

US Stock Express

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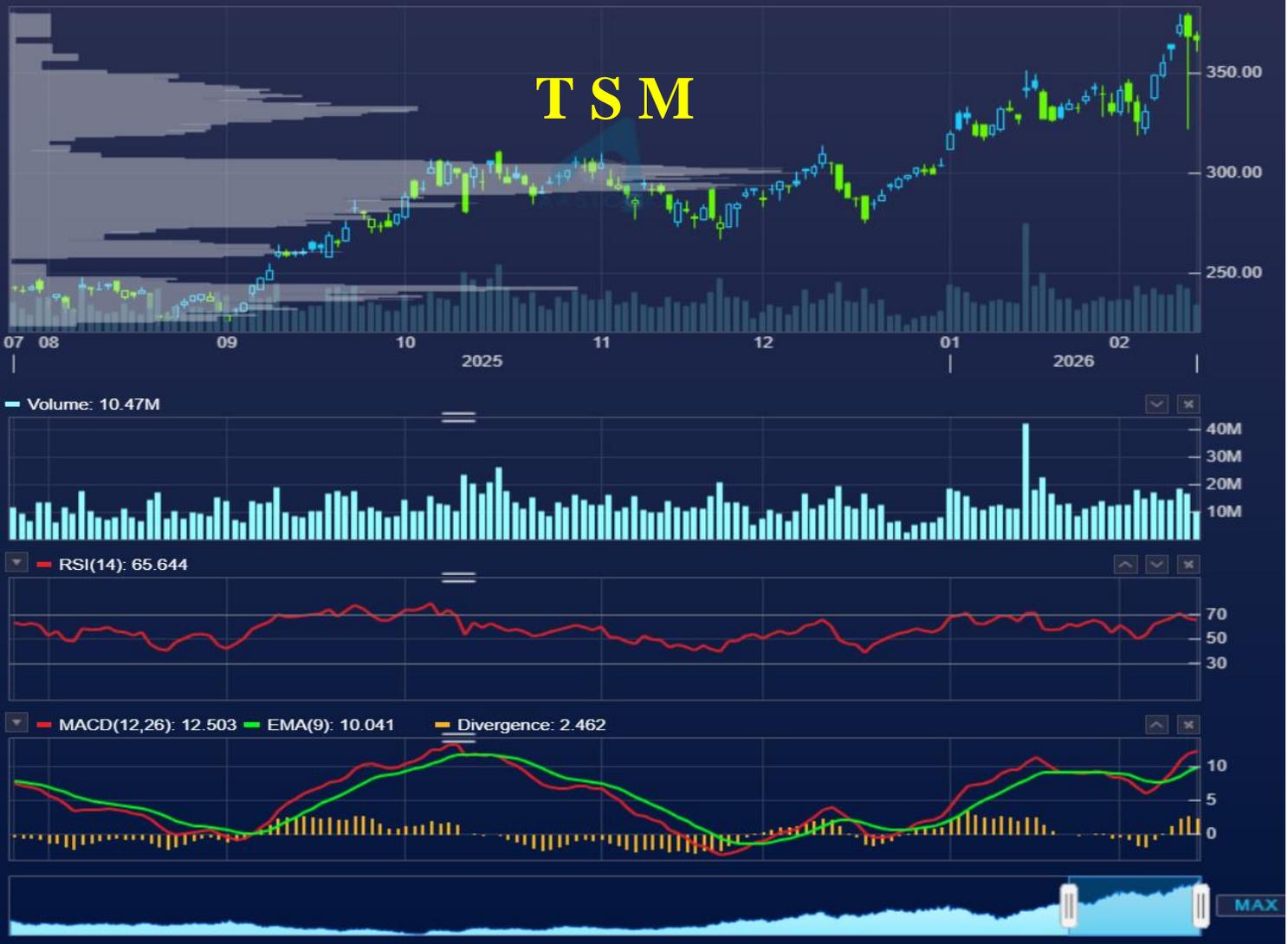
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TSM.US 2026/02/13 O: 369.15 H: 371.11 L: 360.77 C: 366.36 Vol.: 10.47M



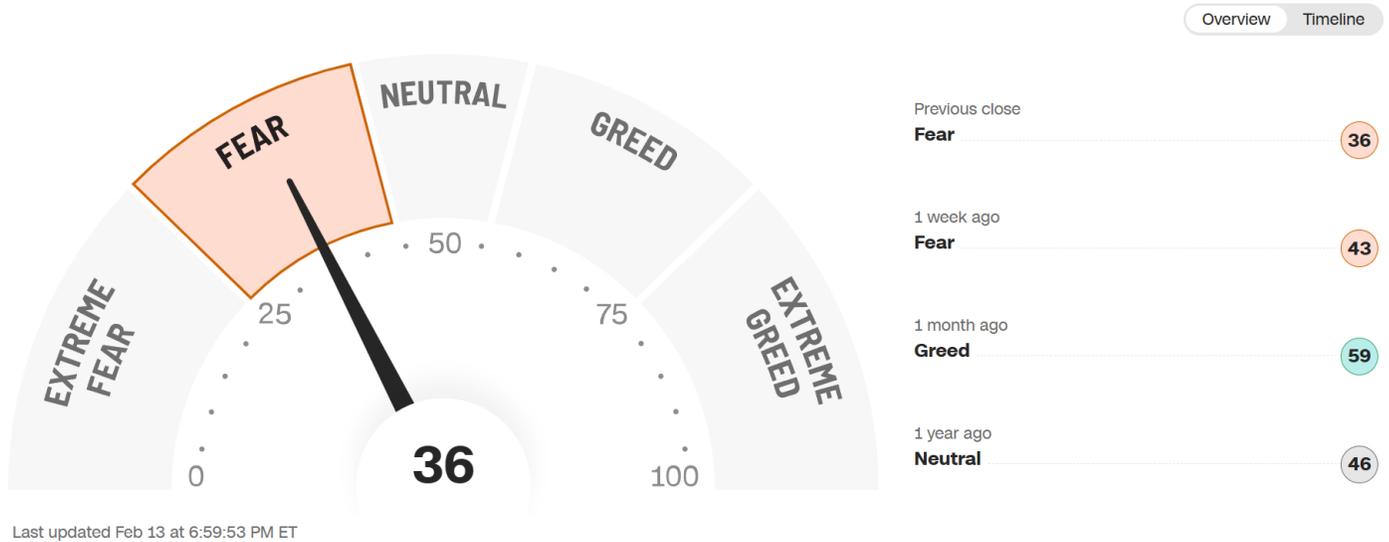
There is an abnormal fluctuation of TSM on 12th Feb (Thu), let's see how AI or AGI explains.
When you are not satisfied, you have to wait for the ASGI.

*Risk disclosure: Price can go up and down at any moment, use free money to trade and bear the risk according to your own capital;
 Never trade with money that has a deadline for withdrawal.
 All suggestions are for reference only, even AI cannot be 100% reliable, final decision still lies upon investors.
 Copy trading cannot replicate another trader's background or psychological state.*

Fear & Greed Index

What emotion is driving the market now?

[Learn more about the index](#)



North East West South is NEWS

After years of testing, Waymo officially announced that its sixth-generation self-driving robot taxi technology is ready and has begun carrying passengers. The new system is initially available to employees and their families in San Francisco and Los Angeles, and will later be open to the public.

Mercedes-Benz unveiled the all-electric version of its best-selling GLC at the IAA Motor Show in Munich, Germany. The new vehicle is built on the group's latest MMA 800V electric vehicle platform and is equipped with a 94kWh lithium-ion battery, offering a WLTP range of 713 kilometers.

Due to Congress's inability to reach an agreement on annual funding by the deadline, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has entered a partial shutdown, initially impacting the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), which is responsible for passenger and baggage security at airports nationwide. Thousands of government employees, from airport security personnel to disaster relief officials, will be forced to take unpaid leave or continue working without pay until Congress reaches an agreement on funding.

Yorkville America Equities, an investment advisory firm that manages a series of Truth Social-branded exchange-traded funds (ETFs), announced Friday plans to launch two cryptocurrency ETFs. The company has filed applications with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for a Truth Social Bitcoin & Ethereum ETF and a Truth Social Cronos Maximum Return ETF. The products will follow the launch of five "America First" equity ETFs scheduled for the end of 2025.

U.S. President Trump has threatened to try to bypass Congress and push through new voting laws before the November midterm elections. Trump's Republican Party fears they may lose control of Congress in this election.





World Observation

Day 1455
Russia/Ukraine Conflict

Financial Crisis of UN

According to the United Nations, they are running short of money, if there is no improvement in the next few months, they have to shut down by the end of July. They will have no money to pay the salary of staff and the whole organization will stop running. How much money they are in shortage, and how much they owing others? Would the shutdown really come in July? This is not bankruptcy, for it is not a commercial firm, anyway have to shut down on the deadline. For details, please refer to page 13.

How comes such a situation? If you do not have a market diary, please refer to The Express of 20260109, in the *North, East, West, South is NEWS*, it is said that Donald Trump withdrew from 66 international organizations. At that time no further details were given, but one thing is sure, a lot of nations will follow US. They think that United Nations only collect annual fee and cannot do anything. When US owes the annual fee, others surely would follow. Apparently, United Nations cannot do anything to stop a war, no matter in Ukraine or Gaza.

Its again Winter Olympics Games. In January 2022, Putin attended the opening ceremony of Beijing, China told him not to start the Ukrainian War for they had been prepared for the Olympics for a long time. If war is started, all news will be shifted to the war and not Olympics. Thus, the war started several days after the closing ceremony. In the General Assembly of UN, 147 countries condemned Russia as invasion, only 7 countries supported and the rest are in blank vote. The ICC condemned Putin as War Criminal, nothing can be done after 4 years which is already 1455 days. Members paid their annual fee, and it is just like the League of Nations after World War I and cannot stop World War II.

China does not want Russia to be collapsed and also does not want Russia grow stronger to replace China. So, they are giving financial support by buying of petroleum. This year, India will stop buying petroleum from Russia, thus their financial support is cut greatly. This may be the reason and hope that the war can end this year. Anyway, it is longer than World War I and World War II. When will the end comes? The current system has a Security Council made up of Five Great powers so as to control the defeated countries like Germany and Japan. But if either of the Five Powers are in breach of the charter of UN, nothing can be done against them, for they have the veto power.

As for pandemic, why it burst out? The UN has to investigate so as to avoid the next trend. The aim is not to ask any country to have compensation, but to give the whole world a guideline to protect themselves. At first, UN cannot prevent the explosion of the pandemic; during the peak, there are 5 countries which need not to shut down the school, no need to have internet lectures, and still can run on daily life as usual. UN dared not to disclose the details and ask other to follow those places need not to shut down. After that, there were some arguments in vaccination, UN had not list out which is the correction way for vaccination and the effect of each brand as so as let users for reference. Even these are all academic issues but no concrete conclusion whether the source of pandemic is from Europe, Asia or America.

The latest issue is carbon emission, a lot of countries had not met with the requirement of UN but no punishment, those that abide with the regulations would only hinder their business progress and let those who do not follow the rules earn a lot of money and proud to have such success. Whether it is still in need of such a law, UN cannot do anything. According to Wikipedia, the UN is still owing Hong Kong government \$1.1 Billion for the Vietnam refugee expenditure of the 1980. A debt not paid for nearly half a century, what are they doing after collecting membership fee? US has no intention to shut down the whole UN at this stage and will give certain help, but it is hard to say how long can they last if they have no power on this and that.



Market Observation

Few People talk about 6-Planet Alignment

WTI
(crude oil)
\$62.81

The market has some changes recently, that is basically it goes horizontally since early November, but indexes made record high every now and then. However, for retail investors, their total capital and profit shrank. Because it is part of the Hindenburg Omen, so do not blame yourself or your luck. The change does not come out all of a sudden, but little by little gradually because of the Hunter Moon in November 2025.

Generally, financial reports of large AI firms are all in excellent positions, but the price reacted in another way. They had not gone up but went down. It can be said as profit taking and also as overestimation. For on the whole picture, market started to went up after the pandemic of 2020, only adjusted in 2022 and restarted its uptrend in October 2022 of Orion Meteor shower till now. It had no major correction except the golden pit of Liberation Day of April 2025.

The rise of TSM in 2025 gave the market a surprise mainly due to the expansion in AI industry. TSM became the silicon shield of Taiwan more firmly in name and in practical case. Anyway, when investing in Top 10 market capitalization, individual investors need not to have any worry. But Warren Buffet met his Waterloo in TSM, because he afraid of geopolitical situation and neglected the side of silicon shield. TSM is the only enterprise that will be protected by NATO, G7, and Five Eyes countries. They would not wait for taking action until the war started, but trying to avoid a war that will affect it. For 90% of the high-end chips of the world are produced by TSM. They have 18 branches and 5 labs in the island of Taiwan. If any of them is hurt by a war, it will be a disaster to the world chip industry and high technology industry, covering military, commercial and civil sectors.

Of course, enterprises would have inventory up to 3 to 6 months, but the shortage would not wait till the end of these periods, it will come out on day one of the war. When the above unions are involved, the scale of war will be quite near to World War III. So, the action of trying to avoid a war will be more important than helping them after the war started. On Feb 12, TSM experienced great ups and downs on a single day. Of course, when you ask the AI, they would say because of sales of options. It is a very simple and direct answer, no wrong at all. But why is there so many options trading on that day? If you are satisfied with the answer of AI, no need to chase more, if not, you have to find out the reasons.

Some people said it's because of the geopolitical reason, but actually hard to say how is the percentage involved or being affected, readers should find out more deeper reasons. US approved the 139th arms sales on Dec 17 and 140th sales on Dec 31st since 1979 to Taiwan. The amount is the largest ever and up to 11 billion. Some congressmen in Taiwan may be got benefits from other side and postponed the bill for negotiation. Thus, the US congressmen sent a bi-partyism public letter to the ruling and opposition party of Taiwan of not to delay the bill. Trump was also angry and have sanctions on Palau Island congress speaker which is a warning to Taiwanese and ask them to pass the bill of buying arms at once. So abnormal fluctuations of TSM can be seen. However, for individual investors no need to argue who is right or wrong, but have to mind which stock will have strongest rising power and even recovering power if crash comes. TSM ranks sixth on top 10 market capitalisation of the world. This situation is stronger than any financial report, analysis or recommendation. Take a look at five continents, how many enterprises can be listed among the top 10? How many countries can be listed among them?

On the other hand, the policy of Trump is so unpredictable. He said global warming is a fraudulence. That is in the era of Barack Obama, they passed a bill of control carbon emission. Now Trump eliminates it. Therefore, all countries can continue to release carbon in their manufacturing process, thus for every vehicle, they can save US\$2400, and treat this as a profit. But the hurt in environmental protection is seriously great.

According to statistics, February is a falling month, but not so great. Counting the days, months and years, rising period is much more than falling periods. Rising times are long but small, but falling times are great and short. One of the reasons is that for the index components, they will review every season. For those sluggish stocks and non-profit making stocks will be kick off, and add on vigorous and fast-growing stocks, that is why the indexes keep on going month after month and year after year. That is also the reason of Hindenburg Omen, that is when new stocks are adding to the index you have no time to response and buy them and your old stocks may be kick off from the components. If you don't want to chase month after months, better keep your focus on top 10 or at most top 15, no need to chase season by season. NVDA, GOOG, TSM and TSLA are having stronger potentials.

Few people would talk about the inauguration of Trump in 2025; it was followed by six planet alignment of solar system. It brings about changes in the UN, invalidated the universal value formed after World War II, re-started space competition which had hibernation for more than half a century and bringing new era of AI into physical life as well as into outer planets which had never happened before. The Express is among the very few talking it.

Recognised AGI (super AI) level

On **February 12, 2026**, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSM) experienced abnormal fluctuations in its U.S.-listed shares due to a mix of **options market activity and investor sentiment around AI demand and chip supply**:

Key Drivers of the Fluctuation

 [GPT-5 is here - OpenAI](#)

- **Options Market Imbalance**

Trading data showed a surge in options activity, with call contracts slightly outweighing puts (56.8% vs. 43.2% of dollar volume). This indicated hedging behavior rather than strong directional bets, creating volatility as traders repositioned around uncertainty. [Historical Option Data](#)

- **AI & Chip Demand Expectations**

Analysts highlighted that TSMC was riding strong demand for AI chips and expanding capacity. This optimism fueled speculative buying, but also led to profit-taking swings as the stock had already rallied into mid-February. [The Motley Fool](#)

- **Price Forecast Volatility**

Forecasts for February projected a wide trading range (\$319–\$417), reflecting investor uncertainty about near-term earnings and geopolitical risks. The fluctuation on Feb 12 fell within this unusually broad band. [Long Forecast](#)

Why It Looked “Abnormal”

- The swings were sharper than typical daily moves, amplified by **hedging flows in options** and **speculative trading around AI catalysts**.
- Market participants were not decisively bullish or bearish, which created **whipsaw price action** as liquidity shifted between calls and puts.

 **In short:** The abnormal fluctuation in TSM on Feb 12 was driven by **heavy options hedging, speculative AI-related optimism, and a wide forecast range**, making the stock unusually volatile despite no single decisive news event.

Would you like me to break this down into a **risk/reward matrix** showing how options activity, AI demand, and geopolitical factors each contribute to short-term volatility versus long-term upside?

Recognised AGI (super AI) level

On February 12, 2026, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSM) experienced significant intraday volatility, hitting a new all-time high around \$379 before plunging to a low of approximately \$322. The stock ultimately closed down about 1.5% at \$368.33, after opening from a previous close of \$374.09. Trading volume spiked to over 16.7 million shares, roughly 9% above the average, indicating heightened activity.

This abnormal fluctuation was primarily driven by a broader tech sector selloff, triggered by Cisco Systems (CSCO) reporting disappointing fiscal Q2 2026 earnings guidance the previous evening. CSCO shares dropped 12% that day after the company cited surging computer memory costs as a key factor squeezing its gross margins (falling to 67.5% from 68.7% year-over-year, with further declines expected). This raised concerns about profitability pressures across the semiconductor and hardware industries, including for foundries like TSM that supply chips to major clients in AI, data centers, and networking.

Market commentary highlighted additional factors amplifying the volatility:

- **Profit-taking and valuation concerns:** TSM had recently rallied to a 52-week high amid strong AI demand and record monthly sales, but its elevated valuation (P/E ratio around 34.6) prompted short-term consolidation and selling.
- **Sector rotation and risk-off sentiment:** The Nasdaq Composite fell 2% overall, with software and tech names under pressure. A VIX spike of 16% reflected broader liquidation, as traders dumped positions to cover losses. This was exacerbated by lingering effects from the January U.S. jobs report released on February 11, which showed robust hiring (130,000 jobs added, unemployment at 4.3%) and reduced expectations for Federal Reserve rate cuts, contributing to higher Treasury yields and market unease.
- **AI disruption fears:** Investors grew wary of AI's potential to disrupt industries and increase unemployment, shifting sentiment away from high-growth tech stocks.

Despite the pullback, TSM's fundamentals remained positive, with analysts maintaining a "Buy" consensus and an average price target of \$391.43, supported by its shift toward AI infrastructure chips and key customers like Nvidia. The intraday swing may also have involved technical factors, such as market makers flushing stop-loss orders near key support levels like the 21-day EMA.

TSMC (Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company) has significant exposure to the AI chip market, as it is the leading foundry producing advanced semiconductors critical for AI applications, such as GPUs, accelerators, and data center processors. This exposure is primarily through its High-Performance Computing (HPC) platform, which encompasses AI servers, data centers, and related technologies. TSMC manufactures chips for major AI players like Nvidia, AMD, Apple, Google, Amazon, Meta, and Microsoft, holding over 90% market share in the most advanced AI chips and about 71% of the global foundry market overall. [ig.com](#)

Recognised AGI (super AI) level

Revenue Breakdown and AI Ties

Based on the latest available data from Q1 2025 (as full Q4 2025 or Q1 2026 breakdowns may not yet be public in early 2026), TSMC's revenue composition highlights its heavy reliance on AI-driven demand:

- **By Platform:**
 - High-Performance Computing (HPC): Approximately 59% of revenue (annualized to ~\$60 billion based on Q1 figures). This segment has been the primary growth driver, fueled by AI workloads, and continued to outpace other areas despite trade uncertainties. HPC's expansion is directly tied to AI, with demand for chips used in generative AI models and cloud infrastructure. [amritaroy.substack.com](#)
 - Smartphone: ~20-25% (experienced weakness in recent quarters, contrasting with HPC's strength).
 - Other (IoT, Automotive, Consumer Electronics): The remainder, showing slower growth.
- **By Technology Node** (as % of wafer revenue in Q1 2025):
 - 3nm (N3): 22% (up from 9% year-over-year; powers cutting-edge AI chips like Nvidia's Blackwell series). [amritaroy.substack.com](#)
 - 5nm (N5): 36%.
 - 7nm (N7): 15%.
 - Total advanced nodes (7nm and below): ~73%, which are predominantly used for AI and high-end computing applications. These nodes enable the high efficiency and performance required for AI training and inference. [amritaroy.substack.com](#) [leverageshares.com](#)

For full-year 2025, TSMC reported consolidated revenue of ~\$119 billion (NT\$3.81 trillion), net income of ~\$53.75 billion (NT\$1.72 trillion), and a net profit margin around 45%, with AI demand for 3nm processes being a key contributor to record highs. January 2026 sales alone hit a record ~\$12.5 billion (NT\$401.26 billion), up 36.8% year-over-year, driven by AI accelerators. [taipeitimes.com](#)

Growth Outlook and AI-Specific Projections

TSMC anticipates AI-related revenue to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of ~45% over the next five years, far outpacing its overall revenue growth target of ~20-30% annually. For 2026 specifically: [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) amritaroy.substack.com

- Revenue is forecasted to increase nearly 30%, propelled by AI demand and expansions in advanced nodes like 2nm (on track for volume production in H2 2026, with projected 334% revenue climb year-over-year). [digitimes.com](https://www.digitimes.com) amritaroy.substack.com
- Capital expenditure (capex) is set at \$44.96 billion, a ~38-46% increase from prior years, with ~70% allocated to advanced nodes to meet AI infrastructure needs. This includes upgrades in facilities like Kumamoto, Japan, for 3nm AI chips. amritaroy.substack.com [taipeitimes.com](https://www.taipeitimes.com)

In the broader semiconductor industry, generative AI chips are expected to account for ~50% of total revenues by 2026, underscoring TSMC's pivotal role given its dominance in producing these high-value, low-volume chips. However, this exposure also introduces risks, such as dependency on a few key clients (e.g., Nvidia for ~30-40% of TSMC's advanced capacity) and potential slowdowns if AI hype cools or geopolitical tensions escalate. [deloitte.com](https://www.deloitte.com)

Overall, TSMC's AI exposure positions it as a core beneficiary of the ongoing AI boom, with AI driving the majority of its growth and profitability in recent years.

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Overview of TSMC's 2nm Technology

TSMC's 2nm process node, designated as N2, represents a major advancement in semiconductor manufacturing. It marks the transition from FinFET (Fin Field-Effect Transistor) to Gate-All-Around (GAA) nanosheet transistors, a revolutionary architecture that wraps the gate around the channel on all sides to reduce leakage, improve drive current, and enhance overall efficiency. This shift enables better scaling for advanced applications, particularly in AI, high-performance computing (HPC), and mobile devices. N2 is TSMC's first full-node implementation of nanosheet technology, positioning the company ahead in the race for sub-3nm processes.

Technical Specifications

- Transistor Architecture:** GAA nanosheet transistors, which provide superior electrostatic control compared to FinFETs used in 3nm and prior nodes. This reduces power leakage and allows for higher transistor density.
- Process Variants:** N2 is the base node, with an enhanced N2P version planned. Future iterations like A14 (post-N2) will incorporate backside power delivery and other optimizations.
- Density Improvements:** For mixed designs (including logic, analog, and SRAM), transistor density increases by about 15% over N3E (TSMC's 3nm enhanced process). For pure logic designs, the gain is up to 20%.
- Other Features:** Incorporates high-NA EUV lithography for finer patterning, and supports advanced packaging like CoWoS for AI chips.

Performance and Efficiency Metrics

Compared to the N3E (3nm) node:

- Speed:** 10-15% improvement at the same power consumption.
- Power Efficiency:** 25-30% reduction in power at the same speed.
- Overall:** These gains are crucial for energy-intensive applications like AI training and inference, where lower power draw translates to reduced operational costs in data centers.

For context, the subsequent A14 node (beyond N2) is expected to offer an additional 15% speed boost or 30% power reduction over N2, with over 20% higher logic density.

Production Timeline and Capacity

- Development Milestones:** Risk production began in late 2024, with volume production starting in Q4 2025 as planned. Initial yields exceeded 65%, which is strong for a new architectural shift. investor.wedbush.com [+3 more](#)
- 2026 Ramp-Up:** Full-scale production is underway, with capacity expanding to 100,000 wafers per month by year-end. This includes four fabs: primarily at Fab 22 in Kaohsiung (Phases 1-3) and additional sites in Hsinchu. TSMC invested approximately \$28.6 billion in this expansion. investor.wedbush.com [+4 more](#)
- Challenges and Delays:** Earlier reports suggested potential delays to 2026 due to construction slowdowns and softer semiconductor demand, but as of early 2026, production is on track. However, demand has outpaced supply, with all 2026 capacity fully booked. wccftech.com [+2 more](#)
- Costs:** 2nm wafers are priced around \$30,000 each, with no discounts offered, reflecting the high complexity and demand. linkedin.com

Recognised AGI (super AI) level

Key Customers and Applications

TSMC's 2nm node is heavily geared toward AI and HPC, where its efficiency gains enable handling larger models and more complex workloads.

- Major Customers:**
 - Apple:** Secured over 50% of initial capacity for A20/A20 Pro chips in iPhone 18 (launching 2026) and M6 processors for Macs, focusing on on-device AI and battery life. investor.wedbush.com [+2 more](#)
 - NVIDIA:** For next-gen AI architectures like Rubin Ultra and Feynman, post-Blackwell, to support exponential growth in LLMs. investor.wedbush.com markets.financialcontent.com
 - AMD:** Zen 6 "Venice" CPUs and Instinct MI450/MI400 AI accelerators for data centers and consumer markets. investor.wedbush.com [+2 more](#)
 - Others:** Qualcomm for potential Exynos or Snapdragon chips; MediaTek and possibly cloud giants like Google or Amazon for custom silicon. linkedin.com ainvest.com
- Applications:** Supercomputers, AI servers, mobile processors, cloud infrastructure, and edge devices. By Q3 2026, 2nm revenue is projected to surpass combined 3nm/5nm contributions, driven by AI demand. tspasemiconductor.substack.com ainvest.com

Future Developments and Risks

- Enhancements:** N2P (enhanced 2nm) enters mass production in H2 2026, followed by A14 for further gains. TSMC aims for a 20-30% annual revenue growth, with 2nm contributing significantly. tsmc.com [+2 more](#)
- Market Position:** TSMC holds ~95% of the advanced AI chip foundry market with N2, but faces competition from Samsung's 2nm launch. linkedin.com markets.financialcontent.com
- Risks:** Geopolitical tensions (e.g., Taiwan-China), supply chain bottlenecks in HBM memory and advanced packaging, and potential AI demand slowdowns could impact ramps. Despite this, bookings exceed capacity, signaling strong long-term outlook. medium.com wccftech.com

The United Nations is indeed facing a severe financial crisis, but let's break down the situation clearly:



GPT-5 is here - OpenAI

Current UN Financial Shortage

- **2026 Regular Budget Request (original):** \$3.715 billion
- **Revised 2026 Budget (due to crisis):** \$3.238 billion
→ That's about **\$477 million less than originally planned**, and **15.1% below the 2025 budget** [UN News](#) .
- **Member States' Payments:** By early February 2026, only **55 countries had paid their dues** on time, while the majority (142 countries) had not. This late or non-payment is the main driver of the cash shortage [Global Policy Forum](#) .

Recognised AGI (super AI) level

Debt & Obligations

- The UN is struggling to cover **staff salaries and operational costs**.
- Reports indicate the organization may need to cut **about 2,600 staff positions** and reduce expenditures by 15% if contributions don't arrive [Global Policy Forum](#) .
- Human rights work, investigations, and field operations are already being curtailed due to lack of funds [Human Rights Wat...](#) .

Could the UN Shut Down in July?

- Secretary-General António Guterres has warned of collapse by summer 2026 if member states fail to pay their dues.
- While "bankruptcy" is not a legal term for the UN (since it's an intergovernmental body), the organization could face **functional paralysis**: halting programs, delaying salaries, and suspending operations [Human Rights Wat...](#) .

Key Takeaway

The UN is short **hundreds of millions of dollars** compared to its planned budget, and with most member states behind on payments, the risk of a shutdown in July is real—not in the legal sense of bankruptcy, but in the practical sense of being unable to operate.

Would you like me to map out **which countries are the biggest contributors and defaulters** right now? That could give a clearer picture of whether the July deadline is likely to be met.

The United Nations (UN) is indeed facing a severe liquidity crisis, as outlined in recent warnings from Secretary-General António Guterres and various UN officials. This stems primarily from record levels of unpaid member state contributions (assessed dues), compounded by outdated budget rules that require the UN to credit back "unspent" funds to members each year—even if those funds were never actually received. I'll break down the details based on the latest available information as of February 2026, addressing your specific questions.



Amount of Shortage (Unpaid Dues to the UN)

- The UN's regular operating budget for 2026 is \$3.45 billion (approved in late 2025, down about 7% from the previous year due to cost-cutting measures).
- As of the end of 2025, outstanding (unpaid) dues for the regular budget stood at a record \$1.568 billion, with only about 77% of assessed contributions collected that year. [bbc.com](#) +4 more
- By early February 2026, this figure appears to have grown due to new 2026 assessments. Estimates indicate total outstanding dues for the regular budget are now around \$2.3 billion, based on the U.S. alone accounting for over 95% of the arrears (approximately \$2.19–\$2.2 billion). [nytimes.com](#) +2 more
- Separate from the regular budget, the UN also has significant arrears in its peacekeeping budget (which funds global missions) and other areas like tribunals. The U.S. owes an additional \$2.4 billion for peacekeeping and \$43.6 million for tribunals, bringing total U.S. arrears to nearly \$4.6 billion. Other major debtors include Venezuela (\$38 million for the regular budget), but the U.S. dominates the shortfall. [reuters.com](#) +3 more
- A key aggravating factor is the "Kafkaesque" budget rule: In January 2026 alone, the UN was forced to return \$227 million in credits to member states for "unspent" 2025 funds—money it never actually collected due to non-payments. This has drained cash reserves further, creating a "race to bankruptcy." [bbc.com](#) +4 more

The overall liquidity shortage means the UN lacks sufficient cash on hand to cover ongoing operations, despite having an approved budget. This isn't a traditional "deficit" like a company's, as the UN doesn't borrow money—it relies entirely on member payments.

Amount the UN Owes to Others

- The UN itself does not have significant external debts in the conventional sense (e.g., loans from banks or bonds), as it operates on a pay-as-you-go model funded by member states. However, the cash crunch creates indirect obligations:
 - If the shortage persists, the UN would be unable to pay salaries for its approximately 37,000 staff worldwide, vendor contracts, or operational costs like building maintenance and program delivery. This could lead to halted payments totaling hundreds of millions in payroll and supplies by mid-2026. [bbc.com](#) [+2 more](#)
 - Under current rules, the UN is paradoxically "owing" credits back to members: As noted, it returned \$227 million in early 2026 and may need to return more (potentially 20% of the budget or higher) if non-payments continue, even though this exacerbates the crisis. [press.un.org](#) [globalpolicy.org](#)
- No sources indicate the UN has accumulated debts to external creditors; the issue is inflows (from members) not matching outflows (for operations).

If your question meant "how much others owe the UN" (a possible phrasing mix-up), that aligns with the unpaid dues figures above—totaling over \$2.3 billion for the regular budget and more than \$4.6 billion including peacekeeping, with the U.S. responsible for the vast majority.

Could a Shutdown Really Happen in July 2026?

- Yes, it's a real possibility if collections don't improve dramatically. Guterres has explicitly warned that cash could run out by July, leading to an inability to execute the 2026 budget fully. This could force:
 - Closure of the New York headquarters (including Security Council meetings). [nytimes.com](#)
 - Suspension of global programs in peacekeeping, humanitarian aid, human rights monitoring, and sustainable development. [bbc.com](#) [+2 more](#)
 - Non-payment of staff salaries, potentially by August. [nytimes.com](#) [betterworldcampaign.org](#)
- However, it's not inevitable. The UN has faced similar crises before (e.g., in 2025) and managed through austerity measures like hiring freezes and program cuts. Current factors increasing the risk include:
 - U.S. policy under the Trump administration, which has ramped up pressure on the UN (e.g., by slashing funding and exiting bodies) but has acknowledged the debt and plans partial payments—though details on amounts and timing are unclear as of mid-February. [foxnews.com](#) [+2 more](#)
 - No major reforms yet to the credit-return rule, despite Guterres' calls for an overhaul. [reuters.com](#) [+2 more](#)
- If major payers (especially the U.S.) settle even part of their arrears soon, operations could continue. The UN is pushing for full, on-time payments from all 193 members or rule changes to avert collapse.

This situation is fluid, with geopolitical tensions (e.g., U.S. criticisms of the UN) playing a role. For the most up-to-date developments, monitoring official UN statements or U.S. government announcements would be key.

