

## News Release

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**Using the Composite Indexes:** *The Leading Economic Index (LEI) provides an early indication of significant turning points in the business cycle and where the economy is heading in the near term. The Coincident Economic Index (CEI) provides an indication of the current state of the economy. Additional details are below.*

### **The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for South Korea Inched Up in September**

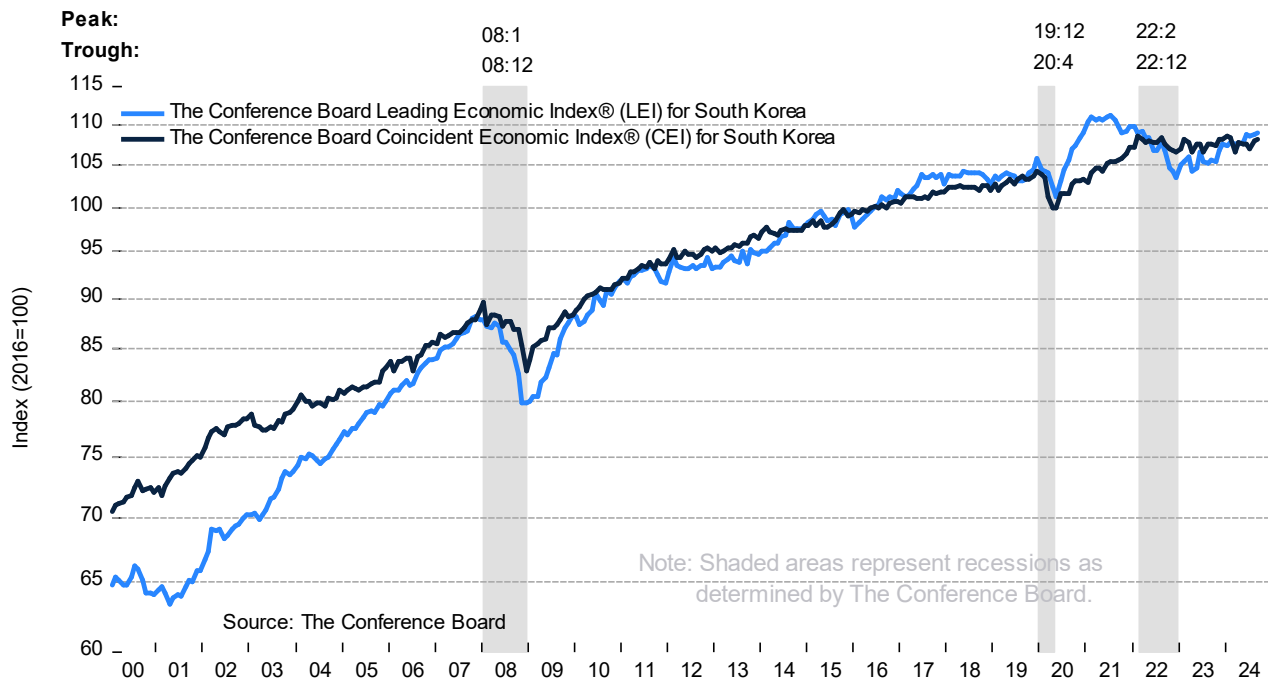
**The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI)** for South Korea slightly increased by 0.2% to 109.0 (2016=100) in September 2024, after also increasing 0.2% in August. Over the six-month period between March and September 2024, the LEI increased by 1.4%, a slightly slower pace than the 1.8% increase, over the previous six-month period between September 2023 and March 2024.

**The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® (CEI)** for South Korea ticked up by 0.1% to 108.1 (2016=100) in September 2024 after a significant 1.0% gain in August. As a result, the CEI expanded by 1.5% over the six-month period between March and September 2024, more than reversing the 1.0% contraction over the previous six-month period.

“The South Korea LEI increased in September,” said **Malala Lin, Economic Research Associate, at The Conference Board.** “Despite weakness in four of the six LEI underlying components, improvements in exports (3-month moving average) and the inventory-to-shipment index more than offset other negative contributions. The semiannual and annual growth rates remained positive, even if down slightly, still suggesting a positive economic outlook for Korea. Moreover, following the Q3 GDP growth turning positive, and though not yet reflected in the LEI, effects of the October rate cut and slowing inflation, may further support growth as the year ends and into 2025.”

**The next release is scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2024, at 10:30 A.M. ET.**

## The South Korea LEI inched up in September



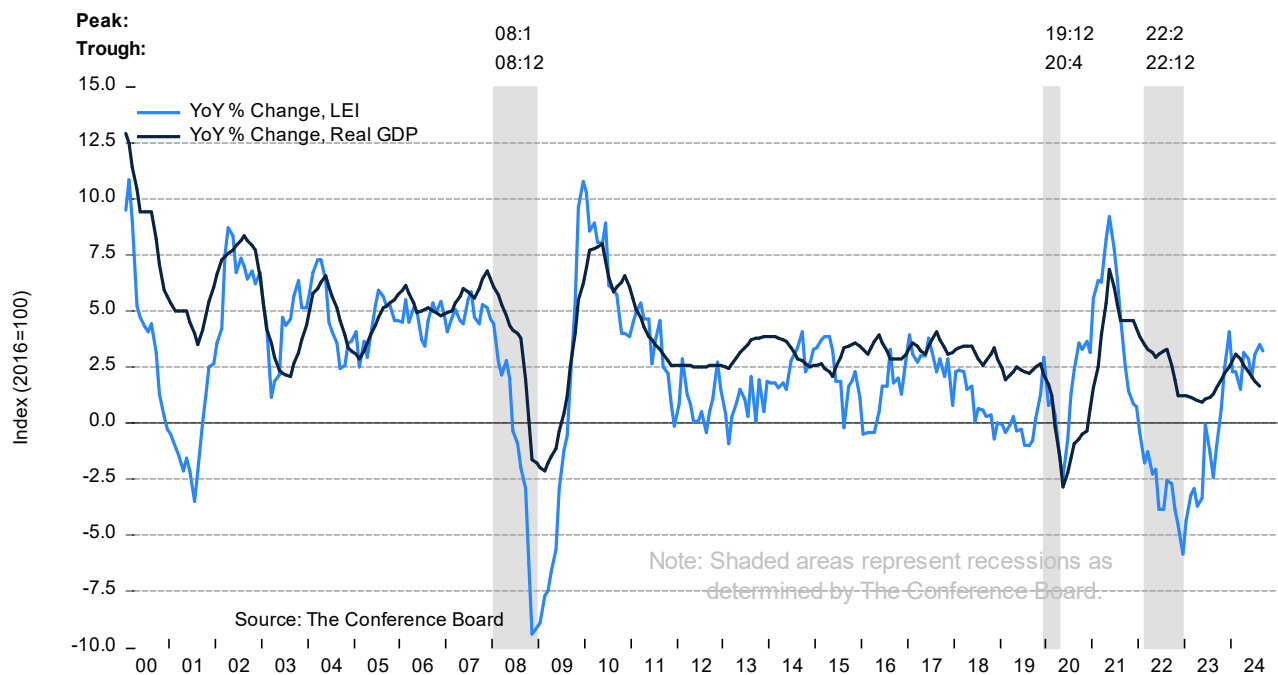
## September's gain was led by improvements in exports and the inventories-to-shipment ratio

### The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® and Component Contributions (Percent)

	Sep. '24	6 mo. ending Sep. '24
<b>Financial Components</b>		
Yield of Government Public Bonds*	-0.01	0.28
Stock Prices	-0.11	-0.21
<b>Non-Financial Components</b>		
Index of Inventories to Shipments*	0.30	0.38
Exports FOB	0.35	0.27
Value of Machinery Orders	-0.25	-0.10
Private Construction Orders	-0.18	0.19

Source: The Conference Board  
 \* Inverted series; a negative change in this component makes a positive contribution  
 LEI change might not equal sum of its contributions due to application of trend adjustment factor

## The South Korea LEI continued to indicate positive growth



### About The Conference Board *Leading Economic Index*® (LEI) and *Coincident Economic Index*® (CEI) for South Korea

The composite economic indexes are key elements in an analytic system designed to signal peaks and troughs in the business cycle. Comprised of multiple independent indicators, the indexes are constructed to summarize and reveal common turning points in the economy in a clearer and more convincing manner than any individual component.

The CEI reflects current economic conditions and is highly correlated with real GDP. The LEI is a predictive tool that anticipates—or “leads”—turning points in the business cycle by around three months.

The six components of the *Leading Economic Index*® for South Korea are:

- Stock Prices
- Yield of Government Public Bonds
- Real Exports FOB (3-month moving average)
- Value of Machinery Orders
- Index of Inventories to Shipments
- Private Construction Orders

The four components of the *Coincident Economic Index*® for South Korea are:

- Industrial Production
- Wholesale and Retail Sales
- Total Employment
- Monthly Cash Earnings

To access data, please visit: <https://data-central.conference-board.org/>

### About The Conference Board

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