RESEARCH NOTE / 10 NOVEMBER 2026

Anthropic

What the operating economics can support

Anthropic’s net loss narrowed sharply in Q3 2026 while its GAAP operating result moved from profit to loss. The two measures answer different questions. Our October valuation scenarios ask a third question: how much operating value can the business support after funding compute, reinvestment and asset replacement?

01 / Quarterly reconciliation

USD millions · unaudited	Q2 2026	Q3 2026
Revenue	+11,555	+16,956
Operating expenses	−10,581	−17,523
GAAP operating income (loss)	+974	−567
Interest income	+762	+1,248
Fair-value change on notes, derivatives and SAFEs	−59,597	−21,936
Other non-operating income (expense), net	−8,448	−1,640
Income tax expense	0	−396
GAAP net income (loss)	−66,309	−23,291

The other non-operating line also includes fair-value effects on certain mark-to-market instruments. GAAP operating income does not measure free cash flow.

Source: Anthropic Form S-1/A, November 10, 2026, MD&A, Quarterly Results of Operations. The Q2 and Q3 table values agree with the November 2 amendment.

02 / How we value the operations

We use a discounted cash-flow framework that links revenue and operating costs to cash taxes, reinvestment and equipment replacement. Compute commitments inform the operating cost and capital schedules. We vary revenue and asset life separately to identify their effects on value. We keep the operating valuation distinct from the bridge to equity.

The assumptions that move value

03 / Valuation assumptions and results

The October model uses an 11.35% initial operating discount rate and 2.75% nominal terminal growth. The slower-commercialization path reaches $205.2bn in 2036 revenue. The substituted higher-revenue path reaches approximately $1.011tn. Within that higher path, the equipment-life test holds revenue and the other modeled assumptions fixed.

Conditional case	Operating value · USD bn
Slower commercialization	−23.3
Higher revenue · 5-year productive life	664.8
Higher revenue · 3-year productive life	395.3
Higher revenue · 2-year productive life	132.0

Under the higher-revenue assumptions, shorter productive life brings replacement spending forward and reduces operating value. These are conditional present values of operations.

04 / What the reverse test implies

Under the specified higher-path economics, a hypothetical $1.5tn post-money aggregate equity value, including $100bn of assumed primary issuance, requires approximately $1.84tn of 2036 revenue. The exercise solves for a model input under a stated target and financing assumption.

05 / What remains unresolved

The first-half historical cash-flow reconciliation retains a $3.171bn gap between the cash-based and capital-change approaches. Cash-tax allocation, classification and possible overlap of commitments, and preferred, employee and common claims remain unresolved. These limitations preclude a common-share target. The November filing updates the reported quarterly context. The October scenario values retain their original assumptions.

Scenario values and assumptions are drawn from the retained NXFinance October valuation and its sensitivity and reverse-valuation checks. The November filing is the source for reported quarterly performance.

Independent research for informational purposes. No investment recommendation.