

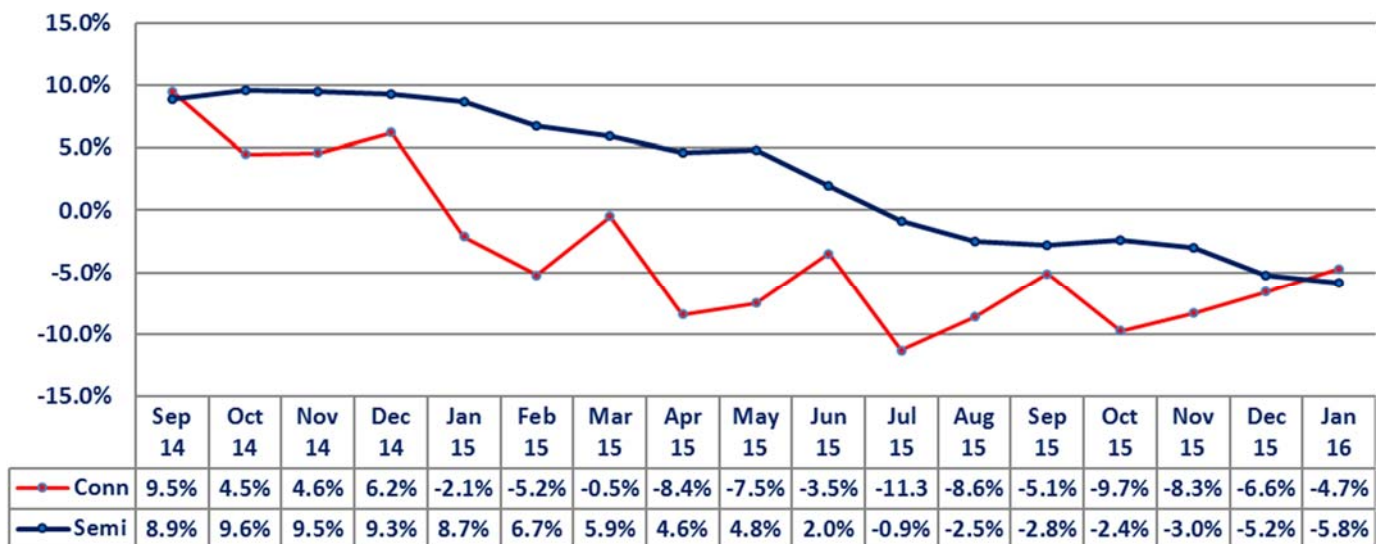
## Connectors Outperform Semis January Semi Sales Decline -5.8% YOY

The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) reported January sales of \$26.9 billion, down -5.8% from January 2015 and down -2.7% sequentially from December. Regionally for January, the SIA reported that China grew +4.3% YOY and the other regions had declines in sales: -16.9% in the Americas, -7.7% in Europe, -5.1% in Japan, and Asia Pacific and Other -6.5%.

The connector industry sales, measured in U.S. dollars, were down -4.7% YOY in January and down -5.0% sequentially. Regionally for January, YOY sales declined -3.2% in Europe, -31.9% in Japan, -0.5% in China, -8.1% in Asia Pacific and -7.6% in ROW. North America grew +0.3% YOY.

The following graph compares semiconductor sales performance to the connector industry.

Monthly Sales Performance  
Year-Over-Year



- January was the sixth consecutive month of YOY decline for semiconductors sales. Connectors have now declined for 13 consecutive months.
- This is the first time since September 2014 that connectors (just) outperformed semis.

The following table displays year-to-date performance, measured in U.S. dollars, by geographic region for both components.

**Sales Performance  
January Year-To-Date**

	<b>Semiconductors</b>	<b>Connectors</b>
<b>North America</b>	<b>-16.9%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>-7.7%</b>	<b>-3.2%</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>-5.1%</b>	<b>-31.9%</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
<b>Asia Pacific*</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>	<b>-8.1%</b>
<b>World</b>	<b>-5.8%</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>

\* Including China, Source SIA & Bishop

The above table highlights some differences in regional sales performance of the two components.

- In North America, connectors significantly outperformed semis in January.
- The delta in Europe is closer with connectors doing 4.5 points better than semis.
- Japan's connector delta is almost 27 points worse than semis.
- In Asia Pacific, the delta is nearly 7 points for connectors.

This is a weak start to the year for both components. Semis also have harder comparisons in the first half of the year, year over year, than connectors. The connector growth trend seems to be improving while semis growth trend appears to be getting worse.