



FUNDAÇÃO
GETULIO VARGAS

IBRE

Instituto Brasileiro
de Economia

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FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. (RIO DE JANEIRO TIME), MAY 16, 2014

The Conference Board®
**THE CONFERENCE BOARD LEADING ECONOMIC INDEX® FOR
BRAZIL, TOGETHER WITH FUNDAÇÃO GETULIO VARGAS
AND RELATED COMPOSITE ECONOMIC INDEXES FOR APRIL 2014**

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® for Brazil, together with Fundação Getúlio Vargas (TCB/FGV Brazil LEI), decreased 0.4 percent and *The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index*® for Brazil, together with Fundação Getúlio Vargas (TCB/FGV Brazil CEI), increased 0.1 percent in April.

- The TCB/FGV Brazil LEI fell in April for the fourth consecutive month. The manufacturing, service sector, and consumer surveys continue to be significant contributors to the declines in the index. With this month's decrease, the leading economic index has declined 2.2 percent (about a -4.4 percent annual rate) between October 2013 and April 2014, more sharply than the decrease of 1.9 percent (about a -3.8 percent annual rate) for the previous six months. Moreover, the weaknesses among the leading indicators have become very widespread, with all components declining in the last six months.
- The TCB/FGV Brazil CEI, a measure of current economic activity, increased slightly in April. Despite the small gain, the coincident economic index decreased 0.2 percent (about a -0.5 percent annual rate) between October 2013 and April 2014, a reversal from its gain of 0.3 percent (about a 0.6 percent annual rate) in the previous six months. Meanwhile, Brazil's real GDP increased by 2.8 percent (annual rate) in the fourth quarter of 2013, up from the contraction of 2.1 percent (annual rate) in the third quarter.
- The TCB/FGV Brazil LEI has been declining since the beginning of this year, and its six-month change has fallen deeper into negative territory, with very widespread weaknesses among its components. Meanwhile, the six-month change in the TCB/FGV Brazil CEI turned negative for the first time since mid-2013. The persistent and widespread weaknesses among the leading indicators suggest that the rate of economic activity is likely to decelerate in the coming months.

LEADING INDICATORS. Three of the eight components that make up the TCB/FGV Brazil LEI increased in April. The positive contributors — in order from the largest positive contributor to the smallest — were stock prices, the exports volume index*, the swap rate (inverted), and the terms of trade index*. The negative contributors to the index — in order from the largest negative contributor to the smallest — were the services sector survey: expectations index, the manufacturing survey: expectations index, the consumers survey: expectations index, and the consumer durable goods production index*.

The next release is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17, 2014 at 11:00 A.M. (Rio de Janeiro time)

In New York – Tuesday, June 17, 2014 at 10:00 A.M. (ET)

With the decrease of 0.4 percent in April, the TCB/FGV Brazil LEI now stands at 123.7 (2004=100). Based on revised data, this index declined 0.3 percent in March and declined 0.6 percent in February. During the six-month span through April, the TCB/FGV Brazil LEI decreased 2.2 percent, and none of the eight components advanced (diffusion index, six-month span equals 0 percent).

COINCIDENT INDICATORS. Four of the six components that make up the TCB/FGV Brazil CEI increased in April. The positive contributors to the index — in order from the largest positive contributor to the smallest — were occupied employed population*, shipments of corrugated paper, the volume of sales of the retail market index*, and average real income of workers*. Industrial production* and industrial electric energy consumption* were unchanged April.

With the increase of 0.1 percent in April, the TCB/FGV Brazil CEI now stands at 128.8 (2004=100). Based on revised data, this index declined 0.2 percent in both March and February. During the six-month span through April, the TCB/FGV Brazil CEI decreased 0.2 percent, and three of the six components advanced (diffusion index, six-month span equals 58.3 percent).

FOR TABLES AND CHARTS, SEE BELOW

DATA AVAILABILITY AND NOTES. The data series used to compute the TCB/FGV Brazil LEI and the TCB/FGV Brazil CEI reported in this release are those available “as of” 5:00 P.M. (ET) on May 14, 2014.

* The series in the TCB/FGV Brazil LEI that are based on our estimates were the consumer durable goods production index, terms of trade index, and exports volume index. The series in the TCB/FGV Brazil CEI that are based on our estimates were occupied employed population, volume of sales of the retail market, average real income of workers, and industrial electric energy consumption.

METHODOLOGY REVISION OF SERIES FROM IBGE

In May 2014, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) announced methodological changes in two data series: industrial production and production of durable goods. The changes date back to January 2002 and consisted of updating sector classifications, revising sector weights, and revising seasonal adjustment factors.

These revisions impact one of the eight components used in the TCB/FGV Brazil LEI — Consumer Durable Goods Production Index — and one of the four components used in the TCB/FGV Brazil CEI — Industrial Production Index.

These revised series were incorporated in the May 2014 release, including the normal LEI revisions going back six months. However, we will revise the entire history of the LEI to incorporate revisions in the underlying component data during our regular annual benchmark revisions, which take place once a year in January. Please note that the revisions did not impact the overall trend or their turning points of the indexes.

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THE CYCLICAL INDICATOR APPROACH. The composite economic indexes are the key elements in an analytic system designed to signal peaks and troughs in the business cycle. The leading and coincident economic indexes are essentially composite averages of several individual leading or coincident indicators. (See page 3 for details.) They are constructed to summarize and reveal common turning point patterns in economic data in a clearer and more convincing manner than any individual component—primarily because they smooth out some of the volatility of individual components.

Historically, the cyclical turning points in TCB/FGV Brazil LEI have occurred before those in aggregate economic activity, while the cyclical turning points in TCB/FGV Brazil CEI have occurred at about the same time as those in aggregate economic activity.

Further explanations of the cyclical indicator approach and the composite economic index methodology appear in The Conference Board’s *Business Cycle Indicators* report and website: www.conference-board.org/data/bci.cfm

Brazil Composite Economic Indexes: Components and Standardization Factors

<u>Leading Economic Index</u>	<u>Factor</u>
1. SWAP Rate	0.3301
2. Manufacturing Survey: Expectations Index	0.1241
3. Services Sector Survey: Expectations Index	0.0883
4. Consumers Survey: Expectations Index	0.1155
5. Stock Prices: BOVESPA Index	0.0394
6. Terms of Trade Index*	0.1912
7. Consumer Durable Goods Production Index*	0.0564
8. Exports Volume Index	0.0550
<u>Coincident Economic Index</u>	
1. Industrial Production	0.1133
2. Industrial Electric Energy Consumption	0.0832
3. Shipment of Corrugated Paper	0.0782
4. Volume of Sales of the Retail Market	0.0855
5. Occupied Employed Population	0.5322
6. Average Real Income of Workers	0.1076

The component factors are inversely related to the standard deviation of the month-to-month changes in each component. They are used to equalize the volatility of the contribution from each component and are normalized to sum to 1.

These factors were revised effective with the release in January 2014. Updates to the leading and coincident indexes normally only incorporate revisions to data over the past six months. The factors above for the leading economic index were calculated using the July 2008 to December 2012 period as the sample period for measuring volatility. Separate sets of factors for the October 2005 to June 2008, October 1999 to September 2005, and February 1996 to September 1999 period, are available upon request. The factors above for coincident economic index were calculated using the February 2003 to December 2012 period as the sample period. Separate sets of factors for the April 2002 to January 2003, March 2002, February 1996 to February 2002 period, are available upon request. These multiple sample periods are the result of different starting dates for the component data. When one or more components are missing, the other factors are adjusted proportionately to ensure that the total continues to sum to 1. For additional information on the standardization factors and the index methodology, visit our Web site: www.conference-board.org/data/bci.cfm

The trend adjustment factors for the leading economic index are 0.0930 (calculated over the 2004 – 2012 period) and -0.1055 (calculated over the 1996 – 2003 period).

To address the problem of lags in available data, those leading and coincident indicators that are not available at the time of publication are estimated using statistical imputation. An autoregressive model is used to estimate each component. The resulting indexes are constructed using real and estimated data, and will be revised as the data unavailable at the time of publication become available. Such monthly data revisions are now a regular part of the U.S. Business Cycle and Global Indicators program. The main advantage of this procedure is to utilize in the leading economic index the data such as bond yields, stock prices, and change in consumer expectations that are available sooner than other data on real aspects of the economy such as durable goods production.

NOTICES

The 2014 schedule for TCB/FGV Brazil LEI updates is:

May 2014 Data ... Tuesday, June 17, 2014
June 2014 Data ... Thursday, July 17, 2014
July 2014 Data ... Monday, August 18, 2014
August 2014 Data ... Wednesday, September 17, 2014
September 2014 Data ... Friday, October 17, 2014
October 2014 Data ... Monday, November 17, 2014
November 2014 Data ... Wednesday, December 17, 2014

All releases are at 11:00 A.M. (Rio de Janeiro time).

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The Brazilian Institute of Economics (Instituto Brasileiro de Economia—IBRE) at Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV) was founded in 1951 to research, analyze, produce and disseminate macroeconomic statistics and applied studies. Its purpose is to inform and help improve public policies and private activities in the Brazilian economy. IBRE is a leading institute in calculating the Brazilian GDP and producing price indices including the General Price Index (IGP) which served as Brazil's official inflation index for many years. In addition to price indices, IBRE prepares trend and business cycle indicators that are widely used by administrators and analysts. www.fgv.br/ibre

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**The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® and
The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® for Brazil, together with Fundação Getulio Vargas**

Table 1.--Summary of Brazil Composite Economic Indexes

	2013							2014
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	
Leading index	126.5	125.8 r	126.2 r	125.3 r	124.6 r	124.2 r	123.7 p	
Percent change	0.2	-0.6 r	0.3	-0.7 r	-0.6	-0.3 r	-0.4 p	
Diffusion index	50.0	25.0	50.0	25.0	25.0	18.8	37.5	
Coincident index	129.1	129.0 r	128.2 r	129.2	129.0 r	128.7 p	128.8 p	
Percent change	0.5	-0.1 r	-0.6 r	0.8 r	-0.2 r	-0.2 p	0.1 p	
Diffusion index	75.0	50.0	33.3	83.3	41.7	41.7	83.3	
	Apr to	May to	Jun to	Jul to	Aug to	Sep to	Oct to	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	
Leading index								
Percent change	-1.9	-1.6 r	-0.9 r	0.6 r	-0.6 r	-1.6 r	-2.2 p	
Diffusion index	12.5	25.0	31.3	37.5	25.0	12.5	0.0	
Coincident index								
Percent change	0.3	0.9 r	0.1 r	0.7	0.4 r	0.2 p	-0.2 p	
Diffusion index	66.7	83.3	75.0	66.7	75.0	66.7	58.3	

p Preliminary. r Revised (noted only for index levels and one-month percent changes).

CALCULATION NOTE: The diffusion indexes measure the proportion of the components that are rising. Components that rise more than 0.05 percent are given a value of 1.0, components that change less than 0.05 percent are given a value of 0.5, and components that fall more than 0.05 percent are given a value of 0.0.

For more information, visit our Web site at www.conference-board.org/data/bci.cfm

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**The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® and
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Table 2.--Data and Net Contributions for Components of TCB/FGV Brazil LEI

Component	2013						2014
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Brazil Leading Economic Index component data							
SWAP Rate* (360 days, %)	10.28	10.73	10.55	10.97	11.37	11.35	11.33
Manufacturing Survey: Expectations Index (%, SA)	98.00	98.20	100.00	98.10	97.40	95.80	93.90
Services Sector Survey: Expectations Index (%, SA)	134.70	133.10	136.60	133.80	132.80	132.30	129.00
Consumers Survey: Expectations Index (%, SA)	107.60	108.80	108.40	105.60	104.50	104.00	103.60
Stock Prices (Bovespa Index, Mar 1997=100)	54256.00	51846.00	51507.00	47638.00	47094.00	50414.00	51626.00
Terms of Trade Index (Index, 2006=100, SA)	118.45 r	117.59 r	118.05 r	120.37 r	117.76 r	117.22 r	117.26 **
Consumer Durable Goods Production Index (Index, 2002=100, SA)	105.30	104.00 r	99.00 r	101.70 r	106.00 r	103.40 r	102.94 **
Exports Volume Index (Index, 2006=100, SA)	111.84 r	110.38 r	107.79 r	105.68 r	106.10 r	103.17 r	104.01 **
LEADING INDEX (2004=100)	126.5 r	125.8 r	126.2 r	125.3 r	124.6 r	124.2 r	123.7 p
Percent change from preceding month	0.2	-0.6 r	0.3	-0.7 r	-0.6	-0.3 r	-0.4 p
Brazil Leading Economic Index net contributions							
SWAP Rate* (360 days, %)	....	-0.15	0.06	-0.14	-0.13	0.01	0.01
Manufacturing Survey: Expectations Index (%, SA)	....	0.03	0.22	-0.24	-0.09	-0.20	-0.24
Services Sector Survey: Expectations Index (%, SA)	....	-0.14	0.31	-0.25	-0.09	-0.04	-0.29
Consumers Survey: Expectations Index (%, SA)	....	0.14	-0.05	-0.32	-0.13	-0.06	-0.05
Stock Prices (Bovespa Index, Mar 1997=100)	....	-0.18	-0.03	-0.31	-0.05	0.27	0.09
Terms of Trade Index (Index, 2006=100, SA)	....	-0.14 r	0.07 r	0.37 r	-0.42 r	-0.09 r	0.01 **
Consumer Durable Goods Production Index (Index, 2002=100, SA)	....	-0.07 r	-0.28	0.15 r	0.23 r	-0.14 r	-0.03 **
Exports Volume Index (Index, 2006=100, SA)	....	-0.07 r	-0.13 r	-0.11 r	0.02 r	-0.15 r	0.04 **

p Preliminary. r Revised. -- * Inverted series; a negative change in this component makes a positive contribution.

** Statistical Imputation (See page 2 for more details) interpolation

Data Sources: IBRE and Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV)

CALCULATION NOTE--The percent change in the index does not always equal the sum of the net contributions of the individual components (because of rounding effects and base value differences).

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**The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® and
The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® for Brazil, together with Fundação Getulio Vargas**

Table 3.--Data and Net Contributions for Components of TCB/FGV Brazil CEI

Component	2013						2014
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Brazil Coincident Economic Index component data							
Industrial Production (Index, 2002=100, SA).....	102.4 r	102.5 r	99.0 r	101.1 r	101.1 r	100.6 r	100.6 **
Industrial Electric Energy Consumption (GWh, SA).....	15404.9 r	15590.1 r	15494.8 r	15381.7 r	15415.5 r	15411.4 **	15408.9 **
Shipments of Corrugated Paper (Tonnes, SA).....	294151.4 r	289213.1 r	281924.3 r	288520.0 r	291460.6 r	282168.4 r	282727.0
Volume of Sales of the Retail Market (Index, 2011=100, SA).....	113.6	115.0 r	112.5 r	115.6 r	113.7 r	115.2 **	115.3 **
Occupied Employed Population (Thousands of people, SA).....	23084.6 r	23049.9 r	23102.2 r	23177.7 r	23140.7 r	23128.4 r	23152.4 **
Average Real Income of Workers (Thousand R\$, deflated by CPI, SA).....	1843.6 r	1832.3 r	1838.3 r	1842.6 r	1839.9 r	1844.6 **	1846.2 **
COINCIDENT INDEX (2004=100).....	129.1	129.0 r	128.2 r	129.2	129.0 r	128.7 p	128.8 p
Percent change from preceding month.....	0.5	-0.1 r	-0.6 r	0.8 r	-0.2 r	-0.2 p	0.1 p
Brazil Coincident Economic Index net contributions							
Industrial Production (Index, 2002=100, SA).....	....	0.01 r	-0.39 r	0.24 r	0.00 r	-0.06 r	0.00 **
Industrial Electric Energy Consumption (GWh, SA).....	....	0.10 r	-0.05	-0.06 r	0.02 r	0.00**	0.00 **
Shipments of Corrugated Paper (Tonnes, SA).....	....	-0.13	-0.20	0.18	0.08 r	-0.25 r	0.02
Volume of Sales of the Retail Market (Index, 2011=100, SA).....	....	0.10 r	-0.19	0.23 r	-0.14 r	0.11 **	0.01 **
Occupied Employed Population (Thousands of people, SA).....	....	-0.08	0.12	0.17 r	-0.09 r	-0.03 r	0.06 **
Average Real Income of Workers (Thousand R\$, deflated by CPI, SA).....	....	-0.07	0.04	0.03 r	-0.02 r	0.03**	0.01 **

p Preliminary. r Revised. -- * Inverted series; a negative change in this component makes a positive contribution.

** Statistical Imputation (See page 2 for more details) interpolation

Data Sources: IBRE and Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV)

CALCULATION NOTE--The percent change in the index does not always equal the sum of the net contributions of the individual components (because of rounding effects and base value differences).

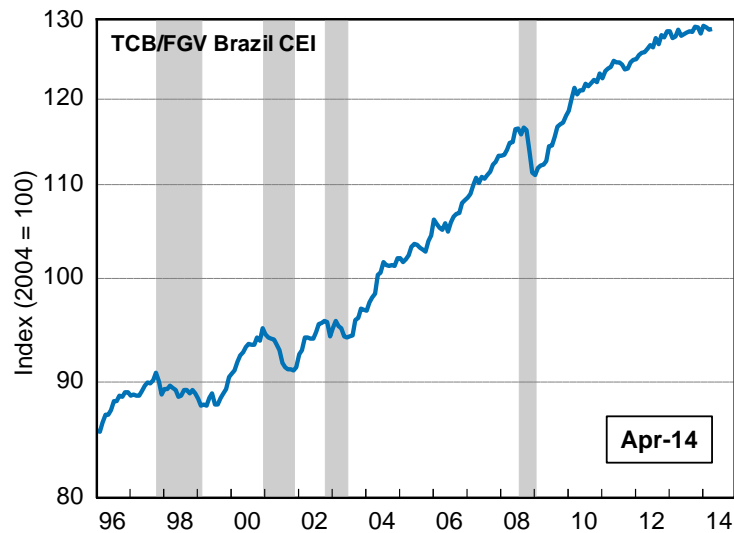
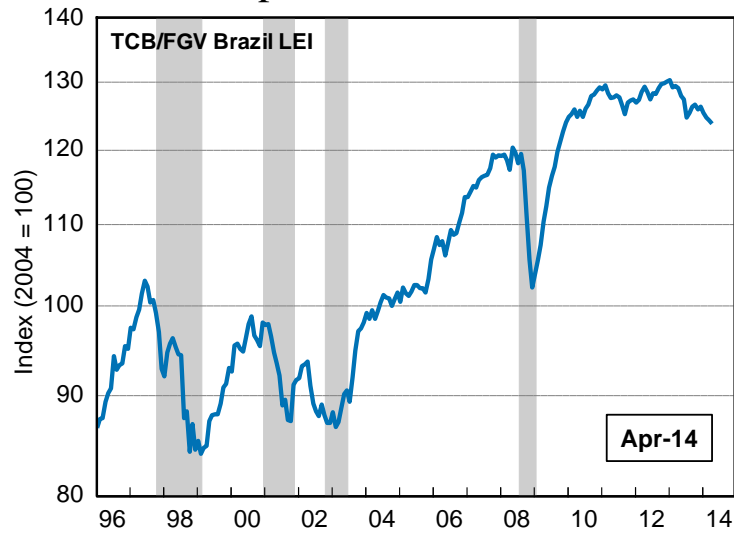
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Brazil Composite Economic Indexes



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