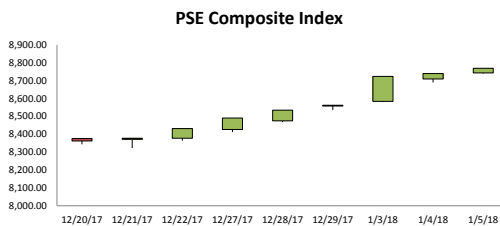
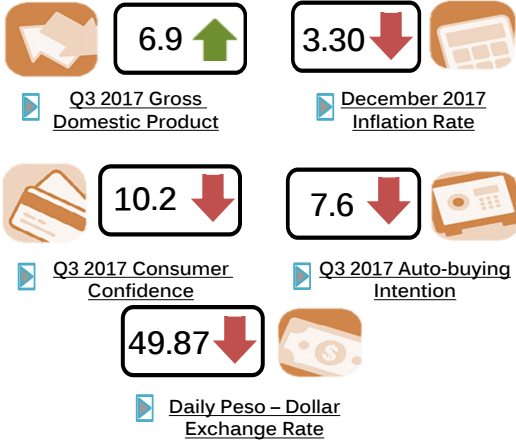
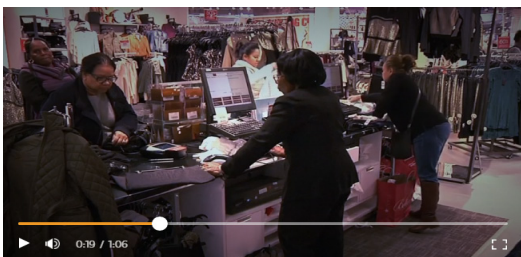




ECONOMIC INDICATORS



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



U.S. job growth slows in December

The U.S. economy added 148,000 jobs last month. But as Fred Katayama reports, a pickup in wage growth could pave the way for the Federal Reserve to hike interest rates in March.

[FULL STORY HERE](#)

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Steady Philippine inflation of 3.2% in 2017 seen to rise on new tax rates

The movement of prices of basic goods and services was steady at 3.3% in December, bringing the full-year 2017 rate to 3.2%. But the newly-implemented tax package and higher global oil rates could put pressure on inflation this year.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

Corporate tax cut is DoF's next push as sessions resume

Congress' resumption of sessions on Monday next will likely be greeted with a big push from Malacañang: the second of a series of reforms meant to overhaul the Philippines' two-decades old tax law.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

FINANCIAL TRENDS

BSP pushes reg'l 'sandbox' for fintech

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is looking at establishing a regionwide sandbox that would allow major players to experiment with new technology and offer financial products and services.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

Why haven't PH car companies released new prices with 2018 excise taxes?

As expected, the new tax reform law, or the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN), is causing an overhaul of the pricing structures of all the players in the Philippine auto industry. But it seems many players in the industry are on the edge of their seats before releasing their official prices.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

INTERNATIONAL

Volkswagen Hits Global Production Milestone

Volkswagen has produced more than six million vehicles in 2017, setting a new record for the German carmaker. Helping them achieve this goal, Volkswagen embarked on their largest model offensive in its history. This along with strong global demand has led them to this milestone



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