

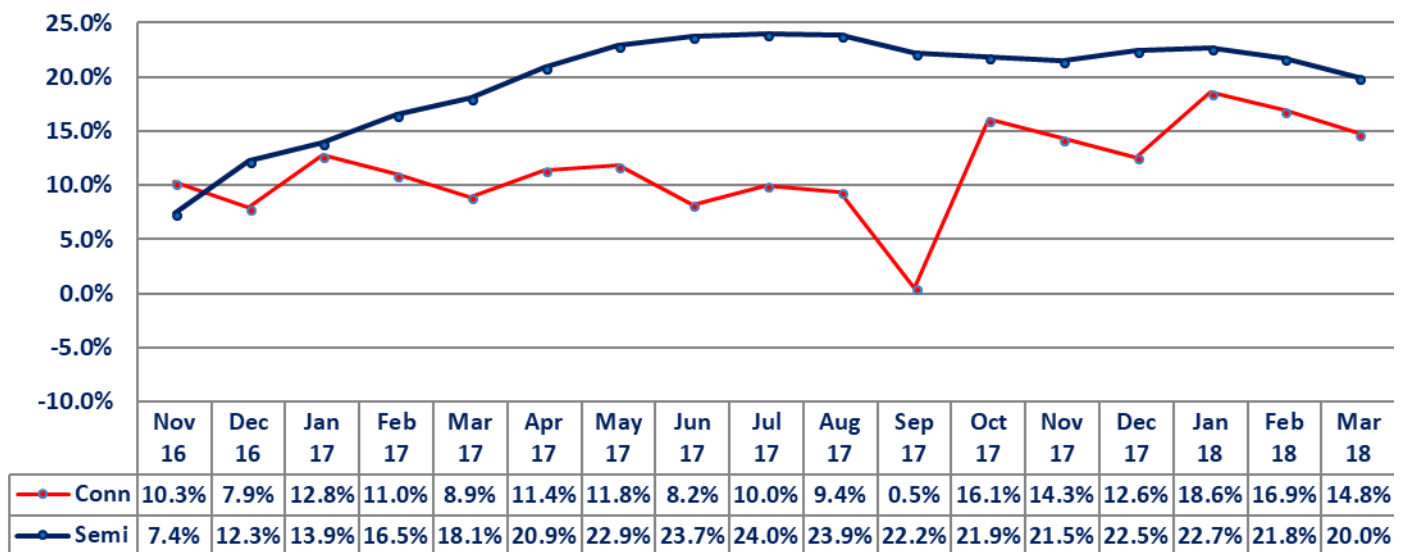
Semi Sales Up +21.2% in First Quarter

The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) reported record March sales of \$37.0 billion, up +20.0% from prior year and up +0.7% sequentially. Regionally for March, the SIA reported that China grew +18.8% YOY, Japan grew +12.4%, Asia Pacific/Other grew +13.3%, the Americas grew +35.7% and Europe grew +20.6%.

The connector industry sales, measured in U.S. dollars, increased +14.8% to prior year and contracted -3.2% sequentially. Regionally for March, YOY sales increased +11.0% in North America, +25.4% in Europe, +12.3% in China, +14.1% in ROW, +6.8% in Japan and Asia Pacific grew +9.8%

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

**Monthly Sales Performance
Year-Over-Year**



- Semis grew for the 20th consecutive month and have outpaced Connectors for the last 16 months. Semis have grown in the lower 20% range for the last 12 months.
- Semi sales growth continues good YOY growth despite harder comparison to prior year.
- The continuing strong growth of 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
March Year-To-Date**

	Semiconductors	Connectors
North America	38.0%	10.1%
Europe	20.7%	28.3%
Japan	14.3%	7.6%
China	17.8%	14.0%
Asia Pacific/Other	16.0%	9.2%
World	21.2%	15.8%

Source SIA & Bishop

Both components sales growth performance is tracking more closely on a regional basis and in total world sales. On a regional basis, however, performance is diverging.

High demand for semiconductors always leads to strong connector sales. Both components had record sales in 2017 and have a very good start to 2018.

Connectors are projected to grow +6.8% in 2018 to \$64.2 billion. Gartner projects semiconductors to grow +7.5% in 2018 to \$451 billion. This puts both components in line for similar growth.