

PUTNAM PREMIER INCOME TRUST  
Form N-Q  
December 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, 2014

Date of reporting period: October 31, 2013

Item 1. Schedule of Investments:

## Putnam Premier Income Trust

The fund's portfolio  
10/31/13 (Unaudited)

### MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES (48.2%)(a)

Principal  
amount      Value

### FORWARD CURRENCY CONTRACTS at 10/31/13 (aggregate face value \$413,294,216) (Unaudited)

Counterparty	Currency	Contract type	Delivery date	Value	Aggregate face value	Unrealized appreciation/ depreciation
<b>Bank of America N.A.</b>						
	Brazilian Real	Buy	1/3/14	\$2,499,329	\$2,556,875	\$(57,546)
	Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	383	404	21
	Chilean Peso	Buy	1/16/14	4,301,206	4,408,364	(107,158)
	Euro	Buy	12/18/13	2,034,877	2,026,119	8,758
	Euro	Sell	12/18/13	2,034,877	2,044,811	9,934
	Singapore Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	2,890,381	2,813,066	(77,315)
	Swiss Franc	Sell	12/18/13	2,112,082	2,038,284	(73,798)
<b>Barclays Bank PLC</b>						
	Australian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	1,947,846	1,982,803	(34,957)
	Brazilian Real	Buy	1/3/14	4,454,263	4,570,455	(116,192)
	British Pound	Sell	12/18/13	3,672,174	3,575,356	(96,818)
	Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	2,567,494	2,568,589	1,095
	Czech Koruna	Sell	12/18/13	2,004,204	2,033,936	29,732
	Euro	Sell	12/18/13	11,739,038	11,583,334	(155,704)
	Hungarian Forint	Buy	12/18/13	1,871,783	1,854,417	17,366
	Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	3,337,175	3,303,320	(33,855)
	Mexican Peso	Sell	1/16/14	1,972,917	1,997,577	24,660
	Norwegian Krone	Buy	12/18/13	2,139,211	2,135,125	4,086
	Polish Zloty	Buy	12/18/13	7,104,825	7,194,643	(89,818)
	Singapore Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	6,140,368	6,116,094	(24,274)
	Swiss Franc	Sell	12/18/13	2,227,515	2,157,155	(70,360)
	Turkish Lira	Buy	12/18/13	1,196,575	1,216,039	(19,464)

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**Citibank, N.A.**

Australian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	621,189	619,613	1,576
Brazilian Real	Buy	1/3/14	4,701,663	4,826,231	(124,568)
British Pound	Buy	12/18/13	138,328	156,401	(18,073)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	2,007,969	2,004,281	(3,688)
Euro	Sell	12/18/13	698,072	711,101	13,029
Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	378,674	322,832	(55,842)
New Taiwan Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	3,455,628	3,464,794	9,166
Swiss Franc	Sell	12/18/13	4,185,906	4,051,544	(134,362)

**Credit Suisse International**

British Pound	Buy	12/18/13	1,992,366	2,033,114	(40,748)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	1,966,136	1,986,374	20,238
Czech Koruna	Sell	12/18/13	2,004,199	2,012,957	8,758
Euro	Sell	12/18/13	4,695,453	4,676,140	(19,313)
Japanese Yen	Buy	11/20/13	3,115,239	3,150,028	(34,789)
Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	3,115,239	3,090,269	(24,970)
Mexican Peso	Buy	1/16/14	3,009,270	2,989,197	20,073
Mexican Peso	Sell	1/16/14	3,009,270	3,026,489	17,219
New Zealand Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	1,956,586	2,017,489	(60,903)
Norwegian Krone	Buy	12/18/13	2,051,549	2,074,769	(23,220)
Singapore Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	5,055,349	5,061,747	6,398
South Korean Won	Buy	11/20/13	4,561,488	4,528,828	32,660
Swiss Franc	Sell	12/18/13	4,425,372	4,285,196	(140,176)

**Deutsche Bank AG**

Australian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	378,037	420,844	(42,807)
British Pound	Buy	12/18/13	1,965,759	1,979,180	(13,421)
British Pound	Sell	12/18/13	1,965,759	1,906,635	(59,124)
Canadian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	1,995,142	2,020,474	(25,332)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	1,995,142	2,009,454	14,312
Euro	Sell	12/18/13	8,728,544	8,616,995	(111,549)
Japanese Yen	Buy	11/20/13	2,024,870	2,028,720	(3,850)
Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	2,024,870	2,029,945	5,075
Norwegian Krone	Buy	12/18/13	2,044,203	2,116,825	(72,622)
Polish Zloty	Buy	12/18/13	3,068,759	3,124,878	(56,119)
Swiss Franc	Sell	12/18/13	2,216,159	2,139,383	(76,776)

**Goldman Sachs International**

Australian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	2,083,861	2,067,234	16,627
British Pound	Buy	12/18/13	4,076,899	4,075,788	1,110
British Pound	Sell	12/18/13	4,145,982	4,069,316	(76,666)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	16,465	9,871	(6,594)
Chilean Peso	Buy	1/16/14	4,825,832	4,938,739	(112,907)
Euro	Sell	12/18/13	6,283,868	6,089,161	(194,707)
Japanese Yen	Buy	11/20/13	1,999,305	2,023,524	(24,219)
Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	1,999,305	2,003,070	3,765

**HSBC Bank USA, National Association**

British Pound	Buy	12/18/13	4,500,377	4,522,427	(22,050)
British Pound	Sell	12/18/13	4,500,377	4,512,497	12,120
Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	1,391,487	1,405,803	14,316
Chinese Yuan (Offshore)	Sell	11/20/13	101,455	52,667	(48,788)
Euro	Sell	12/18/13	1,110,451	1,061,731	(48,720)
Indian Rupee	Sell	11/20/13	803,217	796,141	(7,076)
New Taiwan Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	3,455,632	3,455,687	55
Swedish Krona	Buy	12/18/13	1,963,850	1,937,288	26,562
Swedish Krona	Sell	12/18/13	1,963,850	1,986,558	22,708

**JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A.**

Australian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	2,061,757	2,054,431	7,326
Brazilian Real	Buy	1/3/14	4,434,487	4,550,469	(115,982)
British Pound	Buy	12/18/13	6,305,849	6,298,956	6,893
British Pound	Sell	12/18/13	6,311,138	6,248,694	(62,444)
Czech Koruna	Buy	12/18/13	1,277,207	1,259,979	17,228
Czech Koruna	Sell	12/18/13	1,277,207	1,239,191	(38,016)

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Euro	Sell	12/18/13	8,274,615	8,211,633	(62,982)
Hungarian Forint	Buy	12/18/13	2,198,084	2,229,041	(30,957)
Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	41,249	71,178	29,929
Malaysian Ringgit	Buy	11/20/13	5,154,278	5,105,600	48,678
Malaysian Ringgit	Sell	11/20/13	5,154,278	4,934,591	(219,687)
Mexican Peso	Sell	1/16/14	1,972,917	1,985,748	12,831
New Taiwan Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	6,586,611	6,578,070	(8,541)
New Zealand Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	1,956,586	2,017,405	(60,819)
Norwegian Krone	Buy	12/18/13	2,407,762	2,419,856	(12,094)
Polish Zloty	Buy	12/18/13	5,842,172	5,877,083	(34,911)
Russian Ruble	Sell	12/18/13	144,737	137,557	(7,180)
Singapore Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	4,564,199	4,530,472	(33,727)
South Korean Won	Buy	11/20/13	6,336,382	6,313,804	22,578
Swiss Franc	Buy	12/18/13	2,115,831	2,107,604	8,226
Swiss Franc	Sell	12/18/13	2,149,898	2,087,280	(62,618)
<b>Royal Bank of Scotland PLC (The)</b>					
Australian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	56,908	10,694	46,214
Brazilian Real	Buy	1/3/14	4,717,960	4,826,433	(108,473)
British Pound	Buy	12/18/13	160	162	(2)
British Pound	Sell	12/18/13	160	155	(5)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	1,993,706	2,018,101	24,395
Euro	Sell	12/18/13	5,477,711	5,279,202	(198,509)
Hungarian Forint	Buy	12/18/13	1,871,782	1,854,678	17,104
Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	2,025,960	1,986,662	(39,298)
Mexican Peso	Sell	1/16/14	1,923,006	1,947,090	24,084
Swedish Krona	Buy	12/18/13	1,557,431	1,573,914	(16,483)
<b>State Street Bank and Trust Co.</b>					
Australian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	2,048,211	2,031,542	16,669
Brazilian Real	Buy	1/3/14	4,137,536	4,259,418	(121,882)
British Pound	Buy	12/18/13	1,992,367	2,018,844	(26,477)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	568,714	574,559	5,845
Chilean Peso	Buy	1/16/14	1,032,203	1,050,426	(18,223)
Chilean Peso	Sell	1/16/14	1,032,203	1,046,277	14,074
Czech Koruna	Buy	12/18/13	1,277,207	1,260,041	17,166
Czech Koruna	Sell	12/18/13	1,277,207	1,240,090	(37,117)
Euro	Sell	12/18/13	7,456,237	7,433,567	(22,670)
Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	2,610,006	2,603,082	(6,924)
New Taiwan Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	6,586,615	6,577,514	(9,101)
New Zealand Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	1,956,586	2,002,764	(46,178)
Norwegian Krone	Buy	12/18/13	369,714	343,754	25,960
Polish Zloty	Buy	12/18/13	4,036,130	4,069,057	(32,927)
Singapore Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	5,495,218	5,412,320	(82,898)
South Korean Won	Buy	11/20/13	7,603,217	7,545,356	57,861
Swedish Krona	Buy	12/18/13	1,997,456	2,015,712	(18,256)
Swiss Franc	Sell	12/18/13	298,891	223,451	(75,440)
<b>UBS AG</b>					
Australian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	2,016,889	2,000,532	16,357
Australian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	2,016,889	1,998,399	(18,490)
British Pound	Buy	12/18/13	10,227,750	10,199,551	28,199
British Pound	Sell	12/18/13	10,227,750	10,195,384	(32,366)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	2,700,458	2,714,261	13,803
Czech Koruna	Sell	12/18/13	3,882,217	3,907,133	24,916
Euro	Sell	12/18/13	7,364,039	7,367,075	3,036
Hungarian Forint	Buy	12/18/13	2,198,083	2,251,630	(53,547)
Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	621,382	576,401	(44,981)
Mexican Peso	Sell	1/16/14	2,074,887	2,095,777	20,890
New Zealand Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	1,956,668	2,002,938	(46,270)
Norwegian Krone	Buy	12/18/13	3,393,673	3,429,504	(35,831)
Russian Ruble	Sell	12/18/13	536,671	509,740	(26,931)
Singapore Dollar	Sell	11/20/13	5,697,360	5,626,168	(71,192)
Swedish Krona	Buy	12/18/13	2,382,232	2,360,886	21,346
Swiss Franc	Sell	12/18/13	1,279,244	1,101,111	(178,133)

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Turkish Lira	Buy	12/18/13	1,839,784	1,869,154	(29,370)
Turkish Lira	Sell	12/18/13	1,839,784	1,832,704	(7,080)
<b>WestPac Banking Corp.</b>					
Australian Dollar	Buy	1/16/14	2,020,369	2,044,383	(24,014)
Canadian Dollar	Sell	1/16/14	1,471,228	1,486,356	15,128
Euro	Sell	12/18/13	1,571,985	1,560,562	(11,423)
Japanese Yen	Sell	11/20/13	40,470	34,064	(6,406)
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$(3,949,938)</b>

**FUTURES CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at 10/31/13 (Unaudited)**

	Number of contracts	Value	Expiration date	Unrealized appreciation/ (depreciation)
Australian Government Treasury Bond 10 yr (Long)	5	\$550,696	Dec-13	\$7,137
Euro-Bobl 5 yr (Long)	17	2,891,911	Dec-13	52,484
Euro-Bund 10 yr (Short)	292	56,297,716	Dec-13	(1,378,267)
Euro-Buxl 30 yr (Short)	21	3,594,886	Dec-13	(81,612)
Japanese Government Bond 10 yr (Short)	2	2,950,676	Dec-13	(46,994)
Japanese Government Bond 10 yr Mini (Long)	15	2,212,244	Dec-13	34,263
U.K. Gilt 10 yr (Long)	218	38,889,935	Dec-13	393,966
U.S. Treasury Note 5 yr (Short)	170	20,686,875	Dec-13	(131,175)
U.S. Treasury Note 10 yr (Short)	26	3,311,344	Dec-13	(14,878)
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$(1,165,076)</b>

**WRITTEN SWAP OPTIONS OUTSTANDING at 10/31/13 (premiums \$1,861,747)  
(Unaudited)**

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<b>Counterparty</b>	<b>Fixed Obligation % to receive or (pay)/ Floating rate index/Maturity date</b>	<b>Expiration date/strike</b>	<b>Contract amount</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Credit Suisse International</b>				
2.98/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Nov-23		Nov-13/2.98	\$76,053,300	\$5,324
(2.98)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Nov-23		Nov-13/2.98	76,053,300	1,989,554
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$1,994,878</b>	

**FORWARD PREMIUM SWAP OPTION CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at 10/31/13 (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</b>	<b>Unrealized appreciation/ amount (depreciation)</b>
<b>Credit Suisse International</b>				
(2.70625)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Dec-23 (Written)		Dec-13/2.70625	\$13,500,000	\$7,290
(2.7165)/3 month USD-LIBOR-BBA/Dec-23 (Written)		Dec-13/2.7165	13,500,000	810
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$8,100</b>

**TBA SALE COMMITMENTS OUTSTANDING at 10/31/13 (proceeds receivable \$53,407,871) (Unaudited)**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Principal amount</b>	<b>Settlement date</b>	<b>Value</b>
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Federal National Mortgage Association, 4s, November 1, 2043	\$37,000,000	11/13/13	\$38,982,971
Federal National Mortgage Association, 3 1/2s, November 1, 2043	14,000,000	11/13/13	<u>14,366,406</u>
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$53,349,377</b>

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**OTC INTEREST RATE SWAP CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at 10/31/13  
(Unaudited)**

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**CENTRALLY CLEARED INTEREST RATE SWAP CONTRACTS  
OUTSTANDING at 10/31/13 (Unaudited)**

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**OTC TOTAL RETURN SWAP CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at 10/31/13 (Unaudited)**

**OTC CREDIT DEFAULT CONTRACTS OUTSTANDING at 10/31/13  
(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
EUR	Euro
GBP	British Pound
JPY	Japanese Yen
KRW	South Korean Won
MXN	Mexican Peso
SEK	Swedish Krona
ZAR	South African Rand

***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



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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
- OAO 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, 2013 through October 31, 2013 (the reporting period). Within the following notes to the portfolio, references to "ASC 820" represent Accounting Standards Codification 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 \$798,142,164.
- (b) The aggregate identified cost on a tax basis is \$975,034,148, resulting in gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation of \$35,684,198 and \$15,167,958, respectively, or net unrealized appreciation of \$20,516,240.
- (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.
- (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 Short Term Investment Fund, which is under common ownership and 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 Short Term Investment Fund *	\$19,883,474	\$116,723,380	\$119,168,103	\$2,622	\$17,438,751

\* Management fees charged to 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.
- (SEGCCS) This security, in part or in entirety, was pledged and segregated with the custodian for collateral on the initial margin on certain centrally cleared derivative contracts at the close of the reporting period.
- (FWC) Forward commitment, in part or in entirety.
- (c)

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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 \$312,178,706 to cover certain derivatives contracts and delayed delivery securities.

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**

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	82.7%
Russia	2.4
Venezuela	1.8
Greece	1.6
Argentina	1.6
United Kingdom	1.3
Luxembourg	1.2
Brazil	0.8
Canada	0.7
Ireland	0.7
Germany	0.6
Ukraine	0.6
Indonesia	0.5
Mexico	0.5
Other	3.0

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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>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>
<b>Investments in securities:</b>			
<b>Common stocks *:</b>			
Consumer cyclicals	\$518,260	\$448	\$168,974
<b>Total common stocks</b>	<b>518,260</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>168,974</b>
Convertible bonds and notes	—	294,400	—
Convertible preferred stocks	303,744	975,408	—
Corporate bonds and notes	—	256,963,273	—
Foreign government and agency bonds and notes	—	74,167,726	—
Mortgage-backed securities	—	385,002,054	—
Preferred stocks	441,847	1,005,848	—
Purchased options outstanding	—	220,200	—
Purchased swap options outstanding	—	1,860,663	—
Senior loans	—	12,352,526	—
U.S. government and agency mortgage obligations	—	188,095,323	—
Warrants	—	10,425	—
Short-term investments	21,128,751	52,040,518	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Totals by level</b>	<b>\$22,392,602</b>	<b>\$972,988,812</b>	<b>\$168,974</b>

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: December 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: December 27, 2013

By (Signature and Title):

/s/ Steven D. Krichmar  
Steven D. Krichmar

Principal Financial Officer  
Date: December 27, 2013