

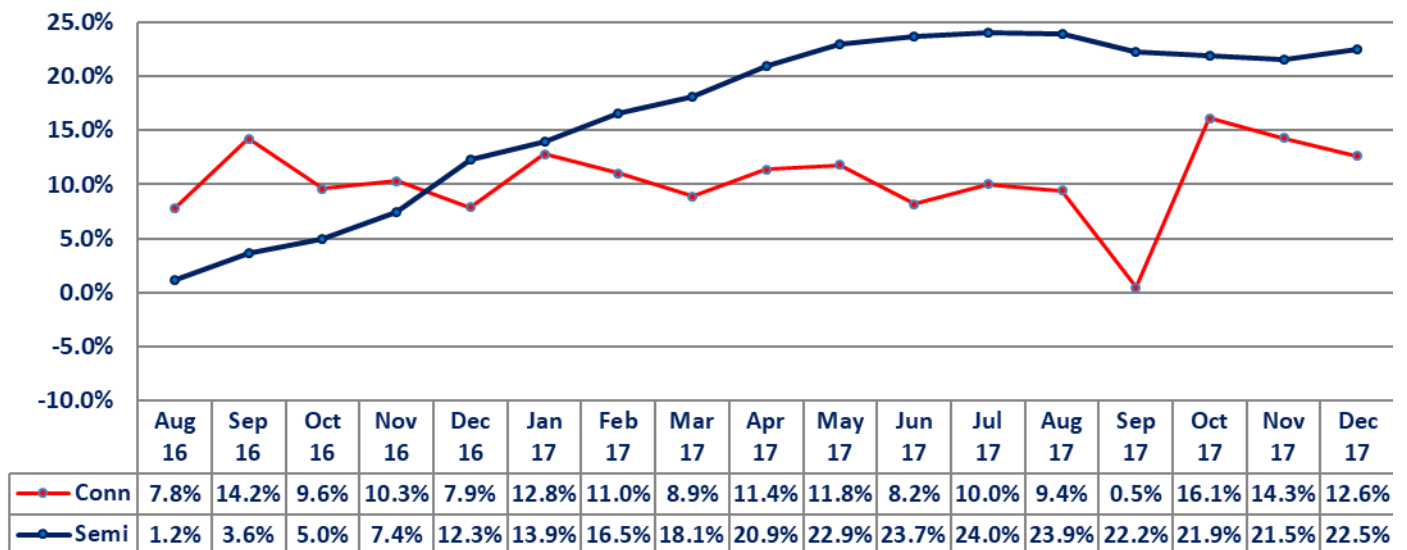
Semi Sales Up +22.5% in December Monthly Sales Reach \$38.0 Billion (Another Record)

The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) reported record December sales of \$38.0 billion, up +22.5% from December 2016 and up +0.8% sequentially. Regionally for December, the SIA reported that China grew +18.1% YOY, Japan grew +14.0%, Asia Pacific/Other grew +17.4%, the Americas grew +41.4% and Europe grew +20.2%.

The connector industry sales, measured in U.S. dollars, increased +12.6% to prior year in December and contracted -11.9% sequentially. Regionally for December, YOY sales increased +8.3% in North America, +24.8% in Europe, +8.8% in China, +16.9% in ROW, +9.0% in Japan and Asia Pacific grew +8.9%

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

Monthly Sales Performance
Year-Over-Year



- Semis grew for the 17th consecutive month and have outpaced Connectors for the last 13 months. Semis have grown in the lower 20% range for the last nine months.
- Semi sales growth may be plateauing as it is now moving into harder comparison to prior year.
- The record industry sales of semis demonstrate that the worldwide economies are strong.

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

**Sales Performance
December Year-To-Date**

	Semiconductors	Connectors
North America	32.6%	6.8%
Europe	15.6%	11.6%
Japan	12.9%	11.7%
China	22.8%	15.9%
Asia Pacific/Other	16.1%	5.3%
World	21.6%	11.0%

Source SIA & Bishop

Both components sales growth performance is tracking more closely on a regional basis and in total world sales. North America, however, has ended-up being an exception.

High demand for semiconductors always leads to strong connector sales. Both components had a record year.

Semiconductors finished 2017 with record sales of \$412.2 billion, up +21.6% over 2016. Their four quarter sales were \$114.0 billion, up +22.5% YOY.

Connectors finished 2017 with record sales of \$61.1 billion, up +11.0% over 2016. Their four quarter sales were \$15.7 billion, up +14.3% YOY.

Amazing year for both industries!