

# A Tale of Two (Philippine) Industries\*

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## Abstract

This paper reviews the histories of the Philippine automotive and electronics industries. The two industries present a very interesting contrast. The automotive industry has been around longer than the electronics sector in the Philippines. Moreover, it was the target of much government industrial policy in the form of various motor vehicle programs. In contrast, the electronics sector does not seem to have "enjoyed" the same level of government attention at the start. Yet the electronics industry is today the country's main exporter and a larger employer than the automotive industry. Their histories provide an example of the pitfalls of Philippine industrial policy.

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