2026 Retailer Report Card

Ranking retailers on toxic chemicals and plastics

Nearly half of major retailers evaluated in the 2026 Retailer Report Card are backsliding on efforts to protect health from toxic chemicals and plastics in products and packaging, after a decade of growing retailer action. Yet leading retailers show that progress is possible.

First launched in 2016, the Retailer Report Card is published by Toxic-Free Future through its Mind the Store program. Now in its seventh edition, the report evaluates 50 major retailers in the U.S. and Canada on their efforts to eliminate toxic chemicals and plastics from products, packaging, and supply chains.

Together, these retailers and their subsidiaries generate more than $4 trillion in annual revenue, giving them the power and responsibility to drive safer products and marketplace change across global supply chains.



SCORING SUMMARY

Overall, the average grade of 50 retailers was D+.
Many retailers have not taken basic steps to ensure the safety of the products they sell.

A total of 16 retailers earned failing grades (F), landing in the Toxic Hall of Shame:

- 7-Eleven
- Ahold Delhaize
- Albertsons
- Alimentation Couche-Tard
- Chipotle
- Five Below
- Inspire Brands
- Lumber Liquidators
- McDonald's
- Publix
- Sherwin-Williams
- Subway
- Trader Joe's
- Wayfair
- Williams-Sonoma
- Yum! Brands

Five retailers' scores dropped by more than 10 percentage points from 2024:

- Walmart (32 percentage points)
- Whole Foods Market (20 percentage points)
- Walgreen's (12 percentage points)
- Dick's Sporting Goods (12 percentage points)
- Amazon (11 percentage points)

Four retailers received the highest grades:

- Apple (A)
- IKEA (A-)
- Target (A-)
- Sephora (A-)

Three retailers improved their scores by more than 10 percentage points over 2024:

- Dollar Tree (16 percentage points)
- Sally Beauty (13 percentage points)
- IKEA (11 percentage points)

Toxic-Free FUTURE
Mind the Store

The Retailer Report Card is published by Toxic-Free Future's Mind the Store program.

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The Essential Elements
FOR A SAFER MARKETPLACE

For a decade, the Retailer Report Card has held retailers accountable by measuring them against industry best practices for protecting health and the environment. The report evaluates retailers using the **Essential Elements for a Safer Marketplace**. Together, these elements provide retailers with a clear roadmap for strengthening chemical safety policies and moving toward safer products and packaging.



CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY: Evaluates the retailer's adoption of a corporate safer chemicals policy, participation in expert collaborations, and support of public policies.



TRANSPARENCY: Evaluates a retailer's knowledge of hazardous chemicals and plastics in the products and packaging it sells, public disclosure of chemicals and plastics to consumers, and accountability measures to ensure supplier compliance with restrictions on hazardous chemicals and plastics.



BAN THE BAD: Evaluates the scope of hazardous chemicals and plastics a retailer currently prohibits, time-bound goals to reduce and eliminate hazardous chemicals and plastics, and progress made toward those goals.



SAFER SOLUTIONS: Evaluates a retailer's implementation of safer solutions to hazardous products, financial investments in safer solutions, and steps taken to ensure suppliers are transitioning to safer chemicals and products.

Accountability is also an Essential Element for a Safer Marketplace. While not evaluated as a separate category in the 2026 Retailer Report Card, it cuts across each of the four categories above.

KEY FINDINGS

Nearly half of retailers are backsliding. Of 45 retailers evaluated in both 2024 and 2026, 22 (49%) saw their scores decline by at least two percentage points. Former leaders Walmart and Whole Foods Market had the largest declines, each dropping 20 percentage points or more.

Public goals to reduce toxic chemicals and plastics have dropped sharply. Only 10% of retailers have measurable, public goals to reduce or eliminate toxic chemicals and plastics, down from 44% in 2024.

Nearly half of retailers reported progress reducing or eliminating toxic chemicals or plastics, but fewer are reporting progress. Just 44% reported progress reducing or eliminating toxic chemicals or plastics, down from 68% in 2024. Companies disclosed progress phasing out PFAS, bisphenols, and PVC plastic in products and/or packaging.

Overall progress has stalled. The average retailer grade remains a D+, unchanged from 2024.

WHY RETAILER ACTION MATTERS

Retailers have enormous power and responsibility over the chemicals and plastics in the products they sell. By eliminating harmful chemicals and plastics, they can help prevent toxic exposures and protect health throughout the product life cycle, from production and transportation to use and disposal.

State policies are helping drive marketplace change, but retailers should not wait for laws to require safer products. Companies must strengthen their chemical safety policies, demand more from suppliers, and make measurable progress toward safer solutions.

ACT NOW FOR SAFER PRODUCTS

Retailers must do better, and your voice can help drive change. Explore the full 2026 Retailer Report Card, see how retailers scored, and urge the CEOs of the 16 companies in the Toxic Hall of Shame to take action to protect health.

2026 RETAILER REPORT CARD

Retailer Scores

Final Grades and Percentage of Possible Points Earned by Essential Element

Retailer	Percent of points earned: Corporate Responsibility	Transparency	Ban the Bad	Safer Solutions	Grade
7-Eleven	0%	0%	4%	0%	F
Ahold Delhaize	0%	0%	0%	0%	F
Albertson's	0%	4%	7%	18%	F
ALDI	60%	0%	25%	0%	D
Alimentation Couche-Tard	0%	0%	0%	0%	F
Amazon	43%	16%	35%	34%	C-
Apple	73%	79%	80%	94%	A
Bath & Body Works	13%	18%	11%	0%	D-
Best Buy	60%	33%	52%	15%	C

Retailer Scores

Final Grades and Percentage of Possible Points Earned by Essential Element

Retailer	Percent of points earned: Corporate Responsibility	Transparency	Ban the Bad	Safer Solutions	Grade
Chipotle	13%	0%	0%	0%	F
Costco	60%	16%	55%	15%	C
CVS	65%	16%	40%	11%	C-
Dick's Sporting Goods	0%	6%	33%	0%	D-
Dollar General	60%	10%	35%	0%	D+
Dollar Tree	60%	26%	55%	10%	C
Five Below	30%	0%	18%	0%	F
IKEA	73%	67%	73%	63%	A-
Inspire Brands	0%	0%	0%	0%	F
Kohl's	60%	18%	67%	0%	C
Kroger	48%	21%	24%	5%	D+
Lowe's	60%	34%	47%	20%	C
lululemon	60%	40%	51%	20%	C+
Lumber Liquidators	0%	5%	0%	0%	F

Retailer Scores

Final Grades and Percentage of Possible Points Earned by Essential Element

Retailer	Percent of points earned: Corporate Responsibility	Transparency	Ban the Bad	Safer Solutions	Grade
Macy's	30%	3%	18%	0%	D-
McDonald's	0%	0%	7%	0%	F
Nordstrom	13%	5%	31%	0%	D-
Office Depot	48%	19%	31%	5%	D+
Panera Bread	13%	37%	38%	0%	D+
PetSmart	13%	29%	17%	5%	D
Publix	0%	0%	0%	0%	F
Restaurant Brands International	13%	13%	39%	0%	D
REI	60%	24%	60%	14%	C
Sally Beauty	13%	43%	0%	0%	D-
Sephora	60%	73%	84%	44%	A-
Sherwin-Williams	0%	5%	0%	0%	F
Staples	65%	22%	0%	15%	D
Starbucks	0%	0%	36%	0%	D-

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Retailer Scores

Final Grades and Percentage of Possible Points Earned by Essential Element

Retailer	Percent of points earned: Corporate Responsibility	Transparency	Ban the Bad	Safer Solutions	Grade
Subway	0%	0%	4%	0%	F
Target	85%	53%	76%	64%	A-
The Gap	60%	40%	53%	0%	C
The Home Depot	60%	16%	44%	0%	D+
TJX	30%	0%	31%	0%	D-
Trader Joe's	0%	8%	11%	0%	F
Ulta Beauty	60%	63%	51%	20%	B-
Walgreens	60%	15%	31%	11%	D+
Walmart	80%	43%	22%	24%	C
Wayfair	0%	5%	0%	0%	F
Whole Foods Market	65%	42%	49%	9%	C
Williams-Sonoma	18%	5%	0%	0%	F
Yum! Brands	13%	0%	4%	0%	F

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Evaluations are based on publicly available data. Retailers were invited to respond to their draft scores in the spring and summer of 2026. Feedback was received from 22 of the 50 retailers and subsequently incorporated. Letter grades are based on the percent of total possible points earned across all elements.

More: https://toxicfreefuture.org/retailer-report-card/2026/methodology/