Southern Co

SO · NYSE · Industry: Electric Services

Based on its annual report (10-K) filed February 19, 2026 and quarterly report (10-Q) filed November 5, 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/SO.

KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE FIGURES

- In the year to December 31, 2025, Southern sold **$29.6 billion** of goods and services, up **10.6%** on the year before. [1]
- It kept about **$15** of every **$100** of sales as profit. [1]
- Its business brought in **$9.8 billion** of cash, but it spent **$2.9 billion** more than that on buildings and equipment. [1]

KEY FIGURES

Size and growth

Revenue	**$29.6 billion**
Revenue growth	**10.6%**

Profitability

Operating margin	**24.7%**
Net profit margin	**14.7%**
EBITDA	**$13.3 billion**

Cash flow

Operating cash flow	**$9.8 billion**
Free cash flow	**-$2.9 billion**

Returns to owners

Earnings per share (EPS)	**$3.92**

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

WHAT THE FIGURES SHOW IN ITS FAVOUR

- Sales grew **10.6%** to **$29.6 billion** in the year ended December 31, 2025.
- No change of **auditor** and no **restatement** of past accounts has been filed since November 10, 2023.

WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON

- Its **net profit margin** fell from **16.5%** to **14.7%**: **$15** of every **$100** of sales was kept as profit, against **$16** a year earlier.
- It spent **$2.9 billion** more on buildings and equipment than its business brought in (**free cash flow** below zero).

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** grew **10.6%** in the year ended December 31, 2025, to **$29.6 billion**. This means the company sold more than the year before. [1]
- **Net income**, the profit left after all costs and taxes, fell **1.4%** to **$4.3 billion** in the year ended December 31, 2025. [1]
- Out of every **$100** of sales, about **$15** was left as profit after all costs and taxes. This is called its **profit margin**. [1]
- **Earnings per share** (EPS) (diluted) fell **1.8%** to **$3.92** in the year ended December 31, 2025. [1]
- **Operating margin** rose from **16%** to **24.7%** (2021 to 2025): the business as a whole has become more profitable per dollar of sales.

YEAR ENDED	OPERATING MARGIN	NET PROFIT MARGIN
December 31, 2021	16%	–
December 31, 2022	18.3%	–
December 31, 2023	23.1%	**15.7%**
December 31, 2024	26.4%	**16.5%**
December 31, 2025	24.7%	**14.7%**

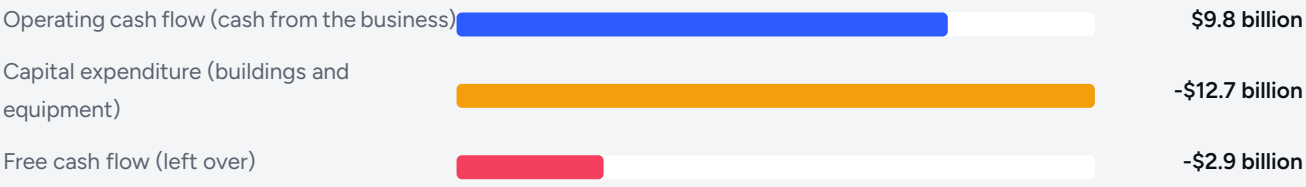
2 Financial health

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

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

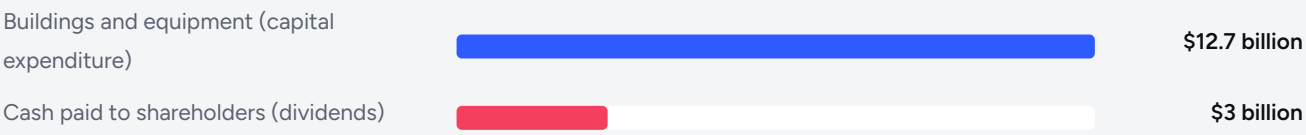


- Its day-to-day business brought in **$9.8 billion** of cash in the year ended December 31, 2025. This is called **cash from operations** (**operating cash flow**). [1]
- Its business brought in **$9.8 billion** of cash in the year ended December 31, 2025 but spent **$12.7 billion** on buildings and equipment (**capital expenditure**), so its **free cash flow** was negative: it spent **$2.9 billion** 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.

WHAT IT SPENT ITS MONEY ON, YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025



- In the year ended December 31, 2025, the company paid **$3 billion** in dividends to shareholders and invested **$12.7 billion** in buildings and equipment. [1]

Accounts check

- No **auditor** changes or **restatement** notices were filed since November 10, 2023. These are the two official warning signs a company must announce.

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 $29.6 billion − All costs and expenses $25.2 billion = Net income $4.3 billion

Of the **$29.6 billion** customers paid it, **$25.2 billion** went on costs of every kind: making or buying what it sold, running the business, interest and tax. The **$4.3 billion** left over is its **net income**.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

Net profit margin = net income ÷ revenue

Net income $4.3 billion ÷ Revenue $29.6 billion = Net profit margin 14.7%

$4.3 billion of profit out of **$29.6 billion** of sales is **14.7%**: about **$15** 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 $4.3 billion vs Operating cash flow $9.8 billion

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 **$5.5 billion** more cash than its **net income**, for example because yearly wear-and-tear charges on equipment lower profit but aren't paid in cash.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

Free cash flow = operating cash flow − capital expenditure

Operating cash flow $9.8 billion − Capital expenditure $12.7 billion = Free cash flow −$2.9 billion

It spent **$2.9 billion** 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 $3 billion + Share buybacks = Paid to owners $3 billion vs Free cash flow −$2.9 billion

It paid **$3 billion** 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.

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

Net income $4.3 billion − Dividends $3 billion − Share buybacks = Added to equity $1.3 billion

Profit belongs to the owners, so it adds to **shareholders' equity**; cash paid out to them takes it away. This year: **$4.3 billion** of profit minus **$3 billion** paid out added about **$1.3 billion** to equity, before smaller items such as shares given to staff and currency changes.

Figures for the year ended December 31, 2025.

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

Net income $4.3 billion ÷ Number of shares about 1.11 billion = Earnings per share $3.92

$4.3 billion of profit shared across about **1.11 billion** shares (counting shares that could still be created from staff awards) is **$3.92** 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) Year ended December 31, 2025, vs the year before	$29.6 billion	$26.7 billion	**Up 10.6%**
Net income (profit) Year ended December 31, 2025, vs the year before	$4.3 billion	$4.4 billion	**Down 1.4%**
Cash from operations Year ended December 31, 2025, vs the year before	$9.8 billion	$9.8 billion	**About the same**

7 Recent official announcements

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

- November 5, 2026: Shared financial results. [2]
- October 22, 2026: Changed its company rules or financial year, Announced another event. [3]
- August 6, 2026: Took on a major new debt or obligation, Sold shares without a public offering. [4]
- August 4, 2026: Announced another event. [5]
- August 3, 2026: Announced another event. [6]
- July 30, 2026: Shared financial results. [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
$29.6 billion

Southern sold $29.6 billion 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
10.6%

Sales were up 10.6% 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
Not reported

Not reported in its SEC filings.
How it's worked out: Gross profit ÷ sales, for the same year.

Operating margin
24.7%

After also paying to run the business, about $25 of every $100 of sales was left. [1]
How it's worked out: Operating income ÷ sales, for the same year. Year to December 31, 2025.

Net profit margin
14.7%

After every cost, including interest and tax, about $15 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
$13.3 billion

The main business earned $13.3 billion 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
$9.8 billion

Its day-to-day business brought in $9.8 billion of cash. [1]

How it's worked out: Net cash from operating activities, as reported. Year to December 31, 2025.

Free cash flow
-$2.9 billion

It spent $2.9 billion 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
Not reported

Not in its latest reports: the last figure it filed is more than a year old.

How it's worked out: Current assets ÷ current liabilities, on the same date.

Returns to owners

Return on equity (ROE)
Not reported

Not in its latest reports: the last figure it filed is more than a year old.

How it's worked out: Net income ÷ average shareholders' equity at the start and end of the year.

Earnings per share (EPS)
$3.92

Profit worked out to $3.92 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.

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 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.

Dividend: Cash a company pays out to its shareholders, usually every quarter, from its profits.

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.

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.

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.

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 February 19, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/92122/000009212226000006/so-20251231.htm

[2] 8-K filed November 5, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/92122/000009212226000071/so-20261105.htm

[3] 8-K filed October 22, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/92122/000009212226000065/so-20261020.htm

[4] 8-K filed August 6, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/92122/000009212226000063/so-20260803.htm

[5] 8-K filed August 4, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/92122/000009212226000060/so-20260803.htm

[6] 8-K filed August 3, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/92122/000009212226000058/so-20260803.htm

[7] 8-K filed July 30, 2026
https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/92122/000009212226000056/so-20260730.htm

Company facts on page 1: Wikidata, a free public database (CC0) https://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q2304693.

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

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