O.P. I just rolled over my super to hostplus. I'm trying to decide what are good investment options. I currently have it in ready made investments. What is recommended so I can benefit the most from? Which shares? Do I put in cash? I need help with understanding it lissyloo writes... I just rolled over my super to hostplus. Hi You will get assorted responses from different people. To assist those that do reply, what was the main reason(s) you switched to Hostplus? What is your age and what amount of risk are you prepared to accept? Regards, alicudi O.P. I switched funds because the fund I was in had very high fees. I also switched to hostplus because I work in hospitality and it's an industry super fund I'm 31 When I switched and consolidated all my super to Hostplus around 12months ago, as a new member they offered me a free telephone consultation with one of their financial advisers. I took them up on it and found it very helpful in understanding the available investment options with Hostplus. Might be worth checking with Hostplus whether they still offer this free service to new members. FoxPro has given an excellent answer.You need to study the PDS (product disclosure statement) and other guide documents from the Hostplus website over and over again until you understand the fundamentals.There is also no harm in studying information on other competitor's websites as well.Also get familiar with relevant government websites because there is a lot of information on those websites just for the purpose of educating the Australian public. Examples: ASIC's "Moneysmart", ATO, APRA. Lastly, buy a couple of Australian authored personal investment books and study them. Getting the fundamentals right early in your life is the key to a successful financial future and protection against the thousands of sharks, scammers and idiots that will try and steal your money from you. lissyloo writes... Do I put in cash Only use cash if you are about to retire and don't care about growth. Basically, you need to decide what level of risk you want and how long your investment is for. If you have a lot of time then high risk (which is relative) diversified is fine. Basically, the high risk invests more in shares and less in things like government bonds, property, etc. LissylooWell done Lissyloo, I remember your previous post when you were looking around and came here seeking opinionsIt's really great seeing a young person taking interest in their super, even though you can't have it for many years unless extraordinary circumstances appear.Might I suggest getting a copy of the Barefoot Investor book and have a read.It's actually an easy read, and has helped me sort a few things out financially even at age 54.He actually recommends Hostplus Balanced Indexed fund for super, however as someone else posted ring Hostplus and see if you can have a chat to one of their advisors. gregwaust writes... Lastly, buy a couple of Australian authored personal investment books and study them. Got any recommendations? ou need to study the PDS (product disclosure statement) and other guide documents from the Hostplus website over and over again until you understand the fundamentals.Oh and here's a thing -not clear on something? Call them and ask!!! There are several threads of debate over which is the better option in hostplus: balanced, or balanced indexed./forum-replies.cfm?t=2697659/forum-replies.cfm?t=2667386Balanced has higher fees, a little over 1% but (currently) provides slightly better returns over balanced indexed.Barefoot recommends balanced indexed but I'm sticking with balanced at present. CapnCoastie writes... Got any recommendations?Noel Whittaker, Neil Jenman, David Koch, Terry Ryder, Paul Meleng, Murray Davey. MisterEd writes... Only use cash if you are about to retire and don't care about growth No idea why cash is recommended for retirees. Only people I know who are major cash investors are those who always invested in bank fixed deposits and have not been able to change their mindset after interest rates came down to nothing. Any retiree who invests all their super in cash is mainly living off their capital (unless they have a few million in super or live very frugally). I've invested in a balanced fund for 90% of my super all my working life and continue to do so in retirement (starting before it was called balanced). Only bad hit was in 2008/9 & it was recovered 2 years later. All personal opinion & not advice – no doubt there will be another crash but I don't see any reason to forego medium long term growth/returns for a few years of negative returns. Given the current volatility of the financial world who knows what will happen in the future. MisterEd writes... Only use cash if you are about to retire and don't care about growth. Yup, agree. If you have more than enough to outlast you, then keeping it in cash is a perfectly valid strategy for some. Why take any risks if you don't have to is how I see it. Sure I'll forgo future growth, but just living off bank interest will still be twice my annual expenses. No reason to take any risks if you don't need to. Jack O Lantern writes... He actually recommends Hostplus Balanced Indexed fund for super Scott does have commercial arrangements with Hostplus too so you wouldn't expect him to recommend anything else. Jason000 writes... Scott does have commercial arrangements with Hostplus I didn't know that. Can you provide to link to that please. umop-apisdn writes... Yup, agree. If you have more than enough to outlast you, then keeping it in cash is a perfectly valid strategy for some. Why take any risks if you don't have to is how I see it. and this is just how I see it....1130000 plus 800000 plus about 40000 severance pay all in the bank come retirement time.....64 in July, planning to retire in Jan 2019...have all of Sept off (LSL) just to use it up...will get paid during that month as well.....salary for December is to months worth to boot..and will get paid for January too You are not really adding much risk if you put 10-20% in equities and you get 0.5% extra with every 10% of equities that you add to your portfolio, gets less the more you add.I'll add that this was in a period where fixed interest enjoyed good returns, it is likely it will be a 0.6%-0.8% miss for every 10% of equities that a retiree doesn't have in the portfolio. tswest writes... No idea why cash is recommended for retirees. Because it can take a number of years to recover from a market crash/dip. Given they're at the point where they're likely to be withdrawing, it means they're much less likely to be able to recover from a loss – and far more likely to crystallise that loss (that is, turn the loss into a real one) on't see any reason to forego medium long term growth/returns for a few years of negative returns. Because at retirement age it may not be advisable to be looking at anything longer than short term, that's why. young people and old people have short time horizon when it comes to investing. aldi123 writes... old people have short time horizon when it comes to investing. Old? I retired at 62 and expect to live to 85+. A 25 year investment horizon. dllg writes... Old? I retired at 62 and expect to live to 85+. A 25 year investment horizon And yet others in your shoes are saying they want to be 100% in cash, just saying. umop-apisdn writes... I didn't know that. Can you provide to link to that please. a few years old now, there may be more recent ones somewhere Barefoot investor Scott Pape, 29, is the "funky finance man" recruited by Hostplus as part of its brand and marketing armoury aimed at improving financial literacy and boosting membership the thing about his advise, is the option he recommends is one very specific "index" options with almost zero fees, other than that, other industry funds outperform hostplus. Unfortunately hostplus aren't very upfront with their fees, so they are hard to work out and compare. umop-apisdn writes... I didn't know that. Can you provide to link to that please. Rocket Man writes... I was invited by Hostplus to a presentation on Superannuation about 5 years back, Scott was the host. I think these were being run in capital cities around the country and the co-branded Barefoot/Hostplus invitation made it fairly obvious that there was a commercial arrangement in place. To be fair it's all indicative of historical arrangements that may not be in place today, so my earlier comment could be incorrect. Still you would have to wonder if a past commercial relationship could in some way influence his recommendations. I quite like Scott and have nothing against him or Hostplus (disclosure: I have a Hostplus account), but thought it was worth mentioning. It would be good to know from the horses mouth is there was or still is a commercial arrangement with Hostplus. aldi123 writes... young people and old people have short time horizon when it comes to investing. I'm retiring next year at 55, my horizon which I've based my calculations on, is 95. So that's 40 years. It will still all way outlast me – to me, the best investment strategy is the one that reaches your goals with the least risk. Rocket Man writes... the thing about his advise, is the option he recommends is one very specific "index" options with almost zero fees, other than that, other industry funds outperform hostplus. Thank you RocketMan + Jason000, that's something I didn't know. I like Scott's principles, they are easy to understand. I've read his book recently, and after reading it, I realised I've followed many of his ideas for the the last 33 years I've been working – it's more or less common sense. Everyone should follow basic principles from a number of sources, and then adapt them to their own situation after doing your own research rather than following his exact products that he recommends. As he is fond of saying ... 'tread your own path'. The general consensus is that the book is good EXCEPT for his super recommendation. He basically says to choose your super based on fees and ignore all information about returns, which is just terrible advice (and if he truly believed that advice, it would logically follow to just put everything into cash investments, which he doesn't advocate). dllg writes... Old? I retired at 62 and expect to live to 85+. A 25 year investment horizon But bear in mind that if you're taking money out regularly and there's a crash, then everytime you take some money out the rest of the funds has to recover further to make up for the losses you've crystallised. The idea of a lower investment option is general advice. Everyone is different. It doesn't consider one's overall investment portfolio, for instance. People who are retiring often need to start using their super for income rather than work, so super earnings going backwards while taking money out really hurts, much moreso than younger people. Scott Pape says to have 3years of retirement income in cash(mojo) although besides this, his index balanced is 25% defensive, but that is there even before retirement for unspecified number of years, and prusumebly till the end. And is heavy into recommending dividends paying equities.Paul merriman says with a 50/50 portfolio at retirement and drawing 5% annually you have effectively 10years if retirement income in cash and to be 100% in equities till age 40 then add 10% every 5 years which to me makes more sense leading up to your retirement.My own plan is to be 100% in equities till mid-high 40s and this will be dictated by the amount of $ at the time. umop-apisdn writes... It will still all way outlast me – to me, the best investment strategy is the one that reaches your goals with the least risk Have you overlooked inflation though?In that time horizon cash is more risky than equities, and you'd certainly not be diversified by relying on just one thing(cash) have you looked at the return tables in the Paulmerriman site? they include a period of 1950-2000 where he says fixed income was good for the investors and seems to hint at those days no longer in the near horizon. aldi123 writes... Have you overlooked inflation though? Yes, even at 2% it's about twice my annual expenses. It would take prob 15+ years for inflation to double my expenses. If I took out say 4% each year (4x my spending) and slowly spent my capital, that would still outlast me. My parents are still alive, and although I've not taken any inheritance into account, that will be quite substantial too, so I've no concerns at all with leaving it in cash. Having said that though, if there is a big crash at some stage, I'll be in a perfect position to buy into the market with little risk. I actually would quite like to see a 20-30+% correction, that would give people with cash to buy into a market when people are panic selling. Due to sequencing risk, I'm staying in near cash at the moment. A 30% correction, if I was all in equities, would be equivalent to 30 years of expenses, no way am I exposing myself to that given that I'm giving up work next year. Even if I had ¾ in equities, that size correction would be catastrophic for me at this particular stage in my life. I'm perfectly safe where I am at the moment. But when a big correction comes, I'll be ready. CapnCoastie writes... The general consensus is that the book is good EXCEPT for his super recommendation. He basically says to choose your super based on fees and ignore all information about returns, which is just terrible advice Not at all. You should read Jack Bogle on this. In short, returns aren't guaranteed but fees are. Funds that outperform the index don't sustain it indefinitely (but they do sustain their fees). So choose a fund that matches the index return and has the lowest fees. Imf Australian shares and international shares indexed, no need to be in 25% defensive assets in your 20s and 30s, which is what the index balanced is. hmof writes... Not at all. You should read Jack Bogle on this. In short, returns aren't guaranteed but fees are Funds that outperform the index don't sustain it indefinitely (but they do sustain their fees). So choose a fund that matches the index return and has the lowest fees. Index funds are good for what they are, but conventional wisdom tells us we should spread the risk across multiple asset classes. Equities have mostly done well for the past few years, but they also have bad years as well, which is why you need to have a diversified portfolio. Low fees (0.06+ for hostplus indexed balanced) is low because all (most) your money is just in the share market. Hostplus invests in a range of low-cost index investments such as the Macquarie True Index Australian Fixed Interest Fund (7.5% of the portfolio), the BlackRock Fission Indexed International Equity Fund (hedged and 20% of assets), IFM's enhanced passive Australian shares (35%) and an indexed global equities strategy (unhedged and 20%). aldi123 writes... Have you overlooked inflation though? Imagine yield equals inflation, expenditure is 2.4% of capital, uplift in living standard 1%: Enough is enough. umop-apisdn writes... the best investment strategy is the one that reaches your goals with the least risk That results in reaching the goals with the highest probability. The portion of 65 year olds living to 100 is 1,732 / 87,978 = 2% 3302.0.55.001 – Life Tables, States, Territories and Australia, 2014-2016 hoo izzie writes... and will get paid for January too forgot that I will receive 20 days annual leave in Jan and will get paid for them if not used when I leave at the end of Jan Whether or not the Barefoot investor was in bed with Hostplus, the fact remains Hostplus indexed options have the lowest fees. And whilst some at times have questioned whether the Hostplus indicies perform as well as other index funds, the work that Ma15 has done suggests that is not the case whrl.pl/Re9Cc3 Hi guys, Was looking to shift to Australian Super, but then heard about HostPlus, had a look and their 'Balanced Investment' fee is more costly (as mentioned in thread) @ 1.01% compared to Australian Super 0.75%, but was wondering, is that 1% fee regardless of amount in Super ?Example If your balance was $50,000, then for that year you will be charged fees of $803 for the superannuation product. I'm assuming the above it just an example from HostPlus and doesn't indicate that you only get a fee if your account is $50k or more ? Another question, which other investment options tend to be a goto choice with other super holders? I've only heard of Balanced, which is considered a safer option, especially if you're new to this sort of thing? Should note, I'm 35 with only 10k super... so I guess at this stage, 'risk' wouldn't matter too much as at this rate, as I wouldn't have anything to retire on anyway? Anything riskier with higher returns ? Thanks :) Wig€t writes... Anything riskier with higher returns ? Go through the PDS and look for the options that are categorised as growth. You might consider Australian Shares, International Shares, Emerging Markets Shares, Property, Commercial Property funds and direct share and index (ETF/LIC) investments. The direct investment options have trading and extra monthly fees but are worthy of consideration if investing is your thing. Wig€t writes... was wondering, is that 1% fee regardless of amount in Super ? Usually you pay three sets of fee. First is external consultant fees that the super fund pays for investment advice, but you don't see this since it's paid pre-earning. If your fund shows growth of say 8% that's net of these fees & tax. Then you pay a fixed annual admin fee around $100 regardless of balance, and a percentage fee proportional to your balance. Wig€t writes... HostPlus, had a look and their 'Balanced Investment' fee is more costly (as mentioned in thread) @ 1.01% compared to Australian Super 0.75%, but was wondering, is that 1% fee regardless of amount in Super ? 1.01% plus indirect costs for the Mysuper product of 0.44%. One of the most costly Balanced default funds but also have achieved some of the highest returns lately. Not to be confused with their Indexed Balanced which has one of the cheapest fees. The fee applies to the whole balance of your account. I'm obviously late to the party coz today I revisited the fees for the various investment options and noticed that in some instances they have changed substantially from 300617 to 300618. Some down, some up. The fees I quote are total of investment + Indirect cost ratio (ICR) fees. The big one of course.. the default Balanced down from 1.45 to 1.06%....wow! The Capital stable, Conservative balanced and Shares plus all down similar amounts.. One notable exception is the SRI balanced which is up from .52 to 1.45%!!! For those of you who are not fully invested and retaining $$ in the cash option...it is no longer fee free!! Now .03% Boo! Other notable is that the International indexed (unhedged) is down to .09 from .19% IFM infrastructure is down to .57 from .77%.....nice! For those with cash in Choiceplus, as you probably know it pays the Reserve Bank rate of 1.5%. I think this was fee free before but the new updated Choiceplus guide of 290818 says: 'Gross interest earned on any cash in your transaction account is subject to an investment fee of 0.50% and an ICR of 0.40%' Another big boo! That really sucks imo for any unsuspecting ppl...so, if you have cash, keep it outside of Choiceplus and only transfer it to Chloiceplus when you are ready to invest in fixed term, shares, ETF and LICs. coolgen writes... .so, if you have cash, keep it outside of Choiceplus and only transfer it to Chloiceplus when you are ready to invest in fixed term, shares, ETF and LICs"] You can't have less than $200 in the transaction account. Coolgen, the cash held in ChoicePlus was fee free. You received the 1.5% interest. I didn't realise they've recently added an investment fee and ICR. Thanks for the info. dllg writes... Coolgen, the cash held in ChoicePlus was fee free. You received the 1.5% interest. I didn't realise they've recently added an investment fee and ICR. Sneaky of Hostplus hey! Goes to show, you need to be constantly on your guard reviewing these things.. Gross interest earned on any cash in your transaction account is subject to an investment fee of 0.50% and an ICR of 0.40% Sounds like they're charging a proportion of the interest. If you have $1000 there for a whole year (earning 1.5% interest) you'll earn $15 minus 0.9% of $15 so you have $1000 in for a year and you're charged a 13.5c fee. If they mean you're charged on the $1000, and I'm not willing to rule that out, then that would be a very misleading way of wording that sentence. dave28 writes... If you have $1000 there for a whole year (earning 1.5% interest) you'll earn $15 minus 0.9% of $15 so you have $1000 in for a year and you're charged a 13.5c fee. Yeah so the return would be $14.865 If they mean you're charged on the $1000, and I'm not willing to rule that out, then that would be a very misleading way of wording that sentence. In this scenario, the $1000 would be subject to 0.6% interest (ie 1.5% – 0.9%) which would be $6. Now that you mention it, I can see the wording can be read 2 different ways as you point out. I hope you're right and its the former but I think it's misleading and needs to be queried. coolgen writes... I think it's misleading and needs to be queried. OK so I emailed them and here is reply: 'Thank you for your email regarding the indirect cost associated with your Choiceplus Transaction account.Changes to the regulatory environment have altered the disclosure requirements for all super funds.Gross interest earned on any cash held in your transaction account is subject to an investment fee of 0.50% and an indirect cost ratio (ICR) of 0.40%. These fees and costs are estimated for the financial year ended 30 June 2018 and are not deducted from your account balance. These are deducted daily from gross investment earnings before net investment returns are applied to your transaction account. Because the investment fee and ICR are estimates, fees and costs payable in respect of each future year may be higher or lower.Since Choiceplus has been offered by the fund, the Choiceplus Transaction account has always returned the RBA overnight cash rate (currently 1.5%). This is the net return after costs have been deducted. The Choiceplus Transaction Account will continue to return the RBS cash rate to your Transaction account.' So the takeout as I read it is the fees have always been there (no change) and cash in this account continues to receive the RBA cash rate of 1.5% which is net AFTER the fees mentioned. Sorry if I confused ppl but sometimes the wording on Hostplus can be confusing. Jason000 writes... Scott does have commercial arrangements with Hostplus too so you wouldn't expect him to recommend anything else. Rocket Man writes... a few years old now, there may be more recent ones somewhere Barefoot investor Scott Pape, 29, is the "funky finance man" recruited by Hostplus as part of its brand and marketing armoury aimed at improving financial literacy and boosting membership The following appears in the 2017 Edition of Scott's book in the section relating to his recommendation of Hostplus Indexed Balanced: Let me say this again: Hostplus is not paying me a cent. Nor does anyother financial institution I mention. I am fiercely independent. I'm justtelling you what I do with my own money. You should do your ownresearch. bugs1357 writes... The following appears in the 2017 Edition of Scott's book in the section relating to his recommendation of Hostplus Indexed Balanced: Thats awkward because when I heard that statement I took it at face value. Such a shame. bugs1357 writes... The following appears in the 2017 Edition of Scott's book in the section relating to his recommendation of Hostplus Indexed Balanced: I haven't read his book but are there any qualifications around his recommendation for this option other than low fees? If not, then I think people shouldn't accept this on face value coz it's not all about fees. Yes, the Indexed Balanced is one of the lowest cost premixed options out there. Then again, that's because it is an index hugger only and passive...not a managed fund... so you would expect it to be low cost. It is not truly 'balanced' like other default balanced funds in that there is no property, infrastructure, private equity, alternative assets etc It is 75% indexed shares, 25% cash/fixed interest. Is it appropriate for some? Yes Is it appropriate for others? No Why would a young person starting out want 25% in cash? Looking 40 yrs ahead they would do better fully invested in other assets. Others may prefer managed funds that have more asset diversity. Last FY year the Indexed Balanced returned 9.6% (after fees) whereas the default Balanced returned 12.5%. Then again, over 7 years the gap narrows significantly ie 10.66% vs 11.02% respectively. bugs1357 writes... The following appears in the 2017 Edition of Scott's book in the section relating to his recommendation of Hostplus Indexed Balanced: Let me say this again: Hostplus is not paying me a cent. Nor does anyother financial institution I mention. I am fiercely independent. I'm justtelling you what I do with my own money. You should do your ownresearch. I guess you missed my follow up post /forum-replies.cfm?t=2729339&p=2#r25 Jason000 writes... To be fair it's all indicative of historical arrangements that may not be in place today, so my earlier comment could be incorrect. coolgen writes... Then again, that's because it is an index hugger only and passive...not a managed fund... so you would expect it to be low cost. You would, but there's plenty of funds around that aren't doing much more than hugging the index but charging significantly higher fees for it. So if you're only going to get the index return you certainly shouldn't be paying much for it. As to whether it's worth trying for better than the index return, that's debatable. hmof writes... there's plenty of funds around that aren't doing much more than hugging the index but charging significantly higher fees for it. So if you're only going to get the index return you certainly shouldn't be paying much for it. True, hence why I finished up my post with: 'Then again, over 7 years the gap narrows significantly ie 10.66% vs 11.02% respectively.' And that's for Hostplus only..like you say, other managed funds aren't doing much better (or worse?).. As to whether it's worth trying for better than the index return, that's debatable. Agreed, the classic debate over index vs managed over the longer term. coolgen writes... And that's for Hostplus only..like you say, other managed funds aren't doing much better (or worse?).. According to Canstar, the median return for super funds over 7 years for the Balanced option was 7.1%, so most managed funds are doing a lot worse than Hostplus. Actually, they should all be worse as Hostplus is the highest performing fund over 7 years (and 1, 3, 5, and 15 years). Hostplus has missed out on being No1 over 10 years. It is 4th with a return of 7.4% (from memory the highest is 7.6%), but the median is only 5.9%. dllg writes... According to Canstar, the median return for super funds over 7 years for the Balanced option was 7.1%, so most managed funds are doing a lot worse than Hostplus. Good point dllg coolgen writes... Is it appropriate for others? No Why would a young person starting out want 25% in cash? Looking 40 yrs ahead they would do better fully invested in other assets Don't qoute me on this but I think he mainly recommend it to older people(50+). And goes on to say for younger people to not worry they are safe(now that they discovered compounding/indexing/spiva/dalbar reports), this book is worth every dollar. Hostplus life has you 100% in equities till age 40 then it is an instant kick up to balanced fund till age 50 then conservative balanced till age 60 then capital stable from 60 onwards, ok but high fees(1%+) and not indexed. You can use hostplus/Sunsuper to do an enhanced life strategy based on indexing, low fees that will protect you better than inexed balanced once are 50+ not to mention make you more $$ in the early stages of the accumulation phase as you should be 100% in equities below age 30~40(depends on your balance and retirement goals) I think bf investor needs to make it clear to younger audience to invest 100% in stocks till the time is appropriate to add bonds of which I use the free advise of Paul Merriman and others for guidance on this. If you subscribe to his Blueprint subscription Barefoot also recommends a 60-40 split in International Shares Indexed (0.21% pa) and IFM Australian Shares (0.07%pa) as an alternative to Indexed Balance. holybishop writes... If you subscribe to his Blueprint subscription Barefoot also recommends a 60-40 split in International Shares Indexed (0.21% pa) and IFM Australian Shares (0.07%pa) as an alternative to Indexed Balance. Fees have changed as at 30.6.18: International index 0.09%International index (hedged) 0.07%IFM Australian shares 0.05% In addition to his 60/40 split in shares, another option that might suit some is what I call a 'pseudo balanced' option which would consist of the same index split as the index balanced ie 35% OZ and 40% International but instead of 25% cash/fixed interest, have 12.5% IFM infrastructure (50/50 listed/unlisted) and 12.5% Industry Super Property Trust (30/70 listed/unlisted). Provides some more diversity.. There are really many permutations available with Hostplus depending on your requirements via premixed, individual manager options and Choiceplus. holybishop writes... Barefoot also recommends a 60-40 split in International Shares Indexed (0.21% pa) and IFM Australian Shares (0.07%pa) as an alternative to Indexed Balance. According to Hostplus: International Shares Indexed: Investment Fee (0.02%) + Indirect Cost Ration (0.07%) = 0.09%, how did 0.21% come about?IFM Australian Shares: 0.02% + 0.03% = 0.05%. edit: my calculation on IFM was incorrect. Now corrected. coolgen writes... There are really many permutations available with Hostplus depending on your requirements Very interesting permutations! Wish I can turn back the clock like 30 years to "experiment" with those permutations :P Super now is much "flexible" and too many choices. WebbyGuy writes... Wish I can turn back the clock like 30 years to "experiment" with those permutations :P OTOH you prolly didn't have as much $$ in the kitty 30 yrs ago to play around with those permutations ;-) I know this is probably a bit of a noob question but I'll ask anyway. The past two days the ASX200 has been up, yet my super with Balanced Hostplus has not recovered any ground on what it's lost. I thought even a small bump would have occurred. I wasn't expecting anything miraculous but certainly wasn't expecting two days of drops. Is this normal/expected? I've only just started to pay attention to my Super so I'm not going to be checking every day, I was just curious to see how a market dip affects my super and how long a recovery takes. Cheers gabehcoud writes... The past two days the ASX200 has been up, yet my super with Balanced Hostplus has not recovered any ground Balanced has international stocks as well (40%?)..maybe out of sync..plus has unlisted, alternative investments holybishop writes... If you subscribe to his Blueprint subscription Barefoot also recommends a 60-40 split in International Shares Indexed (0.21% pa) and IFM Australian Shares (0.07%pa) as an alternative to Indexed Balance. Great diversification there. No unlisted property. No fixed interest. No cash. No alternatives. Geez I hope the security market doesn't decline for anyone silly enough to follow this "general advice" gotten145 writes... Great diversification there. No unlisted property. No fixed interest. No cash. No alternatives. Geez I hope the security market doesn't decline for anyone silly enough to follow this "general advice" For a young person starting out with a 40yr+ investment horizon, it makes total sense to me that they be 100% in shares. Fixed interest and cash would be an unnecessary drag. And they can ride through any declines.. Later when they reach say, 40+ and have a lot more capital at stake, then diversification beyond shares starts to make more sense in order to achieve a more defensive/capital preservation portfolio imo. By the way, hostplus reduced fees from 6/18...now IFM OZ indexed .05% and International indexed .09%. coolgen writes... For a young person starting out with a 40yr+ investment horizon, it makes total sense to me that they be 100% in shares. And none in unlisted property? That's crazy. Fixed interest and cash would be an unnecessary drag. And they can ride through any declines.. Should still have some to minimise losses in downturns. Also, prior to the last 10 years, fixed interest/cash used to return quite well and probably some time in the future will return ot a better rate. Forgive me for asking whats probably a dumb question but I've just recently started to take interest/control in my super. I rolled over into host plus from commonwealth essential super back in September 2018. Today I was checking the progress and transaction history and noticed on the 31st of December it has involvement earnings with -$1,050.20. Is this just host plus being transparent that the investments lost money? If it helps $25441.50 was the rollover amount, since then there has been $1272.09 of contributions made. Balance as of 31/12/18 was $25,438.58 current is $26,807.30. Admin and insurance fees about $13 a month. Yes, you can go to investments- investments returns- choose monthly return, share market had a steep decline in the last quarter of 2018, it has bounced back since. Just had a look at the performance of the Balanced and Indexed Balanced option and it looks like Indexed has pulled ahead by about 2% since Jan 19. Guess the pullback late last year helped it along. gotten145 writes... Should still have some to minimise losses in downturns. Also, prior to the last 10 years, fixed interest/cash used to return quite well and probably some time in the future will return ot a better rate. What use is minimising losses when you can't access the money? Cash/bonds return nothing in real terms now. At 24, I see no use for them because I expect shares to make a real return does anyone know when Hostplus is going to update its growth percentages for dough in accumulation mode and pension mode?on their site it's still showing "as of 28 Feb 2019" They have always been really slack at updating their monthly performance data. I agree, it's not good enough, they should be able to update the monthly data within a the first couple of days of each new month. After all, they can publish daily data. They are slow in this regard.If it helps, I have a spreadsheet that calculates all HostPlus returns for all options across accumulation and pension accounts. It uses unit prices that are published daily. Let me know what options/dates you want to see and I can post it. thanks Shift, I'm interested in the following optionsCapital Stable 5%Conservative Balanced 5%Indexed Balanced 10%Diversified Fixed Interest 80%by the way, the percentages next to each one indicate how I am going to arranged things when I shift to Hostplus Hi hoo izzie, Here are the returns for the individual options you have listed for 1yr, 3y & 5 yr (for period ending 31st March 2019). Note that there may be a slight difference (usually no more than 0.01%) when the official HostPlus results are posted. Accumulation account returns:Fund; 1yr; 3yr, 5yr;Capital Stable; 4.20%; 6.48%; 5.67%Conservative Balanced; 5.67%; 8.46%; 7.35%Indexed Balanced; 9.59%; 9.32%; 7.91%;Diversified Fixed Interest; 4.59%; 4.49%; 5.40% If I split them in the ratio you had mentioned, then it would come out below. Note that this would assume you maintained the exact same weighting throughout the period in question (which in reality would not happen). But it is still a good guide none the less: Fund; 1yr; 3yr, 5yr;Custom; 5.12%; 5.27%; 5.76% Obviously the weightings you have suggested are very conservative – as over 90% of the portfolio would be in defensive assets (cash, fixed interest etc). So I assume you are either in retirement or very close to it. For pension mode accounts, it is slightly different due to the tax benefits. See below for the options including the custom weighting: Pension account returns:Fund; 1yr; 3yr, 5yr;Capital Stable; 4.87%; 7.41%; 6.47%Conservative Balanced; 6.47%; 9.60%; 8.31%Indexed Balanced; 10.87%; 10.55%; 8.86%;Diversified Fixed Interest; 5.37%; 5.23%; 6.26%Custom; 5.95%; 6.09%; 6.63% Another note. The Australian share market took a bit of a tumble in the month of March 2018. Thus, the 1yr figures above appear higher than you might expect...but that is purely because the 1yr figure would run from 31/03/2018 to 31/03/2019. Lastly – I must say that I take no responsibility for the figures above. So please use it as a guide as part of your research – and ensure you check it against official published figures. Regards,shift_worker holybishop writes... If you subscribe to his Blueprint subscription Barefoot also recommends a 60-40 split in International Shares Indexed (0.21% pa) and IFM Australian Shares You would have to be a gambler to put 40% of your retirement money in the Australian market. Australia is an insignificant player in the world economically. thank you for this, Shift, very useful and much appreciatedI'm right now in day 49 of retirement shift worker writes... Custom; 5.12%; 5.27%; 5.76%.. as my super is now about 1180000 (after taking out 25 grand) this would give me about 60 grand a year...enough Custom; 5.95%; 6.09%; 6.63%..about 70 grand a year....more than enough this would assume you maintained the exact same weighting throughout the period in question (which in reality would not happen). can't understand why this would not happen...can't I leave my dough in the same investment profile for the course of my retirement? 7:30 Report last night, in what was an unsatisfying report on super, noted that 60 grand is needed for a couple who own their own home if they want a comfortable retirement...I think we'll be okay much thanks again for this, Shift, and I note that Hostplus returns are still as at the end of Feb 2019 No worries hoo Izzie. I hope you enjoy your retirement. You certainly seemed to have set yourself up nicely! hoo izzie writes... can't understand why this would not happen...can't I leave my dough in the same investment profile for the course of my retirement? The reason being is that each allocation will change over time depending on the daily unit prices. For example, Index Balanced will (usually) have larger increases in unit price as the performance is higher. Therefore, over time, you would see a slight deviation as each allocation moves in line with its underlying performance. In your case, it would likely be minimal – and with Host Plus, you can always rebalance whenever you wish without any fees or spread. thanks mate, I think we'll be alrightwe recently withdrew 25000 to finance some travel and since then our super has increased by about 3000, so the 25 only cost us about 22 hoo izzie writes... as my super is now about 1180000 (after taking out 25 grand) this would give me about 60 grand a year...enough Be careful having 80-90% in bonds, we are in a low yeild (2.5~3%) environment and bonds will struggle keeping up with inflation. hoo izzie writes... as my super is now about 1180000 (after taking out 25 grand) this would give me about 60 grand a year...enough aldi123 writes... Be careful having 80-90% in bonds, we are in a low yeild (2.5~3%) environment and bonds will struggle keeping up with inflation. Bonds have had a capital gain boost this past year based on the expectation of lower interest rates and slowing economy. The latest Hostplus figure to 31/3 shows Diversified Fixed Interest annual return at 4.61% (5.4% pension mode). If you look at OZ bond ETFs such as IAF, VAF they have achieved even more and gone up a lot these past 3 mths. So interest cuts of 0.5% to the OZ cash rate of 1.5% are already priced in imo. Short of a recession that would require more cuts, I think bonds will rely solely on income yield with little capital gain in the near future hence yuh I reckon they will be pushing to get anything over 3% imo. So the expectation of $60k income on 5% may be optimistic I think. I'm in a similar situation to hoo izzie except my super is still in accumulation mode as I have another separate pension to live off so I can take more risk. For the time being, I've got 25% in Hostplus IFM Infrastructure and 25% in Industry Super Property Trust. They've returned 11.57% (17.37% pension) and 9.35% (10.45% pension) for the past year. The former is 50/50% and the latter 30/70% listed/unlisted which avoids some of the share market volatility hence more conservative. I think these should continue to do well in a low interest rate environment going forward. the above two posts are interesting and I have read them carefully...my dough is still in accumulation, too.. coolgen writes... I have another separate pension to live off so I can take more risk I'm sure you can, but I'm responsible for myself and my wife so have less latitude to make risky decisions about asset allocation...but the two you mentioned IFM and Industry Super are worth of consideration....thanks Hi, Sorry i'm not 100% on top of MERs and all the nuts and bolts calculations, I am currently with Australian Super and wanted to move to Hostplus Indexed balanced, however I just discovered that they have Aus and international shares available for the same fee. Can I just go 50/50 Aus shares and unhedged international shares at .02% and not incur any additional charges? I'm also not sure about capital gains on the transfer itself, i've read they are fairly negligible but any input there would be great. Thanks in advance. Are you sure? Hostplus... I probably could have worded that slightly better. Mael5trom writes... I'm also not sure about capital gains on the transfer itself, i There's no capital gains tax when you transfer from one fund to another. Certainly not from one Industry fund to another – the full amount gets transferred. I've been with HostPlus for years but also had a small amount in HESTA. Transferring to HostPlus was dead easy and cost nothing. Having said that, Aust Super is one of the best funds around and they have their own Index Diversified option that is similar to the HostPlus Index Balanced. The Aust Super fees are higher for this option but it's currently performing slightly better (even after fees) than the HostPlus option. There's no capital gains tax when you transfer from one fund to another. Certainly not from one Industry fund to another – the full amount gets transferred. Thanks for the reply, main reason I have renewed interest in transferring is increased exposure to shares, the default Indexed balanced is like 25% defensive assets, if there is no cgt, there is no reason I can't go to hostplus and go 50/50 aus/intl shares at .02% from what I can see. Regards Mael5trom writes... there is no reason I can't go to hostplus and go 50/50 aus/intl shares at .02% from what I can see. Should be absolutely fine. There's also no fees if you wish to transfer between the different HostPlus options – or spread your super over more options – at any stage. Mael5trom writes... the default Indexed balanced is like 25% defensive assets, Yes, it currently (21 March 2019) consists of:15% Fixed Interest: Macquarie True Index Aust Fixed Interest Fund10% Cash: Citibank High Interest At Call Account Sounds like that might be the plan, thanks. dfishkeeper writes... When I switched and consolidated all my super to Hostplus around 12months ago, as a new member they offered me a free telephone consultation with one of their financial advisers. I took them up on it and found it very helpful in understanding the available investment options with Hostplus. I've switched over from Colonial First State and made the switch at the beginning of May, I think it was, and the switch was easy as all I had to do was used the Hostplus website to tell H who I was with and then tell H my tax file number. The switch took a day or so. I called H the other day and mentioned this free call referred to above. I was told that all H members have the right to call H and discuss super needs with an advisor, so perhaps this "free telephone consultation" doesn't exist anymore. I also asked what time of day I should access the H website to check my balance and was told about 10:30 to 11 in the morning, but lately I've been accessing the H site at about 8 am and it seems that the new balance is there then. As for withdrawing dough from my balance, H sent me the form to use and told me that I must submit a certified copy of both sides of my driver's license or passport and a copy of my bank statement showing the bank account number for verification. Releasing the dough will take about one to 1.5 weeks and this procedure must be repeated each time I want to make a withdrawal from my dough, which is still in accumulation mode. Surprisingly, I didn't receive an email from H welcoming me and thanking me for choosing H. hoo izzie writes... Surprisingly, I didn't receive an email from H welcoming me and thanking me for choosing H. Have they sent you a welcome pack and membership card? got the card, but don't remember the welcome pack....maybe it was some docs that came with the card...still, an email might have been nice.... Hi, Just checking out Hostplus super. Is there information what's the proportion of their International Shares – Indexed allocation is? I would like to know the breakdown, i.e. 50% North American Share, 25% European etc. Reading their PDS here: it just says 100% international shares without any breakdown. Wesley writes... Hi, Just checking out Hostplus super. Is there information what's the proportion of their International Shares – Indexed allocation is? I would like to know the breakdown, i.e. 50% North American Share, 25% European etc. It'd be MSCI World ex Australia at a guess. surfing the net last night I stumbled over a site that recommends against Hostplus's indexed balanced as it is too heavily weighted with shares, both domestic (OZ) and overseas....I've got 10% of my acc mode super in IB and am happy with it staying there....stock markets have been performing well of late and I anticipate that Pres Trump with be easily returned next year...so stock markets will continue to perform well in my view... hoo izzie writes... surfing the net last night I stumbled over a site that recommends against Hostplus's indexed balanced as it is too heavily weighted with shares, both domestic (OZ) and overseas... Search long enough and you can find any opinion you want. Some people think it's not aggressive enough. Depends on your age and appetite for risk. hoo izzie writes... stumbled over a site May be best to keep walking, don't look down at what caused you to stumble. My view is that people under say 50 should just stay in 100% Bal or Ind Bal, and never change. Trying to game it almost always leads to losses. Some people might have got out when it dropped badly a month or two ago, but history shows that that would have been a mistake. That's what we keep telling our 30 year-old kids. Over 50-60 that's a whole other story for another time. Hostplus returns for May are now up coolgen writes... Barefoot also recommends a 60-40 split in International Shares Indexed (0.21% pa) and IFM Australian Shares (0.07%pa) as an alternative to Indexed Balance "'pseudo balanced' has anyone considered this option or the "pseudo balanced" option suggested? I rolled my super into Hostplus about 4 months ago and got insurance through the fund. It was all approved and is listed in my account details. But so far I haven't seen any deductions for the insurance.Does Hostplus take it our annually or something like that and is that why I haven't seen any charges yet? Hugh Jorgan writes... Does Hostplus take it our annually or something No, it comes out of my wife's account the last week of each and every month, I was reviewing her fees the other day. Hugh Jorgan writes... I rolled my super into Hostplus about 4 months ago and got insurance through the fund. It was all approved and is listed in my account details. But so far I haven't seen any deductions for the insurance.Does Hostplus take it our annually or something like that and is that why I haven't seen any charges yet? Something defiantly not right there, I would get on the blower to them. Mine comes out around the end of every month with the admin fees and 2 entries for insurance one for death and one for disability. Me and my partner just switched our Hostplus superannuation investments from 100% Indexed Balanced to 100% Shares Plus. We are in our mid 20s and figure that 25 years of high risk/ high growth will eek out better returns for us. The fees are much higher for Shares Plus (0.70% compared to 0.02% for Indexed Balanced) but that is outweighed by the greater returns (11.44% p.a. compared to 10.29% p.a. for the past seven years). Will review each year to make sure it is still worth sticking with. frypans writes... 100% Indexed Balanced to 100% Shares Plus.Did you look a the asset allocation of shares plus? 30% AU shares, 30% Int, 11% emerging Int and 14% defensive. The reason for the higher returns is the reduction in defensive in the asset allocation, but you could do that without the much higher fees by putting together a combination of You can consider the option of about 50% indexed balanced and 25% each of int shares -indexed and australian shares-IFM to get a similar asset allocation. Or, since you are in your 20s, consider just 60/40 Int/Aus, as the defensive assets will just be a drag on your returns in the long term. B4dger writes... You can consider the option of about 50% indexed balanced and 25% each of int shares -indexed and australian shares-IFM to get a similar asset allocation. Or, since you are in your 20s, consider just 60/40 Int/Aus, as the defensive assets will just be a drag on your returns in the long term. Thanks for the tip as we hadn't considered that but having a look at the fees charged for each investment option they range from 0.49% for International Shares to 0.64% for Australian Shares – not a great deal less than 0.70%. Shares Plus as a package suits us and has an ideal amount of defensive allocation to stablise returns. frypans writes... Will review each year to make sure it is still worth sticking with Or you can double check on the fees, they are higher than what you think....B4dger is right, maybe something like 70% indexed balanced, 10% neurberger Berman emerging(think of this as IEM etf or similar), 10% international shares indexed and 10% international shares indexed hedged. frypans writes... Thanks for the tip as we hadn't considered that but having a look at the fees charged for each investment option they range from 0.49% for International Shares to 0.64% for Australian Shares – not a great deal less than 0.70%. Shares Plus as a package suits us and has an ideal amount of defensive allocation to stablise returns Do a deep look at the fees, they are higher, we are recommending mostly indexing, not active. Do a search on active vs passive investing. See spiva reports on Google. frypans writes... having a look at the fees charged for each investment option they range from 0.49% for International Shares to 0.64% for Australian SharesI think you may be looking at the wrong options, as International shares- indexed and IFM – Australian shares both have management fees of only 0.02%. frypans writes... Shares Plus as a package suits us and has an ideal amount of defensive allocation to stablise returns.Of course it is up to you to decide on your level of risk, but I would argue in super there is no need to stabilise returns until you are about to retire. You aren't relying on the returns from this investment to pay your bills each month. To some extent you don't care at all what happens to the investment in the years before you retire, as long as it is maximised just before you retire. Having 0.7% management fees instead of 0.02% means that each year you are guaranteed to lose 0.68% of your investment, regardless of what the market does. this is what they are showing as of 26 July!!! Superannuation net investment returns at 31 May 2019 B4dger writes... Having 0.7% management fees instead of 0.02% means that each year you are guaranteed to lose 0.68% of your investment, regardless of what the market does. The only thing you should care about is the after fees return. There is another post here which is complaining about how an "index fund" severely underperformed the index. So that's something to be aware of. hoo izzie writes... this is what they are showing as of 26 July!!! There is a maintenance shutdown tonight, maybe they will do the updates then. Hi All, Does anyone know why Hostplus performed so poorly in FY19 when compared to other funds? Regards,Sam Sumur1au writes... Does anyone know why Hostplus performed so poorly in FY19 when compared to other funds? Based on what? Are you comparing the same investment choices? Sumur1au writes... Does anyone know why Hostplus performed so poorly in FY19 when compared to other funds? What data are you looking at? Their balanced fund returned 6.8% for the year. Less than their usual average 10% but that's a very high benchmark in the industry, and the broader investment industry faced headwinds this year. 6.8% for a fund with 90% in growth assets is pretty poor. The firm I work for did about that are the extremely high fees that we charge for a fund 50% in growth assets. For 90% growth assets you'd be wanting at least 9%. Can someone link me to the Hostplus 2019 returns. I've tried looking on the website but can't find it? drd71 writes... Can someone link me to the Hostplus 2019 returns. I've tried looking on the website but can't find it? which has figures at 31 May. Balanced had 5.7% for 1 year at that time, 7.04% for the index balanced option. If you get the daily unit pricing and download the figures for the past FY, the 1/7/2019 price is 7.18% higher than the price 12 months earlier. 9.12% for the index balanced option. (I think this is a valid way to determine the return, correct me if I'm wrong.) boneitis writes... Based on that last year they were number 1 and this year they dropped out of the top 10 for 1 year returns. Yep, very disappointing Sumur1au writes... Hi All, Does anyone know why Hostplus performed so poorly in FY19 when compared to other funds? So back to Sumur1au's question. Does anybody know why they performed so poorly this year? I am considering rolling over to Australian Super because of it to be frank. boneitis writes... Based on that last year they were number 1 and this year they dropped out of the top 10 for 1 year returns. I'd be looking at returns over 3 / 5 / 10 years. Long term performance is what matters. The target return of Hostplus Balanced is CPI + 3% after fees. CPI is currently circa 1%, which means they well exceeded their target for this particular type of fund. boneitis writes... I am considering rolling over to Australian Super because of it to be frank. Similarly to above, you can't pick next year's top super fund based on performance this year. It still might be better to move to Australian Super, but I wouldn't make that decision based on 1 year benchmarking alone. Yogie B writes... 6.8% for a fund with 90% in growth assets is pretty poor. They have 75% of their fund in growth assets under the Balanced Option, bearing in mind their 7 year average is >10% return and one of the best in the industry when you take the low fees into account. In the end of May figures at the Australian shares option has a 1 year return of 5.47%, and the IFM Australian Shares (indexed) option has a return of 10.83%. What a good demonstration of the benefits of indexing over stock picking... I am not sure why the overall Index Balanced option did not do better than 7% then. The international indexed also did 8.24%. hmof writes... I am not sure why the overall Index Balanced option did not do better than 7% then Possibly because 25% of this option is in cash, bonds and fixed interest – all very low earners. dllg writes... Possibly because 25% of this option is in cash, bonds and fixed interest – all very low earners. Interestingly Hostplus's 'Macquarie Investment Management – Australian Fixed Interest' returned 8.05%?? How did their fixed interest perform so well????? hmof writes... alian Shares (indexed) option has a return of 10.83%. What a good demonstration of the benefits of indexing over stock picking... While the Balanced Equity Management – Australian Shares option (Active management style based on fundamental analysis of stocks within the S&P/ASX100 Accumulation Index) was 11.78%. dj1au writes... While the Balanced Equity Management – Australian Shares option (Active management style based on fundamental analysis of stocks within the S&P/ASX100 Accumulation Index) was 11.78%. But over 5 years it is worse than IFM Australian Shares (indexed) (1% worse), and Hostplus's own Australian Shares (1.75% worse), and the same for 10 years. Thus proving that picking managers is just as bad as picking individual stocks. boneitis writes... Based on that last year they were number 1 and this year they dropped out of the top 10 for 1 year returns.What you should learn from that is that 1 year returns are rather meaningless... you need to look at long term performance. Sure, the super funds love to flaunt their 1 year performance to attract new customers, but this does not mean it's a good indicator of future performance. Hostplus' investment returns up to 30 June 2019 are finally up online holybishop writes... Hostplus' investment returns up to 30 June 2019 are finally up online Where do they post them? Or is it just easier to calc the returns off of the unit pricing? hmof writes... Choose the monthly returns rather than daily unit prices. Thanks for that :) hmof writes... Choose the monthly returns rather than daily unit prices. I reckon what they are showing doesn't make sense. EVERY super fund in the 1st 6 months of the previous financial year 2018/2019 lost money, and they are showing a positive 10% (for balanced) to be believed at December 2018?? Come on, I was monitoring my fund the entire way and it went down in the first 6 months to Dec 2018. ^^^ Where are you reading that? boneitis writes... monthly net Think you may be misinterpreting it. If you are looking at Balanced option, 6 months, 10.32%return, that's for the past 6 months – 1 Jan to 30 June. Hostplus' returns up to 30 September 2019 are up Does anyone on here use HP's ChoicePlus facility? I have been with HP for just over 2 years and using the facility and it is great. If you are good at selecting shares and I understand not everyone is, so it is not for everyone. But if you can, or are willing to learn, then WOW watch them returns. Can be many multiples of the standard circa 10% returns. Would be keen to understand others experiences with ChoicePlus. Yess writes... Does anyone on here use HP's ChoicePlus facility? Yess Would be keen to understand others experiences with ChoicePlus. It's ok but I find navigation to be annoying. I really don't think they need half the stuff that's on there, just keep it simple and functional. The limits to ASX300 listed stocks has been annoying on occasions but I get why they do it. It can be surprising which companies qualify or don't qualify. Jason000 writes... It's ok but I find navigation to be annoying. I really don't think they need half the stuff that's on there, just keep it simple and functional. The facility that you get directed to is not actually theirs, it is owned by UBS. It is used by several other super funds also, such as Aussie super. It's deffinetly clunky. Yess writes... The facility that you get directed to is not actually theirs, it is owned by UBS. It is used by several other super funds also, such as Aussie super. It's deffinetly clunky. It's Hostplus' decision to use that platform and it does not relieve them of any responsibility to their members with regard to how that service performs. Despite the clunkyness it does what it needs to do.... just feel it could be better. Yes the restriction to only the ASX300 is also frustrating. I can understand why it is there though. I am currently investigating SMSF's to allow me more functionality and flexibility and am going to set one up in addition to my HP which will house insurances and contributions. I like Choiceplus but wish it had access to a greater number of ETFs I like Choiceplus but wish it had access to a greater number of ETFsYep. Like USD. on the 25th, I moved my investments into a differing class (fixed income/Cash) and after submitting was advised this would take effect 27th. Had a look today and nothing has changed except my balance. Would they put a hold on changes given the current situation or are they behind on requests? Still working for us this week. I'm 100% Index Balanced, and the last week has been a shocker, at a guess down around 6.5%. My thinking if you havnt moved yet its to late as the damage is done. Sure it may (and probably will) go lower, but if your years off retirement going cash now will just crystalize losses. I'm guessing Hostplus maybe more than a little concerned, just imagine everybody fleeing to cash, and the damage that will cause the fund. It looks like HostPlus has quietly added Vanguard as one of the investment managers for their International Shares and removed BlackRock, as at 31 Dec 2019. Not only that, they even specify the fund name in their updated PDS. Source It is hard to tell whether the individual International Shares – Index (hedged/unhedged) options or the International Shares portion of Indexed Balanced is managed by Vanguard. The SMI page still lists that IFM manage the international portion of the Indexed Balanced option, but that is as at 31 March 2019, over a year ago. Difficult to tell without a confirmation from HostPlus but given what they have published, I am going to assume it's the individual index options that are invested into the Vanguard wholesale funds. Good pick up. They've been receptive when emailed in the last, might send tHem off an email. Looks like index balanced is bouncing back ? But balanced has flatlined now ? Anyone moving money around ? I checked my balance today...it's roughly the same as march 26.I thought the balance would increase quite a lot given the ASX 200 performance in april.This is the balanced option. Looks like any increases in the shares part of balanced.. is being swallowed up by the cheap sales of unlisted assets rpgfan800 writes... I thought the balance would increase quite a lot given the ASX 200 performance in april.This is the balanced option. Looks like any increases in the shares part of balanced.. is being swallowed up by the cheap sales of unlisted assets rpgfan800 writes... I thought the balance would increase quite a lot given the ASX 200 performance in april.This is the balanced option. Looks like any increases in the shares part of balanced.. is being swallowed up by the cheap sales of unlisted assets rpgfan800 writes... I thought the balance would increase quite a lot given the ASX 200 performance in april.This is the balanced option. Looks like any increases in the shares part of balanced.. is being swallowed up by the cheap sales of unlisted assets thommo55 said plus didn't the AUD go up in value during that time and slowing the unit increase of int shares? I think it was @55c then and @64c now. ~13% decrease in the value of int shares since then, I bought Vgad etf around that time. A few drawbacks with Hostplus but it does the job.Good returns since the downturn See whrl.pl/Rf2rORSince then replaced a share with WEB was at their lowest point. A good increase since 20 March, indications are that it will be at $5.50 in Aug. Will then sell. Anyone got through to Hostplus recently? Emails and messages are going unanswered. I've tried calling the last few days and been met with a recorded message that their phone system is at capacity and to "call back later".... then it hangs up. Hard to believe customer service could be this bad. Jason000 writes... Anyone got through to Hostplus recently? If you phone first thing in the morning and join the queue, your call may be answered in under an hour. Anybody help with this:1.Hostplus in pension mode2.Term Deposit maturing shortly in Choiceplus (large TD)3.Will see the cash for pension payment (part of my Hostplus escape plan)4.Wish to transfer the cash from Transaction Account to Investment options – but to retain as cash5. Investment options have say $80 k in a number of investments which I don't wish to "sell" (with current losses).6. I don't wish to add to these investments during current volatility. My understanding is that as soon as I transfer cash to investment options it will be divided up according to my current options.7. Is there any way of avoiding double switch of cash to investment options to cash with the associated risk? zzuf writes... 7. Is there any way of avoiding double switch of cash to investment options to cash with the associated risk? Yes, by setting the future contributions to cash, what do you have the future contributions currently set at? But double check by calling hostplus. Yes, but I am not sure if a transfer from transaction account to investment options is a new contribution? aldi123 writes... Yes, by setting the future contributions to cash, what do you have the future contributions currently set at? But double check by calling hostplus. The pension mode doesn't appear to include "future contributions" – it seems to be replaced by "drawdown strategy" zzuf writes... The pension mode doesn't appear to include "future contributions" That's correct. I was in ChoicePlus in the retirement phase until 6 months ago (still in Hostplus but moved into some of the more conservative options - my share choices weren't all that amazing!). It seems that when you move cash back from the ChoicePlus account it is distributed the way you last re-balanced your retirement options (or if you've not rebalanced them, to the original percentages when you opened the account). At least it was this way six months ago. I simply transferred the cash back (eg 50K) and then redistributed it online to the options that I wanted. I'd give Hostplus a call and ask, it may have changed. dllg writes... I simply transferred the cash back (eg 50K) and then redistributed it online to the options that I wanted. I'd give Hostplus a call and ask, it may have changed. The trouble is that I want to transfer over $600k. Redistributing that to my current investment options then reconverting to cash to withdraw from Hostplus seems a huge market risk – when all I want is the cash maturing in the TD.Perhaps it would be best to set my Investment options to 100% cash and lock in the current losses on my Investment Options then transfer my maturing TD funds. zzuf writes... Redistributing that to my current investment options then reconverting to cash to withdraw from Hostplus seems a huge market risk I'd say 2-4 days is not a huge risk. And why not do 200k then wait 3-4 days to see if market is calm then do $200k then wait 3-4 days then do rest. aldi123 writes... I'd say 2-4 days is not a huge market risk. And why not do 200k then wait 3-4 days to see if market is calm then do $200k then wait 3-4 days then do rest. Yeah, however, I don't know how many days it takes from a request to redistribute options to the activation of the request. So trying to time the market on a "good" days may not work.I would probably be better off trying to time conversion of my current Investment Options (about 80K carrying losses of $10k) to cash then trying a double conversion of $600k cash to investment options then cash.Once the $80k is converted to 100% cash and accepting the $10K loss the TD proceeds just transfer in cash.Wish I had never closed my SMSF! I'd give Hostplus a ring and ask them what happens with timing and prices. I didn't lose anything when I shifted $170k from Choiceplus, but that was when times were much more stable and in fact the ASX was gradually rising. A lot different now! But if u follow what I suggested..., say you hit send and it took say 3 days and original unit was $100/unit but market got volatile the day after you hit send and you ended up buying at $100 only to see market chop the unit price to $90 by the time you want to convert to cash and now you have to convert to cash at $90/unit and suffer a loss of $60,000. But if you spread it out over two weeks it gives you time to buy at much lower prices on the second and third/fourth wave, the only way you could loose is if market kept creeping up in value like to 5%+ during those two weeks(I can't see that happening after the recent lows). aldi123 writes... But if u follow what I suggested..., say you hit send and it took say 3 days and original unit was $100/unit but market got volatile the day after you hit send and you ended up buying at $100 only to see market chop the unit price to $90 I'll I see what you are suggesting, but I already own $80k worth of units – 5 different diversified investments, which were selected to move differently in different market situations. So it seems to me that just selling those is safer than buying $600k worth of the same thing then hoping the price doesn't go down prior selling them. Jason000 writes... Hard to believe customer service could be this bad. In the middle of pandemic where thousands are trying to withdraw their super, and call centre operations are extremely difficult to run from anywhere but the office, you're surprised their is delays in responses? Check around whirlpool, heaps of complaints about other financial institutions, telcos, airlines, utility providers etc for the same thing. Scratchin Ambassador writes... In the middle of pandemic where thousands are trying to withdraw their super, and call centre operations are extremely difficult to run from anywhere but the office, you're surprised their is delays in responses? Check around whirlpool, heaps of complaints about other financial institutions, telcos, airlines, utility providers etc for the same thing. I am well aware that Hostplus' poor customer service predates the current pandemic. Jason000 writes... Anyone got through to Hostplus recently? Placing an online order are also not with delays.What I usually do, decide to buy or sell at market open and then place the order long before the market opens. It always gets executed but you have a risk that you don't know at what price. My taking is that you may miss a few cents but that is small money in the bigger scheme of things. They seem busier since the lockdown. Perhaps also have less skeleton staff available.Sure that will return to "normal" soon. it's a rolling return. which is update monthly/ daily.so the returns your seeing change daily if you want exactly yearly return google there annual reports and read the annual reports boneitis writes... I reckon what they are showing doesn't make sense. EVERY super fund in the 1st 6 months of the previous financial year 2018/2019 lost money, and they are showing a positive 10% (for balanced) to be believed at December 2018?? Come on, I was monitoring my fund the entire way and it went down in the first 6 months to Dec 2018. it's a rolling return. which is update monthly/ daily.so the returns your seeing change daily if you want exactly yearly return google there annual reports and read the annual reports It is a bit amazing to think we all trust these companies with billions of our dollars and we rely on their nickle and dime website to transfer millions of dollars and change investment mixes that may have thousands of dollars of impact whilst looking at bar charts designed by a 2 year old, and dodgy csv exports of their unit prices.. Host plus even have slightly different names for their accounts on their website to their PDS and member guides. I've had to guess the unit prices the names don't align to the invest mixes on offer.. thommo55 writes... It is a bit amazing to think we all trust these companies with billions of our dollars and we rely on their nickle and dime website to transfer millions of dollars and change investment mixes that may have thousands of dollars of impact whilst looking at bar charts designed by a 2 year old, and dodgy csv exports of their unit prices.. You've hit the nail on the head, not to mention that all transfers in/out of options are not instant, but done ~2 business days later thommo55 writes... amazing to think we all trust these companies with billions of our dollars No different than when you do property investment, through a developer. You need trust in the developer. Sometimes they go into administration or liquidation. No different when you go see a specialist, trusting your life. So you need trust. Trust, and reputation. This is where Whirlpool comes in.....I believe we provide the reputation through our answers, to questions, about service providers. Can anyone tell me is Hostplus International Shares-Indexed unhedged still managed by IFM or is it Vanguard, also what benchmark does it follow? Your service provider also requires a reputation. Thus, trust and reputation. This is where Whirlpool comes in.....I believe we provide the reputation through our answers, to questions, about service providers. Can anyone tell me is Hostplus International Shares-Indexed unhedged still managed by IFM or is it Vanguard, also what benchmark does it follow? I've emailed Hostplus but he had no reply. TIA Jason000 writes... Scott does have commercial arrangements with Hostplus too so you wouldn't expect him to recommend anything else. Jason000 writes... To be fair it's all indicative of historical arrangements that may not be in place today, so my earlier comment could be incorrect. bugs1357 writes... The following appears in the 2017 Edition of Scott's book in the section relating to his recommendation of Hostplus Indexed Balanced: Let me say this again: Hostplus is not paying me a cent. Nor does another financial institution I mention. I am fiercely independent. I'm justtelling you what I do with my own money. You should do your ownresearch. There is some clarity around this issue in another article that came out today. Pape does have a prior financial relationship with the fund, not mentioned to readers. It ended eight years ago.From late 2007 until 2012, Hostplus contracted Pape for a financial literacy program known as Ka-Ching Ka-Ching. He gave seminars for Cbus-Hostplus workers in Sydney, Launceston, Darwin and even Hamilton Island, among numerous other destinations. But Pape's contract ended in 2012 and Hostplus lost the rights to his name, image and likeness. That coincided with Pape's conscious decision to disassociate himself from any brands. In a sector rife with conflicts of interest, Pape's independence has become a key part of his appeal. I am trying to emulate VTS/VEU which is what I have outside super, I see hostplus have 2 choice called international shares and one called Int shares, but don't really explain the difference between them. There are three in the PDS – indexed hedged and indexed non-hedged are passively managed and the third is actively managed. Anyone else cannot login to My super member online since yesterday? Error message: The Plan ref was not provided. To Logon on use /login/{plan ref} or provide the correct plan reference. coolgen writes... Anyone else cannot login to My super member online since yesterday? Error message: The Plan ref was not provided. To Logon on use /login/{plan ref} or provide the correct plan reference. coolgen writes... Anyone else cannot login to My super member online since yesterday? I'm able to login to my Host+ okay, last night & just now. Thanks MidRange. Hostplus have since advised me that only some members are having login issues and suggested a workaround to clear the cache on the browser or try another one. I did that for Chrome (cleared last 7 days only) and it worked for me. coolgen writes... Anyone else cannot login to My super member online since yesterday? Error message: The Plan ref was not provided. To Logon on use /login/{plan ref} or provide the correct plan reference. Do you bookmark the login page and access it directly (instead of via the Hostplus homepage)? That's what I do and I've been getting the same error in the last few days. Deleting the relevant cookies (aas.com and member.aas.com.au) seems to fix the problem. And accessing the login page via the homepage also seems to avoid getting that error. karaoke man writes... Do you bookmark the login page and access it directly (instead of via the Hostplus homepage)?That's what I do and I've been getting the same error in the last few days. Deleting the relevant cookies (aas.com and member.aas.com.au) seems to fix the problem. And accessing the login page via the homepage also seems to avoid getting that error. No, I was accessing login from the homepage. Those cookies seem to be the culprit..thks No issues yesterday or today for me. Just made a slight change, going into Intl Shares in a very small way. Is the login page down for anyone? hmof writes... Works fine for me right now. Hi. It's working now as well. I can't seem to log in, there is no button/action on html on the login portal. Student001 writes... I can't seem to log in, there is no button/action on html on the login portal. At least for me on MacOS, Firefox is broken, Chrome and Safari work ok. JB writes... Chrome and Safari work ok. Not working on Chrome for me (the Login button acts like plain text), I have to use Internet Explorer. Has been like this all weekend, rang Host+ mid day today the guy said no-one has reported any problems. I logged into Hostplus several times yesterday/last night using Chrome, no problems. Both super and retirement accounts. Tried 3 different browsers. Can type in username and password but won't let me click login. I reported login problems last Thursday (which seems to affect some but not all) and the problem seems to be cookies for aas.com.au and member.aas.com.au. Removing them and refreshing chrome solved the issue for me. Settings, scroll down to Privacy and security, select Cookies and other site data, scroll down to See all cookies and site data, type in the above cookies and delete. Only thing is that the next time I go to the Hostplus webpage and login, the cookies have been reset and I have the same issue. So what I did was to include the above Hostplus cookie URLs (ie aas.com.au and member.aas.com.au) under Always clear cookies when windows are closed. Solved for me on Chrome. Not sure if the above login issues are related to this but worth a try. coolgen writes... So what I did was to include the above Hostplus cookie URLs (ie aas.com.au and member.aas.com.au) under Always clear cookies when windows are closed. Solved for me on Chrome. But in normal usage the webpages Host+ provides should not require this setting, right? MidRange writes... But in normal usage the webpages Host+ provides should not require this setting, right? Appears so, albeit I've only tried looking at Investment performance pages Re the login issue and checking further, I also have an unresponsive login button on Chrome so the cookie issue appears unrelated.. (tried it with cookies and no cookies) I just tried again to login and now it works on Chrome :-) Do you login to your super and get the warning that members online is having issues? It's been 2 days. Still has the warningbon my end. Anyone else using chrome to access Hostplus having had their accounts locked? The hospitality industry did get smashed, and still has a long way to recover. Has this fundamentally altered Hostplus's ability to deliver good value returns? Else writes... Is Hostplus Indexed Balanced (with its 0.02% investment fee) still a smart choice now? The hospitality industry did get smashed I'm not figuring the connection you're making with HostPlus Indexed Balanced and the hospitality industry? Deedee Megadoodoo writes... I'm not figuring the connection you're making with HostPlus Indexed Balanced and the hospitality industry? Hostplus is the industry fund for employees in hospitality, tourism, recreation and sport. These industries have been heavily impacted by COVID – probably more than most others. Hostplus fund inflows would have been far lower than normal, and outflows via the COVID super release have been high. I'm wondering to what degree all this instability has affected 'business as usual' with respect to some of their fund choices such as Indexed Balanced. I'm planning on shutting down my SMSF and moving the funds to Hostplus early next year. Just doing some due diligence on the impact of COVID on Hostplus. Else writes... I'm wondering to what degree all this instability has affected 'business as usual' with respect to some of their fund choices such as Indexed Balanced. Assuming Hostplus has a lot of hospitality members it would receive relatively less contributions (inflow cash) thus will buy/invest less than other funds. But I don't see how this should affect the balances of either existing or new members. We could say Hostplus will collect less percentage-based fees from reduced contributions, but this amounts to probably 0.001% of the total they are already managing. Else writes... Hostplus fund inflows would have been far lower than normal, Probably, but most super funds will have experienced lower inflows over the past 6 months too. Yes, it's the industry fund for hospitality but there are a lot of non-hospitality members. The Index Balanced fund in particular is highly regarded, cheap and popular, thus attracts members from everywhere. outflows via the COVID super release have been highHostplus restructured their investments near the start of the crisis and increased their cash holdings to $6 billion to cope with COVID super release. They had around $4.9 billion in cash holdings after the impact of withdrawals. They didn't have to sell any shares so their share options, including Index Balanced, weren't savaged by having to sell at the bottom. They just experienced the normal stock market crash drop. I've been with Hostplus for 20 years, they survived well through the GFC and now COVID. I'm now retired (self funded retiree, no govt pension). No intention of leaving Hostplus and a decent chunk of my super is in Index Balanced. When does Hostplus update the balance of each members superfund account? Is this done monthly, quarterly or just one a year? aussietreo writes... When does Hostplus update the balance of each members superfund account? You can check online for Hostplus daily updates. Say you log in just after Tues midnight (i.e. Wed early morning) your balance will reflect the Aus/international markets Monday's movements. This is the two-day delay we often talk about. But Hostplus formally informs you of your balance only twice a year – 31/12 and 30/06. They also have the digital wallet that you can access without going to their site. how do you access the digital wallet?...can't find it...TIA hoo izzie writes... how do you access the digital wallet?...can't find it...TIA Call hostplus and they'll set you up with one. Sorry if this has been asked before but does anyone know anything about who manages their 'Infrastructure' investment option? Does it allow contributions to be split among two investment options? eg: a percentage basis specified by the member Yes. You can split your contributions between as many options as you like. lokano writes... Looks like vanguard according to pds managers. Vanguard International Shares Index Fund – Vanguard Investments Australia LtdVanguard International Shares Index Fund (Hedged) – Vanguard Investments Australia Ltd I'm trying to determine what the Hostplus Australian and international shares index funds are invested in and I don't see anything in the PDS to suggest a connection with Vanguard or their underlying benchmarks. Am I overlooking it or maybe the PDS has changed? All I can find is a return target of CPI plus X% per annum on average over 20 years, which could mean anything. I am comparing with the Sunsuper PDS which clearly states what benchmarks their funds are based on. Hostplus seems popular so their underlying holdings must be published somewhere. I'm thinking of moving my Hostplus- say 60%/40% growth/defensive which is what advisor recommended a few years ago. Most of it is in pension but some in accumulation. Thinking I should move to 45/55 in retirement – say 50% cap stable and 50% cons bal (advisor no longer available). Hostplus Life suggests 100% cap stable at age 60+ i.e. 34/66 but I'm thinking not enough exposure to international shares with that option. A few years ago I would consider my attitude to risk as moderate/assertive – now more conservative/moderate. Does 50% cap stable / 50% cons bal seem like a reasonable plan? I'm 66, retired for two years, and my accumulation Hostplus profile is40% cap stable40% index bal15% indexed intl shares5% intl shares hedged indexedbalance is 1172842 as of this morn, but over the past week it's gone down and then up by 20 grand hoo izzie writes... I stopped working 1 Feb ... My balance was $1172830 when I left work hoo izzie writes... balance is 1172842 as of this morn I don't know how much you've taken out, but in the two years since you've been retired, your balance hasn't gone down :-) Thanks for sharing that – useful to see what others are doing. I don't have as much as you, so I'll be a bit more conservative – might move some to indexed balanced and less cons balanced though. MidRange writes... Hostplus formally informs you of your balance only twice a year – 31/12 and 30/06. this hasn't happen to date, more then a month since year end. Any idea when they are going to provide actual figure for investment earnings from 30/6 to 31 Dec? ^^ ^Go to the Hostplus website. It's in 'investment returns'. Choose monthly and it shows the investment earnings for each option up to 30/12.Or choose daily for the daily investment earnings up to 4 Feb (it's currently 6 Feb, so there is typically a day or two delay before they publish the daily investment earnings). You will need to work out your own return. Look at your account balance at the beginning of the year, but it takes ages for Hostplus to post them out. If you want to see an up to date balances and transactions of you account, register online. Your balance is updated daily (although typically a day or two delay). I'm 69, retired for 6 years. My Hostplus pension account is currently:65% Conservative Bal.30% Index Bal.5% diversified fixed interest After 6 years the balance more than when I retired despite compulsory drawdowns. dllg writes... despite compulsory drawdowns. What has the compulsory drawdowns. Which have been halved in recent times, until 30 June 2021. Did you reduce your drawdown? dllg writes... After 6 years the balance more than when I retired despite compulsory drawdowns. Balanced funds have returned around 6% pa over the past 5-7 years, so a 5% drawdown should allow your fund balance to increase over that period. Thanks for sharing dllg – similar to my current allocation - encouraging. Since retiring the majority of my super has been in Hostplus Conservative Balanced: they've returned 7.5% over the past 6 years, so with 4% drawn between 63-65 and then 5% 66-69, my balance has risen quite a lot, Also always had between 20-30% in index balanced which has returned 8.5%. Only took the reduced minimum withdrawal of 2.5% this last year ending 30 June 2020. I keep a cash buffer in the bank and withdrew some of this. One thing I should not have done was move a large chunk into cash during the COVID crisis. Became increasingly worried and went into cash too late on the way down, then moved it back to cons bal / index bal a bit late on the way up. Should have left it alone – which is what I planned to do – and not shifted money around. I am 29 and I've just switched over to Hostplus from AMP. Hopefully its better returns and overall atleast the fees are less. Any good tips or must reads? dllg writes... Should have left it alone – which is what I planned to do – and not shifted money around.. It's like bath soap, the more you fiddle with it the smaller it gets. I'll just leave that hanging there. Icysteeler writes... Any good tips Go 100% Balanced, leave it there and come back to it in 20 years. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... I don't know how much you've taken out thank you for your interest...I enjoy your posts super is now 1182051, slowly creeping back to its all-time high of 1220000, reached in Feb 2020 I withdrew 51000 in November 2019 and 23500 in October 2020 trishaw writes... They say it's like bath soap, the more you fiddle with the smaller it gets. I'll just leave that hanging there. Not sure why people continue to do this, but they just can't help themselves... hoo izzie writes... thank you for your interest...I enjoy your posts I enjoy your posts too! It's always gratifying to read about people that are retired and living off their super, seeing their balances increasing, it gives me confidence when I draw a pension in just over 3 years time! I find it psychologically difficult to get my mind around spending my own saved money while my entire working life, it's my salary that supports me. I know it's all in my mind, but it's a common mental issue that many new retirees have. tahl'm thinking of withdrawing about 30 grand to bulk up our bank savings in order to have something to live on for at least a year to tide over any major falls.....balance went up to 1183000 overnight, but I expect it to go down a bit tomorrow....an increase of about 1300 overnight cannot be achieved through a bank account nowadays, if ever! I'm having trouble viewing daily price units on hostplus website for the last few days. Nothing shows up. Anyone else having this problem? I've for looking at the daily price units yesterday and today for both super and retirement streams in Hostplus – no problems at all. dllg writes... I've been looking at the daily price units yesterday and today for both super and retirement streams in Hostplus – no problems at all. Is it on hostplus website? Because when I click on show me...it just reloads the page. Thanks. The problem seemed to be fixed after updating my browser. Has the HostPlus login page changed? I am getting a login page without any logo branding with text different since 21 Apr. Want to be sure before entering my username/password just in case something has been hijacked.... hmof writes... It looks different for me now. Just a bit worrying when you get a 'different' login screen especially when logging in to a financial organisation. Aaardvaark writes... Seems to have come good for me now. Just a bit worrying when you get a 'different' login screen especially when logging in to a financial organisation. Agreed. Works again in my Firefox too. I suspect some server was down that was serving some part of the login page. Hi! Most super funds have a "growth" choice when changing your super investment strategy. I can't see one for hostplus. Is there a "growth" option as such, or do you have to individually select investment proportions? Kid Charlemagne writes... Is there a "growth" option as such, or do you have to individually select investment proportions? Rick777 writes... I believe that they call it Shares Plus. There's also sector specific growth options- Australian Shares- Property- International Shares (3 different options) Plus there are individual manager growth funds as well. Have a look at the member guide from page 46 where it gives a break down for each of the premixed options. Are hostplus only going to do statements on an annual basis?This is what i read from the statement guide. "Hostplus statements will be issued annually.From this statement onwards we will deliver your statementsTo you annually for the period to 30 June each year" rpgfan800 writes... Are hostplus only going to do statements on an annual basis? Looks like it. Used to be every six months. You can login online anytime and see your daily performance, current balance, contributions, past statements, etc. rpgfan800 writes... Are hostplus only going to do statements on an annual basis?This is what i read from the statement guide. "Hostplus statements will be issued annually.From this statement onwards we will deliver your statementsTo you annually for the period to 30 june each year" Where did you read this actually? From Hostplus MemberOnline under Statements, it says: Hostplus issues Half Yearly Member Statements for the periods ending 31 December (generally available in March) and 30 June (generally available in September) showing all transactions, switches and beneficiary details. Noting it is now Nov, and I still have not received member statement for period ending 30 June 2021. Anyone else received statement yet? Yes I see mine. They sent an email on 28 September saying that it was available. leigh8904 writes... I still have not received member statement for period ending 30 June 2021. Anyone else received statement yet? Yes, I've received my Hostplus statement for June quite a while ago. (By Snail mail). It's also online under "statements and messages" when you login. hmof writes... Yes I see mine. They sent an email on 28 September saying that it was available. Not for me though. Just called Hostplus, apparently some member statements are delayed, they will try to generate as soon as they can, but are legally required to provide by 31-Dec. Zorborg writes... seems they are anticipating a massive fine imposed on them in the next three years and won't have enough money to cover it. They aren't anticipating a massive fine, it's a fund they (and other super funds) will need in case they stuff up and are fined. They will no longer be allowed to pay fines out of members funds. Hostplus' last fine was a couple of years ago, $12,600. Hi All, I am with HostPlus, 29 Yrs old and know very little about investing in Super but want to invest "aggressively". Any tips on the best options. I currently have my settings at Indexed Balanced 30%Property: 20%International Shares : 50% zr2nv writes... Hi All, I am with HostPlus, 29 Yr Old and no very little about but want to invest "aggressively" - Any tips on the best options. 50% International Indexed 50% IFM Australian Shares (low cost, apparently very close to index option). Just a 2c worth Uno. leigh8904 writes... 20% International Shares? Thanks do you mind if I ask why the indexed the unhedged the international shares and not International Shares? Why International Indexed and not International Shares? Thanks decided to go with at 0.00% Indexed Int Shares30.00% Indexed IntSh Hedged30.00% IFM AustralianShares zr2nv writes... Why International Indexed and not International Shares? For the same reason you're in Indexed Balanced 50% rather than Balanced. Indexed takes the guess work out of it and costs less. I got an email from Hostplus saying they're going to add mandatory 2FAv via SMS. I'm all for extra security but SMS is not best practice for 2FA in 2021. Hostplus have just increased their admin fees AND introduced a 0.1% fee on your entire balance, both accumulation and retirement phases. Very disappointing. dllg writes... Hostplus have just increased their admin fees AND introduced a 0.1% fee on your entire balance, both accumulation and retirement phases. Do you have a reference to this change? I can't find it in their website Hockey Monkey writes... can't find it on their website It changed on Saturday. They don't say they've changed it, but the fees and charges now include an additional $30 admin fee and a new 0.1% fee. They no longer have 'lowest membership fees of any fund' advertised all over their website. dllg writes... It changed on Saturday. They don't say they've changed it, but the fees and charges now include an additional $30 admin fee and a new 0.1% fee. They no longer have 'lowest membership fees of any fund' advertised all over their website. I see the additional $30.64 fee deducted from the administration reserve is mentioned. For the 0.1% are you referring to the transaction costs? Hockey Monkey writes... transaction costs? Yes dllg writes... Yes They are not new and are 0% for indexed options. The main change appears to be the $30.64 to cover their legal costs Hockey Monkey writes... They are not new and are 0% for indexed options You're right. False alarm by me! They've been there for a couple of years but I somehow forgot about them! Most of the Index options are zero transaction fees except for the original Index Balanced with is still 0.02% Member online has changed to mol.hostplus.com.au for anyone? I have a few relatives that are on hostplus that are not computer savy. Does the new website now require you to setup 2 factor login or can you just use password and username like before? hmof writes... I got an email from Hostplus saying they're going to add mandatory 2FAv via SMS. I'm all for extra security but SMS is not best practice for 2FA in 2021. Anyone else got an email from them regarding this? I haven't recieved anything in regards to new login website or 2fa. I just used the new login platform and it does require you to set it up for 2fa. Do you know if it is possible to not set it up? .before continuing.In the old member online website, you just enter your member number...no suggestion pop up.Using the new platform, as soon as you click on the username tab....usernames i use for other websites pop up. Does anyone here get the same? How do i stop this? rpgfan800 writes... Does anyone here get the same? How do i stop this? Yes, same for me. No idea how to stop it. That being said, why stop it? 2FA is generally a good idea, although using SMS is probably the least secure implementation. But it is still better than nothing. leigh8904 writes... Yes, same for me. No idea how to stop it. Is the login page now mol.hostplus.com.au for you? Or am I being just a bit paranoid when login pages change for financial sites. Yes, I just logged in. Had to reset my password. leigh8904 writes... 2FA?? I accessed the Hostplus webpage this morn and, as usual, had to enter my member and password, but in addition and to my surprise had to enter my phone number for a code number to be sent to me and entered in order to open my account. I will have to do this every time I wish to view my account.Better security is good, I suppose, but what if I'm out of the country and can't access my phone because of different systems, like Japan? I'll ask Hostplus about this. rpgfan800 writes... Is the login page now mol.hostplus.com.au for you? It is for me. Given that it's now inside their domain (unlike the previous site) it seems OK. Generally the new site looks better but is clunkier. hoo izzie writes... 2FA?? Two Factor Authentication, the second factor being the code they send you via SMS. It proves whoever is logging in not only has your password but also can receive texts to you. Better security is good, I suppose, but what if I'm out of the country and can't access my phone because of different systems, like Japan? I'll ask Hostplus about this. 2FA via SMS is not best practice any more so it's disappointing that that's all that Hostplus offers. Apart from the travel problem (although you would have roaming surely?) the serious risk is theft of your phone number. Although as far as I'm aware that's more of an American problem than it is here in Australia. No doubt a silly question, but where can I see historical performance? I am trying to decide on what to select out of, International Shares – Indexedbalanced – IndexedIFM – Australian Shares I'm an early 30's so plenty of time on my side, but wanted an informed option. Presumably international indexed is higher risk with potential for higher returns than balanced indexed? Any thoughts frameworks writes... I am trying to decide on what to select out of, International Shares – Indexedbalanced – IndexedIFM – Australian Shares I'd suggest why not select a combination of the 3 indexed options? eg (% can vary to your flavour) 40% IFM – Australian Shares30% International Shares30% International Shares Hedged – Indexed Thank you both, will take a look! hmof writes... It is for me. Given that it's now inside their domain (unlike the previous site) it seems OK. Does that mean hostplus runs the website now instead of a third party? Just out of curiosity, what does the mol stand for? rpgfan800 writes... Does that mean hostplus runs the website now instead of a third party? I don't think there's any way to tell easily. All I can determine is that it's hosted on Azure, which is Microsoft's cloud service. The old site "member.aas.com.au" was hosted elsewhere. aas.com.au belongs to "Australian Administration Services Pty Ltd". Just out of curiosity, what does the mol stand for? Members On-Line? That's my best guess. I'm having trouble accessing the Hostplus site to check my super balance, Wednesday 29 December 8:45 am, so decided to call them on the 1300 number and the computer voice gave me my balance,but it rattled it off so quickly that I decided to contact a person to have the computer voice speed be slowed downbutwait time was between 15 and 20 minutes so I hung up and will call again later hoo izzie writes... I'm having trouble accessing the Hostplus site to check my super balance, Wednesday 29 December 8:45 am I couldn't login on the 27 and 28 December as well. I got in this morning working 9.05am today. Kscope writes... Same here. Seems to be back up for me now. I received a Significant Event Notice from Hostplus today via email. There is a new trustee fee that will add 0.01% to the total cost plus they are closing some investment options. Specifically for impacts on me, personally, they are replacing the IFM – Australian Shares option with something that appears identical called Australian Shares – Indexed. I can't see much, if any, difference between the two. I must say I'm a bit disappointed about the fee increase but it's still dirt cheap for an indexed fund option. Even with a $1m balance I estimate the total annual fees to be around $510. Any other thoughts on the changes? Cheers Else writes... I calculated this new fee as 0.032%. So $320 per year on a $1M balance. Else my reading that percentage relates to the one-off charge for the March qtr and then the new fee is to be reflected via an adjustment in the unit price and the ongoing charge for the new product is 0.04% (v 0.03% for the IFM option, currently). That's my reading and understanding but I may be wrong. It may be a good idea to call Hostplus and ask. I'm hoping someone in the know may be able to clarify the question of whether Hostplus is running it in-house now as opposed to having IFM manage it. Anyone else have an opinion or better understanding? I'm a bit disappointed about the fee increase but it's still dirt cheap for an indexed fund option. Even with a $1m balance I estimate the total annual fees to be around $510. Any other thoughts on the changes? Cheers Else writes... I calculated this new fee as 0.032%. So $320 per year on a $1M balance. Else my reading that percentage relates to the one-off charge for the March qtr and then the new fee is to be reflected via an adjustment in the unit price going forward plus the trustee fee. Not sure what the best place to ask this question. Is it possible to change a single investment option to something else without modifying all the other investments? The only options seem to change everything via percentage. No it is not possible, other than redoing all the options. I'm not sure, one or the other possibly? I have no shares in international ones, It seems nothing has changed that much and tracks against... Edit: Found what I was looking for. General info for anyone having money in Hostplus Aussie Shares. The ASX200 closed highest 7590 on 4th Jan, Aus Shares unit price = 3.0310Friday 25 March ASX200 7406 (2.5% less), unit price = 3.0169 (0.5% less) It's likely thanks to all the dividends & FCs credited to the unit price that make it so. Any way the point is that our Aus Shares super is almost back to its all-time-high. If your overall balance is still low it must be the Int'l Shares component. What is the general consensus for investment splits between indexed investment options with Hostplus, currently had 80% international shares indexed / 20% IFM Australian shares (I believe this is now changing to Australian shares indexed) I may be a little too weighted to international shares indexed and was thinking of changing all future contributions to a 60% international indexed / 40% Australian shares indexed. 33 years of age if it helps. Improve writes... What is the general consensus for international splits You will get only opinions here.I am 50/50. Some people add bitcoin into the split. MidRange writes... our Aus Shares super is almost back to its all-time-high Yes, I noticed, I am at an all-time high there (I round to the 000s) Our H+ balances have not changed in last 3 days – looks like some tech issue. (W10/Chrome) Anyone else experiencing this? I am getting an expired certificate message when trying to open members online. This occurs with multiple browsers. Have Hostplus IT dropped the ball with this or is it something more sinister? Tried to log in just now and didn't get an expired certificate. Aaardvark writes... I am getting an expired certificate message when trying to open members online. This occurs with multiple browsers. Works for me. Do you have all the latest updates for your OS installed? As browsers get some of their certificates from the OS. They had an issue for a couple of hours, since fixed, and now they have scheduled maintenance... I have noticed there's a new well new to me don't know when it started investment option called Life Investment, when selecting it changes your current balance and future transactions to Life Stages Shares Plus. Anyone know what the benefits of this fund is vs the standard balance one that I have been in for the last few years since joined host plus? tready2008 writes... investment option called Life Investment, when selecting it changes your current balance and future transactions to Life Stages Shares Plus Haven't looked into it but;Life stages option is usually the ultimate set and forget option. It is usually active management type fees so watch for fees. Is anybody else getting a blank page when trying to get to the login site? Atomiel writes... Is anybody else getting a blank page when trying to get to the login site? Yes I see the same. checked balance this morn and all okay I've just recently been automatically transferred over from Statewide Super (SA) to Hostplus on the 30/4/22. $703k went in and as of today 26/5/22...$690k. I didn't think that the last month was that bad super killer is super? Any way I'm in the default Balanced option but considering a split with the following: Property 20%Paradice IM (small cap) 20%IFM AU 20%Trust Core 10%Balanced 30% All of these investment options have been showing positive returns across the board for any month/year. Can anyone see any reason not to go for this split? TIA slapnut writes... Can anyone see any reason not to go for this split? I prefer indexed International and Aus50/50 Property is crashing now – it's commercial listed property, with rising % it will go down. slapnut writes... Int Indexed has been running negative returns That's good, so you can buy cheaper. Indexed means it just tracks market index. Like ETF.Not actively managed, and not gambling. slapnut writes... Int Indexed has been running negative returns for the last FYTD. All of the ones I listed above have had positive returns across all time frames, short and long....not criticizing your choices, just wondering that's all. The purpose of an index-tracking fund is, as the name says, to exactly track the index. If it is doing its job, then you'd expect it to have lower returns over however long you like to see the longer-term performance. slapnut writes... I didn't think that the last month was that bad super killer is super? The ASX200 was around 7400 on 29/4, 7100 on 26/5, = -4% drop. Your $13k loss on $703k is -1.85%. If it had stayed in Statewide likely it'd have seen the same. All of these investment options have been showing positive returns I doubt that Paradice IM, IFM AU, Balanced made positive returns in this period. For example Balanced unit price – 29/4 2.9179, 26/5 2.8706 (-1.6%) slapnut writes... Property 20%Paradice IM (small cap) 20%IFM AU 20%Trust Core 10%Balanced 30% All of these investment options have been showing positive returns across the board for any month/year. Can anyone see any reason not to go for this split? Be careful using past performance to choose asset allocation. Control the things you can. Low fees and broad diversification at your risk tolerance is the way to go slapnut writes... Any way I'm in the default Balanced option but considering a split with the following: Property 20%Paradice IM (small cap) 20%IFM AU 20%Trust Core 10%Balanced 30% All of these investment options have been showing positive returns across the board for any month/year. In addition to some of the comments above (particularly Hockey Monkey's) a couple of the options you have listed are no longer offered by Hostplus so you cannot choose them, e.g., "IFM – Australian Shares" has been replaced by "Australian Shares – Indexed" (pretty much the same thing but run by somebody other than IFM I guess) and "Paradice Investment Management (Small Cap) – Australian Shares" has been removed. See this notice from Hostplus. For more information about the costs of different Hostplus options see here. I also highly recommend reading andrew99999's Passive Investing Australia web page. Hockey Monkey writes... your risk tolerance is the way to go My risk tolerance is reasonable, only because I have about $400k in savings to play with and my wife has another 10 years left to work (she's on $225k a year salary) so although I'm only just over a year away from 60, I don't really need to touch my super until I'm probably forced to start a super pension and draw down the minimum. But in saying that do I pull it out when I can and put it in a term deposit, interest rates are on the rise, in 12-18 months you might be able to secure 5-6%? Interested in others thoughts? Hi all. I'm currently in process of switching from ING Living Super to Hostplus. Planning to sit in the 'Cash' option for the majority of my balance (every approx.) for this fund. I know I can get the unit price and work it out, but just wondering if there's already an updated resource available. Cheers! Else writes... Cash has returned 0.16% in the 12 months to 31 May. Thanks Else, but what I'm really after is the current %. Particularly with the RBA increases (and more on the way) the last 12 mths won't be representative of the current rate. And yes, I realise it's still close to zero, but at least it won't be negative ;) RogerStanley writes... I realise it's still close to zero, but at least it won't be negative ;) We have been using increasing amounts of CPIplus. Good returns and (so far) a monotonic rise. RogerStanley writes... Thanks Else, but what I'm really after is the current %. I don't know the actual number, but cash won't be significantly different for a while yet, maybe late 2022. Likely returning at a maximum 0.05% each month across different funds until then. Eg not a materially significant change. Rick777 writes... We have been using increasing amounts of CPIplus. I was wondering why I couldn't see the CPIplus product, but looks like that's a pension only thing. Coops1 writes... I don't know the actual number, but cash won't be significantly different for a while yet, maybe late 2022. Likely returning at a maximum 0.05% each month across different funds until then. I did a quick line calc based on the unit prices and I think we're already up to 0.8%-ish. I expect there's a lag for this to reprice relative to the RBA cash rate, so it should continue to increase fairly quickly, expecting the RBA will increase again next tuesday. It looks like aside from doing calcs based on the daily unit price data, the best bet will be to look at the (lagging) 1mth return. Either way, whether cash pays 0.05% or 2% is not relevant at the moment since my objective is to preserve capital until such time as risk assets are more attractively priced. RogerStanley writes... that's a pension only thing Sorry about that. There doesn't appear to be anything at all like it for accumulation phase, which is a pity. Stupid question from me:Everyone talks about super going up and down for each individual because of the market movement.My super amount is literally the exact amount my employer paid in.. it's not moving at all.. I'm in the balanced option and with Hostplus since 3 years... Am I doing something wrong or what's going on here? Thanks masmespe writes... My super amount is literally the exact amount my employer paid in.. it's not moving at all.. Hostplus Balanced has returned 6.9% pa over the past 3 years (to 31 May). So your balance should be increasing by more than the contributions. Bear in mind that when your employer contributes $1,000, only $850 is yours. The other $150 goes to the government as a contributions tax. So if you started off with a very low balance 3 years ago, it's conceivable that your 6.9% earnings have offset the 15% contributions tax, giving the result you're seeing. Else writes... Hostplus Balanced has returned 6.9% pa over the past 3 years (to 31 May). So your balance should be increasing by more than the contributions. Bear in mind that when your employer contributes $1,000, only $850 is yours. The other $150 goes to the government as a contributions tax. So if you started off with a very low balance 3 years ago, it's conceivable that your 6.9% earnings have offset the 15% contributions tax, giving the result you're seeing. Very good point. I started with zero 3 years ago when I moved to Australia. I need to have a closer look at it to understand how it's working.. Also check whether you have insurance as the premiums would also be negating the market returns. So does anyone elses x-axis on their balance history chart look like its missing a 12/21 point on the scale or is it just me? I have:06/2012/2006/2106/22Current Where is my 12/21? Its 'seems' like HostPlus is trying to hide the fact Jan-Jun 22 was rubbish from the casual observer which strikes me as disingenuous. ^^^ Hostplus now only issue statements annually at the end of the financial year instead of every 6 months. Most of the super funds only issue annual statements. Anyone what invest in the Australian and international index options? anyone got data on how they perform compared their benchmarks? dllg writes... Hostplus now only issue statements annually Ah cool, that makes sense ta! Genuine question here. Any thoughts on Hostplus overweighting its "unlisted assets" to burnish its stellar returns? Will it come crashing down on Hostplus members if a superfund Commission later forces all superfunds to have their "unlisted assets" independently evaluated (and possibly valued lower)? For current Hostplus members, would it be prudent to transfer your Hostplus allocation to shares instead for more transparency and less downside risks if the "unlisted assets" are later written down by independent evaluators? ausslav writes... Genuine question here. Any thoughts on Hostplus overweighting its "unlisted assets" to burnish its stellar returns? Will it come crashing down on Hostplus members if a superfund Commission later forces all superfunds to have their "unlisted assets" independently evaluated (and possibly valued lower)? For current Hostplus members, would it be prudent to transfer your Hostplus allocation to shares instead for more transparency and less downside risks if the "unlisted assets" are later written down by independent evaluators? It's not just whether it is overvalued, it is also the delayed pricing. Personally, I have a major issue with using illiquid assets held where customers can liquidate them at any time. We've seen this happen with shocking results — Neil Woodford in the UK just a couple of years ago is one example, and let's not forget the GFC. It may not be quite as bad with many super members (the population at large) having no idea what super even is, but I just can't see how it can be sensible to have unlisted assets in that situation. I think it would be better to have MySuper funds only legally allowed to hold listed assets (including listed property and listed infrastructure), and if a fund wanted to offer unlisted assets, those investment options should come with the possibility to halt redemptions just as outside super, as a way to protect the other members who are using it. It just seems like the regulators and super funds were born yesterday. ausslav writes... Any thoughts on Hostplus overweighting its "unlisted assets" to burnish its stellar returns? This is interesting as just the other day when someone told me that Hostplus was one of the only funds to post a positive return for this FY, I thought surely they were mistaken and it was highly unlikely. Can you please post some relevant quotes from the article for us paywalled plebs? I wonder how many other funds are also "fudging" their numbers in some way/shape/form? andrew99999 writes... I have a major issue with using illiquid assets held where customers can liquidate them at any time. Only "customers" or more correctly members, who have retired can liquidate their super funds, but presumably you mean there might be a problem if everyone in their accumulation mode, changed their asset allocation to exclude the unlisted assets. It's not just whether it is overvalued, it is also the delayed pricing. yeah, that's a problem if they haven't valued them as at the 30th June, but are providing annual statements "as at" that date... Has anyone else not received a 6 monthly statement from Hostplus since 30 June 2021? This seems pretty dodgy – I expect someone holding so much cash to take reporting to members seriously. Edit: nevermind, I see they've recently changed to annual reporting. Doubtless they're trying to hide poor performance from members. andrew99999 writes... It's not just whether it is overvalued, it is also the delayed pricing. Personally, I have a major issue with using illiquid assets held where customers can liquidate them at any time. We've seen this happen with shocking results — Neil Woodford in the UK just a couple of years ago is one example, and let's not forget the GFC. It may not be quite as bad with many super members (the population at large) having no idea what super even is, but I just can't see how it can be sensible to have unlisted assets in that situation. I think it would be better to have MySuper funds only legally allowed to hold listed assets (including listed property and listed infrastructure), and if a fund wanted to offer unlisted assets, those investment options should come with the possibility to halt redemptions just as outside super, as a way to protect the other members who are using it. It just seems like the regulators and super funds were born yesterday. I agree with you Andrew, although I take the more cynical view that the so-called regulators are in cahoots with fund managers so they can cross over to multi-million advisor positions when retired from public service. The problem will hit Hostplus members who have taken positions exposed to its illiquid assets when a re-evaluation is (forcibly) done, and I believe it to be in the best interest of oneself to minimise that risk ASAP by transferring one's Hostplus allocation to shares/bonds options before the music stops. Fast Ethernet writes... Edit: nevermind, I see they've recently changed to annual reporting. Doubtless they're trying to hide poor performance from members. I think for any new potential members looking to join Hostplus, wouldn't it be better to join after the end of the financial year so the unlisted assets valuation are more in tune with reality? Or only join and 'buy the dip' when a superfund Commission mandates for a truly independent valuation of all its unlisted assets? I myself was looking to switch to Hostplus last year due to its well-known superfund rankings but stopped as I dug a little deeper. AFR article quotes for the pleb SeasonedLurker as requested. Chris Brycki, founder of online investment adviser Stockspot and a funds management market analyst, said members were “completely in the dark” about funds’ unlisted asset valuations. “Many funds never reveal either the frequency or methodology of the so-called independent valuations,” said Mr Brycki. “The problem here is that it’s highly questionable whether Hostplus have revalued all of their overweight unlisted assets ... to reflect current public market valuations as of 30 June 2022. “It’s the same as someone marking their own homework and then bragging about being top of the class.” If Hostplus is overvaluing its private equity investments, which make up 8 per cent of the fund, then it could have an “overstated” impact on balanced returns, he added. “Hostplus private equity and other unlisted investments should have dropped by at least the same quantum as similar assets listed on public markets. How much have Hostplus written their values down by this year? Unfortunately, members and the general public will likely never know. Expert opinionIn May 2020, research house Lonsec (which owns SuperRatings) downgraded Hostplus’ balanced option from “recommended” to “investment grade”. The Lonsec review found the fund suffered from “high, structural allocation to illiquid assets”, “greater liquidity risks” and “management costs at the higher end”. It also claimed Hostplus had redefined its definition of “illiquid assets”, allowing it to increase its exposure to unlisted investments and leading to some critics questioning whether the fund was “gaming” the league tables.” All of this sounds like a good argument for being in the index balanced fund. ausslav writes... In May 2020, research house Lonsec (which owns SuperRatings) downgraded Hostplus’ balanced option from “recommended” to “investment grade”. You left out the next sentence, namely: However, Lonsec upgraded the fund back to “recommended” in March this year, noting Hostplus had made some changes to its roster of external fund managers and slashed management fees from 1.10 per cent to 0.99 per cent. ausslav writes... If Hostplus is overvaluing its private equity investments, which make up 8 per cent of the fund, then it could have an “overstated” impact on balanced returns, he added Its interesting that hostplus aren't interested, and don't care about "market valuations" which is the actual value, instead ignoring the market and using their own valuers... what could possibly go wrong?? Especially as he refuses to release those opinions he is basing the valuation on, instead just saying "trust me".... I'm starting to see the concern here, from the media and other experts, probably time for the regulator to take more interest.... But he (Sicilia) was adamant that unlisted investments were critical in defending member savings against the volatility in public sharemarkets. “I don’t care about liquidity,” he told the Financial Review, adding that he did care about “liquidity management”. “I don’t want the listed version,” he said. “I want the unlisted version, with the expert valuation.” Mr Sicilia said experts were better at valuing assets than the market and that the fund accepted their expert opinion. He defended the decision not to make those expert opinions public, saying they were commercially confidential. Rocket Man writes... Its interesting that hostplus aren't interested, and don't care about "market valuations" which is the actual value, instead ignoring the market and using their own valuers... what could possibly go wrong?? Especially as he refuses to release those opinions he is basing the valuation on, instead just saying "trust me".... I'm starting to see the concern here, from the media and other experts. I think savvy retail investors may have picked this up, but we are far and few between. I personally decided against moving our family's superfunds to Hostplus despite its lower fees for this reason. Its interesting to note if Hostplus can get away with inflating its unlisted assets forever. Although if they do clamp down on Hostplus it will be members who ultimately pay the price when Hostplus valuations gets written down, or worse a fine. The Hostplus board and Sam Sicilia might get a slap on their wrist that's a little more than a drop in the ocean, and that's if members are lucky. hmof writes... All of this sounds like a good argument for being in the index balanced fund. I'm not so sure about this proposition – namely that index balanced has zero risk in an unlisted assets. I'm a little concerned about Hostplus cooking the books after the above posts, the decision to delay statements to annual reporting, and the recent decision to retain an additional %age as a fee to count towards trustee liability. For anyone else concerned, page 51 of 124 of the Hostplus PDS confirms that:Indexed Balanced does not invest in unlisted assets and instead has a higher allocation to listed equities, fixed interest, and cash.This would seem to be OK, except that beneath it the PDS confirms that the "Range" for "Infrastructure" and "Private Equity" can each be as high as 10%, while the "Strategic Asset Allocation Benchmark" is 0%. So, if Hostplus has liquidity problems as a result of significant variations in unlisted assets, they can avoid having issues by temporarily shifting the risk of these unlisted assets to indexed balanced investors by exposing up to 20% of their fund in these unlisted assets? How exactly is this representative of an option that "does not invest in unlisted assets"? In the meantime, I'm shifting out of indexed balanced. Fast Ethernet writes... For anyone else concerned, page 51 of 124 of the Hostplus PDS confirms that:Indexed Balanced does not invest in unlisted assets and instead has a higher allocation to listed equities, fixed interest, and cash.This would seem to be OK, except that beneath it the PDS confirms that the "Range" for "Infrastructure" and "Private Equity" can each be as high as 10%, while the "Strategic Asset Allocation Benchmark" is 0%. So, if Hostplus has liquidity problems as a result of significant variations in unlisted assets, they can avoid having issues by temporarily shifting the risk of these unlisted assets to indexed balanced investors by exposing up to 20% of their fund in these unlisted assets? Yea that is interesting. There is some chance it means nothing, but why take a risk for no reward when you can, as you said, just use their individual index options to make the same thing and avoid that risk altogether. Fast Ethernet writes... So, if Hostplus has liquidity problems as a result of significant variations in unlisted assets, they can avoid having issues by temporarily shifting the risk of these unlisted assets to indexed balanced investors by exposing up to 20% of their fund in these unlisted assets? There are lots of things they could do. I think allocating them to Indexed Balanced is the least likely, as most of their other fund options have higher upper ranges for private equity assets. In the meantime, I'm shifting out of indexed balanced. Shifting to? Else writes... Shifting to? You could easily shift to an Aus index, international index and diversified fixed interest index in the same proportions and remove the discretion of the superfund to change any of those to alternate asset classes (although they could change to ESG with some exclusions, but at least no unlisted funds). In Pension phase, Indexed Balanced returned approx -5% for the FY just finished. Property returned approx 21%, Infrastructure >12%. I would be very wary of any recommendation to swap into Indexed Balanced. CPIplus returned approx 7%. I have recently joined Hostplus due to the Statewide Super takeoverThey have my funds at 100% in Balanced, not Indexed Balanced, just reading the above posts does this look like a good option?I have just reached 60 and am starting to think about retirement, Not really sure which way to go really as I've never taken much notice of my super until now Purnong writes... Not really sure which way to go really To me, Balanced is a long-term option. It has recently taken a hit, so best to stay in it and hope that it recovers over the next 6-12 months. Leaving now just crystallises recent losses. In the mean time, read all you can about Super options from many sources (as no one source knows it all) , and in the fullness of time, start to make informed adjustments. Generally, post-60 choices are more conservative – as the desire for preservation takes over from growth. Rick777 writes... To me, Balanced is a long-term option. It has recently taken a hit, so best to stay in it and hope that it recovers over the next 6-12 months. Leaving now just crystallises recent losses. In the mean time, read all you can about Super options from many sources Thanks Rick, I'm just starting to have a good look through it all now, It looks like Infrastructure and Property have been the best performers but I guess there's more risk?There is also a defined benefit component that I'm not sure about but I can see the benefit estimateI understand everything is taking a hit at the moment so I'll just watch, read and learn as much as I can before making any decisions Purnong writes... I have just reached 60 and am starting to think about retirement, Try calling Hostplus for their phone advice service for members. There's a fair bit for you to consider, and asset allocation is only part of the puzzle. Fast Ethernet writes... Try calling Hostplus for their phone advice service for members. There's a fair bit for you to consider, and asset allocation is only part of the puzzle. Thanks mate, Yes we have a show and tell from them coming up shortly and I can book an appointment then apparently and will do Rick777 writes... This page a good job of showing the risk of each option in accumulation mode. Balanced, Property and Infrastructure all show the same risk ie Medium to High. Indexed Balanced shows High risk. Cheers Rick, I had a look and that's pretty usefulI went through and pulled out the unit starting price and finishing price for the last financial year from the unit price graph page and there were some large differences with a large dip at the end for most, the worst being shares basedThe spreadsheet is telling me that the best gain was Property @ +19% and the worst loss was Neuberger Berman @ -21%I understand that this needs to be looked at over the longer term but it was interesting to seeI wish I'd taken more interest years ago now :-) Purnong writes... The spreadsheet is telling me that the best gain was Property @ +19% Well done, you are on the right track. A difference of about 2% between Accumulation mode (still contributing) and Pension mode (purely withdrawal) is normal. My views, NOT financial advice: Don't regret not taking an interest earlier. People under 50-60 are fine leaving their account in the default Balanced option and getting on with their lives. The 20+ year returns usually show Balanced to perform about as good as anything else over that period – possibly not as high as shares in some instances but with less volatility than shares. Once over 50, taking an interest is good, but perhaps more in a learning phase up to 60. Over 60, an active interest is definitely a good thing. For example, many funds change the default to Conservative around then, and you need to decide if that is for you. Active interest means checking balances and performance daily or at least weekly, having a strategy and a performance target, preferably setting trigger points, and making timely changes to allocations. The dangerous ground is mid-way between these two extremes: occasional interest, rash changes to allocations – usually in response to Wall St falling 900 points – and thus crystallisation of losses. And no-one can pick when to get back into the market. Rick777 writes... Over 60, an active interest is definitely a good thing. For example, many funds change the default to Conservative around then, and you need to decide if that is for you. Active interest means checking balances and performance daily or at least weekly, having a strategy and a performance target, preferably setting trigger points, and making timely changes to allocations Cheers mateI love a good spreadsheet :-) So I'll start tracking it from now on and following this threadI really appreciate the responses, This is going to get interesting Purnong writes... I have just reached 60 and am starting to think about retirement If you have a look at Hostplus member guide (page 53) they suggest 60 and over investment option be Capital stable.I tend to agree with Rick and would go for the conservative balanced as this is closer to the 60/40 growth profileI would take a keen interest but would not look at daily or weekly as too much noise will lead you to make changes, remember Jake Bogle saying, don't do something, just stand there...The reason I assume Hostplus mention capital stable is sequential risk, anyway before you make any changes please speak to someone at Hostplus.The member guide link Caudron writes... If you have a look at Hostplus member guide (page 53) they suggest 60 and over investment option be Capital stable. Much depends on the individual's risk tolerance and their fund balance, as well as their investment mix outside super. Last time I looked, cap stable had 19% exposure to shares, which is pretty conservative for someone with 20+ years of living ahead of them. I do have 1/3 of my money in cap stable, the other 2/3 in indexed balanced. This gives me around 55% exposure to shares – something I am comfortable with. Else writes... Much depends on the individual's risk tolerance and their fund balance, as well as their investment mix outside super I totally agree with this statement and to err on the side of caution Caudron writes... anyway before you make any changes please speak to someone at Hostplus. Yes that's the plan, I've only just started taking a keen interest and I won't be making any rash decisionsWe have a show & tell coming up with Hostplus soon with an offer to book an appointment with a financial/retirement? planner which I'll definitely take upThanks for the responses everyone, It's all great learning and food for thought Old mate from the ABC News finally wrote a piece on superfunds and unlisted assets. At least give credit where its due lol. "Again, because many are not listed on public markets, their values are deemed to be stable. And that's where the logic begins to blur. For if the unit prices of listed property trusts collapse, shouldn't it make sense that there be a corresponding downturn in the value of unlisted property trusts? It is that lack of transparency that should have regulators concerned. For it also creates wealth transfers. Those taking money out of super now — at potentially artificially inflated values — are being subsidised by those putting money in." Fast Ethernet writes... This would seem to be OK, except that beneath it the PDS confirms that the "Range" for "Infrastructure" and "Private Equity" can each be as high as 10%, while the "Strategic Asset Allocation Benchmark" is 0%. So, if Hostplus has liquidity problems as a result of significant variations in unlisted assets, they can avoid having issues by temporarily shifting the risk of these unlisted assets to indexed balanced investors by exposing up to 20% of their fund in these unlisted assets? How exactly is this representative of an option that "does not invest in unlisted assets"? Hi Fast Ethernet, did you get a chance to email Hostplus about this? Seems like a valid concern for those in the indexed balanced fund. Caudron writes... I would take a keen interest but would not look at daily or weekly as too much noise will lead you to make changes, That's fine for you, but my view is that a weekly check is a minimum for the 'active management' role. Agreed though it is important to exercise self-control and not chop and change . However if a bad trend is emerging, it needs to seen without waiting weeks or more. As an alternate strategy, do absolutely nothing and leave the funds (in Balanced), as explained above. there is no good middle ground, as it leads to badly thought-out chopping and changing – my view. ausslav writes... did you get a chance to email Hostplus about this? Seems like a valid concern for those in the indexed balanced fund. No, I didn't. I asked them about when we might expect to be graced with FY2022 statements (mindful nothing has come since FY2021) and was told September 2022. In the meantime I moved out of indexed balanced to specific passive investments to avoid the risk for now. This isn't the end of it though. I've got more questions than answers about how Hostplus functions. I'm finding the PDS far too vague to trust. There's no disclosure as to which funds hold what asset allocations. Not good enough given how much money they hold and the trust they should be garnering for members IMO. very interesting article... Not the least of which is how 2 different superfunds value the same (potentially dodgy) company very differently.. let's be kind and go with $82 billion, that means 3% of Hostplus’ total pooled funds, are invested in one single company. An unlisted, relatively young, Australian based tech company, that's hard to value, that's hard to sell and that has a short track record. That's really, really, ballsy from Hostplus management. Rocket Man writes... very interesting article..."let's be kind and go with $82 billion, that means 3% of Hostplus’ total pooled funds," The linked AFR article says"Hostplus would have made at least 20 to 30 times its money originally invested in Canva in 2015, 2016 and 2017." So Hostplus may have started with 0.15% which has now grown 20 times to 3%. MidRange writes... So Hostplus may have started with 0.15% which has now grown 20 times to 3%. Which is how it claims to have made the high level of profits it announces... Some other companies have written down the value of Canva by almost 60%, so what is it really worth?, and how much profit has Hostplus really made?? (and can it even be liquidated? if/when required, or would it be a total writeoff) Canva investor slashes value of stake by 58.5pc US investment giant Franklin Templeton has again slashed the value of its stake in Australian tech darling Canva, with the value of its shareholding now down 58.5 per cent in less than six months. The absurdity that valuations of unlisted assets are some sort of precise science is debunked from that AFR article which demonstrates a variation in devaluations by different funds of between 58.5% and 10% for the same asset at the same time. Yet Hostplus seems to claim it was profitable in FY2022 despite almost all investments yielding negative results. The only explanation is unlisted assets. Hostplus is using the lack of candour in its unlisted assets to pull its results up by its bootstraps, grading itself as a winner, and patting itself on the back with no way for members to check what it is doing. This has me seriously questioning the bona fides of Hostplus, particularly in conjunction with an apparently perfectly timed decision to reduce statement reporting from 6 months to yearly. What a joke. Time to research alternative funds. Hostplus' unlisted asset valuations bring to mind the following scene from Wall Street: MidRange writes... So Hostplus may have started with 0.15% which has now grown 20 times to 3%. This may be correct, but with the complete lack of candour, how would we know? Fast Ethernet writes... Yet Hostplus seems to claim it was profitable in FY2022 despite almost all investments yielding negative results. The only explanation is unlisted assets. The advisemetoday article above puts it neatly in a nutshell According to SuperRatings, Hostplus' individual investment options returned the following in the 2021/22 financial year: let's remember Hostplus got a return of +1.57% for the year and of that total return, 7% of the money was in 'Other' and 32% was in 'Alternatives'. So, if we make the assumption that both 'Other' and 'Alternatives' both equally contributed to the 1 year return, then they delivered the following returns: (this isn't a weighted return, but for the ease of the workings) I've just done some catch-up reading on all this unlisted assets stuff (thanks to all for the contributions). I do understand it and, like many, I am also concerned that Hostplus is doing it (or even allowed to do it). And if I was in any of the balanced funds I would consider moving out. However I am in the new Australian Shares – Indexed (formerly IFM – Australian Shares) for 100% of my super funds. I chose 100% shares because that is what I understand best and am happy with the risk profile. I considered setting up an SMSF and buying VAS but I decided that Hostplus doing all the work was just that extra bit liberating for me. I'm getting lazier as I age. Lol. From my reading of the PDS it states that it invests in that specific asset class only. That is, only Australian shares. Am I right? My question is; am I safe from any possible repercussions of any negative revaluation of their unlisted assets? I believe I am but have I missed something? Cheers mickpk writes... My question is; am I safe from any possible repercussions of any negative revaluation of their unlisted assets? Yes, assets in an index-tracking fund are listed, which by definition means no unlisted assets. andrew99999 writes... Yes, assets in an index-tracking fund are listed, which by definition means no unlisted assets. Thanks. That's as I thought. Cheers Fast Ethernet writes... Hostplus is using the lack of candour in its unlisted assets to pull its results up by its bootstraps The risk of doing that^ is if members in that investment mix switch/cash out of the mix Hostplus would have to pay them out at an inflated unit price. I don't think Hostplus would do that willy-nilly. There's no consequences to Hostplus (c.f. The outgoing member) from overstating its unlisted property earnings. The bread is firmly buttered on overstating earnings. Fast Ethernet writes... There's no consequences to Hostplus (c.f. The outgoing member) from overstating its unlisted property earnings. There will be a day of reckoning, when the assets need to be sold/redeemed or re-valued. If the assets are on the books, at an overvalued price, when they are correctly booked, there will be a loss, so today's 20% out-performance, may well be tomorrows 20% under-performance. All they've done is move the date, and potentially given a "gift" to those who redeem now (and a hike in their performance numbers", and a penalty to those investing now at the higher prices, and a "kick in the guts" to those who stay with them, along with a drop in their performance numbers. The thing about that is that tomorrow is always a day away. Out of sight, out of mind. I moved out of any option that even contemplates unlisted assets last week and suspect time will show that those who stayed still will be burned. Seems Hostplus has written down the value of Canva by 36 per cent, 2 weeks ago, so after the June 30 results were announced. Blackbird reveals Canva's $14b plunge in value Hostplus chief investment officer Sam Sicilia says Hostplus has adopted the valuation prepared by Blackbird and this was reflected in daily unit prices two days after it was received. It is believed Hostplus had a $2.5 billion holding in Canva, which suggests its valuation has fallen by $900 million. Rocket Man writes... Hostplus has written down the value of Canva by 36 per cent, 2 weeks ago, so after the June 30 results were announced. How very (un)fortunate that Hostplus didn't make the decision on or before 30 June 2022 and have to disclose that to members. The AFR article states:Blackbird, which has raised $1.1 billion in venture funds since 2013, moved away from the valuation applied at the last funding round for its mature companies to a "mark-to-market" methodology assisted by a big four accounting firm.The Enron documentary thoroughly demonstrated why "mark-to-market" enabled Enron investors to get swindled. I can't believe this nonsense is still tolerated. Hostplus is damn convenient sitting just 2 weeks after the... publish results... Hostplus chief investment officer Sam Sicilia says Hostplus has adopted the valuation prepared by Blackbird and this was reflected in daily unit prices two days after it was received. Let me guess, Hostplus received it about 29 June 2022 and actioned it on 1 July 2022? How is it acceptable for Hostplus to not have updated the FY2022 results to accurately record the value of the holdings – mindful that AFR reports in that same article that Active Super is recording the carrying value as at FY2022 per the valuation? Rocket Man writes... Seems Hostplus has written down the value of Canva by 36 per cent, 2 weeks ago, so after the June 30 results were announced. How convenient The worst part of this — There are many advisers that want to steer people away from industry funds and into investment platforms where they decide what to invest in because with platforms, they can get their ongoing cut of the client's nest egg extracted by the platform while the client is out working, taking care of their family, playing golf, etc. The client is given a piece of paper to sign once every two years to allow it, and declared from signing a paper, they don't actually log in, make the transfer, get notified when it happens, or ever see how much those ongoing fees are costing them. This kind of disgraceful behaviour by HostPlus (and a few other industry funds) is helping those unscrupulous people with their marketing by saying "look how bad industry funds can be, let us help you find a better fund". * I am not saying all advisers are unscrupulous in this way, but overwhelmingly, while it is legal to do this, it will remain the way most of the industry works. Rocket Man writes... Which investment option do hostplus put these unlisted assets into? Many Hostplus investment options have unlisted assets. Balanced is the option that has been attracting media (and WP) attention. Else writes... Balanced is the option that has been attracting media (and WP) attention. So there is no real way to see the devaluation?, if it only made up 3% of the balanced fund, and ~30% of that was written down one day, the 1% variation would just be totally opaque with all the other volatility in the markets.. that big dip between 21/7 & 26/7 does look sus, though not 1% sus... interesting comparison with Australian Super's balanced fund for July Anyone else having trouble getting a benefit estimate? I keep getting a server errorAlso with the discussion above, I have funds in Balanced, is there anything to be concerned about specifically? Fast Ethernet writes... The thing about that is that tomorrow is always a day away. Out of sight, out of mind. I moved out of any option that even contemplates unlisted assets last week and suspect time will show that those who stayed still will be burned. What did you eventually move into? I remember that the Barefoot investor copped some flack for recommending Hostplus Index Balanced, and on his web site he no longer does on the grounds that it's no longer the cheapest: Unfortunately the comparison site he links to (YourSuper) has moved, and the version at the ATO site only lets you compare MySuper products, which doesn't appear to include any indexed options. I wonder if the alternatives (like Australian Super's indexed diversified) have the same unlisted asset risk. ausslav writes... Mate what did you eventually move into? Hostplus options:Australian Shares – IndexedDiversified Fixed InterestInternational Shares (Hedged) – IndexedInternational Shares – IndexedInternational Shares – Emerging Markets (a limited allocation – this one is actively managed – unfortunately Hostplus don't offer a passive option) I am however currently considering a move to something like Stake SMSF given: A) the lack of candour from Hostplus about how it deals in unlisted assets;B) Hostplus has no "retirement booster" option such that members are slugged with unnecessary deferred CGT when going to a pension; C) I'm likely to have a balance exceeding the transfer cap at retirement and Hostplus seems to have limitations requiring a sell down of those investments;D) Balance is starting to get to a point where lower fees of Hostplus are not outweighing the limitations. hmof writes... he no longer does on the grounds that it's no longer the cheapest: Would love to see which fund(s) are cheaper than Hostplus. I've certainly not found any. Fast Ethernet writes... Hostplus options:Australian Shares – IndexedDiversified Fixed InterestInternational Shares (Hedged) – IndexedInternational Shares – IndexedInternational Shares – Emerging Markets (a limited allocation – this one is actively managed – unfortunately Hostplus don't offer a passive option) Thanks for sharing. What percentage are those allocations, and are the overall fees cheaper than the Indexed Balanced option at 0.05%? To answer your question on cheaper superfunds, REST indexed fund is cheaper than Hostplus but it has a buy spread of about 0.1% and they use derivatives in its indexed fund with its own risks. ausslav writes... But but.....you fell for their misleading advertisement. It is not cheaper than Hostplus indexed balanced. Never was, but Ive had to correct at least 2 dozen whirlpoolers that fell for the same trap. On top of buy/sell spread it is more expy. I wonder how many more times I will waste my time and tell people the same thing over and over again. I will let you figure out why Rest is more expy. Hint, search properly when it comes to fees. ausslav writes... What percentage are those allocations, and are the overall fees cheaper than the Indexed Balanced option at 0.05%? They're not cheaper than 0.05% but I'm content with that pending a transfer to Stake SMSF. My current Hostplus allocation is about 0.115% blended. That comprises 35% AU, 50% International, 10% fixed interest, and 5% Emerging Markets. The emerging markets is the most expensive at 0.68%. Fast Ethernet writes... They're not cheaper than 0.05% but I'm content with that pending a transfer to Stake SMSF. My current Hostplus allocation is about 0.115% blended. That comprises 35% AU, 50% International, 10% fixed interest, and 5% Emerging Markets. The emerging markets is the most expensive at 0.68%. I see, thanks for sharing. How is the move into Hostplus? Seamless especially in getting the same insurance you had in your previous fund moved over to Hostplus? Has anyone lodged a notice of intent to claim form with Hostplus via email?The guidance on the Hostplus website suggests that we need to manually fill in the form and then mail it to them via post office for processing. How long is the turnaround time for Hostplus to provide confirmation of receipt of the form? tempo writes... How long is the turnaround time for Hostplus to provide confirmation of receipt of the form? When you login to your super check that they taxed you 15% on that money, this should be 2~4days after you mail out the NOI to them, that's your confirmation, try and do the NOI 3 weeks before your tax time just to be safe. tempo writes... Has anyone lodged a notice of intent to claim form with Hostplus via email? I'll have to ask my partner when she gets in, but I presumed she was doing it by email. Do you really have to do it via the Post Office. I don't with my super fund. I'm just checking the thread out as I was thinking of changing to Hostplus I too was looking at moving my super to Hostplus.The super fund I'm with merged with CBUS, and well..... Is the unlisted assets thing still a concern? The Hostplus Index Balanced has been performing poorly in the last year or so. Most of my employer & personal contribution in the last year has been eaten away by negative returns. Anyone else in the same boat? Any better funds out there? playbargain writes... The Hostplus Index Balanced has been performing poorly in the last year or so. Mainly due to 40% in International Shares which has taken a battering over the past 12 months. However, looking long term ie over a 10 year period, international shares is the single best performing sector. Any better funds out there? Define 'better'. What are your goals? High risk / high volatility for potentially higher returns, or are you after a much less volatile / lower risk asset class for lower but more stable returns? Look on the bright side, your contributions could be getting eaten awayby both higher fees and poor returns! playbargain writes... Hostplus Index Balanced has outperformed just about all other funds. playbargain writes... The Hostplus Index Balanced has been performing poorly in the last year or so. Most of my employer & personal contribution in the last year has been eaten away by negative returns. Anyone else in the same boat? Any better funds out there? Rick777 writes... Hostplus Balanced has outperformed just about all other funds. This has been discussed quite a lot over a range of forums and news sites in the last few weeks. The balanced (non-indexed) fund has a lot of unlisted assets, which the superfund puts a valuation on themselves, and by some magical valuation, did not fall in value while just about every listed asset on the planet fell in value as interest rates began rising aggressively (which has a direct effect on valuations). Index-tracking funds, on the other hand, are transparent as they provide a realistic appraisal based on current market conditions as set by the actual market of those buying and selling the underlying securities. I don't have a link to the articles, but there have been several. I switched from Index Balanced to Balanced about 2 years ago playbargain writes... The Hostplus Index Balanced has been performing poorly in the last year or so. Most of my employer & personal contribution in the last year has been eaten away by negative returns. Your monthly instalment has been able to buy units at cheaper prices during the downturn though, so once the markets rise again you should be in a better spot. Currently changing from Aus Super to Hostplus, the fee increase was the tipping point. andrew99999 writes... which the superfund puts a valuation on themselves, Doesn't that mean though if you switched to cash or switched out now you will win because they'll pay you the "rate" anyway? Not sure what you mean by "rate", but yes, switching out when it is valued higher than it really is helps you. Meanwhile, all the people who remained invested pay for it. Has anyone got a statement yet for end of June? Or have they changed to only doing one a year now to like some other funds. tready2008 writes... Has anyone got a statement yet for end of June? Or have they changed to only doing one a year now to like some other funds. They are doing annual statements ending 30 June. No statement for me yet – I checked with them earlier this week – "by the end of October". Else writes... "by the end of October" It's almost halfway through November and I've yet to receive mine. Is this the case for anyone else? CannonadeAU writes... It's almost halfway through November and I've yet to receive mine. Is this the case for anyone else? I received my notification on 8 November. I was looking at my hostplus account and checked on the Hostplus life choice for my age, it has suggested 100% "Life Stages Balanced" at 49yo. But I can't find any info on Life Stages Balanced... any information on this investment choice? currently on 20:30:50 on Balanced:Oz Shares:Share plus It's in their Member guide on Page 53 under section 5.28. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... I can't find any info on Life Stages Balanced... any information on this investment choice? currently on 20:30:50 on Balanced:Oz Shares:Share plus It's in their Member guide on Page 53 under section 5.28. Thanks for the link and page referencesso they just call it Hostplus life... Has anyone else got a statement yet? The Balanced option has been good over the last few years, only been hammered over the last year which I think is common issue for most investors. okitoki writes... But I can't find any info on Life Stages Balanced... any information on this investment choice? currently on 20:30:50 on Balanced:Oz Shares:Share plus It's in their Member guide on Page 53 under section 5.28. Thanks for the link and page referencesso they just call it Hostplus life... Finally sure that I was the same My wife was a Statewide customer , now part of Hostplus. When with Statewide she did not have insurance, however when the merger completed, insurance deductions started coming out. She rang them twice over several months about this, they explained that it was a known issue and would eventually be rectified. Finally in December she received a letter to say that she could opt out of the insurance and have the deductions returned, which she did.Today she logged in to see if the seven or so months of insurance deductions had been returned, only to find all record of them has disappeared. Previously, they were shown as a monthly deduction in her transactions list, now they have vanished! We were expecting to see all the previous deductions followed by a credit (and hopefully some sort of interest payment on them), but its all just disappeared into the Ether. As a result we cannot tell if this has been done correctly. Surely this isnt how they should have done it? Anyone else in the same boat? Unitised super funds work a bit differently from outside super funds. When you look at an investment option (e.g. the "balanced" option), it is considered one massive pool of funds of all those who are invested in it. Since a problem would occur if someone sold some of it and the capital gains tax liability was unfairly increased for others who are still in there, what happens in unitised super funds is that you are shown the after-tax value of your proportion of investments (even though the part that is provisioned for tax is still technically in there until some of it needs to be paid as tax, just not shown). And your units in your statement are what has been apportioned to you after tax, and they remove some units for what you pay for your insurance premiums, which, again, is just a number in their software, as it is one massive pool of funds for everyone in that investment option. My guess is that they simply removed what was deducted from you in their software, and nothing really changes in the pool of funds, other than maybe the value of the premiums being added back to the whole pool. Therefore, as your units re-appear, so do your previous units. In all looks very vague, and while I wish it were clearer, I wouldn't be too concerned with an industry fund (as opposed to a retail fund for profit). They still come under the scrutiny of ASIC/APRA, and I would imagine more so as HostPlus is such a massive superfund. Thanks, that makes sense.Still, it means we have to trust them, without it being easily verifiable. I came across this reddit page – And was trying to find out which index the Australian and international share track but couldn't find that info on the website. I couldn't find that in the pds or on the website. Nothing happens when I click on the "investment details" on the "Compare investment options" page. Generally there will be a page that show the asset allocation for each option, cant find that, not sure if i missed it. I am with Media Super which has amalgamated with Cbus Super. I am 63. Communication with Cbus has not been great and I am thinking of rolling over all of my Super to Hostplus as I will be retiring at the end of March and then opening a pension account. The amount is considerable ie 1 million. What is the best way to do this? Open a Hostplus Super account then roll over Cbus to Hostplus Super account? I assume there are no Tax liabilities. ie. What is the best/most efficient way of doing this ? Edd writes... What is the best way to do this? Open a Hostplus Super account then roll over Cbus to Hostplus Super account? Yes that's it ^.Alternatively you can call a Hostplus rep for help. On hearing the $1mil balance they'll welcome you with both arms and both legs. In fact iirc you can open a Hostplus account then ask Hostplus to do the rollover for you. Edd writes... I assume there are no Tax liabilities. Depends on whether there is a taxable component in the sum being rolled over. If there is, then it is automatically deducted by Cbus on exit. Hostplus is not sending account access code to my phone. Same with you? Mine worked ok. I just logged in. All okay now, but it required a few tries. We check accounts daily Tuesday-Saturday, and they have had intermittent issues with their servers over the last 2 weeks or so. Basically just come back in an hour's time. Good news about the 50%.Maybe they will add DHHF within our lifetime? BasikLife writes... And an additional really positive change IMO, to allow a maximum investment in some ETFs and LICs of 50% of total super/pension balance, up from the previous 20%. So now no need to use multiple to achieve your desired asset allocation.eg. VAS, VGS, VGAD, IOO, VEU. Firstly, congratulations on being in the penalty box after one useful post. Not sure how that works but you're in an elite group I'm sure. andrew99999 writes... Firstly, congratulations on being in the penalty box after one useful post. Not sure how that works but you're in an elite group I'm sure. Hi, I agree, Hostplus 50% change is good and I wasn't aware of it. Would be even better is there was greater choice of LIC's. Has anyone here held US/international ETFs in choiceplus? Just wondering if you get/see foreign witholding tax offsets for each dividend payment? The new 50% limit on some of these ETFs makes the offering more interesting to me. And fee reductions suggest the product has reached a sustainable level. ChoicePlus – does anyone know what happens if you have 20% in pooled options and the market moves and you end up with less than the 20% minimum in pooled options as a result? andrew99999 writes... ChoicePlus – does anyone know what happens if you have 20% in pooled options and the market moves and you end up with less than the 20% minimum in pooled options as a result? Nothing mentioned in the PDS about the 20% minimum but this is stated for the $2000 min balance: Maintaining an account balance in other Hostplus options.From time to time your other Hostplus investment options may drop below the minimum required amount of $2,000. If this occurs we will contact you to advise you of your options to raise these investments above the $2,000 threshold.Should no action be taken within 30 days we will consider taking actions to restore your other Hostplus investment options above the $2,000 threshold. If action is taken by Hostplus, we will apply the following rules in order:· If you have sufficient funds in your Choiceplus transaction Account, Hostplus will transfer the required cash into your other Hostplus investment options· If you do not have sufficient funds in your Choiceplus transaction Account, Hostplus will:– Sell from your highest market value share/ETF or LIC holdings to the required amount. You will be responsible for the brokerage fees and any Capital Gains Tax that may be due. The amount received will be dependent on the market price of the trade at the time it is placed. Hostplus has no responsibility for the price received when the trade is executed. – Redeem any term deposits in order of the earliest maturity date. The way I read this, it won't matter as long as it doesn't fall below the $2000 threshold, and in any case they will contact you about options to restore the balance. Yeah, that's what I read as, but wasn't sure. andrew99999 writes... ChoicePlus – does anyone know what happens if you have 20% in pooled options and the market moves and you end up with less than the 20% minimum in pooled options as a result? I expect you would be blocked from purchasing any more direct investments until your pooled options reach the 20% threshold. Hockey Monkey writes... I expect you would be blocked purchasing any more direct investments until your pooled options reach the 20% threshold. But that wouldn't work for accounts in pension phase, or any others not making further contributions. I'm about to print out and do the tedious annual notice of intent to claim a tax deduction form. Would be great if Hostplus and other funds could streamline the process... like having an online form. ATO could simplify the form too and get rid of the need for a signature. Jason000 writes... But that wouldn't work for accounts in pension phase, or any others not making further contributions. Why wouldn't it work? You would still be permitted to sell direct holdings. Hockey Monkey writes... Why wouldn't it work? Because there are no new funds to boost the percentage of pooled funds. You would still be permitted to sell direct holdings. Yes but if a Choiceplus account has grown more quickly than the pooled funds the member might be reluctant to voluntarily change their investment mix. Been lurking in SMSF for a while, but these latest changes make Choiceplus that little bit more tempting. Disadvantage of SMSF being it's slightly more complicated than set and forget if something happens to me and missus has to take it over down the track. This would be fairly easy to do a 50:30:20 VGS:VGAD:Aus Shares Indexed or 40:40:20 VTS/VEU:Indexed Balanced and get 80% of the benefit of SMSF with lower admin work. Biggest disadvantage seems to be locking in to Hostplus (or Aus Super) and not being able to take the shares out SMSF style if fees rapidly changed without incurring CGT. Jason000 writes... Yes but if a Choiceplus account has grown more quickly than the pooled funds the member might be reluctant to voluntarily change their investment mix. I am not a financial advisor & I haven't confirmed any of the below with HostPlus myself, but again reading the PDS If you are a Pension member you may need to maintain more than $2,000 in your other Hostplus investment options in order to pay your minimum annual pension required by legislation and is called the income payment reserve (IPR). The IPR is calculated annually and is displayed on Choiceplus. Hostplus must pay at least the minimum annual pension payment amount applicable to your pension by June 30 of each year. Should your other investment options fall below the minimum amount to meet this payment we will be required to transfer cash from your Choiceplus account. This may require us to sell some of your shares or ETFs and LICs or break a term deposit. We will make every endeavour to contact you prior to selling any of your holdings in Choiceplus. The way I read this you will only be forced to sell within Choiceplus if your pooled options fall below $2000. Otherwise your pension will continue to be drawn-down from the pooled options even if it is below 20% of total balance. I believe the percentage limits prevent you to further buy into the choiceplus options (eg you can't buy an etf that based on performance has grown to 51% of your total balance, or you can't move anything into choiceplus if your pooled base is below 20%), but apart from that there shouldn't be any forced sales unless the pooled option falls below $2000 (or choiceplus transaction account falls under $200). You might want to call Hostplus if you need to 100% officially confirm this. Prowler4 writes... The way I read this you will only be forced to sell within Choiceplus if your pooled options fall below $2000. Yes ok, re-reading Hokey Monkeys comments it seems he's saying the same thing. I misinterpreted some comments earlier as suggesting how Hostplus might force a rebalance but yes I would agree that it would be unlikely and more a case of the passive actions stated. As a sidenote I've had individual Choiceplus holdings of more than 20% (not ETF's) and was never contacted or forced to rebalance. That also lends support to the theory. One other thing I believe is worth mentioning, there is no requirement to keep 20% in Hostplus pooled options. There is only the requirement to keep a minimum balance of $2000 pooled. The restriction is within ChoicePlus itself, direct investments in Shares – ETF's –LIC's cannot exceed 80% of total super balance. You could transfer your full – minus $2000 – balance into ChoicePlus, invest 80% into a combination of Shares/ETFs/LICs, & invest the rest into a combination of Term Deposits &/or leave a portion in the transaction account (currently earning annual interest of 4.6%) Prowler4 writes... You could transfer your full – minus $2000 – balance into ChoicePlus, invest 80% into a combination of Shares/ETFs/LICs, & invest the rest into a combination of Term Deposits &/or leave a portion in the transaction account (currently earning annual interest of 4.6%) That's a good point. If however you want to be 100% equities, I'd probably choose the Australian Shares – Indexed option for the 20% and leave the higher growth international shares in ETFs where you get the benefit of avoiding provisioned capital gains found in pooled funds Interesting thread, is there a concensus on the balance level where ChoicePlus becomes the overall better option vs the pooled options? This excellent article by a member here, states that its $300k but that seems surprisingly low. My wife is near 50yrs of age and has about 570k in her Hostplus account invested within a mix of their indexed pooled funds. Andrew's excellent article seems to state that CGT benefits when she switched over to a Pension account, and this is something I've never considered. Thank you in advance for any feedback :-) Nick the Knife writes... Interesting thread, is there a concensus on the balance level where ChoicePlus becomes the overall better option vs the pooled options? The tipping point is where the tax savings from avoiding provisioning in pooled funds outweighs the additional cost of ChoicePlus ($180 per member plus brokerage). If say provisioning is a 0.5% drag on growth and becomes provisioned at 10% long term CGT tax rate and you buy 12 times per year @ $13, then ($180 * 12 * $13) / (0.5% * 10%) = $672,000 @Hockey Monkey – much thanks for your reply and always excellent info. :-) Ah well thats quite a bit above the ~$300k crossover point that Andrew had suggested in his excellent article: Is there a difference in the methodologies you've used in reaching your respective figures or am I missing something (only stumbled on this feature of accumulation vs pension accounts today as had previously ASSUMED that just getting the lowest possible fees was the main focus – other than performance that is). thank you again. Nick the Knife writes... Is there a difference in the methodologies you've used in reaching your respective figures Andrew's article just set 0.35% as the threshold cost including admin and investment fees. Anything from 300-600k is probably fine Hi, I'm currently 100% in the Hostplus Australian Shares – Indexed option, was in the precursor to that investment, IFM Australian Shares. At the time I chose that because of the 20% limits on ETFs in the Choiceplus option. I didn't really consider changing it but now there is a higher, limit of 50% for some ETFs and I'm wondering is it really worthwhile changing to Choiceplus for the tax provisioning pooled funds 'issue'. Assume a seven figure balance, and close to the TBC, by the time I draw on it as a pension in the not too distant future. Also assume I don't want an SMSF thus I am happy for Hostplus to manage it all for me. If I went the Hostplus Choiceplus route: VAS 50% IOZ 30% Australian Shares – Indexed 20% and the $2000 in 'whatever'. Am I understanding the new limits and rules correctly? Is it, or will it be, worth it? I guess the only concern is what if Hostplus changes the permitted investment limits back to a lower level like they were until recently. One would hope they would grandfather existing accounts but nothing is certain. Or can we move forward with some confidence. Hockey Monkey writes... If I could I would have 100% VAS (personal preference) but I can be satisfied with the above 50/30/20 mix if it's permitted and is financially worthwhile vs remaining 100% in the Australian Shares – Indexed option. Thanks in advance Hockey Monkey writes... ...which is the ETF Andrew's article just set 0.35% as the threshold cost including admin and investment fees. Anything from 300-600k is probably fine Even a lower balance would work in my opinion. Andrew's calculations (for simplicity I believe) assume a portfolio of ETFs with an average MER of 0.20% If someone however chose a combination of:VTS (0.03%) + VEU (0.08%) + IOZ (0.05%), the average MER would be considerably closer to 0.05% They would only have to consider the $168 annual access fee & the brokerage as an additional cost in comparison to the cheap indexed options. In my calcs total brokerage can be as little as $27.5 per year (Considering $27500 total annual contributions @ 0.10% – in 1or 2 buys per year) Prowler4 writes... In my calcs total brokerage can be as little as $27.5 per year (Considering $27500 total annual contributions @ 0.10% – in 1or 2 buys per year) Just got to factor in the initial brokerage to buy them. ie on a $1m balance, that would be $1k in brokerage up front. In the long term, it would work out cheaper unless you're someone that likes to tinker and change their allocations frequently. Prowler4 writes... If somebody however chose a combination of:VTS (0.03%) + VEU (0.08%) + IOZ (0.05%) Keep in mind the Hostplus indexed options are also low costAustralian Shares Indexed – 0.09% So would you have a similar MER to the IOZ/VTS/VEU option. Assuming they are roughly the same cost it then comes down to the $168 + brokerage vs the tax inefficiency of pooled funds $168 + 2*13 trades per year / (0.5% * 10%) = $388k tipping point. Still in the range of $300-600k. Hockey Monkey writes... If say provisioning is a 0.5% drag on growth and becomes provisioned at 10% long term CGT tax rate I'm curious how you decided on the 0.5%. I didn't put a number because it depends on several factors. I tend to use projections with assumptions around 5% growth and 3% income. The amount of capital gains depends on the amount of time it will be compounding starting balance contributions This makes it difficult/impossible to give any kind of average. But you could give some sort of formula to calculate the CGT liability for an individual using those 3 settings and plug it into Excel. andrew99999 writes... I'm curious how you decided on the 0.5%. I didn't put a number because it depends on several factors. I tend to use projections with assumptions around 5% growth and 3% income. The amount of capital gains depends on Good question. I may have confused two topics here.1) The empirical evidence on the difference in distributions between pooled and non pooled funds which came to about 0.5% for the Vanguard funds I looked at. ie the internal capital gains.2) Provisioning in super for all growth, not just internal capital gains. Using a 5% growth assumption with 10% tax, you'd have to set it to $168 + $13*2 two trades per year / 0.5% = $38.8k tipping point. Still in the range of $300-600k. Hockey Monkey writes... the tax efficiency would then be 0.5%? I think that makes it even lower then, probably too low. Some of the portfolio would be Australian equities so 5% growth is probably too high. Even at 3% tipping point is $65k balance. Need to think about the model some more. mickpk writes... If I went the Hostplus Choiceplus route:VAS 50%IOZ 30% Australian Shares – Indexed 20%and the $2000 in 'whatever'.Am I understanding the new limits and rules correctly? Is it, or will it be, worth it? Yes this split is possible with the current limits & rules. If it is worth it or not is for you to decide, nobody on whirlpool can give you advice – just their 2c. I guess the only concern is what if Hostplus changes the permitted investment limits back to a lower level like they were until recently. One would hope they would grandfather existing accounts but nothing is certain. Or can we move forward with some confidence. HostPlus only have trading restrictions in place when the upper limits are exceeded (can't buy more if your total Shares/ETF exceeds 80% – or a single investment passed the 20% (or 50% limit). They would only force a sell-off if the Choiceplus transaction account falls below $200 or pooled options fall below $2000. Obviously nobody can predict the future, but with the current precedent all balances are allowed to grow as long as they don't fall below the aforementioned $200 & $2000 thresholds. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... Just got to factor in the initial brokerage to buy them. ie on a $1m balance, that would be $1k in brokerage up front. In the long term, it would work out cheaper unless you're someone that likes to tinker and change their allocations frequently. I agree, I was just trying to point out that ChoicePlus can be considered even for lower balances – obviously not as cheap as pooled options – but the additional costs can be calculated & minimised. Obviously initial costs & large non-concessional contributions are not counted, limiting to 1-2 buys per year would introduce balancing risks, but the earlier somebody gets in – the more the tax benefit of unrealised capital gains. Prowler4 writes... HostPlus only have trading restrictions in place when the upper limits are exceeded (can't buy more if your total Shares/ETF exceeds 80% – or a single investment passed the 20% or 50% limit).They would only force a sell-off if the Choiceplus transaction account falls below $200 or pooled options fall below $2000. Thanks for that info and opinion. That's good to know because I was wondering what may be the consequences of one ETF or the other going slightly over the permitted limit. My strategy will be a 'set and forget', though with added annual contributions as I'm moving all my investment funds into super as quickly as is allowable via the permitted contribution limits. Cheers Thank you. This thread really is a goldmine of info pertaining to the 'pooled funds vs direct investment options' which seems to be a massively underrated issue by Andrew in his article. It is a shame that this info is hidden away in here where many folks who aren't Hostplus members (coming up on having been with HP for 20yrs myself). I note that Andrew's terrific article states,"all those embedded capital gains don't need to ever be paid – provided you don't need to sell when converting to pension phase." So if I'm understanding this correct – lets say I've a considerable holding of VEU and VTS – which both in the remainder of time until I meet the conditions of moving into the pension phase perform well and double in size (100% growth). So I move my holdings of these into the pension phase and as these are historically low distribution/dividend paying ETFs I either sell these down to withdraw part of that capital – is the full historical capital gains accrued by VEU/VTS payable then? Full disclosure in advance – I do need to read up a tad more on the conversion to pension phase rules – it's something I've looked at as being 'way off' as an still largely oblivious to – but can see that planning even 15yrs out would be prudent. :-) Whole Choiceplus is a terrific idea to take advantage of this benefit – it does seem (and I say this as someone who has never used it and only read the info HP has on it's site & rules) somewhat clunky and fee heavy, also in on works for 4/5 of your balance – giving no benefit to the other 20% that they force you to keep in pooled funds as low as the MER on those may be. Though I suppose strategically you could use that 20% for defensive capital stable assets where you'd expect minimal CG to be generated but taking 1/5 of your assets into this seems a non-starter for younger investors even myself 17yrs from minimum preservation age this seems a tad conservative & somewhat sabotaging. So this makes me think that a basic SMSF (e.g via Stake) which is a tad more fee heavy, but seems infinitely more user friendly. Obviously differs by the relative balance you have (SMSF having the bonus of having multiple members at no extra costs as well – as my wife and I could combine our balances and likely incur less fees than if we both were in Choiceplus – approx combined balances of $750k). Not to digress but an SMSF would also offer other benefits, such as being able to consider putting some non-concessional contributions, which are currently in stocks in our individual names and may be better with a long time view in SMSF. It also worries me that if one takes the Choiceplus path instead of a basic SMSF (Stake does seem incredibly simple and well priced too, already use them as my broker and very impressed) – you're essentially STUCK in Choiceplus if they change the fees, rules to even more PITA levels. They already clearly know they have a captive market with brokerage commissions of $13 or 0.1%, which are near top of market, when with their buying power they should if anything have towards the bottom (a small dollar point I concede but indicative of their mentality IMHO) – as if you decided to leave them and go to another direct super provider or a SMSF – you've got to cash out (as I don't think many allow 'in-specie' transfers) and you've copped a big CG event. Given that the tax advantage that Direct vs Pooled have – why are funds that offer them e.g HP, not promoting this benefit at all to a level commensurate with their benefit for members or prospective new members? Sorry in advance if these questions stink, I'm a little ASPY and am having issues getting my head around this issue at present. :-) Sorry, can I clarify something about the pooled funds CGT issue. Is it only a relevant factor during the accumulation phase? That is, once you convert to a pension then for the remaining period (eg potentiall 25 years or more) you are receiving the full benefit of any fund performance and no provisioning is impacting on it? Cheers mickpk writes... Sorry, can I clarify something about the pooled funds CGT issue. Is it only a relevant factor during the accumulation phase? That is, once you convert to a pension then for the remaining period (eg potentiall 25 years or more) you are receiving the full benefit of any fund performance and no provisioning is impacting on it? Correct as tax is 0% during the pension phase. As you can see this by comparing returns of accumulation and pension funds for the same assets. The pension is often ~1% higher return. Nick the Knife writes... So if I'm understanding this correct – lets say I've a considerable holding of VEU and VTS – which both in the remainder of time until I meet the conditions of moving into the pension phase perform well and double in size (100% growth). So I move my holdings of these into the pension phase and as these are historically low distribution/dividend paying ETFs I either sell these down to withdraw part of that capital – is the full historical capital gains accrued by VEU/VTS payable then? CGT is 0% in the pension phase so once converted to a pension you can sell assets without paying any capital gains tax including on historical gains while in accumulation. So this makes me think that a basic SMSF (e.g via Stake) which is a tad more fee heavy, but seems infinitely more user friendly. Obviously differs by the relative balance you have (SMSF having the bonus of having multiple members at no extra costs as well – as my wife and I could combine our balances and likely incur less fees than if we both were in Choiceplus – approx combined balances of $750k). Setting up an SMSF carries its own responsibilities and risks including no government financial assistance in the case of fraud or theft. Hockey Monkey writes... CGT is 0% in the pension phase so once converted to a pension you can sell assets without paying any capital gains tax including on historical gains while in accumulation. Ah – ok that does make an epic difference then. As my concern was that the asset allocation one might have in the lead up to the 'pension phase' might be very different to what one would want once in the pension phase and seeking capital stability rather than growth. But if thats the case, then one could adjust to their personal preferences from growth assets that have largely served their purpose and not incur CGT. So thats excellent to know – much thanks. Setting up an SMSF carries its own responsibilities and risks including no government financial assistance in the case of fraud or theft. enough that you point this out – thank you for doing so – and yes, SMSFs would come with their own kettle of pro's and con's, which I won't sully this discussion with here. But I will have to look into the matter as it would seem this may well be a better fit for my wife and I given our balances, financial health outside of super and estimated time till accessing super. Thank you again for your help to myself and others on here. Nick the Knife writes... ...somewhat clunky and fee heavy... I have to disagree on this, Choice Plus interface & features are quite fine for the purpose they serve, & fees are more than reasonable compared to any SMSF or even most retail APRA funds that don't even give the option for direct investments... ...giving no benefit to the other 20% that they force you to keep in pooled funds as low as the MER on those may be... Somebody may see this as a burden, I see this as a feature.I personally prefer to have access to cheap pooled funds even with the 80% restriction to direct investments, rather than not having that option available. It allows me to keep 20% of my balance flexible to switch between term deposits – cash – pooled funds, something I would be reluctant to do if I was 100% in investments that would trigger a direct CGT event. So this makes me think that a basic SMSF (e.g via Stake) which is a tad more fee heavy, but seems infinitely more user friendly... With an SMSF you have to do that on your own or pay an accountant extra to do it for you (which in my views is not user friendly at all at least in comparison to ChoicePlus) – HostPlus is cheaper to use & has all the compliance work – w8ben forms included in the price. ...you're essentially STUCK in Choiceplus if they change the fees, rules to even more PITA levels... You'd be stuck in Stake if they introduced exorbitant broker transfer fees as well.No indication it will ever happen, but there is no indication HostPlus will hike their fees either. On the contrary HostPlus just reduced ChoicePlus fees considerably not long ago, and have a very long track record of being well priced compared to competition with similar offerings. I just need to reiterate, this is only my personal opinion & not to be perceived as financial advice. I have to agree with all your points Prowler4 – I looked at the SMSF options and even before the recent relaxing of the upper limit for investing in a single security of 20% to a much more favourable 50%, it was the best option for me (given my personal circumstances of course). Prowler4 writes... I have to disagree on this, Choice Plus interface & features are quite fine for the purpose they serve, & fees are more than reasonable compared to any SMSF or even most retail APRA funds that don't even give the option for direct investments. I've never used the interface so completely defer to yourself on this, my thoughts were largely based on the feedback of Andrew in his article which touched on CP and did reference it's limitations – in reading the PDS the restrictions and limitations when compared to any broker interface sounded subpar, that said if one compares instead to SF direct invest options I don't doubt it's towards the top so no argument from me. Little things like not having A200 on their approved ETF list is annoying (yes, I know you can sub IOZ but seems silly choice by them considering the thematic crap they allow). Somebody may see this as a burden, I see this as a feature.I personally prefer to have access to cheap pooled funds even with the 80% restriction to direct investments, rather than not having that option available. It allows me to keep 20% of my balance flexible to switch between term deposits – cash – pooled funds, something I would be reluctant to do if I was 100% in investments that would trigger a direct CGT event.Respect your opinion, but to me if one's moving to 'direct investments' rather than pool, for the total avoidance of end CGT billing when your account moves from accumulation to pension phase – as referenced by Andrew's article – which really seems to be the primary 'super power' of direct investment super options, why would one want to only go 4/5 of the way? The flexibility you reference as a feature still having 20% in 'pooled funds' is still going to generate CGT events when you utilise this flexibility, its just that as Andrew points out you don't see the true cost of this as by their very nature pooled funds are opaque and provision your gains in advance for possible CGT events. In doing so I can unfortunately testify that it encourages 'bad' behaviour of moving investments around without really seeing the impact of this. HostPlus is cheaper to use & has all the compliance work – w8ben forms included in the price.With an SMSF you have to do that on your own or pay an accountant extra to do it for you (which in my views is not user friendly at all at least in comparison to ChoicePlus) CP being 'cheaper' depends on your balance, when you can combine your partners super with yours in a SMSF this is a big assistance vs both of you being on CP, halves the account administration as well. W8BEN forms are only needed if you're buying US domiciled and are 5mins work at most and often automated by brokers now but done with zero cost regardless. My understanding is that while traditionally one did have to utilise several costly 3rd parties to assist with compliance etc but Stake and many other all-in-one providers will do this for you for a flat fee, which stacks up reasonably well when scaled for a decent account balance via CP, especially when you consider spouses can share etc at no extra costs. You'd be stuck in Stake if they introduced exorbitant broker transfer fees as well.No indication it will ever happen, but there is no indication HostPlus will hike their fees either.No this is incorrect, as you could transfer your SMSF administrator to another one without incurring any CGT event – which wouldn't be the case with CP as you'd have to sell these off through HP and then move the cash balance to another Super fund. In the example I gave Stake's SMSF (as I understand it) would be no different in moving away from than a normal change in brokers. All this said I do think CP is if not the market leader very close to it in SUper fund prover direct investment options, I'm not at all disparaging HP, as I said I've been with them for 19yrs, but i do think with the new info that was furnished by Andrew and Hockey Monkey it makes too much sense to consider more efficient options, atleast for my wife and I but I'd encourage younger members to use CP until they can justify the slightly higher admin costs of one of the new generation SMSF providers. :-) Yeah CP has limitations, and for higher balances (combined with partner, makes this a little easier), full control of an SMSF seems nice. However, it may take a long time to get to that point where the balance is enough for a super fund (typically 6 times the cost of CP), so CP might be a good-enough option for those. It sure would be nice if CP fixed up a couple of issues:1. In accumulation accounts to allow much more than 80% since there is no need for maximum amounts available to pay out minimum pension withdrawals2. Ability to transfer only up to the TBC to a pension as an in-specie transfer without selling anything above that before doing so (this is a major issue, too) Offering all ASX-listed assets (in particular, unrestricted ETFs and LICs) would be nice too, but with the above, I think that would make the biggest difference. And until then, for larger balances, SMSF provides key advantages (depending on your balance, which has to be significantly higher than CP, which is already probably around a couple hundred thousand). andrew99999 writes... Yeah CP has limitations, and for higher balances (combined with partner, makes this a little easier), full control of an SMSF seems nice. However, it may take a long time to get to that point where the balance is enough for a super fund (typically 6 times the cost of CP), so CP might be a good-enough option for those As always, you're very correct on this – and I do wish I'd taken up CP when it was first offered many years ago. A quick run of the numbers in a very simple way shows for my wife & I ($730k combined balance) – both having CP accounts would run at 2*(78+168) + 0.0165% trustee fee on balance – so around $600-650 in fees combined. But the 1st yr in CP you'd also need to allocate the 0.1% commission for brokerage on the 80% of your balance you presumably invest. So thats another $584. Meaning the rough cost (assuming the investment MERs are pretty much a wash as you're going into the same stocks regardless of platform) would be for the 1st year, very much the same to the ~$1300 total cost for an SMSF. For the 2nd year I'd imagine the 2 x CP might be marginally cheaper – but from there out you'd expect the SMSF to have a lower cost. Which is nice but only a small part of the main benefit, which as Andrew mentioned again via the SMSF you can (if done properly) delay and ultimately avoid ALL CGT on 100% of your SMSF balance when moved to pension phase, for CP it's going to be (under the present rules) only available on up to 80% of your balance – which is potentially on a $1m+ balance that many higher wage earners these days will have – a pretty big real $ difference when the end payout is made. Just curious @Andrew99999 – what is your personal thought on why in the PDS for CP, and presumably other member direct super options – do you not feel they give greater emphasis to the ability of direct investments to avoid CGT being applied when transitioned to the pension phase? As it is mentioned in them, there's a very non-descript explanation of this in the CP PDS..but you'd expect it would be a standout feature with an example of a 100% pooled funds account vs the same balance CP account etc. Do you feel they're wary of drawing too many folks away from their pooled funds or feel that it might be too far in the future for members to worry about? Seems an incredibly snoozed on aspect that you and HK should be praised for flagging. My original theory was that it may be trying to keep money in their pooled options. HockeyMonkey's theory was that it could be trying to avoid forced selling down of your directly held investments for things like insurance premiums, admin fees, and minimum pension withdrawals, where it is easier for them to draw it from either cash or from their pooled investment options. I am curious what the actual reason is, though. @andrew99999Thank you for your reply – wow it's telling when persons as financially savvy as HK and yourself are unsure as to the rationales behind the SFs keeping this pretty major matter to themselves. Also seems somewhat surprising that ASIC not only hasn't put a rat up them to be more transparent about it but on the contrary seems to have indicated they're adhereing to 'best practice' in their current approach. I am sure you are aware of this article – though it may benefit others – it dovetails nicely with your excellent summation of the 'pooled funds' issue – as due to ASICs cracking down on anything it deems as financial advice, the author had to remove it – but one can read it from below: //lifelongshuffle.com/2020/12/05/not-so-super-retirement-savings-part-4/ My thoughts stemming from it are: 1) Has anyone asked HP why they handle their tax provisioning from pooled funds in this manner, specifically when it comes to members moving from accumulation to preservation/pension phase? i.e why do they not do anything like QSuper who though opaquely seems to 'TRY' and calculate how much provisioned CGT they can(should?) put back onto their members balance. 2) Which other funds in the marketplace are making any effort to try and return this provisioned tax back to their members who hit preservation phase? QSuper and SunSuper are two I'm aware of. 3) As posed in that article and also in the Reddit thread Andrew linked in his article, folks ask – what happens to this incredibly large amount of money that the ATO presumably doesn't end up collecting? We seem to know its definitely not going back to the members who's accounts it was taken from – I assume we have been able to confirm on someone's statement who moved from accumulation to pension phase (as I assume a statement is issued) that they don't 'quietly' pop this back onto the balance and are just being low key about it? And do we know the ATO isn't collecting the funds, rightfully – but the SFs accounting practices just suck for members – so they are happy to let this ballsup continue as long as they get their 10%. As otherwise it seems most likely it's staying WITH the SFs, provisioned for and through the magic of accounting able to disappear into the ether. To me it's quite telling that something dodgy is going on if Sunsuper(now called Australian Retirement Trust) has a limit on their 'retirement bonus' (currently $5100) – as to me it'd be a zero or no limit situation if they're administrating it 'fairly' e.g returning all unrealised provisioned CGT deductions back in FULL rather than an arbitrary figure which does seem laughably low given likely end balances come reaching preservation phase. This is what they write in their explanation of this 'feature': How is Australian Retirement Trust paying for the retirement bonus? When Australian Retirement Trust members activate an eligible Retirement income account, there is a reduction in tax payable by the fund. The Retirement Bonus will be funded from this tax saving This does seem a valid and huge question and do we know what the real answer is? 4) And just a statement – it's pretty disgusting when you consider the scale of this how accepting ASIC and we are off the incredibly opaque way these SFs are allowed to operate with near impunity with folks savings. If this were a mortgage product or CC, we'd be up in arms over it as being beyond the pale as they need to show were every cent of the customers money is going but this is the complete opposite. Just so I'm completely clear (as it's as the author says, a dense subject) the inefficiency of pooled super funds is their tax drag (capital gains are 'provisioned' out of your balance before they are 'realised' thus impeding this portion of your balance from possible future capital gains). And when the entire balance of 'provisioned' capital gains which the member never 'realised' is lost forever when they move from accumulation to preservation/pension phase – presumably due to the trust structure and inefficient accounting practices of the SF (perhaps they internally require one's pooled assets to be sold, before they can begin to account for the funds in the pension phase, which would seem to be a THEIR problem – not the members – but the member cops the massive loss from it!) I assume I have basically gotten those correct? I just don't want to spout nonsense to friends on the matter. Ultimately there seem to be two main approaches to what happens to provisioned taxes when converting to a pension phase1) Return to the member via a balance booster. This is generally partial / capped2) Boost the returns for all members in accumulation Rather than the funds going into the ether, the issue is more about transparency. There doesn't appear to be some massive conspiracy here. An investor that is in a fund without a balance booster will have benefited from boosted returns throughout their accumulation when other members converted to pension. If your fund uses balance boosters then you would have missed out on that bonus through accumulation. The worst case might be moving out of a balance boosted fund to another fund late in accumulation. In this case you would miss out on both ways to boost returns. It is a dense subject that I don't claim to be an expert in, but there is a guide published by ASIC and APRA Unit pricing Guide to good practice Hockey Monkey writes... Ultimately there seem to be two main approaches to what happens to provisioned taxes when converting to a pension phase1) Return to the member via a balance booster. This is generally partial / capped2) Boost the returns for all members in accumulation From the conversations on the matter I've seen , these might be true – but they also might not – as it doesn't seem to be even mentioned in atleast HP's PDS and I doubt it is in other funds PDS as well. Does again make me wonder has anyone asked HP or other SFs to fully explain their handling of provisioned taxes in detail as it applies to member accounts? Rather than the funds going into the ether, the issue is more about transparency. There doesn't appear to be some massive conspiracy here.Perhaps not a massive conspiracy, but it'd hardly be the first industry where widespread and little known accounting practices saw Joe Public unaware of the true cost of the financial services he was receiving – we're spoilt for choice with examples just in our recent domestic history. If nothing else the fact is its opaque and I have to think this is deliberately done – which is if nothing else terrible business practice in 2023. It is a dense subject that I don't claim to be an expert in, but there is a guide published by ASIC and APRAUnit pricing Guide to good practice Yikes, if you or Andrew say such things – imagine for mere financial knowledge weaklings like myself the realities. I did have a very quick look at the 100+ page document and from just a quick read it appeared that SFs are often doing things completely differently on an accounting front and ASIC had concerns about tax area being a complex and easily screwed up area. Dunno – the lack of clarity on this whole area is quite frankly alarming – as surely a PDS (like HP's) which is massive (125pages plus) and though rarely read by members is where such matters should be explained fully – but that does not appear to be the case which begs the question, why? As it would seem fair and best practice for them to do so. Hockey Monkey writes... $168 + 2*13 trades per year / (0.5% * 10%) = $388k tipping point. Still in the range of $300-600k. Presumably most people have more than 2 trades per year eg if they are paid fortnightly and super is paid at the same time. Plus if you invest in 2 or 3 ETFs. Or is the intent that your super is paid into the transaction account and you then allocate it into your investments only a few times a year (assuming you remember/dont play around with trying to time the market)? If you do 6 purchases a year of 2 ETFs (12 trades)- $168 + 12*13 / 0.5% * 10% = $648k monthly invest (24 trades) = $960,000 fortnightly (52 trades a year) = $1,688,000 Or am I missing something? FWIW I called HP, who hung up on me after 25mins of waiting when they finally took my call from the queue – so did undaunted I called again. Spoke with a nice chap, comms was a tad tricky as he had a very thick foreign accent (not sure if HP's call centre is domestic based or not?) – regardless explained my query to him – essentially asking for clarification as to their methodology for accounting for unrealised capital gains for members within their pooled funds and an explanation of how this is handled when the member transitions from accumulation to preservation phase. I did not expect an answer and he bumbled around for a while telling me about MERs and capital gains with the funds when they move their asset allocations around – but could not give me info pertaining to my question. He said that he had a degree in Financial Planning and had completed a Masters level but that this query was somewhat enlightening to him as well – but then oddly went on to say rather apologetically that he hoped I understood that there were limitations on what he could divulge and that to get more info I'd have to email asking their Accounting team to explain this. I don't want to read into this too much – but he really got very odd about it – like he very much knew exactly the answer but it was something he wasn't authorised to discuss. Which I considered somewhat odd as it's neither private info nor proprietary advantage etc – and I fail to see why such things shouldn't be made very clear to clients if not in their PDS then certainly upon request. dtc writes... Presumably most people have more than 2 trades per year eg if they are paid fortnightly and super is paid at the same time. Plus if you invest in 2 or 3 ETFs. Or is the intent that your super is paid into the transaction account and you then allocate it into your investments only a few times a year (assuming you remember/dont play around with trying to time the market)? If you do 6 purchases a year of 2 ETFs (12 trades)- $168 + 12*13 / 0.5% * 10% = $648k monthly invest (24 trades) = $960,000 fortnightly (52 trades a year) = $1,688,000 Or am I missing something? The way it works would be something like: Employer contributions always go to pooled funds, regardless if interval is weekly-fortnightly-monthy-quarterly. User leaves them in pooled until he has min $13000 available to invest (eg balance of 20% + $13000+ available in pooled funds), this should happen roughly every 6 months. User would use the $13000+ available balance to make a single buy of an ETF paying brokerage at 0.1%. Rinse & repeat with another ETF when you have another $13000+ available to invest (roughly in 6 months). dtc writes... If you do 6 purchases a year of 2 ETFs (12 trades)- $168 + 12*13 / 0.5% * 10% = $648k monthly invest (24 trades) = $960,000 fortnightly (52 trades a year) = $1,688,000 Or am I missing something? I think my math was wrong there. The denominator is more like 0.5% eg 5% growth * 10% CGT so a factor of 10 less for the above amounts if the MER of both pooled and non pooled options are the same. Prowler4 writes... User leaves them in pooled until he has min $13000 available to invest (eg balance of 20% + $13000+ available in pooled funds), this should happen roughly every 6 months. User would use the $13000+ available balance to make a single buy of an ETF paying brokerage at 0.1%. Rinse & repeat with another ETF when you have another $13000+ available to invest (roughly in 6 months). This calculator might be a good way to model egMonthly income frequency$2291 per month (27500 per year)0.5% interest on savings5% expected return$13 Brokerage Suggests Investing $4583 every 2 months, so 6 trades per year. Probably would be 5 given 20% is in pooled options. Prowler4 writes... The way it works would be something like: Hockey Monkey writes... Suggests Investing $4583 every 2 months, so 6 trades per year. Probably would be 5 given 20% is in pooled options. Thanks. Although if you were splitting the trades into (say) IOZ/VTS/VEU, then one of those every 6 months. Unless you werent equally weighted...but thats getting too obsessive. I am looking at rolling over from another fund, so have to add in the initial brokerage fee costs as well. will add to the spreadsheet! dtc writes... Thanks. Although if you were splitting the trades into (say) IOZ/VTS/VEU, then one of those every 6 months. Unless you werent equally weighted...but thats getting too obsessive. I am looking at rolling over from another fund, so have to add in the initial brokerage fee costs as well. will add to the spreadsheet! Actually, I think the better model is something likeMonthly income frequency$2291 per month (27500 per year)4.5% interest on savings (pooled investment)5% expected return (+0.5% better return when avoiding provisioned tax)$13 Brokerage Invest $13876 once every 6 months. So twice a year as originally suggested. While waiting to invest in direct ETF's the funds are in a pooled option. Everything 6 months you pick the one that is furthest from you target allocation (ie one of IOZ or VTS or VEU) dtc writes... ...Unless you werent equally weighted...but thats getting too obsessive. Hockey Monkey writes... Everything 6 months you pick the one that is furthest from you target allocation (ie one of IOZ or VTS or VEU)One could also use the funds in the pooled options to control their overall balance.If you find that your last buy has left you overweighted on lets say Aus Shares, you can change the split in pooled funds to include more International Shares and vice versa. For example:Somebody might be targeting a split of 65%/35% International/Aus exposure.If a $13000 IOZ buy tips the balance to become 60%/40%, then a 5% rebalance weighted in International Shares in the pooled funds portion could bring back the desired targeted balance. It seems they are consolidating it with ART, and going with ART's style. Unfortunate. Although better than HostPlus's complete lack of a retirement booster. Hockey Monkey writes... Suggests Investing $4583 every 2 months, so 6 trades per year. Probably would be 5 given 20% is in pooled options. you always comes up with something worth reading ! what is written above by everyone is bit difficult for me to understand but i have question to see if you could help. 3 year ago, i started hostplus after reading barefoot investor book and invested into balance indexed fund of hostplus. just today I opened the app and click on "account activity" which shows money flow graph which is good and it shows performance/balance over last 12 months. In the graph it has starting balance, then incoming super by employer and then investment return and then negative outgoing to give current balance figure. now, in my case 12 month investment return is roughly 4.69% (investment return / (starting balance+ incoming super)) .. which is very poor in my opinion and on top of that if i remove outgoing amount from investment return then i almost earned nothing on my investment ! is that how poorly all super works ? i thought hostplus balance index as per barefoot investor is the lowest cost index super fund but this figures are disappointing to me. Sydboy writes... ...now, in my case 12 month investment return is roughly 4.69% (investment return / (starting balance+ incoming super)) .. which is very poor in my opinion... Average returns were negative (-4.6%) in 2022. Being positive (+4.69%) suggests a rebound the last 5 months is that how poorly all super works ? i thought hostplus balance index as per barefoot investor is the lowest cost index super fund but this figures are disappointing to me. I can guarantee you that there are plenty of funds that have had poorer returns than HostPlus balanced indexed, & are charging users through the nose to be in them. Check for youself: Prowler4 writes... Average returns were negative (-4.6%) in 2022. Being positive (+4.69%) suggests a rebound the last 5 months thanks for link but what i have is for May 2022 to May 2023 as application doesn't allow to pick duration to see performance for particular duration. The statement provided by Superannuation is for financial year not the calendar year so isn't that easy to compare but what i don't understand why would superguide provide calendar year performance instead of financial year performance ? I can guarantee you that there are plenty of funds that have had poorer returns than HostPlus balanced indexed, & are charging users through the nose to be in them. from the link that you gave looks like hostplus doing better than most super fund including my aware super ... which is good. I have another question if anyone knows ... i have aware super opened almost 15 year ago and changed to hostplus 3 year ago after reading barefoot investor as i am not smart to do SMSF and i prefer professional to look after super... ! but when i did change i didn't change my aware super because i was told that i have TPD and Death insurance in aware super and the waiting period i served with aware super won't be transferred across to hostplus so i end-up have two fund ... ! but is it still the case ? i took new TPD and death insurance with Hostplus but with inflation rate the amount of insurance is significantly low so not sure what happens if i close my aware super after 15 years and transfer remaining fund to hostplus and also ask hostplus to increase insurance by same amount that i have with aware super then would it work without doing another waiting period ? Sydboy writes... now, in my case 12 month investment return is roughly 4.69% (investment return / (starting balance+ incoming super)) .. which is very poor in my opinion and on top of that if i remove outgoing amount from investment return then i almost earned nothing on my investment ! 12 months is much too short to make any determination on performance. The HostPlus indexed diversified is a great low cost option but only if its asset allocation of 75% growth / 25% defensive assets matches your ability, need and willingness to take risk. Otherwise you could look at the individual indexed options and roll your own mix of growth and defensive assets. Hockey Monkey writes... asset allocation of 75% growth / 25% defensive assets In hostplus I have 40% international equity, 35% Australia equity, 17% fixed interest and 8% cash so same as what saying.. but in my aware super it is 100% high growth. However, Hostplus clearly shows what was starting balance of super for given year, how much employer super added to the fund and how much return fund provided and then also they show deduction which makes it easy to calculate performance but aware super doesn't show such detail which is disappointing and that is why i prefer to move out of aware completely but my insurances stopping me to move out .. ! it would be good if hostplus show clear breakdown of outgoing cost so we can see how much was admin/fees and how much for insurances.....! i believe regulator should be regulating this type of details that every fund must provide default to their holders. FWIW nearly 2 weeks on after I contacted HP and asked if they could call me to explain their approach to unrealised capital gains on member's within their pooled funds, specifically when that member moves from accumulation phase to retirement. I'm sure it's just a coincidence. ;-) So just on 2 weeks after I called and was told to email to get info on their handling of capital gains for pooled funds and handling of cgt in accumulation to pension phase I get a call from HP. - HP employee claims she was only given the matter this morning, could not tell me why it was sat on for 2 weeks.- she hadn't read the original email at all, had to go off and read it while she had me on the phone. She then came back and told me she had to go and read some material she had on her end about capital gains to see if it would assist- came back and told me, she didn't have the info I needed but she could arrange for a 'financial planner' from their to call me- I advised it had nothing to do with a FP as it was about their internal CGT methodology as it applies to unit pricing, provisioning of these taxes and specifically in the accumulation to retirement phase- she said that I'd need an accounting person for that- I said that was EXACTLY what I'd asked for in my email from 2 weeks ago!!!!!!- she was great at saying sorry but had nothing else to contribute at all and magically she seemed to cut out on her end when it became apparent I wasn't sated with her constant sorry but no info. Very glad I'm moving away in the new financial year, shithouse customer service and they are unapologetic about it. Has anyone here recieved an email from hostplus regarding a significant event notice? Is so, what is this about?I tried clicking on the link, but it did not work. dtc writes... closure of its commercial property fund and Infrastructure. Rick777 writes... and Infrastructure. infrastructure is just property with a fancy name... dtc writes... infrastructure is just property with a fancy name. No, and it is (was) a separate investment option available to members. rpgfan800 writes... Has anyone here recieved an email from hostplus regarding a significant event notice? Is so, what is this about? Yes, I received it also. Changes as mentioned above. Also six new pre-mixed investment options. HostPlus changes – 6 new funds. A new all-indexed 100% growth fund, so you don't need to mix your own. Although half in Aussie equities seems pretty high to me, but I have no idea how they could ever please everybody with any allocation. As for their defensive funds, I'm not sure if it is a good thing to switch to such a huge amount of cash instead of fixed income after rates have risen their fastest in recent history. Am I blind, or is there no mention of the fees for the new funds? Edit: Never mind, just read they will post fees on 1st October. Does Hostplus disclose what "fixed income" they actually invest in ? Both 5 year and 10 year bond yields are nearing their 1yr peak.. either they fall back down or rocket up higher. Retracing back to 2011 yield levels could mean a sizeable capital loss. anyone on hostplus balanced that is going to change to any of the new funds? kRi$ writes... anyone on hostplus balanced that is going to change to any of the new funds? No – the indexed funds don't seem indexed enough to me. Hostplus have too much discretion to actively change percentages etc in different indexes according to the market. Edit: Re-reading your post: I shouldn't have replied – I'm not in Hostplus Balanced. I am 50% Australian indexed & 50% worldwide indexed. And I'll be staying with that. Well, aren't Hostplus a bunch of clowns. Firstly, after 2 hours, 4 phone calls and getting cut off twice, every single person I spoke to was an ESL making effective communication near impossible. So the back story: I turned 60 on 8th June, so I did an online application for a pension account (transfer all but a couple of $k over to the pension account). Once it was submitted, I received an email stating it would take 3-5 business days. No worries. On the 16th June I rang to follow up the application and was told it can take 10 business days (sigh), again no worries. Rang today 22 June to find out the delay and was told that they were waiting for money to come into my accumulation account, now I'm not sure where this money was supposed to come from as I'm retired and ceased employment in September 2022. All of which is detailed in the online application and as I explained that I left my accumulation account open with $2k in it so even if there was money to go into it then it was irrelevant to transferring the balance over to my pension account. To say I was furious with them was an understatement. After getting off the phone I was going through my correspondence in my online account and there was a letter dated 9th June saying happy birthday here's some insurance you never asked for, death, TPD and income protection at a cost of $21.38 a week (WTF!) I'm retired and they automatically give me income protection insurance!! So back on the phone to cancel that, get cut off twice, get bumped to departments that can't help me to finally have to agree to give a kidney to cancel the insurance I never asked for. So, what did I learn? When you select the pension option on the phone you get put through to someone who isn't in the pension department and when you ask to be transferred to the pension department, they say they can't do that and that they can help you and the same goes for the insurance department, you get someone who isn't in the insurance department that says they can help you and also states that they can't transfer you to the insurance department. I will be absolutely furious if the stock market tanks, my super drops in value and then when it's at its lowest they transfer my funds to my pension account, and I can only buy less units than what I should've been able too. Rant over!! hey all, it's been great reading through this thread. 2 months ago, I moved my super to hostplus balanced.In my late 30's and have a 150K balance. Looking for some guidance on whether I should keep it on balanced or is there something better I should do with my hostplus super fund. It's the first time I've paid close attention to my super tbh. whilst there have been lots of fund options suggested in this thread, I am not 100% clear on what would work best for my situation, so appreciate guidance in the right direction. The advice that I give our 2 children, same age, is to select the Balanced option, check the balance every 6 months, check that all required payments are actually going in, and rinse repeat until about 50 years old. Then, take a much more active interest and select other options once they have gained 'the knowledge'. slapnut writes... Well, aren't Hostplus a bunch of clowns. Firstly, after 2 hours, 4 phone calls and getting cut off twice, wow ... i have been cut-off 6 six times after pressing dumb button ... ! this is really dumb super management and i never faced this type of trouble with aware super ... ! it has been 2 hr since i left message for them to call back but they haven't .. lol slapnut writes... So, what did I learn? That is just terrible service from HostPlus. Am hoping next year when I start my account based pension with Aus Super that it's a pain free process! Deedee Megadoodoo writes... That is just terrible service from HostPlus. And the saga continues, I rang them yesterday (26th) and they now told me the delay is that they are waiting for an external rollover into my pension account. I lost my shit and screamed at him that there is no external funds, monies or rollovers to fund my account, the money is sitting in my HostPlus accumulation account. And now we have just had 4 negative days on the stock market. I've already opened an account with Australian Super, as soon as I have online access, I'm pulling it all out of HostPlus. slapnut writes... And now we have just had 4 negative days on the stock market. Isn't that a good thing? Means less of your Transfer Balance Cap is used. You may want to delay starting the pension until July 1st when the TBC increases to 1.9m. Even if your balance isn't that large today, for the sake of a few days it keeps option open if you have a windfall in the future. Hockey Monkey writes... Means less of your Transfer Balance Cap is used. Also means I can buy less units of the balanced option in the pension account as they are higher priced than in the accumulation balanced option. slapnut writes... Also means I can buy less units of the balanced option in the pension account as they are higher priced than in the accumulation balanced option. Why does unit price matter? slapnut writes... I can buy less units of the balanced option in the pension account Won't the unit price in the pension account have dropped by a similar percentage over the same time period? b0b555 writes... Won't the unit price in the pension account have dropped by a similar percentage over the same time period? Yeah, that's an unknown. Hockey Monkey writes... Why does unit price matter? Because $730k buys more $2.81 units than $700k (example only) slapnut writes... Because $730k buys more $2.81 units than $700k (example only) Why does that matter? $730k buys more IOZ @ 28.77 vs STW @ $64.72 but both track the same ASX200 index. Relative prices changes are why matters, not individual number of units. The reason the unit prices differ between accumulation and pension is due to taxation. I was with Hostplus for nearly 20yrs – and they were great in the beginning when they were up and comers but their customer service and effort level has completely gone to shyte over the past few years. Nobody seems to be able to answer basic questions, you're bumped all over the place, much longer wait times etc etc. This said they are potentially cheap for certain products but you're getting no-frills service, so prepare to be BS'd and stuffed around. Moving to an SMSF this financial year and one of the many reason was not wanting to deal with twits like HP on money matters of such significance. They just really seem disorganised and really not giving a toss about resolving your issue. I waited several weeks for contact after emaling them and asking for assistance. The person who eventually spoke with me hadn't even read the issue I had flagged – getting on the phone with me and then going off to read it (got the shits with me when i 'suggested' perhaps this could have been best done BEFORE calling me) – then advised they didn't have the knowledge of that area so I'd have to wait for another person to get in contact with me. I was already 1 leg out the door so advised it was service like this was that driving me away – and they just 'happened' to have their call cut out at that very moment. Which if it was a tecnical issue I'd have thought they'd just have called back but nah – so it was very deliberate. Gobsmacking that this passes as service for an organisation that provides nothing UNIQUE and collects their fees via percentages of your balance. I am certain Super is the last bastian where Australians are still ignorant of how much they're paying to get service they'd never accept from other service providers who receive a fraction of what these fund managers get. Does Choiceplus keep track of the cost base for ETF holdings, particularly the AMIT adjustments? Whilst under current rules it may not matter if you never sell until a transfer to pension phase, personal circumstances or rules could change where taxable selling is required. I am Aus citizen and looking to migrate from Aus to another country. What happens to my super? Am I able to withdraw it? Unable to find anything on HP site. Maximus81 writes... I am Aus citizen and looking to migrate from Aus to another country. What happens to my super? Am I able to withdraw it? Unable to find anything on HP site. You can't withdraw it just on that basis. You still have to satisfy the usual withdrawal rules (preservation age, reaching 65, ceasing a job after 60, or early release etc). If you weren't Aus Cit, you could look at Departing Australia super payment (DASP). But you're citizen so usual rules apply. Once you're eligible to access your super based on these rules, you can have it paid into an overseas bank account if you're still living overseas. It's not super rules but general law so check on ATO website: Those that use the mobile app, is it any good? Frogleg writes... Those that use the mobile app, is it any good? It's ok but it's not compatible with a pension account, only accumulation. i recently did after tax contribution (small amount so below threshold) and also filled in form that hosplus wanted but i never got any letter back from hostplus ... is it normal or i will get some type of letter from hostplus that i can use for tax deduction at tax time ? Sydboy writes... or i will get some type of letter from hostplus that i can use for tax deduction at tax time ? When I did mine with Australian Super last year, it just appears as one of the pre-fills a few days later on the ATO portal when I did my tax return. Have done it again this year, I'm expecting it will appear at some stage like it did last year. Once you can see the tax taken out of your HostPlus account in your transaction history, you know it's been processed. So my pension account was finally opened on 28th June. From what I understand the minimum draw down rates for 2023-2024 are going back to the original rates (eg. 4% not 2%). When I log into my pension account it shows the drawdown rate to be 2% and being paid annually on 15th June 2024, which is great because I don't need the money but shouldn't it have been 4% or was it because it was opened in June? Ugh, I feel for folks dealing with HP's 'customer service' moving forward. They've been an epic PITA to deal with whilst i move away from them to a SMSF. Their being one of the last fund managers requiring proof of ID be sent via certified hard copies in the mail (the list of who can certify is longer than who can't) complicates things massively as everything else is electronic. When chasing up with them you go through the telephone myriad of options, where you have to enter your member number, birthday and an SMS passcode sent to your registered mobile number. Yet despite all that they still want to confirm your identity more – the girl I got asked for my home address, which I gave but when I didn't say the state I was in – she insisted I give this. I simply said,"I've given you my member number, correct birthdate, SMS code and address and without the state you don't feel you've confirmed my identity yet?" She straight hung up on me. Rinse & repeat – got told they had all the documents needed but the transfer would take up to 10 business days – as it's to a SMSF. I asked if this was their standard or APRAs? They said theirs, claimed it takes longer as it's to an SMSF. I asked on what basis as like any conforming fund they could confirm all the details etc via the ATO's own website and beyond that what more did they need – assuming they had confimred it was a request by the authorised owner of the HP account. They really bumbled and fumbled their explanation but I told them APRA stated that 3 business days were the standard once all bonafides were confirmed and their was no extra 7 days for SMSFs. Logged in to my HP account today and it no longer shows the balance total anywhere – only can see member details & correspondence – funds are not in SMSF though, same for my wife (who is also transfering) – no contact from Hostplus through the entire exercise. We've been with them nearly 18yrs and cannot wait until dealing with them is finally over. Nick the Knife writes... We've been with them nearly 18yrs and cannot wait until dealing with them is finally over. I feel sorry for your experience. It's great you posted it though, it's reinforces me never to use them. I do like their investment options though, they have several index classes in their standard offerings that interests me, and I have recently been thinking about possibly moving from Aus Super to HostPlus until I read this thread. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... I feel sorry for your experience. It's great you posted it though, it's reinforces me never to use them They used to be great – but their customer service has become abysmal, they stated they were in Melbourne – but in a half dozen calls I never got a single staff member that didn't have a very thick accent (South Asian) – I have zero issue with this but a few of the staff members were very hard to understand when tryign to discuss relatively complex matters. My advise is to begin every single call by getting the staff members name, write it down for future reference. If something is important be prepared to call back several times and know the rules that apply in this area as HP will often try to insist their standards apply, whereas often APRA ones do and are more strict. Make the most of when you have them on the phone clarifying where matters are at exactly, what the next step will be, when you can expect progress etc etc. it's a case of the squeaky wheel getting the oil with them these days. Also BEFORE you request a transfer ensure you download and document everything from your HP account FULLY – as they seem to remove a lot of access to this without any warning. Very oddly I found in my wife's CORRESPONDENCE section an SMS that HP claims they sent on 04JUL stating the dollar balance to be transfered – odd thing is no such SMS was ever received by us. And despite us doing the exact same process moving funds away from them, no such SMS was shown as being sent to my account. Very odd and the inconsistant nature of it seems really odd as the entire process had otherwise been identical for us (as I did the entire thing for both of us). As I figured HP would take extra days if the account was still in non-cash investments, as they claim it takes them 2 business days to calculate the unit pricing – I moved both accounts to cash the day before I requested the transfer. Hi All, Another great informative whirlpool thread! I am currently 100% in Indexed Balanced, however looking to align more closely to a high growth profile, however I want it to be as set and forget as possible. I am considering rolling my own using HostPlus index options, using Choiceplus to purchased Vanguard ETFs or moving across to Vanguard Super. Who currently manages the HostPlus index options? Here is what I was thinking if I roll my own:Aus shares indexed – 35%International shares indexed – 35%International shares hedged indexed -15%Emerging Markets shares indexed – 5%Diversified fixed interest indexed – 10%I would adjust each year based on latest Vanguard high growth allocation information. Are these index funds more tax efficient then Vanguards Super pooled fund options? Versatility writes... Emerging shares indexed – 5% what does emerging shares means ? I am with hostplus and getting very rude and bad customer service from them so i will be moving out to either vanguard or aware super ... just need to decide which one is low fee but also provide better return ... ! vanguard is too young in the super market in australia so not sure how they track .. ! Sydboy writes... what does emerging shares means ? I assume that means emerging markets (e.g. Vanguard's VGE ETF). Nick the Knife writes... I simply said,"I've given you my member number, correct birthdate, SMS code and address and without the state you don't feel you've confirmed my identity yet?" She straight hung up on me. you are not alone .. even the customer service person was angry at me and even didn't allow me to speak and cut me off while talking and then just gone silent even thought i have been saying "hello"... ! this is significantly poor customer service and not something we should get from the fund with billions of dollar worth asset in management... ! it is only due to Scott Pape i joined this fund as he recommended this fund (balance index) in his books in past .. and it was biggest mistake of my life for choosing wrong fund for myself ... now i am looking to exit to something else as soon as i could... and most probably do roll out without even calling them ... ever again.. ! b0b555 writes... I assume that means emerging markets Versatility writes... Emerging shares indexed – 5% if that is the case then i am not sure why people even put money into it as most those market comes from highly corrupt political system where minimum fear of law exist .... ! I come from one of that country and i wouldn't put even 10c in to my own country back in term of investment ... (sure going for holiday and buy stuff is different) ... ! Sydboy writes... if that is the case then i am not sure why people even put money into it as most those market comes from highly corrupt political system where minimum fear of law exist .... ! I come from one of that country and i wouldn't put even 10c in to my own country back in term of investment ... (sure going for holiday and buy stuff is different) ... ! To be fair its not like the Western systems are without sin in that regard – I think they're just a tad more discrete with their corruption. FWIW concerns about corruption aside theres still good reason to inverst in EM equities – as they tend to have a low correlation to developed markets i.e they move differently when things go up or down. Here's a good video from a very smart chap on them: My 2c is that you're better off paying a tad more for a more selective EM investment option e.g Van Eyks EMKT – but one pays quite a bit for these compared to DM equities and as they only form a very small part of one's portfolio it might be as good just to diversify in other more cost effective ways. For those considering transfering your funds away from HP – take this as a warning as I've been incredibly uunderwhelmed by their handling of matters. From the moment our transfer away was requested they removed both my wife and my access to even seeing ANY transaction history on our accounts, all the online functionality is removed and you can ONLY see your own contact details and past statements from HP, nothing more than this. Furthermore they don't provide you with ANY info on how they arrived at the sum they end up giving you. I cannot think of any financial transaction of this size where you literally don't even get a 'receipt' with details of the matter. Which when you consider their unit pricing is several days in arrears – means you've no way of knowing what your actual balance is – and they won't show you how they arrived at this. It's pretty insane, so you just get sent a sum of money and zero detail more than that! Making worse my wife, despite requesting from her HR department a week in advance, use our new SMSF, due to their backlog of work had her salary sacrifice & emp. contributions paid to the old Super Fund – but we now have to confirm is this arrived in time & was transfered or not. I've written to HP asking for transactional details for the transfer of our funds but it's appaling I have to do this – should have been done as standard. Nick the Knife writes... From the moment our transfer away was requested Was this via consolidating your super through the new fund or did you call HP? I opened an Australian Super accumulation account recently and I just authorised AS to drag my HP money across. I wonder if I'll get the same cold shoulder? Nick the Knife writes... Furthermore they don't provide you with ANY info on how they arrived at the sum they end up giving you. If you took a screenshot of the balances of each of your investment options with Hostplus at some point, then using their unit price historical data you can work out which day's unit prices you got when they transferred your super. You just load the known balances of each investment option into a spreadsheet and add/substract each day's unit price gain/loss % to each balance. Then hopefully you should see a day's total balance that matches the total balance you actually received. If the total balance doesn't match any day exactly, then they might have deducted a fee of some sort. This process is a bit easier if you only invested in one option, like Balanced option for example. Hopefully this makes sense! Legion223 writes... If you took a screenshot of the balances of each of your investment options with Hostplus at some point, then using their unit price historical data you can work out which day's unit prices you got when they transferred your super. You just load the known balances of each investment option into a spreadsheet and add/substract each day's unit price gain/loss % to each balance. Then hopefully you should see a day's total balance that matches the total balance you actually received. If the total balance doesn't match any day exactly, then they might have deducted a fee of some sort. I appreciate you taking the time to write this and reply – but yes I am aware that there's methods that I could utilise to get a decent idea of what the balance would have been. But that is a complete aside to my underlying point which is that this is incredibly shoddy behaviour by Hostplus when a member (which I still am paid up fully as) transfers their funds away. There's absolutely NO good reason for them to remove something as basic as allowing the member to see their transaction history – it doesn't save them a brass razoo. So it does seem it's motivated by spite on their end, you're leaving us, well FU we're removing anything but your personal details. And as mentioned the fact they discharge hundreds of thousands of dollars and do not give ANY documentation at the time they do this is somewhat without precedent in the financial services field. Happy to be told this is an 'unreasonable' expectation but you'd think you'd get an autogenerated email/letter with the final balance paid – how this was arrived at and any fees removed etc. And capping it all off you're told NONE of how they will do this in advance – so while I had the forethought to ensure I downloaded all our bi-annual statements I didn't expect they'd yank the transaction/contribution data. Hence i post this here largely so others can see that this is how Hostplus conducts itself when a member leaves. Yeah it sounds pretty dodgy to me. I'm actually considering switching to Hostplus from AusSuper, to use their index funds with the option to use Choiceplus when/if I think it's viable. I'm probably better off switching to ART then maybe back to AusSuper for Members direct. SMSF isn't really an option for me as I might become a non resident at some point. The more comments/reviews I read about Hostplus the less I want to switch to them. Nick the Knife writes... There's absolutely NO good reason for them to remove something as basic as allowing the member to see their transaction history I assume you haven't rolled out of a fund before I have switched between more than 3 funds (not counting HostPlus) & my experience has been the same each time – online access gets disabled immediately at rollout & you get a closing statement in the mail weeks later. Even with a ING Living Super account which shared the same login details with my ING bank account they removed access to my Super history while still retaining access to my bank account. Once again closing super statement sent by post weeks later. Legion223 writes... The more comments/reviews I read about Hostplus the less I want to switch to them. Nothing to be concerned about, they're most competitive on features & fees. You might need to manage your expectations about customer support but that applies to any Superfund I imagine. Prowler4 writes... Nothing to be concerned about, they're most competitive on features & fees. That may be but their whole customer support team seems to be run by a bunch of clueless 20 somethings that are quite frankly rude and disrespectful. I moved my HP accumulation account over to AS this week, it took about two days from when I told AS to grab my HP funds for it to turn up in my AS accumulation account. I was only able to access my HP account briefly for about a day, once the money was in the AS account the HP one was closed which is a shame because I was going to do a little experiment and put $6k in HPs Indexed Balanced and $6k in AS's Balanced and track them over a year to see how they differ. Prowler4 writes... I assume you haven't rolled out of a fund before Your assumption is correct. Your points taken just because others do it doesn't make it any more acceptable or good practice. It really reeks of 'we don't give a toss anymore' – as it'd cost them nothing more and as I said name me one other financial transaction of that magnitude when you literally have ZERO insight into how the end amount was arrived at perhaps for many weeks. From a business perspective it's a terrible 'burning your bridges' approach as customers lost are regained at a high % than brand new ones from the population. I'll be lodging a complaint with APRA and the Financial Services Ombudsman – my wife asked in writing for a full transactional breakdown to confirm her balance calculation & is employer & SS contributions went into her account – 5 business days later no response at all to such a basic request. I get it if you leave and still expect to be treated like royalty – but as I said technically we're still fully paid up members – and ask for basic info and they just ignore you, its unacceptable. You might need to manage your expectations about customer support but that applies to any Superfund I imagineShould customers really need to do this? I mean you are aware of the incredible profits these super funds make – and therefore why is their customer service not at levels that are vaguely commensurate with this? As thats a core part of their product offering – and find me a PDS where they don't promise to be your best friend, always there for you, commited to your satisfaction etc. If you look at how much they make from your being with them every single year it's a LOT – and it costs them very, very little – so I think it's fair enough for members of any super fund to expect top quality customer service – as I am sure there are many funds who have a genuine commitment to this, I was with HP for nearly 20yrs (which I am pretty sure will be up there) and they're a shadow of their former selves for reasons best known to them. Legion223 writes... The more comments/reviews I read about Hostplus the less I want to switch to them. Same. The last pages have been an eye opener. I was planning on moving from AustralianSuper's active Australian/Intl options into HP index equivalents to save ~0.3% of account balance in annual fees, but will now most likely stay put with AS. Powerhead writes... index equivalents There are a few other funds that offer index options. ART and Aware are 2 examples. Asking people familiar with Choice+ — is there a way to login Choice+ directly? As is I need to login Host+ first, a 2-step verification (fair enough), then click on Investment only then it takes me to the Choice+ login. So many extra steps. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... this link appears to be a direct login to Choice Plus Thanks for that. Looks like legit Login but a hiccup. It asks for Username + P/w whereas I have a Member number + P/w for Host+ login. Tried that the Choice+ didn't recognise. Will send them an email, cheers. b0b555 writes... There are a few other funds that offer index options. ART and Aware are 2 examples. Appreciate the comment. ART and Aware annual fees are roughly double of HP for my balance (but AusSuper is roughly another double on top of ART). Hope it's a case of you get what you pay for, but not a given. There are reports of both AS recent IT changes and ART's sunsuper-qsuper merger teething issues. REST also offers index funds and even cheaper than HP, but it's a different ownership structure so have a look into it before leaping I am currently 100% in Indexed Balanced, however looking to align more closely to a high growth profile, however I want it to be as set and forget as possible. I am considering rolling my own using HostPlus index options, using Choiceplus to purchased Vanguard ETFs or moving across to Vanguard Super. Who currently manages the HostPlus index options? Here is what I was thinking if I roll my own:Aus shares indexed – 35%International shares indexed – 35%International shares hedged indexed -15%Emerging Markets shares indexed – 5%Diversified fixed interest indexed – 10%I would adjust each year based on latest Vanguard high growth allocation information. Are these index funds more tax efficient then Vanguards Super pooled fund options? Powerhead writes... ART and Aware annual fees are roughly double of HP One thing to consider is that ART's International index funds include both EM and small cap, which typically cost more than large cap developed. Legion223 writes... One thing to consider is that ART's International index funds include both EM and small cap, which typically cost more than large cap developed. Those are also excellent diversifiers – not sure of the weights of them to justify to cost but something like IVV is 0.04% MER, whereas VISM is 0.32 and VGE 0.48(true cost near 0.7) etc – so as you say it's a significant cost to add these valuable exposures. Is funny as while the costs are one of the only performance variables the buyer can influence, I do think there might be diminishing marginal returns chasing the absolute lowest costs on all aspects of your assets. Paying heaps extra for active fund managers is generally not worth it, but a lil more for proven screening on smaller parts of your holdings to things like factor based investing etc? Has a lil more 'value' merit IMHO. Versatility writes... looking to align more closely to a high growth profile, however I want it to be as set and forget as possible. As I suspect you intended, your 'roll your own' is basically the same as VGHD, except you dont have a small company element and therefore a higher international indexation. Some argue that the fixed interest element is less high growth, others argue its almost the same level of growth but with lower volatility. Both are correct. Hedging is similar – over a long period of time it probably wont make a difference, unless the AUD crashes or goes a lot higher and stays there; but in the shorter term it reduces volatility The main thing to keep in mind with 'roll your own' is that its not set and forget. You will need to constantly (meaning yearly or at least every couple of years) either rebalance (sell and buy) or direct future investments (buy more of the underweighted amount, not buy overweight). Depends on how hard and fast you want to stick to your weightings HP fees are lower than Vanguards but its hard to figure it all out (and I may not have this entirely right): - for HP indexed australian shares is 0.04% for HP plus $78 pa admin fee + 0.0165% of your account balance per year - for Vanguard its 0.58% of the balance which includes all admin and other fees, but the admin fee element (.3%) caps out at $850,000 balance This is a useful spreadsheet but keep in mind its only doing indexed aust and indexed international 1570721168 and is a year of date (but changes will be fairly minor, on the whole) (edit: here is the original post about this spreadsheet) Thanks DTC. Decided to stick with HP and the index route. Appreciate your help. Quick query is it standard super fund practice that if they receive an employee contribution – and don't have an 'active' account for that member, despite the contribution being made with a member number that corresponds to one that is in their database, though is inactive – for the fund manager to just open a new account for that person & desposit the funds rather than returning them to the payer as a 'no member by that membership number' type rejection? I'm absolutely pissed off at both HP and my wife's payroll dept, who just happens to be NSW Govt's payroll. Despite two full weeks notice – her employer put funds into her HP account. That HP account had it's full balance transfered away to our SMSF a day beforehand. So HP seem to deactivate that original account and for reasons best known to them instead of returning the payment just went and opened another HP account for my wife! For weeks we've been unable to locate the funds, the employer insisting they paid them to the old account – HP saying they received nothing. Many calls and emails later, HP suddenly says 'Oh yeah we opened another account for you – just FYI' – they claim the employer requested this, which the employer denies & I cannot see why they would. HP's customer service people change the story every time we call them – procedures differ greatly from staff member to staff member – it's absolute amateur hour. Making it worse her employer YET AGAIN made another contribution to her original HP account (a full 3 weeks after being told of her SMSF) and so I suspect HP will go and create yet another new account – as heck why not. There's not a shred of common sense being used between the two of them......has taken years off my life! And now need to do transfer request/s all over again. Nick the Knife writes... is it standard super fund practice that if they receive an employee contribution – and don't have an 'active' account for that member, despite the contribution being made with a member number that corresponds to one that is in their database, though is inactive – for the fund manager to just open a new account for that person & desposit the funds rather than returning them to the payer as a 'no member by that membership number' type rejection? Yes, this is standard. Its because most people just use the employer's default fund and the fund has to be able to open accounts to accept contributions even if the employee hasnt done anything or filled in any paperwork. Otherwise the contribution is in limbo – it cant be returned (because its not the employers money) and the super fund cant hold it in a generic 'unknown recipient' fund. There isnt any option for the fund but to open an account. Its the fault of the employer; they wrongly sent the money to the super fund and the super fund has to open an account if there isnt an existing one. Nick the Knife writes... That HP account had it's full balance transfered away to our SMSF So HP seem to deactivate that original account and for reasons best known to them instead of returning the payment just went and opened another HP account I'm not convinced they do. I transferred all of my HP accumulation account to my HP Pension account, for 3 weeks my accumulation accounts been sitting there with a zero balance and then I thought I'll stick my tax refund in it but I wasn't sure if it was active/inactive so I rang them and they told me that if there are no transfers into the zero balance accumulation fund within 6 months then it will be closed. Also, when I login via the app I can add funds to it by way of Bpay with a biller number and reference number. But I actually haven't transferred anything across as yet to see if what they said is correct. dtc writes... sent the money to the super fund and the super fund has to open an account if there isnt an existing one. But there was. It's slightly different for Nick, his funds went to a SMSF. Salpnut's went from accum to pension. Louis writes... his funds went to a SMSF. But does that mean the old accum account is inactive or closed? Salpnut's went from accum to pension. Two different account numbers though. slapnut writes... But does that mean the old accum account is inactive or closed? I'm assuming closed. Someone else with more knowledge can confirm. dtc writes... Its the fault of the employer; they wrongly sent the money to the super fund and the super fund has to open an account if there isnt an existing one.Cheers for confirming it was the industry standard response. It's bizarre that they spun it on my call to them as 'The employer requested we opened this account.' when I suspected this was what happened. Agree, the primary issue here was the employer – and as I said this is literally NSW Govt's payroll dept and from listening in on calls to them you cannot believe these people are allowed out during the day let alone given jobs by the State Govt. There's been ZERO accountability from them on why a simple super fund change sat unactioned for 3 weeks! This despite their service level agreement to staff being 1 business day. That said Hostplus were ghastly.....I don't understand why when my wife technically is paid up for the rest of JUL as a member, the employer payment that would have been paid with her member number & name – wasn't put into her now empty account – instead bouncing and their solution to this was to open another one They also have a crappy habit of after confirming your identity, going off on the call to check something, leaving you on hold, then when they come back for reasons that are completely unclear asking you to reconfirm your identity yet again! This is with the same person who put you on hold – they'll come back and while not fully confirming your identity but ask for 2 data fields e.g name of employer and your email address or DOB and home address. Had two calls this morning – two different HP staff – AFTER fully verifying her ID, my wife was asked again on 5 occassions on one call and 4 extra times on the other. Freaking madness – and the first guy who we asked why he was asking yet again just hung up on us. Louis writes... It's slightly different for Nick, his funds went to a SMSF.Salpnut's went from accum to pension.Yup, Slapnut would still have had an 'active' membership with them. And how they manage any of this is all unknown, there's nothing in the PDS, nothing they send through when you make a transfer request, you just find it out as you go. And they really are like a vengeful woman (sorry gals but its true) – once you transfer they yank everything possible from you even if you're still paid for the month. They do not care. slapnut writes... But does that mean the old accum account is inactive or closed?Again only HP knows this and they've never stated that membership #123456 is now closed – her old account can be logged into, but nearly all the regular info is gone. Anyway I post this here ONLY so some other poor sod who's transferring away from HP can see and perhaps avoid some of these hassles via. Nick the Knife writes... They also have a crappy habit of after confirming your identity, going off on the call to check something, leaving you on hold, then when they come back I've had multiple occasions where the person has gone of to check something only for a different person to pick up the call, when I ask for the other person again, they say they can't and then demand the whole story and ID confirmation all over again. slapnut writes... I've had multiple occasions where the person has gone of to check something only for a different person to pick up the call, when I ask for the other person again, they say they can't and then demand the whole story and ID confirmation all over again. That would be frustrating as well – but we could not understand that once our initial identity is verified – as Hostplus are pretty thorough about this firstly while you're on hold via the telephone system you are required to enter:- HP member number- birthdate- An SMS PIN is sent to the mobile linked to that account and you have to enter that Then you get a person and have to confirm:- full legal name- HP member number- Birthdate- residential address- mobile number- email address So that is pretty bloody thorough.....and yet they were putting us on hold, same person coming back and saying I just need to reverify – and asking a mini-version of 2 fields of this data. We could not get the basis for this explained – and was incredibly annoying. It was also very annoying that in dealing with HP their handling of matters was very inconsistant – one expects a degree of uniformity in high $$$ financial matters but they seem to chop & change their approaches e.g when I and my wife transfered away from them, different paperwork was sent out by HP, different emails, she got an SMS, I didn't. I was very surprised by this as is not indicative of good practice and I suspect is because their workforce is working from home/remotely and doing in a manner that suits them individually. Do the Hostplus index option have ESG or not? It's not clear from the PDS that I can see. I'm looking for the performance difference between the sector investment options, Australia and international shares index and non-indexed options. I know that the index options are lower fees, but as the funds are new I can't found any investment returns. I was looking to change from balanced to Australian and international indexed. Any thoughts? Superduke writes... I'm looking for the performance difference between the sector investment options Use this link :: click on Show Results to see the monthly/yearly returns of the various investment options. If you want in more detail – change the Monthly Returns to Daily Unit Pricing, click on Download CSV, it takes you to the next screen where you choose the time period & which investment options to download. You get thousands of rows of daily unit prices to compare/analyse. Thanks for the link, that's what I was looking for. Is the members area down this morning?I've been trying to log in and it just times out, Tried two different devices and both the same Purnong writes... Is the members area down this morning?I've been trying to log in and it just times out, Tried two different devices and both the same Message at the top of the login page We are currently experiencing an outage with Member Online. We are working to resolve this as quickly as possible and apologise for any inconvenience caused. Arrowman writes... Message at the top of the login page Oh dear :-)I didn't pick up on that thanks for pointing it out, I'll look harder next time I access the Hostplus Member Online portal via Windows/Chrome. Login is 2FA. I find that after performing one or two actions, eg, checking transactions, then checking the unit prices of my investments, I'm required to do a full 2FA login again if I want to do anything more. There are times when I've composed a secure message, pressed send, and then been logged out straight away without the message going through. This happens with both my accumulation and pension accounts. Anyone else experienced this behaviour? Else writes... Anyone else experienced this behaviour? Nope. I'm with Hostplus and use a Chrome browser.Just logged in and navigated around the site about a dozen times....no issues Is anyone here in CPI Plus and could give the rest of us some feedback and insight into it please. CPIplus is currently earning a stable 5.9-6.0%. It has dropped a bit over recent months and will probably continue to drop somewhat in January. However as a stable set-and-forget option it is hard to go past. Rick777 writes... CPIplus is currently earning a stable 5.9-6.0%. It has dropped a bit over recent months and will probably continue to drop somewhat in January. However as a stable set-and-forget option it is hard to go past. Hmm it's an asset class I'm contemplating as I'm with Aus Super at the moment and will be eligible to convert to a pension in 5 months. I do like this idea it's a guaranteed return of more than CPI. Hostplus introduced new pre-mix options (not sure when):- Defensive- Defensive Indexed- Defensive SRI- High Growth- High Growth Indexed- High Growth SRI Else writes... I access the Hostplus Member Online portal via Windows/Chrome. Login is 2FA. I find that after performing one or two actions, eg, checking transactions, then checking the unit prices of my investments, I'm required to do a full 2FA login again if I want to do anything more. Using Windows/Firefox – same issue. is it possible to instruct Hostplus to split a specific investment in my group? I have 42% sitting in Balanced and wish to split it out to other groups. is it possible to do so or do I have to instruct a full reallocation for all investments, and would that cause any issues? okitoki writes... is it possible to instruct Hostplus to split a specific investment in my group? I have 42% sitting in Balanced and wish to split it out to other groups. is it possible to do so or do I have to instruct a full reallocation for all investments, and would that cause any issues? Just instruct them on what you want the overall allocation to be and they will work it out. There is no CGT triggered for pooled funds so no need to limit to a subset Just instruct them on what you want the overall allocation to be and they will work it out. Is this just through the online portal or do I call them for specific instructions? okitoki writes... Is this just through the online portal or do I call them for specific instructions? Online portal. 5 minute job, really simple. Log in, , go to Investments, then Manage Investments. You can then reallocate your current investments to other groups, and also direct your future contributions to any groups you choose, if you wish to do this as well. thanks for the pointers. So as the EOY approaches, I did a review of my investment mix and noted most of my previous investment mixes were repeating each other mostly in Aust Market, with mix of managed funds and Indexed funds. decided to clean up my investment options and moved my balances around. Now allocated to Aust Index/Int Index/Balanced index at 30/60/10 hopefully this will not come back and bite me in 15 years time when I am planning to retire. however, this should reduce the cost of the funds as it grows. Wish me luck :) dllg writes... Log in, , go to Investments, then Manage Investments. Just be aware that the Hostplus website can be really clunky. Cancelling a pending switch doesn't always work and you can get a server error every time you try and you just have to wait for that switch to go through. Even ringing them they are clueless, they said to do a new switch but when you hit submit button the same error message pops up. There's no point having a cancel button if you have to wait for the switch to go through 3 days later! slapnut writes... Just be aware that the Hostplus website can be really clunky. That's annoying! Esp since I'm considering moving to HostPlus from AusSuper when I start my pension in a few months, their CPIplus offering is appealing to my cash component. I think you're in pension mode? If so, how was the process in opening a pension account? Can it all be done online, or do you have to do paper forms? And the verification of ID, can that be done online? Deedee Megadoodoo writes... Can it all be done online, or do you have to do paper forms? And the verification of ID, can that be done online? Hostplus likes to receive things in paper form, via AusPost physical mail. Even emailing scanned signed documents is a problem for them. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... how was the process in opening a pension account? Opening a pension account was a 3 minute process, no forms, no documents of proof and all online. The only forms you need to post off, and I think this is across all Super funds is the Binding Nomination form that requires 2 witness signatures. But you can name your non-binding beneficiaries online. Else writes... Hostplus likes to receive things in paper form, via AusPost physical mail. Even emailing scanned signed documents is a problem for them. Not for what Deedee wants to do they don't. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... their CPIplus offering is appealing to my cash component. And their index funds which Aus Super doesn't have. slapnut writes... Opening a pension account was a 3 minute process, no forms, no documents of proof and all online. Did you already have a Hostplus accumulation account, or were you new to Hostplus when opening the pension account? I joined Hostplus 3 years ago – rolling over my SMSF pension to Hostplus. My experience then sounds quite different to yours. Else writes... Did you already have a Hostplus accumulation account, Yes I threw a chunk of money into Australian Super a few months back which I have never been a member off and the process was just as simple as Hostplus. slapnut writes... Yes. I threw a chunk of money into Australian Super a few months back which I have never been a member off and the process was just as simple as Hostplus. I was able to easily create a Hostplus accum account once I had the pension account. But the initial pension account creation was tedious. Maybe they've upgraded their process in the past 3 years. I recently made some downsizer contributions to my Hostplus accum account. Once again, this involved paper forms and mail. There was no digital option. The only time I use postage stamps now is for Hostplus admin. slapnut writes... Opening a pension account was a 3 minute process, no forms, no documents of proof and all online. Oh that's so good to know that they've moved into the modern era! So even the ID check was electronic? slapnut writes... And their index funds which Aus Super doesn't have. Yes, this was the other attractive feature. With Aus Super, you can do it via Member Direct to directly invest in ETF's, but with a pension, payments only come from the normal premix or DIY options and not Member Direct (HostPlus call this Choice Plus I believe). Deedee Megadoodoo writes... So even the ID check was electronic? Yes Yes, this was the other attractive feature. That was another reason I am with them. slapnut writes... That was another reason I am with them. Thank you! Looks like I'll be moving! I think my action plan is to open an accumulation account with them now, change my details with my employer to start contributing to HostPlus, then once that's all in place and working, transfer all my super across from Aus Super to HostPlus, then open a pension account once I turn 60 in May. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... my action plan is to open an accumulation account with them then once that's all in place and working then open a pension account once I turn 60 in May. That's the exact process I used. Else writes... Hostplus likes to receive things in paper form, via AusPost physical mail. Even emailing scanned signed documents is a problem for them. That's what they said in an email, months ago, when I inquired, they said "we will need physical documents". Since then I have discovered the online application process (for a pension account, converting from my accumulation account). I'm about to have a go at it, and I hope my experience will be as smooth as Deedee's. I called Hostplus and asked about this process, and they said as long as your ID documents can be verified online (i.e. they look them up in the relevant database(s)) it should be fine; that problems can arise when for example your name doesn't exactly match the name on the document, or you get the card number wrong on e.g. a driver's licence by entering a letter "O" instead of a digit "0" etc. Online document verifications have to be exact. Anyway, I'm ready to go, all ducks lined up, will try this afternoon and report back. Arrowman writes... and I hope my experience will be as smooth as Deedee's. I've not transferred yet, it's Slapnut that did it so smoothly! :-) Anyway, I'm ready to go, all ducks lined up, will try this afternoon and report back. Fingers crossed you have no problems either! Reporting back – online process went smoothly, driver's licence successfully verified online, acknowledgement email received. One glitch – they wanted to me download and mail in the form for a binding beneficiary, but the link didn't work. So I have lodged an online inquiry. Hopefully this will not delay the process. - Also, they want you to upload a bank statement to help them verify the bank account details. I tried, but the upload failed. So I skipped that step. When I called the help desk earlier, they said "oh by the way, you can skip that step, we don't require the bank statement any more", so hopefully that is OK. ^^ For clarity, this is about opening a pension account from an existing Hostplus accumulation account. Arrowman writes... but the link didn't work. Just google "hostplus binding nomination form" and the first hit at the top of the list is the pdf required. slapnut writes... Just google "hostplus binding nomination form" and the first hit at the top of the list is the pdf required. Thanks, I'll do that. I'm hoping the nomination for my accumulation account will carry over, but who knows. Arrowman writes... Reporting back – online process went smoothly, driver's licence successfully verified online, acknowledgement email received. Excellent! Please let us know how long it takes for them to complete the process of opening your pension account and transferring all your funds from accumulation. For clarity, this is about opening a pension account from an existing Hostplus accumulation account. I opened an accumulation account with HostPlus this afternoon. Later on, closer to the time I want to actually transfer over, I'll need to submit a NOI to Aus Super, get that processed and acknowledged, and only then do a rollover. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... Excellent! Please let us know how long it takes for them to complete the process of opening your pension account and transferring all your funds from accumulation They said 3-5 business days in the email, assuming no further doc required, so we shall see. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... Excellent! Please let us know how long it takes for them to complete the process of opening your pension account and transferring all your funds from accumulation. OK, reporting in. 19 Jan emailed NOI29 Jan checked account – tax was taken on 22/1 so NOI has been processed- Received NOI acknowledgement in the mail about a week later!30 Jan did the transfer to pension account online. Received acknowledgement email almost immediately.- Then radio silence.8 Feb I decided to follow up. First step, log in to "old" account.- Balance has disappeared, went to "statements and correspondence" and found several documents dated 1 Feb, relating to the rollover to pension mode, including $ figures, exit statement (from accumulation account), new member number (for pension account) calendar of payments (as per my request) and so on. tl;dr They did the change to pension mode in 2 days, but didn't tell me :) Maybe I'll get a letter in the mail at some stage! EDIT: Oh, and the balance increased by 0.44% from 1 to 8 Feb, so that's nice :) Edit 2: And I have to do a new binding nomination because it's a new account with a new member number. Arrowman writes... They did the change to pension mode in 2 days, but didn't tell me :) Maybe I'll get a letter in the mail at some stage! A bit slow in processing the NOI, but impressively quick to move funds to a pension account! Is the logon address different for the pension account vs the normal accumulation account? Deedee Megadoodoo writes... Is the logon address different for the pension account vs the normal accumulation account? Yes. You you have two different member numbers. Note that their smartphone app only works with accum accounts. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... A bit slow in processing the NOI, Well it was 3 days, just that they didn't email me. It was something like 10 days before the letter arrived. I guess if I had checked online earlier I would have seen it. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... Is the logon address different for the pension account vs the normal accumulation account? As Else said, yes. Takes about 2 mins to set up. All good feedback, thanks! Have been with Aus Super for many years, that's all I know. They've served me well in accumulation, now time to change to HostPlus for my pension in just a few months. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... Have been with Aus Super for many years, that's all I know. They've served me well in accumulation, now time to change to HostPlus for my pension in just a few months. I don't know, but it might take a few days longer to roll over from another fund. But still pretty prompt. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... All good feedback, thanks! Have been with Aus Super for many years, that's all I know. Arrowman writes... I don't know, but it might take a few days longer to roll over from another fund. I recently (last month) rolled my Aus Super accumulation account to a Hostplus accumulation account and it only took 3 days. All correspondence stated that it could take 2-3 weeks but happened way sooner. I believe transfers go via the ATO. Aus Super --->ATO--->Hostplus. slapnut writes... rolled my Aus Super accumulation account to a Hostplus accumulation account and it only took 3 days Perfect perfect perfect! :-) As well as HostPlus's CPIplus offering (my main attraction for my cash component), they also now have several new index classes as well as their existing extensive list of index options. With Aus Super, to get into any index options you'd have to go via Member Direct. The disadvantage there is that pension payments can only come from the pre-mix or DIY options, not from Member Direct. @Arrowman @slapnut ... just wondering what your reasons were to roll over to HostPlus instead of staying with your old fund? Else writes... Note that their smartphone app only works with accum accounts. Noted! Thank you! Deedee Megadoodoo writes... @Arrowman @slapnut ... just wondering what your reasons were to roll over to HostPlus instead of staying with your old fund? I was with Statewide, so my move to Hostplus was forced. I did a bit of basic research and decided to stay with Hostplus. When time came to convert to pension mode, same thing. I can't claim to have done extensive, detailed research, just satisfied myself that it was as good as any. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... @slapnut ... just wondering what your reasons were to roll over to HostPlus instead of staying with your old fund? Arrowman writes... I was with Statewide, so my move to Hostplus was forced. I was the same as Arrowman but when I went from Acc to Pen (Hostplus Balanced) I left $6k in my Hostplus Acc account so that I could transfer that over to Aus Super to conduct a little experiment on returns between Hostplus and Aus Super. I soon realasied that the Hostplus Indexed options were killing it compared to anything Aus Super was offering so I transferred that $6k back to Hostplus indexed options that mirror my Pension account options. Now when I do my drawdown it'll just go straight back into the Hostpus accumulation account. If you can follow all that :) Deedee Megadoodoo writes... several new index classes as well as their existing extensive list of index options. You may want to consider a move now because the Hostplus Indexed Options have been killing it BUT in saying that you have to remember that your money is in limbo and not increasing/declining with market movements once it leaves Aus Super and before arriving in Hostplus, now that could be a good thing if the market goes down but a bad thing if the market goes up. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... extensive list of index options. Personally, the Hostplus Aus Shares Indexed has been pretty stagnant over the last few months compared to the Intl Shares Index. I have a 30/70 split of Au/Intl index but I'm considering ditching the Au component. Even the non index Aus Shares option is currently streets ahead of the Index option but fees are also higher. If you look at the holdings of the Aus shares Index its heavily weighted with the Au banks and the iron ore miners + 1 gold. And there's only around 48 companies that make up the list. Intl shares Index has around 1500 companies in the list with the big heavy hitters such as Apple, Amazon, Microsoft, Alphabet and Nvidia occupying some of the decent weight compared to the rest of the list. There's a couple of ETFs that I follow that gives me a pretty good indication of if my super value is going to go up or down. There's a couple of ETFs that I follow that gives me a pretty good indication of if my super value is going to go up or down. My guide is the Dow and the Standard and Poors 500 index, both of which I monitor each weekday. hoo izzie writes... My guide is the Dow and the Standard and Poors 500 index, both of which I monitor each weekday. I use VGS, VTS, VAS & S&P500 A few months of returns are what is just noise. I wouldn't reconsider making changes to the portfolio based on that. andrew99999 writes... I wouldn't reconsider making changes to the portfolio based on that. I would though given that since 01/07/23 the Aus Share Indexed fund has gone up less than 0.09c, opposed to the Aus Share non indexed fund which has gone up 0.23c and the Intl Share Indexed fund which has gone up 0.28c. That's just a little over $31k left on the table with a 30/70 split on $800k in 7 months. Right but you couldn't know that in advance and sometimes the opposite will happen. Diversification reduces the risk. In June last year I bailed out of Australian Shares Indexed and the other day bailed out of Cash, distributing the Cash 10% equally to Conservative Balanced (now 40%) and International Shares (Hedged)-Indexed (now 30%). Capital Stable unchanged at 30%. 69, 70 this year and retired 5 years. Balance atm: 1,038,000. Recently withdrew 15,000, but balance has gone down only 9,000. Does anyone know what index the "Diversified Fixed Interest – Indexed" investment option follows? I downloaded the holdings CSV file and the entire holding just says "Blackrock" which isn't super helpful. Hi all, Looking for a bit of direction for changing my Hostplus investment options, I'm 35 and currently, my options are set at the default "Balanced" and I am starting to plan for far into the future and maximising my super for retirement without taking ridiculous risks (Outside my, so far successful, penchant for crypto) Was thinking of something along the lines of: International Shares – Indexed 40%Australian Shares – Indexed 40%Indexed Balanced 20% Just my 2c, but I think your Australian portion is too big. The HostPlus Aus shares index only has about 50 companies in their list which is really small, it's also heavily weighted for iron ore and the banks. The Aus stock market only comprises less than 3% of the global market. You also have to remember that when you select 40% that is 40% of your dollar value balance and given that the Au share index trades at only $1.15ish you still end up with a lot of shares. I have a 70/30 weighting but my Au share index option isn't too far away from my Int'l share option as in the number of shares. I'm even considering going 90% Int'l and 10% Aus. slapnut writes... Just my 2c, but I think your Australian portion is too big. You will find two kinds of investors – and neither are right nor wrong. 1. Australia is 2-3% of the market, heavily weighted towards miners and banks, so dont hold too much ASX, in fact why hold any since 3% is a rounding error. diversify as much as possible 2. Australia is a stable country; if you invest overseas you are adding currency risk to the mix, you spend in AUD so Aust shares protects you from currency risk, and ASX actually has a fairly low correlation to global shares, So have 20 – 30% to capture some of the reduced volatility but without going too far. Good discussion at I wouldnt bother with 'indexed balanced'. It overlaps with international and Australian shares so there is no advantage there; and it has 20% defensive assets/bonds. Which have their place in a portfolio but I think at your age you dont need them. If/when you want them, just switch to a fixed interest option or hold cash outside super. A common portfolio is - International shares – Indexed – (Hostplus fees: 0.11%) - international shares – hedged – Indexed – (gets rid of a lot of the currency risk. fee 0.07% – why this is lower than unhedged I dont know). Some people dont bother with hedged, they figure the AUD shares provide enough currency protection and just allocate to international shares - aust shares – indexed – (fees 0.04%) The other potential option is a small amount (~10%) in emerging markets The above basically matches the 4 fund approach (no bonds) for investment outside super, but its entirely the same rationale inside super. It is also pretty low fees. Good discussion here in the first few comments I thinking of joining Hostplus Choiceplus with the following allocation: 50% VTS30% VEU20% Australian indexed (for the non direct component) Have approx $850k to invest. Would appreciate views from the Whirlpool brains trust. MarinN writes... Would appreciate views from the Whirlpool brains trust. What do you see as the benefit of Choiceplus over single sector options (which essentially automates the same investments)? Not saying its a worse choice than single sector by any means Well, I'm wondering if the tax efficiency of ETFs is worth the trouble of the Choiceplus route, compared to the pooled fund options. That's why I'm looking at it. Have around 20 years until retirement. MarinN writes... I thinking of joining Hostplus Choiceplus with the following allocation:50% VTS30% VEU20% Australian indexed (for the non direct component) Have approx $850k to invest. Would appreciate views from the Whirlpool brains trust. This is basically our SMSF portfolio except using VAS rather than the pooled option. Just be aware that if your ChoicePlus option goes above the TBC (currently 1.9m) you will need to sell below this level before converting to pension mode. Well if it is similar to your allocation, Hockey Monkey, then I will take a lot of confidence from that. MarinN writes... Well, I'm wondering if the tax efficiency of ETFs is worth the trouble of the Choiceplus route, compared to the pooled fund options. That's why I'm looking at it. Have around 20 years until retirement. The tax savings of direct options over pooled are around 0.4-0.5% p.a. The difference between super and pension returns are typically ~1% With a typical dividend yield of 3-4% @15% means about 45-60 basis points from dividends with the remainder of the 1% being provisioned capital gains tax slapnut writes... Just my 2c, but I think your Australian portion is too big. The HostPlus Aus shares index only has about 50 companies in their list which is really small, it's also heavily weighted for iron ore and the banks. The Aus stock market only comprises less than 3% of the global market. Cheers, that's probably a fair point TBH, I might adjust those figures a bit. I wouldnt bother with 'indexed balanced'. I am 45 and my investment is currently 100% Indexed Balanced but I have been thinking allot lately about changing this. Balance is 282k When I change the investment mix does that mean I pay CGT because the shares are sold and bought again for the new investment? I don't really know the details of what happens when you change the investment mix. I know it will cost me something. DTC your comments are interesting and I am only using the Indexed Balanced option because Scott Pape recommended it. I do struggle trying to work out what the right mix is. Would 50/50 of the international & aus shares indexed be a good choice? dtc writes... What do you see as the benefit of Choiceplus over single sector options (which essentially automates the same investments)? A big benefit of Choiceplus, is the treatment of CGT when you convert from accumulation to pension phase. If you buy index ETFs, and hold all the way to retirement, when you convert to pension, any unrealised CGT gets wiped out. I have only been in Choiceplus about 5 years, and I have built up about $20k in unrealised CGT, if I can repeat that in next 5 years to retirement, then that will be $40k bonus. Note, this is the same for any "direct investment" option or SMSF where you hold the ETFs long term. Some super funds pay a retirement bonus to give you back some of the value, but you never get back the full value like you can with direct investments. rodpolky writes... I do struggle trying to work out what the right mix is. Would 50/50 of the international & aus shares indexed be a good choice? I think 'most' people (none of us being financial advisers) would suggest no more than 40% Aus and perhaps less – some people down to 0%. Around 70/30 International/aus is pretty common. The 70% might have a hedged element (eg say 1/3 of that is hedged and the other 2/3 not hedged), and if you add 10% emerging markets then that counts towards international well. But, again, you dont need hedging or EM, some people think they are beneficial and some do not. Then again, Peter Thornhill has a following and takes a very different approach There is no right answer. Whatever you feel comfortable with. You wont know if you are right or wrong for 30 years so dont stress about it. The only things you can really control are 1. diversify – broad indexed funds do this2. pick the lowest fee option available to achieve (1). leigh8904 writes... A big benefit of Choiceplus, is the treatment of CGT when you convert from accumulation to pension phase. Yes, I was just wondering if the OP saw this as a benefit or had other ideas. Do you have to go in and buy the shares each time you make a contribution, or does it automatically purchase them? rodpolky writes... DTC your comments are interesting and I am only using the Indexed Balanced option because Scott Pape recommended it. I do struggle trying to work out what the right mix is. Would 50/50 of the international & aus shares indexed be a good choice? It's a good recommendation and got you this far.

You're in a whirlpool finance forum though with people who are very happy to tweak around the edges. They have recently introduced an indexed high growth option which takes on more risk for hopefully larger returns for the same fees as indexed balanced. People have different opinions of risk and it's personal. You have 15-20 years before you need to access super and given you're looking at a direct mix of aust+international this might be a good product for you. They currently have 48% Australian vs 52% international but don't currently provide details on exactly what here investing in for this product. If you're rolling your own, you may want to have a read of passive investing Australia. Most people pick between 0-50% Australian and 50-100% International. There's arguments for and against and depends a lot on what you've invested in outside (if you have an investment property you might choose to leave Australian shares out and only do international for example. A recent thread here had a study suggesting 35%. 20-40% seems to be the most common here. It's a pooled fund so you don't pay CGT, the fund does and is paid for out of returns. dtc writes... Do you have to go in and buy the shares each time you make a contribution, or does it automatically purchase them? It is not automatic. Whenever there is a contribution to your Hostplus super account, the funds go into one of the pooled investment options; you can specify which one (e.g. indexed Balanced). Then you have to transfer to the Choiceplus cash account (takes 2 days), then you can place trade order to buy shares or ETFs. leigh8904 writes... Then you have to transfer to the Choiceplus cash account (takes 2 days), then you can place trade order to buy shares or ETFs. Just something to be aware of, transfers to Choiceplus are in proportion to your existing balance so may not align with your contribution. ie your balance is 10/30/60 in cash/aus shares/intl shares, but you've set new contributions to be intl shares. So you contribute $10k which is allocated to intl shares. But if you then transfer $10k to Choiceplus, $1k will be taken from cash, $3k from Aus shares and $6k from Intl shares. Aus super do it this way as well. rodpolky writes... Would 50/50 of the international & aus shares indexed be a good choice? FWIW Ben Felix (well regarded on these forums) in his latest video cites a very large study that was done in ~40 countries using data going back many decades where they used advanced modeling to find the best asset allocation (both in types of assets & %'s of them) over a lifetime. They were quite resounding in finding that 35% domestic, 65% intl for all countries (other than for US investors) worked out the best – regardless of the investor's age! Coincidentally this aligns with the VDHG, DHHF allocations pretty much – so I suspect they knew this a while back from internal studies. Alright, I've spent far too much time in the last few days reading about this stuff and settled on something I am personally happy with so I guess that's the main thing. International shares – Indexed 40%International shares – Hedged – Indexed 40%Australian Shares – Indexed 15%Emerging – 5% just had a look on the choiceplus guide. with the additional fees of $168 per year and at $13 per trade (or 0.1% over $13k). are there any other fees I am missing? say if I look at the ETF for S&P500, any additional costs vs say International index at 0.1% (ignoring discussion on potential returns) okitoki writes... are there any other fees I am missing? The MER of the fund/s you select You can deposit money into the pooled options and then rebalance it into your direct investments once or twice a year to save on brokerage. Starting a new job with a considerable pay rise. Filling out the onboarding paperwork included a super form.Made me think to have a review of my super which I haven't done for years. Currently in Aus Super: " High Growth " Looking to swap into Host Plus: " Indexed High Growth " Do you think there is any merit to swapping over, in a general sense? Anyone done it? Similar product, much lower fees. Seems like a no brainer. Switched to 20% Aus, 80% International indexed with Hostplus from Aus Super High Growth. Not well publicised what's in indexed high growth. BrokenRecord writes... Similar product, much lower fees. Seems like a no brainer. Switched to 20% Aus, 80% International indexed with Hostplus from Aus Super High Growth. Not well publicised what's in indexed high growth. Pretty much the gist I got. Will keep reading. andrew99999 writes... The MER of the fund/s you select ah.... with that on top, and the additional admin fees, that seems like a very expensive way to go then My reservations with the high growth indexed option is in their target range. Their target allocation is 20%-80% of each, which means they can change it. Their target range includes unlisted assets up to 10% in each of property, infrastructure, credit, and alternatives and up to 30% in private equity. Does that mean in a market downturn, as people leave the balanced fund and head for cash in droves and they can't offload unlisted assets from their balanced fund while they are inaccurately overpriced (as is the case with unlisted assets), they shovel it overpriced into the investment options that the poor schlubs who went with their indexed product used thinking they were avoiding this exact problem? Because of that possibility, I wouldn't touch that product. If you want 48% Aus index and 52% international index, use two different investment options and select 48% for the Aus index option and 52% for their international index option. The biggest part of indexing for me is avoiding the chance of some investment manager messing with my retirement nest egg. leigh8904 writes... It is not automatic. Whenever there is a contribution to your Hostplus super account, the funds go into one of the pooled investment options; you can specify which one (e.g. indexed Balanced). Then you have to transfer to the Choiceplus cash account (takes 2 days), then you can place trade order to buy shares or ETFs. Thanks. I was reading the PDS and confused because it kept saying 'you transfer to your Choiceplus transaction account from the Hostplus investment option' and I couldnt figure out how your money got into the 'investment option' in the first place. But your description makes that clear. So if I rollover from my current fund to Choiceplus, I have to rollover everything into a Hostplus option, then into my transaction account and then into my Choiceplus investments. Bit of a pain. FWIW, comparing fees between Choiceplus and equivalent sector indexed options – sorry for lots of figures! Also I'm not a maths person so shout out if you dont agree with the figures Assume: $1m portfolio (why not!) and a 70/30 International/Aus split Indexed single sector Admin fee $78pa portfolio fee 0.0165% of total portfolio =$165 Aust shares indexed 0.04%pa (@$300k) = $120 International shares indexed 0.11% pa (@$700k) = $770 That comes to $1,133 pa fees Choiceplus Admin fee $78 portfolio fee $168 (note: at $1m the portfolio fee between Hostplus options and Choiceplus is basically the same; for higher amounts Choiceplus wins and vice versa) A200 (lowest cost Aus indexed ETF) 0.04% (@$300k) = $120 VGS (international ex Au) 0.18% = $1,260 However: you could do IVV – S&P500 at 0.04% plus VEU – all world ex US at 0.08. You need to do a little bit of rebalancing from time to time and decide how you want to deal with the world/USA split; or just copy VGS at 70% US weighting. If you do this you will get fee at around 0.5-0.6% depending on the USA/world ratio, which makes this fee about $420pa or perhaps less. plus 0.1% brokerage per trade, say $50 pa on $50,000 contribution per year. On $1m fund that works out at around $1700 (but only $836 if you use the IVV/VEU option). Lower if you contribute less than $50k pa. I havent included the 0.1% fee on the transaction account as presumably that will be minimal (you wont have large sums in the account for very long). I assume you also have to pay the portfolio fee on your 'Hostplus investment option' but his will be hardly anything if you generally hold around the minimum requirement in your index fund ($2000) eg if you average $5k then its under $1 pa. I assume you dont pay another $68 admin fee to hold the Hostplus option? Note: have not captured the fees of transitioning over to Choiceplus from an existing portfolio. If you rolled over $1,000,000 and had to pay brokerage thats $1,000 – but its a once off cost. In any case, there really is little difference between the two options – the admin+portfolio fee are pretty similar (except for low balances, where Hostplus wins); the MER on the investments is basically the same. Of course, if you dont go Aus/International, but want hedged or emerging markets or bonds, then it may be a little different. leigh8904 writes... , then that will be $40k bonus. I'm not sure its a $40k bonus – if you had to pay CGT on it (ie the fund does), then the tax on that would be 10% (15% standard tax less a 1/3 concession for holding over 12 months; or at worst its 15%). So you would lose $4k or $6k in tax but retain the balance (the benefit offset against slightly higher fees). There is a tax drag as mentioned which makes the returns slightly worse. However on a big portfolio, say $1.5m, you could easily get $80k+ capital gains per year, so overtime the tax saving will be considerable. JordanBerlyn writes... Does anyone know what index the "Diversified Fixed Interest – Indexed" investment option follows? I downloaded the holdings CSV file and the entire holding just says "Blackrock" which isn't super helpful. Sorry to bump this, just wondering if anyone knows if this investment option is just Australian fixed interest (similar to VAF) or if it's international (similar to VBND)? JordanBerlyn writes... Sorry to bump this, just wondering if anyone knows if this investment option is just Australian fixed interest (similar to VAF) or if it's international (similar to VBND)? Probably a phone call. Nothing on Hostplus's website appears to give any more detail than BlackRock which has ~15 different bond funds. JordanBerlyn writes... Sorry to bump this, just wondering if anyone knows if this investment option is just Australian fixed interest (similar to VAF) or if it's international (similar to VBND)? Just wondering how much you are thinking of allocating to this asset class? Have you also considered ChoicePlus cash? That's paying 5.15% (my cash is in Aus Super Member Direct, it's currently paying 5.25%). Deedee Megadoodoo writes... Just wondering how much you are thinking of allocating to this asset class? I use a glide path right now of "Age minus 25 in bonds". I'm currently 32 so I only plan to hold 7% in bonds and increase this each year. andrew99999 writes... The biggest part of indexing for me is avoiding the chance of some investment manager messing with my retirement nest egg. You don't have a lot of faith in the investment managers I take it. Hockey Monkey writes... Note, you need to keep at least 20% in pooled options. Best option is probably Australian Shares Indexed due to lower capital gains so less impact on the tax efficiency side of things Ah, the PDS a bit tricky on this – they dont specifically say you need 20% in a pooled option (only that you need $2k minimum) but they do say you cant have more than 80% in the Choiceplus option. If you do use the Aus-shares indexed then the fees are the same as A200 through Choice Plus, so doesnt affect the overall fee calculation. Also realised that you cant have more than 50% in VGS, so even if you wanted to go 70% international, you will have to buy at least 2 ETFs (eg VGS plus VGS hedged?; or IVV and VEU). Not to mention that if you kept 20% in Aus indexed, then you probably need 90% international in the choiceplus option + 10% Australia (to total 70/30 overall) They dont make it easy! Dont understand why your contributions dont go straight to the choiceplus transaction account, then you buy your choiceplus options or, if you want, also allocate to a Hostplus option. dtc writes... I assume you dont pay another $68 admin fee to hold the Hostplus option? Actually, just saw it says 'In addition to your Hostplus administration and investment fees and costs, Choiceplus includes a competitive administration fee of $168 a year (approximately $14 per month, deducted from your transaction account).' So for Choiceplus you do have to pay the $78 admin fee for the Hostplus option and also $78 for the Choiceplus option, plus portfolio fees on each (0.0165% + $168). Its only a small amount but seems a bit excessive to charge two admin fees and solely because Hostplus requires you to use a Hostplus option instead of being logical. In any case...the fees between Hostplus options and Choiceplus options are largely the same, only minor differences based on the total value of the portfolio. So tax advantage vs the additional admin I guess dtc writes... So for Choiceplus you do have to pay the $78 admin fee for the Hostplus option and also $78 for the Choiceplus option, plus portfolio fees on each (0.0165% + $168). Its only a small amount but seems a bit excessive to charge two admin fees and solely because Hostplus requires you to use a Hostplus option instead of being logical. In comparison to Aus Super, this is their fees You pay a portfolio admin fee depending on your portfolio ...Cash Account (Cash only): $30 paTerm Deposits (Cash and Term Deposits): $120 paShares, ETFs & LICs (Cash and Term Deposits and ASX 300 shares, ETFs & LICs): $180 pa But no asset percentage fee. Since I just have cash in Member Direct, it just costs me $30 per year. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... In comparison to Aus Super, this is their fees I actually really like that AustralianSuper offer an MSCI All World ex Australia investment option. It effectively covers everything you would need in terms of international markets (excluding small cap, if you're into that sort of thing). It's a shame their fees are on the higher end compared with HostPlus (when I last checked). JordanBerlyn writes... actually really like that AustralianSuper offer an MSCI All World ex Australia investment option. It effectively covers everything you would need in terms of international markets (excluding small cap, if you're into that sort of thing). Keep in mind it is actively managed with a fee of 0.35% + 0.08% transaction costs plus manager risk Hockey Monkey writes... Keep in mind it is actively managed with a fee of 0.35% + 0.08% transaction costs plus manager risk I take back everything that I said. Every night I pray to the index gods that there will one day be an Australian domiciled version of VT. leigh8904 writes... then that will be $40k bonus dtc writes... I'm not sure its a $40k bonus – if you had to pay CGT on it (ie the fund does), then the tax on that would be 10% (15% standard tax less a 1/3 concession for holding over 12 months; or at worst its 15%). No, I do mean a $40k bonus. Based on unrealised capital gain = $400k. In accumulation mode, long term CGT = 10%, hence there is an allowance for CGT = $40k on unrealised CG. But if you transfer the whole balance over to pension mode, there is no CGT event (the shares do not need to be sold), then in pension phase CGT = 0%, hence the CGT allowance is wiped out => $0. leigh8904 writes... there is no CGT event (the shares do not need to be sold), then in pension phase CGT = 0%, hence the CGT allowance is wiped out => $0. Is a great little trick indeed. Our SMSF is VTS+VEU+A200+VVLU – not historically big dividend payers, cool – pop the value on as capital gains. Avoid meddling with it incurring CGT. Get to the 'pension status' finishing line in many a year and all that unrealised CGT is absolved. And they're exactly the ETFs I would have gone with to follow the overall market strategy I've decided is one I believe in. Meanwhile some pooled funds toss limited 'bonuses' back to members who were likewise patient & didn't incur CGT. Doesnt seem all that fair but thems the breaks if you use them. Hockey Monkey writes... Note, you need to keep at least 20% in pooled options. dtc writes... Ah, the PDS a bit tricky on this – they dont specifically say you need 20% in a pooled option (only that you need $2k minimum) but they do say you cant have more than 80% in the Choiceplus option. If you do use the Aus-shares indexed then the fees are the same as A200 through Choice Plus, so doesnt affect the overall fee calculation. I agree, the PDS is rather quirky on this, read it carefully. The rules are:- must keep at least $2k in pooled investment option(s)- cannot invest more than 80% total in direct investments (with individual 50% and 20% limits on various ETFs/shares etc)But what this actually means, is that you can have:- 20% – $2k in the ChoicePlus cash account. You don't actually have to keep 20% in pooled investment option. I'm trying to remember if you can have all but 2k in the cash account in ChoicePlus. Yes but to remain fully invested in equities, 20% pooled unfortunately The person I spoke to on the phone from HostPlus said they would email through details about the "Diversified Fixed Interest – Indexed investment" option, but the response I got was pretty unhelpful. Based on their response, it's essentially a mixture of Australian and international bonds, but no real information about the allocation. Quoted from email they sent me: Our indexed investment options do not directly track indices but rather use a passive investment style to invest in listed companies, bonds and cash and aim to track the returns of the markets in which they invest. The Diversified Fixed Interest – Indexed investment option is focused on minimising investment fees and costs in a single sector from investing in a portfolio of all defensive assets (Australian and international government bonds and other investment grade debt) and has low diversification. JordanBerlyn writes... The person I spoke to on the phone from HostPlus said they would email through details about the "Diversified Fixed Interest – Indexed investment" option, but the response I got was pretty unhelpful. Alas when I was with HP I found them much the same, amidst the many things folks dislike about Super Funds I do think 'lack of transparency' is a rather underrated one. And I really do not get – given it's your money & they're being paid to invest it on your behalf – how and why they continue to get away with being so downright crappy with being clear on such basic matters. Unfortunately its a lot of 'Trust us, you don't need to know this stuff' – shouldn't be so hard to get whats going on with YOUR funds. Daniel Plainview writes... Alas when I was with HP I found them much the same, amidst the many things folks dislike about Super Funds I do think 'lack of transparency' is a rather underrated one. And I really do not get – given it's your money & they're being paid to invest it on your behalf – how and why they continue to get away with being so downright crappy with being clear on such basic matters. Unfortunately its a lot of 'Trust us, you don't need to know this stuff' – shouldn't be so hard to get whats going on with YOUR funds. Yeah, I definitely agree with you on all points there. I'm not too concerned on this specific investment option, given the low fee of 0.04% and the fact it targets a mixture of Australian and international. Fingers crossed they're not taking me for a ride on the defensive portion of my nest egg. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... I had a look, I randomly had a look at a ½ dozen of their asset classes, the do seem to list their holdings in sufficient detail, were you expecting more that this? To be fair I wasn't simply talking asset allocations etc – it's in a number of other aspects of their operations pertaining to your account, I found some info I could get but only after a lot of effort – other stuff I got the run around on and nobody on their end seemed willing or able to assist. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... I had a look, I randomly had a look at a ½ dozen of their asset classes, the do seem to list their holdings in sufficient detail, were you expecting more that this? If you look at the "Diversified Fixed Interest – Indexed" option in that list, it says 100% allocation to "Blackrock". Not exactly a helpful breakdown of the assets. JordanBerlyn writes... If you look at the "Diversified Fixed Interest – Indexed" option in that list, it says 100% allocation to "Blackrock". Not exactly a helpful breakdown of the assets. I see that, that seems to be an exception though? Having said that though, I've been in Aus super for decades, I've never once looked in detail at the holdings in the asset classes I was in, it's generally not something that concerns me. If it did, I either DIY via Choiceplus/Member direct or via a SMSF. I did have a look recently though, just to glance though my asset classes, but took no notice of it though. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... it's generally not something that concerns me. I guess everyone is a little different. When I am giving an organisation nearly $30k of my money every year, I like to have a as much insight as possible into what they are doing with it. JordanBerlyn writes... Our indexed investment options do not directly track indices Isn't this being a little deceitful? Wouldn't most people expect an 'indexed' fund to track an index? If no, what makes it 'indexed'? A bond index (which is what we are talking about here) is not as obvious as a stock index. How do you define the top x hundred bonds, especially when new ones can pop into existence at any point? If there is a crapload of low-quality bonds out there (and there is), should you just accept them as a necessary part of your slice of the bond market? Look at the link below for the methodology of a presumably respected "index" — yeah nah, that's a bunch of vagueness and arbitrary allocations. (They may very well get it "right"; but that's the point, it required some judgment.) theDJR writes... A bond index (which is what we are talking about here) is not as obvious as a stock index. How do you define the top x hundred bonds, especially when new ones can pop into existence at any point? My main interest is whether it included international or if it was solely Australian government bonds. leigh8904 writes... I agree, the PDS is rather quirky on this, read it carefully. The rules are:- must keep at least $2k in pooled investment option(s)- cannot invest more than 80% total in direct investments (with individual 50% and 20% limits on various ETFs/shares etc) So another little quirk, from what I can see – if you start with $80k in Choiceplus and $20k in your Hostplus option (20%), and then a year later (with no additional contributions) the Choiceplus has increased to $110k and the Hostplus only to $25k, so the Hostplus is now only 18.5%, it says 'You can 'top up' your transaction account at any time subject to maintaining the minimum amounts in your other Hostplus investment options. So you cant invest any new contribution in the Choiceplus account until you top up your Hostplus option back to 20%. Which is another factor against cash as your Hostplus option will continually need topping up as returns run behind the equities investment Poyner writes... Isn't this being a little deceitful? Wouldn't most people expect an 'indexed' fund to track an index? If no, what makes it 'indexed'? If you want to worry yourself further read . Scroll down a bit until the heading "How does HostPlus invest my super". No idea if the analysis is accurate dtc writes... So you cant invest any new contribution in the Choiceplus account until you top up your Hostplus option back to 20%. Which is another factor against cash as your Hostplus option will continually need topping up as returns run behind the equities investment The ETF distributions would help keep this in check to some extent. Anyone having issues with Hostplus App login on? Mine just times out while Web version is ok okitoki writes... Anyone having issues with Hostplus App login on? I used the web version on my phone and it eventually loaded but took it's sweet time. The app version was instant. Yeah was working well during the day but for the last 2 nights the app just error out. Uninstalled and reinstalled didn't help They are doing maintenance Looks like the NOITC has gone digital for Hostplus now.option is under Super – Claim a tax deduction. I am looking to roll over some super (about $300k) from a Commonwealth fund to HostPlus high growth indexed, or into individual international/ Aus indexes at about 70/30. I am likely to have to pay Div296 tax, assuming it's implemented, of about $6-10k p.a. That would come out of the $300k balance each year. Thoughts on an allocation that would maximise long term growth, but avoid any big losses if I'm paying out $10k p.a.? Or maybe I accept crystallizing $10k losses some years to maximise overall growth? Happy to be steered towards a better structure for this scenario. I'm assuming/hoping I can direct Hostplus what area of allocation the $10k is taken from and rebalance after as needed? Thanks Gilees writes... I am likely to have to pay Div296 tax, assuming it's implemented, of about $6-10k p.a. That would come out of the $300k balance each year. Are you sure you have the math right Div 296 only applies proportionally so say you have a 300k gain from 3m to 3.3m, the extra tax is 300*15% * 300/3300 = 4k Yeah, the bit staying in comsuper will likely be valued around $3-$3.5m (invalidity pension, my age relatively low) so it's not just tax on the $300k in isolation. $6k is a likely figure in 2025/6, but after that it'll grow- how much depending on if indexed etc CHOICEPLUS – Question with regards to owning VEU or VTS within Choiceplus, do you still have to complete the W-8BEN form every 3 years as if holding the shares outside of the SUPER environment? TIA Thank you for your reply. I rang HOSTPLUS and they gave the same answer as per the thread. What do you consider to be a minimum super balance to justify CHOICEPLUS? I currently have a balance of $420,000 M46 with REST. Can anyone provide some pros/cons for using Choiceplus? I understand if I were to get above the TBC it cause some issues by having to sell down (nice problem to have I guess) but in 20 years time when I plan to convert to pension, the TBC should have risen significantly? All comments are greatly appreciated. okitoki writes... Looks like the NOITC has gone digital for Hostplus now. Thanks – so easy to complete now. I rolled over super recently from Aussie Super & Hostplus is a few years behind them in the streamlining paperwork dept. Now for better BDBN forms – at least a prefilled PDF would be an improvement. So I just signed up with Hostplus. I enquired if I wanted to do split contribution with my spouse, and chat agent told me to fill up the ATO required form together with certified proof of identity documents, but I have to send them via post or snail mal. They do not have the feature to upload documents online. As such, I shared to them the URL link showing the AusSuper Upload document feature as as well the AusSuper sample form. Someone should tell Hostplus to fastrack the development of the Upload Document online feature. Anyone recieved this years statement online yet? Last years arrived in july 16. Also with mfa, does your arrive from okta for hostplus? Yeah i understand we get statements in the mail in September. I think the online statements arrive earlier, according to my statement history anyway. Last year it was 16 july, year before that was 1 auguest. Sorry to bother you guys but i haven't checked my hostplus super account in a while. Did i use the correct website for login? It was mol.hostplus.com.au I had to setup MFA and the sms arrived from a phone number called "okta".... Did i use the correct site for login? rpgfan800 writes... I had to setup MFA and the sms arrived from a phone number called "okta".... Did i use the correct site for login? Yes, the 2fa comes from Okta. Okta is an online verification service. I'd have to check but that URL looks right. Any idea when the 23/24 annual statement will be released? ah.... thanks for that... I should read prior posts properly. If I change 100% of my existing hostplus super allocation from "Balanced" to "50% Australian Shares and 50% International Shares", does this create any tax implications or any other negative consequences? For example, is CGT recognised within my fund for selling units from Balanced? tempo writes... For example, is CGT recognised within my fund for selling units from Balanced? From my understanding, no (sort of). But other's might want to chime in to confirm or explain why. tempo writes... If I change 100% of my existing hostplus super allocation from "Balanced" to "50% Australian Shares and 50% International Shares", does this create any tax implications or any other negative consequences? For example, is CGT recognised within my fund for selling units from Balanced? No as CGT has already been provisioned for. For pooled options you can switch without any other impact. Direct holdings like ETFs could be liable for CGT. Has anyone noticed the changes to Hostplus investment options? I was Shares Plus which is now named Growth while noticing a new option called High Growth. Considering switching to this new option. frypans writes... I was Shares Plus which is now named Growth while noticing a new option called High Growth. Considering switching to this new option. I'd consider the low fee passively managed High Growth Indexed option instead of the actively managed High Growth unless you have a particular reason for going with actively managed. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... I'd consider the low fee passively managed High Growth Indexed option instead of the actively managed High Growth unless you have a particular reason for going with actively managed. how do i tell the difference between 'active' and 'passive'? paceman writes... how do i tell the difference between 'active' and 'passive'? If it's indexed, it will have the word 'indexed' in its name, anything else you can regard as actively managed (apart from cash). Also the investment fee will also reflect it, indexed options will generally have an investment fee of around 0.05% or less. Active funds will generally have investment fees around 10x more, ie 0.5% or more. Deedee Megadoodoo writes... If it's indexed, it will have the word 'indexed' in its name, anything else you can regard as actively managed (apart from cash) thanks... didn't realise that indexed correlated with passive... good to know... Deedee Megadoodoo writes... I'd consider the low fee passively managed High Growth Indexed option instead of the actively managed High Growth unless you have a particular reason for going with actively managed. Thanks Deedee. Is the (active) High Growth not better than the (passive) Indexed High Growth based upon the expected returns. (Active) High Growth – Fee 0.78% – Expected return CPI + 4.5%(Passive) Indexed High Growth – Fee 0.05% – Expected return CPI + 3% I.e. Aren't the additional fees justified by the higher expected returns. Active) High Growth – Fee 0.78% – Expected return CPI + 4.5%(Passive) Indexed High Growth – Fee 0.05% – Expected return CPI + 3% Expected vs Reality High growth (active) 1 year return = 16.11%High growth index (passive) 1 year return = 21.38% frypans writes... I.e. Aren't the additional fees justified by the higher expected returns. History shows that active management can't consistently beat passive investing. The returns may be higher this year but they won't be ever year. The fees will remain higher though. Recommended reading: The Little Book of Common Sense Investing by John Bogle, founder of Vanguard. slapnut writes... High growth (active) 1 year return = 16.11%High growth index (passive) 1 year return = 21.38% Where did you get these figures from? (Passive) Indexed High Growth has only just been created as an option. Why would Hostplus' advertised expected returns be less for the passive option if the reverse is true? Just lodged my first NOI to claim through the online portal. I had made $17,200 in contributions for FY24 (which it correctly stated), but, only $17,149.28 was stated as being claimable. I went ahead and lodged it, as $50 isn't a big deal in the grand scheme of it, but seems strange. I had 2 unsuccessfully attempts at the chat window to discuss with them so I'll have to follow up another time. Anyone else know why I would not be able to claim the full amount that I contributed ? swan14 writes... Anyone else know why I would not be able to claim the full amount that I contributed ? Employer concessional contributions? i.e. the super guarantee. Have a look at your payslips & see how much super your employer is contributing. Your + employer CC