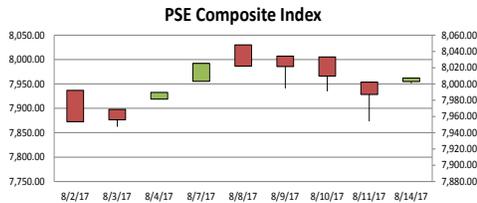
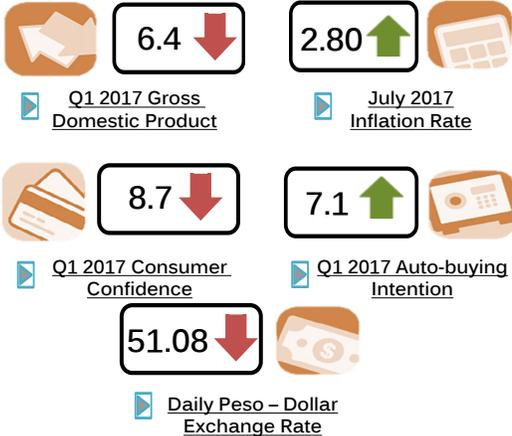




ECONOMIC INDICATORS



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



Japan GDP blows past expectations

Japan's economy expanded at the fastest pace in more than two years in the second quarter as consumer and company spending pick up, highlighting a long-awaited bounce in domestic demand. Ciara Lee reports

[FULL STORY HERE](#)

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Optimism 'excellent' in Q2 — SWS

Last quarter saw more Filipinos believing the quality of their lives will improve in the next 12 months, according to a Social Weather Stations (SWS) report that nevertheless showed optimism over economic prospects was weakest in two years, though both readings were deemed "excellent."



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BIR, BOC miss July collection targets

Revenue take of the government's two main tax agencies fell short of their targets last month mainly due to the double-digit collection shortfall incurred by the Bureau of Customs (BOC), the Department of Finance (DOF) said.



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FINANCIAL TRENDS

'Imbalances' to weigh on peso, prod monetary policy tightening

The Central Bank will have to raise policy rates to contain rapid credit growth and a widening trade deficit in order to ease the downward pressure on the peso, analysts at ANZ Research said.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

Mitsubishi Motors to set up R&D center in the Philippines

Mitsubishi Motors Corporation (MMC) CEO, Mr. Osamu Masuko, has announced to us that the company is evaluating the prospects of setting up a research and development (R&D) center in the Philippines.



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INTERNATIONAL

Weak Charging Infrastructure May Stall EV Growth

The growing number of EVs, coupled with lengthy charge times and the inability of many EVs to accommodate various types of fast chargers could lead to 1970s style gas lines at charging stations in the future.



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