

# News Release

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## BASF Group releases preliminary figures for the second quarter of 2021 and increases forecast for full year 2021

### Q2 2021:

- Sales expected to be €19,753 million  
(Q2 2020: €12,680 million)
- EBIT before special items expected to be €2,355 million  
(Q2 2020: €226 million)
- EBIT expected to be €2,316 million  
(Q2 2020: €59 million)

### Outlook 2021:

- Sales expected between €74 billion and €77 billion  
(previous outlook 2021: €68 billion to €71 billion)
- EBIT before special items expected between €7.0 billion and €7.5 billion  
(previous outlook 2021: €5.0 billion to €5.8 billion)

Ludwigshafen – July 9, 2021 – BASF Group has released preliminary figures for the second quarter of 2021. **Sales** increased by 55.8 percent in the second quarter of 2021 to €19,753 million (Q2 2020: €12,680 million). This was driven by higher prices (+35 percent) and volumes (+28 percent); negative currency effects (–7 percent) had an offsetting effect. The average analyst estimates for BASF Group’s sales in the second quarter of 2021 amount to €17,157 million.

In the second quarter of 2021, the operating business of BASF Group has been able to maintain the strong momentum since the fourth quarter of 2020. **EBIT before special items** is expected to amount to €2,355 million, a considerable increase compared with the prior-year quarter, which was weak due to the pandemic (Q2 2020: €226 million). At €1,965 million, the average analyst estimates for EBIT

before special items of BASF Group in the second quarter of 2021 are considerably below this figure.

The Chemicals, Materials and Industrial Solutions segments considerably exceeded average analyst estimates for EBIT before special items in the second quarter of 2021. EBIT before special items was slightly below analyst consensus in the Surface Technologies segment and significantly below average analyst estimates in the Agricultural Solutions and Nutrition & Care segments. In Other, EBIT before special items was on the level of average analyst estimates.

BASF Group's **EBIT** is expected to be €2,316 million in the second quarter of 2021, considerably above the figure for the prior-year quarter, which was weak due to the pandemic (Q2 2020: €59 million). EBIT in the second quarter of 2021 includes a preliminary disposal gain of a mid-double-digit million-euro amount from the sale of the pigments business. The analyst consensus for EBIT in the second quarter of 2021 is €1,929 million.

### **Outlook 2021 for the BASF Group**

Based on the strong business development in the first half of 2021 (Sales H1 2021: €39,153 million; EBIT before special items H1 2021: €4,676 million), BASF is increasing its outlook 2021 for sales and EBIT before special items. For the full year 2021, BASF Group now expects **sales** of €74 billion to €77 billion (previous outlook 2021: €68 billion to €71 billion; analyst consensus 2021: €68,654 million; full year 2020: €59,149 million). **EBIT before special items** is now anticipated to reach between €7.0 billion and €7.5 billion in 2021 (previous outlook 2021: €5.0 billion to €5.8 billion; analyst consensus 2021: €6,299 million; full year 2020: €3,560 million). The considerably increased earnings expectations in the Chemicals and Materials segments are the main reason for the increase of the forecast for 2021.

This outlook is based on the following assumptions regarding the global economic environment in 2021:

- Growth in gross domestic product: 5.5 percent (previously: 5.0 percent)
- Growth in industrial production: 6.5 percent (previously: 5.0 percent)
- Growth in chemical production: 6.5 percent (previously: 5.0 percent)

- Average euro/dollar exchange rate of \$1.20 per euro (previously: \$1.18 per euro)
- Average annual oil price (Brent crude) of \$65 per barrel (previously: \$60 per barrel)

BASF's forecast assumes that there will be no severe restrictions on economic activity due to measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic in the second half of 2021.

### **Further information**

The overview of analyst estimates, which is compiled monthly on behalf of BASF, can be found at: [www.basf.com/analysts-estimates](http://www.basf.com/analysts-estimates).

On Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 7:00 a.m. CEST, the company will publish the Half-Year Financial Report 2021 and will comment on the figures at a conference call for journalists (from 08:00 a.m. CEST) and a conference call for analysts and investors (from 10:00 a.m. CEST).

### **About BASF**

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. More than 110,000 employees in the BASF Group contribute to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio is organized into six segments: Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care and Agricultural Solutions. BASF generated sales of €59 billion in 2020. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchange in Frankfurt (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the U.S. Further information at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).

### **Forward-looking statements and forecasts**

This release contains forward-looking statements. These statements are based on current estimates and projections of the Board of Executive Directors and currently available information. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of the future developments and results outlined therein. These are dependent on a number of factors; they involve various risks and uncertainties; and they are based on assumptions that may not prove to be accurate. BASF does not assume any obligation to update the forward-looking statements contained in this release above and beyond the legal requirements.