

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 13F

FORM 13F COVER PAGE

Report for the Calendar Year or Quarter Ended: December 31, 2001

Check here if Amendment ; Amendment Number:

This Amendment (Check only one.):  is a restatement  
 adds new holdings entries.

Institutional Investment Manager Filing this Report:

Name: Principal Life Insurance Company  
Address: 711 High Street  
Des Moines, IA 50392

13F File Number: 28-793

The institutional investment manager filing this report and the person by whom it is signed hereby represent that the person signing the report is authorized to submit it, that all information contained herein is true, correct and complete, and that it is understood that all required items, statements, schedules, lists, and tables, are considered integral parts of this form.

Person Signing this Report on Behalf of Reporting Manager:

Name: Michael Roughton  
Title: Vice-President  
Phone: 515-248-3842

Signature, Place, and Date of Signing:

Michael Roughton                      Des Moines, Iowa                      February 14, 2002

Report Type (Check only one.):

13F HOLDINGS REPORT.  
 13F NOTICE.  
 13F COMBINATION REPORT.

List of Other Managers Reporting for this Manager:

Form 13F File Number: 28-

Name: Principal Financial Group, Inc.

I AM SIGNING THIS REPORT AS REQUIRED BY THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.