

Issuer Ranking:

Global Metals & Mining Companies, Strongest To Weakest

January 29, 2019

The following lists rank the global portfolio of metals and mining companies that S&P Global Ratings rates, from strongest to weakest. We rank companies, in turn, by the rating, outlook, stand-alone credit profile (SACP), business and financial risk profile, and liquidity assessment. Investment-grade companies are ranked by business risk profile, then financial risk profile. Speculative-grade companies are ordered by financial risk profile, then business risk profile. Companies are then listed in alphabetical order, if not distinguished by these factors.

In line with our corporate rating methodology, the final rating may differ from the SACP, where government, group, or rating above the sovereign considerations apply. Where the SACP differs from the anchor, we have applied one or more modifiers, which may include that for liquidity. We've noted the anchor and active modifiers of each company, for informational purposes only. For our more-detailed analysis, please refer to the company-specific pages on RatingsDirect via the hyperlinks below.

Separately, S&P Global Ratings has published its rating component scores report for metals & mining and all corporate ratings as of Jan. 2, 2019, including the individual corporate industry and country risk assessments (CICRAs) and competitive positions. These articles are listed here: "S&P Global Ratings Publishes New Global And Updated Regional Corporate Rating Component Scores Reports," published on Jan. 16, 2019. As we show in the charts at the end of this report, most of our business risk assessments are closely correlated with the corresponding competitive positions. Similarly, in the context of our moderately high industry risk assessments for the metals and mining sectors, country risk only has a material impact on the CICRA in 11% of cases and the business risk profile for 6% of the portfolio. Government or group ownership is an explicit rating factor for a fifth of the companies--most commonly, but not exclusively, in Asia. In two-thirds of those cases, our analysis of the ownership results in a rating higher than the SACP.

For our sector outlooks and analysis, please refer to the commentaries listed under Related Research at the end of this article.

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Ranking Tables

Table 1

Metals & Mining: Upstream Entities Rated Investment Grade

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Business risk	Cash flow and leverage	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
Corporacion Nacional del Cobre de Chile*	A+	Stable	bb	[3] Satisfactory	[5] Aggressive	Adequate	bb	
China Shenhua Energy Co. Ltd.*	A+	Watch Neg	a+	[2] Strong	[2] Modest	Strong	a+	
BHP Group Ltd.	A	Stable	a	[2] Strong	[2] Modest	Exceptional	a	
Rio Tinto PLC	A	Stable	a	[2] Strong	[2] Modest	Exceptional	a	
Korea Resources Corp.*	A	Stable	b+	[4] Fair	[6] Highly leveraged	Adequate	b	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
Shenhua Hong Kong Ltd.*	A	Watch Neg	b-	[5] Weak	[6] Highly leveraged	Adequate	b-	
Bao-Trans Enterprises Ltd.*	A-	Stable	b-	[6] Vulnerable	[6] Highly leveraged	Weak	b-	
Glencore PLC	BBB+	Stable	bbb+	[2] Strong	[3] Intermediate	Strong	a-	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
South32 Ltd.	BBB+	Stable	bbb+	[3] Satisfactory	[2] Modest	Strong	bbb+	
Grupo Mexico S.A.B. de C.V.	BBB+	Stable	bbb+	[3] Satisfactory	[2] Modest	Adequate	bbb+	
Minera Escondida Ltda.	BBB+	Stable	bbb+	[3] Satisfactory	[2] Modest	Adequate	bbb+	
Baosteel Resources International Co. Ltd.*	BBB+	Stable	b	[5] Weak	[6] Highly leveraged	Less than adequate	b	
Goldcorp Inc.	BBB+	Watch Neg	bbb+	[3] Satisfactory	[2] Modest	Strong	bbb+	
Newmont Mining Corp.	BBB	Positive	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Exceptional	bbb	
Industrias Penoles S.A.B. de C.V.	BBB	Positive	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Strong	bbb	
Newcrest Mining Ltd.	BBB	Stable	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[2] Modest	Strong	bbb+	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Barrick Gold Corp.	BBB	Stable	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Strong	bbb	
China National Gold Group Co. Ltd.*	BBB	Stable	bb	[4] Fair	[5] Aggressive	Adequate	bb-	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)

Issuer Ranking: Global Metals & Mining Companies, Strongest To Weakest

Table 1

Metals & Mining: Upstream Entities Rated Investment Grade (cont.)

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Business risk	Cash flow and leverage	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
Cameco Corp.	BBB	Negative	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Strong	bbb-	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
Anglo American PLC	BBB-	Positive	bbb-	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Strong	bbb-	
Vale S.A.	BBB-	Stable	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Strong	bbb	
Zijin Mining Group Co. Ltd.	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Adequate	bbb-	
ALROSA PJSC	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[4] Fair	[2] Modest	Strong	bbb-	
Alumina Ltd.	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[4] Fair	[2] Modest	Adequate	bbb-	
Kinross Gold Corp.	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[4] Fair	[3] Intermediate	Strong	bb+	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
MMC Norilsk Nickel PJSC	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[4] Fair	[3] Intermediate	Strong	bb+	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
Shandong Gold Group Co. Ltd.*	BBB-	Stable	bb	[4] Fair	[5] Aggressive	Adequate	bb-	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
China Gold International Resources Corp. Ltd.*	BBB-	Stable	b+	[5] Weak	[5] Aggressive	Adequate	b+	
Minsur S.A.*	BBB-	Negative	bb	[4] Fair	[4] Significant	Adequate	bb	

Note: The scores are as of Jan. 2, 2019. *Indicates entities to which we applied either or both of our group rating methodology or government-related entity criteria. FC--Foreign currency. LT--Long term. CRA--Comparable ratings analysis. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

Table 2

Metals & Mining : Upstream Entities Rated Speculative Grade

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Cash flow and leverage	Business risk	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
Teck Resources Ltd.	BB+	Positive	bb+	[4] Significant	[3] Satisfactory	Strong	bbb-	FP: Negative (-1 notch)
Alliance Resource Partners L.P.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[2] Modest	[4] Fair	Strong	bbb-	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Alcoa Corp.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	
AngloGold Ashanti Ltd.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	
CAP S.A.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	

Issuer Ranking: Global Metals & Mining Companies, Strongest To Weakest

Table 2

Metals & Mining : Upstream Entities Rated Speculative Grade (cont.)

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Cash flow and leverage	Business risk	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
Gold Fields Ltd.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	
Nexa Resources S.A.*	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	
Yamana Gold Inc.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	
Fortescue Metals Group Ltd.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[4] Significant	[3] Satisfactory	Adequate	bb+	
Nexa Resources Peru S.A.A.*	BB+	Stable	bb	[3] Intermediate	[5] Weak	Strong	bb	
Zhaojin Mining Industry Co. Ltd.*	BB+	Stable	bb	[5] Aggressive	[4] Fair	Adequate	bb-	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
PT Vale Indonesia Tbk	BB	Stable	bb	[2] Modest	[5] Weak	Adequate	bb+	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Polyus PJSC	BB	Stable	bb	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	FP: Negative (-1 notch)
Drummond Co. Inc.*	BB	Stable	bb	[3] Intermediate	[5] Weak	Adequate	bb	
Freeport-McMoRan Inc.	BB	Stable	bb	[4] Significant	[3] Satisfactory	Adequate	bb+	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Holding Co. Metallinvest JSC	BB	Stable	bb	[4] Significant	[4] Fair	Strong	bb	
Yanzhou Coal Mining Co. Ltd.*	BB	Stable	bb-	[5] Aggressive	[4] Fair	Adequate	bb-	
Shandong Energy Group Co. Ltd.*	BB	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Adequate	b	
Yankuang Group Co. Ltd.*	BB	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Adequate	b	
Arch Coal Inc.	BB-	Stable	bb-	[4] Significant	[5] Weak	Strong	bb-	
Coeur Mining Inc.	BB-	Stable	bb-	[4] Significant	[5] Weak	Strong	bb-	
Peabody Energy Corp.	BB-	Stable	bb-	[4] Significant	[5] Weak	Adequate	bb-	
Compass Minerals International Inc.	BB-	Negative	bb-	[5] Aggressive	[4] Fair	Adequate	bb-	
Sibanye Gold Ltd.	B+	Positive	b+	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	
PT Bayan Resources Tbk.	B+	Stable	b+	[2] Modest	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	bb-	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
IAMGOLD Corporation	B+	Stable	b+	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Strong	b+	Liquidity: Strong (+1 notch) CRA: Negative (-1 notch)

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Table 2

Metals & Mining : Upstream Entities Rated Speculative Grade (cont.)

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Cash flow and leverage	Business risk	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
CONSOL Energy Inc.	B+	Stable	b+	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	
Hecla Mining Co.	B+	Stable	b+	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	
HudBay Minerals Inc	B+	Stable	b+	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	
Warrior Met Coal, Inc.	B+	Stable	b+	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	
Vedanta Resources Ltd.*	B+	Stable	b+	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Less than adequate	b	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
Northwest Acquisitions ULC	B+	Negative	b+	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	
Natural Resource Partners L.P.	B	Watch Pos	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
Eurasian Resources Group (ERG) S.a.r.l.	B	Positive	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Less than adequate	b	
Ferrexpo PLC	B	Stable	b	[4] Significant	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	b+	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Contura Energy, Inc.	B	Stable	b	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
KOKS PJSC	B	Stable	b	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	FP: Negative (-1 notch)
Vietnam National Coal and Mineral Industries Holding Corp. Ltd.*	B	Stable	b	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Less than adequate	b+	M&G: Weak (-1 notch)
Geo Energy Resources Ltd.	B	Stable	b	[5] Aggressive	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	b	
Source Energy Services Ltd.	B	Stable	b	[5] Aggressive	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	b	
Taseko Mines Limited	B	Stable	b	[5] Aggressive	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	b	
First Quantum Minerals Ltd	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Adequate	b	
American Rock Salt Co. LLC	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b-	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
Conuma Coal Resources Limited	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
Coronado Group LLC	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
Eldorado Gold Corp.	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
Kissner Holdings LP	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	

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Table 2

Metals & Mining : Upstream Entities Rated Speculative Grade (cont.)

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Cash flow and leverage	Business risk	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
Petra Diamonds Ltd.	B	Negative	b	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Less than adequate	b+	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
New Gold Inc.	B	Negative	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
Hi-Crush Partners LP	B-	Positive	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Foresight Energy L.P.*	B-	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Adequate	b	
Mountain Province Diamonds Inc.	B-	Stable	b-	[5] Aggressive	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	b	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Murray Energy Corp.	B-	Stable	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Less than adequate	b-	
Largo Resources Ltd	B-	Stable	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	b-	
Baffinland Iron Mines Corp.	B-	Stable	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	Less than adequate	b-	
Mongolian Mining Corp.	B-	Stable	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	Less than adequate	b-	
Petropavlovsk PLC	B-	Watch Neg	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Less than adequate	b	M&G: Weak (-1 notch)
PT Bumi Resources Tbk.	CCC+	Stable	N/A	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	N/A	N/A	
Preferred Proppants LLC	CCC+	Stable	N/A	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	N/A	N/A	
Cloud Peak Energy Resources LLC	CCC+	Negative	N/A	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	N/A	N/A	
Atlas Iron Ltd.	CCC	Watch Pos	N/A	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	N/A	N/A	
Imperial Metals Corp.	CCC-	Negative	N/A	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	N/A	N/A	

Note: The scores are as of Jan. 2, 2019, except Yankuang Group Co. Ltd, which is as of Jan. 4, 2019. *Indicates entities to which we applied either or both of our group rating methodology or government-related entity criteria. FC--Foreign currency. LT--Long term. CRA--Comparable ratings analysis. FP--Financial policy. M&G--Management and governance. N/A--Not applicable. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

Table 3

Metals & Mining: Downstream Entities Rated Investment Grade

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Business risk	Cash flow and leverage	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
Nucor Corp.	A-	Stable	a-	[2] Strong	[2] Modest	Exceptional	a	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)

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Table 3

Metals & Mining: Downstream Entities Rated Investment Grade (cont.)

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Business risk	Cash flow and leverage	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
Baoshan Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.*	A-	Stable	bbb+	[3] Satisfactory	[2] Modest	Adequate	bbb+	
China Baowu Steel Group Corp. Ltd.*	A-	Stable	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Adequate	bbb	
POSCO	BBB+	Positive	bbb+	[2] Strong	[3] Intermediate	Adequate	bbb+	
Reliance Steel & Aluminum Co.	BBB	Stable	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Exceptional	bbb	
Worthington Industries Inc.	BBB	Stable	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Exceptional	bbb	
Norsk Hydro ASA	BBB	Stable	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Strong	bbb	
Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corp.	BBB	Stable	bbb	[3] Satisfactory	[3] Intermediate	Adequate	bbb	
Hyundai Steel Co.*	BBB	Stable	bb	[3] Satisfactory	[5] Aggressive	Adequate	bb	
Arconic Inc	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[2] Strong	[4] Significant	Strong	bbb	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
ArcelorMittal	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[3] Satisfactory	[4] Significant	Strong	bb+	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
Carpenter Technology Corp.	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[3] Satisfactory	[4] Significant	Strong	bbb-	
Gerdau S.A.	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[3] Satisfactory	[4] Significant	Strong	bbb-	
Aperam S.A.	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[4] Fair	[2] Modest	Strong	bbb-	
BlueScope Steel Ltd.	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[4] Fair	[2] Modest	Strong	bbb-	
Molibdenos y Metales S.A.	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[4] Fair	[2] Modest	Strong	bbb-	
NLMK PJSC	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[4] Fair	[2] Modest	Strong	bbb-	
Severstal PAO	BBB-	Stable	bbb-	[4] Fair	[2] Modest	Strong	bbb-	
Aluminum Corp. of China Ltd.*	BBB-	Stable	bb-	[3] Satisfactory	[6] Highly leveraged	Adequate	b+	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)

Note: The scores are as of Jan. 2, 2019. *Indicates entities to which we applied either or both of our group rating methodology or government-related entity criteria. FC--Foreign currency. LT--Long term. CRA--Comparable ratings analysis. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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Table 4

Metals & Mining: Downstream Entities Rated Speculative Grade

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Cash flow and leverage	Business risk	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
Steel Dynamics Inc.	BB+	Positive	bb+	[4] Significant	[3] Satisfactory	Exceptional	bb+	
Kaiser Aluminum Corp.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	
Xignux S.A. de C.V.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	
Commercial Metals Co.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Adequate	bb+	
Russel Metals Inc.	BB+	Stable	bb+	[3] Intermediate	[5] Weak	Strong	bb	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
SSAB AB	BB	Positive	bb	[3] Intermediate	[5] Weak	Strong	bb	
Evrax Group S.A.	BB	Positive	bb	[4] Significant	[4] Fair	Strong	bb	
Global Brass and Copper Inc.	BB	Stable	bb	[3] Intermediate	[4] Fair	Strong	bb+	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Southwire Company LLC	BB	Stable	bb	[4] Significant	[4] Fair	Adequate	bb	
Nexans S.A.	BB	Negative	bb	[4] Significant	[4] Fair	Strong	bb	
Oxbow Carbon LLC	BB-	Stable	bb-	[4] Significant	[4] Fair	Adequate	bb	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
SunCoke Energy Inc.	BB-	Stable	bb-	[4] Significant	[5] Weak	Adequate	bb-	
Press Metal Aluminium Holdings Bhd.	BB-	Stable	bb-	[4] Significant	[5] Weak	Less than adequate	bb-	Liquidity: Less than adequate (-1 notch) CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
Novelis Inc.	BB-	Stable	bb-	[5] Aggressive	[3] Satisfactory	Adequate	bb	FP: Negative (-1 notch)
Atkore International Inc.	BB-	Stable	bb-	[5] Aggressive	[4] Fair	Strong	bb-	
AMG Advanced Metallurgical Group N.V.	BB-	Stable	bb-	[5] Aggressive	[4] Fair	Adequate	bb-	
Tata Steel Ltd.	BB-	Stable	bb-	[6] Highly leveraged	[3] Satisfactory	Adequate	b+	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
Zekelman Industries, Inc.	B+	Positive	b+	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Strong	b	Liquidity: Strong (+1 notch)
China Hongqiao Group Ltd.	B+	Stable	b+	[4] Significant	[4] Fair	Adequate	bb	FP: Negative (-1 notch) M&G: Weak (-1 notch)
Guangyang Antai Holdings Ltd.*	B+	Stable	b+	[4] Significant	[5] Weak	Adequate	bb-	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)

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Table 4

Metals & Mining: Downstream Entities Rated Speculative Grade (cont.)

Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Cash flow and leverage	Business risk	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
GrafTech International Ltd.	B+	Stable	b+	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	CRA: Positive (+1 notch)
Tata Steel UK Holdings Ltd.*	B+	Stable	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Less than adequate	b-	
Qinghai Provincial Investment Group Co. Ltd.*	B+	Stable	ccc+	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Weak	N/A	
Ferroglobe PLC	B+	Negative	b+	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	
Schmolz + Bickenbach AG	B+	Negative	b+	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Strong	b	Liquidity: Strong (+1 notch)
Usinas Siderurgicas de Minas Gerais S.A.*	B	Positive	b	[5] Aggressive	[5] Weak	Adequate	b+	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Gopher Resource, LLC	B	Positive	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Adequate	b	
United States Steel Corp.	B	Positive	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Exceptional	b	Liquidity: Exceptional (+1 notch) CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Century Aluminum Co.	B	Positive	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Strong	b	Liquidity: Strong (+1 notch) CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Big River Steel LLC*	B	Positive	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b-	
AIP MC Holdings LLC	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Adequate	b	
Allegheny Technologies Inc.	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Adequate	b	
AK Steel Holding Corp.	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Strong	b	Liquidity: Strong (+1 notch) CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
DXP Enterprises Inc.*	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
MRC Global (US) Inc.	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
Phoenix Services International LLC	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
Ryerson Holding Corp.	B	Stable	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	

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Table 4

Metals & Mining: Downstream Entities Rated Speculative Grade (cont.)

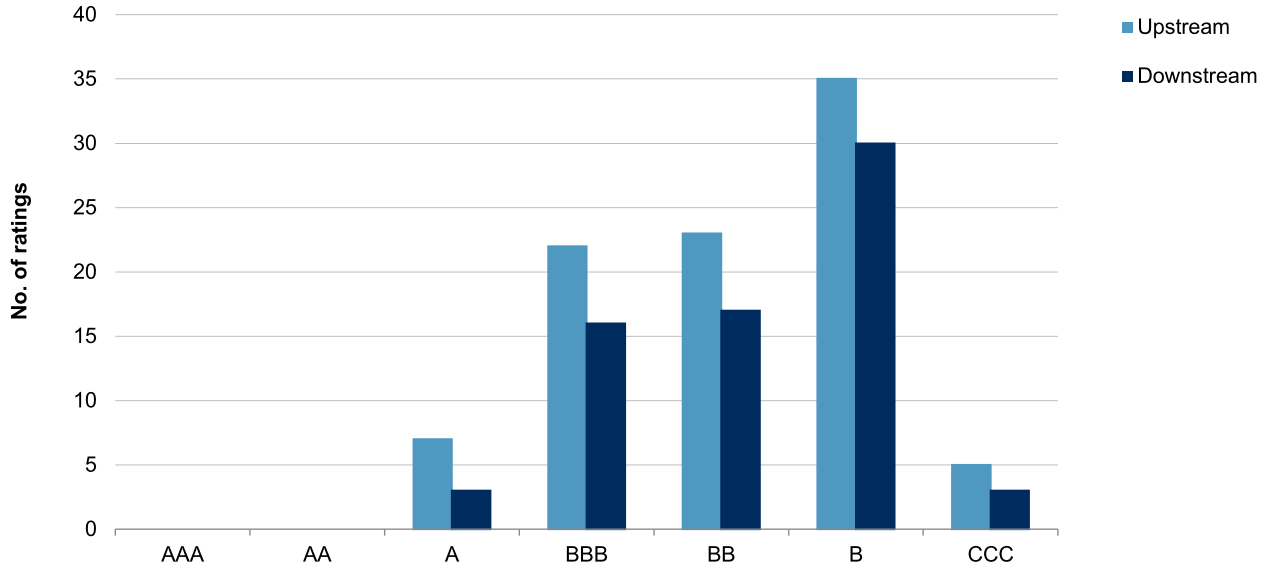
Company	FC LT Rating	Outlook	SACP	Cash flow and leverage	Business risk	Liquidity	Anchor	Modifiers (active)
Zhongrong Xinda Group Co. Ltd.	B	Negative	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Less than adequate	b	
International Wire Group Holdings Inc.	B	Negative	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
WireCo WorldGroup Inc.	B	Negative	b	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b	
Aleris International Inc.	B-	WatchPos	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	Adequate	b-	
Constellium N.V.	B-	Positive	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	Adequate	b	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
PT ANTAM (Persero) Tbk.	B-	Positive	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	Less than adequate	b-	
Metinvest B.V.	B-	Stable	b-	[5] Aggressive	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	b	CRA: Negative (-1 notch)
Algoma Steel Inc.*	B-	Stable	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	b-	
JW Aluminum Continuous Cast Co.	B-	Stable	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	Adequate	b-	
Cognor Holding S.A.	B-	Stable	b-	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	Less than adequate	b-	
Companhia Siderurgica Nacional	CCC+	Positive	N/A	[6] Highly leveraged	[4] Fair	N/A	N/A	
Boart Longyear Ltd.	CCC+	Stable	N/A	[6] Highly leveraged	[6] Vulnerable	N/A	N/A	
Nyrstar N.V.	CCC+	Negative	N/A	[6] Highly leveraged	[5] Weak	N/A	N/A	

Note: The scores are as of Jan. 2, 2019. *Indicates entities to which we applied either or both of our group rating methodology or government-related entity criteria. FC--Foreign currency. LT--Long term. CRA--Comparable ratings analysis. FP--Financial policy. M&G--Management and governance. N/A--Not applicable. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

The tables and charts in this publication provide an overview of the 161 entities we rate in this industry. Of the 161 companies in the metals & mining sector, we consider 92 to be upstream companies, engaged in mineral extraction, and 69 to be downstream companies, typically refiners or processors, for example, steel production. We rate 48 entities as investment-grade ('BBB-' and above; 29 upstream and 19 downstream). The remaining 113 entities, rated speculative-grade ('BB+' and below) comprise roughly 70% of our ratings in the global metals & mining industry. Of these, 63 are upstream entities and 50 downstream.

Chart 1

Foreign Currency Long-Term Rating Distribution: Metals & Mining



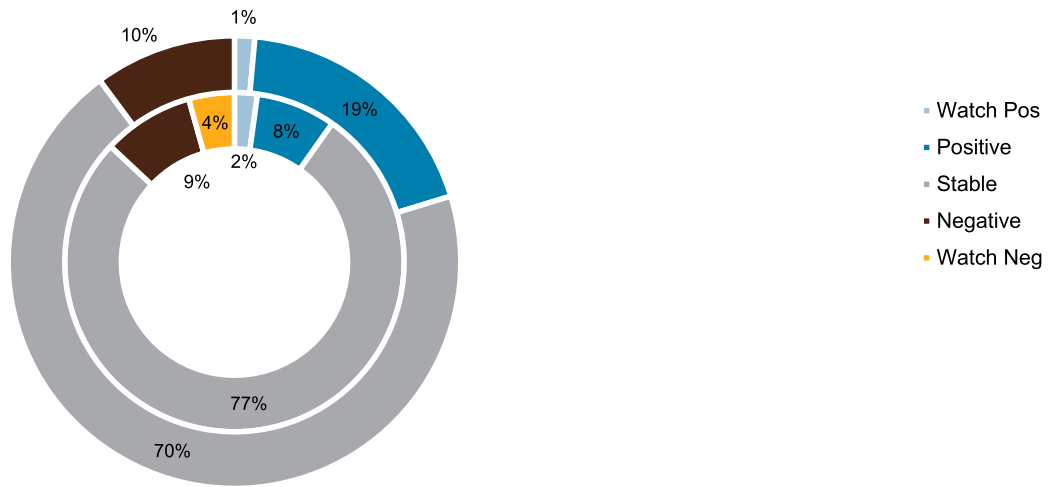
Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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Across the corporate universe, 60% of our ratings are speculative-grade. Ratings below 'BB+' predominate in metals and mining because many entities have highly leveraged financial profiles (roughly 40% versus a corporate average of roughly 30%); we classify industry risk for both the upstream and downstream segments of the metals & mining industry as moderately high; and many entities are exposed to higher-risk developing or emerging markets, either as producers or customers.

Chart 2

Outlook And Credit Watch Distribution: Metals & Mining



Upstream entities are displayed on the inner ring and downstream entities on the outer ring. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

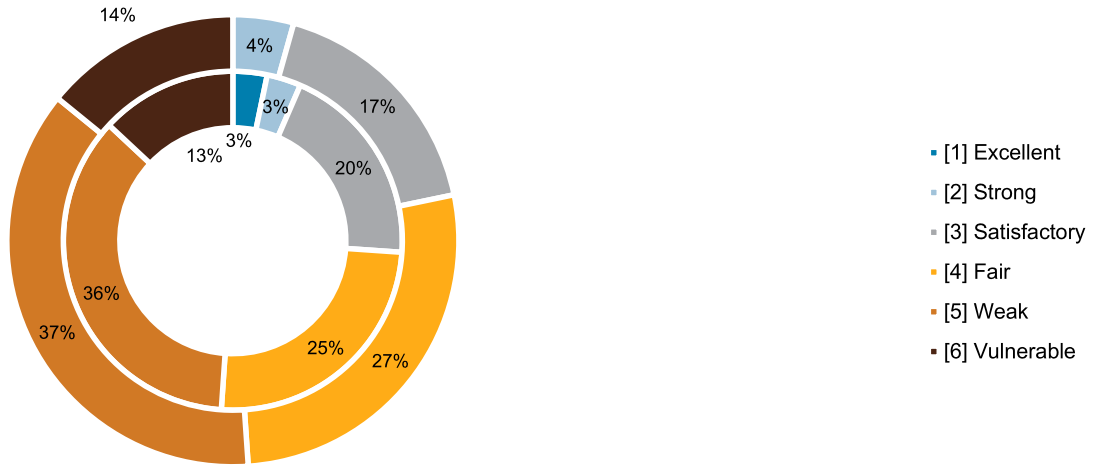
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Presently, our outlooks on the ratings within the sector are most often stable, and we have more positive outlooks than negative outlooks. Given the broadly supportive market fundamentals, operating efficiencies, and financial liquidity and balance sheet cushions, many of our ratings have some headroom, supporting our outlooks. We consider that most ratings, especially on the largest players, have built some resilience to demand risks, even if cyclically softening economic conditions deteriorate more severely than under our base assumptions of slowing, but not contracting, growth.

According to our projections, commodity demand will generally be supportive, primarily because our base case assumes GDP growth for the U.S., the eurozone, Latin America, and China. In addition, we expect China will continue to adhere to stricter environmental standards, which will moderate capacity in industries such as steel and aluminum. Therefore, we assume that most metal prices will remain relatively range-bound over 2019-2020, as we explained in our recent publications ("Industry Top Trends 2019: Metals and Mining," Nov. 12, 2018, and "Metal Price Assumptions: S&P Global Ratings Expects Mixed Outlook Amid Trade Tensions And Slowing Economic Expansion," Dec. 13, 2018)

Chart 3

Competitive Position And Business Risk Profile Distribution: Metals & Mining Upstream

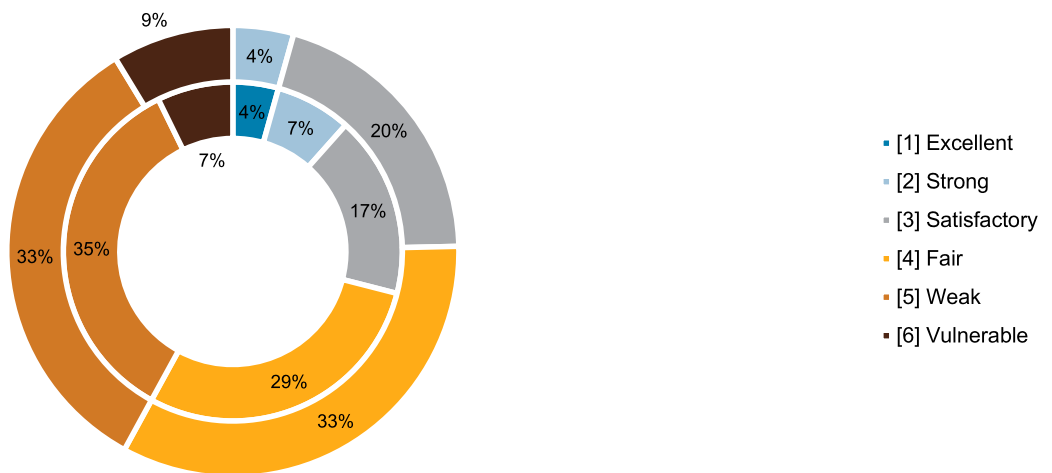


Competitive position is displayed on the inner ring and business risk profiles are on the outer ring. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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Chart 4

Competitive Position And Business Risk Profile Distribution: Metals & Mining Downstream



Competitive position is displayed on the inner ring and business risk profiles are on the outer ring. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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As charts 3 and 4 show, our business risk profile assessments typically mirror our view of

Issuer Ranking: Global Metals & Mining Companies, Strongest To Weakest

competitive position in this sector, both upstream and downstream. Where they diverge, it is usually because we have a less favorable view of country risk in the CICRA than the moderately high assessment that applies to most metals & mining issuers. In general, the industry risk drives the CICRA. It is only for the strongest competitive positions that the CICRA precludes the top business risk outcome.

Chart 5

Corporate Industry And Country Risk Assessment Distribution: Metals & Mining

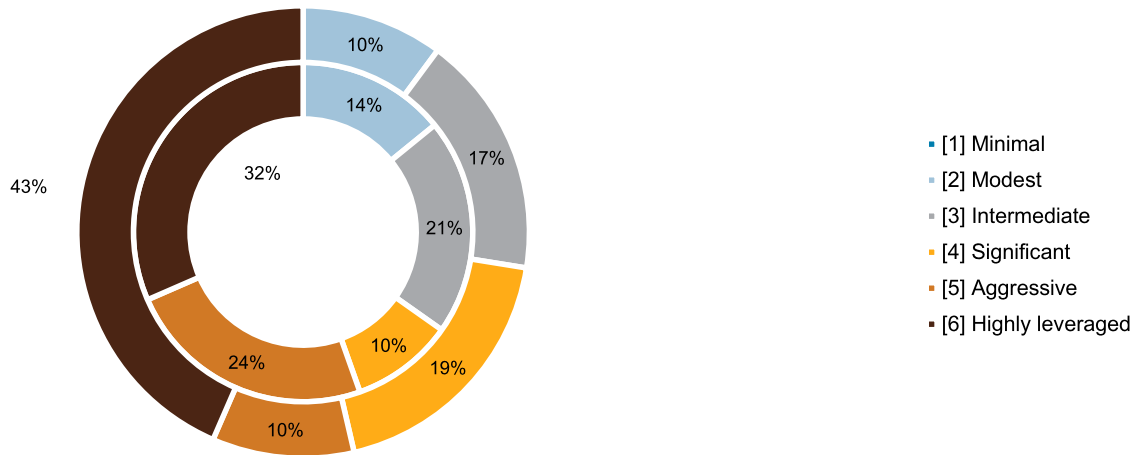


Upstream entities are displayed on the inner ring and downstream entities on the outer ring. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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Chart 6

Financial Risk Profile Distribution: Metals & Mining



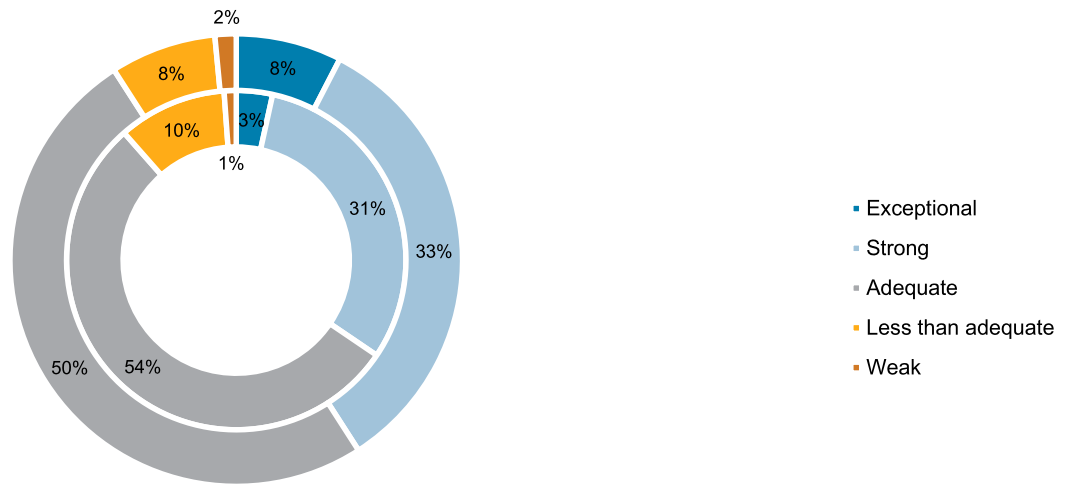
Upstream entities are displayed on the inner ring and downstream entities on the outer ring. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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The most common financial risk profile assessment in this sector, by number of issuers, is highly leveraged (see charts 5 and 6). At this point in the cycle, our financial risk assessments, whether highly leveraged or better, typically reflect both the underlying metrics and some leeway to accommodate moderately higher leverage in a cyclical downturn. Upstream companies have been gradually reducing their leverage, often through both cash flow growth and debt reduction, so that S&P Global Ratings-adjusted debt to EBITDA is now typically forecast to fall to about 3.6x by 2020, from close to 4.0x in 2018, on a weighted basis. Most downstream players are forecast to maintain a stable weighted-average adjusted debt to EBITDA of about 2.2x during 2018-2020.

Chart 7

Liquidity Distribution: Metals & Mining

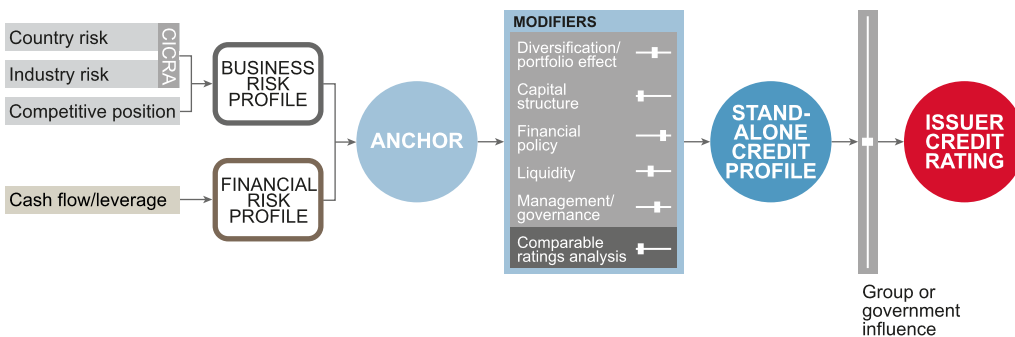


Upstream entities are displayed on the inner ring and downstream entities on the outer ring. Source: S&P Global Ratings.
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As chart 7 shows, we consider most metals and mining issuers to have liquidity that is adequate or better. Typically, the amount of cash they maintain, combined with their cash generation and liquidity resources, will cover the uses of cash to which they have committed over the next 12 months by 1.2x or more. Some speculative-grade companies have demonstrated such prudent liquidity management practices that we have applied a positive modifier to the rating specifically because they have ample liquidity sources to cover debt maturities, capital expenditures, and other requirements.

The ratings and scores in this document are as of Jan. 2, 2019, and we will not keep it updated. To keep it concise, the list only discloses scores for the main rated entity of larger corporate groups. We may omit certain entities, such as subsidiaries or holding companies, where the ratings are linked to those on their parent companies.

Corporate Criteria Framework



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Related Criteria And Research

Related Criteria

- Rating Government-Related Entities: Methodology And Assumptions, March 25, 2015
- Key Credit Factors For The Metals And Mining Upstream Industry, Dec. 20, 2013
- Key Credit Factors For The Metals And Mining Downstream Industry, Dec. 20, 2013
- Corporate Methodology, Nov. 19, 2013
- Group Rating Methodology, Nov. 19, 2013
- Ratings Above The Sovereign--Corporate And Government Ratings: Methodology And Assumptions, Nov. 19, 2013

Related Research

- Vale S.A. Ratings Placed On CreditWatch Negative Following Dam Failure In Brumadinho, Jan. 25, 2019
- S&P Global Ratings Publishes New Global And Updated Regional Corporate Rating Component Scores Reports, Jan. 16, 2019
- Metal Price Assumptions: S&P Global Ratings Expects Mixed Outlook Amid Trade Tensions And Slowing Economic Expansion, Dec. 13, 2018
- Country Risk Assessments Update: November 2018, Nov. 23, 2018
- Industry Top Trends 2019: Metals and Mining, Nov. 12, 2018
- FAQ: How S&P Global Ratings Formulates, Uses, And Reviews Commodity Price Assumptions, Sept. 28, 2018
- Will Speculative-Grade North American Miners Suffer Growing Pains?, July 16, 2018
- How Would The Top Five Global Miners Fare In A Downturn?, July 9, 2018
- Why Rising Cash Flows Aren't Lifting Ratings For Asia-Pacific Steelmakers, May 30, 2018
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This report does not constitute a rating action.

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