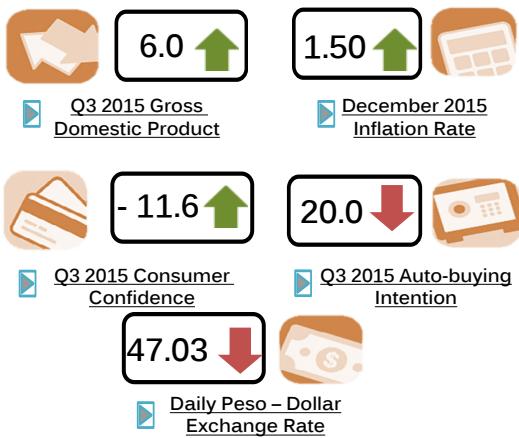
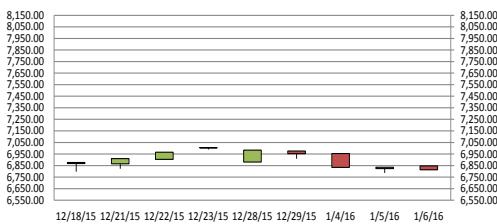




## ECONOMIC INDICATORS



PSE Composite Index



## GLOBAL WATCHLIST



**Unlikely N. Korea conducted hydrogen bomb test: Hubbard**

Sources are telling Reuters the U.S. government is skeptical of the North Korea hydrogen bomb claims.

[FULL STORY HERE](#)

## MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

### Philippines expected to remain among East Asia's fastest-growing economies

The Philippines will remain among the fastest-growing economies in East Asia and the Pacific this year, the World Bank said in its latest flagship report, citing an improvement in what had weighed on the country's output: government spending.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

### Business group hopes to boost momentum for TPP

Leading business groups, often at odds with President Barack Obama, are looking to give momentum to one of his priorities before he leaves office: approval of a trade pact linking 12 nations along the Pacific Rim that make up 40 percent of the world economy.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

## FINANCIAL TRENDS

### Peso strength won't last as dollar sentiment set to rise in 2016—analysts

The strength achieved by the local currency the past few days could not be expected to last, with analysts saying the peso were to approach the P50-per-dollar territory toward year-end, as sentiment on the dollar drives the currencies markets this year.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

## INDUSTRY NEWS

### PH can still catch up as auto prod'n hub – study

The Philippines, which ranks fourth most competitive among ASEAN countries for automotive manufacturing, can still catch up with its colleagues with the issuance of the Comprehensive Automotive Resurgence Strategy (CARS) Program, which grants \$600 million to three car firms that can produce 200,000 units each over a six-year period.

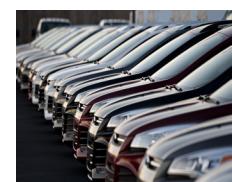


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## INTERNATIONAL

### American consumers bought 1 million more cars in 2015

American consumers bought 1 million more vehicles in 2015 than the year before, said a report released by US automakers on January 5, through the Associated Press.



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