

General Credit Ratings

Long-Term Corporate Obligation Ratings

Moody's long-term obligation ratings are opinions of the relative credit risk of fixed-income obligations with an original maturity of one year or more. They address the possibility that a financial obligation will not be honored as promised. Such ratings use Moody's Global Scale and reflect both the likelihood of default and any financial loss suffered in the event of default.

Aaa	Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, with minimal credit risk.
Aa	Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.
A	Obligations rated A are considered upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.
Baa	Obligations rated Baa are subject to moderate credit risk. They are considered medium-grade and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.
Ba	Obligations rated Ba are judged to have speculative elements and are subject to substantial credit risk.
B	Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.
Caa	Obligations rated Caa are judged to be of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.
Ca	Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.
C	Obligations rated C are the lowest rated class of bonds and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

Note: Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

Medium-Term Note Ratings

Moody's assigns long-term ratings to individual debt securities issued from medium-term note (MTN) programs, in addition to indicating ratings to MTN programs themselves. These long-term ratings are expressed on Moody's general long-term scale. Notes issued under MTN programs with such indicated ratings are rated at issuance at the rating applicable to all *pari passu* notes issued under the same program, at the program's relevant indicated rating, provided such notes do not exhibit any of the characteristics listed below:

- Notes containing features that link interest or principal to the credit performance of any third party or parties (i.e., credit-linked notes);
- Notes allowing for negative coupons, or negative principal;
- Notes containing any provision that could obligate the investor to make any additional payments;
- Notes containing provisions that subordinate the claim.

For notes with any of these characteristics, the rating of the individual note may differ from the indicated rating of the program.

For credit-linked securities, Moody's policy is to "look through" to the credit risk of the underlying obligor. Moody's policy with respect to non-credit linked obligations is to rate the issuer's ability to meet the contract as stated, regardless of potential losses to investors as a result of non-credit developments. In other words, as long as the obligation has debt standing in the event of bankruptcy, we will assign the appropriate debt class level rating to the instrument.

Market participants must determine whether any particular note is rated, and if so, at what rating level. Moody's encourages market participants to contact Moody's Ratings Desks or visit www.moody's.com directly if they have questions regarding ratings for specific notes issued under a medium-term note program. Unrated notes issued under an MTN program may be assigned an NR (not rated) symbol.

Short-Term Ratings

Moody's short-term ratings are opinions of the ability of issuers to honor short-term financial obligations. Ratings may be assigned to issuers, short-term programs or to individual short-term debt instruments. Such obligations generally have an original maturity not exceeding thirteen months, unless explicitly noted.

Moody's employs the following designations to indicate the relative repayment ability of rated issuers:

- P-1** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-1 have a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

- P-2** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-2 have a strong ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

- P-3** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-3 have an acceptable ability to repay short-term obligations.

- NP** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

Note: Canadian issuers rated P-1 or P-2 have their short-term ratings enhanced by the senior-most long-term rating of the issuer, its guarantor or support-provider.

Short-Term vs. Long-Term Ratings

	Long-Term	Short-Term
Investment-Grade	Aaa	Prime-1
	Aa1	
	Aa2	
	Aa3	
	A1	Prime-2
	A2	
	A3	
	Baa1	Prime-3
	Baa2	
Baa3		
Speculative-Grade	Ba1	Not Prime
	Ba2	
	Ba3	
	B1	
	B2	
	B3	
	Caa1	
	Caa2	
Caa3		
Ca		
C		



Issuer Ratings

Issuer Ratings are opinions of the ability of entities to honor senior unsecured financial obligations and contracts. Moody's expresses Issuer Ratings on its general long-term and short-term scales.