## **S** Guardian



# Financial strength matters

When choosing a carrier, it's important to look for a company with a demonstrated track record of financial strength.

Comdex Ranking			
Northwestern Mutual	100	Standard	81
Berkshire Life	99	Ameritas	79
Mass Mutual	98	Unum	73
MetLife <sup>1</sup>	95	Ohio National	72
Principal	90		



All ratings and Comdex ranking information from Vital Signs, 02/08/22. This information is subject to change without notice.

### Independent third-party ratings

A.M. Best: A++

Superior ability to meet ongoing obligations to policyholders

A++ Berkshire Life, Northwestern Mutual, Mass Mutual

A+ MetLife, Principal

A Standard, Ameritas, Unum, Ohio National

Standard & Poor's: AA+

Very strong financial stability characteristics

AA+ Berkshire Life, Northwestern Mutual, Mass Mutual

AA- MetLife

A+ Principal, Standard, Ameritas

A Unum

#### Fitch: AA+

Very strong capacity to meet contractual obligations

AAA Northwestern Mutual

AA+ Berkshire Life, Mass Mutual

AA- MetLife, Principal

A- Unum, Ohio National

## **Comdex ranking**

Comdex is not a rating, but a composite of all ratings that a company has received from the major rating agencies (A.M. Best, Standard & Poor's, Moody's, and Fitch). Comdex percentile ranks the companies, on a scale of 1 to 100 (with 100 being the best). A carrier needs to be rated by at least two rating services to receive a Comdex ranking.

A Comdex rating can be thought of as a report card for insurance companies. By looking at the number from 1 to 100, you can easily find out the financial strength of an insurer. For example, if a company's Comdex ranking is 80, this means it scores higher than 80% of all other companies with two or more ratings. You have a choice in selecting an insurance company based on your personal tolerance for a company's financial strength.

#### Strong ratings from independent agencies

One of the best ways to evaluate an insurance company is to look at how it stacks up against other insurance carriers. Independent, third-party rating services like A.M. Best, Fitch, Moody's Investors Services, and Standard & Poor's provide objective ratings of financial strength. Each rating agency has a different rating scale, thus looking at these ratings individually is not as important as looking at how a given company looks relative to others. Both Berkshire Life and Guardian have consistently earned strong ratings from all of the rating agencies.

# You can feel confident choosing a company with strong financial ratings.

The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America

guardianlife.com

New York, NY

- $^1$  Information for MetLife based on Metropolitan Life Insurance Company not Brighthouse Life Insurance Company.
- <sup>2</sup> The Balance, What is a Comdex rating? (Nov. 29, 2021), https://www.thebalance.com/what-is-the-comdex-ranking-of-your-insurance-company-3993970

Financial information concerning Berkshire Life Insurance Company of America as of 12/31/21 on a statutory basis: Net Admitted Assets = \$4.7 billion; Liabilities = \$4.5 billion (including \$1.0 billion of Reserve); Surplus = \$0.2 billion. Ratings as of \$02/08/22\$ are subject to change without notice.

Individual disability income products underwritten and issued by Berkshire Life Insurance Company of America (BLICOA), Pittsfield, MA. BLICOA is a wholly owned stock subsidiary of and administrator for The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America (Guardian), New York, NY or provided by Guardian. BLICOA is solely responsible for the financial obligations thereunder for its issued products.

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Pub4743BL (02/22) 2022-133461 (Exp. 02/23)

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