

# Best's National Scale Ratings: An Overview

A Best's National Scale Rating (NSR) is a relative opinion of financial strength among companies within a country.

NSRs were created to address country-specific limiting factors within each country—including economic, political and financial system risks, and other insurance industry factors.

All insurers that enter AM Best's NSR process are first assigned a global Issuer Credit Rating (ICR), which is an independent opinion of an entity's ability to meet its ongoing financial obligations and is the basis for the NSR.

The NSR is determined using a country-specific ICR-to-NSR mapping table.

## National Scale Mapping

Thailand National Scale Mapping	
Global ICR Scale	Thailand National Scale
bbb+ or above	aaa.TH
bbb	aa+.TH
bbb-	aa.TH
bb+	aa-.TH
bb	a+.TH to a.TH
bb-	a-.TH to bbb+.TH
b+	bbb.TH to bbb-.TH
b	bb+.TH to bb.TH
b-	bb-.TH
ccc+	b+.TH to b.TH
ccc	b-.TH to ccc+.TH
ccc-	ccc.TH
cc	ccc-.TH to cc.TH
c	c.TH

Indonesia National Scale Mapping	
Global ICR Scale	Indonesia National Scale
bbb+ or above	aaa.ID
bbb	aa+.ID
bbb-	aa.ID
bb+	aa-.ID to a+.ID
bb	a.ID to a-.ID
bb-	bbb+.ID
b+	bbb.ID to bbb-.ID
b	bb+.ID to bb.ID
b-	bb-.ID
ccc+	b+.ID to b.ID
ccc	b-.ID
ccc-	ccc+.ID to ccc.ID
cc	ccc-.ID to cc.ID
c	c.ID

Philippines National Scale Mapping	
Global ICR Scale	Philippines National Scale
bbb+ or above	aaa.PH
bbb	aa+.PH
bbb-	aa.PH
bb+	aa-.PH to a+.PH
bb	a.PH to a-.PH
bb-	bbb+.PH
b+	bbb.PH to bbb-.PH
b	bb+.PH to bb.PH
b-	bb-.PH
ccc+	b+.PH to b.PH
ccc	b-.PH
ccc-	ccc+.PH to ccc.PH
cc	ccc-.PH to cc.PH
c	c.PH

India National Scale Mapping	
Global ICR Scale	India National Scale
bbb or above	aaa.IN
bbb-	aa+.IN
bb+	aa.IN
bb	aa-.IN to a+.IN
bb-	a.IN to a-.IN
b+	bbb+.IN to bbb.IN
b	bbb-.IN to bb+.IN
b-	bb.IN to bb-.IN
ccc+	b+.IN
ccc	b.IN to b-.IN
ccc-	ccc+.IN to ccc.IN
cc	ccc-.IN to cc.IN
c	c.IN

Vietnam National Scale Mapping	
Global ICR Scale	Vietnam National Scale
bbb- or above	aaa.VN
bb+	aa+.VN
bb	aa.VN to aa-.VN
bb-	a+.VN to a.VN
b+	a-.VN to bbb+.VN
b	bbb.VN to bbb-.VN
b-	bb+.VN to bb.VN
ccc+	bb-.VN to b+.VN
ccc	b.VN to b-.VN
ccc-	ccc+.VN to ccc.VN
cc	ccc-.VN to cc.VN
c	c.VN

## Best's Credit Rating Process

The duration from signed contract to ratings announcement is about eight to twelve weeks.

1

### Rating Engagement and Contract

Once a contract is signed and returned and the fee paid, the company is assigned a rating analyst, and the interactive rating process commences.

2

### Meet with Company Management

The analytical team develops a tailored meeting [agenda](#) and meets with company management to discuss the organisation's operations, strategy, risk management and financial condition, incorporating a host of quantitative and qualitative measures to evaluate financial strength.

3

### Compile Information and Perform Analysis

The assigned analytical team collects public and proprietary financial information and data to develop a rating recommendation for the rating committee.

4

### Determine Best's Credit Rating

The AM Best rating committee ensures rating consistency and maintains the integrity of the rating process and methodology.

5

### Disseminate Best's Credit Rating

If the initial Best's Credit Rating is accepted, it is distributed via the AM Best website, press releases and publications. The company can choose to keep the rating private. Private BCRs are disseminated to the rated entity only.

6

### Monitor Best's Credit Rating

AM Best regularly monitors the rating by continually analysing the organisation's creditworthiness.

## Mapping Global ICRs to NSRs

The evaluation of the distribution of financial strength in a country is assessed through nine individual factors:

1. Reported Capital & Surplus

5. Return on Equity

2. Ratio of Cash & Fixed Income Investments to Total Investments

6. Return on Assets

3. Gross Leverage Ratio

7. Retention Ratio

4. Gross Premiums Written

8. Combined Ratio

9. Reported Assets

Rob Curtis, Managing Director, Market Development  
robert.curtis@ambest.com | +65 9633 6118

Judy Li, Market Development Analyst  
judy.li@ambest.com | +65 9636 3678

Peter Tsiakos, Market Development Manager  
peter.tsiaikos@ambest.com | +65 8907 0874

Johnathan Wong, Senior Market Development Analyst  
johnathan.wong@ambest.com | +65 8940 9780

