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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sharp increase in global semiconductor sales in Q1 2026

Today, the European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA) reports that, in the first quarter of 2026, the global semiconductor market recorded a sharp increase of 79.2% year-on-year, reaching USD 298.55 billion in sales. The European market also experienced strong growth, with sales rising by 46.5% compared to Q1 2025, to USD 18.60 billion. All figures are based on the latest report from the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS).

The global market expansion in Q1 2026 was primarily driven by MOS memory (+236.4%), logic (+40.1%), MOS micro (+18.8%), and analog (+14.9%) chips supported by rising demand from data centres and AI applications, cloud computing, and automotive applications. A similar trend in sales was observed in Europe, where MOS Memory (+176.8%), Logic (+35.9%), and Analog (+21.6) were among the main contributors to growth. Notably, all analysed product categories recorded growth during the quarter. MOS Memory stands out as a separate driver, with exceptionally strong growth due to solid AI-related demand and favourable pricing. Globally, MOS Memory sales significantly amplified the overall market expansion.

Regionally, the strongest growth was recorded in Asia-Pacific (+108.5% compared to Q1 2025) and the Americas (+83.1%), underpinned by strong demand for AI and data centre infrastructure.

On a quarter-on-quarter basis, global semiconductor sales continued their upward trajectory, increasing by 25.0% in Q1 2026 compared to Q4 2025, supported by gains in MOS memory, logic, MOS micro, and analog chips. European sales followed a similar pattern, rising by 26.1% over the same period, with MOS Memory, Logic, and Analog again acting as the primary growth drivers.

At the global level, sales of application-specific chips increased by 35.2% year-on-year, reaching USD 109.03 billion in Q1 2026. Similarly to 2025, this growth was largely driven by a 67.2% surge in chips for computers and peripherals, reflecting strong investment in data centres and related infrastructure. In Europe, sales in this category totalled USD 8.23 billion, marking a 26.7% increase compared to Q1 2025.

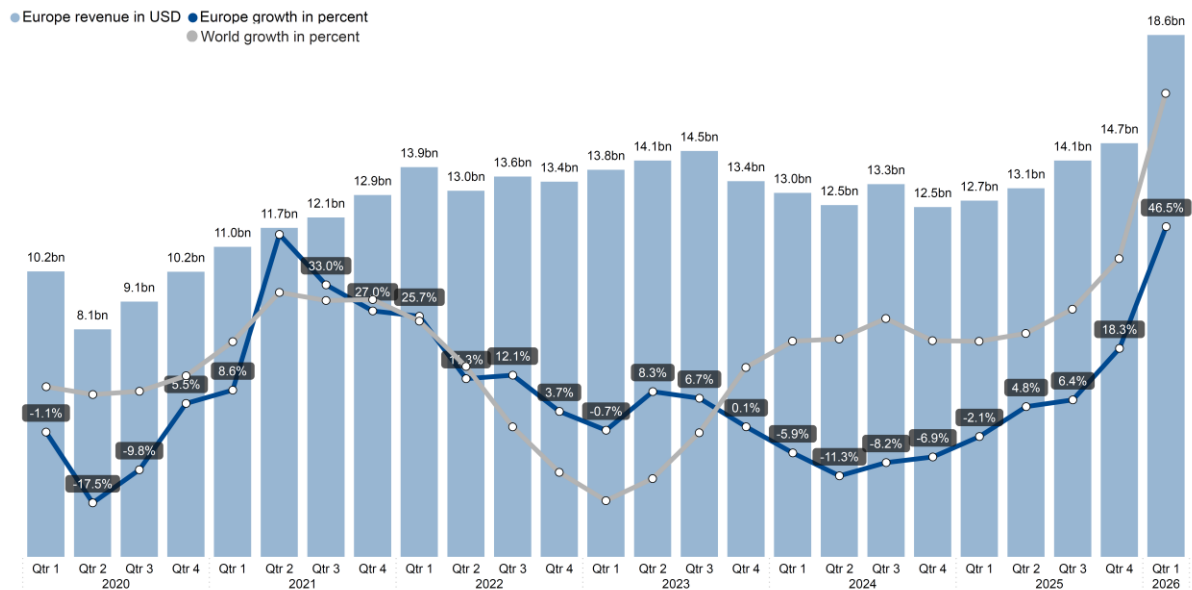
In Q1 2026, exchange rates effects are visible on the European sales picture. Measured in Euros, the sales figures for Q1 2026 accounted to EUR 15.89 billion, a 30.2% rise versus Q1 2025, and a 21.1% increase vs. Q4 2025.

To find out how to subscribe to **WSTS reports** on semiconductor sales data, [click here](#).

Quarterly semiconductor sales overview

Region	Sales (in billions)		Quarter to Quarter growth in %	Year on Year growth in %	
	1Q 2026	2025	1Q 2026 vs. 4Q 2025	1Q 2026 vs. 1Q 2025	2025 vs. 2024
in USD:					
Europe	18.60	54.69	26.1	46.5	6.7
Americas	101.42	256.48	29.7	83.1	31.8
Japan	12.15	44.72	8.6	7.4	-3.9
China	80.21	218.33	23.9	74.8	19.6
Asia-Pacific	86.17	221.42	23.1	108.5	45.0
World	298.55	795.64	25.0	79.2	26.8
In EUR:					
Europe	15.89	50.30	21.1	30.2	6.4

Historic billings by quarter



For more information:

[Giovanni Corder](#)

Deputy Director-General
Senior Director Global Policy

[Vincent Carrot](#)

WSTS Europe Vice-Chair

[Monika Drązek](#)

About ESIA: *The European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA) is the voice of the semiconductor industry in Europe. Its mission is to represent and promote the common interests of the Europe-based semiconductor industry towards the European institutions and stakeholders in order to ensure a sustainable business environment and foster its global competitiveness. As a provider of key enabling technologies, the industry creates innovative solutions for industrial development, contributing to economic growth and responding to major societal challenges. Being ranked as the most R&D-intensive sector by the European Commission, the European semiconductor ecosystem supports approx. 200.000 jobs directly and up to 1.000.000 induced jobs in systems, applications and services in Europe. Overall, micro- and nano-electronics enable the generation of at least 10% of GDP in Europe and the world.*

About WSTS: *World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS) was founded in 1986 as a non-profit organisation of semiconductor product companies and is the industry's only source for monthly industry shipment statistics. <http://www.wsts.org/>*