# Ascent Industries Co.

**ACNT · Nasdaq** Industry: Chemicals & Allied Products

Based on its annual report (10-K) filed March 3, 2026 and quarterly report (10-Q) filed November 4, 2026, from SEC EDGAR.

How to read it: key finance terms are **highlighted** and explained under "Key terms" at the back, figures are in **bold**, and each [number] matches the source list. Every figure is worked out in code from the company's own SEC filings: it describes the business, not whether to buy, sell or hold its shares. Share price and latest news: www.candorweb.site/stock/ACNT.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE FIGURES

- In the year to December 31, 2025, Ascent Industries sold **$74.9 million** of goods and services, down **7.2%** on the year before. [1]
- It kept about **$1** of every **$100** of sales as profit. [1]
- Its business brought in **-$519,000** of cash, but it spent **$2.1 million** more than that on buildings and equipment. [1]

## KEY FIGURES

| | |
|---|---|
| **Size and growth** | |
| Revenue | **$74.9 million** |
| Revenue growth | **-7.2%** |
| **Profitability** | |
| Gross margin | **23%** |
| Operating margin | **-9.4%** |
| Net profit margin | **1.2%** |
| EBITDA | **-$5.9 million** |
| **Cash flow** | |
| Operating cash flow | **-$519,000** |
| Free cash flow | **-$2.1 million** |
| **Debt and safety** | |
| Current ratio | **4.50** |
| **Returns to owners** | |
| Return on equity (ROE) | **1%** |
| Earnings per share (EPS) | **$0.09** |

Latest financial year; balance-sheet figures on the latest report date. In US dollars.

## WHAT THE FIGURES SHOW IN ITS FAVOUR

- Its **net profit margin** rose from **-16.8%** to **1.2%**: **$1** of every **$100** of sales was kept as profit, against $-17 a year earlier.
- It had **$4.50** of current assets for every **$1** of bills due within a year on September 30, 2026.

## WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON

- Sales fell **7.2%** to **$74.9 million** in the year ended December 31, 2025.
- It spent **$2.1 million** more on buildings and equipment than its business brought in (**free cash flow** below zero).
- It has filed 1 notice of an **auditor** change or a **restatement** since November 11, 2023.

# 1 Growth and profit

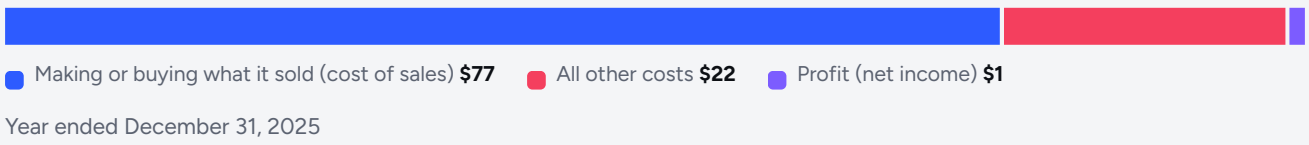
Whether it sells more each year, and how much of each sale it keeps. From the income statement.

REVENUE BY FINANCIAL YEAR




- **Revenue** fell **7.2%** in the year ended December 31, 2025, to **$74.9 million**. This means the company sold less than the year before. [1]
- In the **quarter** ended September 30, 2026, **revenue** was **$27.1 million**, up **37.8%** from the same quarter a year earlier. [2]
- The company made a **net income** (profit) of **$867,000** in the year ended December 31, 2025, after a loss the year before. [1]
- After paying for the products it sold, the company kept about **$23** of every **$100** of sales. This is called its **gross margin**. [1]
- Out of every **$100** of sales, about **$1** was left as profit after all costs and taxes. This is called its **profit margin**. [1]
- **Earnings per share** (EPS) (diluted) was **$0.09** in the year ended December 31, 2025. [1]

WHERE EACH $100 OF SALES WENT




Year ended December 31, 2025

- **Gross margin** rose from **18.2%** to **23%** (2021 to 2025): it now keeps more of each sale after paying for what it sells.
- **Operating margin** fell from **8.2%** to **-9.4%** (2021 to 2025): running costs or product costs now take a bigger share of sales.
- **Profit margin** fell from **6%** to **1.2%** (2021 to 2025): less of each dollar of sales ends up as final profit.

| YEAR ENDED | GROSS MARGIN | OPERATING MARGIN | NET PROFIT MARGIN |
|---|---|---|---|
| December 31, 2021 | 18.2% | 8.2% | **6%** |
| December 31, 2022 | 16.5% | 5.6% | **8.4%** |
| December 31, 2023 | 0.8% | -19.4% | **-13.8%** |
| December 31, 2024 | 13.2% | -13.4% | **-16.8%** |
| December 31, 2025 | 23% | -9.4% | **1.2%** |

## 2 Financial health

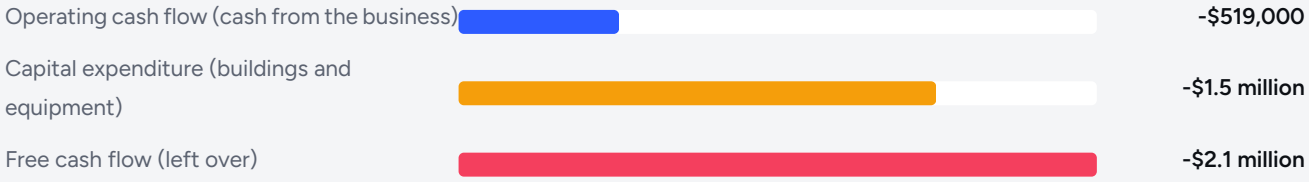
Whether it can pay its bills and how much it relies on borrowed money: its cushion for bad times. From the balance sheet.

- On September 30, 2026, the company had **$28.7 million** in **cash and cash equivalents**, money it can use quickly. [2]
- On September 30, 2026, the company had **$67.1 million** in cash and other assets it expects to use within a year, against **$14.9 million** of bills due within a year. That is about **$4.50** for every **$1** it owes soon, more than enough to cover them. This is its **current ratio**. [2]
- It owned **$107.9 million** in assets and owed **$26.6 million** in **total liabilities**, so it owned about **$4.06** for every **$1** it owed. [2]

## 3 Cash

Profit follows accounting rules; cash is what actually lands in the bank. Free cash flow is what's left after investing in the business. From the cash flow statement.

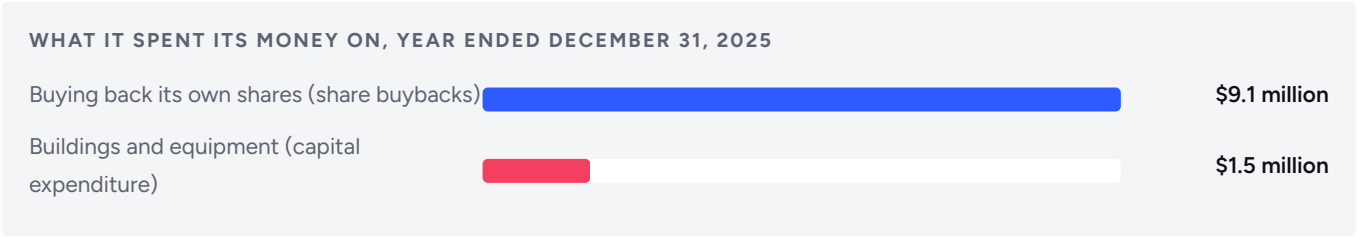
CASH IN THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025




- Its business brought in **-$519,000** of cash in the year ended December 31, 2025 but spent **$1.5 million** on buildings and equipment (**capital expenditure**), so its **free cash flow** was negative: it spent **$2.1 million** more than the business brought in. [1]

## 4 How it's run

How its leaders use the company's money, how much profit they make with shareholders' money, and official warning signs about its accounts.




- In the year ended December 31, 2025, the company spent **$9.1 million** buying back its own shares (buybacks) and invested **$1.5 million** in buildings and equipment. [1]
- It earned about **$1** of profit for every **$100** of **shareholders' equity** in the year ended December 31, 2025. This is its **return on equity** (ROE) (**1%**). [1][2]

### Accounts check

- June 4, 2025: the company changed its **auditor**. This has many ordinary reasons; the filing explains why. [3]

## 5 How the numbers link

The sums that connect one figure to the next, worked out with the company's own figures, so you can see exactly where each number comes from.

**Net income = revenue − all costs and expenses**

Revenue $74.9 million − All costs and expenses $74.1 million = Net income $867,000

Of the **$74.9 million** customers paid it, **$74.1 million** went on costs of every kind: making or buying what it sold, running the business, interest and tax. The **$867,000** left over is its **net income**.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

**Net profit margin = net income ÷ revenue**

Net income $867,000 ÷ Revenue $74.9 million = Net profit margin 1.2%

**$867,000** of profit out of **$74.9 million** of sales is **1.2%**: about **$1** of every **$100** customers paid ended up as profit.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

**Net income and operating cash flow measure the same year in two ways**

Net income $867,000 vs Operating cash flow −$519,000

Profit counts a sale when it's made and spreads the cost of equipment over many years; cash counts money only when it actually moves. This year the business brought in **$1.4 million** less cash than its **net income**, for example because customers had not paid yet or it built up stock.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

**Free cash flow = operating cash flow − capital expenditure**

Operating cash flow −$519,000 − Capital expenditure $1.5 million = Free cash flow −$2.1 million

It spent **$2.1 million** more on buildings and equipment than its business brought in, so **free cash flow** was below zero.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

**Dividends + buybacks, compared with free cash flow**

Dividends + Share buybacks $9.1 million = Paid to owners $9.1 million vs Free cash flow −$2.1 million

It paid **$9.1 million** to its owners in a year when **free cash flow** was below zero, so the money came from elsewhere, such as cash it already held or borrowing.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

**Current ratio = current assets (cash is one part) ÷ bills due within a year**

Current assets $67.1 million ÷ Bills due within a year $14.9 million = Current ratio 4.50

Its current assets (cash of **$28.7 million**, money customers owe it, stock and other things it expects to turn into cash within a year) came to **$67.1 million**, against **$14.9 million** of bills due within a year: **$4.50** for every **$1** due.

Figures for the on September 30, 2026.

**Net income adds to shareholders' equity; dividends and buybacks take from it**

Net income $867,000 − Dividends − Share buybacks $9.1 million = Taken from equity $8.3 million

Profit belongs to the owners, so it adds to **shareholders' equity**; cash paid out to them takes it away. This year: **$867,000** of profit minus **$9.1 million** paid out took about **$8.3 million** to equity, before smaller items such as shares given to staff and currency changes.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

**Return on equity = net income ÷ average shareholders' equity**

Net income $867,000 ÷ Average shareholders' equity $90.3 million = Return on equity 1%

Equity was **$93.5 million** at the start of the year and **$87 million** at the end, an average of **$90.3 million**. **$867,000** of profit on that is **1%**: about **$1** of profit for every **$100** of owners' money.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

**Earnings per share = net income ÷ number of shares (diluted)**

Net income $867,000 ÷ Number of shares about 10 million = Earnings per share $0.09

**$867,000** of profit shared across about **10 million** shares (counting shares that could still be created from staff awards) is **$0.09** per share. The share count is worked out from those two reported figures.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

## 6 What changed in a year

Each figure next to the same figure a year earlier. Quarters are compared with the same quarter a year before, because many businesses are busier in some seasons.

| FIGURE | LATEST | A YEAR EARLIER | CHANGE |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenue (sales)**<br>Year ended December 31, 2025, vs the year before | $74.9 million | $80.8 million | **Down 7.2%** |
| **Revenue (sales)**<br>Quarter ended September 30, 2026, vs the same quarter a year earlier | $27.1 million | $19.7 million | **Up 37.8%** |
| **Net income (profit)**<br>Year ended December 31, 2025, vs the year before | $867,000 | -$13.6 million | **No comparison** |
| **Net income (profit)**<br>Quarter ended September 30, 2026, vs the same quarter a year earlier | $1.4 million | -$2.1 million | **No comparison** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Cash from operations**<br>Year ended December 31, 2025, vs the year before | -$519,000 | $14.7 million | **No comparison** |
| **Cash**<br>On September 30, 2026, vs a year earlier | $28.7 million | $58 million | **Down 50.5%** |
| **Shareholders' equity**<br>On September 30, 2026, vs a year earlier | $81.3 million | $87.1 million | **Down 6.6%** |

## 7 Recent official announcements

Major events the company reported to the SEC in the last four months (form 8-K).

- November 4, 2026: Shared financial results. [4]
- August 26, 2026: Shared information with investors. [5]
- August 4, 2026: Shared financial results. [6]
- July 21, 2026: Signed a major agreement. [7]

## A Every figure, and how it's worked out

Worked out in code from the figures the company tagged in its SEC reports. candor only combines figures covering exactly the same period, and leaves a figure out rather than guess.

### Size and growth

**Revenue**
**$74.9 million**

Ascent Industries sold $74.9 million of goods and services in the year to December 31, 2025. [1]
How it's worked out: Total sales for the financial year, as reported. Year to December 31, 2025.

**Revenue growth**
**-7.2%**

Sales were down 7.2% on the year before. [1]
How it's worked out: (This year's sales − last year's sales) ÷ last year's sales. Year to December 31, 2025.

### Profitability

**Gross margin**
**23%**

After paying the direct cost of what it sold, it kept about $23 of every $100 of sales. [1]
How it's worked out: Gross profit ÷ sales, for the same year. Year to December 31, 2025.

**Operating margin**
**-9.4%**

After paying to run the business, it lost about $9 for every $100 of sales. [1]
How it's worked out: Operating income ÷ sales, for the same year. Year to December 31, 2025.

**Net profit margin**
**1.2%**

After every cost, including interest and tax, about $1 of every $100 of sales was left as profit. [1]
How it's worked out: Net income ÷ sales, for the same year. Year to December 31, 2025.

**EBITDA**
**-$5.9 million**

The main business earned -$5.9 million before interest, tax and wear-and-tear charges, in the year to December 31, 2025. [1]
How it's worked out: Operating income + depreciation and amortisation, for the same year. Year to December 31, 2025.

## Cash flow

**Operating cash flow**
**-$519,000**

Its day-to-day business used $519,000 more cash than it brought in. [1]
How it's worked out: Net cash from operating activities, as reported. Year to December 31, 2025.

**Free cash flow**
**-$2.1 million**

It spent $2.1 million more on its business and equipment than the business brought in. [1]
How it's worked out: Operating cash flow − capital expenditure, for the same year. Year to December 31, 2025.

## Debt and safety

**Net debt**
**Not reported**

Not in its latest reports: the last figure it filed is more than a year old.
How it's worked out: Long-term debt − cash and cash equivalents, on the same date.

**Debt-to-equity ratio**
**Not reported**

Not in its latest reports: the last figure it filed is more than a year old.
How it's worked out: Long-term debt ÷ shareholders' equity, on the same date.

**Current ratio**
**4.50**

For every $1 of bills due within a year, it had about $4.50 it expects to turn into cash in that time. [2]
How it's worked out: Current assets ÷ current liabilities, on the same date. On September 30, 2026.

## Returns to owners

**Return on equity (ROE)**
**1%**

It made about $1 of profit for every $100 of owners' money in the business. [1][2]
How it's worked out: Net income ÷ average shareholders' equity at the start and end of the year. Year to December 31, 2025.

**Earnings per share (EPS)**
**$0.09**

Profit worked out to $0.09 for each share. [1]
How it's worked out: Diluted earnings per share, as reported. Year to December 31, 2025.

# B Key terms

Every highlighted term in this report, in plain English.

**8-K (announcement):** A filing companies make with the SEC within days of a major event, such as results, a new chief executive or a big acquisition.

**Assets:** Everything the company owns that has value: cash, buildings, equipment, money owed to it, and more.

**Auditor:** An independent accounting firm that checks a company's financial statements every year and says whether they are fairly presented.

**Capital spending:** Cash spent on long-lasting things the company will use for years, like factories, stores, data centres and equipment. Often shortened to capex.

**Cash and cash equivalents:** Money in the bank plus very safe investments that can be turned into cash almost immediately.

**Cash from operations:** The cash that came in from customers minus the cash paid out to suppliers, staff, landlords, lenders (interest) and the tax office during the period. It differs from profit because of timing, such as customers paying later, and because some costs in profit, like wear and tear on equipment, aren't paid in cash.

**Current ratio:** Current assets (cash, money customers owe it, stock and anything else it expects to turn into cash within a year) divided by current liabilities (bills it must pay within a year). 1.5 means $1.50 coming in for every $1 due.

**Debt-to-equity ratio:** Long-term borrowing divided by shareholders' equity (what the accounts say belongs to the owners). 0.5 means $0.50 borrowed for every $1 of owners' money; higher means it relies more on borrowed money.

**Earnings per share (EPS):** Net income divided by the average number of shares during the period. "Diluted" EPS also counts shares that could still be created, for example from staff stock awards, so it's usually slightly lower.

**EBITDA:** Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation: profit from the main business before paying interest and tax, and before the yearly wear-and-tear charge on buildings and equipment.

**Free cash flow:** Operating cash flow minus capital expenditure: the cash left after the business pays for the buildings and equipment it needs. It's what the company can use to pay dividends, buy back shares, repay debt or save.

**Gross margin:** Gross profit (sales minus the direct cost of making or buying what was sold) as a share of sales. A 40% gross margin means $40 of every $100 of sales is left to pay for everything else.

**Net debt:** Long-term borrowing minus the cash the company holds. A negative figure means it holds more cash than it owes long-term (net cash).

**Net income:** The profit left over a period (such as a year or a quarter) after paying every cost, including wages, interest and taxes. Often called the bottom line.

**Operating margin:** Operating income as a share of sales: of each $100 of sales, what's left after paying for what was sold and for running the business, before interest and tax.

**Profit margin:** Net income as a share of sales: what's left after every cost, including interest and tax. A 10% net profit margin means $10 of final profit for every $100 of sales.

**Quarter:** A three-month period. US public companies report their results every quarter.

**Restatement notice:** A filing where a company says financial statements it published earlier contained errors and should no longer be relied on.

**Return on equity (ROE):** Net income for a year divided by the average shareholders' equity over that year. A 20% ROE means $20 of profit for every $100 of owners' money in the business.

**Revenue:** All the money a company takes in from selling its products and services, before paying any costs. Also called sales.

**Revenue growth:** How much sales rose or fell compared with the year before, as a percentage.

**Share buyback:** When a company buys its own shares from the market. It leaves fewer shares, so each remaining share owns a bigger slice of the company.

**Shareholders' equity:** Total assets minus total liabilities, as valued in the company's accounts (also called book value): what the accounts say belongs to the shareholders. It isn't the same as what the stock market says the company is worth.

**Total liabilities:** Everything the company owes: loans, bonds, bills to suppliers, taxes due, and other obligations.

## C Sources

candor doesn't create financial data. Every figure and point comes from these documents, filed by the company with the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC EDGAR).


[1] 10-K filed March 3, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/95953/000009595326000040/acnt-20251231.htm

[2] 10-Q filed November 4, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/95953/000009595326000117/acnt-20260930.htm

[3] 8-K filed June 4, 2025
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/95953/000009595325000042/acnt-20250603.htm

[4] 8-K filed November 4, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/95953/000009595326000115/acnt-20261104.htm

[5] 8-K filed August 26, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/95953/000009595326000111/acnt-20260826.htm

[6] 8-K filed August 4, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/95953/000009595326000107/acnt-20260804.htm

[7] 8-K filed July 21, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/95953/000009595326000105/acnt-20260717.htm

The share price, market value and the latest news change every day and are shown on the live page: www.candorweb.site/stock/ACNT.

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