

INSIDE OUR SUPERMARKETS

2024 Australia Report

Background

This is the only report that rates Australia's four major supermarkets on their nutrition-related policies and practices. The report is a much-anticipated update from the [first assessment in 2018](#).

Assessment approach



Supermarket policies and commitments were assessed using **globally applicable assessment methods**, tailored to the Australian context. These methods were developed by a global network of public health researchers monitoring food environments in >65 countries.

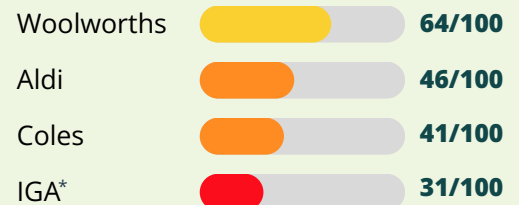
The report includes:

- An **overview of the performance** of Australian supermarkets, including **changes since 2018** and a comparison to current global best-practice;
- A **scorecard** (score out of 100) **for each of the supermarket chains** (Woolworths, Coles, ALDI and IGA) across 6 key domains related to population nutrition;
- **Recommended actions** for retailers across the 6 key domains (e.g., corporate strategy, product affordability and availability, promotion practices) to support healthier diets for Australians.

Key findings

- 1 Supermarket chains in Australia are **not doing enough to improve population diets**, with Australian supermarkets **falling far short of international best practice**.
- 2 There have been **some improvements in the last 5 years** (including improved food labelling, and some steps to make checkouts healthier), but **more substantial action is needed**.
- 3 The supermarket chains have **limited policies** and practices dedicated to **improving the affordability of healthy foods**, particularly when compared to unhealthy food.

The four major Australian supermarket chains achieved an average score of **46/100**



*Assessment based on publicly available information only

Priority actions for supermarkets



Healthy food sales: Set targets to increase the proportion of sales from healthy products.



Affordability of healthy food: Cut prices of healthy foods, and limit price promotions on unhealthy products.



Healthy checkouts: No unhealthy products (e.g. chocolate and sugary drinks) near registers in all stores nationally.

Why is this report significant?



Australians buy most of their food from supermarkets. Supermarket practices, including the types of products available, their prices, the way they are promoted and their in-store placement, shape what people choose to buy and eat. **Supermarkets have a strong opportunity and responsibility to create healthier food environments for Australians.**

This report is the published results of a study led by **Professor Gary Sacks**, a co-Director of the [Global Centre for Preventive Health and Nutrition \(GLOBE\)](#) within the [Institute for Health Transformation \(IHT\)](#) at Deakin University, and a Chief Investigator with the [Centre of Research Excellence in Food Retail Environments for Health: Next Generation](#). The report will be available at www.insideourfoodcompanies.com.au.