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PUTNAM PREMIER INCOME TRUST

Form NSAR-B

September 27, 2002

PAGE 1
000 B000000 07/31/2002
000 C000000 0000827773
000 D000000 N
000 E000000 NF
000 F000000 Y
000 G000000 N
000 H000000 N
000 I000000 6.1
000 J000000 A
001 A000000 PUTNAM PREMIER INCOME TRUST
001 B000000 811-5452
001 C000000 6172921000
002 A000000 ONE POST OFFICE SQUARE
002 B000000 BOSTON
002 C000000 MA
002 D010000 02109
003 000000 N
004 000000 N
005 000000 N
006 000000 N
007 A000000 N
007 B000000 0
007 C010100 1
007 C010200 2
007 C010300 3
007 C010400 4
007 C010500 5
007 C010600 6
007 C010700 7
007 C010800 8
007 C010900 9
007 C011000 10
007 C011100 11
007 C011200 12
007 C011300 13
007 C011400 14
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007 C012700 27
007 C012800 28
007 C012900 29
PAGE 2
007 C013000 30
007 C013100 31
007 C013200 32
007 C013300 33
007 C013400 34
007 C013500 35

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007 C013600 36
007 C013700 37
007 C013800 38
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007 C014600 46
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007 C014800 48
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007 C015000 50
008 A000001 PUTNAM INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, LLC
008 B000001 A
008 C000001 801-5452
008 D010001 BOSTON
008 D020001 MA
008 D030001 02109
011 A000001 PUTNAM RETAIL MANAGEMENT
011 B000001 8-5088
011 C010001 BOSTON
011 C020001 MA
011 C030001 02109
012 A000001 PUTNAM INVESTOR SERVICES
012 B000001 84-401299
012 C010001 BOSTON
012 C020001 MA
012 C030001 02109
013 A000001 KPMG LLP
013 B010001 BOSTON
013 B020001 MA
013 B030001 02110
015 A000001 PUTNAM FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY
015 B000001 C
015 C010001 BOSTON
015 C020001 MA
015 C030001 02109
015 E010001 X
018 000000 Y
019 A000000 Y
019 B000000 113
019 C000000 PUTNAMFUND
PAGE 3
020 A000001 MORGAN STANLEY INC
020 B000001 13-2655998
020 C000001 10
020 A000002 MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH, INC.
020 B000002 13-5674085
020 C000002 7
020 A000003 SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
020 C000003 7
020 A000004 MORGAN(JP) SECURITIES INC
020 B000004 13-3224016
020 C000004 5
020 A000005 DEUTSCHE BANK CAPITAL CORP
020 B000005 13-6124068
020 C000005 4
020 A000006 FIMAT FUTURES USA INC
020 C000006 3

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020 A000007 BEAR STERNS & CO
020 B000007 13-4946705
020 C000007 2
020 A000008 CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON
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020 A000009 LEHMAN BROTHERS
020 B000009 13-2518466
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020 A000010 GOLDMAN SACHS & CO
020 B000010 13-5108880
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021 000000 45
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022 A000002 GOLDMAN SACHS
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022 C000002 2467887
022 D000002 87367
022 A000003 WARBURG DILLON READ
022 B000003 13-3340045
022 C000003 2273020
022 D000003 94305
022 A000004 DEUTSCHE BANK CAPITAL CORP
022 B000004 13-6124068
022 C000004 1257504
022 D000004 446197
022 A000005 LEHMAN BROS
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022 C000005 1200395
022 D000005 119134
022 A000006 MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH, INC.
022 B000006 13-5674085
022 C000006 447347
022 D000006 195281
PAGE 4
022 A000007 MORGAN STANLEY
022 B000007 13-2655998
022 C000007 370704
022 D000007 249291
022 A000008 SALOMOM SMITH BARNEY
022 C000008 244669
022 D000008 154483
022 A000009 CHASE MANHATTAN AGENCY
022 C000009 368684
022 D000009 0
022 A000010 JP MORGAN CHASE & CO
022 B000010 13-3224016
022 C000010 235908
022 D000010 79827
023 C000000 11660201
023 D000000 2131572
024 000000 Y
025 A000001 MERRILL LYNCH PIERCE FENNER SMITH
025 C000001 D
025 D000001 4307
025 A000002 DEUTSCHE BANK ALEX BROWN
025 C000002 D
025 D000002 2676
025 A000003 CHASE COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE SECURITIES
025 C000003 D
025 D000003 661

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| | | | |
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| 025 | A000004 | CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON | |
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| 026 | D000000 | Y | |
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| 035 | 000000 | | 0 |
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| | | |
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| 042 | H000000 | 0 |
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| 046 | 000000 | N |
| 047 | 000000 | Y |
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| 048 | A020000 | 0.750 |
| 048 | B010000 | 500000 |
| 048 | B020000 | 0.650 |
| 048 | C010000 | 500000 |
| 048 | C020000 | 0.600 |
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| 048 | D020000 | 0.000 |
| 048 | E010000 | 0 |
| 048 | E020000 | 0.000 |
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| 048 | F020000 | 0.000 |
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| 048 | G020000 | 0.000 |
| 048 | H010000 | 0 |
| 048 | H020000 | 0.000 |
| 048 | I010000 | 0 |
| 048 | I020000 | 0.000 |
| 048 | J010000 | 0 |
| 048 | J020000 | 0.000 |
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| 048 | K020000 | 0.550 |
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| 060 | B000000 | N |
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| 062 | A000000 | Y |

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062 B000000 0.0
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062 D000000 4.5
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PAGE 7

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063 B000000 7.2

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070 N020000 Y
070 O010000 Y

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070 O020000 N
070 P010000 Y
070 P020000 N
070 Q010000 N

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| 070 | Q020000 | N | |
| 070 | R010000 | N | |
| 070 | R020000 | N | |
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| 072 | V000000 | | 0 |
| 072 | W000000 | | 179 |
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| 072 | Y000000 | | 0 |
| 072 | Z000000 | | 77407 |
| 072AA | 000000 | | 0 |
| 072BB | 000000 | | 55421 |
| 072CC | 010000 | | 0 |
| 072CC | 020000 | | 10331 |
| 072DD | 010000 | | 74642 |
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| 072EE | 000000 | | 0 |
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| 074 | B000000 | | 39953 |
| 074 | C000000 | | 5104 |
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| 074 | I000000 | | 966 |
| 074 | J000000 | | 15746 |
| 074 | K000000 | | 0 |
| 074 | L000000 | | 22127 |
| 074 | M000000 | | 2081 |
| 074 | N000000 | | 941324 |
| 074 | O000000 | | 52970 |
| 074 | P000000 | | 1826 |
| 074 | Q000000 | | 0 |

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| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 074 | R010000 | 0 |
| 074 | R020000 | 0 |
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| 074 | R040000 | 8879 |
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| 074 | T000000 | 877649 |
| 074 | U010000 | 140989 |
| 074 | U020000 | 0 |
| 074 | V010000 | 6.22 |
| 074 | V020000 | 0.00 |
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| 074 | Y000000 | 8437 |
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| 075 | B000000 | 922391 |
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| 077 | L000000 | Y |
| 077 | Q030000 | Y |
| 078 | 000000 | N |
| 080 | A000000 | FEDERAL INSURANCE COMPANY |
| 080 | B000000 | GULF INSURANCE COMPANY |
| 080 | C000000 | 95000 |
| 081 | A000000 | Y |
| 081 | B000000 | 112 |
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| 082 | B000000 | 0 |
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| 083 | B000000 | 0 |
| 084 | A000000 | N |
| 084 | B000000 | 0 |
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| 085 | B000000 | N |
| 086 | A010000 | 0 |
| 086 | A020000 | 0 |
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| 086 | B020000 | 0 |
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| 086 | C020000 | 0 |
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| 086 | E010000 | 0 |
| 086 | E020000 | 0 |
| 086 | F010000 | 0 |
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| 087 | A010000 | SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST |
| 087 | A020000 | 746853100 |
| 087 | A030000 | PIT |
| 088 | A000000 | N |
| 088 | B000000 | N |
| 088 | C000000 | N |
| 088 | D000000 | N |
| SIGNATURE | MICHAEL T. HEALY | |
| TITLE | MANAGING DIRECTOR | |