

FOR RELEASE: 10:00 A.M. (BEIJING TIME), MARCH 25, 2014

The Conference Board®
China Business Cycle Indicators<sup>SM</sup>

# THE CONFERENCE BOARD LEADING ECONOMIC INDEX® (LEI) FOR CHINA

## AND RELATED COMPOSITE ECONOMIC INDEXES FOR FEBRUARY 2014

**The Conference Board Leading Economic Index**<sup>®</sup> (LEI) for China increased 0.9 percent and **The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index**<sup>®</sup> (CEI) decreased 0.2 percent in February.

- The Conference Board LEI for China increased again in February, with total loans issued by financial institutions and the consumer expectations index making the largest positive contributions. With this month's increase, the leading economic index grew 4.8 percent (about a 9.9 percent annual rate) between August 2013 and February 2014, slightly up from the increase of 4.3 percent (about an 8.7 percent annual rate) for the previous six months. However, the strengths among the leading indicators have become less widespread, and are only balanced with the weaknesses in the last six months.
- The Conference Board CEI for China, a measure of current economic activity, fell in February for the first time in nearly a year due to large negative contributions from volume of passenger traffic and value-added industrial production. With this month's decline, the 1.8 percent increase (about a 3.7 percent annual rate) in the coincident economic index is considerably below its 4.8 percent growth (about a 9.9 percent annual rate) during the previous six months. In the meantime, according to the National Bureau of Statistics of China, real GDP grew 7.7 percent in 2013.
- The LEI for China increased again in February. However, its six-month growth rate has moderated from the second half of last year, with less widespread strengths among its components. Meanwhile, the CEI for China fell slightly, and its six-month growth has continued to slow considerably. Taken together, the slower growth in both the LEI and the CEI suggests that downside risks are increasing, and the current pace of economic expansion is unlikely to persist in the coming months.

<u>LEADING INDICATORS.</u> Four of the six components that make up The Conference Board LEI for China increased in February. The positive contributors to the index – in order from the larger positive contributor to the smaller – include total loans issued by financial institutions, the consumer expectations index, total floor space started, and the 5000 industry enterprises diffusion index: raw materials supply index\*. The PMI new export orders index and the (inverted) PMI supplier delivery index declined in February.

The next release is scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 10:00 A.M. (Beijing time)

In New York – Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at 10:00 P.M. (ET)

With the increase of 0.9 percent in February, The Conference Board LEI for China now stands at 282.4 (2004=100). Based on revised data, this index increased 0.3 percent in January and increased 0.4 percent in December. During the six-month span through February, The Conference Board LEI for China increased 4.8 percent, and three of the six components advanced (diffusion index, six-month span equals 50.0 percent).

<u>COINCIDENT INDICATORS.</u> Three of the five components that make up The Conference Board CEI for China increased in February. The positive contributors to the index – in order from the largest positive contributor to the smallest – include retail sales of consumer goods, manufacturing employment, and electricity production. Volume of passenger traffic and value-added industrial production declined in February.

With the decrease of 0.2 percent in February, The Conference Board CEI for China now stands at 252.8 (2004=100). Based on revised data, this index decreased 1.2 percent in January and increased 1.5 percent in December. During the six-month span through February, The Conference Board CEI for China increased 1.8 percent, and four of the five components advanced (diffusion index, six-month span equals 80.0 percent).

#### FOR TABLES AND CHARTS, SEE BELOW

<u>DATA AVAILABILITY AND NOTES.</u> The data series used to compute **The Conference Board Leading Economic Index**<sup>®</sup> for China and **The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index**<sup>®</sup> for China reported in this release are those available "as of" 10:00 A.M. (ET) on March 22, 2014.

\* The series in The Conference Board LEI for China that is based on our estimate is the 5000 industry enterprises diffusion index: raw materials supply index. The series in The Conference Board CEI for China that is based on our estimates is manufacturing employment.

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THE CYCLICAL INDICATOR APPROACH. The composite economic indexes are the key elements in an analytic system designed to signal peaks and troughs in the business cycle. The leading and coincident economic indexes are essentially composite averages of several individual leading or coincident indicators. (See page 3 for details.) They are constructed to summarize and reveal common turning point patterns in economic data in a clearer and more convincing manner than any individual component—primarily because they smooth out some of the volatility of individual components.

Historically, the cyclical turning points in The Conference Board LEI for China have occurred before those in aggregate economic activity, while the cyclical turning points in The Conference Board CEI for China have occurred at about the same time as those in aggregate economic activity.

Further explanations of the cyclical indicator approach and the composite economic index methodology appear in The Conference Board's *Business Cycle Indicators* report and website: <a href="www.conference-board.org/data/bci.cfm">www.conference-board.org/data/bci.cfm</a>

## China Composite Economic Indexes: Components and Standardization Factors

Le	eading Economic Index	<u>Factor</u>
1.	Consumer Expectations Index	0.0872
2.	NBS Manufacturing PMI Sub-Indices: Export	0.0836
	Orders	
3.	NBS Manufacturing PMI Sub-Indices: PMI	0.2558
	Supplier Deliveries, inverted	
4.	Total Loans Issued by Financial Institutions	0.1462
5.	5000 Industry Enterprises Diffusion Index: Raw	0.4092
	Materials Supply Index	
6.	Total Floor Space Started	0.0180
Co	pincident Economic Index	
1.	Value Added of Industrial Production	0.1935
2.	Retail Sales of Consumer Goods	0.2009
3.	Electricity Production	0.2230
4.	Volume of Passenger Traffic	0.1080
5.	Manufacturing Employment	0.2746

#### Notes:

The component factors are inversely related to the standard deviation of the month-to-month changes in each component. They are used to equalize the volatility of the contribution from each component and are normalized to sum to 1.

These factors were revised effective with the release in January 2013. Updates to the leading and coincident indexes normally only incorporate revisions to data over the past six months. The factors above for the leading economic index were calculated using the February 2005 to December 2011 period as the sample period for measuring volatility. Separate sets of factors for the February 1996 to January 2005, June 1992 to January 1996, February 1990 to May 1992, and the February 1986 to January 1990 period, are available upon request. The factors above for coincident economic index were calculated using the February 2000 to December 2011 period as the sample period. Separate sets of factors for the February 1990 to January 2000, January 1990, July 1986 to December 1989, and the February 1986 to June 1986 period, are available upon request. These multiple sample periods are the result of different starting dates for the component data. When one or more components are missing, the other factors are adjusted proportionately to ensure that the total continues to sum to 1. For additional information on the standardization factors and the index methodology, visit our Web site: www.conference-board.org/data/bci.cfm

The trend adjustment factors for the leading economic index are 0.6649 (calculated over the 2002 - 2011 period), 0.4178 (calculated over the 1992 - 2001 period), and -0.3803 (calculated over the 1986 - 1991 period).

To address the problem of lags in available data, those leading and coincident indicators that are not available at the time of publication are estimated using statistical imputation. An autoregressive model is used to estimate each component. The resulting indexes are constructed using real and estimated data, and will be revised as the data unavailable at the time of publication become available. Such monthly data revisions are now a regular part of the U.S. Business Cycle and Global Indicators program. The main advantage of this procedure is to utilize in the leading economic index the data such as bond yields, stock prices, and change in consumer confidence that are available sooner than other data on real aspects of the economy such as housing starts and new orders. Empirical research by The Conference Board suggests there are real gains in adopting this procedure to make all the indicator series as up-to-date as possible.

#### **NOTICES**

The 2014 schedule for "The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® for China" updates is:

March 2014 Data ... Wednesday, April 23, 2014 April 2014 Data ... Thursday, May 22, 2014 May 2014 Data ... Monday, June 23, 2014 June 2014 Data ... Monday, July 21, 2014 July 2014 Data ... Monday, August 25, 2014 August 2014 Data ... Thursday, September 25, 2014 September 2014 Data ... Thursday, October 23, 2014 October 2014 Data ... Monday, November 24, 2014 November 2014 Data ... Monday, December 22, 2014

All releases are at 10:00 A.M. (Beijing time, following day).

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## 世界大型企业研究会中国先行与同步经济指数

表 1:	中国经济指数摘要
12 1	

	2013						2014
	八月	九月	十月	十一月	十二月	一月	二月
中国先行经济指数 环比增长 扩散指数	269.4 0.9 66.7	272.2 p 1.0 p 58.3	274.0 p 0.7 p 75.0	278.0 p 1.5 p 58.3	279.0 p 0.4 p 50.0	279.9 p 0.3 p 58.3	282.4 p 0.9 p 58.3
中国同步经济指数 环比增长 扩散指数	248.3 1.2 100.0	248.6 p 0.1 p 80.0	250.3 p 0.7 p 80.0	252.5 p 0.9 p 100.0	256.2 p 1.5 p 100.0	253.2 p -1.2 p 40.0	252.8 p -0.2 p 60.0
	二月至 八月	三月至 九月	四月至 十月	五月至 十一月	六月至 十二月	七月至 一月	八月至 二月
中国先行经济指数 环比增长 扩散指数						-/ <b>-</b>	

p 初步估算 r 已修订(此处只限于指数与月增长).

计算提示: 扩散指数用于衡量指数构成中增长与下降的指标的比例

增长率大于百分之 0.05, 其扩散指标为1.0。如指标增长率小与百分之 0.05, 其扩散指标为0.5。

当指标下降率大于百分之0.05时,其扩散指标为0.0。

如需更多信息,请查询网站: www.conference-board.org/data/bci.cfm

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#### 世界大型企业研究会中国先行与同步经济指数

表2: 中国先行经济指数数据及各指标的净贡献率

衣2: 中国尤行经价值数数据及各值协助使贝朴学								
	2013						2014	
指标	八月	九月	十月	十一月	十二月	一月	二月	
		1	中国先行指数	数各指标				
消费者预期指数								
(季节调整后)	101.60	103.50	107.50	102.70	106.80	105.00	107.00	
金融机构人民币各项贷款总额								
(十亿元计,以2004年生产价格指数为基准,季节调整后)	57381.39	58034.67 r	58624.55 r	59344.13 г	60025.91 r	60823.99 r	61816.06	
5000户企业家调查扩散指数 原材料供应情况指数(季节调整后,季度数据)	66.97	67.00 **	67.03**	67.06 **	67.08 **	67.11 **	67.14 **	
中国制造业采购经理指数 (PMI) 供应商配送时间(逆行指标,季节调整后)	50.32	50.59	50.48	50.50	50.47	50.05	50.43	
中国制造业采购经理指数(PMI) 新出口订单(季节调整后)	51.41 r	50.10 r	50.40 r	50.40 г	49.56	50.33	48.57	
全国房屋建筑新开工面积								
(千平方米计,季节调整后)	191886.99	214169.57	156421.87 r	280163.51	181342.50 r	131528.65	134954.41	
先行指数 (2004=100)	269.4	272.2 p	274.0 p	278.0 p	279.0 p	279.9 p	282.4 p	
环比增长	0.9	1.0 p	0.7 p	1.5 p	0.4 p	0.3 p	0.9 p	
	中国先行指数各指标的净贡献率							
消费者预期指数	***************************************							
(季节调整后) 金融机构人民币各项贷款总额		0.17	0.35	-0.42	0.36	-0.16	0.17	
金融机构入民币各项页款总额 (十亿元计,以2004年生产价格指数为基准,季节调整后) 5000户企业家调查扩散指数		0.17 r	0.15	0.18 r	0.17 r	0.19 r	0.24	
原材料供应情况指数(季节调整后,季度数据)		0.01 **	0.01**	0.01 **	0.01 **	0.01 **	0.01 **	
中国制造业采购经理指数(PMI)								
供应商配送时间(逆行指标,季节调整后)		-0.07 r	0.03	-0.01	0.01 r	0.11 r	-0.10	
中国制造业采购经理指数(PMI)								
新出口订单(季节调整后) 全国房屋建筑新开工面积		-0.11 r	0.03	0.00 r	-0.07 r	0.06 r	-0.15	
至四万定定员别力工团公 (千平方米计,季节调整后)		0.20 r	-0.56 r	1.02 r	-0.77 r	-0.57 r	0.05	

p 初步估算 r 已修订 n.a. 无数据 c 已改正 \* 逆行指标; 当此指标下降时, 其对合成指数的净贡献率为正

数据来源: CEIC, 中国国家统计局, 中国人民银行, 世界大型企业研究会

计算提示--由于四舍五入的影响及基值的差异, 该指数的百分比变率并不总是等于各指标净贡献率的总和

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<sup>\*\*</sup> 统计估算 -- Q: 季度数据是通过线性插值转换为月度数据的

#### 世界大型企业研究会中国先行与同步经济指数

表3: 中国同步指数数据及各指标的净贡献率

表3: 中国问步指数数据及各指标的伊页甑率							
	2013						2014
指标	八月	九月	十月	十一月	十二月	一月	二月
	中国同步指数各指标						
工业增加值产量							
(十亿元计,以2004年生产价格指数为基准,季节调整后)	1381.3 г	1392.4 r	1405.2 r	1415.4 r	1423.0 r	1431.2 r	1426.3
社会消费品零售总额							
(十亿元计,以2004年零售价格指数为基准,季节调整后)	1602.8 r	1620.9 r	1637.0 r	1653.4 r	1673.0 r	1615.9 r	1645.1
旅客周转量合计 (十亿人公里,季节调整后)	304.1 г	305.5 r	298.3 r	307.1 r	329.2 r	312.8 r	294.5
发电量	304.1 1	303.3 1	290.3 1	307.1 1	329.2 1	312.6 1	254.3
久屯里 (十亿千瓦小时,季节调整后)	446.1 r	437.1 r	445.6 r	448.2 r	452.7 r	449.3 r	451.2
城镇制造业就业人数							
(百万人,季节调整后,季度数据)	84.4	84.8	85.2**	85.6**	86.0**	86.4**	86.8**
同步指数 (2004=100)	248.3	248.6 р	250.3 р	252.5 р	256.2 р	253.2 р	252.8 p
环比增长	1.2	0.1 p	0.7 p	0.9 p	1.5 p	-1.2 p	-0.2 p
		F	г	Р	Р	r	г
		中	国同步指数	数各指标的	净贡献率		
工业增加值产量							
(十亿元计,以2004年生产价格指数为基准,季节调整后)		0.15 r	0.18 r	0.14 r	0.10 r	0.11 r	-0.07
社会消费品零售总额							
(十亿元计,以2004年零售价格指数为基准,季节调整后)		0.22 r	0.20 r	0.20 r	0.24 r	-0.70 r	0.36
旅客周转量合计							
(十亿人公里,季节调整后)	••••	0.05	-0.26 r	0.31 r	0.75 r	-0.55 r	-0.65
发电量 (十亿千瓦小时,季节调整后)		-0.45 r	0.43 r	0.13	0.22	-0.17 r	0.10
城镇制造业就业人数	••••	-0.43 T	U.45 I	0.15	0.22	-0.17 Г	0.10
项银制		0.12	0.12**	0.12**	0.12**	0.12**	0.12**
(,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,							

p 初步估算 r 已修订 n.a. 无数据 c 已改正 \* 逆行指标; 当此指标下降时, 其对合成指数的净贡献率为正

数据来源: CEIC, 中国国家统计局, 中国人民银行, 世界大型企业研究会

计算提示--由于四舍五入的影响及基值的差异,该指数的百分比变率并不总是等于各指标净贡献率的总和

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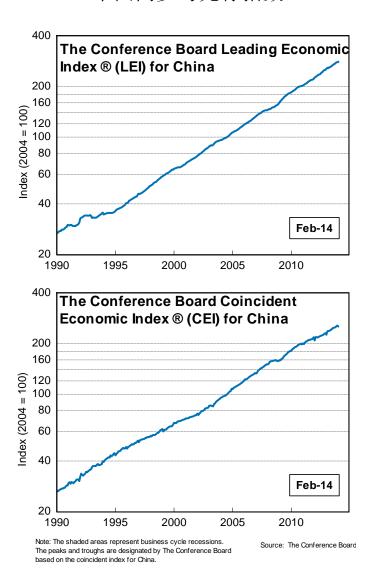
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<sup>\*\*</sup> 统计估算 -- Q: 季度数据是通过线性插值转换为月度数据的

# 中国同步与先行指数



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