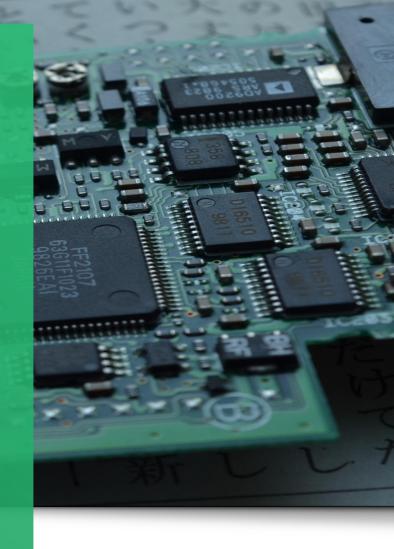
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# The Growing Challenge of Semiconductor Design Leadership



Briefing deck

DECEMBER 2022

### Fourth BCG x SIA report focuses on design and design leadership

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SEMICONDUCTOR INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

#### 4 THOUGHT LEADERSHIP REPORTS ON CRITICAL POLICY-RELATED ISSUES FOR THE SEMICONDUCTOR INDUSTRY

HOW RESTRICTIONS RADE WITH CHINA D END US LEADERSHIP IN SEMICONDUCTORS



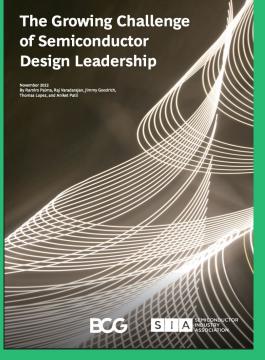
**Government Incentives** and US Competitiveness in Semiconductor Manufacturing



BCG







December 2022

## Objectives of this report

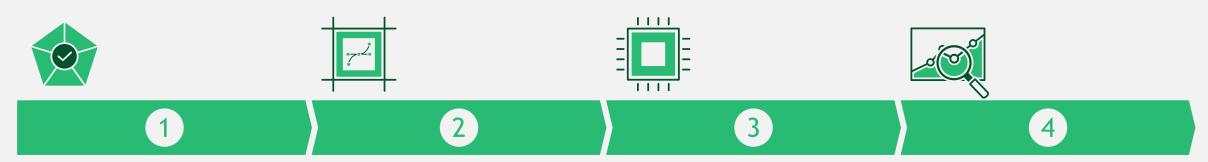
Provide an overview of semiconductor design and the benefits of leadership

2

Discuss the key risks and challenges to maintaining design leadership

Outline broad / high-level policy directions to address them

## Semiconductor design consists of four major stages



## Product definition and specification

Architecture/ system design

Product management, system architecture, and customer define initial product requirements System architects define block-level architecture for the design and may leverage previous IP

#### Integrated circuit design

Multidisciplinary effort

- Logic: Initial analog and digital design
- Circuit: Digital synthesis and design for test
- Layout: Routing and mask generation

#### Verification

Verification engineers verify design functionality and timing through simulation

#### Post-silicon validation

Validation engineers validate physical device functionality across extreme working conditions

### The US is the longstanding global leader in semiconductor design which is both highly value-adding and R&D intense



#### Source: Capital IQ, SIA Factbook 2022, BCG analysis

Note: DAO = discrete, analog, and other; EDA = electronic design automation; IP = intellectual property. Because of rounding, not all bar segment totals add up to 100%.

<sup>1</sup> The regional breakdown is based on company revenues and headquarters location. Design revenues are based on fabless companies and estimated share of IDM revenues attributable to design. <sup>2</sup> R&D Intensity, measured as R&D divided by revenue <sup>3</sup> Discrete, analog, optoelectronics, sensors, and others.

## Leadership in design confers multiple advantages





Virtuous Cycle of Innovation

Leadership attracts global talent and contributes to a cycle of innovation and reinvestment

Ability	to	Shap
Star	nda	rds

e

First movers have advantage in setting and leveraging benefits of global technical standards

National security benefits from improved defense systems at a lower risk of tampering and disruption

Stronger

Security

High-Quality **Employment** 

Average annual income of workers employed in semiconductor design was \$170,000 compared to the US median of \$56,000

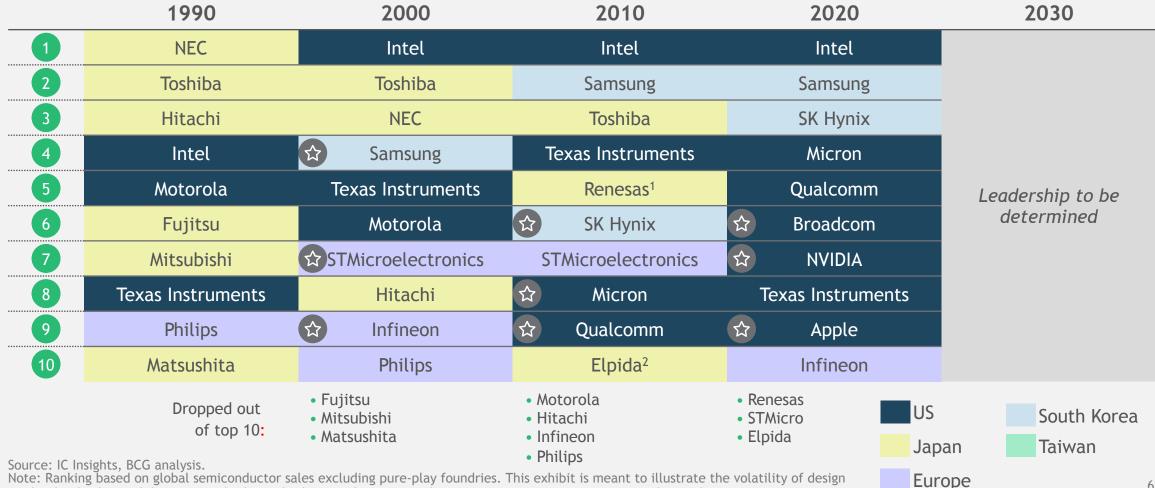
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Benefits for OEMs

Close collaboration between OEMs and local design teams creates competitive advantage

### Design leadership however is volatile, with new industry leaders emerging each decade

TOP 10 SEMICONDUCTOR COMPANIES BY REVENUE



Note: Ranking based on global semiconductor sales excluding pure-play foundries. This exhibit is meant to illustrate the volatility of design market leadership and does not imply that only the top 10 companies by revenue are important to semiconductor design. <sup>1</sup> Post NEC/Renesas merger. <sup>2</sup> Combination of NEC, Hitachi, and Mitsubishi DRAM business.

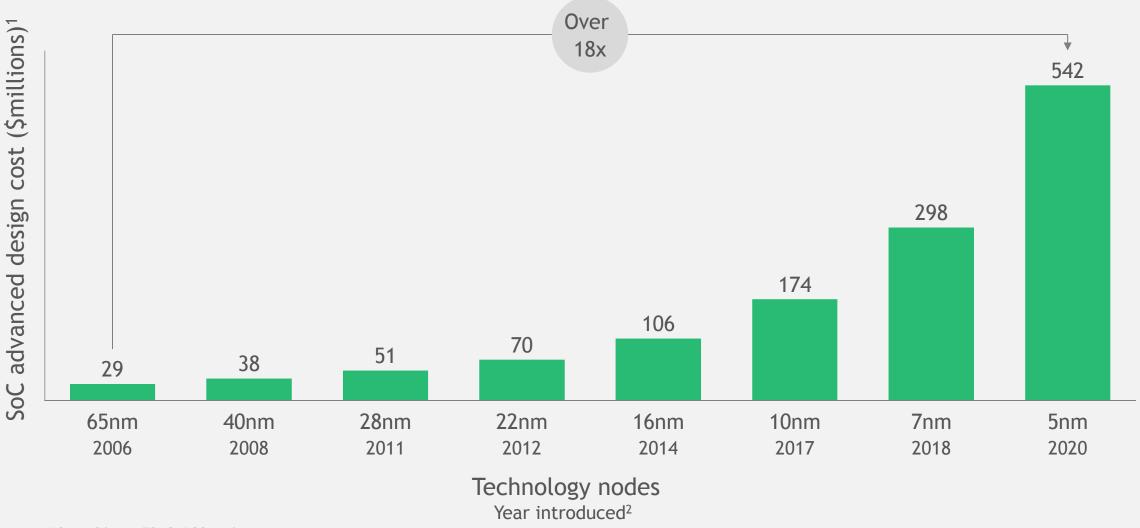
= New entrant in top 10

Ongoing US leadership faces three key challenges Design costs are rising exponentially for fundamental / technical reasons

The US design workforce is expected to be significantly undersupplied by 2030

Ongoing market access, needed to ensure scale and fund R&D, is no longer a given

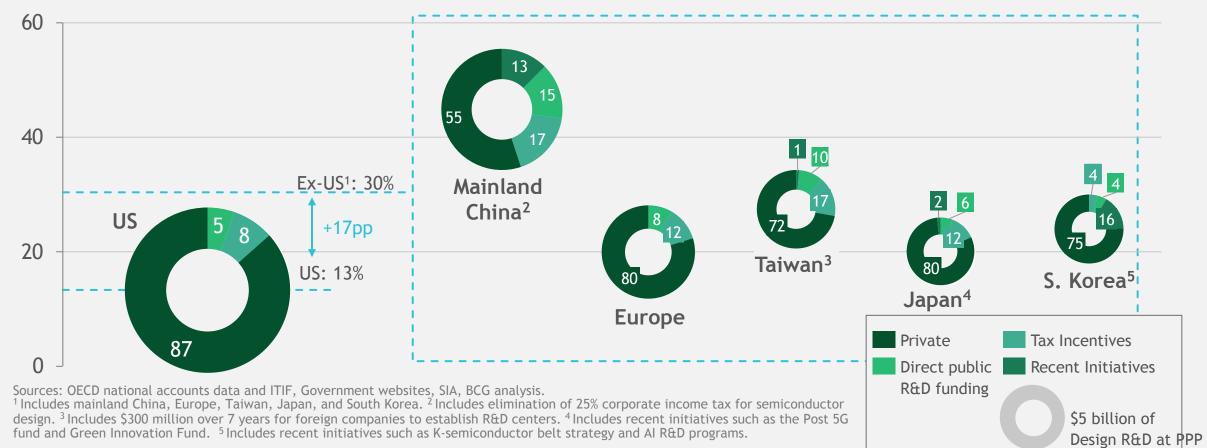
## Design costs are rising with each new technology node



Sources: IBS, AnySilicon, TSMC, BCG analysis. <sup>1</sup>System-on-a-chip (SoC) advanced design costs include intellectual property qualification, architecture, verification, physical, software, prototype, and validation activities. <sup>2</sup> Year in which a technology node began volume production.

# Share of semiconductor-specific design R&D funded by the private sector is greater in the US than other OECD peers

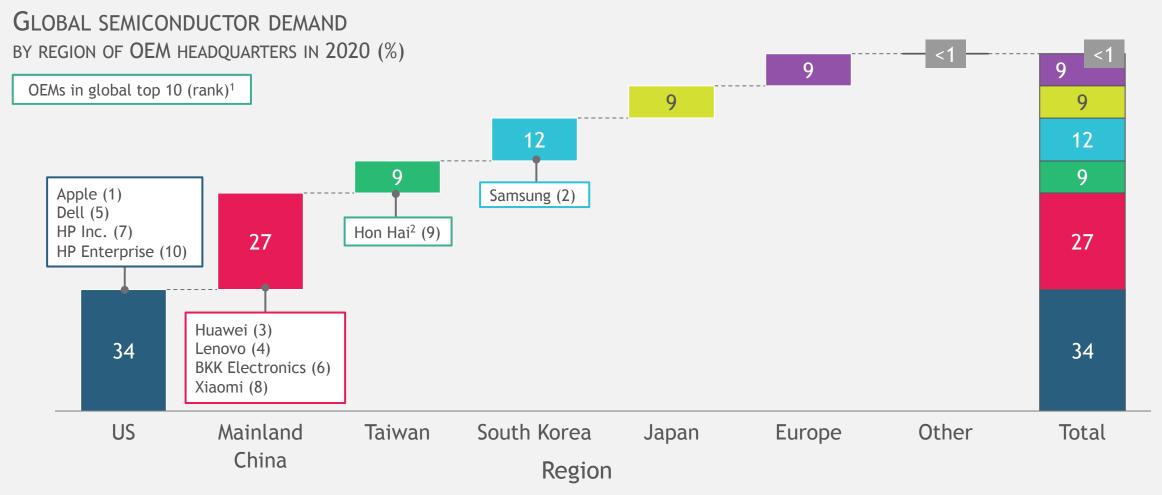
ESTIMATED SHARE OF SEMICONDUCTOR-SPECIFIC DESIGN R&D FUNDED BY PUBLIC INVESTMENT (%) (INCLUDES ESTIMATES FROM RECENTLY ANNOUNCED INITIATIVES)



The US design workforce is estimated to face a 35% gap between supply and demand by 2030 creating a shortfall of 23,000 workers



US OEMs have greatest demand for semiconductors, but 2/3 of global demand is outside US making open global markets critical

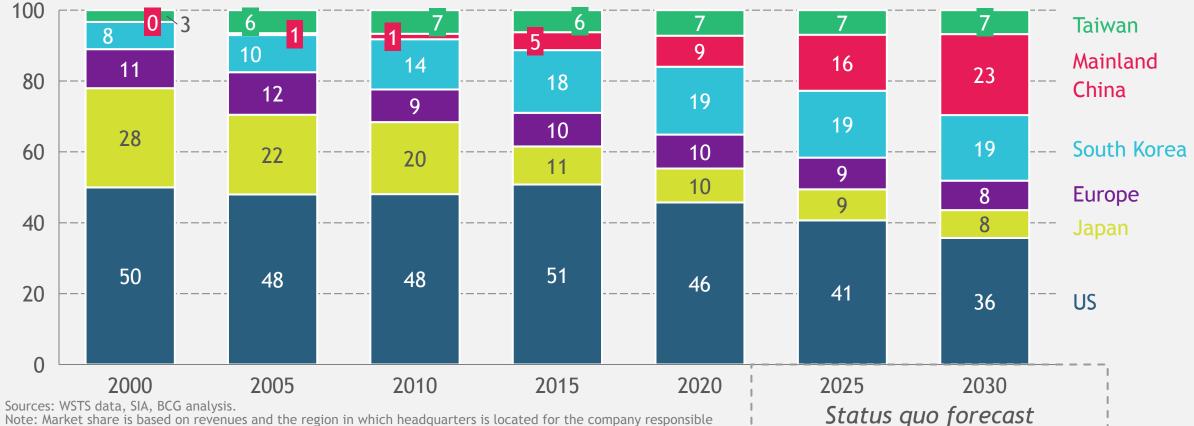


Source: Charts/graphics created by BCG based on Gartner research. Source: Gartner®, "Tool: Semiconductor Spending by Customer, 2020," Masatsune Yamaji, 16 April, 2021. Gartner is a registered trademark and service mark of Gartner, Inc. and/or its affiliates in the US and Internationally and is used herein with permission. All rights reserved.

<sup>1</sup> Rank of OEMs in the global top 10 is based on global revenues in 2020 for all semiconductor devices. <sup>2</sup> Hon Hai Precision Industries, also known as Foxconn, is both an OEM and a contract manufacturer.

# In absence of action, market share of US companies (a proxy for design leadership) is projected to drop to 36% by 2030

MARKET SHARE BY REGION OF COMPANY HEADQUARTERS (%)



-1% year-over-year decline in US market share

12

for final sale of finished semiconductors; includes fabless, fab-lite, and IDM revenues; foundry and outsourced semiconductor assembly and test (OSAT) revenues are excluded to avoid double-counting. Because of rounding, not all bar segment totals add up to 100%.

Supporting US design leadership with policies targeting major challenges would also create significant economic benefits



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