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AustralianSuper annual investment results

Balanced investment option returns 12.44 % - fourth year out of five with double digit returns for members

AustralianSuper's Balanced option has returned 12.44 per cent after taxes and fees for the 2016-17 financial year.

The strong result was a consequence of a stronger global economy, with global equity markets performing particularly well. This was supported by solid results from AustralianSuper's other diversified assets such as infrastructure.

This was the eighth consecutive year of positive returns since the global financial crisis and the fourth year out of five that the Fund has delivered double digit returns for members. Around 90 per cent of members invest their retirement savings in the Balanced option.

Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Investment Officer, Mark Delaney, said the strong result came about as all asset classes produced positive returns for the Fund, which has more than \$120 billion in member assets.

'The return to above-average performance reflects the improving global economy, particularly in China and the US. Investment markets have been resilient in the face of greater political uncertainty,' Mr Delaney said.

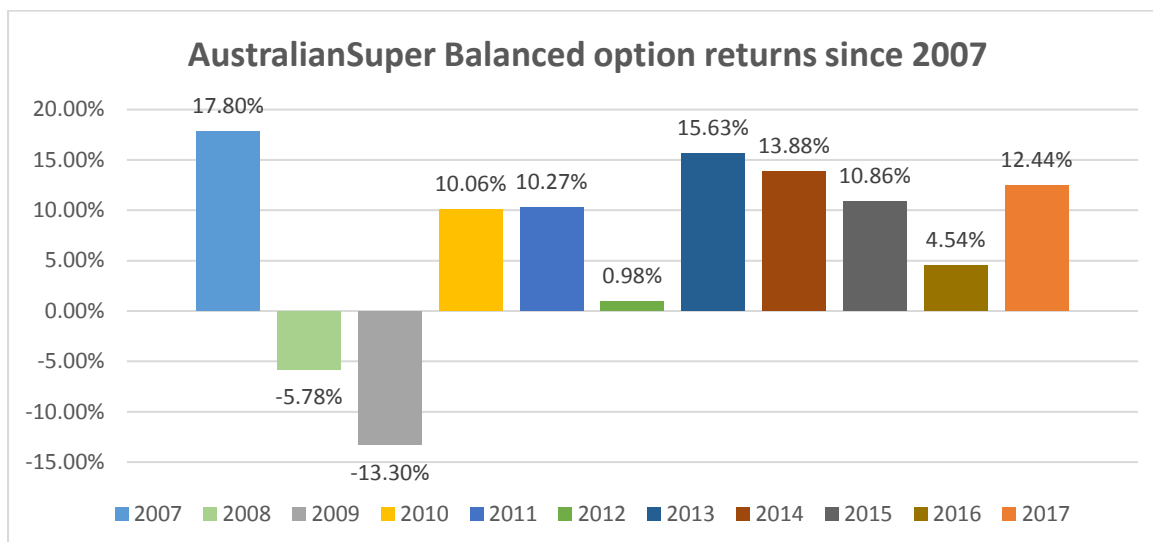
'It's a great result for our more than 2.2 million members and it shows the benefit of active management as well as our program to internalise the management of our assets.'

Mr Delaney said around \$26 billion, or about 22 per cent of the Fund's assets, are now managed internally and he expected this to increase in coming years. The internal team is outperforming external managers by about \$100 million annually and will deliver further cost savings to members.

'Internal management will help us to reduce costs, give the Fund the ability to be more agile in the way we invest and enable us to continue to invest in high quality assets.'

Mr Delaney said that while the result was pleasing, members should be firmly focused on longer term returns and be aware that fluctuations can be expected as global economic growth remains subdued.

'The diversified nature of our Balanced option has allowed us to manage market ups and downs over the long term,' he said. 'It's the breadth of the asset classes that we invest in and our active management of these investments that helps create sustainable long-term returns for members.'



2017 Returns for AustralianSuper members

	Superannuation Options	Pension Options
PreMixed Options		
High Growth	13.76%	14.95%
Balanced	12.44%	13.60%
Socially Aware	13.10%	14.57%
Indexed Diversified	8.69%	9.95%
Conservative Balanced	9.26%	10.67%
Stable	7.20%	8.19%
Capital Guaranteed	1.71%	2.01%
DIY Mixed Options		
Australian Shares	12.65%	13.64%
International Shares	15.66%	17.28%
Property	9.51%	10.85%
Diversified Fixed Interest	4.76%	5.58%
Cash	1.93%	2.29%

About AustralianSuper

AustralianSuper manages more than \$120 billion of members' assets on behalf of more than 2.2 million members from across 270,000 businesses. One in 10 working Australians is a member of AustralianSuper, the nation's largest industry super fund.

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