



News Release

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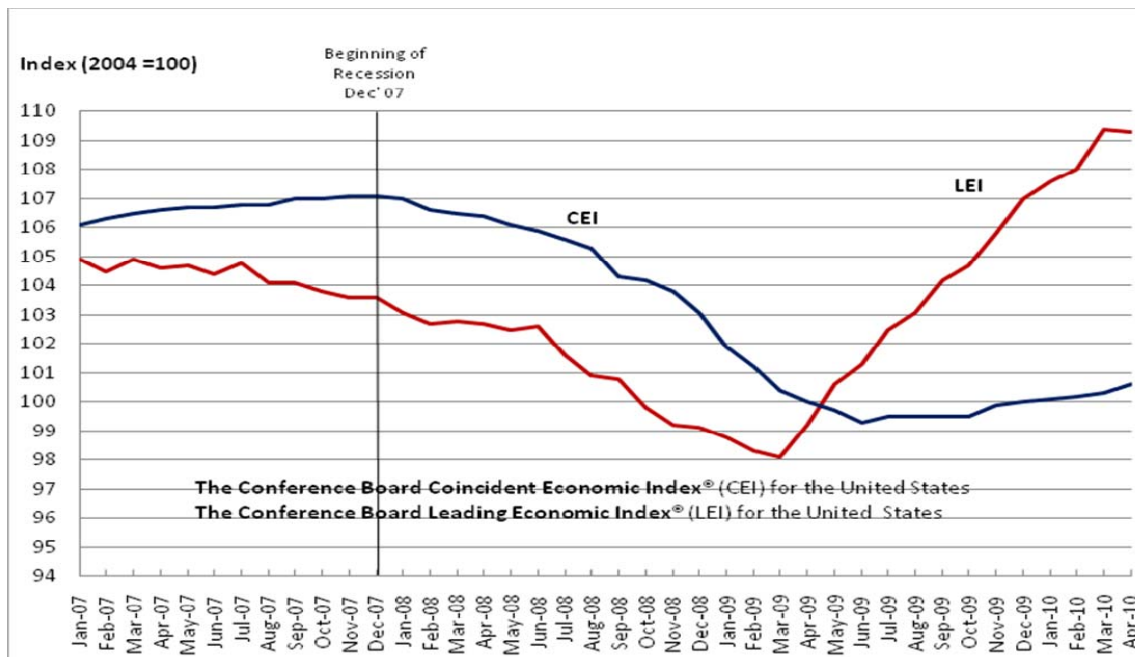
For Release 10:00 AM ET, Thursday, May 20, 2010

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the U.S. Dips

NEW YORK, May 20, 2010...The Conference Board Leading Economic Index®(LEI) for the U.S. declined 0.1 percent in April, following a 1.3 percent gain in March, and a 0.4 percent rise in February.

Says Ken Goldstein, economist at The Conference Board: “These latest results suggest a recovery that will continue through the summer, although it could lose a little steam. The U.S. LEI declined slightly for the first time in more than a year, and its six-month growth rate has moderated since December. Meanwhile, the coincident index, a measure of current economic activity, has been improving since mid-2009.”

The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® (CEI) for the U.S. rose 0.3 percent in April, following a 0.1 percent increase in March, and a 0.1 percent increase in February. **The Conference Board Lagging Economic Index® (LAG)** increased 0.1 percent in April, following a 0.1 percent increase in March, and a 0.2 percent rise in February.



Summary Table of Composite Economic Indexes

	2010			6-month
	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct to Apr
Leading index	108.0 r	109.4 r	109.3 p	
Percent Change	.4	1.3 r	-.1 p	4.4
Diffusion	60.0	70.0	40.0	80.0
Coincident Index	100.2 r	100.3 p	100.6 p	
Percent Change	.1	.1 p	.3 p	1.1
Diffusion	50.0	75.0	100.0	100.0
Lagging Index	108.0 r	108.1 p	108.2 p	
Percent Change	.2 r	.1 p	.1 p	-0.9
Diffusion	42.9	57.1	50.0	21.4

n.a. Not available p Preliminary r Revised

Indexes equal 100 in 2004

Source: The Conference Board