KinderCare Learning Companies, Inc. KLC

NYSE; other; SIC 8351, Services-Child Day Care Services; CIK 0001873529

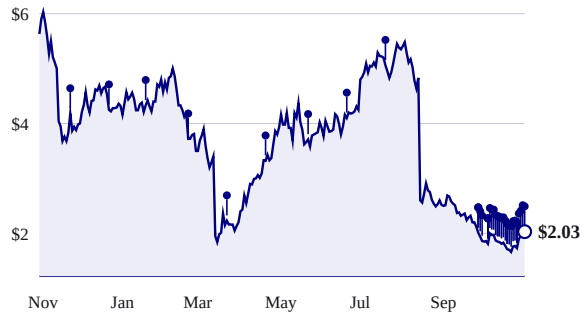
None

No letter

5 of 14 inputs computable; 7 are required, with a score in every sleeve

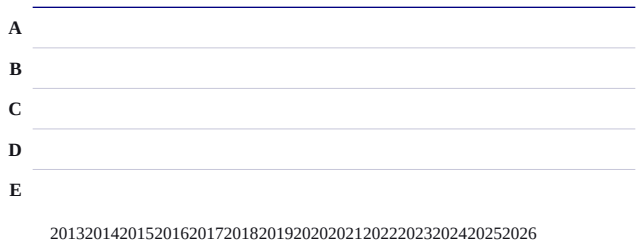
Scoreboard	
Reliability	0.94 AUC filers with over $2.67B assets; 95% interval 0.88 to 0.97; 61 events, 2020 to 2025
Peer failure rate	0.52% a year Item 1.03 bankruptcies, same asset band, 2012 to 2025
Size band	over $2.67B assets total assets $3.7B
Standard universe	inside revenue above $1M and assets above $10M
Warnings	thin data not computable: distress
Inputs computable	5 of 14
Graded from	filings received through Mar 13, 2026 232 days before the rescan; latest periodic filing 10-Q received Aug 13, 2026
Last close	$2.04 2026-10-30; market equity $241.8M; no price enters the letter

Share price, twelve months to the rescan



Split-adjusted close. Each lollipop is a rescan and carries the letter held then.

Letter at every rescan, 2012 to 2026



Sector percentile at each rescan, stronger toward the top; facts filed by each date only.

Business, in the company's words

opening of Item 1 of the 10-K received Mar 13, 2026

KinderCare Learning Companies, Inc. (the "Company," "KinderCare," "we," "us" and "our") is a leading private provider of high-quality early education and child care services ("ECE") in the United States. We are a mission-driven organization, rooted in a commitment to providing all children with the very best start in life. We serve children ranging from six weeks to 12 years of age across our footprint. We operate a national network of community-based centers, employer-sponsored programs and before- and after-school sites. Our proprietary curriculum is supported by third-party assessment tools that measure school readiness outcomes.

The fourteen inputs

lower percentile is stronger; sleeves and inputs within a sleeve carry equal weight

Input	Value	Peer median	Percentile, 0 to 100	Pct	Peers	Period end
Profitability, sleeve percentile 28.9						
Gross profitability	not computable	27.0%				
one or more required annual facts are missing						
Return on invested capital	not computable	10.0%				

Not investment advice. Informational and educational only. Data from SEC EDGAR, may contain errors, is not warranted. The grade ranks reported financial condition and is not a return forecast.

pretax income must exceed the validity floor and imply a 0%-100% tax rate					
Accruals ratio	(9.5%)	(5.8%)	28.9	500	2026-01-03
Gross margin stability, five years	not computable	2.2 pts			
five annual gross margins are required; found 0					
Solvency, sleeve percentile 76.0					
Twelve-month failure probability	not computable	0.04%			
latest liabilities, cash plus short-term investments, book equity, and shares are required					
Altman Z double-prime	(0.06)	2.06	61.1	384	2026-01-03
Net debt to EBITDA	7.64x	2.52x	87.8	182	2026-01-03
Interest coverage	not computable	2.45x			
one or more required annual facts are missing					
Current ratio	0.74x	1.33x	79.2	505	2026-01-03
Growth and financing, sleeve percentile 53.8					
Revenue growth, three-year compound	not computable	5.1%			
four annual observations are required; found 2					
Free cash flow growth, three-year compound	not computable	8.9%			
four consecutive annual FCF observations are required; found 2					
Reinvestment rate	not computable	11.9%			
pretax income must exceed the validity floor and imply a 0%-100% tax rate					
Asset growth, three years	not computable	4.1%			
four annual observations are required; found 2					
Net share issuance, one year	0.3%	(0.5%)	53.8	352	2026-03-10

Warnings

1 of 7 checks triggered; none of them enters the letter

Check	Measured
Thin data	5 of 14 grade factors are computable; minimum is 7

What the price implies

at the 2026-10-30 close; none of these enters the grade

Measure	Value	Peer median	Percentile
Twelve-month price change, skipping the latest month	(62.0%)	2.0%	5
Distance from 52-week high	(66.3%)	(23.9%)	8
EBIT to enterprise value	(2.0%)	4.3%	17
Free cash flow yield	45.8%	4.1%	99
Book value to price	1.94	0.34	96
Sales to price	11.36	0.70	97
Composite equity issuance, five years	not computable	(8.8%)	
Relative strength against the sector, log excess return	(1.12)	(0.13)	5

Diagnostics

shown on every report; none enters the grade

Measure	Value
Piotroski F-score None of 9, period end 2026-01-03	
Return on assets above zero	fail
Operating cash flow above zero	pass
Return on assets improved	fail
Operating cash flow exceeds net income	pass
Long-term leverage fell	fail
Current ratio improved	pass
No new shares issued	fail
Gross margin improved	fail

Not investment advice. Informational and educational only. Data from SEC EDGAR, may contain errors, is not warranted. The grade ranks reported financial condition and is not a return forecast.

Asset turnover improved	fail

Cash, filings, liquidity

Cash and equivalents	$173.7M
Operating cash flow, four quarters	$209.5M
Months of runway	not finite
Days since last periodic filing	79 (10-Q received Aug 13, 2026)
Median daily dollar volume, 63 sessions	$1.6M

Sources

every fact behind the inputs; each row links to its filing index on sec.gov

#	Concept	XBRL tag	Value	Period end	Received	Form	Accession
1	operating income	us-gaap:OperatingIncomeLoss	-$20.1M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
2	pretax income	us-gaap:IncomeLossFromContinuingOperationsBeforeInc...	-$93.3M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
3	income tax	us-gaap:IncomeTaxExpenseBenefit	$19.5M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
4	total debt	us-gaap:LongTermDebt	$927.5M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
5	book equity	us-gaap:StockholdersEquity	$755.3M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
6	cash	us-gaap:CashAndCashEquivalentsAtCarryingValue	$133.2M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
7	total debt	us-gaap:LongTermDebt	$926.0M	2024-12-28	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
8	book equity	us-gaap:StockholdersEquity	$864.5M	2024-12-28	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
9	cash	us-gaap:CashAndCashEquivalentsAtCarryingValue	$62.3M	2024-12-28	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
10	net income	us-gaap:NetIncomeLoss	-$112.9M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
11	operating cash flow	us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities	$238.5M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
12	assets	us-gaap:Assets	$3.7B	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
13	assets	us-gaap:Assets	$3.6B	2024-12-28	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
14	current assets	us-gaap:AssetsCurrent	$358.0M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
15	current liabilities	us-gaap:LiabilitiesCurrent	$484.9M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
16	retained earnings	us-gaap:RetainedEarningsAccumulatedDeficit	-$82.6M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
17	liabilities	us-gaap:Liabilities	$3.0B	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
18	depreciation amortization	us-gaap:DepreciationDepletionAndAmortization	$124.0M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
19	revenue	us-gaap:RevenueFromContractWithCustomerExcludingA...	$2.7B	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
20	revenue	us-gaap:RevenueFromContractWithCustomerExcludingA...	$2.7B	2024-12-28	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
21	capital expenditure	us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment	$128.3M	2026-01-03	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
22	current assets	us-gaap:AssetsCurrent	$214.8M	2024-12-28	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
23	current liabilities	us-gaap:LiabilitiesCurrent	$412.8M	2024-12-28	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
24	shares outstanding	dei:EntityCommonStockSharesOutstanding	118,355,797	2026-03-10	2026-03-13	10-K	26-106342
25	shares outstanding	dei:EntityCommonStockSharesOutstanding	118,006,276	2025-03-19	2025-03-21	10-K	25-043210

Not investment advice. Informational and educational only. Data from SEC EDGAR, may contain errors, is not warranted. The grade ranks reported financial condition and is not a return forecast.