

For immediate release

# A paid-off property, stash of super and overseas travel: The financial milestones Aussies value most

- ➔ 74% of Aussies believe paying down your mortgage is the ultimate financial milestone
- ➔ Having enough super funds (59%) and going overseas once a year (36%) also rated highly
- ➔ Tips: How to transform your financial aspirations into reality

**27 June, 2017, Sydney, Australia** – If you’ve paid off your house, have a healthy stash of super and take an overseas holiday every year, Australians think you’ve ‘made it’ financially, according to [finder.com.au](http://finder.com.au), the site that compares virtually everything.

The survey of 2,004 people found nearly three quarters (74%) believe paying off the mortgage is the most significant financial ambition.

More than half of respondents (59%) think you’re financially set if you have enough money in your super fund to retire, while 36% believe having an annual overseas trip is an important aspiration.

The study also deemed purchasing an investment property (25%) and being able to retire at 50 years of age (24%) as telltale signs of those who’ve ‘made it’.

Interestingly, one in 10 people (11%) believe purchasing a holiday house is a symbol of financial success.

## Which financial milestones do you consider most important? (Tick all that apply):

Financial milestone	Response
Being mortgage-free (owning your home outright)	74%
Having enough in my super to retire comfortably	59%
Being able to go overseas once a year	36%

Buying my first investment property	25%
Being able to retire at age 50	24%
Receiving a salary of \$150,000 or greater	23%
Helping my children with their first home deposit	22%
Starting a successful business	17%
Expanding my investment portfolio to include 2-3 properties	14%
Purchasing a holiday house	11%
Sending my kids to a private school	11%
Owning a boat	6%
Owning a sports car	5%

*source: finder.com.au survey of 2,004 respondents*

Bessie Hassan, Money Expert at finder.com.au says the results show an interesting mix of financial goals, which represents a shift in what marks success.

“While property is still prevalent among our financial aspirations, there are other goals that are highly valued such having a salary of \$150,000 or greater and helping kids get a foothold on the property ladder,” she says.

Ms Hassan says it’s promising to see many of the milestones are long-term goals like paying off debt and retirement planning.

“It’s encouraging to see that Australians are adopting a long-term mindset and thinking about paying down mortgage debt, having enough funds to retire, and lifestyle values such as travel.

“To work towards your financial goals, [have an action plan in place](#). Draw up a budget, invest your money wisely, and be careful about taking on too much personal debt.

“If you your spending or debt is getting out of control, and interfering with your goals, give your finances a detox. Think about consolidating your debt, reducing your credit card limit, or putting your funds in an account with limited access.

“A little bit of planning can go a long way in helping you realise your financial and lifestyle goals,” Ms Hassan says.

**State by state breakdown:**

- Taking an annual overseas holidays was a sign of success for 43% of surveyed Western Australians, compared to 35% of Victorians
- 28% of Queenslanders agreed that buying an investment property was associated with status, the most of any state.
- Having a holiday home is a sign of living the dream for 13% of West Australians, and 13% of Victorians, compared to just 9% of those in New South Wales.
- Owning a sports car was not an important financial milestone for those residing within Queensland (4%), NSW (5%), VIC (5%) or WA (5%).

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