

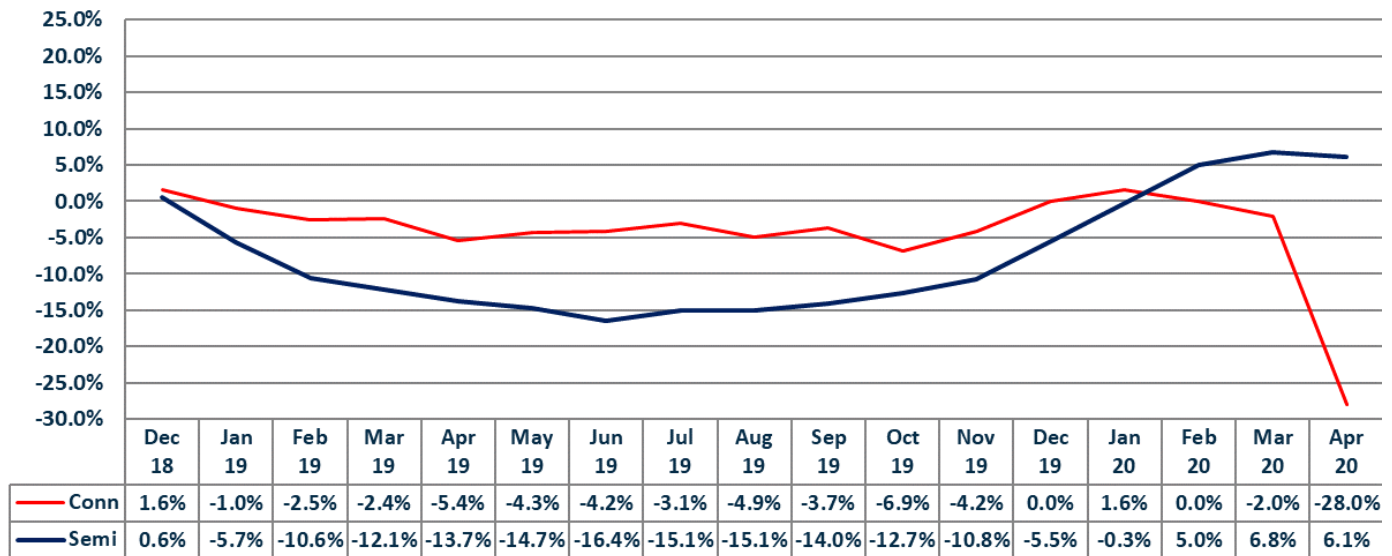
## Semis up +6.1% in April Strength May Be in Longer Lead Times

The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) reported April sales of \$34.4 billion, up +6.1% from prior year, and down -1.2% sequentially. Regionally for April, the SIA reported that the Americas grew +24.2% YOY, Japan was flat, China increased +4.3% Asia Pacific/Other increased by +3.3%. Europe was down -7.1%. The overall growth was the third achieved by the industry since December 2018.

Connector industry sales, measured in US dollars, were down -28.0% from the prior year and decreased -29.2% sequentially. Regionally for April, YOY sales decreased -24.8% in Japan, -9.9% in China, -32.7% in North America, -25.2% in Asia Pacific, and ROW decreased -50.9%.

The following graph compares semiconductor sales performance to the connector industry since December 2018.

Monthly Sales Performance  
Year-Over-Year



The full impact of COVID-19 sales contraction is showing up significantly in connector industry performance, while semis remain positive for the last three months. Semis grew YOY in April, which was not expected. The strength of the semi performance may be the result of the longer lead times, customers' expectations of improving market conditions and a reluctance of customers to give up products that they might soon need.

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

**Sales Performance  
2020 April YTD**

	<b>Semiconductors</b>	<b>Connectors</b>
<b>North America</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>-9.6%</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>	<b>-12.4%</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>-5.2%</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>-4.3%</b>
<b>Asia Pacific/Other</b>	<b>-8.3%</b>	<b>-9.9%</b>
<b>World</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>-9.2%</b>

Source SIA & Bishop

Semi sales performance has now surpassed connector sales performance for three consecutive months, but the future of this comparison is very much uncertain. What lies ahead for both industries will depend on the success of all countries in curtailing the growth rate of COVID-19 infections and restarting their economies after the unprecedented shutdown of businesses worldwide. Many countries have started to reopen their economies. Hopefully, this turning point will continue without any serious setbacks.