

# DASHBOARD

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## MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

### PH tips economy to grow 6% in 2012

The Philippine economy could grow by almost six percent this year thanks to improving business optimism despite a series of destructive storms in recent months, officials said Monday. The economy, which grew by 6.1 percent on year in the first half, could do even better in the rest of the year as the government implements measures to boost laggard sectors, Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Arsenio Balisacan said. He added outsourced businesses, trade and tourism were all doing well and agriculture and manufacturing were expected to pick up in the second half. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

### OFW deployment up in H1 - POEA

Despite the prevailing economic crises in various countries, foreign employers still prefer the services of Filipino workers. The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) yesterday reported a continuing rise in the deployment of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs). POEA deputy administrator Ameurфина Reyes said overseas deployment is up by 1.3 percent in the first half of the year compared to the same period last year. "From January to June we have recorded a total deployment of 891,460 which is higher than the 879,960 number of OFWs deployed a year ago," Reyes said. Reyes noted that land-based workers accounted for the greater bulk or 79 percent of the total deployment for the first semester of 2012. (The Philippine Star)

### Remittances climb 5.3% in July

Remittances sent home in the first seven months rose 5.3 percent year-on-year to \$13.3 billion, exceeding the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas's (BSP) full year projection of five percent for the second time this year. BSP Governor Amando M. Tetangco Jr. yesterday said that they are currently reviewing fund transfers and the new forecast for remittances after surpassing the 2012 assumption. "At a year-to-date growth of 5.3 percent we are clearly on track as far as remittances are concerned. We are reviewing (the numbers) for an upward adjustments," said Tetangco during the press briefing after the bi-annual Philippine Economic Briefing. When asked if remittances could grow six percent which was the previous forecast before readjusting it lower to five percent, Tetangco said this projection is "too high". "It will exceed five percent but perhaps not as high as that (six percent)." (Manila Bulletin)

## FINANCIAL TRENDS

### Stock market index nears all-time high

Philippine share prices climbed yesterday, buoyed largely by US Federal Reserve's announcement last week of new measures to energize the US economy. At the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE), the main composite index climbed 28.43 points to close at 5,350.90, near its all-time high of 5,369.98 last seen in July 5, 2012. All sectoral indices reflected gains and closed in positive territory, led by property that climbed 24.23 points to 2,055.72. The industrial sector rose 27.75 points to 8,051.08, while services climbed 5.93 points to 1,832.32. (The Philippine Star)

### Peso falls on profit-taking

The peso fell on the first trading day of the week as investors sold the local currency for profit-taking following last week's significant purchases. The local currency closed at 41.61 against the US dollar, down by 19 centavos from Friday's finish of 41.42:\$1. Intraday high hit 41.33:\$1, while intraday low settled at 41.635:\$1. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

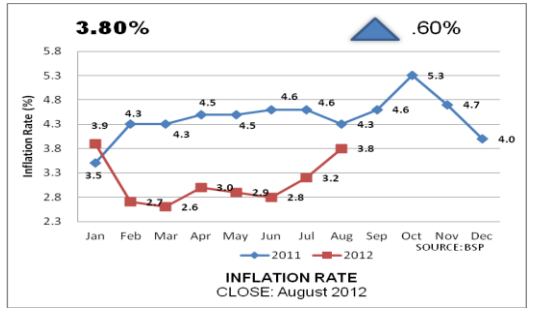
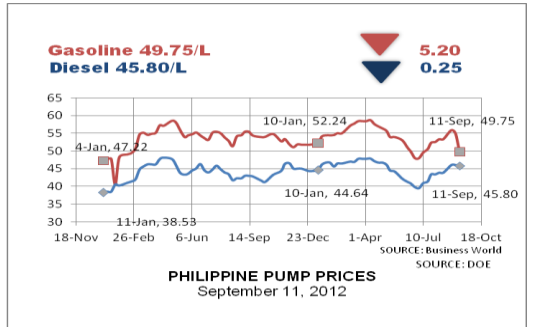
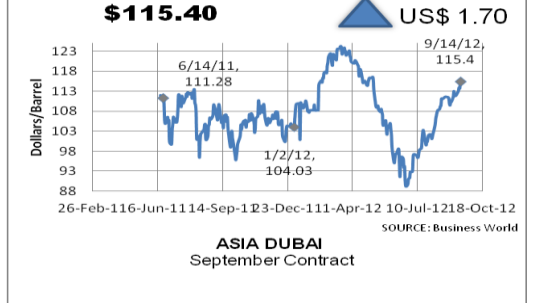
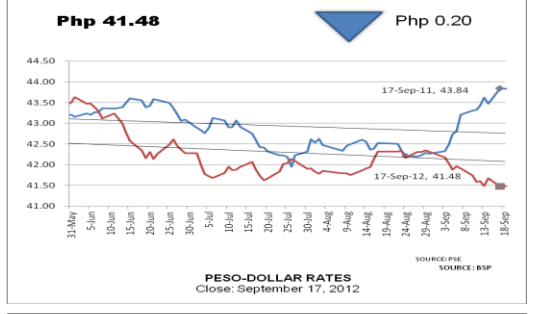
## INDUSTRY BUZZ

### Nissan CEO sees Europe slump

Carlos Ghosn, chief executive of Nissan Motor Co. and Renault SA, predicted a long-term slump in European sales and said Japan's lack of response to the strong yen would lead to more auto production leaving the country. In an interview with The Wall Street Journal on Friday, he expressed confidence that global auto demand would expand outside of Europe this year and next. But he indicated policy makers and governments must foster growth by better managing foreign-exchange rates, allowing restructuring and encouraging alternative-fuel vehicles. (The Wall Street Journal)

### Japanese firms shut China plants, US urges calm in islands row

Major Japanese firms have temporarily shut factories and offices in China after angry protests flared across the country, the result of a territorial dispute that has triggered one of China's worst outbreaks of anti-Japan sentiment in decades. The row between Japan and China, over a group of uninhabited islets in the East China Sea, has led to violent attacks on well-known Japanese businesses such as car-makers Toyota and Honda, forcing frightened expatriates into hiding and sending relations between Asia's two biggest economies into crisis. (The Philippine Star)



	Monday, September 17 2012	Last Week	Year ago
Overnight Lending, RP	5.75%	6.00%	6.50%
Overnight Borrowing, RRP	3.75%	4.00%	4.50%
91 day T Bill Rates	2.01%	2.15%	3.85%
Lending Rates	7.56%	7.58%	7.79%

