

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): May 7, 2026

Avient Corporation

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Ohio	1-16091	34-1730488
<small>(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)</small>	<small>(Commission File Number)</small>	<small>(IRS Employer Identification No.)</small>

**33587 Walker Road
Avon Lake, Ohio 44012**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(440) 930-1000**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Trading Symbol(s)</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which registered</u>
Common Shares, par value \$.01 per share	AVNT	New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On May 7, 2026, the Registrant issued a press release, furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1, announcing earnings for the first quarter of 2026. The press release shall not be deemed to be “filed” under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>
99.1	Press release dated May 7, 2026.
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document).

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

AVIENT CORPORATION

By: /s/ Jamie A. Beggs

Name: Jamie A. Beggs

Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial
Officer

Dated: May 7, 2026



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Avient Announces First Quarter 2026 Results

- *First quarter sales grew 3% to \$847 million, which includes a 5% favorable foreign exchange impact*
- *First quarter GAAP EPS of \$0.61 compared to (\$0.22) in the prior year quarter*
- *First quarter adjusted EPS of \$0.83 exceeded guidance of \$0.81; growth of 9% over the prior year quarter*
- *2026 full year adjusted EPS guidance range of \$2.93 to \$3.17, unchanged from prior guidance*

CLEVELAND – May 7, 2026 – Avient Corporation (NYSE: AVNT), an innovator of materials solutions, today announced its first quarter results for 2026. First quarter GAAP earnings per share (EPS) were \$0.61 compared to (\$0.22) in the prior year quarter.

The company noted that first quarter 2026 GAAP EPS includes special items of \$0.06 and intangible amortization expense of \$0.16 (see attachment 1).

First quarter 2026 adjusted EPS was \$0.83 compared to \$0.76 in the prior year quarter, reflecting 9% growth in adjusted EPS.

"Once again our teams successfully navigated a complex and ever-changing environment with agility to deliver these results," said Dr. Ashish Khandpur, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Avient Corporation.

"Our first quarter results also reflect the team's strong execution on driving productivity improvement and disciplined cost control, which enabled expansion of adjusted EBITDA margins by 20 basis points to 17.7%. Our teams remain focused on serving our customers, securing raw material supply, and have been proactively working to mitigate the costs of inflation from the ongoing situation in the Middle East and from macro-economic uncertainty," added Dr. Khandpur.

2026 Outlook

“We have a proven track record of successfully managing through volatile environments and supply chain constraints, as we demonstrated during the post-pandemic period in 2021 and 2022, as well as responding to the tariff policy changes in 2025. Accordingly, we expect second quarter adjusted EPS of \$0.89, which represents 11% growth over the prior year quarter,” said Jamie Beggs, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

“Our performance expectations for the first half of the year are slightly better-than-expected compared to the beginning of the year. With that said, the outlook for the second half of the year is less certain, so we are maintaining our full year guidance of adjusted EBITDA of \$555 to \$585 million and adjusted EPS of \$2.93 to \$3.17,” said Ms. Beggs.

Dr. Khandpur added, “Our strategy has enabled us to deliver consistent results and grow earnings in 2024 and 2025. We remain committed to growing full year earnings again in 2026, while continuing to also invest in our prioritized growth vectors to keep advancing our longer-term plans.”

Webcast Details

Avient will provide additional details on its 2026 first quarter and its 2026 full year outlook during its webcast scheduled for 8:00 a.m. Eastern Time on May 7, 2026.

The webcast can be viewed live at avient.com/investors, or by clicking on the webcast link [here](#). Conference call participants in the question and answer session should pre-register using the link at avient.com/investors, or [here](#), to receive the dial-in number and personal PIN. This information is required to access the conference call. The question-and-answer session will follow the company's presentation and prepared remarks.

A recording of the webcast and the slide presentation will be available at avient.com/investors/events-presentations immediately following the conference call and will be accessible for one year.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

The Company uses both GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles) and non-GAAP financial measures. The non-GAAP financial measures include organic performance (which excludes the impact of foreign exchange), adjusted EPS, adjusted operating income, adjusted EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA margins, free cash flow and adjusted free cash flow. Avient's chief operating decision maker uses these financial measures to monitor and evaluate the ongoing performance of the Company and each business segment and to allocate resources.

The Company does not provide reconciliations of forward-looking non-GAAP financial measures, such as adjusted EPS, adjusted EBITDA and free cash flow, to the most comparable GAAP financial measures on a forward-looking basis because the Company is unable to provide a meaningful or accurate calculation or estimation of reconciling items, and the information is not available without unreasonable effort. This is due to the inherent difficulty of forecasting the timing and amount of certain items, such as, but not limited to, environmental remediation costs and associated recoveries, mark-to-market adjustments on pension and other post-retirement obligations, acquisition-related charges, and other non-routine costs. Each of such adjustments has not yet occurred, are out of the Company's control and/or cannot be reasonably predicted. For the same reasons, the Company is unable to address the probable significance of the unavailable information.

To access Avient's news library online, please visit www.avient.com/news.

About Avient

Our purpose at Avient Corporation (NYSE: AVNT) is to be an innovator of materials solutions that help our customers succeed, while enabling a sustainable world. Our local touch and customer engagement, combined with our global presence, allows us to serve customers with agility. We harness the collective strength of more than 9,000 employees worldwide to collaborate and build on each other's ideas. In doing so, we innovate solutions that help our customers overcome their challenges or capitalize on opportunities provided by the fast-changing world and secular trends. Our expanding portfolio of offerings includes colorants, advanced composites, functional additives, engineered materials, and Dyneema®, the world's strongest fiber™. By intersecting our broad portfolio of technologies with the product roadmaps of our customers, we help create differentiated and high-performance products that make the world better and more sustainable. Visit www.avient.com to learn more.

Forward-looking Statements

In this press release, statements that are not reported financial results or other historical information are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements give current expectations or forecasts of future events and are not guarantees of future performance. They are based on management's expectations that involve a number of business risks and uncertainties, any of which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in or implied by the forward-looking statements. They use words such as "will," "anticipate," "estimate," "expect," "project," "intend," "plan," "believe," and other words and terms of similar meaning in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial condition, performance and/or sales. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those implied by these forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to: disruptions, uncertainty or volatility in the global credit markets that could adversely impact the availability of credit already arranged and the availability and cost of credit in the future; the effect on foreign operations of currency fluctuations, tariffs and other political, economic and regulatory risks; disruptions or inefficiencies in our supply chain, logistics, or operations; changes in laws and regulations in jurisdictions where we conduct business, including with respect to plastics and climate change; changes to foreign trade policy, including new or increased tariffs and changing import/export regulation; fluctuations in raw material prices, quality and supply, and in energy prices and supply; demand for our products and services; production outages or material costs associated with scheduled or unscheduled maintenance programs; unanticipated developments that could occur with respect to contingencies such as litigation and environmental matters; our ability to pay regular quarterly cash dividends and the amounts and timing of any future dividends; information systems failures, cybersecurity breaches and cyberattacks; our ability to service our indebtedness and restrictions on our current and future operations due to our indebtedness; amounts for cash and non-cash charges related to restructuring plans that may differ from original estimates, including because of timing changes associated with the underlying actions; and other factors affecting our business beyond our control, including without limitation, changes in the general economy, changes in interest rates, changes in the rate of inflation, geopolitical conflicts and any recessionary conditions. The above list of factors is not exhaustive.

Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which such statement is made, and we undertake no obligation to publicly update forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. You are advised to consult any further disclosures we make on related subjects in our reports on Form 10-Q, 8-K and 10-K that we provide to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Investor Relations Contact:

Giuseppe (Joe) Di Salvo

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Avient Corporation
Reconciliation of Adjusted Net Income and Earnings Per Share (Unaudited)
(In millions, except per share data)

Senior management uses comparisons of adjusted net income attributable to Avient common shareholders and diluted adjusted earnings per share (EPS) attributable to Avient common shareholders, excluding special items, to assess performance and facilitate comparability of results. Further, as a result of Avient's strategic shift towards an innovator of materials solutions, it has completed several acquisitions and divestitures which have resulted in a significant amount of intangible asset amortization. Management excludes intangible asset amortization from adjusted EPS as it believes excluding acquired intangible asset amortization is a useful measure of current period earnings per share. Senior management believes these measures are useful to investors because they allow for comparison to Avient's performance in prior periods without the effect of items that, by their nature, tend to obscure Avient's operating results due to the potential variability across periods based on timing, frequency and magnitude. Non-GAAP financial measures have limitations as analytical tools and should not be considered in isolation from, or solely as alternatives to, financial measures prepared in accordance with GAAP. Below is a reconciliation of these non-GAAP financial measures to their most directly comparable financial measures calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. See *Attachment 3* for a definition and summary of special items.

Reconciliation to Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income	Three Months Ended March 31,			
	2026		2025	
	\$	EPS ⁽¹⁾	\$	EPS ⁽¹⁾
Net income (loss) attributable to Avient common shareholders	\$ 55.7	\$ 0.61	\$ (20.2)	\$ (0.22)
Special items, after-tax (Attachment 3)	5.5	0.06	75.7	0.82
Amortization expense, after-tax	15.6	0.16	14.5	0.16
Adjusted net income / EPS	<u>\$ 76.8</u>	<u>\$ 0.83</u>	<u>\$ 70.0</u>	<u>\$ 0.76</u>

⁽¹⁾ Per share amounts may not recalculate from figures presented herein due to rounding

Avient Corporation
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income (Unaudited)
(In millions, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2026	2025
Sales	\$ 847.4	\$ 826.6
Cost of sales	574.8	563.4
Gross margin	272.6	263.2
Selling and administrative expense	176.8	262.5
Operating income	95.8	0.7
Interest expense, net	(22.0)	(26.9)
Other expense, net	(1.5)	(0.4)
Income (loss) before income taxes	72.3	(26.6)
Income tax (expense) benefit	(16.5)	6.7
Net income (loss)	\$ 55.8	\$ (19.9)
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	(0.1)	(0.3)
Net income (loss) attributable to Avient common shareholders	\$ 55.7	\$ (20.2)
Earnings (loss) per share attributable to Avient common shareholders - Basic:	\$ 0.61	\$ (0.22)
Earnings (loss) per share attributable to Avient common shareholders - Diluted:	\$ 0.61	\$ (0.22)
Cash dividends declared per share of common stock	\$ 0.2750	\$ 0.2700
Weighted-average shares used to compute earnings per common share:		
Basic	91.7	91.5
Diluted	91.9	91.5

Avient Corporation
Summary of Special Items (Unaudited)
(In millions, except per share data)

Special items ⁽¹⁾	Three Months Ended March	
	31,	
	2026	2025
Cost of sales:		
Restructuring costs, including accelerated depreciation	\$ (3.2)	\$ (4.1)
Environmental remediation costs	(3.9)	(4.9)
Reimbursement of previously incurred environmental costs	0.3	1.3
Impact on cost of sales	(6.8)	(7.7)
Selling and administrative expense:		
Restructuring and employee separation costs	(0.8)	(5.1)
Legal and other	(1.3)	(0.4)
Cloud-based enterprise resource planning system impairment	—	(86.3)
Impact on selling and administrative expense	(2.1)	(91.8)
Impact on operating income	(8.9)	(99.5)
Interest expense, net - financing costs	—	(1.7)
Impact on income (loss) before income taxes	(8.9)	(101.2)
Income tax benefit on special items	2.0	25.5
Tax adjustments ⁽²⁾	1.4	—
Impact of special items on net income (loss)	\$ (5.5)	\$ (75.7)
Diluted earnings (loss) per common share impact	\$ (0.06)	\$ (0.82)
Weighted average shares used to compute adjusted earnings per share:		
Diluted	91.9	91.8

⁽¹⁾ Special items include charges related to specific strategic initiatives or financial restructuring such as: consolidation of operations; debt extinguishment costs; costs incurred directly in relation to acquisitions or divestitures; employee separation costs resulting from personnel reduction programs, plant realignment costs, executive separation agreements; asset impairments; settlement gains or losses and mark-to-market adjustments associated with gains and losses on pension and other post-retirement benefit plans; environmental remediation costs, fines, penalties and related insurance recoveries related to facilities no longer owned or closed in prior years; gains and losses on facility or property sales or disposals; results of litigation, fines or penalties, where such litigation (or action relating to the fines or penalties) arose prior to the commencement of the performance period; one-time, non-recurring items; and the effect of changes in accounting principles or other such laws or provisions affecting reported results.

⁽²⁾ Tax adjustments include the net tax impact from non-recurring income tax items and certain adjustments to uncertain tax position reserves and valuation allowances.

Avient Corporation
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(In millions)

	(Unaudited) March 31, 2026	December 31, 2025
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 427.6	\$ 510.5
Accounts receivable, net	513.4	435.0
Inventories, net	386.4	367.2
Other current assets	96.5	88.2
Total current assets	1,423.9	1,400.9
Property, net	967.9	988.8
Goodwill	1,739.2	1,757.6
Intangible assets, net	1,447.4	1,492.4
Other non-current assets	366.4	385.9
Total assets	\$ 5,944.8	\$ 6,025.6
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Short-term and current portion of long-term debt	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5
Accounts payable	426.1	410.0
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	376.5	435.8
Total current liabilities	803.1	846.3
Non-current liabilities:		
Long-term debt	1,924.0	1,922.6
Deferred income taxes	280.5	285.7
Other non-current liabilities	519.2	584.7
Total non-current liabilities	2,723.7	2,793.0
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Avient shareholders' equity	2,405.8	2,374.2
Noncontrolling interest	12.2	12.1
Total equity	2,418.0	2,386.3
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 5,944.8	\$ 6,025.6

Avient Corporation
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)
(In millions)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2026	2025
Operating activities		
Net income (loss)	\$ 55.8	\$ (19.9)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	47.9	45.3
Cloud-based enterprise resource planning system impairment	—	71.6
Share-based compensation expense	2.1	2.4
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Increase in accounts receivable	(83.7)	(83.7)
Increase in inventories	(22.9)	(20.3)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	20.0	(1.0)
(Decrease) increase in restructuring obligations	(4.7)	2.5
Decrease in incentive accruals	(24.8)	(53.1)
Environmental insurance recovery	—	34.0
Accrued expenses and other assets and liabilities, net	(24.2)	(28.9)
Net cash used in operating activities	(34.5)	(51.1)
Investing activities		
Capital expenditures	(19.0)	(12.5)
Net cash used in investing activities	(19.0)	(12.5)
Financing activities		
Cash dividends paid	(25.2)	(24.7)
Other financing activities	(2.6)	(3.6)
Net cash used in financing activities	(27.8)	(28.3)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(1.6)	3.4
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(82.9)	(88.5)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	510.5	544.5
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 427.6	\$ 456.0

Avient Corporation
Business Segment Operations (Unaudited)
(In millions)

Operating income and earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) at the segment level does not include: special items as defined in *Attachment 3*; corporate general and administration costs that are not allocated to segments; intersegment sales and profit eliminations; share-based compensation costs; and certain other items that are not included in the measure of segment profit and loss that is reported to and reviewed by the chief operating decision maker. These costs are included in *Corporate*.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2026	2025
Sales:		
Color, Additives and Inks	\$ 528.1	\$ 519.7
Specialty Engineered Materials	320.2	308.4
Corporate	(0.9)	(1.5)
Sales	<u>\$ 847.4</u>	<u>\$ 826.6</u>
Gross margin:		
Color, Additives and Inks	\$ 178.7	\$ 173.1
Specialty Engineered Materials	100.6	97.8
Corporate	(6.7)	(7.7)
Gross margin	<u>\$ 272.6</u>	<u>\$ 263.2</u>
Selling and administrative expense:		
Color, Additives and Inks	\$ 97.3	\$ 94.5
Specialty Engineered Materials	53.2	50.7
Corporate	26.3	117.3
Selling and administrative expense	<u>\$ 176.8</u>	<u>\$ 262.5</u>
Operating income:		
Color, Additives and Inks	\$ 81.4	\$ 78.6
Specialty Engineered Materials	47.4	47.1
Corporate	(33.0)	(125.0)
Operating income	<u>\$ 95.8</u>	<u>\$ 0.7</u>
Depreciation & amortization:		
Color, Additives and Inks	\$ 22.4	\$ 21.7
Specialty Engineered Materials	22.6	21.5
Corporate	2.9	2.1
Depreciation & amortization	<u>\$ 47.9</u>	<u>\$ 45.3</u>
Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA):		
Color, Additives and Inks	\$ 103.8	\$ 100.3
Specialty Engineered Materials	70.0	68.6
Corporate	(30.1)	(122.9)
Other expense, net	(1.5)	(0.4)
EBITDA	<u>\$ 142.2</u>	<u>\$ 45.6</u>
Special items, before tax	8.9	101.2
Interest expense included in special items	—	(1.7)
Depreciation & amortization included in special items	(1.2)	(0.4)
Adjusted EBITDA	<u>\$ 149.9</u>	<u>\$ 144.7</u>

Avient Corporation
Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures (Unaudited)
(In millions, except per share data)

Senior management uses operating income before special items to assess performance and allocate resources because senior management believes that this measure is most useful in understanding current profitability levels and how it may serve as a basis for future performance. In addition, operating income before the effect of special items is a component of Avient's annual incentive plans and is used in debt covenant computations. Senior management believes this measure is useful to investors because it allows for comparison to Avient's performance in prior periods without the effect of items that, by their nature, tend to obscure Avient's operating results due to the potential variability across periods based on timing, frequency and magnitude. Non-GAAP financial measures have limitations as analytical tools and should not be considered in isolation from, or solely as alternatives to, financial measures prepared in accordance with GAAP. Below is a reconciliation of these non-GAAP financial measures to their most directly comparable financial measures calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. See *Attachment 3* for a definition and summary of special items.

Reconciliation to Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2026	2025
Sales	\$ 847.4	\$ 826.6
Gross margin - GAAP	272.6	263.2
Special items in gross margin (Attachment 3)	6.8	7.7
Adjusted gross margin	<u>\$ 279.4</u>	<u>\$ 270.9</u>
Adjusted gross margin as a percent of sales	33.0 %	32.8 %
Operating income - GAAP	95.8	0.7
Special items in operating income (Attachment 3)	8.9	99.5
Adjusted operating income	<u>\$ 104.7</u>	<u>\$ 100.2</u>
Adjusted operating income as a percent of sales	12.4 %	12.1 %

Reconciliation to EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA:	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2026	2025
Net income (loss) - GAAP	\$ 55.8	\$ (19.9)
Income tax expense (benefit)	16.5	(6.7)
Interest expense, net	22.0	26.9
Depreciation & amortization	47.9	45.3
EBITDA	<u>\$ 142.2</u>	<u>\$ 45.6</u>
Special items, before tax	8.9	101.2
Interest expense included in special items	—	(1.7)
Depreciation & amortization included in special items	(1.2)	(0.4)
Adjusted EBITDA	<u>\$ 149.9</u>	<u>\$ 144.7</u>
Adjusted EBITDA as a percent of sales	17.7 %	17.5 %

Reconciliation to Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income	Three Months Ended June 30, 2025	
	\$	EPS⁽¹⁾
Net income attributable to Avient common shareholders	\$ 52.6	\$ 0.57
Special items, after-tax	5.7	0.07
Amortization expense, after-tax	15.2	0.16
Adjusted net income / EPS	<u>\$ 73.5</u>	<u>\$ 0.80</u>

⁽¹⁾ Per share amounts may not recalculate from figures presented herein due to rounding