

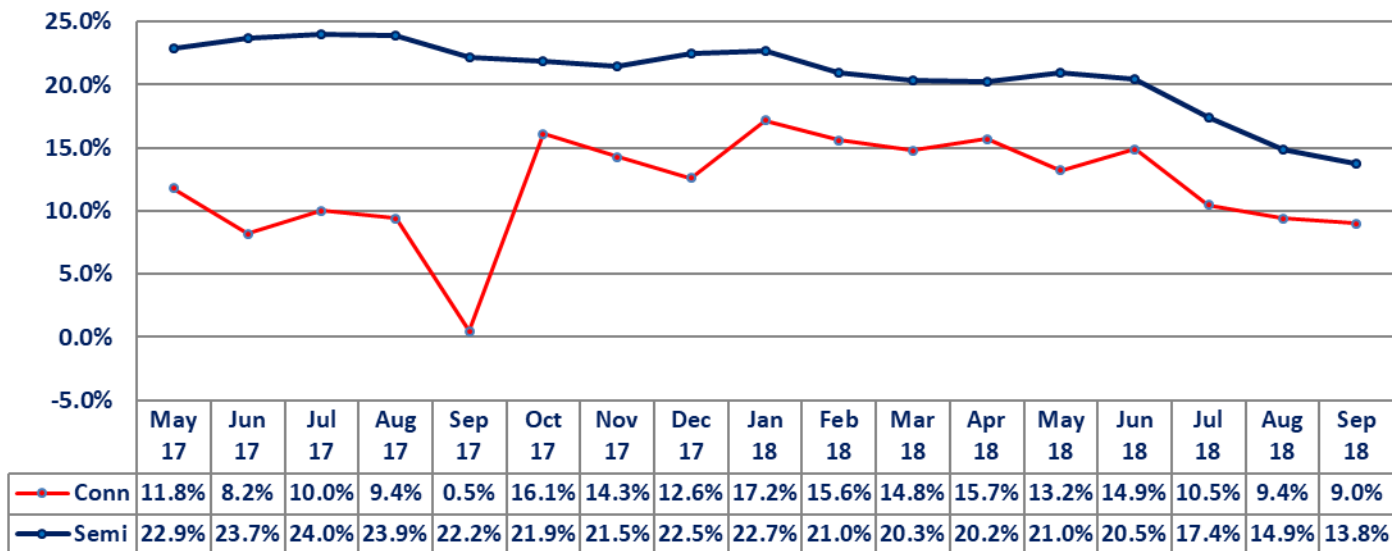
## Semi Sales Up +13.8% in September

The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) reported record September sales of \$40.9 billion, up +13.8% from prior year and up +2.0% sequentially. Regionally for September, the SIA reported that China grew +26.3% YOY, Japan grew +7.2%, Asia Pacific/Other grew +2.4%, the Americas grew +15.1% and Europe grew +8.8%. The overall YOY sales growth has slowed for the last four consecutive months.

The connector industry sales, measured in U.S. dollars, increased +9.0% to prior year and decreased 4.1% sequentially. Regionally for September, YOY sales increased +12.3% in North America, +8.2% in Europe, +2.5% in Japan, +7.4% in China, +11.5% in Asia Pacific and +15.6% in ROW.

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

Monthly Sales Performance  
Year-Over-Year



- Semis grew for the 26<sup>th</sup> consecutive month and have outpaced Connectors for the last 22 months, but the YOY results are getting much closer. Semis are still growing in double-digits.
- Semi sales continue strong YOY growth despite difficult comparison to prior year, but the performance is continuing to tail down. Connector growth is also slowing down due to difficult comparisons to prior year.
- The continuing strong growth of sales of semis and connectors demonstrates strength in the worldwide economies.

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

**Sales Performance  
September Year-To-Date**

	<b>Semiconductors</b>	<b>Connectors</b>
<b>North America</b>	<b>27.6%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>19.1%</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>24.4%</b>	<b>11.3%</b>
<b>Asia Pacific/Other</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>12.0%</b>
<b>World</b>	<b>18.9%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>

Source SIA & Bishop

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

High demand for semiconductors always leads to strong connector sales. Both components had record sales in 2017 and have a very strong start in the first three quarters of 2018.

Connectors are projected to grow +11.4% in 2018 to \$66.9 billion. The SIA projects semiconductors to grow +12.4% in 2018 to \$463 billion.

The impact of the various tariffs between the major economies is not showing an obvious effect on the performance of either semis or connectors.