



# 4. Risks of investing in super additional guide

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**The information in this document forms part of the Product Disclosure Statements of:**

Vision Super Saver dated **1 July 2021**

Super Saver Australian Services Union dated **1 July 2021**

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All investments carry risks, including the investments you make as a Vision Super member. Super funds invest in a diverse range of assets, including Australian and overseas shares, property, diversified bonds, infrastructure and cash which are included in different investment strategies. Each investment strategy has a different risk profile depending on the assets that make up the investment strategy. Those assets offering the highest long-term returns, such as equities, may also carry the highest level of short-term risk. For further information about investment risks including risks specifically associated with each asset class and the risk profile of each of Vision Super's investment options, please refer to the additional guide [5. How we invest your money – additional guide](#).

### When investing in super, there are significant risks to consider.

These include:

Equity risk	Investors in shares or stocks take on equity risk in order to earn an equity risk premium. The equity risk premium is the extra return that investors require for investing their money in stocks, instead of holding it in a riskless or close to riskless investment.
Inflation and interest rate risk	There is a risk that inflation may exceed the return of your investments. If inflation is higher than your investment returns, this will diminish the real value of your benefits. As interest rates change, they can impact investment returns positively or negatively. Generally, as interest rates rise, the price of fixed interest securities (bonds) will fall; if rates fall, the price of bonds tends to go up.
Credit (including counterparty and bankruptcy) risk	There is a risk that a party in a contract will not live up to its contractual obligations. This is often also referred to as default/counterparty risk. This risk may result in lost capital and income, disruption to cash flows, and increased collection costs.
Liquidity risk	There is a risk that an investment can not be converted to cash quickly without having an undue negative impact on asset prices which may lead to a delay in meeting member switches or redemptions, or other payment obligations of the Fund, or may result in a loss.
Currency risk	When investing in overseas assets, the value of your investment will fluctuate with the value of the Australian dollar. To offset this currency risk in international investments, Vision Super partially hedges against currency fluctuations. Refer to <a href="#">5. How we invest your money – additional guide</a> for more information on currency risk.
Operational risk	This risk is associated with fraud, human error, systems failures and inadequate procedures and internal management controls which could result in a material loss. This includes the risk of unit pricing errors. This may also include the risk that the valuation system incorrectly calculates a price for a derivative or its equivalent exposure.
Changes to government policy and legislation	Legislative changes may affect your benefit or your ability to access your benefit, such as changes to how super benefits are taxed, the caps (limits) on contributions that a super fund can accept, how super funds are taxed, and the preservation rules.
Climate/ESG risk	The risk that environmental / climate factors will impair the value of your investments, or impact negatively on the cost of living in retirement. The risk that social factors (such as human rights, labour standards, health and safety) may result in litigation against companies, and/or reputational loss, which may impair the value of your investments. The risk that governance factors can result in companies not taking actions in the best interests of investors, which may impair the value of your investments

Due to these risks, your superannuation (including your contributions and any returns) may not be sufficient to adequately fund your retirement. It is worth consulting a professional financial adviser to assist in developing an investment and savings strategy that will help you achieve your retirement goals, taking into account your personal circumstances (including risk tolerance). The information about risks shown here is general information only and does not consider your objectives, financial situation or needs.

## Here to help

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