purchased with cash that was pledged, to the fund for collateral on certain derivatives contracts. The rate quoted in the security description is the annualized 7-day yield of the fund at the close of the reporting period.

(R) Real Estate Investment Trust.

At the close of the reporting period, the fund maintained liquid assets totaling \$247,544,004 to cover certain derivatives contracts.

Debt obligations are considered secured unless otherwise indicated.

144A after the name of an issuer represents securities exempt from registration under Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

The dates shown on debt obligations are the original maturity dates.

**DIVERSIFICATION BY COUNTRY**

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Distribution of investments by country of risk at the close of the reporting period, excluding collateral received, if any (as a percentage of Portfolio Value):

United States	79.3%
Mexico	3.2
Russia	2.9
Venezuela	2.1
Argentina	1.5
Greece	1.3
United Kingdom	1.1
Luxembourg	1.1
Ukraine	1.0
Ireland	0.8
Brazil	0.8
Germany	0.6
Canada	0.6
Turkey	0.5
Other	3.2

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ASC 820 establishes a three-level hierarchy for disclosure of fair value measurements. The valuation hierarchy is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation of the fund's investments. The three levels are defined as follows:

**Level 1:** Valuations based on quoted prices for identical securities in active markets.

**Level 2:** Valuations based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.

**Level 3:** Valuations based on inputs that are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The following is a summary of the inputs used to value the fund's net assets as of the close of the reporting period:

	<b>Valuation inputs</b>		
<b>Investments in securities:</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>

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**Common stocks:**

Consumer cyclicals	\$439,302	\$560	\$168,974
<b>Total common stocks</b>	<b>439,302</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>168,974</b>
Convertible bonds and notes	—	1,117,638	—
Convertible preferred stocks	283,872	1,213,225	—
Corporate bonds and notes	—	276,077,395	—
Foreign government and agency bonds and notes	—	108,844,579	—
Mortgage-backed securities	—	363,884,317	—
Preferred stocks	—	1,475,913	—
Purchased options outstanding	—	408	—
Senior loans	—	10,518,277	—
U.S. government and agency mortgage obligations	—	176,075,679	—
Warrants	—	6,494	—
Short-term investments	48,265,683	26,176,930	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Totals by level</b>	<b>\$48,988,857</b>	<b>\$965,391,415</b>	<b>\$168,974</b>

**Valuation  
inputs**

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<b>Other financial instruments:</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>
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Item 2. Controls and Procedures:

(a) The registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded, based on their evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of this report, that the design and operation of such procedures are generally effective to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by the registrant in this report is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and forms.

(b) Changes in internal control over financial reporting: Not applicable

Item 3. Exhibits:

Separate certifications for the principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant as required by Rule 30a-2(a) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, are filed herewith.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Putnam Premier Income Trust

By (Signature and Title):

/s/ Janet C. Smith

Janet C. Smith

Principal Accounting Officer

Date: June 27, 2013

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By (Signature and Title):

/s/ Jonathan S. Horwitz

Jonathan S. Horwitz

Principal Executive Officer

Date: June 27, 2013

By (Signature and Title):

/s/ Steven D. Krichmar

Steven D. Krichmar

Principal Financial Officer

Date: June 27, 2013