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PUTNAM PREMIER INCOME TRUST

Form NSAR-A

April 01, 2002

PAGE 1
000 A000000 01/31/2002
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
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007 C013600 36
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008 C000001 801-7974
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008 D020001 MA
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011 A000001 PUTNAM RETAIL MANAGEMENT
011 B000001 8-5088
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012 A000001 PUTNAM INVESTOR SERVICES
012 B000001 84-401299
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013 A000001 KPMG LLP
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014 A000001 DELETE
015 A000001 PUTNAM FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY
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015 A000002 BROWN BROTHERS HARRIMAN AND COMPANY
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020 A000002 MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH, INC.
020 B000002 13-5674085
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020 A000003 JP MORGAN AND CHASE & CO
020 B000003 13-3224016
020 C000003 2
020 A000004 DEUTSCHE BANC ALEX BROWN INC.

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020 B000004 13-6124068
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020 A000005 CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON
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020 A000006 MORGAN STANLEY + CO., INC.
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022 A000005 DEUTSCHE BANK CAPITAL CORP.
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PAGE 4
022 C000005 291078
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022 A000006 MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH, INC.
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022 A000009 JP MORGAN AND CHASE & CO
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062 D000000 3.1
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PAGE 7

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064 B000000 N

066 A000000 N

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068 A000000 N

068 B000000 N

069 000000 N

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070 A020000 Y

070 B010000 N

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070 P020000 N

PAGE 8

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070 Q020000 N

070 R010000 N

070 R020000 N

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086	F010000	0
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087	A020000	746853100
087	A030000	PIT
088	A000000	Y
088	B000000	N
088	C000000	N
088	D000000	Y
SIGNATURE	MICHAEL T. HEALY	
TITLE	MANAGING DIRECTOR	