

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 Declined in November

This month's release of the composite economic indexes incorporates 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.

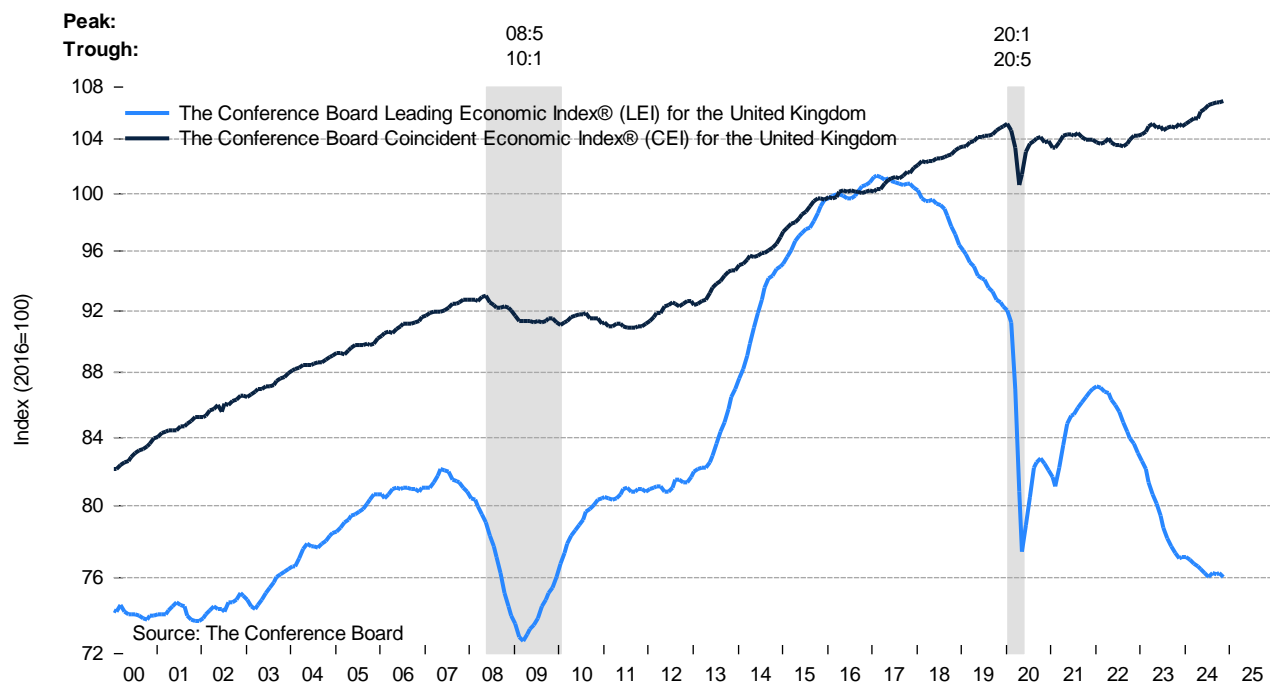
The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the United Kingdom declined by 0.3% in November 2024 to 76.0 (2016=100), after rising by 0.1% in October. The LEI for the UK contracted by 0.5% over the six-month period between May and November 2024, after contracting by 0.8% over the previous six-month period.

The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index® (CEI) for the United Kingdom rose by 0.1% in November 2024 to 106.8 (2016=100), following no change in October. Overall, the CEI for the UK grew by 0.8% over the six-month period between May and November 2024, a continuation of the 0.9% increase over the previous six-month period, from November 2023 to May 2024.

“The UK LEI pulled back slightly in November, reversing the small gains recorded in previous months,” said **Allen Li, Associate Economist at The Conference Board**. “The decline was fueled by weaker weekly working hours, consumer expectations, stock prices, and the negative yield spread. Nonetheless, the UK LEI’s six-month and annual growth rates, while still negative given the downtrend since 2022, became more stable in recent months. The Index suggests that headwinds to growth, while still present, could moderate in the near term, potentially as the effects of the less restrictive monetary policy by the Bank of England propagate through the economy. The Conference Board currently estimates that the UK real GDP grew by 0.8% in 2024 and expects growth to reach 0.9% in 2025.”

The next release is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 9:30 A.M. ET.

The UK LEI declined in November erasing the gains recorded in the previous few months



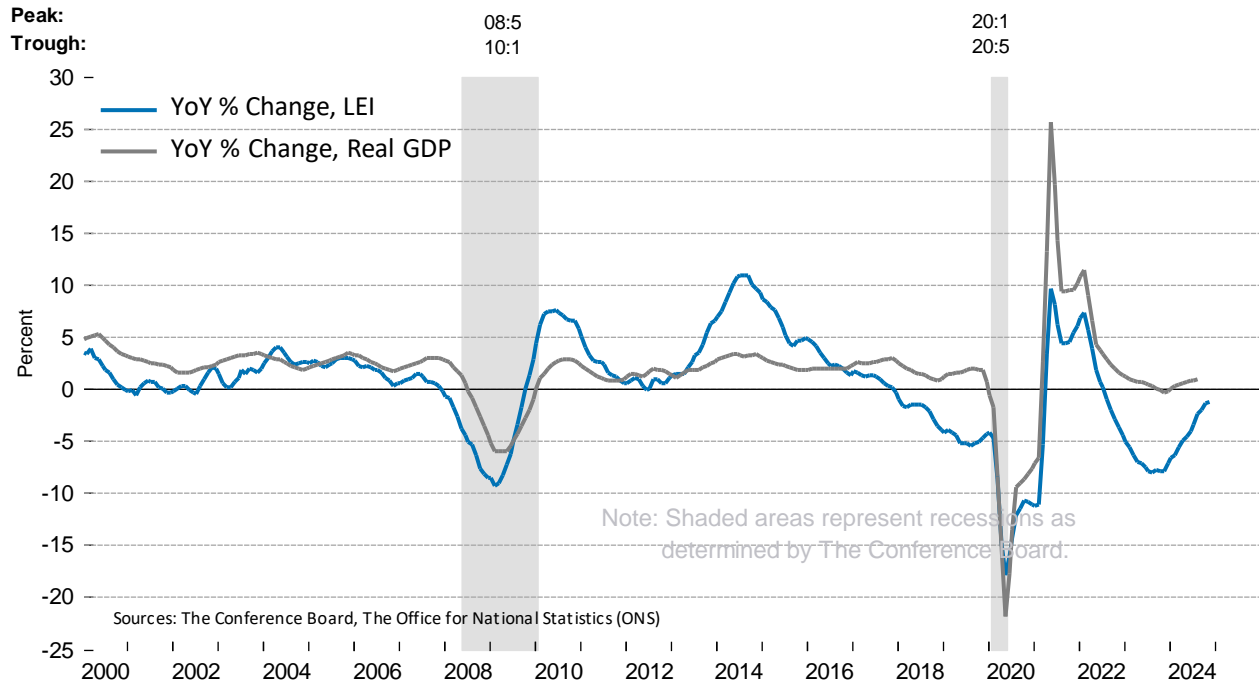
In November, weekly working hours, consumer expectations, stock prices, and the yield spread contributed negatively to the UK LEI

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

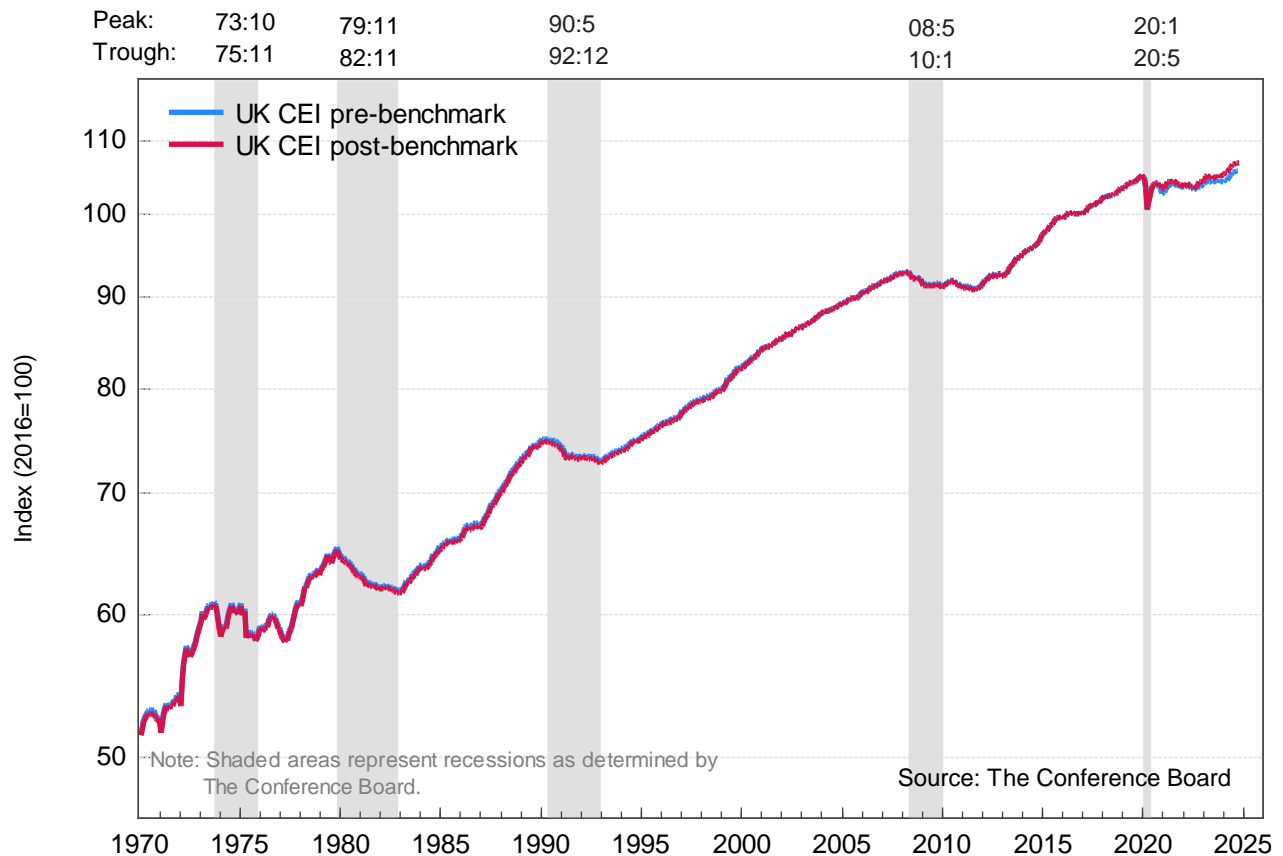
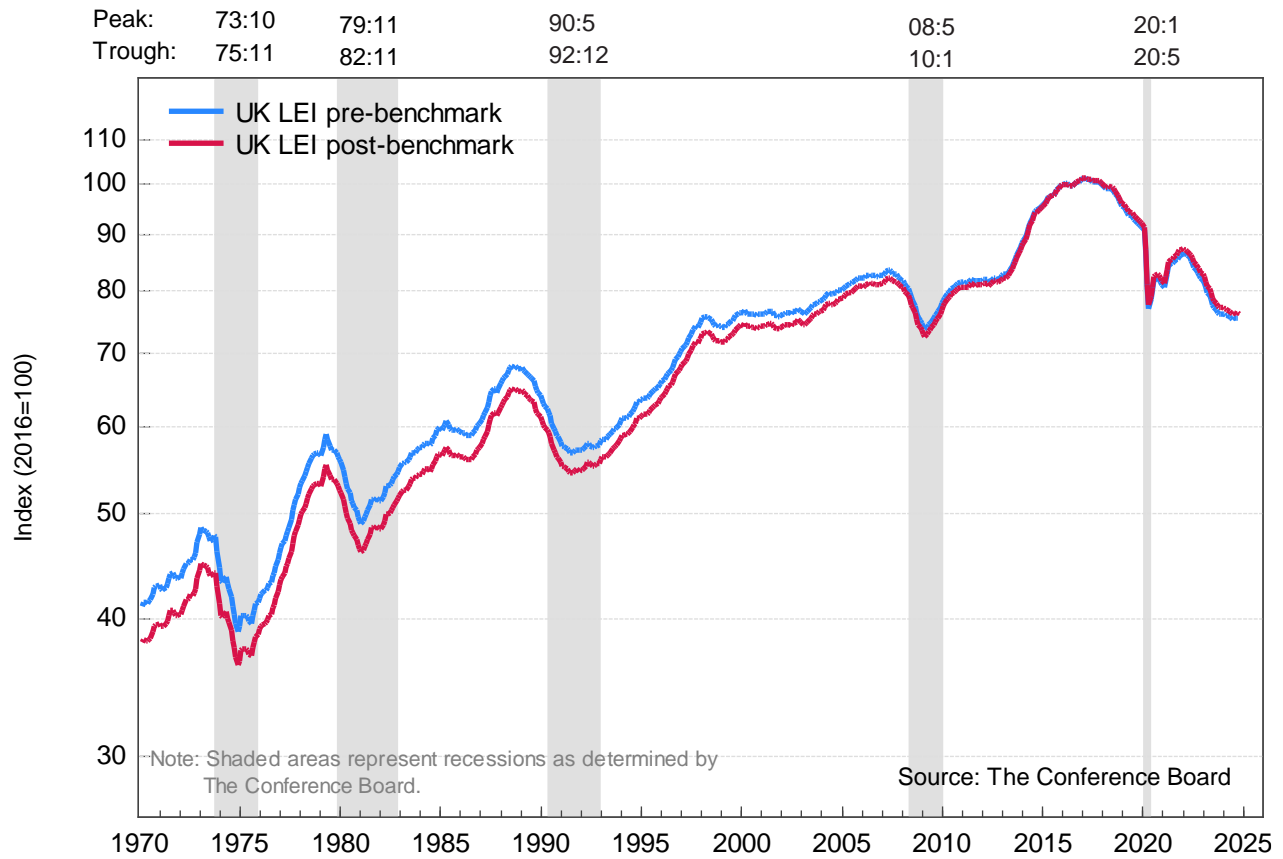
	Nov. '24	6 mo. ending Nov. '24
Financial Components		
Yield Spread 10 Year Minus Official Bank Rate	-0.03	-0.49
Stock prices, FTSE all share prices index	-0.05	-0.06
Non-Financial Components		
Unemployment Claimant Counts*	0.00	-0.41
Operating Surplus, Corporations (Q)**	0.02	-0.03
Housing Sales Expectation for Next 3 Months	0.06	0.71
Weekly Working Hours**	-0.06	0.00
GfK Consumer Survey: General Economic Situation: Next 12 Mo.	-0.06	-0.09
Productivity - Whole Economy (Q)**	0.03	0.15

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 since a year ago indicating that headwinds to growth may lessen in the near term



The composite business cycle indexes pre- and post- benchmark revisions: 1970-present



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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