Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS electronic library known as e-Li. This online library is maintained daily by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other e-Li material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
County Technical Assistance Service
226 Capitol Blvd. Suite 400
Nashville, TN. 37219
615-532-3555 phone
615-532-3699 fax
ctas@tennessee.edu
www.ctas.tennessee.edu
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County governments in Tennessee are predominately rated by Moody’s Investor Services and Standard and Poor’s (S&P). A summary of the ratings are as follows:

*Moody’s* - Investment grade has 10 grades, ranging from a high of “Aaa,” “Aa1,” “Aa2,” “Aa3” to a low of “Baa3.” Any rating less than a “Baa” is considered speculative; a “C” rating is default.

*Standard and Poor’s* - Investment grade has only four grades, from high to low: “AAA,” “AA,” “A,” and “BBB.” Any rating lower is considered non-investment grade; a “D” rating is default.

Your county’s last rating will be provided on your last debt instrument. Any future rating will be provided prior to the debt being issued.

**Source URL:** https://ctas-eli.ctas.tennessee.edu/reference/find-out-your-debt-rating