

AvSuper awarded AAA Fund Quality Rating

To achieve a AAA rating, AvSuper demonstrated that it is an exceptional quality super fund. This rating is an independent stamp of approval by one of Australia's leading financial services research companies, Rainmaker Information. AvSuper has always sought to provide outstanding service to members and the SelectingSuper AAA Quality Rating reflects our dedication to serving the retirement savings needs of our members.



Annual reports and statements

The 2009 AvSuper Annual Report to members has been mailed to all members with their individual statements so you should have your copy by now.



Don't forget to have your say about the format (paper or electronic) of next year's report via our website.

Member Online

Remember you can check all super contributions paid to your AvSuper account using Member Online, available at any time via our website. We're currently reviewing the service in order to refine and improve it in response to your feedback, but we don't expect any disruptions to your access.

Cautious but optimistic

Since our last bulletin, investment markets have continued to perform strongly. This is a welcome relief after a sustained period of negative performance for all super funds.

Despite continuing concern about the world economy as a whole, AvSuper has been able to generate a positive return in the Growth Option (where most AvSuper members have their money invested) of 10.2% for the first three months of this financial year.

Whilst we are pleased to report positive results, we note that many believe there are still some bumps in the road ahead. We remind you that investing your retirement savings is a long term exercise as it is the long term return that builds your savings.

The AvSuper Board's Investment Committee continues to refine and improve our mix of investments to ensure we best position the Fund to seek consistently good returns for your savings.

We remain cautious but optimistic about the year ahead.



David Leggo, Chairman

AvSuper's investment performance to 30 September 2009

Each of AvSuper's asset classes returned positive earnings (after fees and taxes) during the September 2009 quarter, which resulted in gains in every AvSuper investment option as shown below.

During September, share markets enjoyed one of the strongest quarters in history. Australian shares rose by 21.6%, with the best performing sectors being financials (led by banks), consumer related shares and IT stocks.

International shares reaped a 15.2% return during the quarter as the Australian dollar continued its recovery from a low point of USD60c nearly 12 months ago.

Emerging markets rose by nearly 11%, with Asian markets leading the pack.

Listed property trusts again outperformed, rising more than 30% over the quarter, but longer term returns are still well behind. Fixed interest markets continued to post positive returns over the quarter as credit conditions improved and the weaker economies saw yields fall.

Even though Australia has fared much better in comparison to other major world economies, further signs of stability are needed before the caution signs can be fully put away. Judging from the experiences of the past, we may reasonably expect some small declines along the way to a full recovery.

Investment Option	Quarter	Financial year to date	5 years (annualised)
Growth#	10.2%	10.2%	4.3%
High Growth	14.9%	14.9%	4.2%
Stable Growth	6.4%	6.4%	4.7%
Cash	0.6%	0.6%	4.9%

Past performance may not be an indicator of future performance.

Your super will be invested in our Growth Option if you don't make an investment choice.

Contact us

Phone: 1800 805 088
 Web: www.avsuper.com.au
 Email: avsinfo@avsuper.com.au

Member surveys

Thank you to everyone who responded to our bulletin survey. We're currently analysing the results which we will share in the next bulletin, but we're pleased to know nearly 90% like the improved format we introduced last year. Your feedback is important to us and we'd now like to know what you think about our member seminar program. You can share your experiences and comments in this survey via the seminars page of our website.

Staff Profile

If you've called AvSuper recently, chances are you've spoken to Tim and know how friendly & helpful he is. But here's what you may not know...



Name: Tim Ironside

Title: Member Services Consultant
Joined AvSuper? November 2008

What is your role? I am the main point of contact for member queries, and provide support to the Admin and Member Services Managers.

Your favourite part of being in the AvSuper team... the contact with members and the opportunity to provide personalised service which is difficult in larger funds. It is also good to be able to meet members in the office to assist with their super.

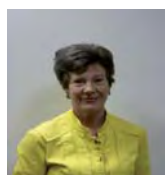
What is your super experience? I've worked in the industry since 1999, working for a number of super providers and financial planners

Where would you love a holiday? Anywhere warm, coastal and relaxing

Who is your favourite author? John Grisham

Welcome Christine Goode

On 14 October 2009, Ms Christine Goode was appointed as an Employer Representative Trustee Director of AvSuper (nominated by Airservices Australia).



Christine has extensive experience and knowledge of the super regulatory framework and member administration, plus strong experience in super compliance. She previously served on the Airservices Australia and State Super Financial Services boards, and is a former CEO of ComSuper. The calibre of Christine's experience makes her an invaluable addition to AvSuper.

Upcoming seminars

As part of your membership, we invite you to attend seminars to learn more about super and investments. Seminars are held at various locations around Australia, along with opportunities for you to speak to AvSuper staff and/or a financial planner, and are aimed at members of all ages. For further details (including dates and locations for our November seminars in Queensland), please visit our seminars page at www.avsuper.com.au/pages/seminars.php



AvSuper is run only to profit members, doesn't pay commissions to financial advisors, has strong long term investment returns and charges low fees to keep your money growing.

SuperMatch

During November we will send all relevant member details (including TFNs) to the ATO to identify AvSuper members who may have 'lost' or unclaimed super (including searches of the Superannuation Guarantee and special accounts (SHA) registers). If we find any super in your name, we'll write to you and let you know your options, which can include rolling the lost amount into your AvSuper account.

Concessional contributions

On paper, the Federal Government's change to the concessional contributions cap is simple and straight forward – but what does it mean for your retirement savings? If you are on a high income and/or salary sacrifice a large amount, these contributions may exceed the concessional contributions cap and you may pay higher tax on those contributions above the limit.

Please refer to our concessional contributions fact sheet (available on our website).

Income Stream Investment returns (net of fees) to 30 Sept 2009

When thinking about your super (even in retirement), don't just think about short term results – look ahead and plan for the long term. By comparing investment performance over the long term, such as over five to ten year periods, you can gain a better perspective of the performance of your super investment.

Investment Option	Quarter	Financial year to date	5 years (annualised)
Growth#	11.2%	11.2%	5.5%
High Growth	16.0%	16.0%	n/a
Stable Growth	7.3%	7.3%	5.0%
Cash	0.7%	0.7%	5.5%

Past performance may not be an indicator of future performance.

Your super will be invested in our Growth Option if you don't make an investment choice.