



SUPER FUND CREDITING RATES

SelectingSuper, a division of Rainmaker Information, today released its October 2003 crediting rate survey for super funds.

The major findings are that super funds are continuing their strong surge in returns, which first became evident in April this year, and are now achieving median annual returns of 8%. Some funds are even achieving annual returns that now exceed 12%.

Rainmaker Information's director of research, Alex Dunnin, says "this is terrific news for super fund investors. In the last year, many super funds have actually made more money for their investors than they did in the last 3 years combined."

And in even more encouraging news, super funds are generally adding-value to their investors over and above what the investment markets themselves are delivering.

This means, according to Mr Dunnin, "that super funds are actually outperforming the markets they are investing in as they increasingly start to think of themselves as fund managers responsible for making money for their investors to retire on."

In other key results:

- The median return for the last 3 months to 31 October 2003 was 2.8%, which is more than most funds earned during the whole of last financial year.
- The top 10 super funds for the October quarter were dominated by Industry funds with 6 out of the 10 funds, followed by Government funds with 3 out of the 10, and Corporate funds with one out of the 10.
- While no commercial master trusts made the top 10, this is no surprise as master trusts come into their own when we look at returns in the specialist investment sectors.
- The best performing funds during the October quarter were the Electricity Supply Industry Superannuation (Qld) with 5.3%, the Stevedoring Retirement Fund with 4.9% and the Southern State Superannuation Scheme with 4.7%.
- The best performing Master trust fund during the October quarter was BT Lifetime Super Employer Plan with 2.7%, which further reinforces the return to form we are seeing from BT.
- The median return we would expect from super funds according to capital markets in the 3 months to 31 October 2003 was 1.5%. This suggests that super funds trustees, even after all fees and charges added 1.3% in just the last 3 months.

The survey is part of Rainmaker's SelectingSuper service which comprises an integrated suite of services to help employers and consumers understand, choose, and monitor their superannuation and their super funds.

SelectingSuper is made of a unique reference handbook, a fully integrated website, and employer and consumer services ranging from consumer report cards, fund briefing snapshots, market assessment reports policy committee reports and extends to full tender management services and quality ratings of super funds.

Table of super fund crediting rates attached.

More information: www.selectingsuper.com.au

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Super funds crediting rates to end Oct 2003 - default/balanced options

Fund & option name	Performance (crediting rates)	
	3 months	12 months
Electricity Supply Industry Superannuation (Qld) - Balanced Option	5.3%	9.8%
Stevedoring Employees' Retirement Fund - Growth	4.9%	11.6%
Southern State Superannuation Scheme - Balanced	4.7%	12.4%
equipsuper - equipselect Growth	4.6%	11.5%
QSuper - Balanced	4.6%	10.3%
Sunsuper - Balanced	4.3%	n/a
MIM Superannuation Plan - Diversified	4.1%	11.3%
Retail Employees Superannuation Trust - Diversified	4.1%	10.9%
Local Super - Growth	3.5%	8.7%
Non-Government Schools Superannuation Fund - Diversified Portfolio	3.4%	10.0%
REI Super - Trustee Super Balanced	3.3%	8.0%
Holden Employees Superannuation Fund - Balanced Option	3.3%	8.9%
Accountants Superannuation Fund - Balanced Option	3.0%	7.5%
Citibank Australia Staff Superannuation Fund - Balanced	3.0%	n/a
Christian Super - Ethical Growth	2.8%	5.5%
First State Superannuation Scheme - Diversified	2.8%	8.5%
Australian Retirement Fund - Balanced Investment Plan	2.8%	9.2%
Motor Trades Association of Australia Industry Superannuation Fund - Balanced	2.7%	9.3%
BT Lifetime Super Employer Plan - Multi Manager Growth	2.7%	6.1%
Australian Superannuation Savings Employment Trust - Medium Growth	2.4%	5.0%
Hanimex Superannuation Plan - Balanced	2.4%	6.4%
Getronics Superannuation Fund - Balanced	2.3%	4.7%
AvSuper - Stable Growth	2.1%	8.5%
The Master Superannuation Fund - Balanced Option	1.9%	8.2%
Local Government Superannuation Scheme - Diversified	1.9%	6.6%
NEC Superannuation Fund - Balanced	1.9%	4.3%
AXA Super Directions for Business - Multimgr Balanced Portfolio	1.8%	4.7%
Colonial Group Staff Superannuation Scheme - Multi-Manager Moderate	1.6%	5.3%
Combined Schools Superannuation Fund - Balanced	1.5%	6.1%
AMP Flexible Lifetime Super - LifeStages - Consolidation	1.5%	3.4%
AMP CustomSuper - LifeStages - Consolidation	1.5%	3.4%
Energy Industries Superannuation Scheme - Diversified	1.4%	6.7%
Colonial Group Staff Superannuation Scheme - Moderate	1.2%	n/a
Savings & Loans Members' Superannuation Fund - Capital Secure Option	0.7%	4.4%
Funds	34	31
Maximum	5.3%	12.4%
Quartile	3.5%	9.6%
Median	2.8%	8.0%
Quartile	1.9%	5.4%
Minimum	0.7%	3.4%

Source: Rainmaker Information

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