

## News Release

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**For Release 10:30 AM ET, January 8, 2026**

**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 November**

**The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI)** for South Korea increased by 0.2% to 112.9 (2016=100) in November 2025, after decreasing by 0.4% in October. The LEI expanded by 2.4% over the six-month period between May and November 2025, a much faster rate compared to the 1.7% growth over the previous six-month period between November 2024 and May 2025.

**The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® (CEI)** for South Korea decreased by 0.9% to 107.3 (2016=100) in November 2025, after falling by 1.6% in October. As a result, the CEI decreased by 0.8% over the six-month period between May and November 2025, reversing the 0.8% increase over the previous six-month period.

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#### **Note for Change in Annual BCI Benchmark Revision Timing**

##### Annual BCI Benchmark Revisions

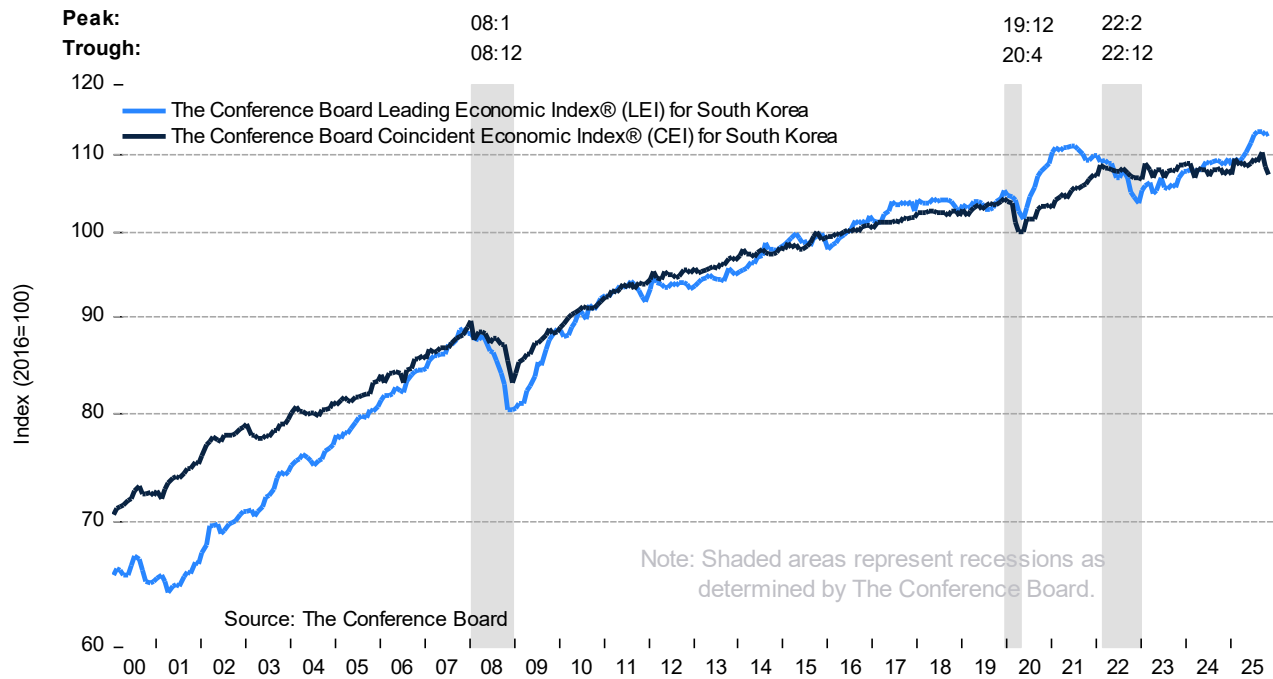
Release of the annual benchmark revisions for Business Cycle Indicator (BCI) composite economic indexes will be moved from **January 2026 to June 2026. Releases in subsequent years will also be in June.** This modification ensures that the sample period fully incorporates the most recent completed calendar year of the underlying components (source data) of composite indexes (leading and coincident). This data is used for calculating standardization factors and subsequently trend adjustments.

Due to the change in revision release timing from January to June, the cutoff for incorporating source data revisions into the benchmark process will shift accordingly:

- For the next benchmark revision in **June 2026**, the cutoff used for calculating standardization factors and trend adjustment will be **December 2025**, rather than December 2024.
  - This change in timing allows the volatility calculations and factor updates to reflect a more complete dataset prior to the annual recalculation of the historical composite indexes.
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**The next release is scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2026, at 10:30 A.M. ET.**

## The South Korea LEI increased in November



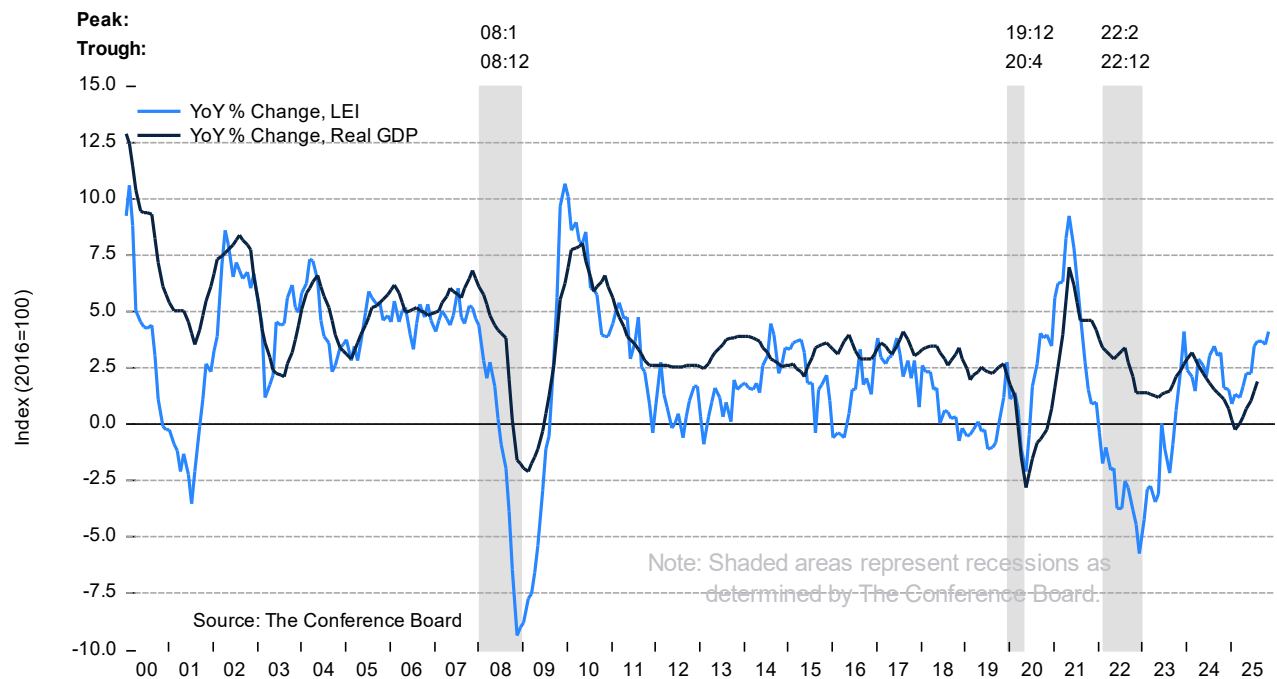
## Improvements in value of machinery orders, stock prices and index of inventories to shipments led to the November increase

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

	Nov.'25	6 mo. ending Nov.'25
<b>Financial Components</b>		
Yield of Government Public Bonds*	-0.22	-0.39
Stock Prices	0.28	2.28
<b>Non-Financial Components</b>		
Index of Inventories to Shipments*	0.07	-0.06
Exports FOB	-0.22	0.39
Value of Machinery Orders	0.36	0.06
Private Construction Orders	-0.13	-0.40

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 annual growth rate remained strong



### 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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