

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.*

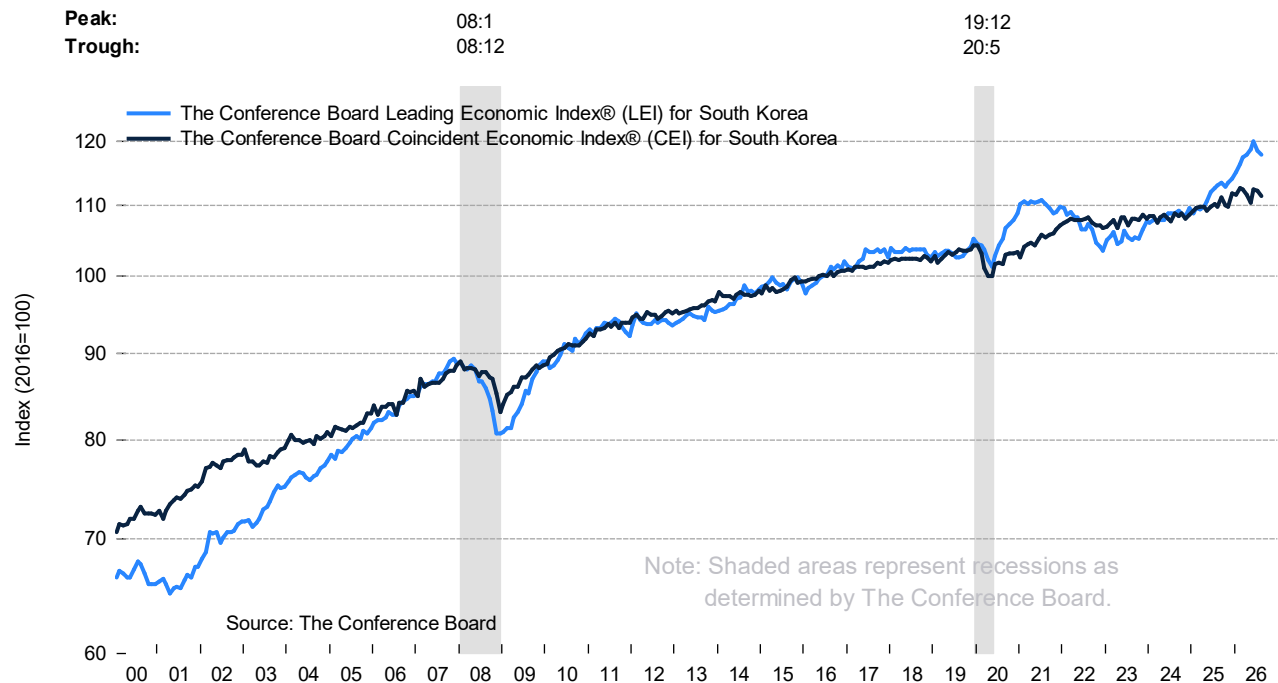
The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for South Korea Declined in August

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for South Korea decreased by 0.6% to 117.7 (2016=100) in August 2026, following a 1.3% fall in July. Despite the two consecutive monthly declines, the LEI still expanded by 1.1% over the six-month period between February and August 2026, a slower rate compared to the 2.9% growth over the previous six-month period between August 2025 and February 2026.

The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® (CEI) for South Korea declined in August by 0.7% to 111.3 (2016=100), continuing its downward trend after a 0.3% decline in July. Overall, the CEI contracted by 1.2% over the six-month period between February and August 2026, a reversal compared to the 2.6% growth over the previous six-month period.

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

The South Korea LEI fell for the second consecutive month in August



The decline was driven by weakness in the index of inventories to shipments, construction orders and the value of machinery orders, as well as a dip in stock prices

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

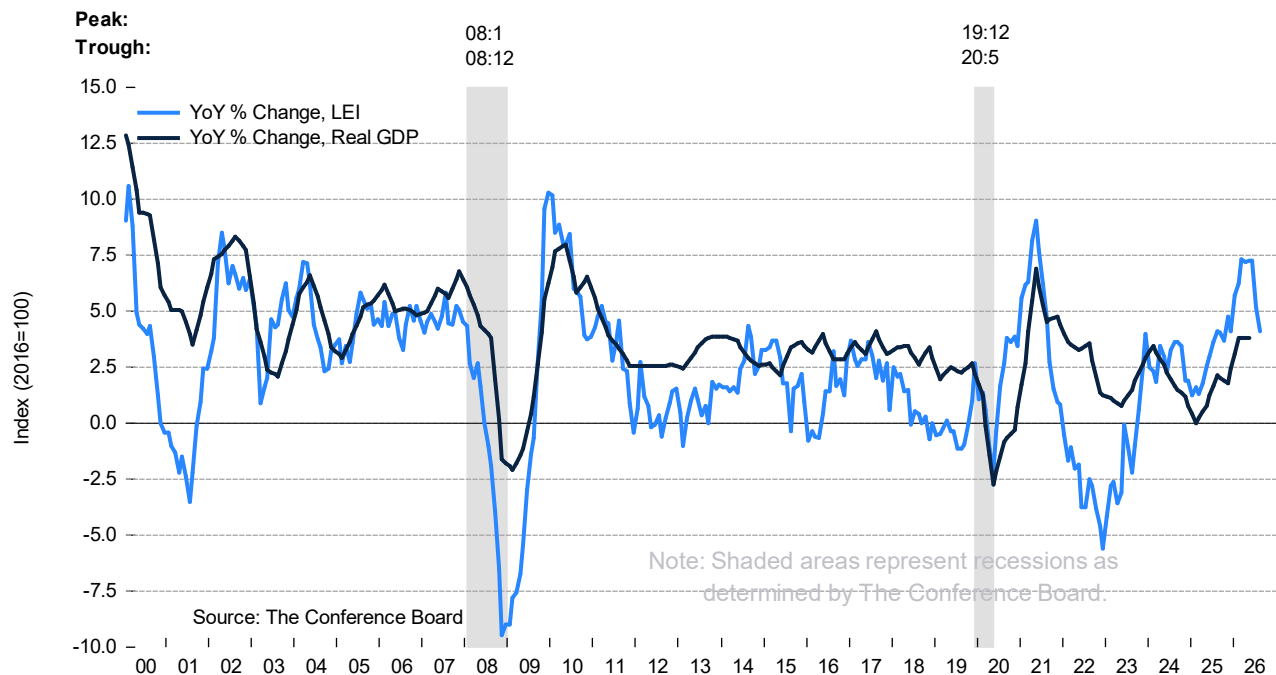
	Aug.'26	6 mo. ending Aug.'26
Financial Components		
Yield of Government Public Bonds*	0.04	-0.43
Stock Prices	-0.28	0.92
Non-Financial Components		
Index of Inventories to Shipments*	-0.41	-0.30
Exports FOB	0.50	0.93
Value of Machinery Orders	-0.15	0.03
Private Construction Orders	-0.34	-0.49

Source: The Conference Board

* Inverted series; a negative change in this component makes a positive contribution

LEI change might not equal sum of contributions due to application of trend adjustment factor

The annual growth rate of the South Korea LEI while positive, continued to decline in August, indicating potentially softening 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://www.conference-board.org/data>

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