



Kroger's Plan to Lower Prices at Albertsons Stores Follows 20-Year Track Record of **Providing Great Value to** Customers

February 2024



## Kroger's 20-Year Track Record of Lower Prices is an Undeniable Fact

- Invested to lower prices consistently since 2003 for \$5 billion in customer savings
- Reduced Gross Profit Margin by 5% in the last 20 years, while Amazon, Walmart, Ahold and Dollar General have all *increased* their margins with Amazon increasing 22%
- Consistently improved prices following previous mergers
  - Invested more than \$125 million to lower prices at Harris Teeter,
     while investing an average of \$2.5 million in capital per store
  - Invested more than \$100 million to lower prices at Roundy's,
     while investing an average of \$2.4 million in capital per store



### Kroger's Clear Public Commitments As a Result of the Albertsons Merger

No store closures

No front-line job losses

\$500 Million more price investment

\$1 Billion
for better wages and comprehensive benefits

\$1.3 Billion

into Albertsons stores to enhance customer experience

Donating

10 Billion

meals to combat food insecurity by 2030

Up to **\$21,000** 

tuition reimbursement for all associates, including part-time

More local food sourcing





### Proposed Merger Will Enhance Kroger's Ability to Compete

### Significant grocery industry challenges

Highly competitive grocery industry

Changes in consumer behavior resulting in expanding set of competitors and increasing pricing pressures

Significant new entry and expansion in brick-and-mortar and e-commerce

#### Merger better positions Kroger to compete against:

- Large non-union retailers like Walmart, Target, Amazon and Costco
- Regional competitors like Ahold, Publix, HEB, WinCo,
   Meijer and other local supermarket chains
- Full-shop alternatives like Aldi, Lidl, Whole Foods,
   Sprouts, Natural Grocers and Trader Joe's
- Dollar stores like Dollar General, Dollar Tree, Family Dollar
- Emerging online competitors, including pick-up, delivery and ship-to-home services





# Kroger's Lower-Price Track Record







### Kroger's Business Is Built on Reducing Costs to Attract Customers and Build Loyalty

Our Clear Track Record Of Gross Margin Reduction Demonstrates Our Commitment To Lower Prices For Our Customers

TOTAL GROSS MARGIN DECLINE YOY



Kroger customers would be paying billions in higher prices if Kroger had maintained rather than reduced its gross margin rate from 2005





### While Many Grocers Have Increased Their Gross Margins, Kroger Has Reduced Ours to Lower Prices for Consumers

#### 20-YEAR GROSS MARGIN CHANGE







### Example: Kroger Did Not Pass on Cost Increase to Customers for Thanksgiving Turkeys



#### **Kroger promises a Thanksgiving Fresh for** Everyone

Company Release - 11/14/2022

Grocer shares a zero-compromise holiday shopping guide to feed a family of 10 for \$5 per person

CINCINNATI, Nov. 14, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- The Kroger Co. (NYSE: KR), America's grocer, today shared its efforts to cushion customers from the impacts of inflation as they prepare holiday meals, including a zero-compromise shopping guide with meal options that **can feed 10 people for as little as \$5 per person.** The grocer, who estimates the **cost of turkey has risen 20 cents** per pound this year, will not shift the rising cost to customers.

- Turkey
- Rolls
- Green Bean Casserole
- Sweet Potatoes
- Corn
- Cheese

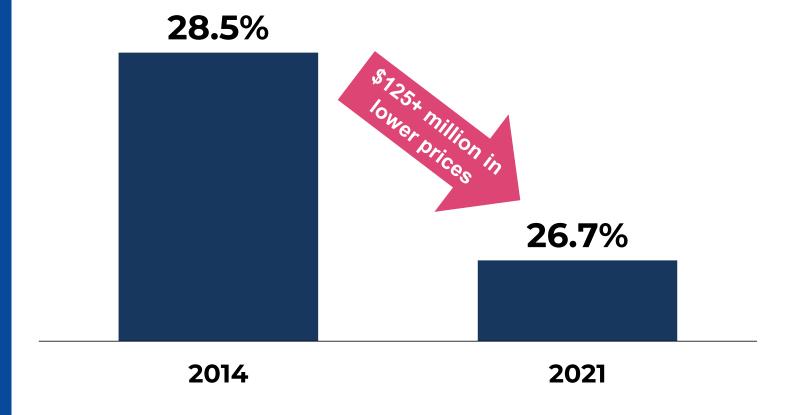
- Pumpkin Pie
- Stuffing
- Gravy
- Mashed Potatoes
- Cranberry Sauce
- Mac &





### Example: Kroger Lowered Prices at Harris Teeter after Merger

### **Harris Teeter Gross Margin Change**



Kroger invested more than \$125 million to lower prices at Harris Teeter



### Example: Kroger Implemented Lower Price Program across Harris Teeter Following Merger Close in 2014

New Lower Price Program Launched

Within 1 year	Launched in Charlotte less than one year from closing
April 2014	Expanded to include thousands of items for all stores in Charlotte
By June 2014	• Expanded lower prices into Northern Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia and Charlottesville
By 2016	<ul> <li>Launched in Wilmington, Eastern Carolinas and Triangle areas</li> <li>Updated program in Charlotte and Triad (Greensboro, Winston-Salem and High Point)</li> <li>Lowered produce prices across all Harris Teeter stores</li> </ul>

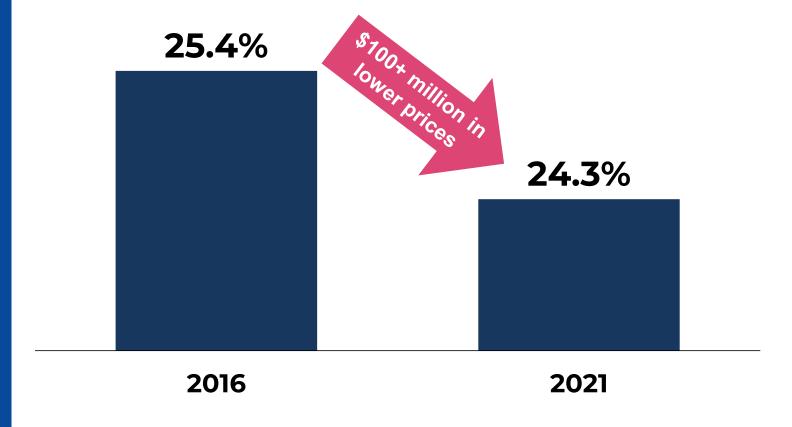
Kroger has continued to invest in lowering prices at Harris Teeter stores – expanding lower price programs to new regions, adding products to programs and lowering program prices even more





### Example: Kroger Lowered Prices at Roundy's after Merger

### Roundy's Gross Margin Change



Kroger invested more than \$100 million to lower prices at Roundy's



### Example: Roundy's Price Investments Began Immediately, Across Thousands of Products Most Important to Customers

Initial Investments Following Close Focused On Bringing Roundy's Wisconsin Stores Onto Kroger's Low-price Programs

2016: Fox Valley	Fox Valley			
2017: Madison	Madison			
2018	Milwaukee & Outstate			
2021	All Roundy's Wisconsin Stores			
This included investments in the following pricing programs critical to customers:				
Natural Foods	Value Items	Milk and Eggs	Grocery	
	Simple Truth	Packaged Meal	Produce	

Additional price investments occurred from 2019 to 2022, in conjunction with price investments at other Kroger divisions





### Snapshot of Campaign to Lower Prices at Roundy's Post-Merger

Following the merger, Kroger invested to meaningfully lower prices on thousands of products at Roundy's banners, including household staples such as eggs, milk, head lettuce, bananas, and white and wheat bread





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Pick 'n Save and Metro Market "Say Hello" to Lower Prices Statewide

MILWAUKEE - August 8, 2018 – The state of Wisconsin will soon experience lower prices across all Pick 'n Save, Metro Market and Copps stores beginning today, Wednesday, August 8, 2018. These banners of Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc., will be investing in lower prices across the store in every aisle for the benefit of their customers.

"We are making a major investment in lower prices across the state. This initiative is part of our Restock Kroger plan which aims to redefine the food and grocery experience for our customers." said Jim Hyland, Roundy's VP of Communications & Public Affairs.

With the announcement of lower prices, including staple items like eggs, milk, head lettuce, bananas, and white and wheat bread, Roundy's continues its investment in its 106-store network throughout Wisconsin. The

company currently has 50 curbside pick-up locations and will continue to add locations the remainder of 2018 and 2019. Additionally, the company's grocery delivery offering now covers of Wisconsin store network, accelerating its ecommerce reach. In late June, the company opened fuel center at its Pick 'n Save Stoughton location just outside of Madison, enhancing shopper con

"Our refreshed and remodeled stores, along with our investment in lower prices, allows us to cont a great digital and in-store shopping experience to our customers."

Please visit Pick 'n Save's website, Metro Market's website or Copps' website for more information













### Kroger is Committed to Continuing Track Record of Investing in Customers, Associates and Communities

Consistent with prior transactions, following close, Kroger will invest...



\$500M

in further reducing prices for customers





\$1.0B

in wages and comprehensive benefits



\$1.3B

into Albertsons stores to enhance customer experience Kroger has invested nearly \$5 billion since 2003 to lower prices

### Over the first 3 years post-merger...

- Kroger spent on average \$2.5 million capital per store at Harris Teeter
- Kroger spent on average \$2.4 million capital per store at Roundy's





### **Proposed Merger** Will Enhance Kroger's Ability to Compete

#### **Proposed Merger**

#### **Apply Kroger's unique value proposition:**

lower prices, better product selection, store improvements, more convenience and an upgraded consumer experience...

which drives traffic and revenues

...which enables additional investments in pricing, customer experience and associate wages and benefits.



### Forward-Looking Statements

This presentation contains certain statements that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of federal securities laws, including statements regarding the effects of the proposed merger with Albertsons Companies. These statements are based on the assumptions and beliefs of Kroger management in light of the information currently available to them. Such statements are indicated by words or phrases such as "commitments," "plan," and "will." Various uncertainties and other factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements. These include the specific risk factors identified in "Risk Factors" in Kroger's annual report on Form 10-K for the last fiscal year and any subsequent filings, as well as the following: the expected timing and likelihood of completion of the proposed transaction and divestiture plan, including the timing, receipt and terms and conditions of any required governmental and regulatory clearance of the proposed transaction and divestiture plan; the impact of the proposed divestiture plan; the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could give rise to the termination of the merger agreement or divestiture agreement; the outcome of any legal proceedings that have been instituted and may in the future be instituted against the parties and others following announcement of the merger agreement and proposed transaction or divestiture plan; the inability to consummate the proposed transaction or divestiture plan due to the failure to satisfy other conditions to complete the proposed transaction or divestiture plan; risks that the proposed transaction or divestiture plan disrupts our current plans and operations; the ability to identify and recognize, including on the expected timeline, the anticipated total shareholder return ("TSR"), revenue and EBITDA expectations; the amount of the costs, fees, expenses and charges related to the proposed transaction and divestiture plan; the risk that transaction and/or integration costs are greater than expected, including as a result of conditions regulators put on any approvals of the transaction; the potential effect of the announcement and/or consummation of the proposed transaction or divestiture plan on relationships, including with associates, suppliers and competitors; our ability to maintain an investment grade credit rating; the risk that management's attention is diverted from other matters; risks related to the potential effect of general economic, political and market factors, including changes in the financial markets as a result of inflation or measures implemented to address inflation, and any epidemic, pandemic or disease outbreaks, on Kroger, Albertsons or the proposed transaction or divestiture plan; the risk of adverse effects on the market price of our or Albertsons's securities or on Albertsons's or the Company's operating results for any reason; the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could give rise to the termination of the merger agreement or divestiture agreement; and other risks described in our filings with the SEC. The ability of Kroger to achieve the goals for the proposed transaction may also be affected by our ability to manage the factors identified above. The forward-looking statements by Kroger included in this press release speak only as of the date the statements were made. Kroger assumes no obligation to update the information contained herein unless required by applicable law. Please refer to Kroger's reports and filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission for a further discussion of these risks and uncertainties.



