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SUPER LOOK BEYOND THE INVESTMENT RETURN AND CHECK YOUR OPTIONS

Use the investment options in your super fund, and look beyond the simple headline averages or default option returns, is the message delivered by the latest rating of funds out today from SelectingSuper, the super fund information and assessment service of Rainmaker Information, reveal that there is more to super fund investment performance than just looking at simple headline averages.

SelectingSuper today released its “Best of the Best” assessment of 5 year returns for the super funds – those offering the top investment options. The Best of the Best is the very best options in the market rather than the funds with the best default option.

“Not-for-profit super funds average five investment options, and master trusts average 65 options. So looking at the performance of just a single option for each fund is like comparing supermarkets by only contrasting the price of one type of toothpaste on their back shelf,” says Alex Dunnin, Director of Research at Rainmaker Information.

Under the SelectingSuper Fund Quality Ratings, investment performance is but one of a number of major elements to be assessed.

“Among the other key factors in the investment rating of a fund, are the depth and structure of the investment menu, and the quality of the fund managers used,” Mr Dunnin explains.

“Consumers should most certainly look at the investment performance of their fund’s default option, but equally they should look at what returns they could have achieved. Did they select the best investment options? Indeed, does the fund offer a good range of options?”

“Perhaps their super fund offers too many defensive options that cannot grow with them as their needs and investment savvy change. Alternatively, there may be too many exotic options that they just can’t understand or may be there are too many options from just one fund manager” said Mr Dunnin.

“When consumers buy products, they want choice – the key is, the choice should be neither too limited, not too overwhelming.”

“For the consumer or the employer, choosing a fund is not about choosing the largest or smallest, the cheapest or most expensive – it’s about choosing the best one that makes sense for them and their needs.”

The clue lies in actively exercising our investment options, says Alex Dunnin, Director of Research at Rainmaker Information.

Below is a table that depicts SelectingSuper’s top ten Best of the Best.

Further information:

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Best Performing Superannuation Funds

Best default options (industry funds & corporate master trusts)

Fund name & option	Crediting rates	
	5 yrs	Rank
Aust-Safe Superannuation Fund - Balanced	9.53%	1
CARE Super - Balanced Option	8.74%	2
Stevedoring Employees' Retirement Fund - Growth	8.72%	3
CUE (Credit Union Employees) Super Plan - Growth Option	8.57%	4
equipsuper - equipselect - Growth	8.50%	5
REST - Core Strategy	8.27%	6
Acumen CS Core Strategy	8.27%	7
Transport Employees Security Scheme - Accumulation	8.25%	8
ARF - Balanced Investment Plan	8.13%	9
Club Plus Superannuation Scheme - Accumulation	8.00%	10

Source: Rainmaker Information

Best of the best (funds with the best options)

Fund name	Crediting rates	
	5 yrs	Rank
Super Choice Employer Sponsored Superannuation	12.35%	1
Citigroup Corporate Superannuation Master Trust	12.25%	2
ASGARD Employee Superannuation Account	11.61%	3
Acumen Corporate Superannuation	10.98%	4
Electricity Supply Industry Superannuation (Qld)	10.04%	5
AMP CustomSuper	9.80%	6
equipsuper	9.54%	7
Aust-Safe Superannuation Fund	9.53%	8
ING Corporate Super	9.32%	9
CARE Super	8.74%	10

Source: Rainmaker Information