

APRA data puts welcome emphasis on long term super fund performance

August 20, 2009

APRA tables put welcome emphasis on long-term super fund performance

The Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees (AIST) today welcomed the release of **Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA)** fund performance tables, saying the new tables would further promote transparency and accountability across the \$1.1 trillion super industry and, importantly, put the emphasis back on the longer term performance of super funds.

AIST Chief Executive Officer, Ms Fiona Reynolds, said additional information and disclosure to fund members and super fund trustees was always welcome, particularly when that information was compiled by the industry's independent regulator.

"This information will be of particular use to fund trustees in helping them assess their fund's performance and their ability to maximise the retirement benefits of all of their members over a reasonable time frame".

The APRA tables highlight the strong performance of not-for-profit funds – which include industry, corporate (also known as company) and public-sector funds – over the five year period to June 30, 2008. Nearly two-thirds of working Australians have superannuation in not-for-profit funds.

"Importantly, this data recognises the long-term nature of superannuation with its focus on five year figures, rather than monthly or yearly performance which are of little relevance to super fund members and have the potential to lead to negative outcomes for members," said Ms Reynolds.

Ms Reynolds said it was also pleasing to note that the APRA intended to expand its collections and publications over time to include items such as performance relative to asset benchmarks and performance at the investment option level.

"The more independent data will can supply to funds and consumers the better," said Ms Reynolds.

AIST is the peak industry body for the \$450 billion not-for-profit super sector which includes industry, corporate and public sector funds covering the super interests of nearly 2/3 of the Australian workforce.

Further enquires: Janet de Silva, AIST media 0425 745 095

© 2009 Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees ABN 19 123 284 275

DISCLAIMER

This summary is intended as information only and should not be used in the place of legal or other advice. Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees expressly disclaims all liability and responsibility to any person who relies in full, or in part, on any of the information contained in this summary, or is omitted from it.

Ground Floor, 215 Spring St | MELBOURNE | VIC | 3000 | Telephone: 03 8677 3800 | Fax: 03 8677 3801
Email: info@aist.asn.au | website: www.aist.asn.au

© 2009 Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees ABN 19 123 284 275