

NEW YORK, Sept. 12, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- **The Conference Board Leading Economic Index®** (LEI) for Korea increased 0.1 percent in July to 119.0 (2004 = 100), following a 1.1 percent decline in June, and a 0.5 percent decrease in May.

At the same time, **The Conference Board Coincident Economic Index®** (CEI) for Korea, a measure of current economic activity, increased 0.2 percent in July to 117.3 (2004 = 100), following a 0.1 percent increase in June and a 0.1 percent decline in May.

The LEI for Korea increased slightly after declining in the last three months. However, its six-month change remains in negative territory, with widespread weaknesses among the leading indicators. Meanwhile, the CEI for Korea increased slightly again in July, but its six-month change also remains negative. Taken together, the recent weaknesses in both the LEI and CEI continue to suggest that the rate of economic expansion is likely to slow in the near term.

About The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for Korea 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. 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 seven components of **The Conference Board Leading Economic Index®** for Korea include:

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for Korea Increases

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Stock Prices Value of Machinery Orders Letter of Credit Arrivals Index of Shipments to Inventories Export FOB Yield of Government Public Bonds Private Construction Orders

For more information including full press release and technical notes: <http://www.conference-board.org/data/bcicountry.cfm?cid=6>

For more information about The Conference Board global business cycle indicators: <http://www.conference-board.org/data/bci.cfm>

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Summary Table of Composite Economic Indexes

2013

6-month

May

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Jun

Jul

Jan to Jul

Leading Economic index (LEI)

120.2

118.9

119.0

Percent Change

-0.5

-1.1

0.1

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-1.5

Diffusion

35.7

14.3

42.9

28.6

Coincident Economic Index (CEI)

117.0

r

117.1

p

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117.3

p

Percent Change

-0.1

r

0.1

p

0.2

p

-0.3

p

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Diffusion

25.0

62.5

75.0

50.0

n.a. Not available p Preliminary r Revised

Indexes equal 100 in 2004

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