



THE CONFERENCE BOARD

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The Conference Board Leading Economic Index™ (LEI) for the U.K.

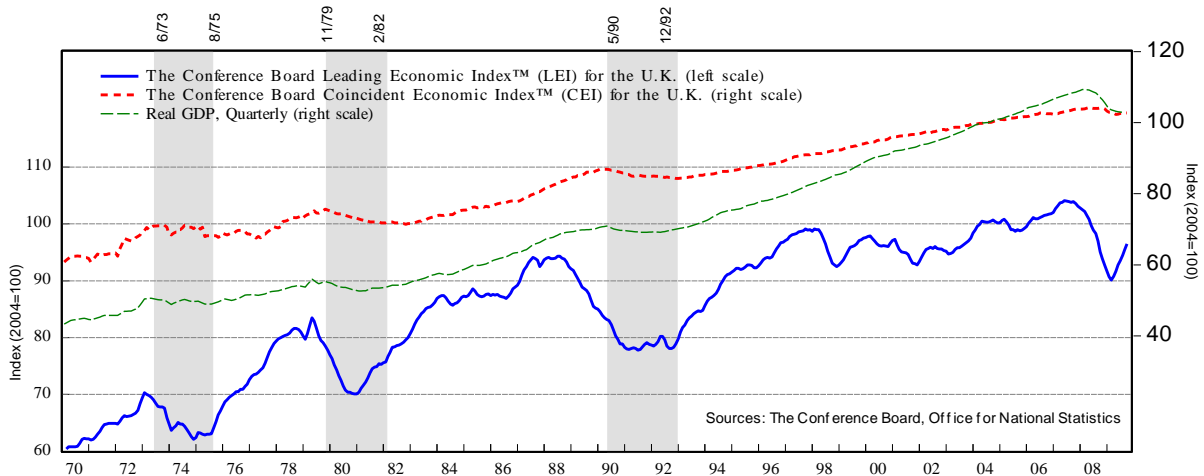
Increases Again in October

BRUSSELS, December 10, 2009... The Conference Board Leading Economic Index™ (LEI) for the U.K. increased by 1.0 percent in October to 96.5 (2004 = 100), following gains of 1.1 percent in both September and August. Consumer confidence, the yield spread and volume of expected output again made the largest positive contributions to the index.

Said Jean-Claude Manini, The Conference Board Senior Economist for Europe: “The strengthening and broadening improvement of the leading indicators for the United Kingdom point to economic activity moving back into positive territory. After lagging the [Euro Area](#), the U.K. economy may finally begin closing the gap. Nonetheless, the recovery is still expected to be subdued.”

The Conference Board LEI for the U.K. increased for a seventh consecutive month in October after a long period of decline. At the same time, **The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index™ (CEI)** for the U.K., a measure of current economic activity, increased by 0.1 percent in both October and September, after declining 0.1 percent in August. The index now stands at 102.7 (2004 = 100).

The Conference Board LEI for the U.K. shows improvement since March



Note: Shaded areas represent recessions in the U.K. as determined by The Conference Board
LEI Peak: June 2007 CEI Peak: May 2008 Real GDP Peak: Q1 2008

The Conference Board LEI for the U.K. aggregates seven economic indicators that measure activity in the U.K., each of which has proven accurate on its own. Aggregating individual indicators into a composite index filters out so-called “noise” to show underlying trends more clearly.

The seven components of **The Conference Board Leading Economic Index™** for the U.K. include:

- Order Book Volume (source: Confederation of British Industry)
- Volume of Expected Output (source: Confederation of British Industry)
- Consumer Confidence Indicator (source: European Commission)
- FTSE All-Share Index (source: FTSE Group)
- Yield Spread (source: Bank of England)
- Productivity, Whole Economy (Office for National Statistics)
- Total Gross Operating Surplus of Corporations (Office for National Statistics)

Plotted back to 1970, this index has successfully signaled turning points in the U.K. business cycles. The Conference Board currently produces leading economic indexes for the Euro Area and eight other countries, including the U.S., Germany, France, Spain, Japan, Australia, Korea and Mexico.

To view The Conference Board calendar of 2010 indicator releases:

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

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

For full press release: http://www.conference-board.org/economics/bci/pressRelease_output.cfm?cid=2

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Summary Table of Composite Economic Indexes

	Aug	2009 Sep	Oct	6-month Apr to Oct
Leading Economic Index (LEI)	94.5 p	95.5 p	96.5 p	
Percent Change	1.1 p	1.1 p	1.0 p	6.3
Diffusion	85.7	92.9	85.7	100.0
Coincident Economic Index (CEI)	102.5 p	102.6 p	102.7 p	
Percent Change	-0.1 p	0.1 p	0.1 p	0.1
Diffusion	50.0	87.5	75.0	50.0

n.a. Not available p Preliminary r Revised

Indexes equal 100 in 2004

Source: The Conference Board

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