It’s Official: Woolworths is Australia’s Most Trusted Brand

Roy Morgan announces Woolworths as Australia’s Most Trusted Brand, alongside other category winners, Bunnings, Kmart and Toyota in the Trusted Brand Awards for 2023. These brands have had an exceptional year by garnering high levels of trust, and exceedingly low, or negligible, levels of distrust throughout the year.

All 20 of the winning brands have demonstrated their market leading performance by emerging ahead of all competitors in their respective categories.

The winners of the Roy Morgan Trusted Brand Awards for 2023 are:

- Supermarkets: Woolworths
- Retail: Bunnings
- Department & Discount Department Stores: Kmart
- Consumer Products: Samsung
- Services: Australia Post
- Charities: Salvation Army
- Technology: Apple
- Travel & Tourism: Virgin Australia (NEW)
- Food & Beverage: Cadbury
- Automotive: Toyota
- Non-Bank Financial Services: PayPal
- Superannuation: AustralianSuper
- Insurance: NRMA
- Private Health Insurance: HBF
- Utilities: Synergy (NEW)
- Government Services: CSIRO
- Media: ABC
- Mining & Petroleum: Fortescue Metals
- Banks: Bendigo Bank
- Telecommunications: Aussie Broadband

‘Best of the Best’ Most Trusted Brand for 2023: Woolworths

The Roy Morgan Trusted Brand Awards recognise the outstanding levels of trust built up by 20 brands across a range of different industries and services including Supermarkets, Retail, Department & Discount Department Stores, Services, Charities, Automotive, Superannuation, Insurance, Utilities, Government Services, Media, Mining & Petroleum, Banks, Telecommunications and more.

Several of the Trusted Brand Award winners appeared in the overall Top 20 Most Trusted Brands in the most recent quarter led by Woolworths, Bunnings, Kmart, Toyota, ABC, NRMA, Bendigo Bank and Australia Post – all of which scored highly and challenged for top spot.
The ultimate winner as the ‘Best of the Best’ Most Trusted Brand for a second consecutive year is Woolworths which has consistently rated as the Most Trusted Brand over the last three challenging years since taking the honour from Bunnings.

Roy Morgan congratulates Woolworths in winning the ‘Best of the Best’ Award as the ‘Most Trusted Brand in Australia’, represented by Brad Banducci, CEO of Woolworths.

Roy Morgan CEO Michele Levine says the 20 winners in the Roy Morgan Trusted Brand Awards have outperformed their competitors by maintaining consistently high levels of trust, and minimal distrust, in a challenging environment of high inflation and rising interest rates:

“Despite the incredible differences these circumstances present, we have found the vast majority of Australia’s most trusted brands have backed up their performance from a year ago and confirmed their market leading positions with consecutive wins in their categories.

The repeat winners include many of the most trusted brands in the country including Woolworths (Supermarkets – and ‘Best of the Best’), Bunnings (Retail), Kmart (Department & Discount Department Stores), Toyota (Automotive), Apple (Technology) and Australia Post (Services).

Other highly trusted consecutive winners include PayPal (Non-Bank Financial Services), CSIRO (Government Services), Samsung (Consumer Products), AustralianSuper (Superannuation), Salvation Army (Charities), Aussie Broadband (Telecommunications) and NRMA (Insurance).

It’s also important to recognise there were two first-time winners this year – Synergy in the highly competitive Utilities sector and Virgin Australia – taking out the title as Australia’s most trusted Travel & Tourism brand after last year’s winner, Qantas, ran into significant turbulence this year.

Underlying Virgin Australia’s victory this year as the most trusted Travel and Tourism brand were respondent quotes like this one ‘I have flown Virgin ever since they arrived in Australia, they are..."
always open and honest with me, even with flight delays the line of communications are open’ – drawing a clear contrast with their primary competitor.

Most impressive of all was the performance of Australia’s leading supermarket chain Woolworths which has now spent three straight years as Australia’s most trusted brand and has once again been awarded Roy Morgan’ Best of the Best’ Trusted Brand Award.

Roy Morgan CEO Michele Levine gives context to Woolworth’s win:

“The Supermarket industry finds itself navigating an increasingly volatile landscape with cost-of-living pressures, and aggressive, even violent customer behaviour. Trust is not a static achievement; it is continually tested, particularly in supermarkets.”

Respondents to the survey rated Woolworths highly for quality products, focusing clearly on the needs of customers, reliability, and community-mindedness.

Typical comments from respondents were that Woolworths has “A great loyalty program, good customer service and good weekly specials”, that “They communicate frequently, care about their customers and are transparent” and “Woolworths cares about the farmers and suppliers. They look after their customers and their staff.”

Another indicative comment about Woolworths included ‘Products are always in good condition. Transparent and open about why something isn’t in stock. Woolworths will add products to the local shop by popular demand and they have friendly and reliable staff’.

Roy Morgan CEO Michele Levine notes the importance of trust on businesses:

“The consecutive victories for Woolworths are a demonstration to other businesses about the value derived from building trust and enhancing a company’s standing in the wider community. High levels of trust, and low to negligible distrust, are both key factors in attracting new customers which inevitably flows directly through to the bottom line.”

Many of this year’s winners have built on their wins in Roy Morgan’s inaugural Trusted Brand Awards a year ago and repeated their victories this year. The back-to-back wins are a testament to how important these market-leading companies regard maintaining a high level of trust is to their success she says:

“The importance of trust in our world is often under-appreciated, but without trust, the world we live in doesn’t function and the simple day-to-day rhythms of life aren’t possible.”

“Over the last year we have witnessed many examples of how a lack of trust, and rising distrust, can destroy a brand’s reputation and provide a direct hit to the bottom line. How a brand responds to these challenges can define whether that company has a future or will wither and fade into irrelevance.”

For comments or more information about Roy Morgan’s Annual Trusted Brand Award data please contact:

Roy Morgan Enquiries
Office: +61 (3) 9224 5309
askroymorgan@roymorgan.com
Roy Morgan Trusted Brand Awards

The Roy Morgan Trusted Brand Awards bring together outstanding companies and brands from across a range of industries to celebrate and recognise the unmatched levels of trust these organisations hold when compared to their competitors in their respective categories.

The Roy Morgan Trusted Brand Awards have been awarded to 20 leading brands for the 12 months to June 2023 and all 20 winners have displayed market-leading levels of trust, and exceedingly low, or negligible, levels of distrust to outstrip their rivals on the key metric of 'Net Trust'.

The Roy Morgan Risk Monitor collects insights on trust and distrust from around 25,000 Australians each year, or around 2,000 Australians each month. Respondents are asked which companies they trust, and why, and which companies they distrust, and why. The survey is specially designed to be open-ended and context-free, i.e. unprompted. In any one year, a company must be nominated by at least 20 Australians to be included in rankings used in the Roy Morgan Trusted Brand Awards.

Need to know what is driving your trust and distrust?

The Roy Morgan Risk Monitor is an ongoing survey based on over 2000 interviews each month since 2018 to measure levels of trust and distrust in more than 900 brands across 26 sectors.

Roy Morgan Risk Monitor data is available in a variety of formats, from snapshot overviews to detailed tracking of individual brands and their competitors. To gain a greater understanding of Roy Morgan's Risk research, or to explore the results for specific industries and brands, contact Roy Morgan.

For the latest rankings of key brands, comparison to rankings from a year ago, and examples of reasons Australians trust and distrust key brands view the latest edition of the Roy Morgan Risk Report.

About Roy Morgan

Roy Morgan is Australia's largest independent Australian research company, with offices in each state, as well as in the U.S. and U.K. A full-service research organisation, Roy Morgan has over 80 years’ experience collecting objective, independent information on consumers.

Margin of Error

The margin of error to be allowed for in any estimate depends mainly on the number of interviews on which it is based. Margin of error gives indications of the likely range within which estimates would be 95% likely to fall, expressed as the number of percentage points above or below the actual estimate. Allowance for design effects (such as stratification and weighting) should be made as appropriate.

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Trust and Distrust is monitored for the following ranked brands:

**Automotive**
Ford, Holden, Honda, Hyundai, Kia, Mazda, Mercedes Benz, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Subaru, Toyota, Tesla, Uber, Volkswagen

**Banks**
ANZ, Bank Australia, Bank of Queensland, BankSA, Bankwest, Bendigo Bank, CBA, Citibank, Great Southern Bank / CUA, Heritage Bank, HSBC, ING, Macquarie Bank, ME Bank, NAB, People's Choice Credit Union, St George, Suncorp, Teachers Mutual Bank, ubank, Westpac

**Charities**
Cancer Council, Greenpeace, Red Cross, RSPCA, Smith Family, St Vincent de Paul, The Salvation Army / Salvos, World Vision

**Chemical & Pharmaceutical**
CSL, Moderna, Monsanto, Pfizer

**Consumer Products**
Adidas, Body Shop, Bonds, Bosch, Colgate Palmolive, Cotton On, Country Road, Dove, Dyson, EA, Johnson & Johnson, Kathmandu, Lego, LG, Lush, Miele, Nike, Nintendo, Patagonia, Samsung, Sony, Sukin, Thankyou, Unilever, Who Gives A Crap

**Food & Beverage**
Arnott’s, Bega, Cadbury, Coca Cola Amatil / Coke, Domino’s Pizza, Hungry Jacks, Kellogg’s, KFC, McDonalds, Nestle, Sanitarium, Subway, Uncle Toby’s

**Gambling**
Crown casinos, Sportsbet, TABCorp

**Government Services**
ATO / Australian Tax Office, Centrelink, CSIRO, Federal Government, Medicare, Reserve Bank of Australia, State Government

**Insurance**
AAMI, AHM (Australian Health Management), Allianz, APIA (Australian Pensioners Insurance Agency), Budget Direct, Bupa, GIO Insurance, HBF (Hospital Benefits Fund), HCF (Hospitals Contribution Fund of Australia), Medibank Private Limited, NIB Health Funds, NRMA, QBE Insurance, RAA (Royal Automobile Association of South Australia), RAC (Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia), RACQ, RACT, RACV, Teachers Health Fund, Youi

**Media**
ABC, Channel 10, Channel 7, Channel 9, Disney, Fairfax Media, Fox, Foxtel, Google, Herald Sun, Netflix, NewsCorp, SBS, Sky news, Spotify, Sydney Morning Herald (SMH), The Age, The Guardian

**Mining & Petroleum**
Ampol/Caltex, BHP, BP, Bravus / Adani, Exxon, Fortescue Metals, Hancock Prospecting, Rio Tinto, Santos, Shell, Woodside Petroleum

**Non-Bank Financial Services**
Afterpay, American Express / AMEX, AMP, Australian Ethical, AustralianSuper / AusSuper, Latitude Financial, PayPal, Qsuper, Vanguard

**Political Parties / Entities**
ALP / Labor Party, Liberal Party

**Real Estate / Property Developers**
Ray White, Lendlease

**Retail**
Amazon, Big W, Bunnings, BWS (Liquor), Catch Of The Day, Chemist Warehouse, Costco, Dan Murphy's, David Jones, eBay, Harris Scarfe, Harvey Norman, IKEA, JB Hi-Fi, Kmart, Kogan, Mecca / Mecca Max / Mecca Maxima, Mitre 10, Myer, Officeworks, Petbarn, Priceline, Rebel Sport, Reject Shop, Shein, Specsavers, Spotlight, Target, The Good Guys, The Iconic, Westfield, Wish

**Services**
Australia Post, Choice, Flying Doctor Service, PwC, Wesfarmers

**Social Media**
Facebook / Meta, Instagram, TikTok, Twitter / X, YouTube

**Supermarkets / Convenience Stores**
7 Eleven, ALDI, Coles, Drakes Supermarket, Foodland, IGA, Woolworths

**Technology**
Apple, Atlassian, Dell, HP Packard, Microsoft

**Telecommunications**
Amaysim, Aussie Broadband, Dodo, Huawei, iiNet, Optus, Telstra, TPG, Vodafone

**Travel & Tourism**
Flight Centre, Jetstar, QANTAS, Virgin

**Utilities**