

Life Insurance Sector Round up

FY26

July 2026

BCG

LI Sector Roundup



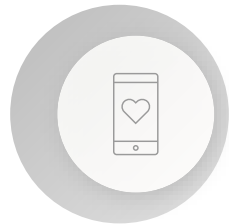
▶ Market Overview & Landscape



Industry Profitability and Expense Management

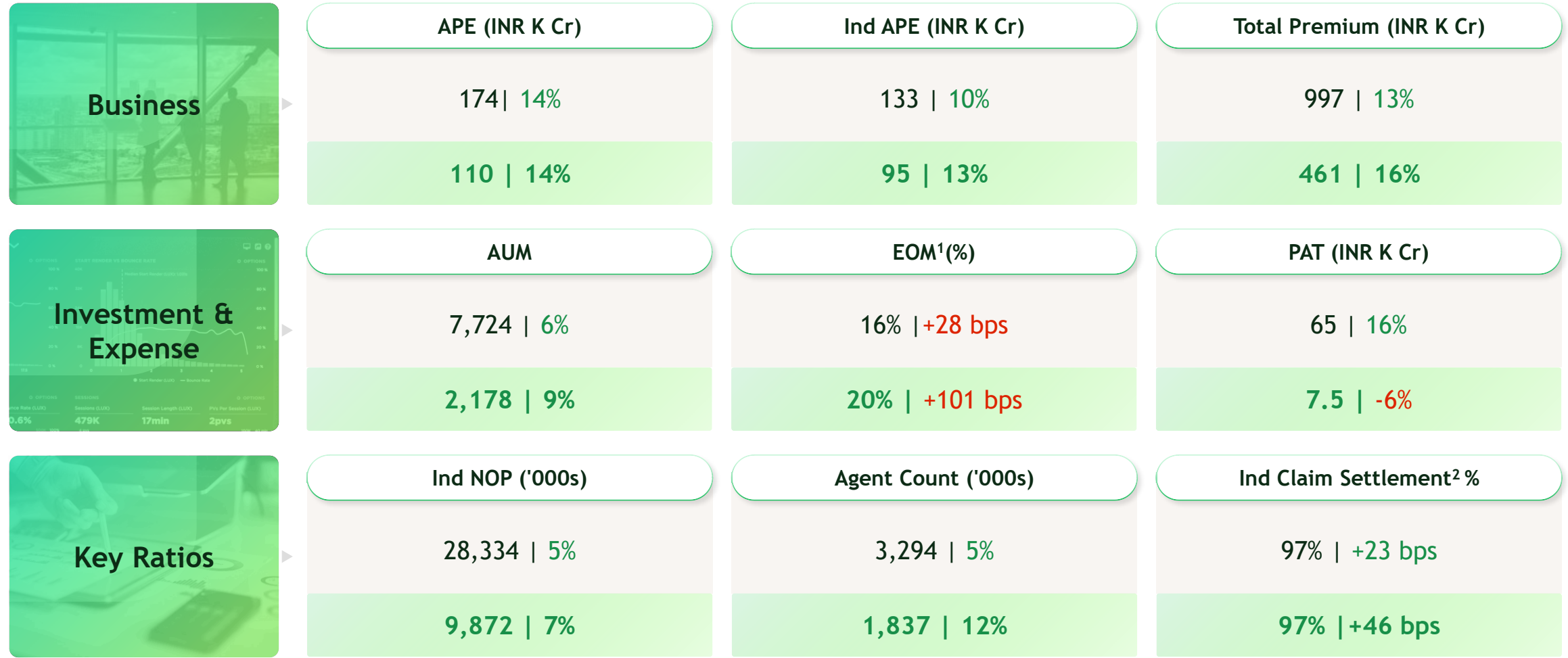


Investment and Valuation



Customer Experience

FY26 Results | Life Insurance Industry Snapshot

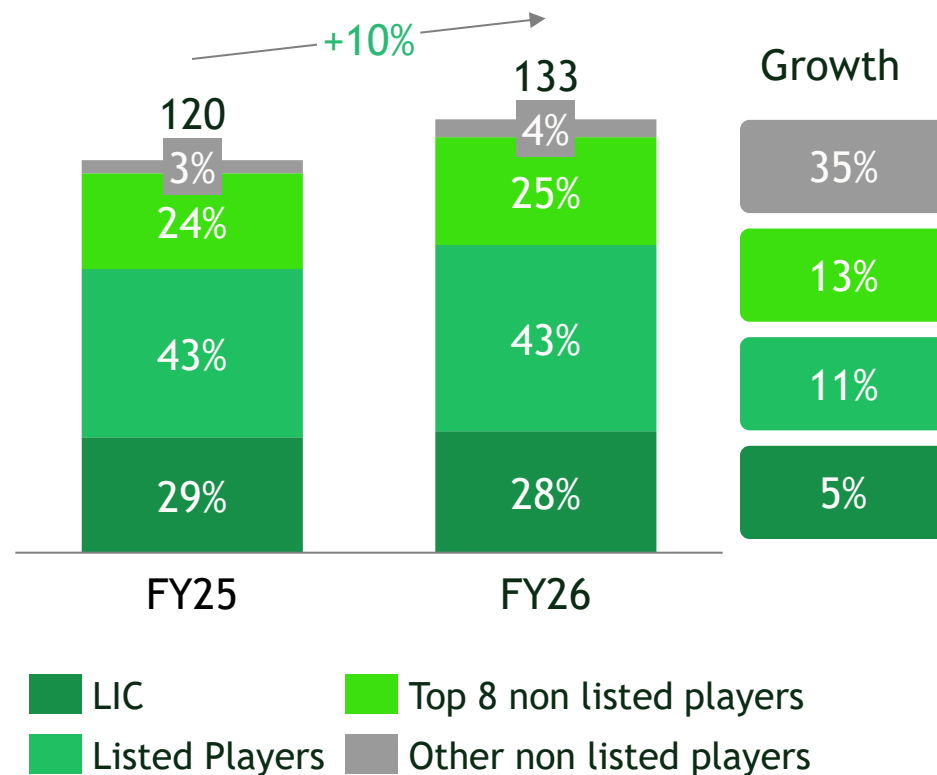


Note : 1. EOM = opex+ gross commission/total premium; 2. Ind Claim Settlement % is on amount paid
 APE = First Year Premium + 10% of Single Premium
 Source: IRDAI, Public disclosures; BCG Analysis

Legend: Overall Industry | YoY growth Pvt Players | YoY growth

Market Perspective | Industry grew +10% YoY driven by GST tailwinds, product mix upgrades and group segment recovery

Ind APE (INR K Cr)



Growth drivers

GST Exemption

- GST rationalisation supported topline growth; however, the benefit was partially offset by margin pressure from ITC loss

Surrender Value

- Industry absorbed FY25 surrender value norm revisions; product and pricing adjustments in FY26 restored the volume growth

Product Mix

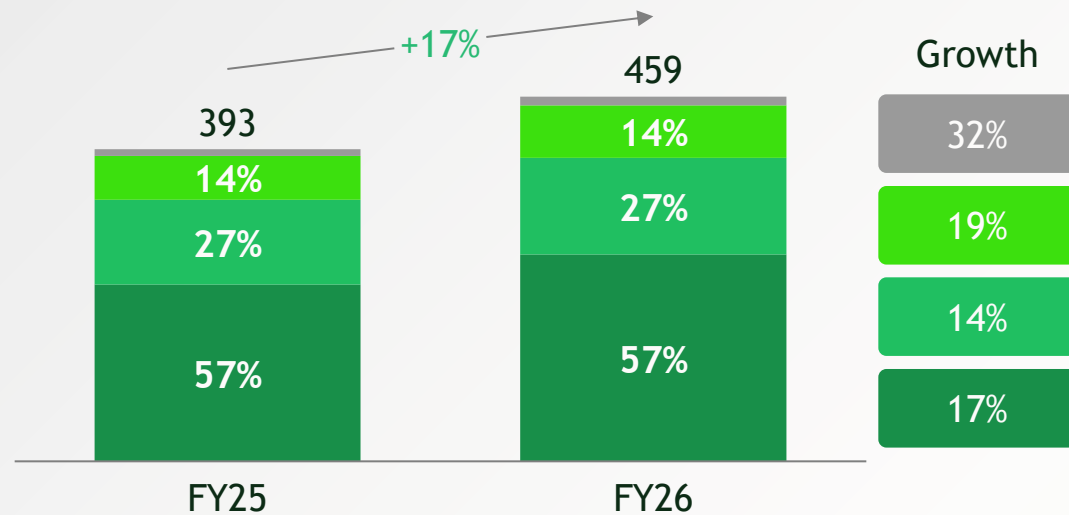
- Retail:** Insurers pushed retail term, riders and higher sum assured; lifting VNB margins alongside volume
- Non-Par Savings:** Decline in interest rate improved competitiveness; private sector gained share
- Group:** Group Term and Credit life NBP grew ~19% YoY in FY26 (vs. ~1% in FY25)

Note: Listed Players include HDFC Life, SBI Life, ICICI Life, Axis Max and Canara HSBC; Top 8 non-listed players include TATA AIA, Bajaj Life, Aditya Birla, Kotak Life, PNB Met Life, SUD Life, India First and Shriram Life, Other non-listed players include IndusInd Life, Ageas Federal, Generali Central, Bharti AXA, Edelweiss, Pramerica, Bandhan, Go Digit, Aviva, Credit Access & Acko
Source: IRDAI, Public Disclosures, BCG analysis

Business Outlook | New Business market share remains stable; Listed Players ATS is 40% higher than the Industry average

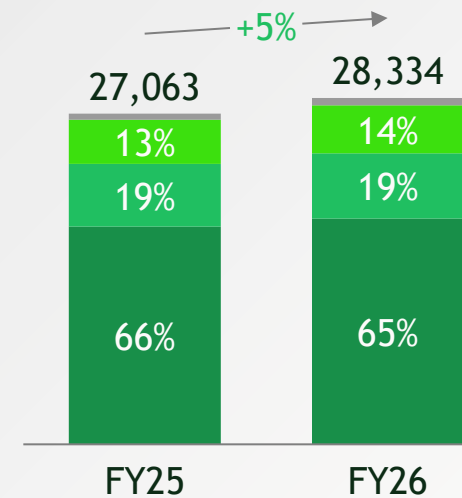
Growth in overall New Business Premium

New Business Premium (INR K Cr)

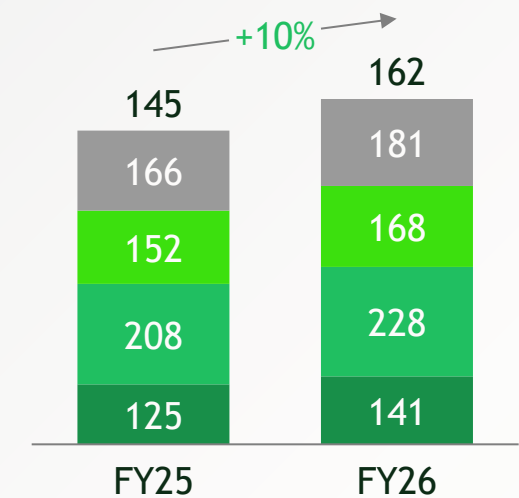


NOP growth is driven by Individual Policies, improvement in ATS growth is largely due to Group business

NOP ('000)



ATS ('000 INR NBP/NOP)

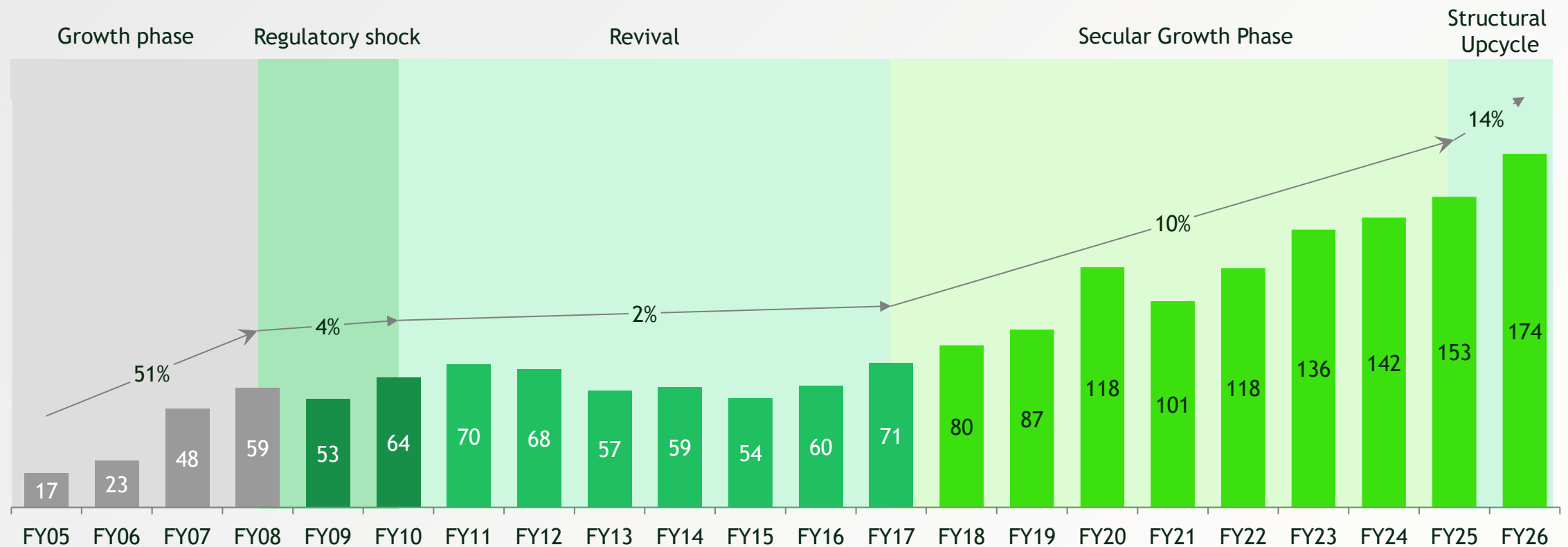


■ LIC ■ Listed Players ■ Top 8 non listed players ■ Other non listed players

Note: Listed Players include HDFC Life, SBI Life, ICICI Life, Axis Max and Canara HSBC; Top 8 non-listed players include TATA AIA, Bajaj Life, Aditya Birla, Kotak Life, PNB Met Life, SUD Life, India First and Shriram Life, Other non-listed players include IndusInd Life, Ageas Federal, Generali Central, Bharti AXA, Edelweiss, Pramerica, Bandhan, Go Digit, Aviva, Credit Access & Acko
Source: IRDAI, Public Disclosure, BCG Analysis

Industry Outlook | Life Insurance poised for 12-14% growth; but regulatory shifts remains the key variable to watch

Indian life insurance market total APE (INR K Cr)

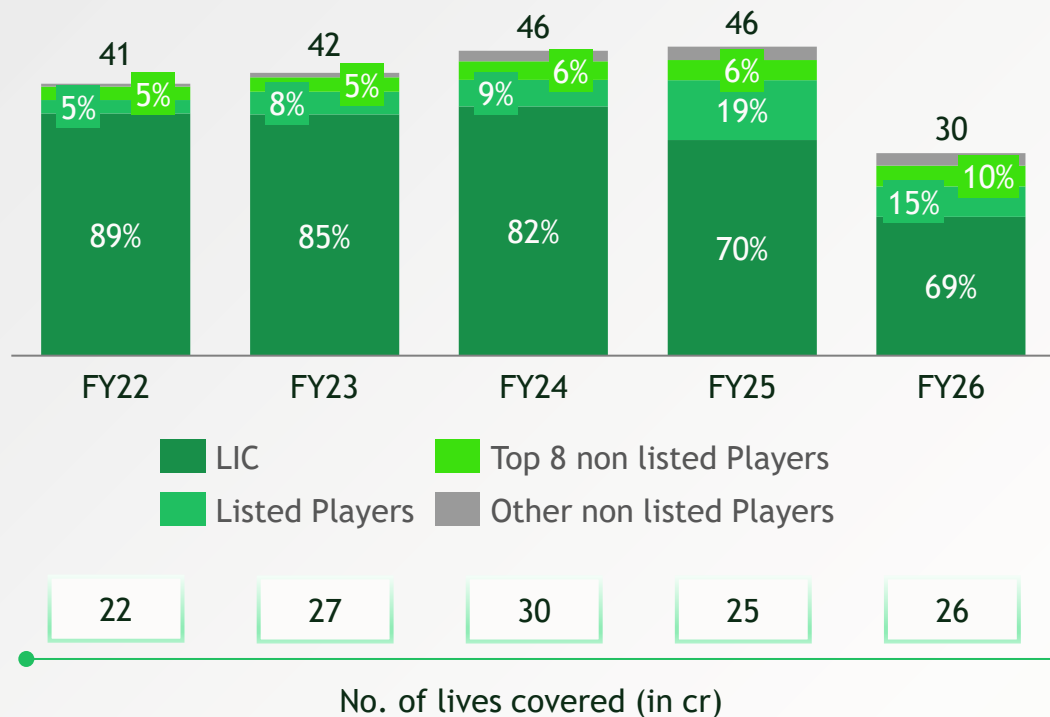


Note: APE= 10% of single premium + first year premium

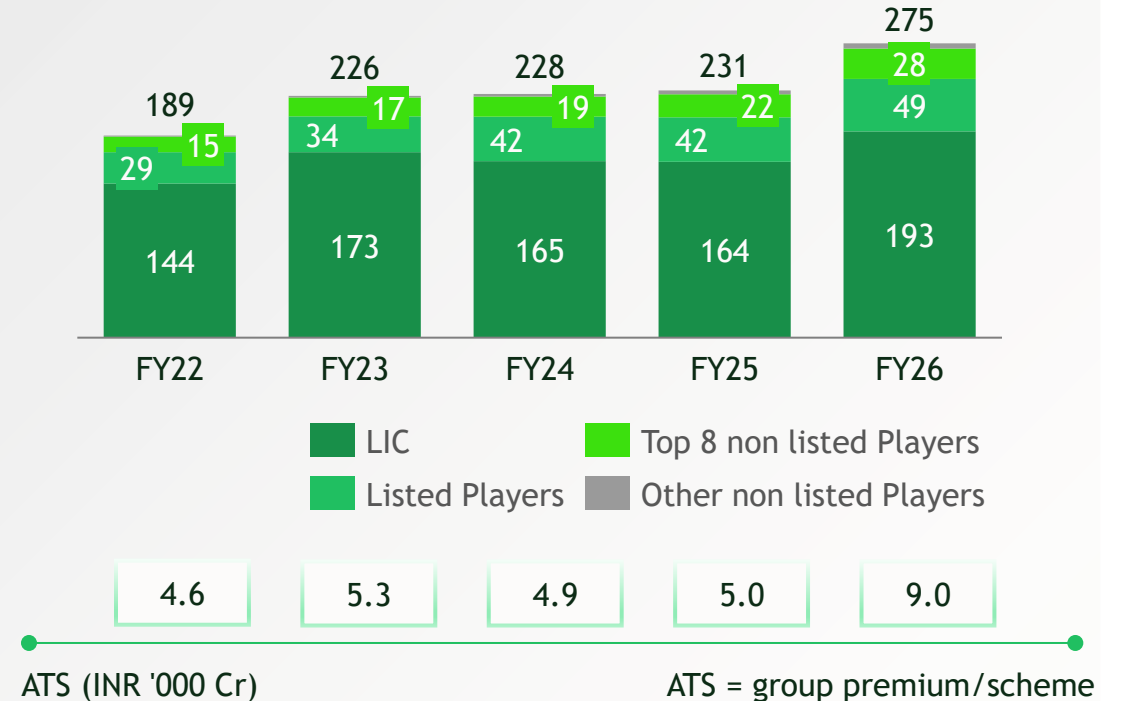
Source: IRDAI, Life Insurance Council, Public Disclosures, BCG analysis

Group | GCL and GTL penetration declined due to slowdown in SME and regulator tightening on lending; large corporate books driving premium growth

NOP growth and number of lives covered flat due to slowdown SME and unsecured retail lending



Growth in overall group premiums

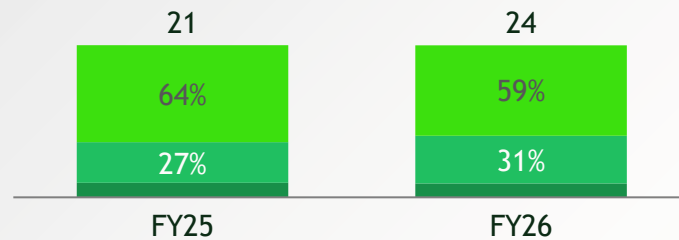


Note: Listed Players include HDFC Life, SBI Life, ICICI Life, Axis Max and Canara HSBC; Top 8 non-listed players include TATA AIA, Bajaj Life, Aditya Birla, Kotak Life, PNB Met Life, SUD Life, India First and Shriram Life, Other non-listed players include IndusInd Life, Ageas Federal, Generali Central, Bharti AXA, Edelweiss, Pramerica, Bandhan, Go Digit, Aviva, Credit Access & Acko
Source: IRDAI handbook, IRDAI Monthly reports, Public Disclosure, BCG Analysis

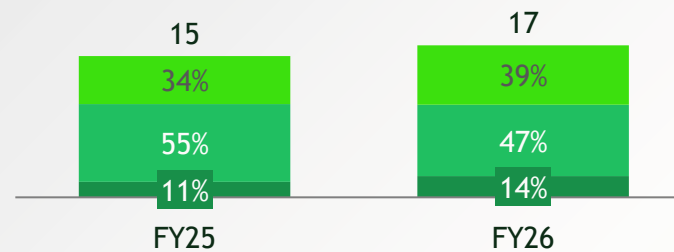
Product Mix | ULIP continues to dominate product mix; protection mix largely remains stable across the players

APE (INR K cr)

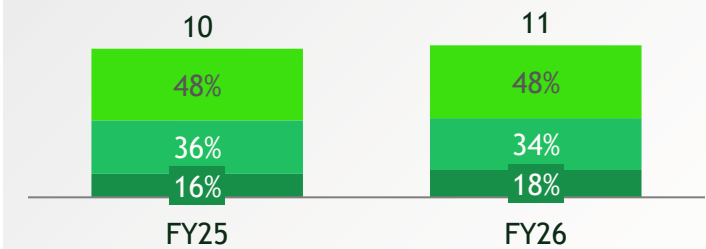
SBI Life



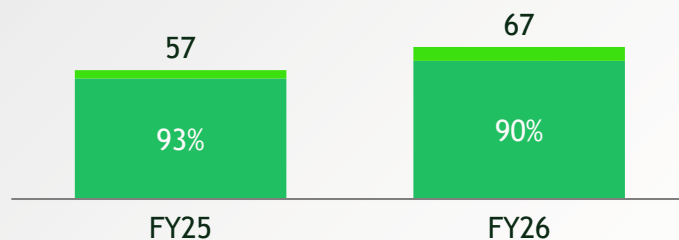
HDFC Life



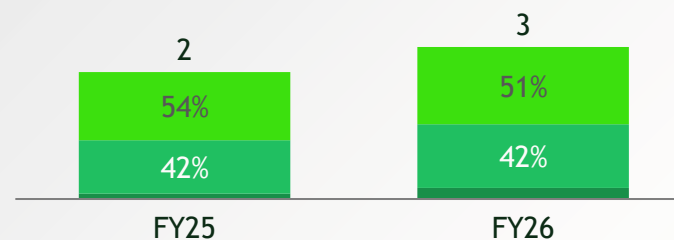
ICICI Pru



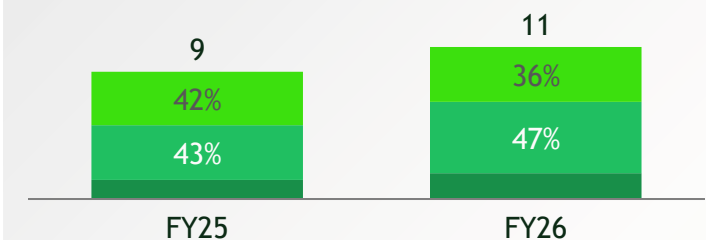
LIC



Canara HSBC



Axis Max¹

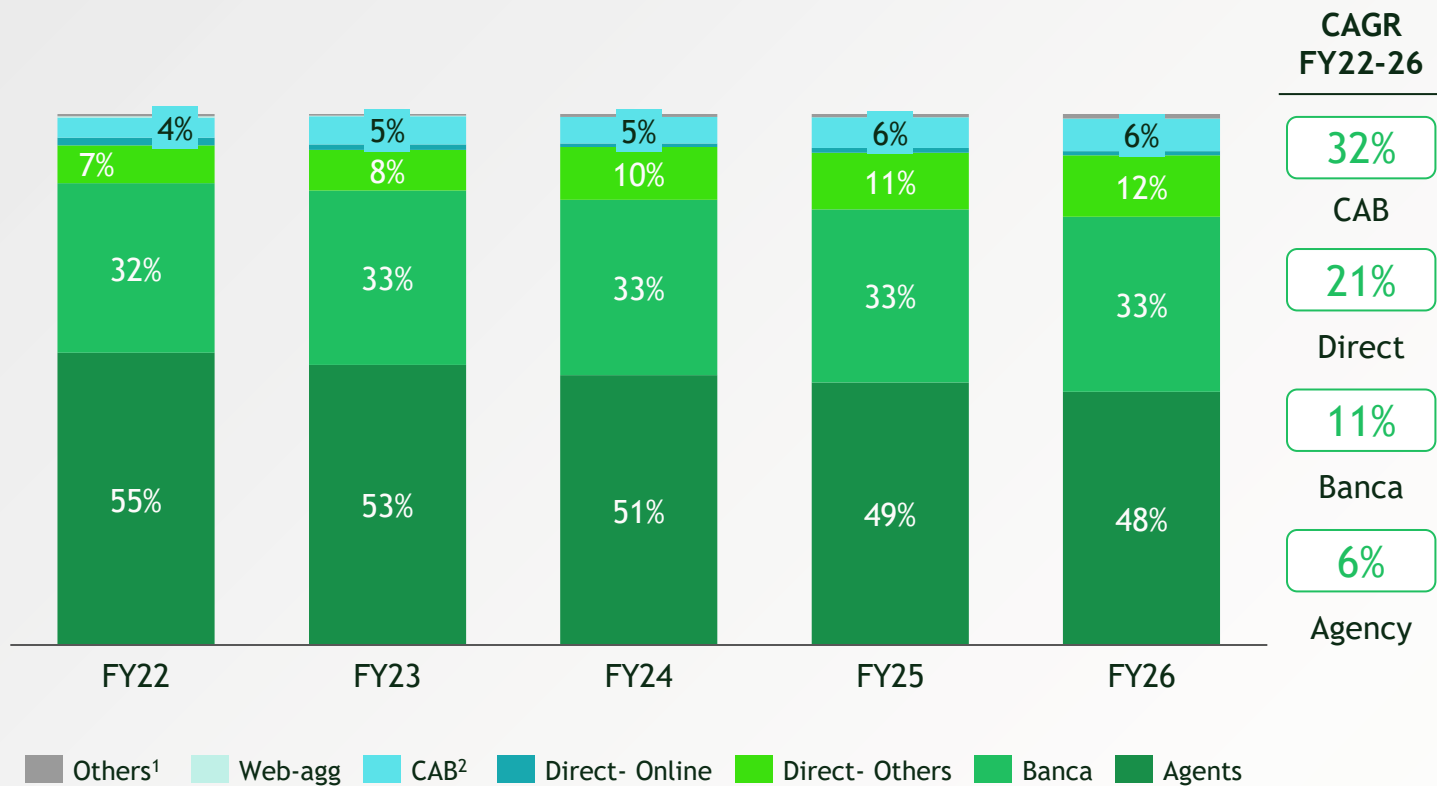


■ Linked - Savings
 ■ Non-linked - Savings
 ■ Protection

Note : Product mix includes Group business; 1. Axis product mix includes Health and Rider business; 2. APE based on investor presentation's reporting
Source: Investor Presentations

Channel mix | Direct and brokers growing at 3-5x faster than traditional channels; banca mix remains stable

Agency remains dominant; broker and direct mix is steadily growing

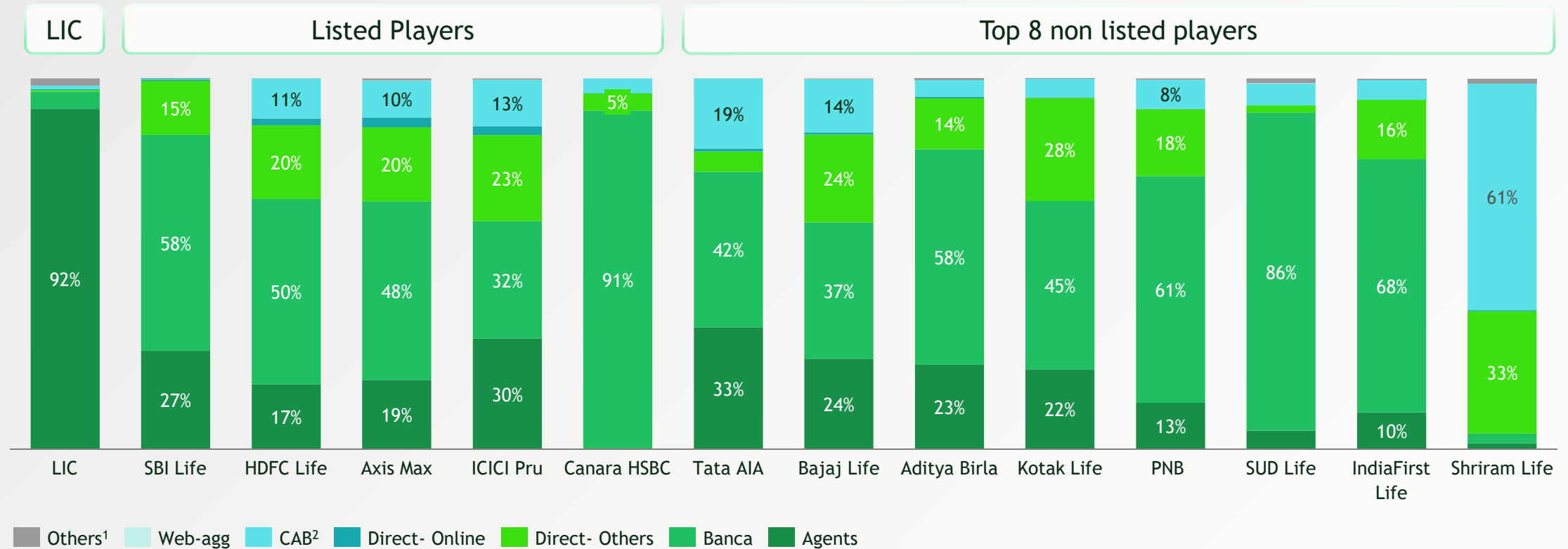


- Agency Channel grew at 6% CAGR driven by 10%+ YoY growth in agent base expansion, with improved productivity; Tier 2 and beyond markets are becoming next frontiers
- Multi-insurer access, EOM regulations liberalization, and rise of digital broking platforms expanded footprint in retail segment

Note: 1. Others include Micro Agents, Insurance Marketing Firm, Common Service Centers, PoS 2. CAB stands for Corporate agents and brokers
Source: IRDAI, Public Disclosure

Channel mix | Different players have adopted different channel strategies (I/II)

Individual NBP mix (FY26 %)



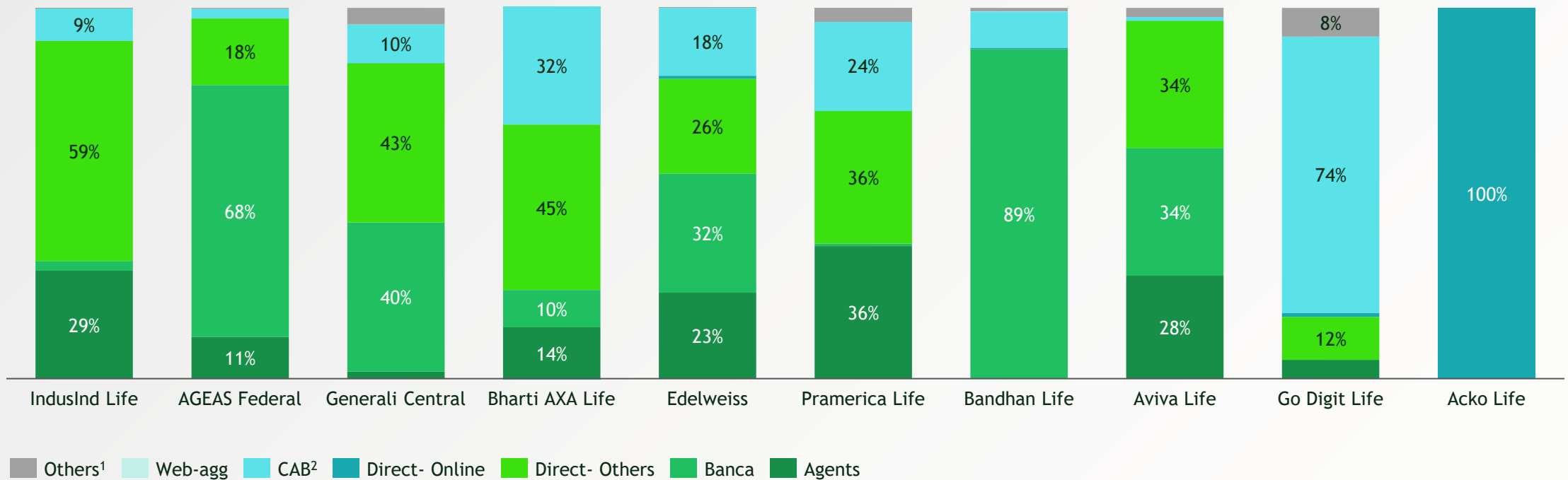
Note: 1. Others include Micro Agents, Insurance Marketing Firm, Common Service Centers, PoS 2. CAB stands for Corporate agents and brokers
Source: IRDAI, Public disclosures



Channel mix | Different players have adopted different channel strategies (II/II)

Individual NBP mix (FY26 %)

Other non-listed players

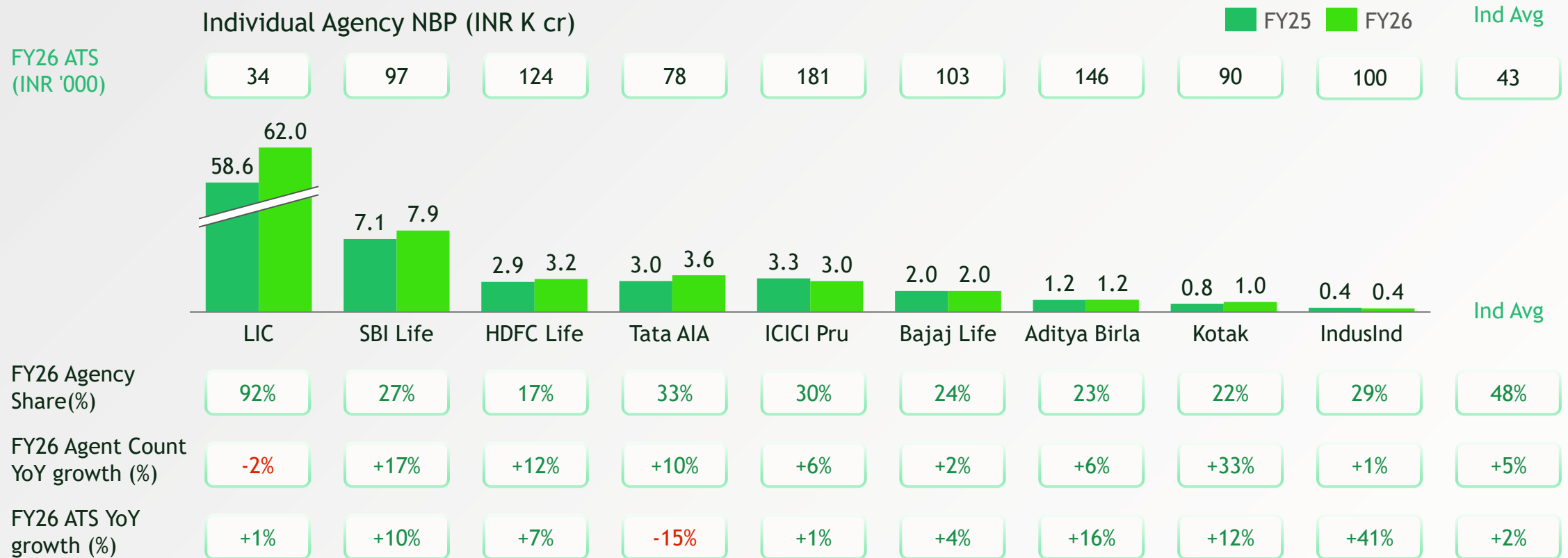


Note: 1. Others include Micro Agents, Insurance Marketing Firm, Common Service Centers, PoS 2. CAB stands for Corporate agents and brokers
Source: IRDAI, Public disclosures

Agency | Agency IND NBP grew 9% YoY; agent addition and ATS increased across the private players

Significant agency channel increase in YoY

Select Players



Note : Selected Players with Agency mix >= 15%; Net Agent Count is taken into consideration
Source: Public Disclosure; BCG Analysis

Persistency ratio on the decline for most insures on the back of regulatory changes, macro economics factors & high competition

All Players

13M Persistency

Insurers	FY24	FY25	FY26	Δ % YoY
LIC	77.7%	74.8%	74.6%	-0.2%
SBI Life	86.4%	86.9%	87.6%	0.7%
HDFC Life	87.1%	86.9%	84.9%	-2.0%
Axis Max	87.0%	85.0%	83.0%	-2.0%
ICICI Pru	88.7%	85.1%	83.1%	-2.0%
Canara HSBC	80.7%	82.5%	85.4%	2.9%
Tata AIA	89.4%	88.1%	86.1%	-2.0%
Bajaj	84.8%	82.0%	80.6%	-1.4%
ABSLI	87.7%	84.3%	82.4%	-1.9%
Kotak	87.5%	85.2%	85.0%	-0.3%
PNB MetLife	81.7%	80.8%	82.8%	2.0%
SUD	78.9%	77.7%	77.8%	0.1%
India First	80.9%	81.2%	83.1%	1.9%
Shriram	59.8%	59.1%	60.9%	1.8%
IndusInd Nippon	82.5%	80.8%	80.2%	-0.6%
AGEAS Federal	83.9%	84.9%	79.0%	-5.8%
Generali Central	76.9%	72.9%	71.0%	-1.9%
Bharti Life	73.0%	71.0%	64.5%	-6.5%
Edelweiss	77.6%	70.8%	66.7%	-4.1%
Pramerica	75.2%	73.9%	73.2%	-0.7%
Bandhan	64.0%	63.0%	72.0%	9.0%
Aviva	70.0%	72.0%	69.0%	-3.0%
Go Digit ¹	-	-	21.1%	-79.0%
Credit Access	-	-	82.0%	-
Acko	-	-	94.0%	-

Note: 1. Go Digit FY26 decline because of base effect
Source: Public disclosures; BCG Analysis

Decline % <1% 1% -2% >2% Growth

LI Sector Roundup



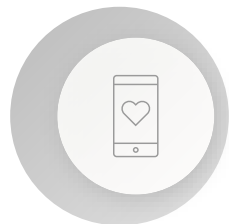
Market Overview & Landscape



**Industry Profitability and
Expense Management**

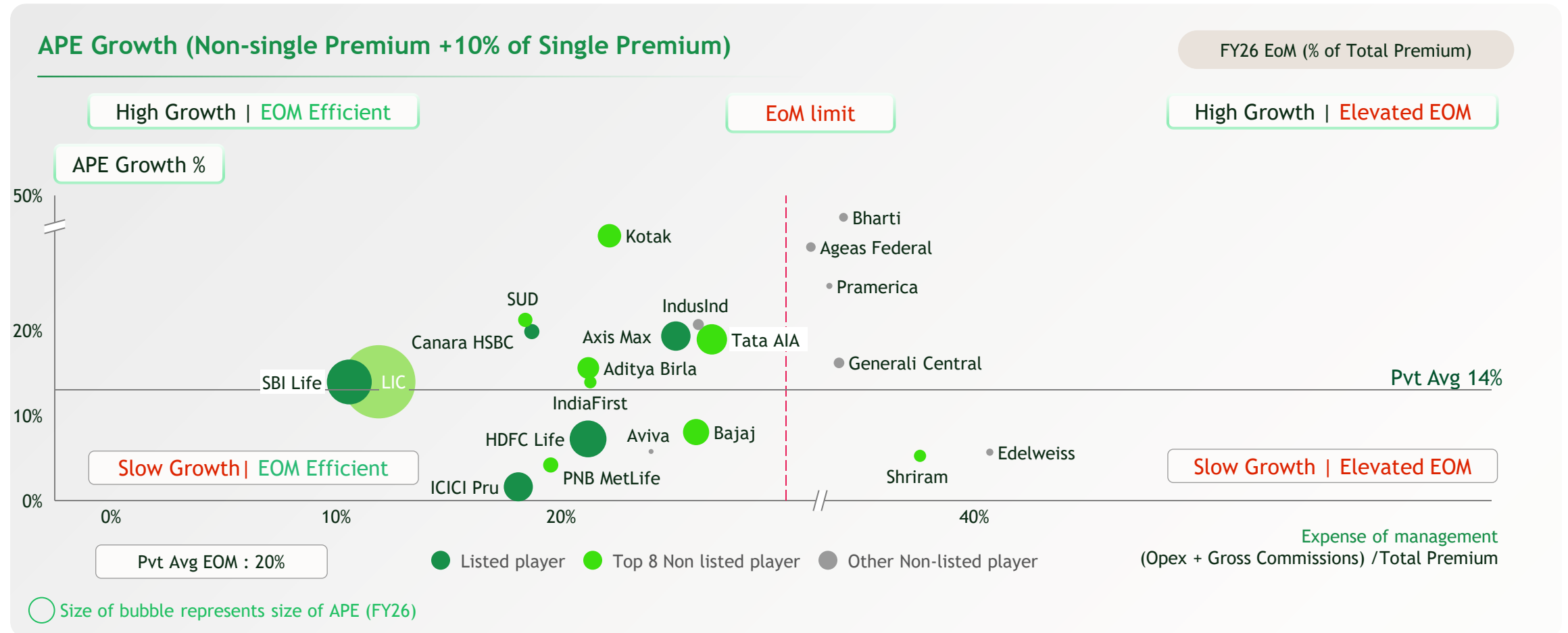


Investment and Valuation



Customer Experience

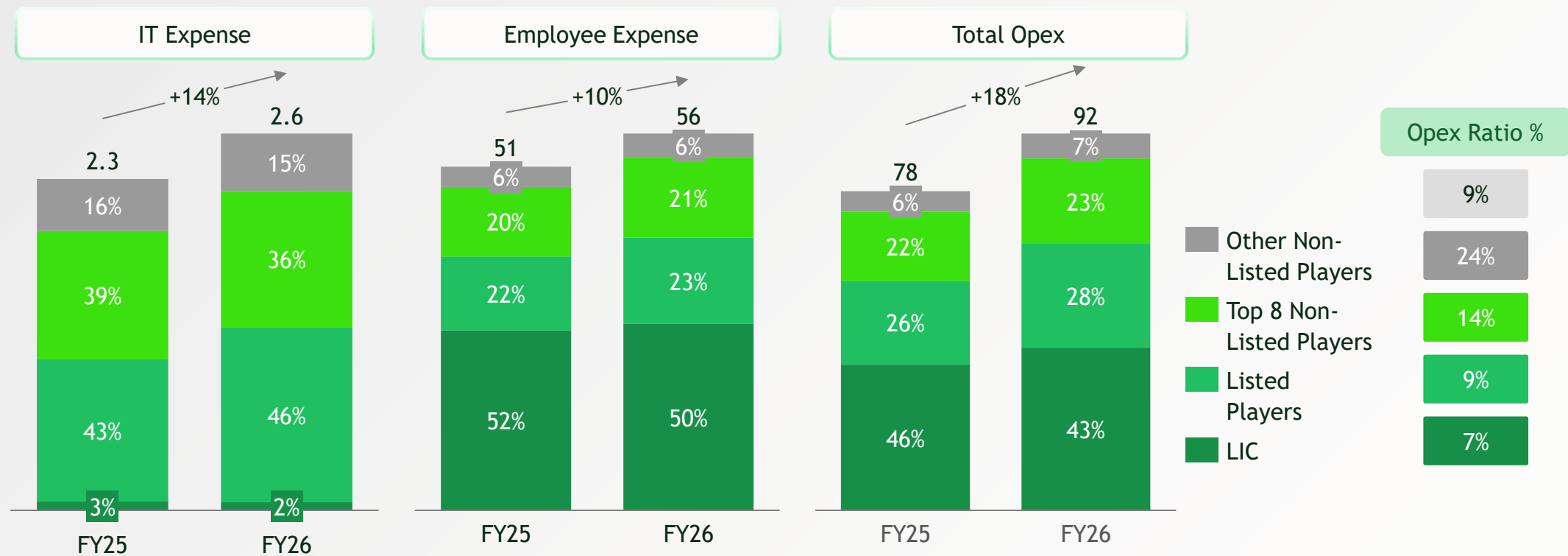
EoM Outlook | Most private players within EoM limit; growth momentum diverges across the market



Note : Go Digit, Bandhan Life, Credit Access and Acko are excluded for being outliers
Source: Public disclosures, BCG analysis

Opex Deep Dive | Industry opex grew +18% YoY; increasing IT & people costs signal deliberate shift to technology-led modernisation and talent development

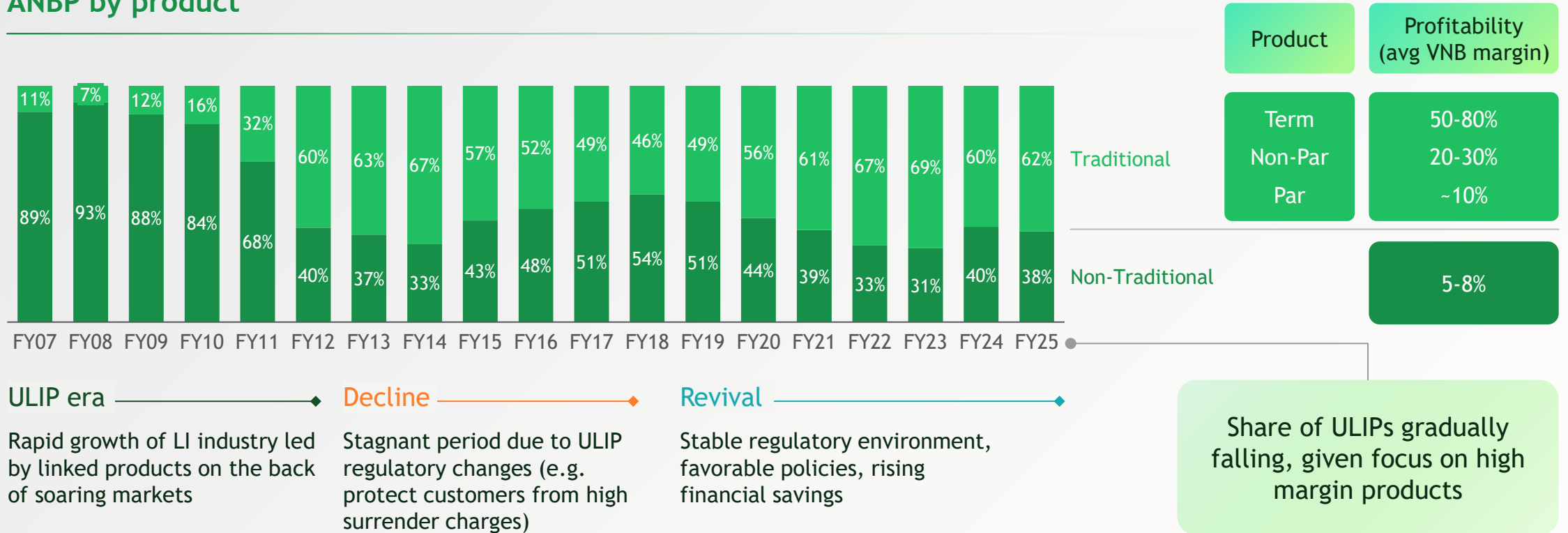
INR (K cr)



Note: Listed Players include HDFC Life, SBI Life, ICICI Life, Axis Max and Canara HSBC; Top 8 non-listed players include TATA AIA, Bajaj Life, Aditya Birla, Kotak Life, PNB Met Life, SUD Life, India First and Shriram Life, Other non-listed players include IndusInd Life, Ageas Federal, Generali Central, Bharti AXA, Edelweiss, Pramerica, Bandhan, Go Digit, Aviva, Credit Access & Acko
Source: Public Disclosure; BCG Analysis

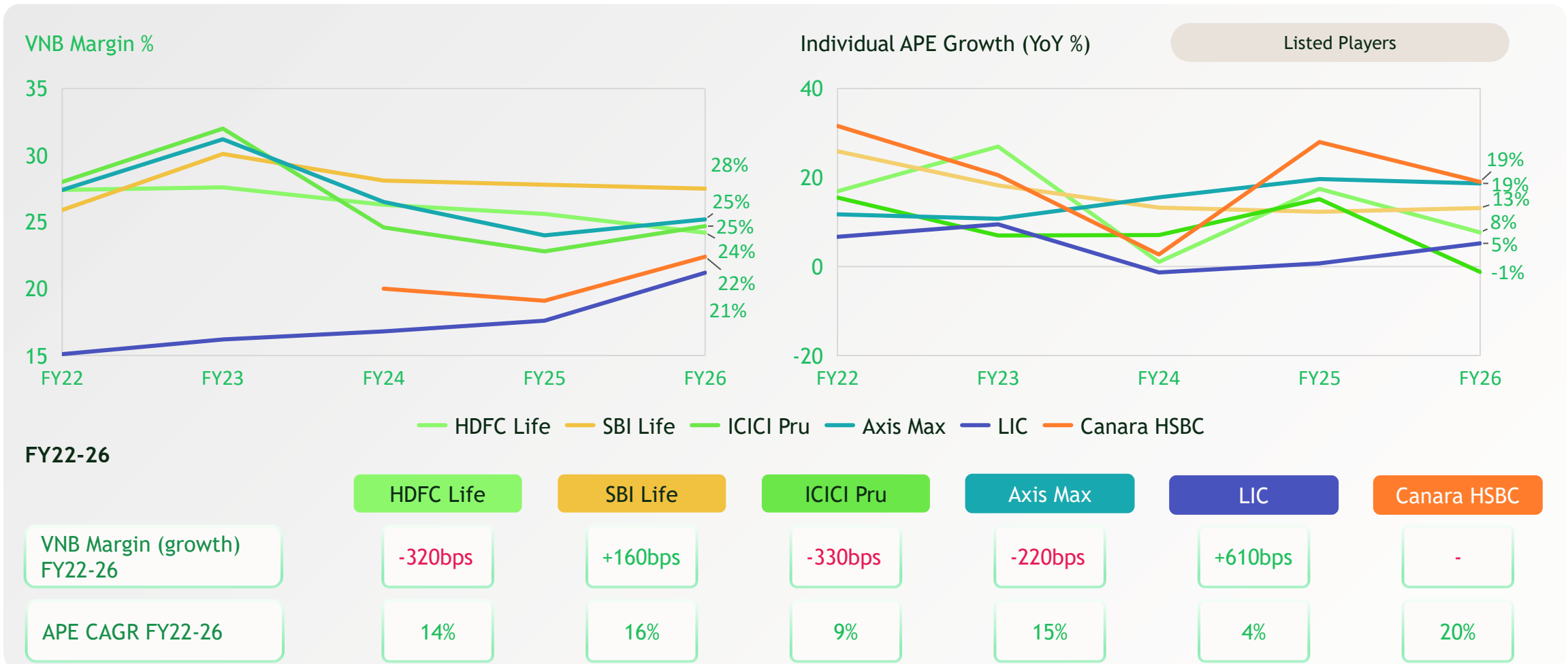
Profitability | Overall mix gradually shifting to more profitable traditional products

ANBP by product



VNB margins for select leading private players at 20-28%, 0-15% for others

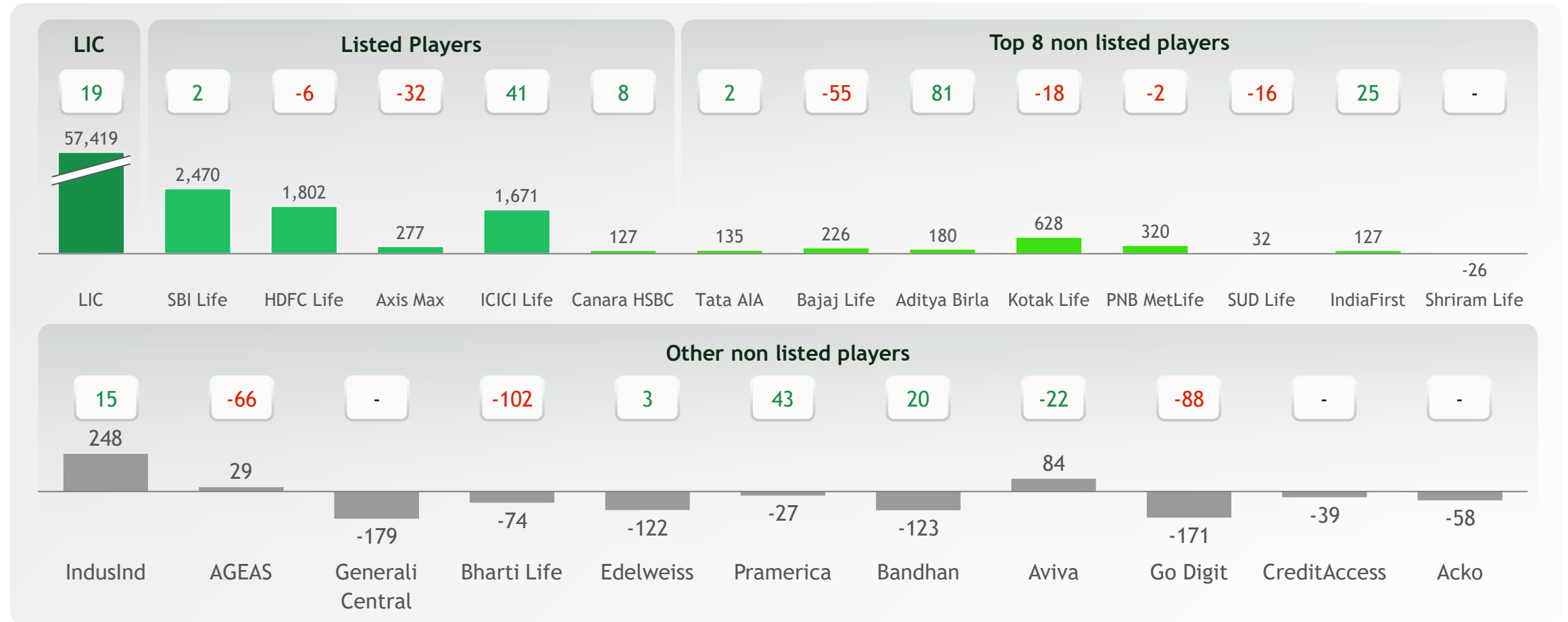
VNB Profitability | VNB Margins under pressure across listed players; impacted by GST rate cut and shift in product mix



PAT x Profitability | PAT declined for most of the players; largely impacted by loss of ITC on individual policies and increase in opex

INR Cr

FY26



LI Sector Roundup



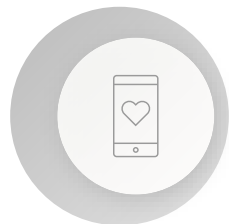
Market Overview & Landscape



Industry Profitability and Expense Management



► **Investment and Valuation**

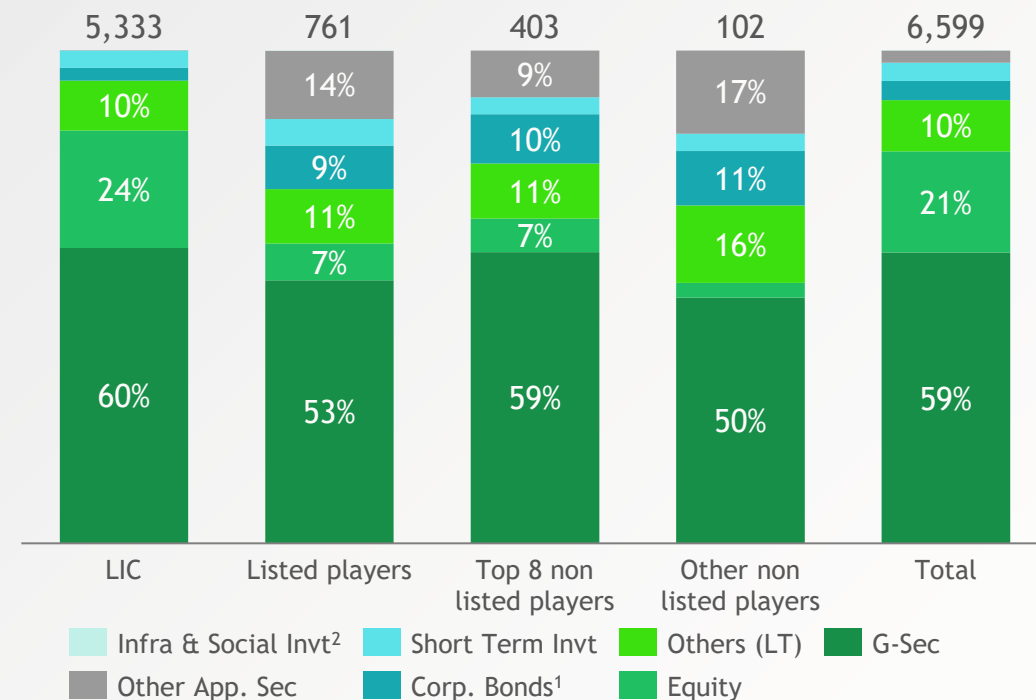


Customer Experience

Investment fund analysis | Non-linked PH fund concentrated in G-sec; private players maintains high credit quality

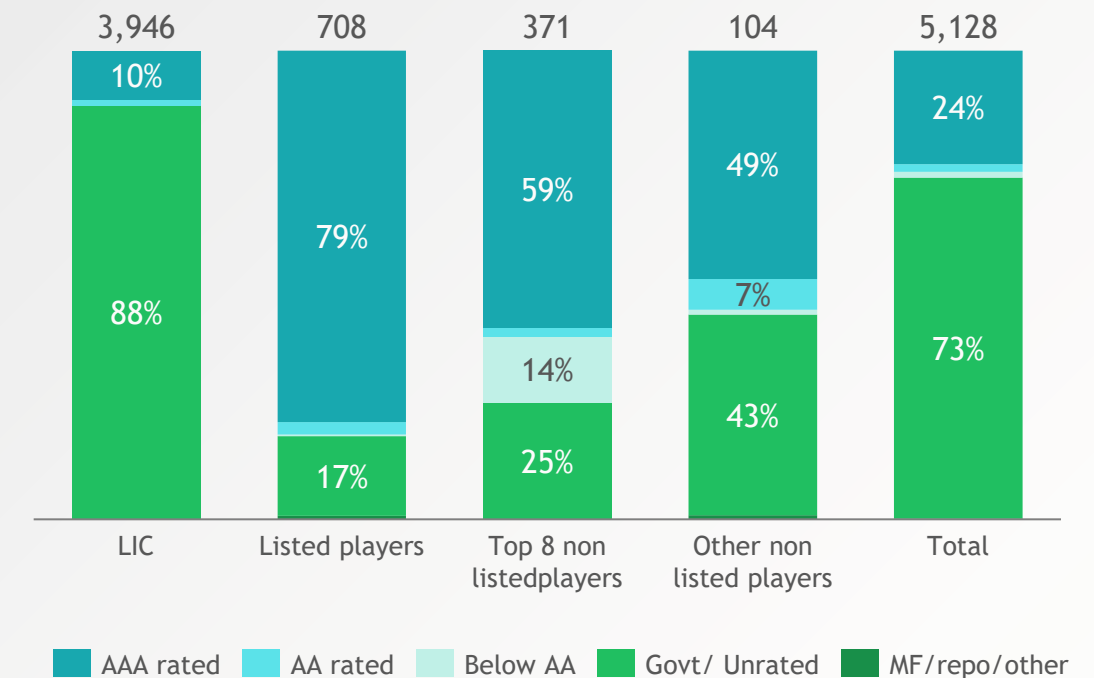
Non-linked PH Fund - G-Sec dominates fund allocation; equity exposure remains modest

FY26 (INR K Cr)



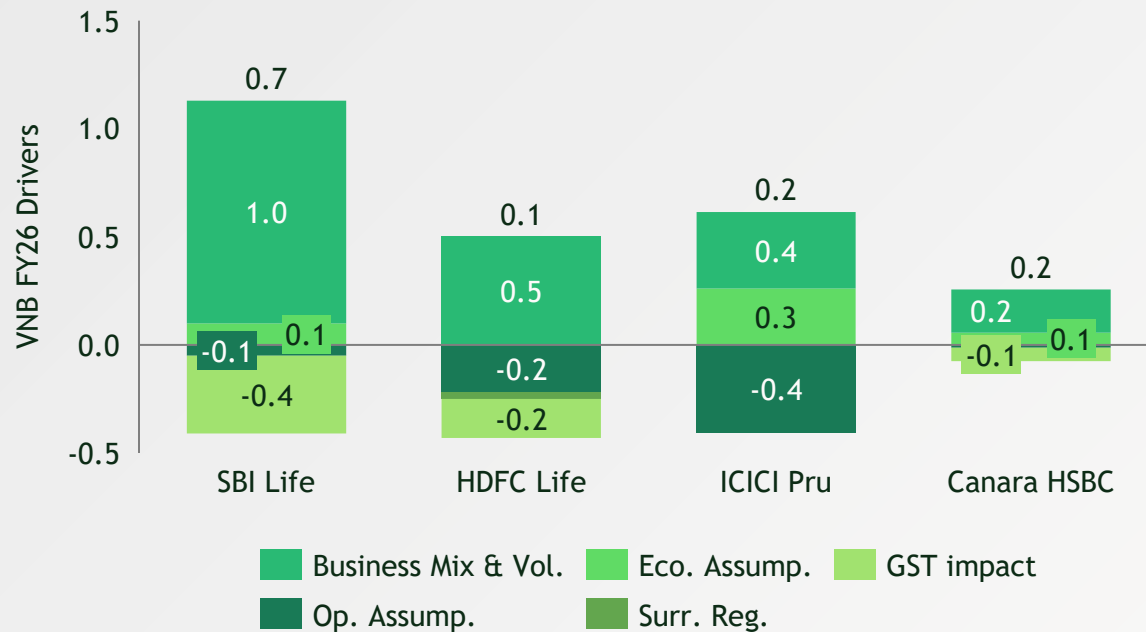
Credit Quality - Industry maintains strong credit discipline with ~73% AAA-rated exposure; quality diverges across segment

FY26 (INR K Cr)

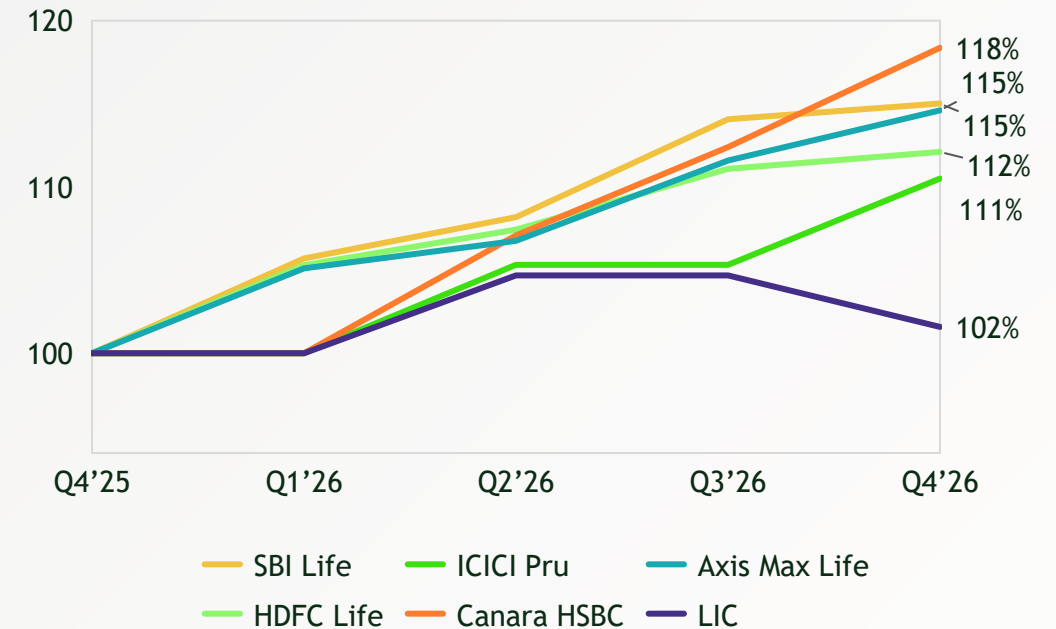


Note: 1. Corporate Bonds consists of long-term debentures & bonds; 2. Investment in Infra and Social Sector and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvIT) are considered under Infra & Social Invnt; Non-linked PH Fund is at book value Source: Public disclosures

Valuation | VNB growth broad based but largely driven by volume; EV trajecting diverse across the players



EV Growth % Indexed to Q4'25



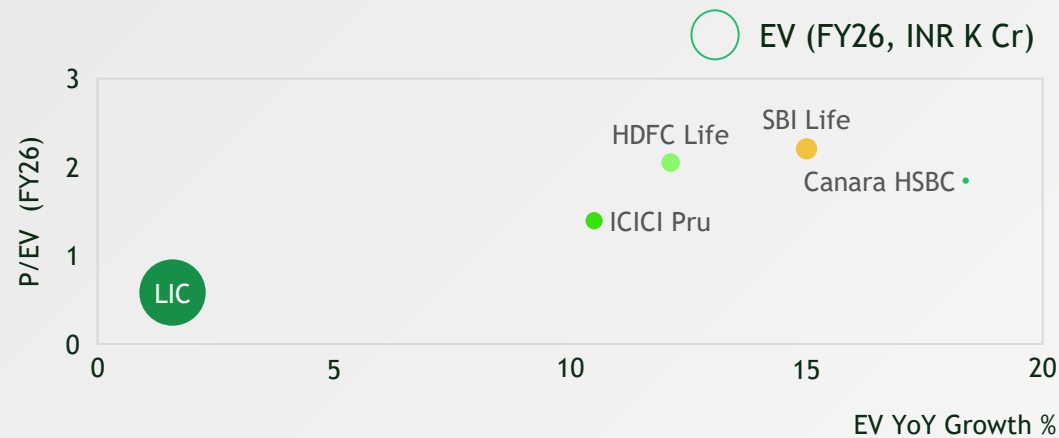
VNB Margin expansion remains elusive as economic and operating assumptions drag

Surrender value norms and GST-driven ITC loss creating asymmetric headwinds; volume masking underlying margin pressure

EV growing industry-wide, but compounding rates diverging – leaders at ~15-18% vs. laggards at ~11-12%, widening the valuation gap

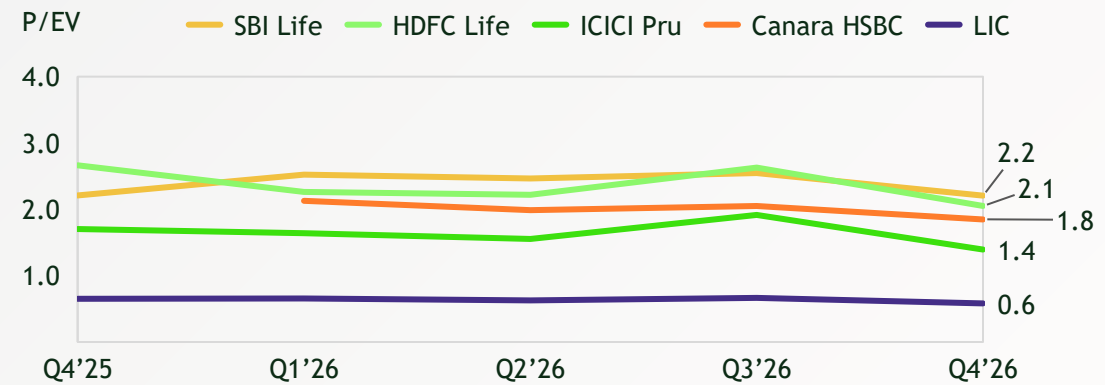
EV Outlook | P/EV YoY trend falling on for most of the listed players despite growth in EV

EV Growth Rate vs P/EV - Market Credibility



Current Valuation Snapshot

LI Player	EV (INR K Cr)	P/EV (x)	VNB Margin %	P/EV trend
SBI Life	81	2.2	27.5%	Stable
HDFC Life	62	2.1	24.2%	Falling
ICICI Pru	53	1.4	24.7%	Falling
Canara HSBC	7	1.8	22.4%	-
LIC	789	0.6	21.2%	Falling



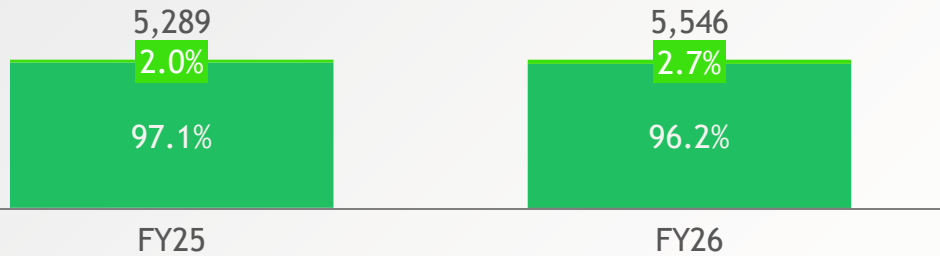
- ✦ P/EV compressed despite EV growth, market has focused on quality growth, VNB margin sustainability and NBP recovery
- ✦ P/EV multiples have decoupled from EV growth rates; distribution channel strength and product mix quality driving valuation premiums over growth

Note : Axis Max excluded since share price is not available and reported under Max Financials
Source: Investor Presentation; BCG analysis

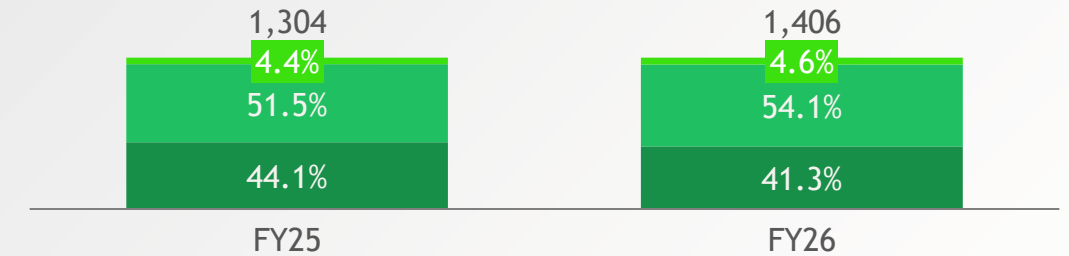
AUM | Industry AUM grew 6% YoY; policyholder fund continues to dominate; though private players shift inclined towards ULIP mix over years

AUM (INR K Cr)

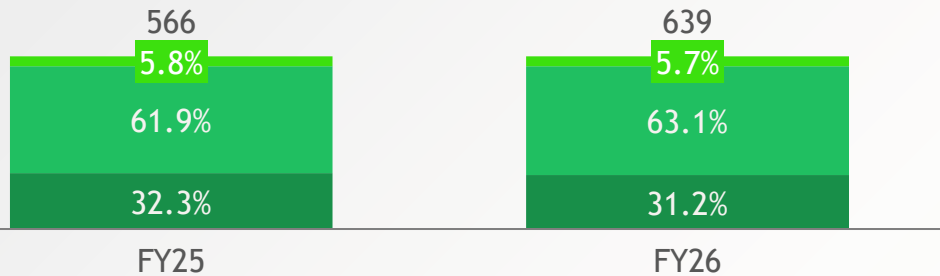
LIC



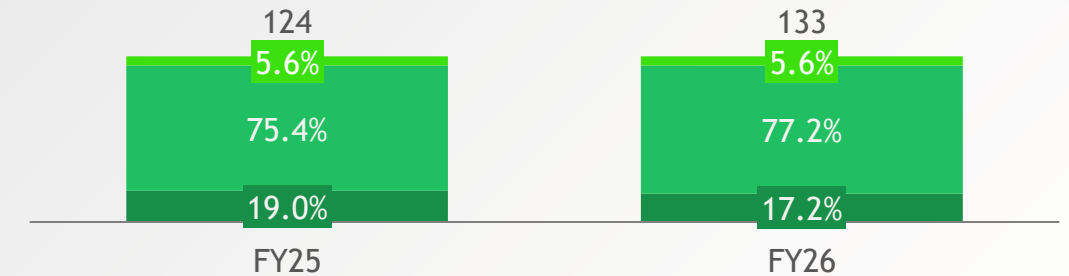
Listed Players



Top 8 non listed Players



Other non listed Players



Note: Listed Players include HDFC Life, SBI Life, ICICI Life, Axis Max and Canara HSBC; Top 8 non-listed players include TATA AIA, Bajaj Life, Aditya Birla, Kotak Life, PNB Met Life, SUD Life, India First and Shriram Life, Other non-listed players include IndusInd Life, Ageas Federal, Generali Central, Bharti AXA, Edelweiss, Pramerica, Bandhan, Aviva. Go Digit, Credit Access and Acko
Source: IRDAI Handbook

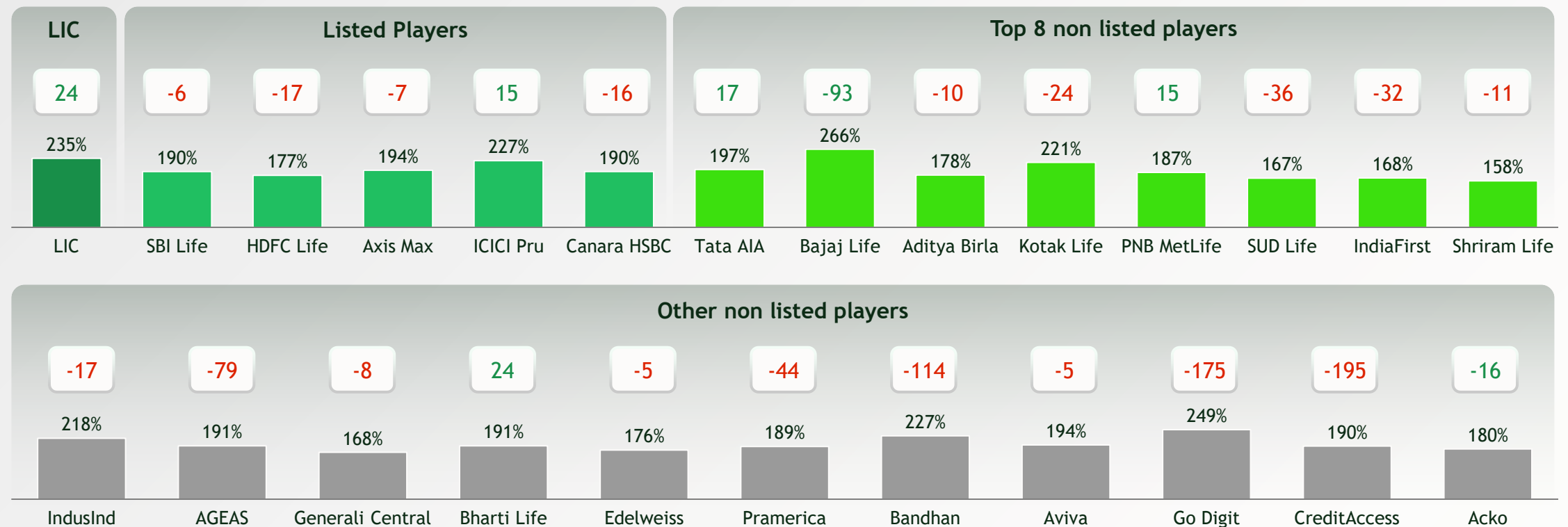
Shareholder Fund
Policyholder Fund
ULIP

Solvency | All players above solvency threshold; though margins have moderated in YoY for most of the players

Solvency Margin

IRDAI required Solvency margin = 150%

FY26



LI Sector Roundup



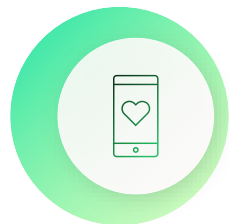
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Industry Profitability and Expense Management



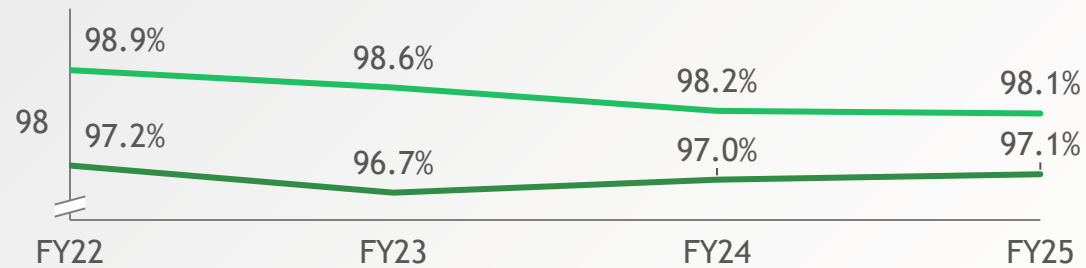
Investment and Valuation



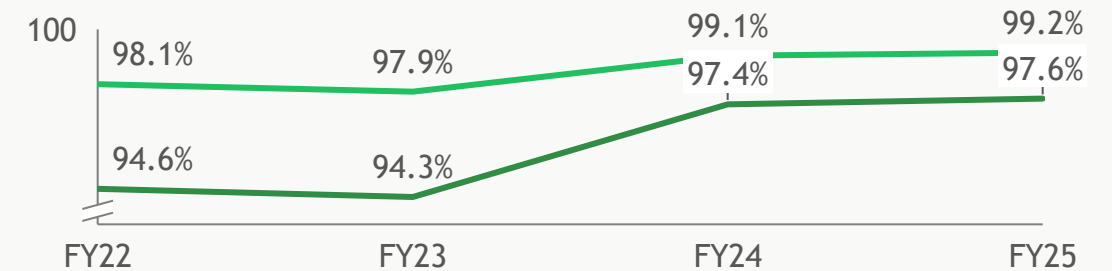
▶ **Customer Experience**

Claims Settlement | Industry claims settlement ratio improving, but value trails volume gap narrowing

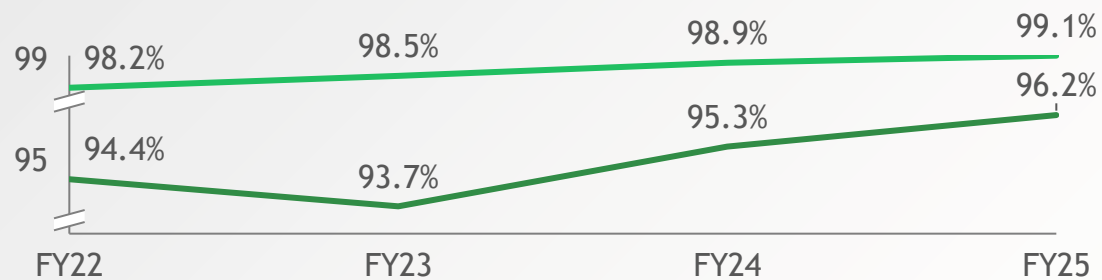
LIC



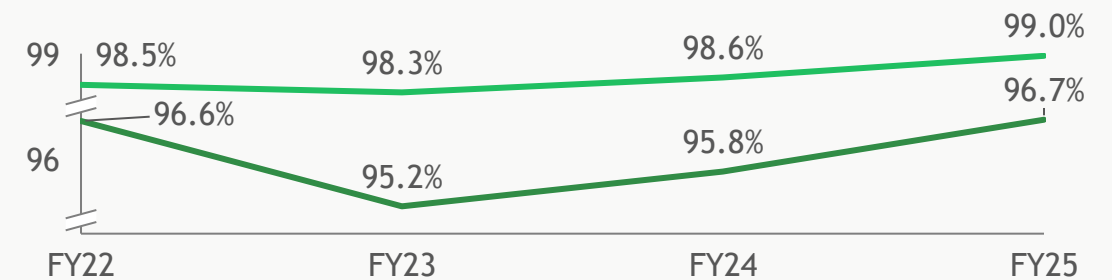
Listed Players



Top 8 non listed Players



Other non listed Players



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Source: IRDAI Handbook

Customer Sentiment Analysis | 220K+ customer sentiments analyzed across the lifecycle; digital servicing has improved, but mis-selling and servicing gap persists

Stage	Rating	Sentiment Themes
 Claims experience	 14,200 negative mentions (44% of all negative)	✓ Repeated document request & unclear rejection letter - denial letter uses legal jargon ✗ Payout delay and nominee distress - delay in settlement timelines and nominee forced to visit multiple branches ✗ Undisclosed exclusions surfaced at claims - customers uninformed of certain limitations
 Renewal & Retention	 6500 negative mentions (28% of all negative)	✓ Customer appreciated automated reminder and seamless UPI/net banking renewals ✗ Reimbursement Delays post admission where cashless not available ✗ Rejections/deduction TAT: repeated reports of denial/deductions, long reimbursements, and call back gaps across complaint boards & Trustpilot.
 Mis-selling / Policy Cancellation	 18,650 negative mentions (6% of all negative)	✗ Free Lookup period denial & unawareness - customer uninformed of FLC period ✗ Instances of mis-selling - sale of inappropriate/unwanted policies or add-ons ✗ Variability on surrender value and undisclosed discontinuance charges
 Digital Journey/ App experience	 5,600 negative mentions (2% of all negative)	✓ Premium payment & policy download well-rated reported positive by customer ✓ Portfolio dashboard drives NPS lift : customer find fund value dashboard useful ✗ Communication Gap often reported login error and chatbot dead ends leads service request escalation

- ✦ Mis-selling complaints increased +3 pts% YoY to ~22% of total grievances, with survival claims-related complaints at 22% of total
- ✦ Insurers' investments in digital infrastructure are reflected in improving customer sentiment around policy servicing

Summary | Perspective on overall LI market

- **Overall, for LI market growth is real but quality warrants a closer look**
 - Industry APE grew +10% YoY to INR 133K Cr, with private players outpacing at +13%; growth was broad-based across GST tailwinds, product mix, and group segment recovery
 - Encouraging topline momentum, though margins, opex, and persistency trends warrant a closer watch
- **Three categories of players make up the market**
 - LIC (~72% AUM | 0.6x P/EV | ~75% persistency) : the scale anchor, though quality metrics lag private peers
 - Listed Private (~18% AUM | 2.0-2.2x P/EV | 83-88% persistency) - the quality benchmark on margins and persistency, though profitability varies considerably across players
 - Non-listed Private (~10% AUM | -) - the fastest-growing cohort, with profitability still maturing
- **Channel mix is gradually shifting**
 - Agency remains dominant, largely supported by the LIC's agency base, while private players are seeing faster growth in direct and broker channels, growing at 21% and 32% CAGR respectively over FY22-FY26
- **VNB Margins** - Some listed players VNB margins declined by ~200-300 bps, driven by earlier ULIP-heavy product mix and industry-wide GST-related ITC loss from H2 FY26; however, select players have been able to absorb the impact better and sustain margins
- **Valuations reflect a measured reassessment of growth quality**
 - P/EV multiples have moderated for most of the listed players despite continued embedded value growth
 - Private players trade in a wide range ~1.4-2.2x P/EV, while the LIC is in range ~0.5-0.7x, the spread tracks channel strength and product mix, more than headline growth
- **Penetration** - Penetration remains concentrated, with the top 6 states holding 53% of individual NBP, meaningful opportunity lies in high-population states that are currently underleveraged/underserved

LI Sector Roundup

Appendix

APE, Market Share, CAGR by Players (I/II)

#	Company	APE (INR K Cr)			Market Share %		CAGR %	
		FY25	FY26	Growth %	FY25	FY26	FY 22-26	FY 22-26
1	LIC	56	64	14%	37%	37%	5%	5%
2	SBI Life	21	24	14%	14%	14%	16%	5%
3	HDFC Life	15	16	7%	10%	9%	13%	-2%
4	Axis Max	8.6	10	19%	5.6%	5.9%	15%	19%
5	ICICI Life	10	10	2%	6.5%	5.8%	11%	-4%
6	Canara HSBC	2.3	2.7	20%	1.5%	1.6%	19%	8%
7	TATA AIA	9.2	11	19%	6.0%	6.3%	25%	46%
8	Bajaj Life	7.5	8.1	8%	4.9%	4.7%	23%	5%
9	Birla Life	4.9	5.6	16%	3.2%	3.2%	19%	20%
10	Kotak Life	5.0	6.5	31%	3.3%	3.8%	15%	15%
11	PNB Metlife	2.6	2.7	4%	1.7%	1.6%	12%	25%
12	SUD life	2.0	2.4	21%	1.3%	1.4%	24%	36%
13	IndiaFirst Life	1.6	1.8	14%	1.0%	1.0%	12%	-1%
14	Shriram Life	1.7	1.8	5%	1.1%	1.0%	22%	43%
Overall Pvt. LI		97	110	14%	63%	63%	16%	9%
Total Industry		153	174	14%	100%	100%	12%	7%

Note: (1) Market share is based on APE, Equity Investments include both short-term and long-term equity holdings. Total industry AUM/NWP and Equity Investment exclude United India and Oriental Insurance. Source: Public Disclosures, IRDAI Handbook 2025, BCG Analysis.

APE, Market Share, CAGR by Players (II/II)

#	Company	APE (INR K Cr)			Market Share %		CAGR %	
		FY25	FY26	Growth %	FY25	FY26	FY 22-26	FY 22-26
15	IndusInd Life	1.2	1.4	21%	0.8%	0.8%	6%	22%
16	Ageas Federal	0.8	1.1	30%	0.5%	0.6%	29%	27%
17	Generali Central	1.1	1.3	16%	0.8%	0.8%	24%	93%
18	Bharti Life	0.6	0.9	47%	0.4%	0.5%	10%	31%
19	Edelweiss Life	0.6	0.6	6%	0.4%	0.4%	7%	41%
20	Pramerica Life	0.3	0.4	25%	0.2%	0.3%	29%	21%
21	Bandhan Life	0.2	0.4	148%	0.1%	0.2%	50%	127%
22	Aviva Life	0.3	0.3	6%	0.2%	0.2%	7%	19%
23	Go Digit life	0.2	0.3	76%	0.1%	0.2%	-	-
24	Credit Access	0.02	0.1	231%	0.01%	0.04%	-	-
25	Acko Life	0.01	0.02	132%	0.01%	0.01%	-	-
Overall Pvt. LI		97	110	14%	63%	63%	16%	9%
Total Industry		153	174	14%	100%	100%	12%	7%

Note: (1) Market share is based on APE, Equity Investments include both short-term and long-term equity holdings. Total industry AUM/NWP and Equity Investment exclude United India and Oriental Insurance. Source: Public Disclosures, IRDAI Handbook 2025, BCG Analysis.

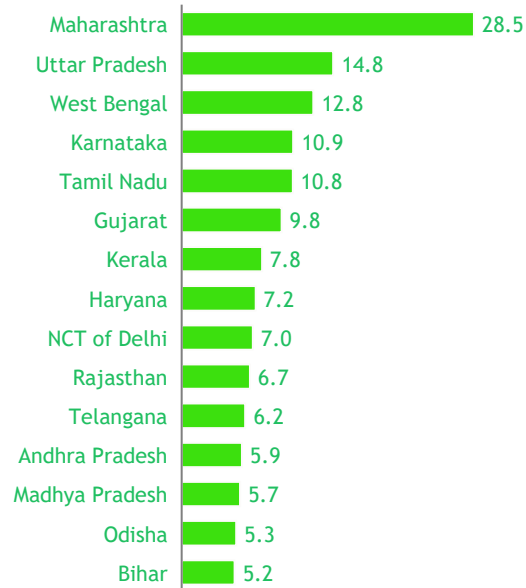


Profitability | Regulatory headwinds, product mix shift and surrender norms have put VNB margins under pressure

Players	FY24	FY25	FY26	% pts FY24-26
LIC	16.8%	21.2%	17.6%	+0.8%
SBI Life	28.1%	27.8%	27.5%	-0.6%
HDFC Life	26.3%	25.6%	24.2%	-2.1%
ICICI Pru	24.6%	22.8%	24.7%	+0.1%
Axis Max	26.5%	24.0%	25.2%	-1.3%
Aditya Birla	20.2%	18.0%	20.6%	+0.4%
Bajaj Life	14.6%	14.5%	19.2%	+4.6%
Canara HSBC	-	19.1%	22.4%	-

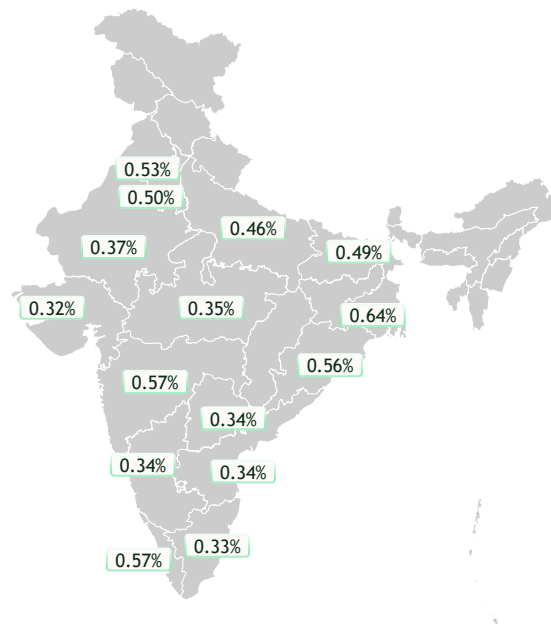
Penetration| Life Insurance penetration is concentrated in few cities in top states; smaller states remain a largely untapped market

Top 15 states- Individual NBP (INR K cr) - FY26

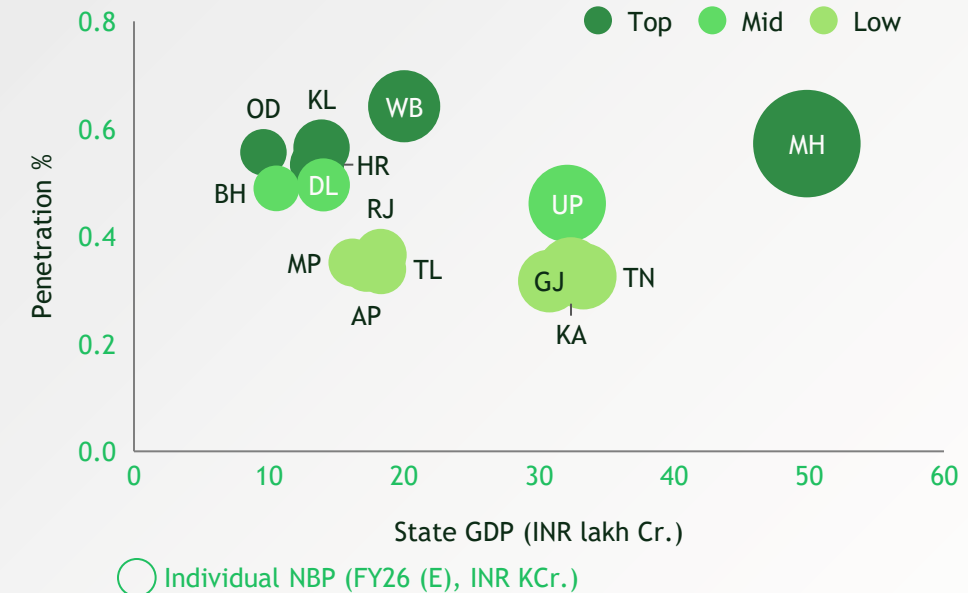


Individual NBP

India's insurance opportunity is unevenly distributed : bridging the penetration gap across states, particularly in high-population but underleveraged markets, holds the key to unlocking the industry's next phase of inclusive growth



Top 15 states Penetration vs GDP



53%, Top 6 states' share of total individual NBP — Maharashtra, UP, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal & Gujarat.

24 States, Below 0.5% penetration — including UP (0.4%), Bihar (0.4%) and MP/RJ (0.3%) despite 400M+ population.

In case of any queries, please reach out



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