



A.M. BEST COMPANY, INC.

Important Notice: Best's Credit Ratings

A Best's Financial Strength Rating is an independent opinion of an insurer's financial strength and ability to meet its ongoing insurance policy and contract obligations. It is based on a comprehensive quantitative and qualitative evaluation of a company's balance sheet strength, operating performance and business profile.

The Financial Strength Rating opinion addresses the relative ability of an insurer to meet its ongoing insurance policy and contract obligations. The rating is not assigned to specific insurance policies or contracts and does not address any other risk, including, but not limited to, an insurer's claims-payment policies or procedures; the ability of the insurer to dispute or deny claims payment on grounds of misrepresentation or fraud; or any specific liability contractually borne by the policy or contract holder. A Financial Strength Rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or terminate any insurance policy, contract or any other financial obligation issued by an insurer, nor does it address the suitability of any particular policy or contract for a specific purpose or purchaser.

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Credit risk is the risk that an entity may not meet its contractual, financial obligations as they come due. These credit ratings do not address any other risk, including but not limited to liquidity risk, market value risk or price volatility of rated securities. The rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold any securities, insurance policies, contracts or any other financial obligations, nor do they address the suitability of any particular financial obligation for a specific purpose or purchaser.

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One of the primary sources for this information are a company's annual and quarterly (if available) financial statements presented in accordance with statutory accounting requirements (U.S.) or in accordance with customs or regulatory requirements of the country of domicile (non-U.S.). Meetings between A.M. Best senior personnel and company management also provide additional and valuable in-depth information on the company's current performance and future objectives. For more information regarding specific data used in a typical rating evaluation, read [Preparing for a Rating Meeting](#).



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Banks. For banking companies domiciled in the United States, the data contained within these reports are based on each company's annual and quarterly (if available) financial statement as filed with the various banking regulatory agencies of the United States (Federal Reserve, FDIC, OTS, etc.). These official financial statements are generally presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP accounting standards.

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Within some of the Canadian insurance company presentations, portions of the data are provided by Beyond 20/20 Inc., Ottawa, Canada.



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- Data supplied in response to our questionnaires.
- Data contained in state examination reports.
- Audit reports prepared by certified public accountants.
- Loss-reserve reports prepared by loss-reserve specialists.
- Annual reports to stockholders and policyholders.
- Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) or International Accounting Standards (IAS) financial statements.
- Reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in the United States.

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