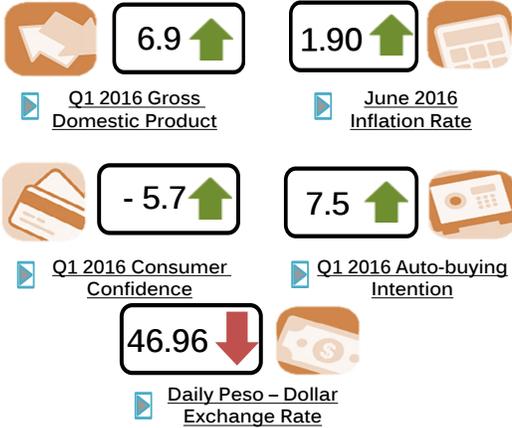




## ECONOMIC INDICATORS



### MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

#### PHL keeps investment grade from Japan

A Japan-Based debt watcher has affirmed its credit rating for the Philippines, citing in a statement yesterday the country's continued macroeconomic strength through a change in presidents and resilience against external headwinds.



[FULL STORY](#)

#### Filipinos found most optimistic in the world

Filipinos have become the most optimistic consumers in the world, beating those of other countries for the first time in a survey conducted during the May 9 national elections and the immediate aftermath that measured perceptions of job prospects, personal finances and immediate spending plans, among others.



[FULL STORY](#)

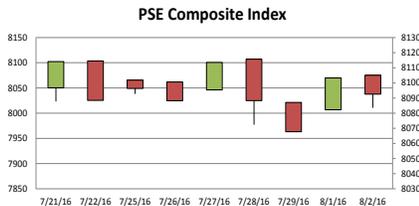
### FINANCIAL TRENDS

#### PSEi slips on PLDT's lower income

The stock market closed lower yesterday, dragged down by index heavyweight Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) which reported a 33 percent decline in first half income to P12.5 billion.



[FULL STORY](#)



### INDUSTRY NEWS

#### LTO set to transfer impounding facility to Tarlac

The administration's promise to ease traffic within 100 days wasn't all talk as the Land Transportation Office (LTO) announced a move that will not only decongest the impounding area of the agency's Central Office but also serve as a warning to public utility vehicle (PUV) drivers.



[FULL STORY](#)

### GLOBAL WATCHLIST



#### Obama stands by TPP trade deal despite opposition by other Democrats

U.S. President Barack Obama says he's hopeful that once the election for the White House is over, "there will be more attention to the actual facts" of the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

[FULL STORY](#)

### INTERNATIONAL

#### South Korea suspends sales of most Volkswagen models

South Korea on Tuesday suspended sales of most Volkswagen AG models in a fresh blow to the German automaker as it struggles to overcome the global repercussions of its emissions-test cheating scandal and rebuild its tattered image.



[FULL STORY](#)