



# DASHBOARD

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## MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

### DBCC sees 6.2% growth this year, 6.5% in 2014

The Philippine economy is projected to grow by 6.2 percent this year and 6.5 percent in 2014, latest data from the Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC) showed. The 6.2-percent growth projection for this year is within the official target range of six percent to seven percent and takes into account sustained growth momentum and at the same time the possibility of continued global uncertainties brought about by the debt problems in the United States and Europe, based on the end-December data from DBCC. The latest DBCC forecast is the same as the World Bank's revised growth forecast for the Philippines of 6.2 percent for 2013. (The Philippine Star)

### Forex reserves end 2012 at all-time high of \$84.25B

The country's foreign exchange reserves hit an all-time high of \$84.25 billion at the close of 2012, buoyed by the central bank's dollar purchases that were meant to temper what could have been a sharp appreciation of the peso. The yearend gross international reserves (GIR) were enough to cover a year of the country's import requirements and were nearly six times the combined foreign currency-denominated debts of the government and private entities maturing within a year. The latest amount of GIR was up by about 12 percent from \$75.30 billion the previous year. The BSP admitted that it had been buying dollars from the market to prevent a steep rise in the value of the peso against the greenback. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

### Consumer price index inches up

The consumer price index (CPI) for all items went up to 0.2 percent in December from 0.1 percent in November 2012. The National Statistics Office (NSO) reported that the indices for furnishing, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house; health; and education also grew by 0.3 percent from 0.2 percent and housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels index, 0.2 percent from zero growth. NSO noted slower monthly increments in alcoholic beverages and tobacco at 0.4 percent from 0.5 percent and recreation and culture and restaurant and miscellaneous goods and services indices, 0.1 percent from 0.3 percent. The index for clothing and footwear retained its last month's rate of 0.3 percent. (Manila Bulletin)

## FINANCIAL TRENDS

### Stock market breaches 6,000

Stocks pierced the 6,000 level for the first time yesterday, closing at a fresh all-time high on the back of robust investor sentiment. The Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) rose by 73.46 points or 1.23% to end the day at 6,044.91, its fourth all-time high in as many trading days since the start of the year. The broader all-share index, meanwhile, gained by 33.28 points or 0.88% to 3,811.70. (Business World)

### Peso slightly up as investors in mood to buy

The peso inched up slightly on the first trading day of the week as investors manifested appetite for local securities amid a favorable outlook on the domestic economy. The local currency closed at 40.89 against the US dollar, up by 2 centavos from Friday's finish of 40.91:\$1. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

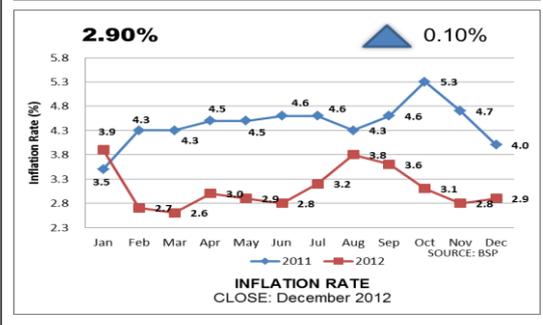
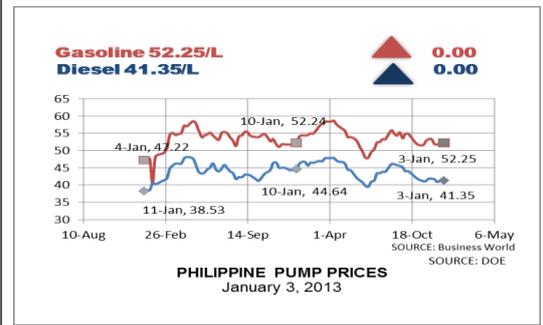
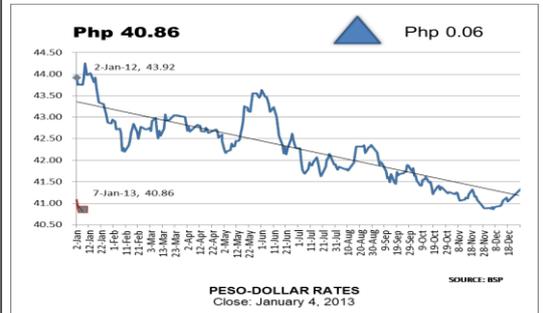
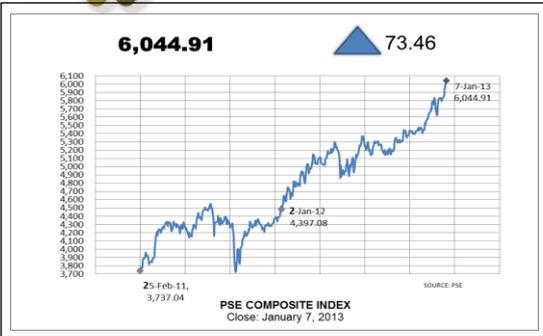
## INDUSTRY BUZZ

### Toyota, Audi move closer to driverless cars

Toyota Motor Corp. and Audi AG are throwing their hats into the ring of potential suppliers of self-driving vehicles. Both auto makers confirmed on Thursday that they will be demonstrating autonomous-driving features at the Consumer Electronics Show in the coming week, signaling a new effort to raise the technology's profile among consumers. In a preview video posted to its website on Thursday, Toyota showed a five-second clip of one of its Lexus brand cars outfitted with various sensors and the caption, "Lexus advanced active safety research vehicle is leading the industry into a new automated era." An Audi official also said the luxury-car company will be demonstrating autonomous vehicle capabilities at the Las Vegas show, including a feature that allows a car to find a parking space and park itself without a driver behind the wheel. (Wall Street Journal)

### Automakers in China brace for year of tepid growth

Automakers in China are bracing for another year of tepid single-digit growth in 2013, weighed down by sluggish demand for Japanese cars amid a diplomatic row between the two regional neighbours and government measures intended to restrict traffic in bigger cities. Executives at local and foreign carmakers in China predict the overall vehicle market will grow 5 to 10 percent this year, roughly in line with 2012, when demand was hit by a slowing economy and rising fuel costs. (The Philippine Star)



	Monday, 7 January 2013	Last Week	Year ago
Overnight Lending, RP	5.50%	5.50%	6.50%
Overnight Borrowing, RRP	3.50%	3.50%	4.50%
91 day T Bill Rates	0.20%	0.20%	3.85%
Lending Rates	7.12%	7.37%	7.79%

