

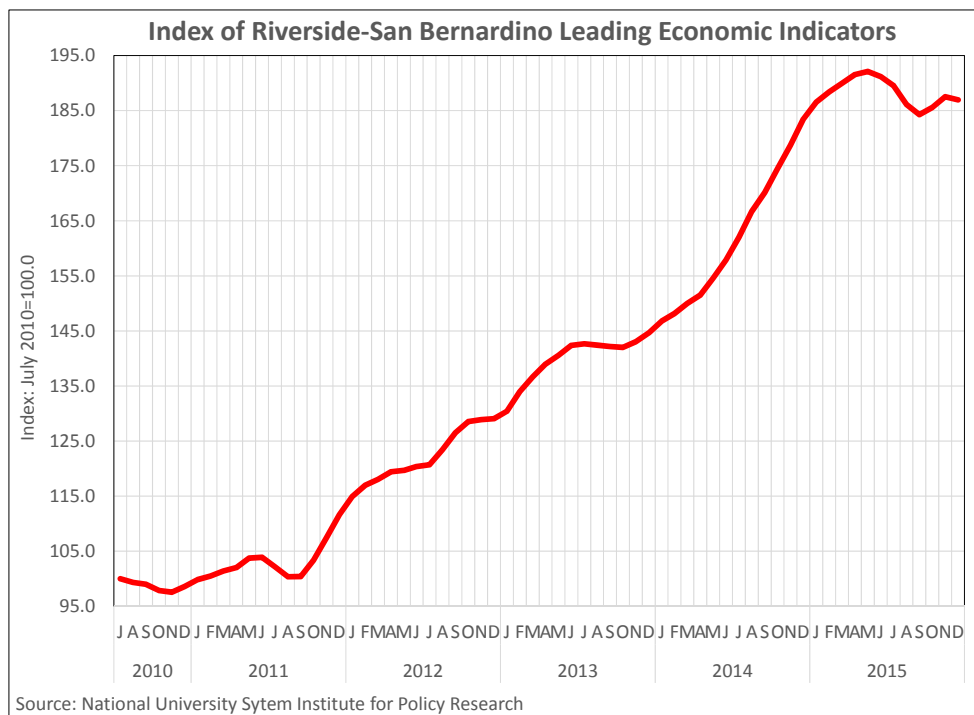


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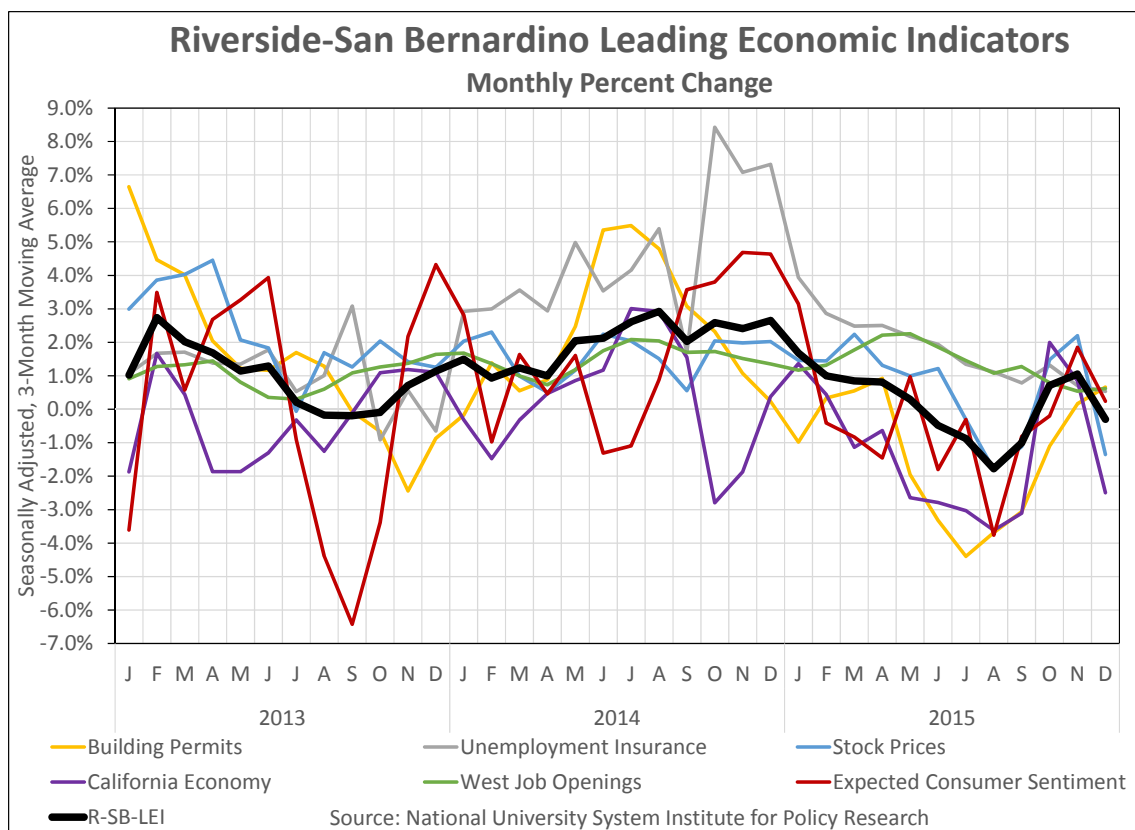
### **Riverside-San Bernardino Metro Area-Leading Economic Indicators Shows Economic Outlook Faltering as 2015 Comes to an End**



**SAN DIEGO, February 24, 2016...National University's Index of Leading Economic Indicators (LEI) for the Riverside-San Bernardino Metro Area** continued to show the metro area economy faltering as 2015 came to an end. After fairly strong momentum leading into 2015, the index slowed and began to slump by mid-year. The index started to rebound in October and November, but faltered again in December.

The index is composed of six indicators of anticipated economic activity. The composite of six measures reflect expectations of upcoming economic activity six to nine months in the future.

"Riverside-San Bernardino's faltering index appears to indicate the metro economy will start to see a slowdown going into 2016," says Kelly Cunningham, National University System Institute Economist and author of the Index, "The stock market and California's leading economic indicators pulled the overall metro area index downward with each of the other four indicators slowing as well."



Residential building activity faltered over most of the year, despite eking out a 0.2 and 0.7 percent increase the final two months (after seasonal adjustment and moving three-year average).

Although still positive, initial claims for unemployment insurance (UI) continued to slow as the year progressed. (Note: since lower claims for unemployment are positive for the economy, the figure is reversed in the composite index of LEIs.) In addition, the *Bureau of Labor Statistics* “Job Opening and Labor Turnover Survey” (JOLTS) for western states showed slowing momentum over the second half of the year as well.

The *Bloomberg* Stock Index of publicly traded, headquartered companies in the greater Los Angeles metro area turned positive in October and November, after falling the previous three months, but dropped another 1.4 percent in December.

The *Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia* LEI index for the state California, included as a component of Riverside-San Bernardino’s index, fell for much of 2015. October and November showed the index turning positive, but in December dropped another 2.5 percent.

The *University of Michigan* survey of consumer sentiments for the national economy shows falling expectations in the near term. The index of consumer expectations, one of the six components measured in Riverside-San Bernardino’s LEI index, increased only 0.2 percent in December.

This is the fifth monthly release of National University’s LEI Index for the Riverside-San Bernardino, CA metropolitan and four other metropolitan areas in the state. The indexes are designed to indicate the direction the economy is headed according to projected expectations. The next index of LEIs for the metro areas will be released in March 2016.

For more information on the indicators making up the index, see “California Metro Area Leading Economic Indicators Sources” at [www.nusinstitute.org/Surveys/Metro-Area-Leading-Economic-Indicators-sources.html](http://www.nusinstitute.org/Surveys/Metro-Area-Leading-Economic-Indicators-sources.html).

## RIVERSIDE-SAN BERNARDINO, CA METRO AREA-LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS INDEX

Year	Month	Leading Economic Indicators Index	Seasonally Adjusted, 3-Month Moving Average, Monthly Percent Change						
			Residential LEI Index	Initial Building Permits	Initial Unemp. Claims	Stock Prices	California Leading Econ Ind.	West Job Openings	Expected Consumer Sentiments
2014	Jan	146.8	1.5%	-0.2%	2.9%	2.0%	1.7%	2.8%	-0.3%
	Feb	148.2	0.9%	1.4%	3.0%	2.3%	1.4%	-1.0%	-1.5%
	Mar	150.0	1.2%	0.6%	3.6%	1.0%	1.0%	1.6%	-0.3%
	Apr	151.5	1.0%	0.9%	2.9%	0.5%	0.7%	0.5%	0.5%
	May	154.6	2.0%	2.5%	5.0%	1.2%	1.2%	1.6%	0.9%
	Jun	157.9	2.1%	5.4%	3.5%	2.2%	1.7%	-1.3%	1.2%
	Jul	162.0	2.6%	5.5%	4.2%	2.0%	2.1%	-1.1%	3.0%
	Aug	166.7	2.9%	4.8%	5.4%	1.5%	2.0%	0.9%	2.9%
	Sep	170.1	2.0%	3.1%	1.7%	0.6%	1.7%	3.6%	1.6%
	Oct	174.5	2.6%	2.3%	8.4%	2.0%	1.7%	3.8%	-2.8%
	Nov	178.7	2.4%	1.1%	7.1%	2.0%	1.5%	4.7%	-1.9%
	Dec	183.5	2.7%	0.2%	7.3%	2.0%	1.4%	4.6%	0.4%
2015	Jan	186.5	1.7%	-1.0%	3.9%	1.5%	1.2%	3.1%	1.4%
	Feb	188.4	1.0%	0.3%	2.9%	1.4%	1.3%	-0.4%	0.4%
	Mar	190.0	0.8%	0.6%	2.5%	2.2%	1.8%	-0.8%	-1.1%
	Apr	191.5	0.8%	0.9%	2.5%	1.3%	2.2%	-1.4%	-0.6%
	May	192.1	0.3%	-2.0%	2.2%	1.0%	2.3%	1.0%	-2.6%
	Jun	191.2	-0.5%	-3.3%	1.9%	1.2%	1.9%	-1.8%	-2.8%
	Jul	189.5	-0.9%	-4.4%	1.3%	-0.3%	1.5%	-0.3%	-3.0%
	Aug	186.1	-1.8%	-3.7%	1.1%	-1.8%	1.1%	-3.8%	-3.6%
	Sep	184.3	-1.0%	-3.1%	0.8%	-1.1%	1.3%	-0.8%	-3.1%
	Oct	185.6	0.7%	-1.1%	1.3%	1.5%	0.8%	-0.2%	2.0%
	Nov	187.5	1.1%	0.2%	0.7%	2.2%	0.5%	1.9%	0.8%
	Dec	187.0	-0.3%	0.7%	0.5%	-1.4%	0.6%	0.2%	-2.5%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; California Employment Development Department; Bloomberg Business; Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; University of Michigan.  
Index compiled, calculated, and adjusted by National University System Institute for Policy Research.

### About the National University System Institute for Policy Research

The [National University System Institute for Policy Research](#) (NUSIPR) is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that formulates and promotes high quality economic policy, and public opinion research so as to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of local governments in San Diego County and to improve the quality of life enjoyed by the region’s residents.

NUSIPR publishes regular independent research and analysis for the public on a range of topics, including unemployment, business growth, and the San Diego housing market. The Institute also works collaboratively with clients to develop high quality research products that are tailored to their policy needs.

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