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Tuesday, 23 September 2025

# Bunnings is Australia's most trusted brand – while the big four banks (CBA, NAB, ANZ and Westpac) surge up the rankings

Bunnings is the most trusted brand in the 12 months to June 2025 – a seventh consecutive quarterly victory for the ubiquitous hardware retailer stretching back to late 2023. Bunnings was also recognised last week as Australia's 'Best of the Best' Most Trusted Brand for 2025.

For the third straight quarter the top five places remain unchanged with budget supermarket **Aldi** in second place, discount department store **Kmart**.in third, technology and consumer products giant **Apple** in fourth and leading car manufacturer **Toyota** in fifth place.

### Big four banks and discount department stores improve their trust rankings

There were two notable trends in the latest trust rankings with all four major banks improving their rankings, and two prominent discount department stores rising to more closely challenge market leader **Kmart**.

All four major banks improved their rankings led by banking giant **Commonwealth Bank** improving an impressive five spots on the back of increasing levels of trust to enter the top ten for the first time in 7<sup>th</sup> place and number one in the bank rankings – moving clearly ahead of **Bendigo Bank**.

**NAB** had a good quarter with a rising level of trust as well as decreasing levels of distrust powering a rise of 29 places to enter the top 20 for the first time in 19<sup>th</sup> position. This is a second straight quarterly surge for the Melbourne-based bank after a massive increase of 112 spots in the previous quarter.

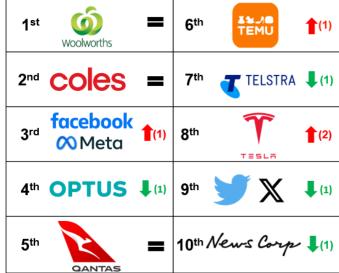
**Westpac** increased by an exceptional 53 places to be move into 21<sup>st</sup> place, and **ANZ** jumped an extraordinary 104 places to 51<sup>st</sup> overall. However, it's important to note the rapid increases for **ANZ** were before corporate regulator ASIC imposed a record fine of \$240 million against the bank earlier this week for widespread misconduct. In contrast to the its larger peers, **ING** fell out of the top 20 for the first time.

For the discount department stores, **Big W** (owned by Woolworths) was up for a second straight quarter by one spot to 6<sup>th</sup>, and rival **Target** (owned by Wesfarmers) improved three spots to 13<sup>th</sup>.

## 10 MOST TRUSTED BRANDS

# 10 MOST DISTRUSTED BRANDS





**Figure 1**: Australia's 10 most trusted and 10 most distrusted brands in June 2025. **Source**: Roy Morgan Single Source (Australia). Risk Monitor, 12-month average to June 2025. **Base**: Australians 14+, n=21,787. Arrows with numbers show ranking change since March 2025.

According to Roy Morgan CEO Michele Levine: "Bunnings continues its reign as Australia's most trusted brand in mid-2025 – now on top for a seventh straight quarter and collecting a well-deserved second consecutive 'Best of the Best' Most Trusted Award at Roy Morgan's Annual Trust Awards in mid-September.

"The most notable movements in the index were below the unchanged top five of **Bunnings**, **ALDI**, **Kmart**, **Apple** and **Toyota** with the big four banks enjoying a surge in trust during 2025 so far.

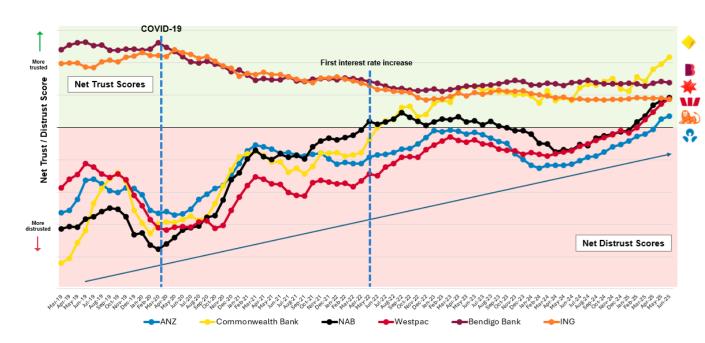
"The improvements for the major banks so far this year are impressive with all four surging upwards in recent quarters. In the June quarter 2025, **Commonwealth Bank** increased five places to enter the top 10 in 7<sup>th</sup> place and clearly the number one in the banking rankings ahead of **Bendigo Bank** (now in 14<sup>th</sup> overall).

"There were also significant improvements for **NAB** which jumped 29 spots to enter the top 20 in 19<sup>th</sup> place and **Westpac** surged 53 places to be just outside the top 20 in 21<sup>st</sup> position. Both **NAB** and **Westpac** are forecast to overtake **Bendigo Bank** later this year.

"However, the largest spike in the rankings was for **ANZ** which rocketed up the rankings by 104 spots to 51<sup>st</sup> place – although the ASIC fine last week for widespread misconduct – admitted to by the bank – may well put a halt to this rapid improvement.

"All four of the big banks have improved their rankings in both quarters of 2025 so far – a period which included the first cuts to official interest rates for nearly five years after a sustained period of interest rate increases. The RBA cut interest rates in February 2025 (-0.25%) and May 2025 (-0.25%) and has subsequently cut interest rates again in August 2025 by 0.25% to 3.6%."

#### Net Trust/Distrust Score Trends - Big 4 Banks + Bendigo Bank and ING (12m avg.)



**Source**: Roy Morgan Single Source (Australia). Risk Monitor, 12-month average to June 2025. **Base**: Australians 14+, Latest 12-month average n=21,787.

## Trusted Brands - Bunnings, ALDI, Kmart, Apple and Toyota are again the top five

**Bunnings** (1<sup>st</sup>) has retained top spot as the most trusted brand in the June quarter, the popular hardware chain's seventh straight quarterly victory atop the rankings. Filling out the top five places were **ALDI** (2<sup>nd</sup>), **Kmart** (3<sup>rd</sup>), **Apple** (4<sup>th</sup>) and **Toyota** (5<sup>th</sup>) for the third straight quarter.

There were two improvers in the top 10 most trusted brands with **Big W** up one spot to  $6^{th}$  and the **Commonwealth Bank** improving their ranking by five spots to  $7^{th}$  – both brands have now increased in the rankings for a second consecutive quarter.

As well as the aforementioned improvements for the big four banks, there was an impressive increase for discount department store **Target**, up by three spots to 13<sup>th</sup> overall.



#### Distrusted Brands - Woolworths and Coles are the most distrusted and Tesla's slide continues

The supermarket giants **Woolworths** and **Coles** are again Australia's two most distrusted brands for a third straight quarter.

Behind the two supermarkets there were several prominent brands to increase their distrust in the last quarter including **Facebook/Meta** which deteriorated one spot to be Australia's third most distrusted brand, **Temu**, deteriorating one place to sixth most distrusted and **Tesla**, which continued its descent, deteriorating two places to eighth.

However, the biggest sliders in the top 20 most distrusted brands were all ranked between 12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> most distrusted including two technology centred firms: Chinese discount online retailer, **Shein**, deteriorating three spots to 12<sup>th</sup> most distrusted brand, and **Google**, deteriorating three spots to 17<sup>th</sup> most distrusted brand.

Also deteriorating in distrust rankings were **Harvey Norman**, down three places to 14<sup>th</sup>, and discount airline **Jetstar** which lost three ranking places to be the country's 20<sup>th</sup> most distrusted brand.

There were several distrusted companies to improve their rankings including **Optus** which improved one spot to 4<sup>th</sup> – although this was before the latest network outage problems for the telco last week, **Telstra**, improving one place to 7<sup>th</sup>, **Twitter/X**, improving one place to 9<sup>th</sup>, **News Corp**, improving one place to 10<sup>th</sup>, **TikTok** which landed in 13<sup>th</sup>, an improvement of one ranking spot, **Nestle**, improving two spots to 15<sup>th</sup>, **Rio Tinto**, improving two places to 16<sup>th</sup> and the biggest increase was for oil major **BP**, improving three places to 19<sup>th</sup>.

According to Roy Morgan CEO Michele Levine some of Australia's most high profile – and most distrusted – brands are beginning to turn the corner – but there is a long way to go:

"Woolworths, Coles and Qantas – four of Australia's biggest brands – have all experienced reputational crises in recent years, but there are positive signs for all of them in the latest trust data.

"Underneath the surface, and despite continuing high levels of distrust, it's worth mentioning **Qantas** has continued to improve their trust significantly, and even the two most distrusted – **Coles** and **Woolworths** – are showing green shoots of recovery, albeit with a very long way to go.

"The evolving trust rankings of these four major brands provide valuable insights into the shifting dynamics of consumer trust and distrust for which Roy Morgan's Benchmark Recovery Rate enables clients to track progress against a reliable recovery benchmark.

"Looking closely at the major online retailers, shows **Shein** and **Temu** have continued to dramatically deteriorate. As more Australians buy from Chinese brands, they become more concerned about the quality of the products and the ethics surrounding their business practices.

"In contrast, **Amazon's** reputation, which declined during the COVID-19 pandemic and reached its lowest point in April 2022, has begun to bounce back, but still has a long way to go."

Subscribe to Roy Morgan's YouTube channel to ensure you don't miss our next webinar on trust and distrust: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/roymorganaus">https://www.youtube.com/c/roymorganaus</a>.

The Roy Morgan Most Trusted Brand Awards Report 2025 with rankings of over 230 brands and analysis by industry is now available for purchase <u>here</u>. The latest Trust and Distrust Webinar Report with insights into trust and distrust across various industries is available <u>here</u>.

The Roy Morgan Risk Monitor surveys approximately 1,500-2,000 Australians every month (over 20,000 per year) to measure levels of trust and distrust of around 1,000 brands across 27 industries. Respondents are asked which brands they trust, and why, and which brands they distrust, and why. The survey is designed to be open-ended, context-free, and unprompted. Roy Morgan Risk Monitor data is available in a variety of formats, from snapshot overviews to detailed tracking of individual brands and competitors. Industry Trust and Brand Health Surveys are also conducted (e.g. Private Health Insurance, Agribusiness, Banking, Travel and Tourism, Telco, Utilities, Insurance, etc.) for deep insights into brand health, perceptions of, and customer experience (CX) with brands.

To learn more call (+61) (3) 9224 5309 or email <a href="mailto:askroymorgan@roymorgan.com">askroymorgan@roymorgan.com</a>.



# **About Roy Morgan**

Roy Morgan is the source of the most comprehensive data on Australians' behaviour and attitudes, surveying over 1,000 people weekly in a continuous cycle that has been running for two decades. The company has more than 80 years' experience collecting objective, independent information.

# **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.

Sample Size	Percentage Estimate			
	40%-60%	25% or 75%	10% or 90%	5% or 95%
1,000	±3.0	±2.7	±1.9	±1.3
2,000	±2.2	±1.9	±1.3	±1.0

