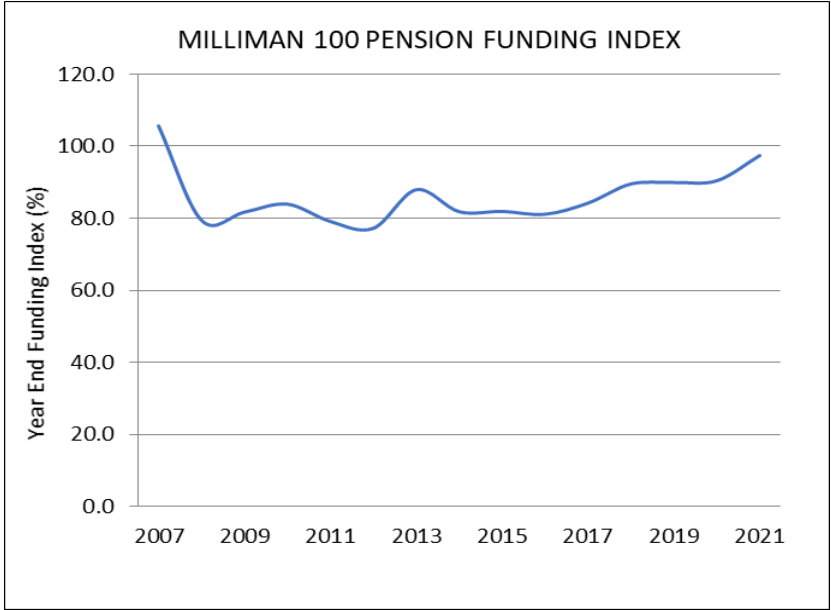
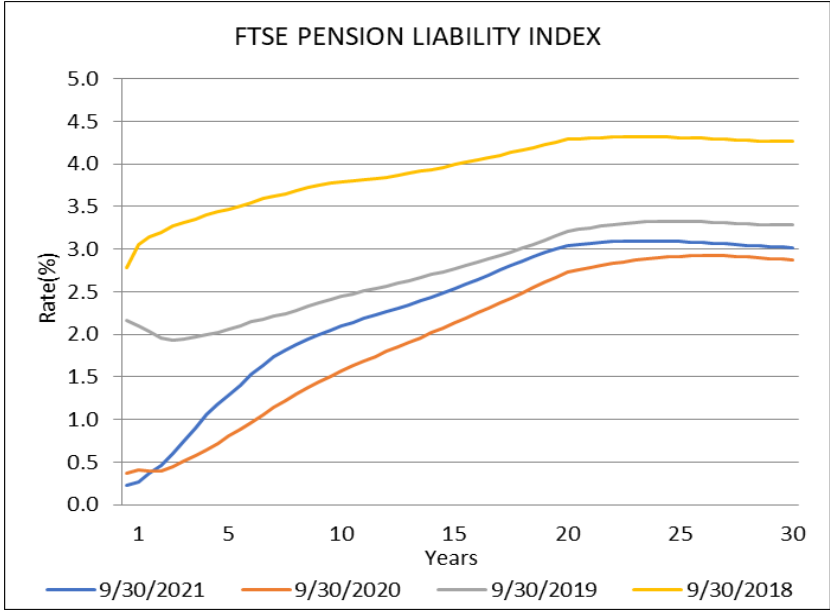


# Pension Funded Status Remains Strong



- ▲ The Milliman 100 Pension Funding Index Survey\* reported the estimated pension funding for the 100 largest corporate defined benefit plans increased to 97.3% from a revised 97.1% at the end of the second quarter of 2021.
- ▲ Pension liabilities fell 1% over the second quarter as the discount rate rose 4 basis points from the previous quarter to 2.78%. Pension assets in the Milliman 100 PFI declined 0.8% over the same periods. Asset returns during July and August exceeded expectations but faltered in September, spoiling an otherwise strong quarter for funded status.
- ▲ Pension plans have seen a dramatic improvement in funded status over the past year. The Index sat at 86.0% at the end of September 2020. The cumulative asset return was 12.3% the last 12 months, while discount rates increased 21 basis points.
- ▲ Milliman noted that if interest rates were to hold around current levels and the plans in the survey achieve the 6.2% expected return for the entire year, the Pension Funding Index could rise to 98.0% by the end of 2021.



\* Sources: Milliman Pension Funding Index Survey, October 8, 2021, and Society of Actuaries