



THE CONFERENCE BOARD

FOR RELEASE: 10:00 A.M. (BEIJING TIME), MONDAY, MAY 17, 2010

The Conference Board®
China Business Cycle IndicatorsSM
**THE CONFERENCE BOARD LEADING ECONOMIC INDEX®
(LEI) FOR CHINA**
AND RELATED COMPOSITE ECONOMIC INDEXES FOR MARCH 2010

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® for China increased 1.1 percent, and **The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index®** for China increased 0.4 percent in March.

- The Conference Board LEI for China increased sharply in March, continuing on an upward trend which started in December 2008. Floor space started and consumer expectations made the largest positive contributions this month, more than offsetting the negative contributions from PMI sub-indexes of new export orders and supplier deliveries. Despite the large gain in the leading economic index, its six-month growth rate has continued to moderate, slowing to 3.4 percent (a 7.0 percent annual rate) for the period through March 2010, down from 5.0 percent (a 10.2 percent annual rate) in the previous six months. The six-month growth rate of the leading economic index has been fluctuating around 3.0 percent since December. Despite this variability, the strengths among the leading indicators have remained very widespread in recent months.
- The Conference Board CEI for China, a measure of current economic activity, also continued to increase in March. Electricity production made the largest positive contribution, offsetting a large negative contribution from retail sales. The growth rate in the coincident economic index has also moderated somewhat, to 5.9 percent (a 12.1 percent annual rate) in the six months ending in March 2010, down from 7.3 percent (a 15.2 percent annual rate) in the previous six months. Nevertheless, the strengths among the coincident indicators have remained very widespread in recent months.
- Both The Conference Board LEI and The Conference Board CEI for China continue to follow upward trends. Although their growth rates have been moderating compared to 2009, the strengths among the leading and coincident indicators remain very widespread. All in all, the behavior of the composite indexes and their components suggest that while the pickup in China's economic expansion should continue in 2010, economic activity may stabilize in coming months.

The next release is scheduled for Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. (Beijing Time)

In New York – Monday, June 14, 2010 at 10:00 P.M. (EST)

LEADING INDICATORS. Four of the six components that make up The Conference Board LEI for China increased in March. The positive contributors to the index – in order from the largest positive contributor to the smallest – include the total floor space started, the consumer expectations index, the 5000 industry enterprises diffusion index: raw materials supply index*, and total loans issued by financial institutions. The PMI new export order index and the PMI supplier delivery index declined in March.

With the increase of 1.1 percent in March, The Conference Board LEI for China now stands at 144.5 (2004=100). This index increased 0.4 percent in February and increased 0.8 percent in January. During the six-month span through March, The Conference Board LEI for China increased 3.4 percent, and all six components advanced (diffusion index, six-month span equals 100.0 percent).

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

With the increase of 0.4 percent in March, The Conference Board CEI for China now stands at 179.8 (2004=100). This index increased 1.8 percent in February and increased 1.6 percent in January. During the six-month span through March, The Conference Board CEI for China increased 5.9 percent, and all five components advanced (diffusion index, six-month span equals 100.0 percent).

FOR TABLES AND CHARTS, SEE BELOW

DATA AVAILABILITY AND NOTES. The data series used to compute **The Conference Board Leading Economic Index®** for China and **The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index®** for China reported in this release are those available “as of” 5:00 P.M. (ET) on May 12, 2010.

* The series in The Conference Board LEI for China that is based on our estimates 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.

Because of an outlier in November 2009, the contribution to The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® for China from the total floor space started component has been set to 0 in both November and December 2009.

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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: <http://www.conference-board.org/economics/bci/>.

China Composite Economic Indexes: Components and Standardization Factors

<u>Leading Economic Index</u>	<u>Factor</u>
1. Consumer Expectations Index	0.0880
2. NBS Manufacturing PMI Sub-Indices: Export Orders	0.0795
3. NBS Manufacturing PMI Sub-Indices: PMI Supplier Deliveries	0.2191
4. Total Loans Issued by Financial Institutions	0.1460
5. 5000 Industry Enterprises Diffusion Index: Raw Materials Supply Index	0.4475
6. Total Floor Space Started	0.0199
<u>Coincident Economic Index</u>	
1. Value Added of Industrial Production	0.1809
2. Retail Sales of Consumer Goods	0.1712
3. Electricity Production	0.1730
4. Volume of Passenger Traffic	0.0905
5. Manufacturing Employment	0.3844

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 on the release for May 2010. 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 2008 period as the sample period for measuring volatility. Separate sets of factors for the January 2005, February 1996 to December 2004, 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 2008 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: <http://www.conference-board.org/economics/bci>.

The trend adjustment factor for the leading economic index is 0.2825, calculated over the 1986-2008 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 2010 schedule for “The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® for China” updates is:

April 2010 Data ... Tuesday, June 15, 2010
May 2010 Data ... Thursday, July 15, 2010
June 2010 Data ... Tuesday, August 17, 2010
July 2010 Data ... Tuesday, September 14, 2010
August 2010 Data ... Friday, October 15, 2010
September 2010 Data ... Tuesday, November 16, 2010
October 2010 Data ... Wednesday, December 15, 2010

All releases are at 10:00 A.M. (Beijing Time)

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BCI Handbook (published 2001)	\$ 20
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世界大型企业研究会中国经济指数

表 1：中国经济指数摘要

	2009						2010
	九月	十月	十一月	十二月	一月	二月	三月
中国先行经济指数	139.7	140.3	140.7	141.2	142.4	142.9	144.5 p
月环比增长	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.4	1.1 p
扩散指数	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	50.0	66.7
中国同步经济指数	169.8	171.4	173.0	173.1	175.9	179.1	179.8 p
月环比增长	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.1	1.6	1.8	0.4 p
扩散指数	80.0	90.0	80.0	80.0	60.0	70.0	60.0
	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	九月至 三月
中国先行经济指数							
月环比增长	5.0	4.9	4.1	2.8	3.3	3.0	3.4 p
扩散指数	83.3	66.7	66.7	66.7	66.7	100.0	100.0
中国同步经济指数							
月环比增长	7.3	7.3	6.7	5.0	6.0	6.5	5.9 p
扩散指数	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

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/economics/bci

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世界大型企业研究会中国经济指数

表 2：中国先行经济指数数据及各指标的净贡献率

指标	2009						2010
	九月	十月	十一月	十二月	一月	二月	三月
中国先行指数各指标							
消费者预期指数 (季节调整后).....	102.18	102.64	102.99	103.98	104.60	104.50	108.20
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).....	34603.06	35130.20	35336.23	35224.89	35383.13	35584.75	35674.31
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).....	60.20	59.82	59.71	59.83	60.15	60.44	60.64 **
中国制造业采购经理指数 (PMI) 供应商配送时间 (季节调整后).....	50.43	50.22	49.98	50.13	50.73	50.66	50.52
中国制造业采购经理指数 (PMI) 新出口订单 (季节调整后)	52.20	55.04	54.39	53.92	55.16	53.55	52.29
全国房屋建筑新开工面积 (千平方米计, 季节调整后).....	127627.39	119250.37	237664.64	112301.23	115957.22	116481.75	153472.90
先行指数 (2004=100).....	139.70	140.30	140.70	141.20	142.40	142.90	144.50 p
月环比增长.....	0.72	0.43	0.29	0.36	0.85	0.35	1.12 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).....	....	0.04	0.03	0.09	0.05	-0.01	0.33
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).....	....	0.22	0.09	-0.05	0.07	0.08	0.04
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).....	....	-0.17	-0.05	0.05	0.14	0.13	0.09 **
中国制造业采购经理指数 (PMI) 供应商配送时间 (季节调整后).....	....	-0.05	-0.05	0.03	0.13	-0.01	-0.03
中国制造业采购经理指数 (PMI) 新出口订单 (季节调整后) .....	....	0.23	-0.05	-0.04	0.10	-0.13	-0.10
全国房屋建筑新开工面积 (千平方米计, 季节调整后).....	....	-0.14	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.01	0.55

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

** 统计估算 -- Q: 季度数据是通过线性插值转换为月度数据的

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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世界大型企业研究会中国经济指数

表3：中国同步指数数据及各指标的净贡献率

指标	2009						2010
	九月	十月	十一月	十二月	一月	二月	三月
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)	891.3	899.1	915.3	926.6	913.3	953.6	967.6
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)	983.8	997.0	1005.7	974.5	1048.1	1096.5	1076.0
旅客周转量合计 (十亿人公里, 季节调整后).....	210.7	219.1	210.7	213.4	213.2	223.5	222.3
发电量 (十亿千瓦小时, 季节调整后).....	318.7	318.6	329.2	333.2	336.2	332.4	337.8
城镇制造业就业人数 (百万人, 季节调整后).....	69.5	69.8	70.3	70.4 #	71.3	71.3	71.7 **
同步指数 (2004=100).....	169.8	171.4	173.0	173.1 #	175.9	179.1	179.8 p
月环比增长.....	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.1 #	1.6 #	1.8	0.4 p
中国同步指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)	....	0.16	0.32	0.22	-0.26	0.78	0.26
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)	....	0.23	0.15	-0.54	1.25	0.77	-0.32
旅客周转量合计 (十亿人公里, 季节调整后).....	....	0.35	-0.35	0.12	-0.01	0.42	-0.05
发电量 (十亿千瓦小时, 季节调整后).....	....	-0.01	0.57	0.21	0.15	-0.20	0.28
城镇制造业就业人数 (百万人, 季节调整后).....	....	0.19	0.23	0.06	0.50	0.00	0.25 **

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

** 统计估算 -- Q: 季度数据是通过线性插值转换为月度数据的

数据来源: CEIC, Thomson Financial, 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

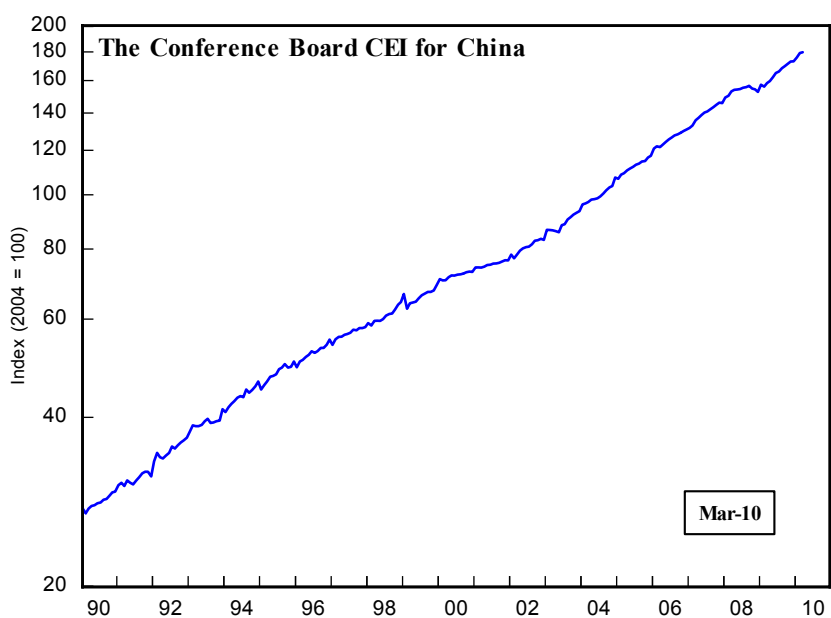
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中国经济指数图表



提示:

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