



## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

**6.6**

▶ **Q4 2017 Gross Domestic Product**

**4.3**

▶ **March 2018 Inflation Rate**

**1.7**

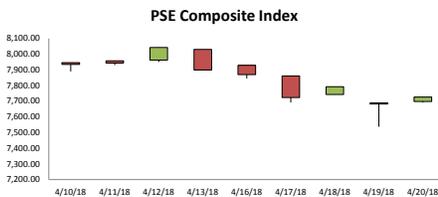
▶ **Q1 2018 Consumer Confidence**

**6.2**

▶ **Q1 2018 Auto-buying Intention**

**52.07**

▶ **Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate**



### MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

#### Moody's Analytics sees faster Q1 growth

Economic growth likely picked up pace last quarter though still slower than 2018's full-year target, Moody's Analytics said, citing improving exports that added to the boost from upbeat consumer spending and investments.



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#### Economist poll bares view of 4.1% inflation

Bank economists broadly expect inflation to settle above four percent this year as new taxes, a weaker peso and rising oil prices drive up the cost of basic goods and services, the central bank said.



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### FINANCIAL TRENDS

#### Banks tightening on household loans

Local banks became more cautious in granting consumer loans during the first quarter amid a general increase in risk aversion in the local financial system, the latest survey of the central bank showed.



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### INDUSTRY NEWS

#### Gov't to build key bridges worth P270B

The government will build eight major bridges connecting the islands of Visayas and linking them to Luzon and Mindanao to facilitate faster movement of people and goods across the archipelago, the Department of Finance said.



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### GLOBAL WATCHLIST



#### Oil price dips as Trump says current levels "won't be accepted"

U.S. President Donald Trump criticized OPEC on Friday for output curbs that have helped raise global oil prices and said "artificially" high prices would not be accepted, drawing rebukes from oil-producing countries as prices dipped following his remarks. Kate King reports

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### INTERNATIONAL

#### China auto show highlights industry's electric ambitions

The biggest global auto show of the year showcases China's ambitions to become a leader in electric cars and the industry's multibillion-dollar scramble to roll out models that appeal to price-conscious but demanding Chinese drivers.



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