



Class Ignite 2024 | Get Connected

Revolutionizing Retirement: Dynamic Strategies for Young Adults Using SMSFs

Get Connected. Explore Opportunities.
Be Inspired.



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Agenda



1. Why should today's young Australians think about retirement goals



2. Set good foundations: Financial Literacy and Cultivating Good Habits in Youth



3. Case studies: Strategies for Building Wealth through Super



4. Key Takeaways

— 1.0 Why should today's young Australians think about retirement goals?

1.1 How much does the younger generation need to retire?

Type	High savings targets for pre-retirees (aged 55-59)			High savings targets for retirees (aged 65-69)		
	Fortnight	Annual	Balance	Fortnight	Annual	Balance
Single	\$2,269	\$59,000	\$777,000	\$2,115	\$55,000	\$795,000
Couple	\$3,346	\$87,000	\$1,037,000	\$3,077	\$80,000	\$1,055,000

Source: MoneySmart > [Super Consumers Australia's retirement savings targets](#)

ASFA Retirement Standard: June Quarter 2024

Key points!

- Assumes homeownership
- Assumes Age Pension

Comfortable lifestyle (p. a.)

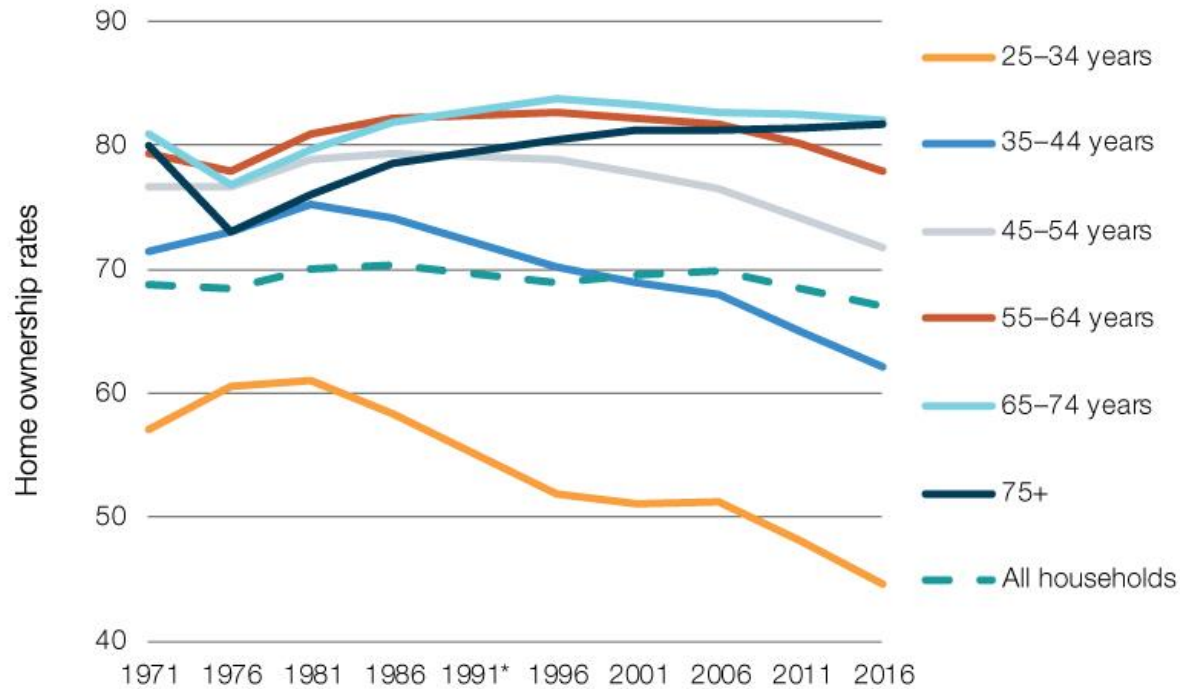
Couple	Single
\$73,337	\$52,085

Modest lifestyle (p. a.)

Couple	Single
\$47,731	\$33,134

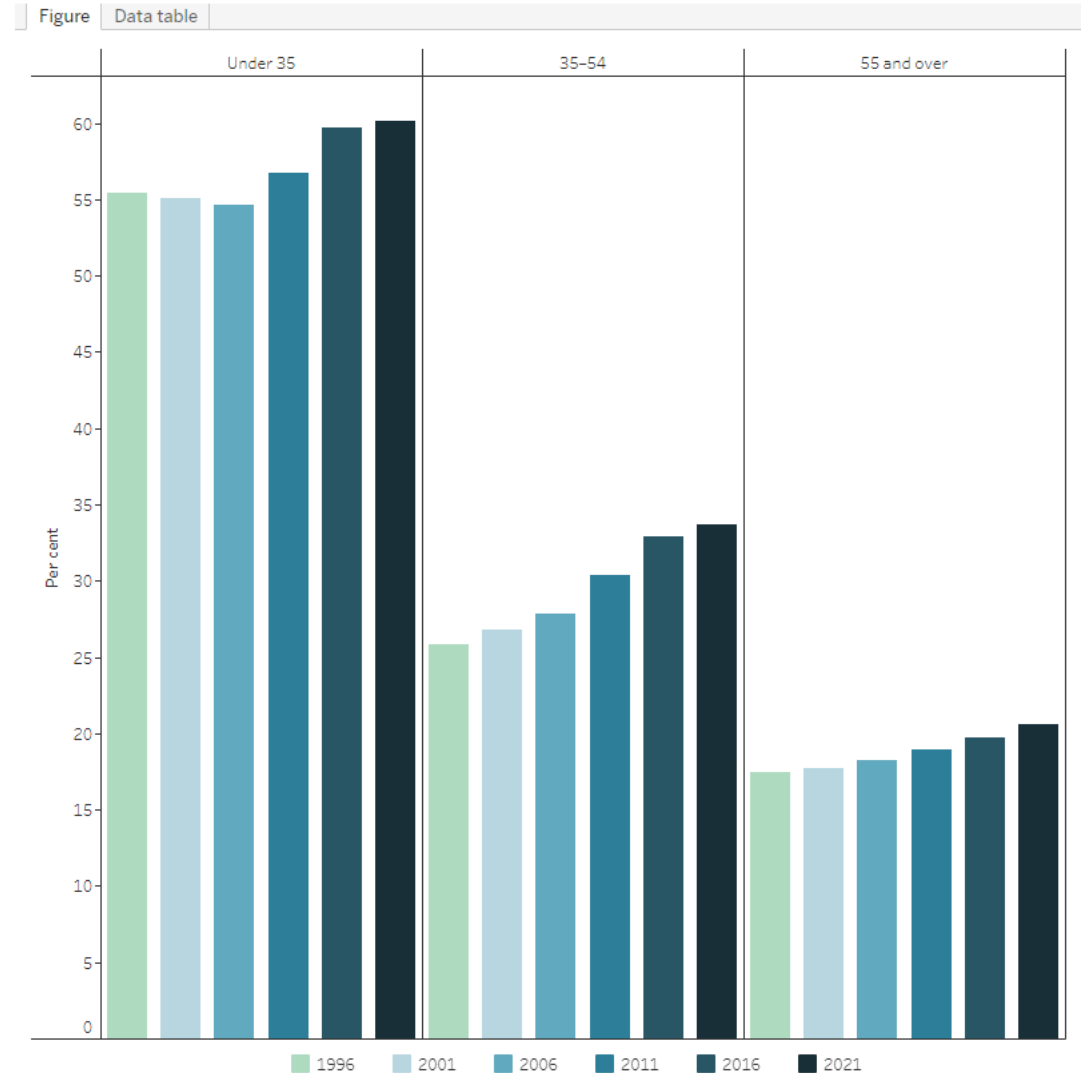
1.2 Home Ownership trends

Homeownership rates by age groups



Source: Based on ABS Census data, 1971 to 2016; AIHW analysis of customised report. * Data for 1991 interpolated using linear interpolation. Data excludes 'not stated'
From: Declining home ownership rates in Australia (Hall A & Thomas M)

Figure 4: Proportion of households renting, by age of household reference person, 1996 to 2021



Source: Unpublished, AIHW analysis of Census data.
From: Home ownership and housing tenure (AIHW, 12 Jul 2024)

1.3 Retirement trends

Homeownership a key contributor to confidence in retirement

Slightly / Not at all confident in their retirement (%)*	
Own home outright	16%
Own home with mortgage	36%
Renting	57%

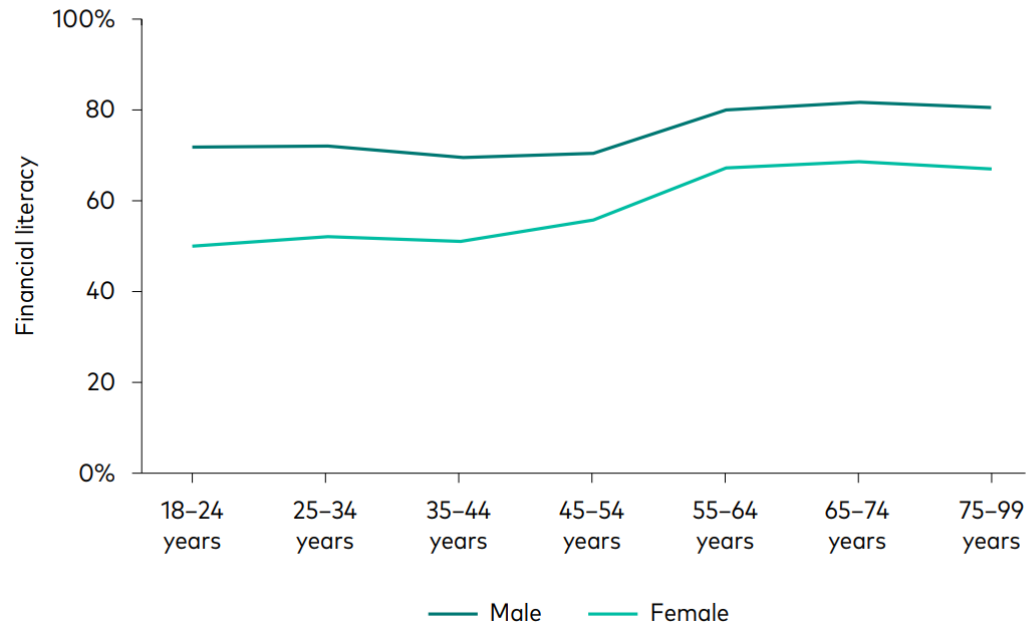
Trends indicate that home ownership is decreasing in younger generations and renting is increasing in older generations.

*Source: How Australia Retires, Vanguard June 2024

1.4 retirement trends

1. Younger generations are typically engaged in their finances and want to take control

Financial literacy by age and gender



Retirement system literacy by age and gender



Source: How Australia Retires, Vanguard June 2024

1.5 What about the environment of young Australians?

External / Macro Factors	Younger generation factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Global and geopolitical challenges• Cost of living pressures• Age pension uncertainty• Increasing life expectancy• Intergeneration wealth transfer• Housing affordability• Disruptive technologies (AI, blockchain, IoT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uncertain and volatile employment market• High education costs• Engaging with their finances and taking control• Want financial stability• Tend to be life focussed v work focussed• Declining property ownership aspirations• Digital natives

1.6 The opportunity

1. **Super balances can be over \$200k**

- Superannuation guarantee since day 1, increasing SG rates

2. **Good financial literacy**

- General financial literacy is not materially different to those 30 years older
- Retirement literacy is reasonable, however needs support on maximising super

3. **Digital natives**

- Financial apps for budgeting, investment, spending tracking
- Financial Influencers on Social Media for advice

4. **Superannuation Guarantee**

- Younger generations have been eligible recipients SG often since their first job

Behaviourally, this is a great candidate for SMSFs!

— 2.0 Set good foundations

2.1 Set good foundations

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest". – Benjamin Franklin

Increase knowledge in
wealth and retirement

Goal setting and targets

Smart budgeting and
reducing unnecessary
spending

Use technology to
manage finances and
find savings

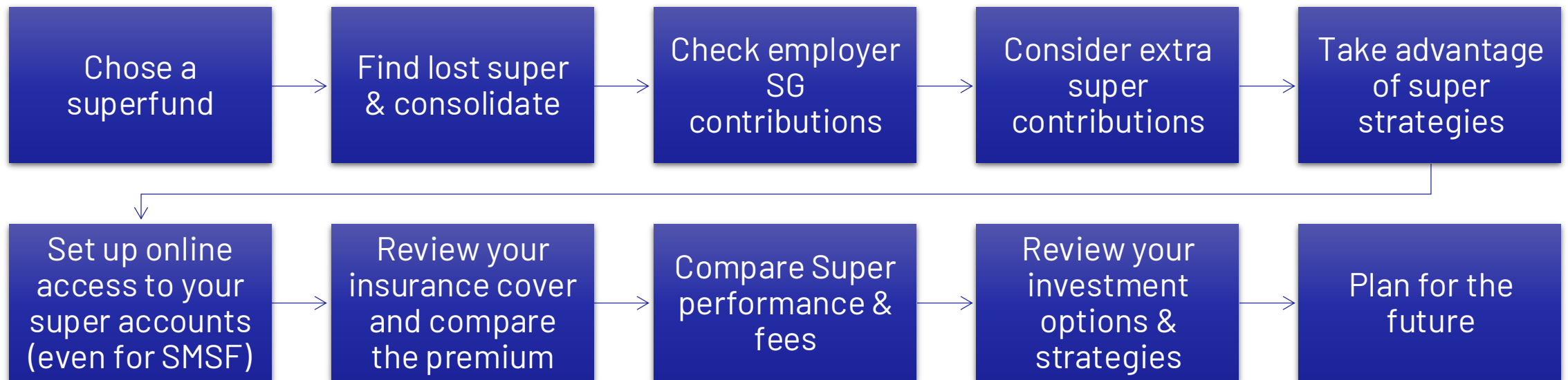
Starting small early
better than starting big
later

Value add tax effective
opportunities

Continual financial
education and planning

2.2 Set good foundations

"Be proactive about your financial future. Take control of your money and make informed decisions." – The Barefoot Investor



— 3.0 Case studies: Strategies for Building Wealth through Super

— 3.1 Case Studies

The benefits of
starting early

Congratulations!
Baby on the way

Retire with
Confidence –
Getting the
house?

3.2 The benefits of starting early

- In FY26, Amy (21) just finished her degree and secured her first job as an account consultant at a fast-growing medical company that offers lots of opportunities for promotions.
- Amy's starting salary is \$55,000 p.a. (excl. super).
- She is going to use the "pay-yourself-first" method to make extra savings of \$5,000 p.a. after-tax for investment. Then spend the balance as living expenses.
- But she is unsure whether it is wiser to save it outside or insider super.



3.3 The benefits of starting early

Options to save \$5,000* p.a. after-tax for investment:

Year 1 (FY26)	Option 1: Save \$5k after tax outside of super		Option 2: Save \$5k after tax inside super	
Level	Individual	Super	Individual	Super
Employment income (excl. super)	\$55,000	-	\$55,000	-
SG @ 12%	-	\$6,600	-	\$6,600
Salary Sacrifice Contribution	\$0	\$0	(\$5,882)	\$5,882^
Taxes, Medicare & etc.	(\$9,017)	(\$990)	(\$7,046)	(\$1,872)
Savings	\$5,000*	\$5,610	\$0	\$10,610
Disposable income after tax & savings or salary sacrifice	\$40,983	-	\$42,072	-

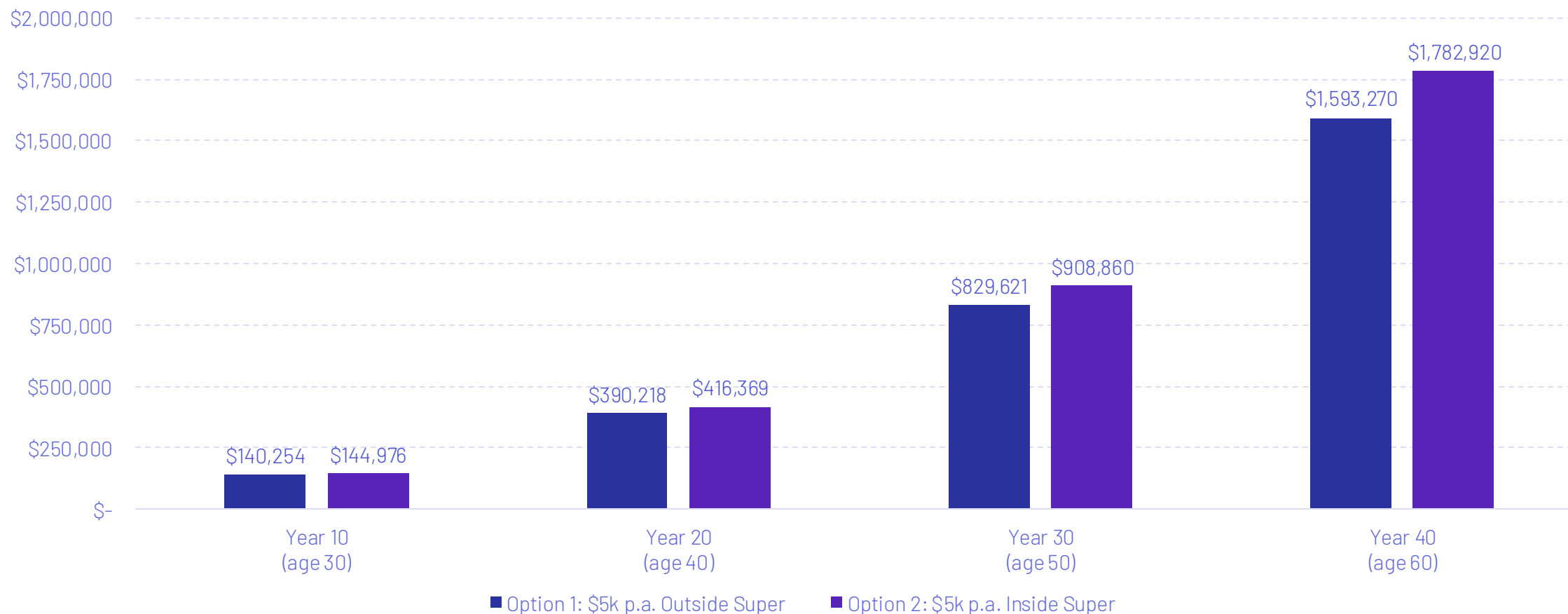
+\$1,089

[^] Salary sacrifice $\$5,882.35 \times (100\% - 15\%) = \$5,000^*$ savings p.a. after tax

Salary calculator from <https://www.seek.com.au/career-advice/page/salary-calculator>

3.4 The benefits of starting early

Accumulated savings of \$5k p.a. after tax between outside and inside super



Assumptions: 4.0% p.a. salary increment & savings of \$5k p.a. made at end of FY
2.0% p.a. investment income & 3.1% p.a. investment growth calculated in the beginning of FY

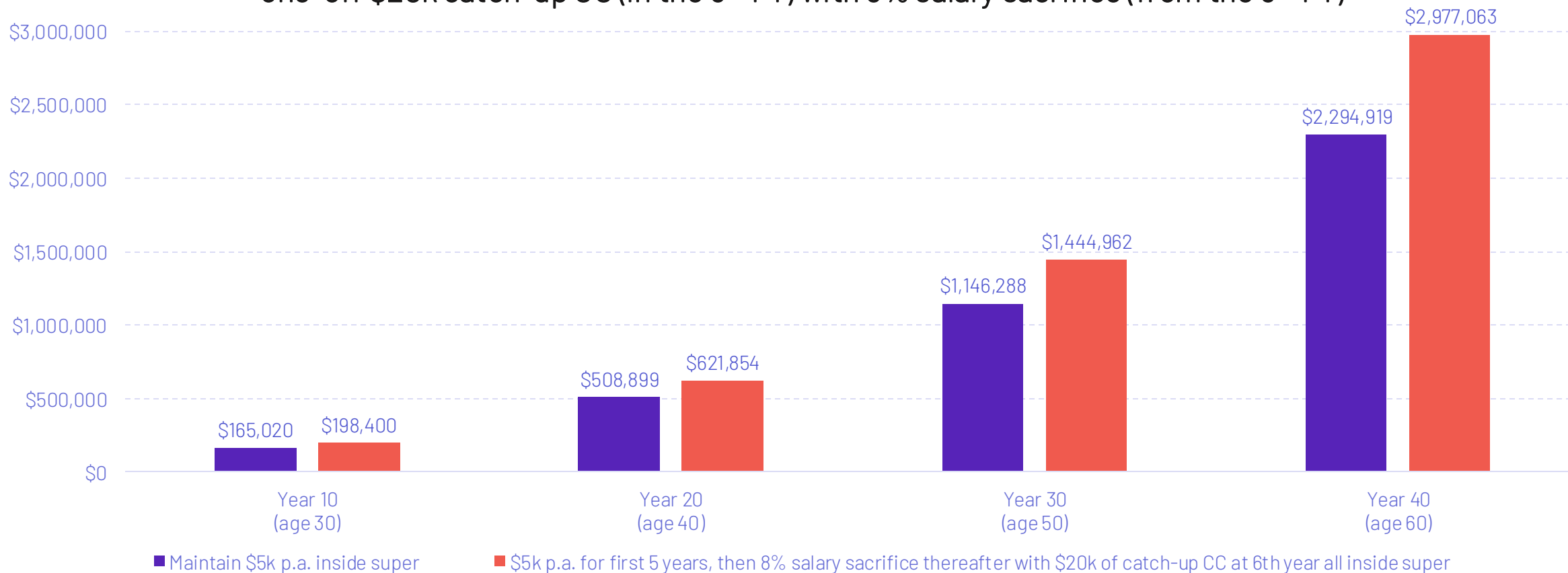
3.5 The benefits of starting early

- Amy has been saving \$5k p.a. after-tax inside her super which shown in the previous slide as option 2.
- At the beginning of the 6th financial year, she got promoted and her salary jumped to \$100,000 p.a.
- While she has a low cost of living (with her parents), she wants to continue reduce her individual tax and maximise her wealth for retirement.
- Over the last 5 years, she has contributed over \$65k (SG + salary sacrifice) and her total super balance is still below \$500,000.
- She is contemplating whether she should:
 - Continue maintain \$5k p.a. savings after-tax inside super; or
 - Contribute an extra \$20,000 of catch-up concessional contributions in the 6th financial year and adjust her salary sacrifice to 8% p.a. of her new salary from 6th financial year



3.6 The benefits of starting early

Accumulated savings between maintain \$5k p.a. inside super and one-off \$20k catch-up CC (in the 6th FY) with 8% salary sacrifice (from the 6th FY)



Assumptions: 4.0% p.a. salary increment & savings of \$5k p.a. made at end of FY (contributions cap continue to indexed over 40 years)
2.0% p.a. investment income & 3.1% p.a. investment growth calculated in the beginning of FY

3.7 Congratulations! Baby on the way

- Charlene and Chris are expecting their 1st baby
- They have decided that Chris will continue to work earning \$150,000pa while Charlene spreads her parental leave over 2 years.
- They are interested in strategies they could take advantage of whilst Charlene is temporarily earning a lower income.
- They expect Charlene to earn about \$35,000pa for 2 years through a combination of parental leave entitlements and returning to work

3.8 Congratulations! Baby on the way

- In their situation, Charlene and Chris could use:
 - **Spouse contribution:** Due to Charlene earning below \$40,000pa for the 2 years, Chris can make a Non-Concessional Spouse contribution of \$3,000 and received an 18% tax offset of \$540
 - **Co-Contribution:** Due to Charlene earning below \$45,400pa, Charlene can make a \$1,000 non-concessional contribution to receive a government co-contribution of \$500.
 - **Low Income Superannuation Tax Offset (LISTO):** As Charlene is earning under \$37,000, she will be able to have the contributions tax of 15% refunded to the super fund up to a maximum of \$500.
 - **Super Splitting:** Chris can also salary sacrifice \$8,500pa for the 2 years and split this to Charlene. This will ensure her super balance is not adversely impacted by the 2-year break.
- Strategies are not limited to paternity leave, they could be valid in most scenarios where one partner is in the low-income earner territory

3.9 Congratulations! Baby on the way

Annual Cashflow of Chris and Charlene

	Option 1: Do Nothing		Option 2: take advantage of low-income strategies	
	Chris	Charlene	Chris	Charlene
Income	\$150,000	\$35,000	\$150,000	\$35,000
Concessional Contribution	\$18,000	\$4,200	\$26,800	\$4,200
NCC – Co-Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
NCC – Spouse Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
Spouse Offset	0	\$0	\$540	\$0
Tax	(\$39,838)	(\$2,688)	(\$36,693)	(\$2,688)
Co-Contribution	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500
LISTO	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500
Total Super	\$15,300	\$3,917	\$15,300	\$15,295
Net Income	\$142,474		\$133,659	
Benefit	\$500		\$2,910	

3.10 Congratulations! Baby on the way

- Outcomes:
 1. Reduced net income of \$8,815pa (\$17,630 for the 2 years)
 2. Superannuation balance increased by \$22,756 over the 2 years
 3. Charlene's super balance has not been impacted by the career break
 4. Benefit will be tax-effectively compounded for years to come
- Strategies are not limited to paternity leave
- They could be valid in other scenarios where one partner is earning a low-income (e.g. career break, illness, further study, working part-time etc.)
- Be mindful of the conditions for these strategies such as thresholds, contribution caps, 10% eligible income test to ensure the benefits will apply

3.11 Retire with Confidence

- A key indicator of retirement confidence is home ownership
- How can the younger generation utilise their super to ensure they have a home at retirement?
 1. Saving extra in super above income target to purchase a house at retirement;
 2. Purchase a house through Super to hedge against resident property price movements;
 3. Purchase Business Real Property through the SMSF for business use.



3.12 Retire with confidence

Property outside Super

- Savings made after paying MTR
- 5% - 20% deposit to meet LVR requirements, mortgage insurance may be required
- Stamp duty on purchase (state dependent)
- Flexible purchase options (Joint, Tenants in Common etc.)
- Mortgage will replace rent
- Impacts to cashflow
- Home at retirement

Property inside Super

- Savings made pre-tax, but contributions tax applies
- Typically 40% deposit to meet LVR requirements
- Stamp duty on purchase, but also potentially on future transfers (state dependent)
- Purchase only through Limited Recourse Borrowing Arrangement (if loan required)
- Continue paying rent whilst property in SMSF
- No impact to cashflow
- Retirement assets linked to residential property values
- Options to Sell, Withdraw or purchase property from SMSF

3.13 Retire with confidence

Other considerations

- The psychological security of owning own home may be more important
- Considerations may need to be made regarding clients remaining in Australia for the duration of their working life to avoid being considered a non-resident SMSF
- Life can throw a spanner in the works, and there are unknowns such as:
 - Rental crisis
 - Finding a suitable home for your needs
 - Career breaks
 - Changing property needs
 - CGT if a CGT even is triggered in accumulation phase
 - Changing personal needs



— 4.0 Key Takeaways

4.1 Key Takeaways

- The largest asset for most young Australians (age 20-30) will be their Super.
- Unlike other generations, Super may remain their largest asset until retirement.
- The younger generation has the behavioural markings of an SMSF investor with being a digital native, a hands-on DIY approach to investing and ability to access information from a wide range of sources.
- There are opportunities to increase their super balances strategically at various life stages to ensure they can retire comfortably
- Superannuation can be more than just an income stream, it can be the younger generations path to retirement confidence.
- ***“The key to financial freedom and great wealth is not just about making more money, but about managing and investing it wisely”. – The Barefoot Investor***



Thank you

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