

THE CLEAN SIXTEEN

2025's Highest-Rated Coffees for Purity

clean label PROJECT
Clean. Pure. Science.

The Clean Label Project analyzed 57 of the nation's top-selling coffee products to uncover what traditional nutrition labels miss: hidden contaminants like heavy metals, phthalates, and pesticide residues.

After over 7,000 tests across 45 brands, these 16 coffees rose to the top—delivering exceptional purity and safety, without compromising on flavor or quality.

Organic Irony: AMPA was found in 100% of organic samples despite glyphosate being banned in organic farming—suggesting long-term environmental persistence or contamination.



- Packaging Impacts:** Canned coffee had significantly higher levels of acrylamide and phthalates. Bagged coffee and pods fared better.
- Roast Matters:** Medium roasts showed the highest contaminant levels. Dark and light roasts generally tested cleaner.
- Regional Differences:** African coffees had the lowest heavy metal levels, while Hawaiian coffee had the highest—likely due to volcanic soil.

What Makes These Coffees Stand Out?

- Lowest levels of environmental and industrial contaminants
- Strong performance across heavy metals, phthalates, AMPA, and acrylamide
- Exceptional transparency from brands leading in clean sourcing and packaging

Whether you're brewing at home or grabbing a pod on the go, these are the **best choices** for a **cleaner, safer coffee experience.**



365 WFM



Caramel
Medium Roast | Bag
Organic

STARBUCKS



Colombia
Medium Roast | Pod
Non-Organic

CAMERON'S



Vanilla Hazelnut
Light Roast | Bag
Non-Organic

COUNTER CULTURE



Forty-six
Dark Roast | Bag
Organic

DUNKIN'



Hazelnut
Medium Roast | Bag
Non-Organic

EIGHT O' CLOCK



Original Roast
Medium Roast | Bag
Non-Organic

FABULA



Dark Roast
Dark Roast | Pod
Organic

GREAT VALUE



French Roast
Dark Roast | Pod
Non-Organic

GROUNDWORK



Organic Ethiopia
Light Roast | Bag
Organic

ILLY



Classico
Medium Roast | Can
Non-Organic

KICKING HORSE



Three Sisters
Medium Roast | Bag
Non-Organic

NESPRESSO



Diavolitto
Dark Roast | Pod
Non-Organic

NEWMAN'S OWN



Special Blend
Medium Roast | Pod
Organic

PEACE



Birchwood
Medium Roast | Bag
Organic

SAN FRANCISCO



Rainforest Blend
Medium Roast | Pod
Non-Organic

SEATTLE'S BEST



Post Alley
Dark Roast | Bag
Non-Organic

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