

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 the UK Held Steady in October

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 <https://www.conference-board.org/topics/business-cycle-indicators/> or contact us at indicators@conference-board.org.

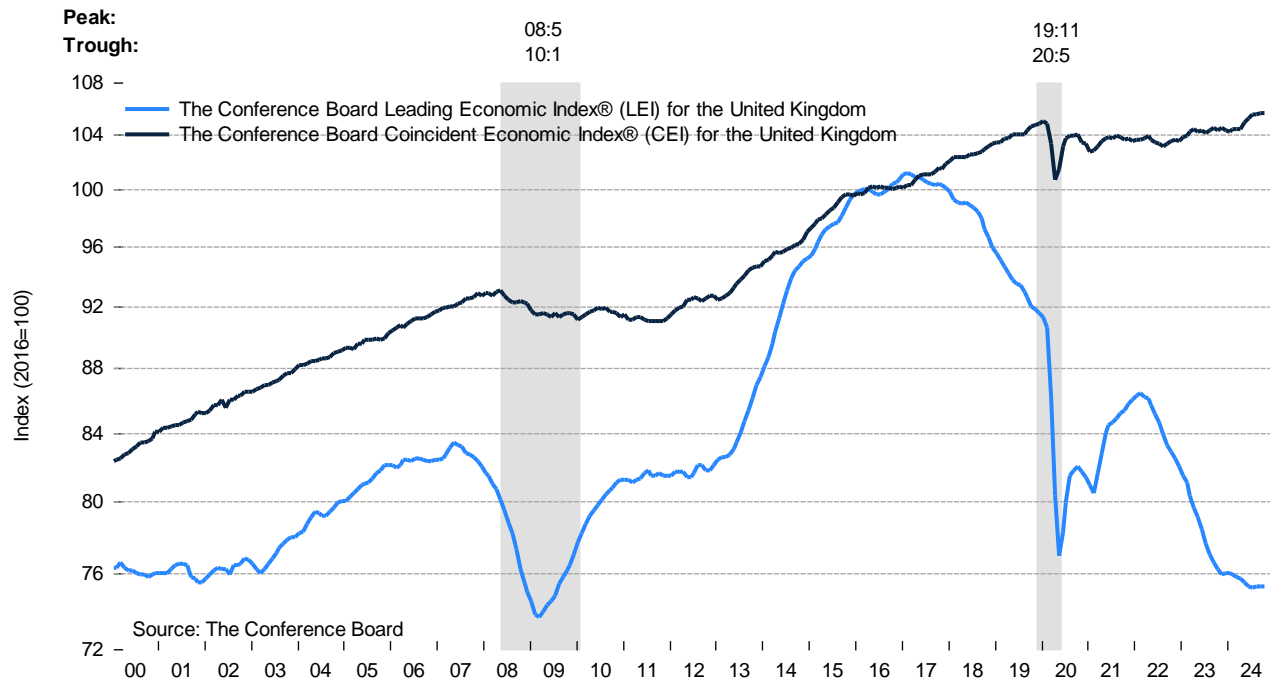
The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the United Kingdom remained unchanged in October 2024 at 75.3 (2016=100), the same level as in September and August. The LEI for the UK contracted by 0.5% over the six-month period between April and October 2024, after contracting by 0.7% over the previous six-month period.

The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® (CEI) for the United Kingdom was also unchanged in October 2024 at 105.6 (2016=100), following an increase of 0.1% in September. Overall, the CEI for the UK grew by 1.1% over the six-month period between April and October 2024, a significant acceleration of the 0.1% rise over the previous six-month period, from October 2023 to April 2024.

“The UK LEI held steady in October, holding a pause from a downtrend that began in mid-2022,” said **Allen Li, Associate Economist at The Conference Board**. “A significant positive contribution from housing sales expectation offset mild negatives from the unemployment claims, yield spread, and consumer expectations in October, while all other components were largely flat or slightly positive. The UK LEI’s six-month and annual growth rates are still negative, given the lengthy recent downtrend, but the pace of decline is much smaller. The LEI stabilization in recent months suggests that headwinds to growth are moderating, potentially reflecting the impact of the less restrictive monetary policy by the Bank of England. Overall, The Conference Board expects the UK economy to grow by about 0.9% for 2024 and pick up moderately to 1.3% in 2025.”

The next release is scheduled for Friday, January 17, 2025, at 9:30 A.M. ET.

The UK LEI held steady in October



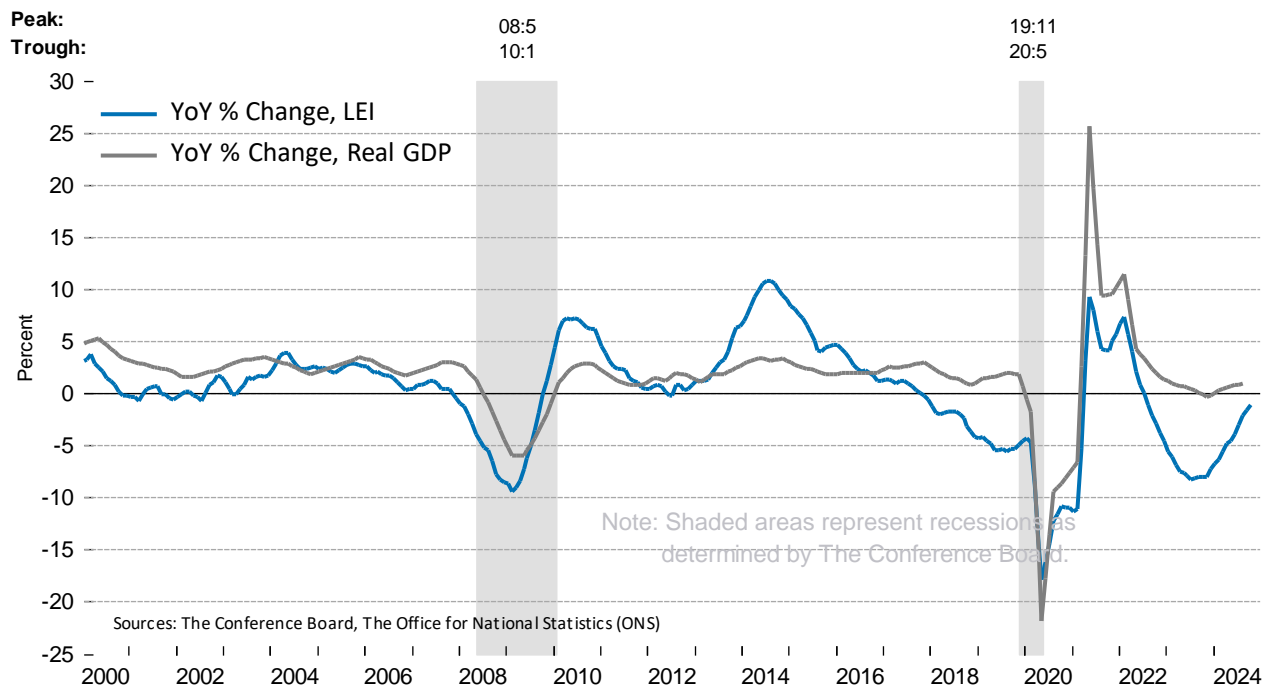
A significant positive contribution from housing sales expectations offset mild negatives from the yield spread, unemployment claims, and consumer expectations in October

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

	Oct. '24	6 mo. ending Oct. '24
Financial Components		
Yield Spread 10 Year Minus Official Bank Rate	-0.07	-0.52
Stock prices, FTSE all share prices index	0.00	0.12
Non-Financial Components		
Unemployment Claimant Counts*	-0.07	-0.66
Operating Surplus, Corporations (Q)**	0.01	0.01
Housing Sales Expectation for Next 3 Months	0.18	0.71
Weekly Working Hours**	0.04	0.12
GfK Consumer Survey: General Economic Situation: Next 12 Mo.	-0.04	-0.05
Productivity - Whole Economy (Q)**	0.03	0.11

Source: The Conference Board * Inverted series; a negative change in this component makes a positive contribution.
** Statistical Imputation. - Q: Quarterly series; these series are converted to a monthly series through a linear interpolation.
LEI change might not equal sum of its contributions due to application of trend adjustment factor.

The annual growth trajectory of the UK LEI has improved substantially since the beginning of the year, suggesting lessened headwinds to growth



About The Conference Board *Leading Economic Index*® (LEI) and *Coincident Economic Index*® (CEI) for the United Kingdom

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 eleven months.

The eight components of the *Leading Economic Index*® for the U.K. are:

- Unemployment Claimant Counts
- Weekly Working Hours
- GfK Consumer Survey: General Economic Situation: Next 12 months
- Stock prices, FTSE all share prices index
- Yield Spread
- Productivity, Whole Economy
- Total Gross Operating Surplus of Corporations
- Housing Sales Expectation for next 3 months ©

The four components of the *Coincident Economic Index*® for the U.K. are:

- Industrial Production
- Retail Sales
- Employment
- Real Household Disposable Income

To access data, please visit: <https://data-central.conference-board.org/>

About The Conference Board

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