



Balfour Capital Group Novartis AG

Novartis AG is a Swiss multinational pharmaceutical company headquartered in Basel. It focuses on developing innovative medicines across key therapeutic areas such as oncology, immunology, neuroscience, and cardiovascular diseases. Following the spin-offs of its generics unit Sandoz in 2023 and eye-care division Alcon in 2019, Novartis has streamlined its operations to concentrate on branded pharmaceuticals. The company's medicines reach nearly 300 million people globally each year.

1. Top 5 Competitors

Novartis competes with several major pharmaceutical companies, including:

1. Pfizer
2. Johnson & Johnson
3. Merck & Co.
4. Roche
5. Sanofi

These companies are among the top global pharmaceutical firms by revenue.

2. Largest Institutional Shareholders

As of early 2025, the largest institutional shareholders in Novartis include:

- BlackRock: 6.4%
- UBS: 5.3%
- Sandoz Family (Emasan AG): Previously held 4.1%, reduced by 1% in February 2025 .

Other significant holders are Dodge & Cox, Primecap Management, Vanguard, Morgan Stanley, and Wellington Management .

3. Management Team:

Novartis is led by:

- Vasant (Vas) Narasimhan, M.D. – Chief Executive Officer
- Giovanni Caforio, M.D. – Chair of the Board (since 2025)
- Shreeram Aradhya, M.D. – President, Development and Chief Medical Officer

The Executive Committee oversees global operations and strategic direction .



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4. Revenue

For the first quarter of 2025, Novartis reported:

- Net Sales: \$13.2 billion (12% increase year-over-year)
- Operating Income: \$4.7 billion (38% increase year-over-year)

The company raised its full-year guidance, anticipating high-single-digit sales growth and low double-digit growth in core operating income .

5. Institutions with Buy Recommendations:

Several financial institutions have issued buy ratings for Novartis:

- Deutsche Bank
- Bernstein
- DZ Bank

Others, such as JP Morgan and UBS, have maintained neutral ratings .

6. Summary of Analyst Sentiment:

Analyst consensus for Novartis is currently Hold, with an average target price of \$118.69. Among 21 analysts, the high target is \$139.66, and the low is \$94.04 .

7. Insider Buying and Selling Over the Last 24 Months:

Insider ownership of Novartis stock is minimal, at approximately 0.01%. There have been no significant insider purchases or sales reported in the past 24 months .