

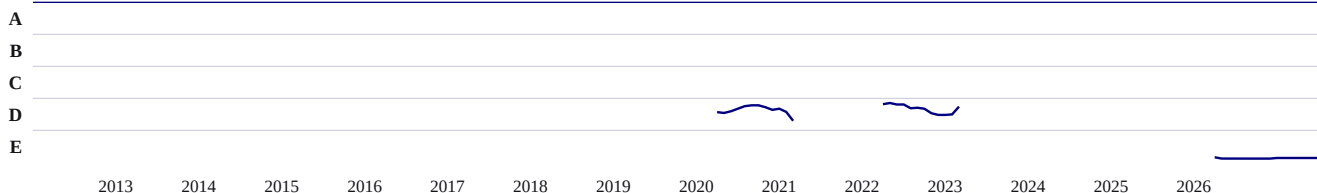
Cato Corp. (CATO)

NYSE; shops; SIC 5621, Retail-Women's Clothing Stores; CIK 0000018255

Cato Corp.			
CATO; shops			
Grade	E A B C D E weakest fifth of 258 graded peers percentile 97.3; sampling error 2.9 points; lower is stronger		
Rank	251 of 258		
Profitability	D		percentile 65.6
Solvency	D/E		percentile 77.3
Growth and financing	D/E		percentile 79.4
Reliability	0.87 AUC filers with \$120M to \$591M assets; 95% interval 0.83 to 0.90; 206 events, 2020 to 2025		
Peer failure rate	1.03% a year Item 1.03 bankruptcies, same asset band, 2012 to 2025		
Size band	\$120M to \$591M assets total assets \$421.4M		
Standard universe	inside revenue above \$1M and assets above \$10M		
Warnings	none active not computable: dilution, distress, fortress balance sheet		
Inputs computable	7 of 14		
Graded from	filings received through Mar 25, 2026 198 days before the rescans; latest periodic filing 10-Q received Aug 27, 2026		
Last close	\$2.35 2026-10-07; market equity \$0		
Price used in grade	None		

Letter at every rescans

Jan 21, 2012 to Oct 9, 2026; sector percentile, 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 25, 2026

concept's stores and e-commerce website feature a broad assortment of apparel and accessories, including merchandise is sold under its private label and is produced by various concepts offer fashion with a focus on the latest trendy styles for the entire family at low prices every day. went private and in 1987 again conducted an initial public offering. positioned itself as the every day low price leader in its market service and to assist customers in merchandise selection and wardrobe the purchase of its merchandise more

convenient for its customers.

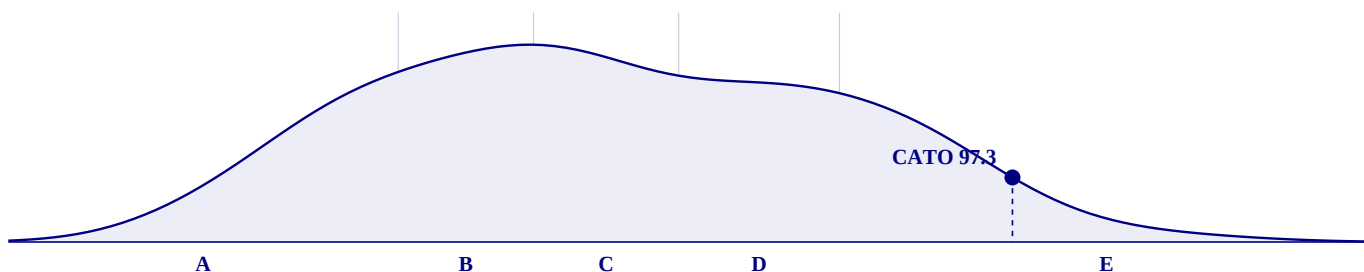
The fourteen inputs

lower percentile is stronger; equal-weighted sleeves

Input	Percentile, 0 to 100	Value	Peer median	Percentile	Peers	Period end
Profitability, sleeve percentile 65.6						
Gross profitability		52.7%	42.6%	32.0	242	2026-01-31
Return on invested capital		not computable	10.9%			one or more required annual facts are missing
Accruals ratio		(1.0%)	(4.9%)	84.6	287	2026-01-31
Gross margin stability, five years		3.1 pts	1.2 pts	80.3	219	2026-01-31
Solvency, sleeve percentile 77.3						
Twelve-month failure probability		not computable	0.04%			liabilities and a nearby cover-page share count are required at 2026-08-01
Altman Z double-prime		not computable	1.92			one or more required annual facts are missing
Net debt to EBITDA		not computable	1.84x			one or more required annual facts are missing
Interest coverage		(110.12x)	2.26x	96.8	64	2026-01-31
Current ratio		1.24x	1.37x	57.8	295	2026-01-31
Growth and financing, sleeve percentile 79.4						
Revenue growth, three-year compound		(4.9%)	1.5%	74.6	269	2026-01-31
Free cash flow growth, three-year compound		not computable	5.6%			current FCF must be positive and base FCF must exceed \$100,000
Reinvestment rate		not computable	7.3%			NOPAT must exceed \$100,000
Asset growth, three years		(8.7%)	3.4%	84.1	272	2026-01-31
Net share issuance, one year		not computable	(0.6%)			two annual share counts are required; found 0

Among 258 peers

shops; letters are fifths of this list



Composite score of every graded peer, smoothed; vertical rules are the letter band edges; stronger to the left.

Rank	Company	Percentile	Letter	Warnings
246	Dolphin Entertainment, Inc. (DLPN)	95.3	E	
247	Krispy Kreme, Inc. (DNUT)	95.7	E	
248	Andersons, Inc. (ANDE)	96.1	E	
249	Torrid Holdings Inc. (CURV)	96.5	E	
250	Olenox Industries Inc. (OLOX)	96.9	E	late filer
251	Cato Corp. (CATO) <	97.3	E	
252	Rent the Runway, Inc. (RENT)	97.7	E	
253	Digital Brands Group, Inc. (DBGI)	98.1	E	dilution, short runway, late filer
254	LiveOne, Inc. (LVO)	98.4	E	dilution, late filer
255	iPower Inc. (IPW)	98.8	E	dilution, late filer, fortress balance sheet
256	Regis Corp. (RGS)	99.2	E	

What the price implies

at the 2026-10-07 close; none enters the grade

Measure	Value	Peer median	Percentile
Twelve-month price change, skipping the latest month	(38.0%)	(0.1%)	13
Distance from 52-week high	(45.9%)	(24.1%)	20
EBIT to enterprise value	not computable	5.3%	
Free cash flow yield	not computable	4.2%	
Book value to price	not computable	0.36	
Sales to price	not computable	1.75	
Composite equity issuance, five years	not computable	(16.7%)	
Relative strength against the sector, log excess return	(0.45)	0.02	13

Diagnostics

not in the grade

Measure	Value
Piotroski F-score None of 9, period end 2026-01-31	
Return on assets above zero	fail
Operating cash flow above zero	fail
Return on assets improved	pass
Operating cash flow exceeds net income	pass
Long-term leverage fell	fail
Current ratio improved	pass
No new shares issued	fail
Gross margin improved	pass
Asset turnover improved	pass
Cash, filings, liquidity	
Cash and equivalents	\$35.1M

Operating cash flow, four quarters	\$5.4M
Months of runway	not finite
Days since last periodic filing	43 (10-Q received Aug 27, 2026)
Median daily dollar volume, 63 sessions	\$158,035

Sources

each row links to the filing index on sec.gov

#	Concept	XBRL tag	Value	Period end	Received	Form	Accession
1	revenue	us-gaap:Revenues	\$653.8M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
2	cost of revenue	us-gaap:CostOfGoodsAndServicesSold	\$431.6M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
3	assets	us-gaap:Assets	\$421.4M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
4	net income	us-gaap:NetIncomeLoss	-\$5.9M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
5	operating cash flow	us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities	-\$1.5M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
6	assets	us-gaap:Assets	\$452.4M	2025-02-01	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
7	revenue	us-gaap:Revenues	\$649.8M	2025-02-01	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
8	cost of revenue	us-gaap:CostOfGoodsAndServicesSold	\$436.4M	2025-02-01	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
9	revenue	us-gaap:Revenues	\$708.1M	2024-02-03	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
10	cost of revenue	us-gaap:CostOfGoodsAndServicesSold	\$464.3M	2024-02-03	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
11	revenue	us-gaap:Revenues	\$759.3M	2023-01-28	2025-03-31	10-K	0001562762-25-000062
12	cost of revenue	us-gaap:CostOfGoodsAndServicesSold	\$509.7M	2023-01-28	2025-03-31	10-K	0001562762-25-000062
13	revenue	us-gaap:Revenues	\$769.3M	2022-01-29	2024-03-27	10-K	0001562762-24-000065
14	cost of revenue	us-gaap:CostOfGoodsAndServicesSold	\$453.1M	2022-01-29	2024-03-27	10-K	0001562762-24-000065
15	operating income	us-gaap:OperatingIncomeLoss	-\$12.7M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
16	interest expense	us-gaap:InterestExpense	\$115,000	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
17	current assets	us-gaap:AssetsCurrent	\$193.3M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
18	current liabilities	us-gaap:LiabilitiesCurrent	\$155.9M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
19	capital expenditure	us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment	\$3.8M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
20	operating cash flow	us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities	-\$19.7M	2025-02-01	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
21	capital expenditure	us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment	\$7.9M	2025-02-01	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
22	operating cash flow	us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities	\$477,000	2024-02-03	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
23	capital expenditure	us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment	\$12.5M	2024-02-03	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
24	operating cash flow	us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities	\$13.4M	2023-01-28	2025-03-31	10-K	0001562762-25-000062
25	capital expenditure	us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment	\$19.4M	2023-01-28	2025-03-31	10-K	0001562762-25-000062
26	depreciation amortization	us-gaap:Depreciation	\$10.0M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
27	pretax income	us-gaap:IncomeLossFromContinuingOperationsBeforeIncomeTaxesExtraord	\$57.5M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
28	income tax	us-gaap:IncomeTaxExpenseBenefit	-\$1.6M	2026-01-31	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
29	current assets	us-gaap:AssetsCurrent	\$223.2M	2025-02-01	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
30	current liabilities	us-gaap:LiabilitiesCurrent	\$188.2M	2025-02-01	2026-03-25	10-K	0001562762-26-000041
31	assets	us-gaap:Assets	\$486.8M	2024-02-03	2025-03-31	10-K	0001562762-25-000062
32	assets	us-gaap:Assets	\$553.1M	2023-01-28	2024-03-27	10-K	0001562762-24-000065