

Yellowstone County



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March 3, 2026

Board of County Commissioners
PO Box 35000
Billings, MT 59107

Dear Board of County Commissioners:

Per MCA 7-4-2213, the *"County Commissioners shall examine, at a regular meeting in March and September of each year, all official bonds of all county officials then in force and effect and investigate the qualifications and financial condition and liability of all sureties thereon and their sufficiency"*. The Finance department has reviewed the financial strength ratings of Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America (the Provider) which underwrites the Public Employee Dishonesty policy purchased by Yellowstone County. Our review indicates the Provider's financial strength ratings are predominantly in the "A" range among all four of the major bond rating agencies. Since these ratings are based on quantitative as well as qualitative factors, we believe this review satisfies MCA 7-4-2213.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 256-2816.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jen Jones".

Jen Jones
Finance Director

Financial Strength | Travelers Insurance

Financial Strength Ratings

Travelers is one of the largest providers of property and casualty insurance products in the United States. Our success is built upon our ability to provide innovative insurance and risk protection products and services in-synch with our customers' needs.

Summary of current ratings

The following is a summary of Travelers' ratings:

Claims-paying/financial strength ratings

	A.M. Best	Fitch	Moody's	Standard & Poor's
Travelers Reinsurance Pool ¹	A++	AA	Aa2	AA
Travelers Casualty and Surety Co. of America	A++	AA	Aa2	AA
First Floridian Auto and Home Insurance Co. ²	A-	AA	NA	NA
Travelers Insurance Company of Canada	A+	NA	NA	AA-
The Dominion of Canada General Insurance Company	A-	NA	NA	NA
Travelers Insurance Company Ltd.	A++	NA	NA	AA
Travelers Insurance Designated Activity Company	A++	NA	NA	AA-

Notes: NA indicates that no rating is available.

All companies are rated separately on a statutory pool basis.

¹ The lead operating company in the pool is The Travelers Indemnity Company. A list of additional operating companies within the pool can be found in the company's [10-K and 10-Q filings](#) with the SEC.

² First Floridian is a single-state subsidiary of The Travelers Indemnity Company.

	A.M. Best	Fitch	Moody's	Standard & Poor's
Senior Debt ³	a+	A	A2	A
Subordinated Debt	a ⁴	BBB+	A3	A-
Junior Subordinated Debt	a-	BBB+	A3	BBB+

³Substantially all debt is held at the parent company, The Travelers Companies, Inc., or its subsidiaries, Travelers Property Casualty Corp. and Travelers Insurance Group Holdings, Inc.

⁴Indicative rating

	A.M. Best	Fitch	Moody's	Standard & Poor's
Commercial Paper	AMB1+	F-1	P-1	A-1

Background on ratings

Ratings agencies typically issue two types of ratings:

- Claims-paying and/or financial strength ratings assess an insurer's ability to meet its financial obligations to policyholders.
- Debt ratings assess a company's prospects for repaying its debts and assist lenders in setting interest rates and terms for a company's commercial paper, loans, bonds, etc.

The system and number rating categories can vary widely from agency to agency. Travelers' claims-paying/financial strength ratings relative to each agency's rating scale are as follows:

A.M. Best	Moody's	Fitch	S&P
A++ (Highest of 16)	Aa2 (3rd highest of 21)	AA (3rd highest of 24)	AA (3rd highest of 21)
A (3rd highest of 16)			AA- (4th highest of 21)
A- (4th highest of 16)			

Customers usually focus on claims-paying ratings, while creditors look at debt ratings. Investors use both to evaluate a company's overall financial strength. Travelers receives ratings from the major rating agencies:

- A.M. Best Co., Fitch Ratings, Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's Corp.

Ratings factors considered

Ratings agencies examine a myriad of key factors:

- Quantitative financial performance – profit margins, financial leverage, liquidity, cash flows, capital and surplus ratios.
- Qualitative judgments – underwriting cycle, competitive environment, regulatory and political factors, soundness of reinsurance, reserves, quality of invested assets, management experience and accomplishments.

For additional information and the latest ratings, please see:

www.ambest.com
www.fitchratings.com
www.moodyys.com
www.standardandpoors.com

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