

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 Continued to Rise in March

Next month's release of the composite economic indexes will incorporate annual benchmark revisions which bring them up to date with revisions in the source data. These revisions do not change the cyclical properties of the indexes. The indexes are updated throughout the year, but only for the previous six months. Data revisions that fall outside of the moving six-month window are not incorporated until the benchmark revision is made and the entire histories of the indexes are recomputed. As a result, the revised indexes, in levels and month-on-month changes, will not be directly comparable to those issued prior to the benchmark revision.

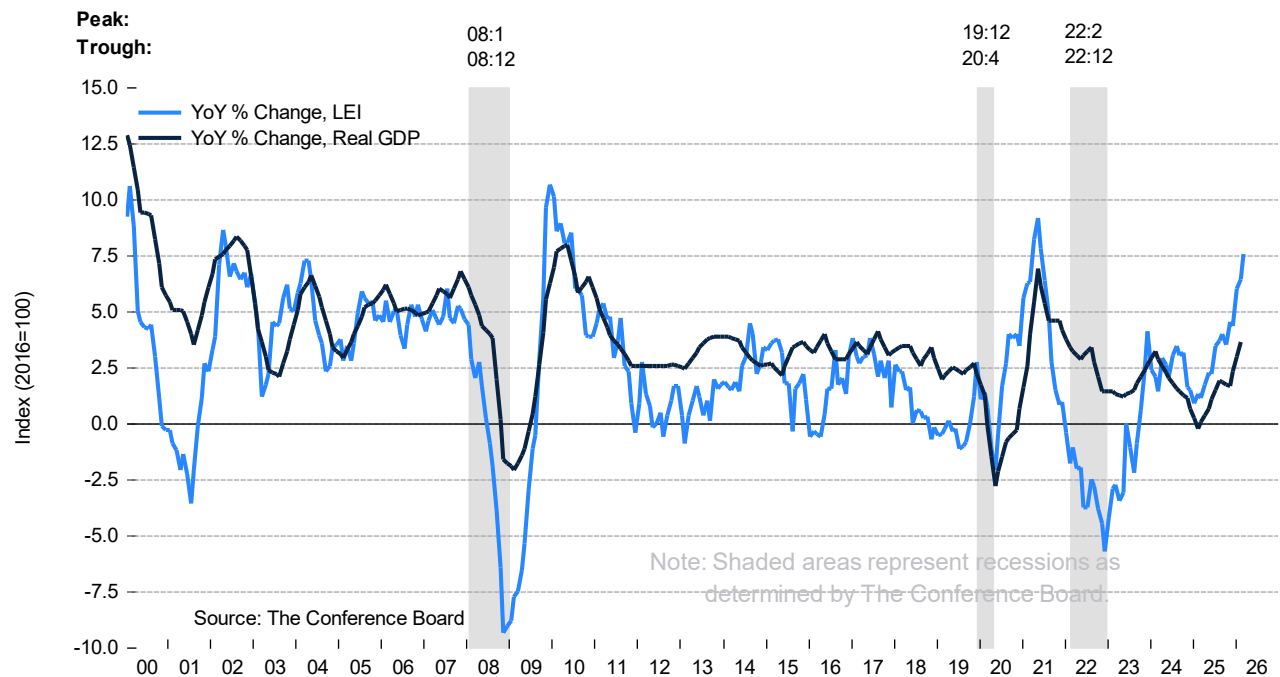
For more information, please visit conference-board.org/topics/business-cycle-indicators/ or contact us at indicators@tcb.org.

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for South Korea increased by 0.7% to 117.1 (2016=100) in March 2026, after increasing by 1.1% in February. The LEI expanded by 3.3% over the six-month period between September 2025 and March 2026, a slower rate compared to the 4.1% growth over the previous six-month period between March and September 2025.

The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® (CEI) for South Korea also increased by 0.7% to 112.4 (2016=100) in March 2026, following a 1.3% increase in February. Overall, the CEI expanded by 1.7% over the six-month period between September 2025 and March 2026, a slightly slower rate compared to 1.9% growth over the previous six-month period.

The next release is scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 10:30 A.M. ET.

The South Korea LEI annual growth rate continued to rise, indicating further tailwinds to economic activity in the near term



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/>

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