



## News Release

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***The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the U.S. Increased  
Economy to Continue Expanding Through Early 2017***

**NEW YORK, November 18, 2016...**The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the U.S. increased 0.1 percent in October to 124.5 (2010 = 100), following a 0.2 percent increase in September, and a 0.2 percent decline in August.

“The U.S. LEI increased in October for a second consecutive month. Although its six-month growth rate has moderated, the index still suggests that the economy will continue expanding into early 2017,” said Ataman Ozyildirim, Director of Business Cycles and Growth Research at The Conference Board. “The interest rate spread and average weekly hours were the main drivers of October’s improvement, helping to offset some of the weaknesses in claims for unemployment insurance and new orders.”

**The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® (CEI)** for the U.S. increased 0.1 percent in October to 114.3 (2010 = 100), following a 0.1 percent increase in September, and a 0.2 percent increase in August.

**The Conference Board Lagging Economic Index® (LAG)** for the U.S. increased 0.2 percent in October to 122.9 (2010 = 100), following a 0.2 percent increase in September, and a 0.3 percent increase in August.



## **About The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the U.S.**

The composite economic indexes are the key elements in an analytic system designed to signal peaks and troughs in the business cycle. The leading, coincident, and lagging economic indexes are essentially composite averages of several individual leading, coincident, or lagging indicators. 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.

The ten components of **The Conference Board Leading Economic Index®** for the U.S. include:

Average weekly hours, manufacturing  
Average weekly initial claims for unemployment insurance  
Manufacturers' new orders, consumer goods and materials  
ISM® Index of New Orders  
Manufacturers' new orders, nondefense capital goods excluding aircraft orders  
Building permits, new private housing units  
Stock prices, 500 common stocks  
*Leading Credit Index™*  
Interest rate spread, 10-year Treasury bonds less federal funds  
Average consumer expectations for business conditions

For full press release and technical notes:

<http://www.conference-board.org/data/bcicountry.cfm?cid=1>

For more information about The Conference Board global business cycle indicators:

<http://www.conference-board.org/data/bci.cfm>

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