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PUTNAM PREMIER INCOME TRUST

Form NSAR-B

September 27, 2001

PAGE 1
000 B000000 07/31/2001
000 C000000 0000827773
000 D000000 N
000 E000000 NF
000 F000000 Y
000 G000000 N
000 H000000 N
000 I000000 6.1
000 J000000 U
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
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007 C010300 3
007 C010400 4
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007 C010600 6
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007 C010800 8
007 C010900 9
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008 A000001 PUTNAM INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, LLC
008 B000001 A
008 C000001 801-7974
008 D010001 BOSTON
008 D020001 MA
008 D030001 02109
011 A000001 PUTNAM RETAIL MANAGEMENT
011 B000001 8-5088
011 C010001 BOSTON
011 C020001 MA
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012 A000001 PUTNAM INVESTOR SERVICES
012 B000001 84-401299
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012 C020001 MA
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013 A000001 KPMG LLP
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013 B020001 MA
PAGE 2
013 B030001 02110
014 A000001 DELETE
015 A000001 PUTNAM FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY
015 B000001 C
015 C010001 BOSTON
015 C020001 MA

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015 C030001 02109
015 E010001 X
018 000000 Y
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019 B000000 97
019 C000000 PUTNAMFUND
020 A000001 MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH, INC.
020 B000001 13-5674085
020 C000001 8
020 A000002 J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES, INC.
020 B000002 13-3224016
020 C000002 5
020 A000003 GOLDMAN SACHS
020 B000003 13-5108880
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020 A000004 J.P. MORGAN AND CHASE & CO
020 C000004 3
020 A000005 SALOMON SMITH BARNEY
020 C000005 3
020 A000006 CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON
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020 A000007 WARBURG DILLON READ
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020 A000008 LEHMAN BROTHERS
020 B000008 13-2518466
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020 A000009 MORGAN STANLEY, INC.
020 B000009 13-2655998
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021 000000 34
022 A000001 WARBURG DILLON READ
022 C000001 3552034
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022 A000002 CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON
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022 D000002 186219
022 A000003 LEHMAN BORTHERS
022 B000003 13-2518466
022 C000003 1611912
022 D000003 889550
022 A000004 MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH, INC
022 B000004 13-5674085
022 C000004 1462246
PAGE 3
022 D000004 185104
022 A000005 MORGAN STANLEY, INC.
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022 C000005 1495786
022 D000005 85559
022 A000006 GOLDMAN SACHS
022 B000006 13-5108880
022 C000006 1116263
022 D000006 68059
022 A000007 J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES INC
022 B000007 13-3224016
022 C000007 655193
022 D000007 9345
022 A000008 J.P. MORGAN AND CHASE & CO.
022 C000008 426126
022 D000008 29241

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| | | | |
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| 022 | A000009 | SALOMON SMITH BARNEY | |
| 022 | C000009 | 151532 | |
| 022 | D000009 | 113897 | |
| 022 | A000010 | DEUTSCHE BANC ALEX BROWN INC. | |
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055 A000000 N
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070 M020000 Y
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PAGE 7
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PAGE 8
074 E000000 22267
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| 077 | B000000 | Y |
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| 080 | B000000 | NATIONAL UNION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY |
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| | PAGE | 9 |
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| 087 | A010000 | SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST |
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| 088 | A000000 | Y |
| 088 | B000000 | N |
| 088 | C000000 | N |
| 088 | D000000 | Y |
| SIGNATURE | MICHAEL T. HEALY | |

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TITLE

MANAGING DIRECTOR