

The Kroger Co. (Kroger)

TICKER
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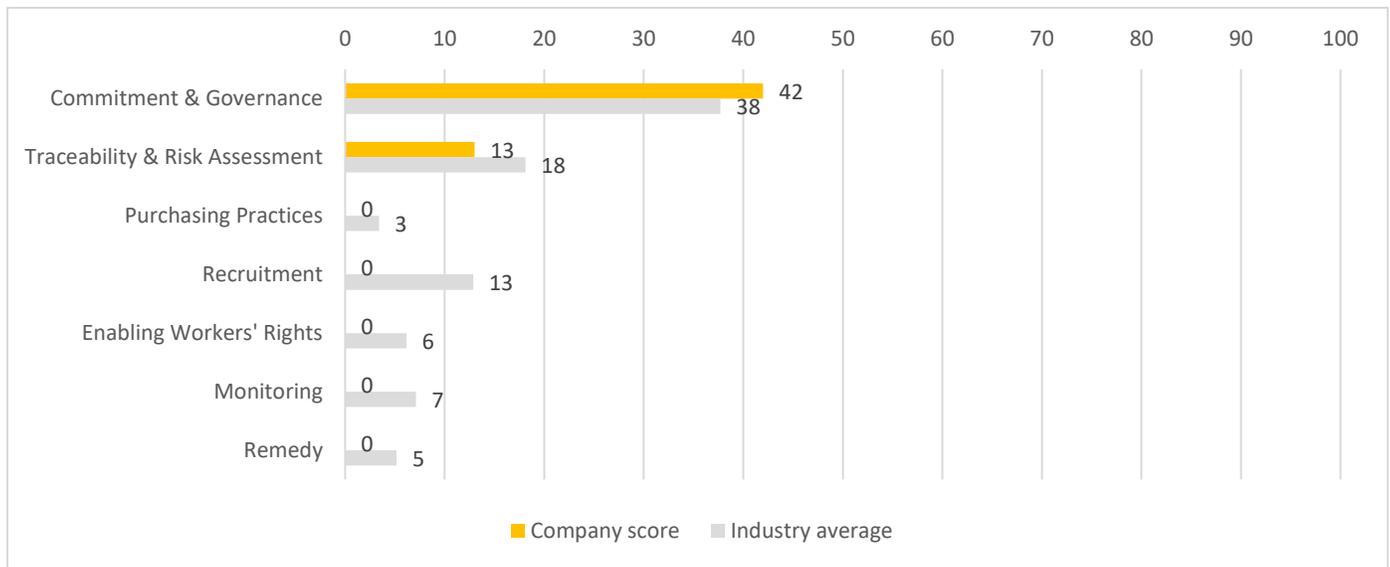
MARKET CAPITALISATION
US\$31.7 billion

HEADQUARTERS
United States of America

DISCLOSURES
UK Modern Slavery Act: Not applicable

California Transparency in Supply Chains Act: [Yes](#)
Australia Modern Slavery Act: Not applicable

OVERALL RANKING
25 out of 45

 2023 Rank: [25 out of 60](#)
OVERALL SCORE
10 out of 100
THEME-LEVEL SCORES

KEY DATA POINTS
FIRST-TIER SUPPLIER LIST
 No

RISK ASSESSMENT

Yes

ENGAGED WITH KNOWTHECHAIN¹
 No

NO-FEE POLICY
 No

REMEDY FOR SUPPLY CHAIN WORKERS
 No

HIGH-RISK COMMODITIES²
 Soy beans, coffee, shrimp, tomatoes and others

SUMMARY

The Kroger Co. (Kroger), the largest supermarket chain in the US, ranks 25 out of 45 companies.³ Compared to 2023, the company decreased its score by 4 points, achieving a lower score across the themes of Traceability and Risk Assessment, and Enabling Workers' Rights, where it scores zero. While it scores higher than average on the theme of Commitment and Governance, the company did not score under any other theme and compared to 2023, the company does not seem to have taken steps to strengthen its performance and disclosure on forced labour issues within its supply chain.

KnowTheChain identified two allegations of forced labour in the company's supply chains. However, the company neither discloses engagement with affected stakeholders, nor remedy outcomes for workers.

Additional steps the company could take to address forced labour risks in its supply chains, include disclosing policies and practices/strengthening its disclosure and practices on themes such as Purchasing Practices, Recruitment and Remedy.

LEADING PRACTICES

None.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

Purchasing Practices: To address forced labour risks in its supply chains, the company is encouraged to adopt purchasing practices that decrease the risk of forced labour, such as improving planning and forecasting and prompt payment, and disclose quantitative data evidencing the implementation of responsible purchasing practices. The company is further encouraged to take steps to ensure that pricing includes the full cost of production, including a living wage/income, and may consider ring-fencing labour costs such that they are not impacted during pricing negotiations. The company should consider integrating [responsible buying practices in its contracts](#) with suppliers, to ensure that the responsibility for respecting human rights is shared.

Recruitment: To address the risk of exploitation of migrant workers through recruitment agencies in its supply chains, the company is encouraged to take steps to ensure that workers in its supply chains are not charged fees during any recruitment-related process. The company may further consider disclosing the steps taken to ensure that such fees are reimbursed to the workers and/or provide evidence of payment of recruitment-related fees by suppliers. The company is also encouraged to provide details of how it supports responsible recruitment in its supply chains.

Remedy: The company may consider establishing a process to ensure that remedy is provided to workers in its supply chains in cases of forced labour and disclosing details on this process, such as responsible parties, approval procedures, timeframes, and, crucially, engagement with affected stakeholders. To demonstrate to its stakeholders that it has an effective remedy process in place, the company is encouraged to disclose examples of remedy provided to its suppliers' workers, including with respect to specific allegations in its supply chains.

¹ Research conducted through April - September 2025, where companies provided additional disclosure or links. For more information, see the full dataset [here](#). For information on a company's positive and negative human rights impact, see the Business and Human Rights Centre [website](#).

² For further details on high-risk raw materials and sourcing countries, see KnowTheChain's 2026 food and beverage benchmark [findings report](#).

³ The number of companies assessed in the ranking has decreased from 60 in 2022 to 45 in 2026.