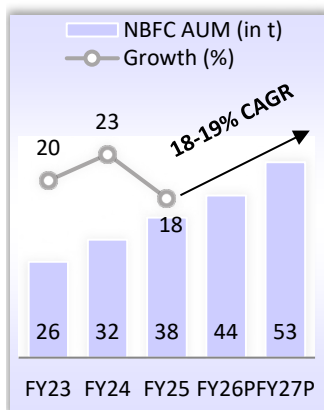


# Financials - NBFC

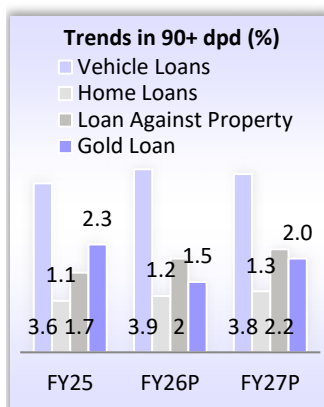
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## NBFC sector to grow at 18-19% over the next two years



## Asset quality pressure present across all segments in FY26, except for gold



## Navigating growth with discipline

We attended the CRISIL NBFC Summit 2025, featuring various industry experts who shared their insights on the overall NBFC sector, mortgage financiers, vehicle/diversified financiers, and specialized lenders. Following are the key takeaways from the seminar:

### Outlook on the overall NBFC sector

- India's NBFC ecosystem is entering a phase of high growth and heightened discipline, supported by robust macro fundamentals, policy tailwinds, and broad-based balance-sheet strength. The NBFC sector's AUM is projected to compound at 18-19% over FY26-27, taking the NBFC book beyond INR50t by Mar'27.
- Over FY15-25, NBFC AUM expanded at ~14% (closer to 18%, excluding the COVID period). However, over FY25-27, growth is expected to increasingly diverge across asset classes, shaping competitive dynamics and strategic positioning among lenders.
- The operating environment remains favorable, underpinned by GST rationalization, contained inflation, improving rural income, and the onset of monetary easing, albeit with incomplete rate transmission. Simultaneously, the sector is contending with rising customer leverage, uneven asset-quality trends across granular retail products, and intensifying competition on both the asset and liability sides.
- Asset quality is likely to remain range-bound across major lending segments, though select pockets continue to show vulnerability. Delinquencies have inched up in vehicle finance and small-ticket MSME loans, while microfinance, despite recent gains, remains a segment to monitor. Early stress is visible in small-ticket products, reinforcing the need for sharper underwriting and more proactive portfolio surveillance.
- Profitability is expected to remain robust, albeit with some moderation, as credit costs rise from their cyclical lows. Return on managed assets (RoMA) is expected to remain close to 2.5% in FY26P before tapering to ~2.4% in FY27P, as the benefit of lower rates is partly offset by a normalization of credit costs. Overall, earnings strength remains solid, supported by strong capitalization and liquidity buffers, though meaningful upside appears capped by asset-quality mean reversion and continued competitive pressure on pricing.
- The NBFC sector is positioned for its strongest growth phase in a decade. However, the next phase will not reward AUM expansion alone. Investors are likely to prioritize NBFCs that will: 1) grow within risk appetite, not ahead of it; 2) diversify liabilities early, not reactively; and 3) scale analytics & data science across the lifecycle.**

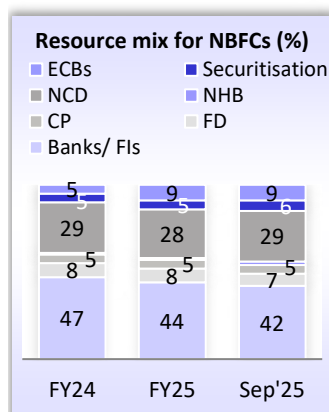
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### Resource mix for NBFCs (%)



### Mortgage Finance: Steady growth amid rising competitive pressure

- India's mortgage finance sector is entering a steadier but more competitive phase, with long-term housing demand keeping growth healthy at 18-19% annually toward a nearly INR20t book by FY27.
- Growth is becoming increasingly polarized: prime salaried lenders with strong liabilities are likely to grow in line with the system, while affordable HFCs should continue to expand faster, despite a recent moderation, driven by changes in disbursement recognition practices, tighter credit discipline, and talent shortages. Home loans will remain the largest segment but are expected to gradually lose share as LAP and affordable housing grow more rapidly, supported by deeper non-metro penetration.
- Competition, especially from PSU banks, has intensified, pressuring pricing and driving record levels of balance transfers. This, in turn, has weighed on margins, though this may stabilize by FY26-end. Asset quality is showing early signs of stress in small-ticket loans due to seasoning and borrower pressure, with NPAs expected to inch up through FY27.
- Overall, while the mortgage finance sector retains a strong long-term growth runway, the operating environment is becoming increasingly competitive and risk-sensitive. Margin pressures, portfolio seasoning, rising small-ticket stress in LAP, and evolving funding structures will be key variables influencing performance over the next two to three years.

### Vehicle Finance: Balancing core strength with diversification into newer segments

- India's vehicle financing sector is set for steady expansion, with AUM expected to grow 16-17% annually, supported by stronger vehicle sales, GST-led affordability gains, healthier rural incomes, and rising consumption. Used vehicle finance continues to outpace new vehicle loans, driven by better risk-adjusted returns and increasing customer acceptance, emerging as a major growth engine.
- Demand remains firm across segments, with PVs showing the strongest post-GST momentum, CVs expected to grow ~3-4%, and tractors ~8-10%, driving overall vehicle finance AUM toward INR11t by FY27. The portfolio mix is shifting as cars/UVs gain share and lenders diversify into home loans, LAP, MSME, and unsecured products, thus reducing cyclicalities.
- Asset quality remains broadly stable, though early delinquencies have ticked up, with 90+dpd expected to rise modestly this year before improving as macros strengthen. Profitability may soften slightly due to higher credit costs, but NIMs are likely to hold steady and opex contained, keeping RoMA around ~2.3% this year, with recovery expected next year. Overall, strong demand, rising used-vehicle penetration, and continued diversification position the sector for sustained and balanced growth despite near-term delinquency pressures.

### Specialized lenders: Growth moderates as risk curves steepen

- The specialized NBFC segment has been one of the fastest-growing areas of the NBFC landscape, doubling its share of system AUM by focusing on

underpenetrated niches such as affordable housing, personal loans, MSME finance, and education loans.

- However, growth is now entering a more moderate and risk-disciplined phase as delinquencies rise in select pockets, particularly unsecured MSME loans, while secured MSME portfolios are showing early-bucket stress. Secured MSME lending has expanded sharply in recent years, but is likely to slow amid tighter underwriting, with early delinquencies rising and profitability pressured by margin contraction.
- Personal loans, after a period of hyper-growth, are normalizing, with early buckets stabilizing and portfolios rebalancing toward higher-ticket customers. Profitability is expected to gradually improve as credit costs stabilize.
- Education loans remain the most resilient segment, with strong yields, low credit cost volatility, and stable asset quality despite recent visa-related growth moderation.
- Overall, the segment has a strong long-term potential but is clearly transitioning into a phase that demands sharper segmentation, disciplined growth, and tighter risk management.

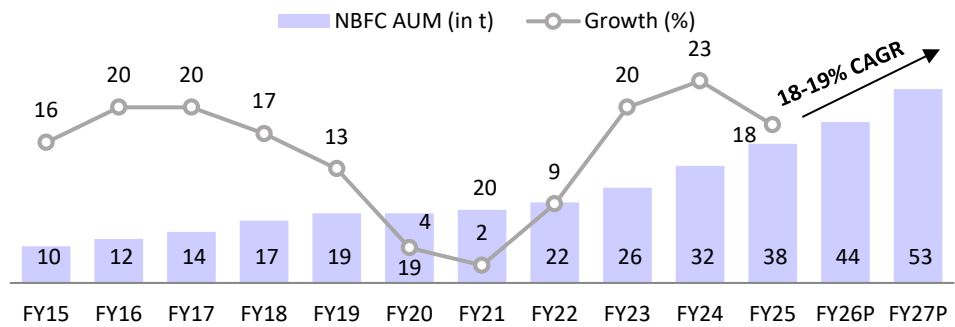
#### Exhibit 1: Trends in individual product segments

Lending Segment	Trend	Key Insight
Vehicle	Steady	❖ Benefiting from consumption and GST rate cuts; early-bucket delinquencies inching up
Home	Marginal moderation	❖ Still the most resilient product; continues to deliver the best asset quality
Gold	Strong acceleration	❖ Counter-cyclical + easy liquidity → fastest AUM growth over the next two years
LAP / Secured MSME	High momentum	❖ Small-ticket LAP vulnerable; large-ticket remains strong
Wholesale	Recovery underway	❖ Capex cycle aiding growth selectively
Unsecured (PL & Business)	Selective growth	❖ Peak stress FY24–FY25; growth continues but with sharper risk filters
Microfinance	Normalization after the FY24 spike	❖ Discipline returning; lower growth outlook near term

#### Exhibit 2: Panel discussion – Standout insights

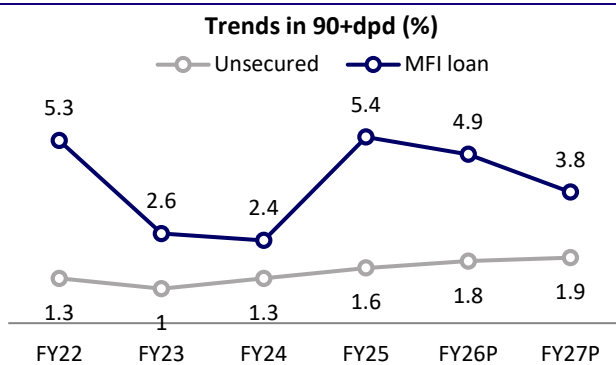
Institution	Strategic Posture	Standout Insight
Tata Capital	Growth with risk discipline	❖ Optimistic on demand; expects capex and industrial growth to cascade into MSME credit; highlighted the need for liability diversification
L&T Finance	Retail pivot execution	❖ After a tough FY24, growth revival underway across MFI and tractor; selective in small-ticket LAP and CV
IIFL Finance	Multi-product retail scaling	❖ Sees rapid demand normalization in gold and MSME; believes competition in gold is manageable, given the large unmet market
Muthoot Finance	Gold leadership	❖ Gold demand increases as borrowers shift from unsecured credit following funding tightening; strong retention due to ops and customer proximity
Muthoot Fincorp	Gold + MSME focus	❖ Market expansion across semi-urban/rural; sees long runway for secured borrowing products beyond gold

**Exhibit 3: NBFC sector to grow at 18-19% over the next two years**



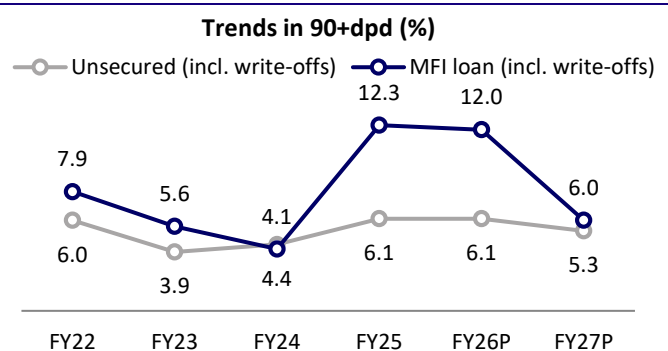
Source: CRISIL, MOFSL

**Exhibit 4: 90+dpd to ease in unsecured and MFI loans in FY26/FY27E**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

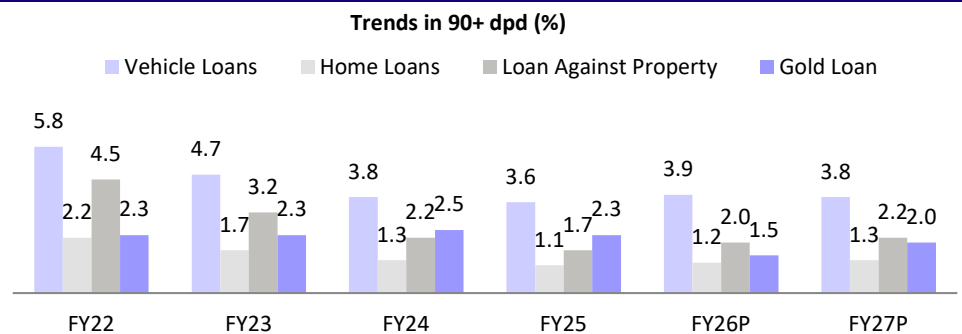
**Exhibit 5: 90+dpd (incl. write-offs) to remain elevated in FY26 and start moderating from FY27 onwards**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

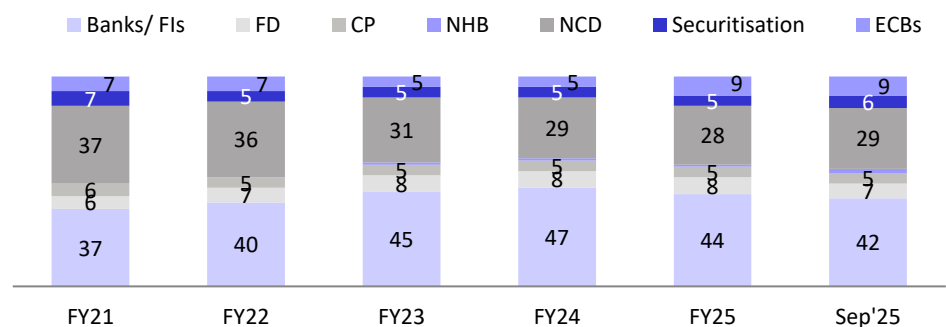
**Note:** Unsecured loans include consumer loans, business loans to MSMEs, and credit card receivables

**Exhibit 6: Asset quality pressure present across all segments in FY26, except for gold**



Note: LAP includes secured MSME; Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 7: Resource mix for NBFCs (%)**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

### Mortgage Finance: Steady growth amid rising competitive pressure

- India's mortgage finance industry is entering a phase of stable but more disciplined growth, supported by structural housing demand yet challenged by pricing aggression, portfolio seasoning, and evolving risk dynamics. Mortgage penetration remains low at roughly 16.6% of GDP, and sector AUM is expected to grow at about 18-19% annually, taking the overall mortgage book to nearly INR20t by FY27.
- Growth trajectories across NBFCs and HFCs remain closely tied to liability strength and the ability to self-fund expansion. Players operating in the most prime salaried segments with deep bank integration or AAA ratings are likely to grow in line with system averages. In contrast, affordable housing lenders continue to benefit from base effects, enabling significantly faster percentage growth.
- Home loans will continue to be the largest segment, though their share within total mortgages is likely to decline from 59% in Mar'25 to ~54% by Mar'27, reflecting faster expansion in LAP and affordable housing. Disbursement trends indicate continued deepening in non-metro and rural markets, with nearly half of new loans directed toward self-construction and resale properties.
- Affordable housing finance, which grew 31% in FY24, is expected to moderate to ~20-21% growth, though the long-term opportunity remains intact. The share of affordable HFCs in the mortgage pool is projected to rise to 25% by FY27 from 17% in FY21, driven by strong demand in lower-ticket segments and expanding reach of specialized lenders.
- The moderation in affordable housing growth appears largely driven by internal industry factors rather than external constraints. In the panel discussion, the lenders highlighted that the shift from booking-based to handover-based disbursement recognition has reduced reported growth by 5-7%. Additionally, sector-wide credit challenges have pushed many players to temper disbursements and refocus on collection efficiency. A significant talent shortage in sales and credit roles has further slowed expansion.
- Competitive intensity has increased materially in the prime salaried home-loan market, with public sector banks aggressively gaining share through sharper pricing. The share of home loans with interest rates below 9% has significantly increased, reaching ~63% as of Mar'25, compared to ~46% as of Mar'24. This competition has resulted in a 40% increase in balance transfers in the current fiscal year. Margins are set to soften this year but should stabilize and recover to some extent in FY26 as funding and rate conditions settle. Sector-wide RoMA is likely to hold steady at 2% for FY26-27.
- Asset quality is showing early signs of pressure, especially in small-ticket loans. The lagged NPA for home loans is projected to rise from 3.1% in Mar'25 to about 3.7% by Mar'27. Nearly two-thirds of lenders in the sub-INR1.5m ticket segment saw NPA deterioration between Mar'24 and Mar'25, driven by seasoning effects, elevated borrower stress, and overlaps with microfinance customer profiles. Both home loan and LAP NPAs are expected to edge up, calling for tighter underwriting, stronger borrower segmentation, and closer portfolio monitoring. Performance of small-ticket loans will remain a critical watchpoint over the medium term.
- Nearly two-thirds of lenders in the sub-INR1.5m ticket segment have reported NPA deterioration over the last year due to seasoning effects, higher borrower stress, and overlaps with microfinance borrower segments. Slippages are expected to rise in both home loan and LAP books, underscoring the need for

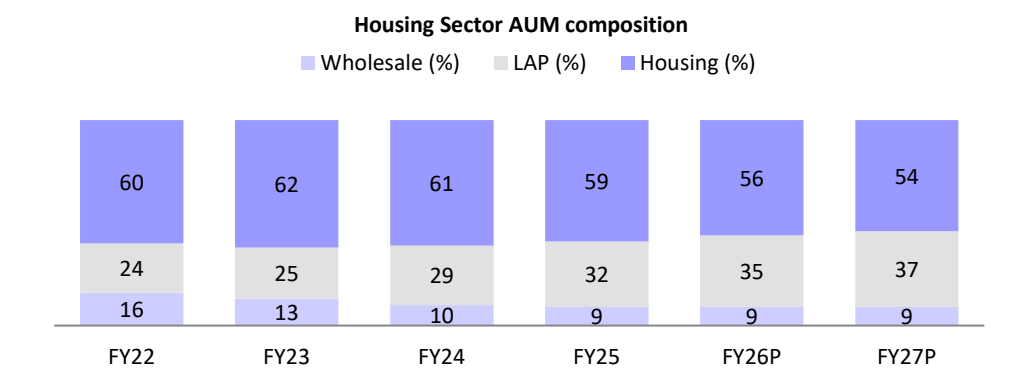
sharper underwriting, deeper borrower segmentation, and closer monitoring. Lenders also noted signs of overheating in the sub-INR5m segment, where repayment capacity is becoming increasingly stretched.

#### Evolving Business Models:

- Developer Finance is unlikely to return to its previous role as the primary 'profit balancer' for mortgage-focused NBFCs. This segment has largely shifted to alternative investment fund (AIF) platforms.
- Dual Licenses (HFC/NBFC) provide benefits by allowing dedicated teams and segment-specific focus, recognizing that the entities are often viewed as two separate industries despite increasing regulatory alignment.

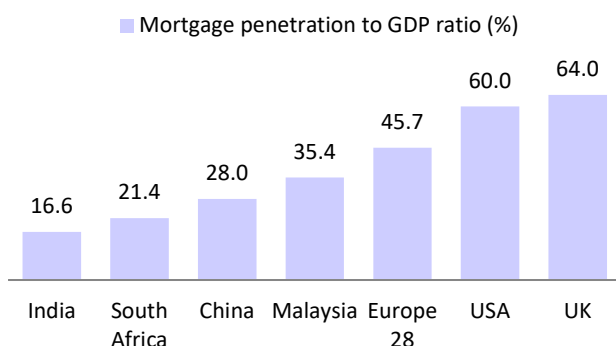
**Overall, while the mortgage finance sector retains a strong long-term growth runway, the operating environment is becoming more competitive and risk-sensitive. Margin pressures, portfolio seasoning, rising small-ticket stress, and evolving funding structures will be key variables influencing performance over the next two to three years.**

**Exhibit 8: Home loans constitute the largest share of housing sector AUM, though their share is gradually declining due to strong LAP growth**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

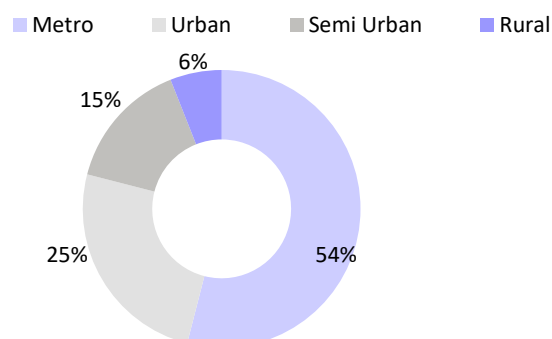
**Exhibit 9: India's mortgage penetration is still low compared to many emerging markets**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

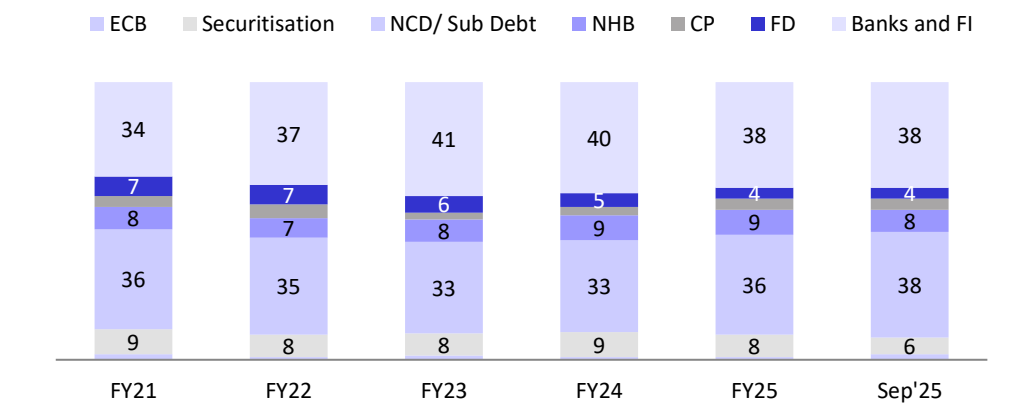
Note: As of CY17, Indian mortgage-to-GDP is for FY25; Europe 28, Malaysia, and UK as of Dec'18; Europe 28 includes 28 European Union members.

**Exhibit 10: Bank portfolio geographical allocation (%)**



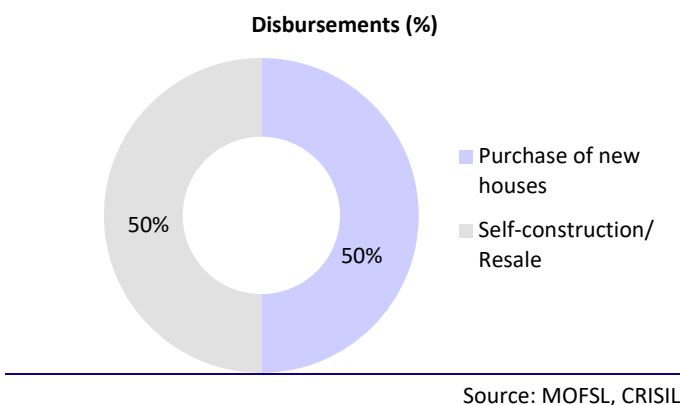
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 11: Resource mix for HFCs (%)**



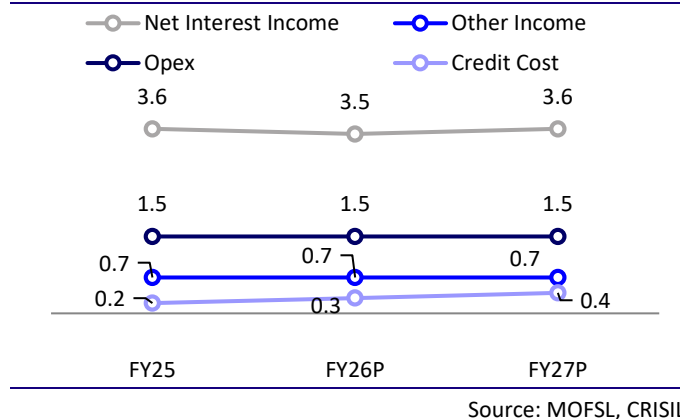
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 12: ~50% of disbursements are toward self-construction/resale of properties**



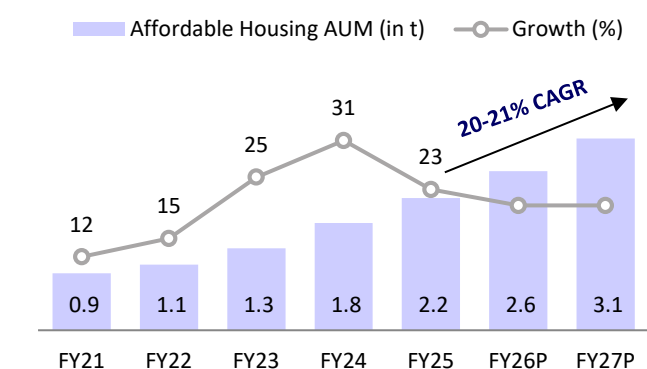
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 13: Profitability parameters for HFCs (% of average managed assets)**



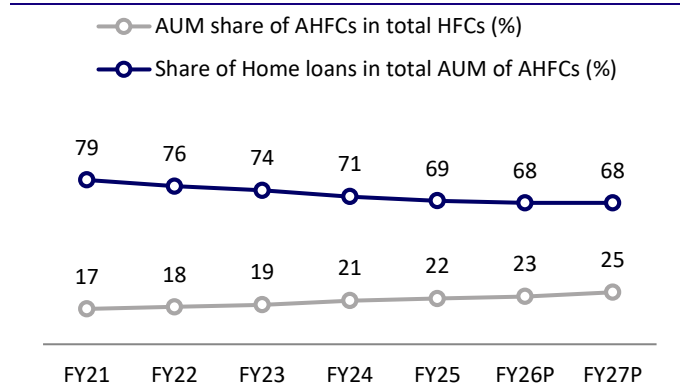
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 14: Affordable housing growth to moderate to 20-21% from peak levels of 31% in FY24**



Note: Data for AHFCs is from the sample of 30 companies; Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

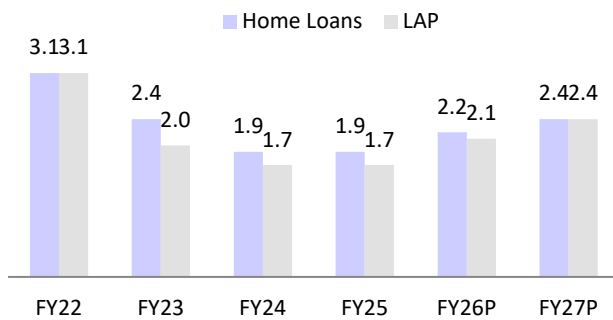
**Exhibit 15: Share of AHFCs in overall HFC AUM gradually rising**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 16: 90+dpd to rise in FY26/FY27P**

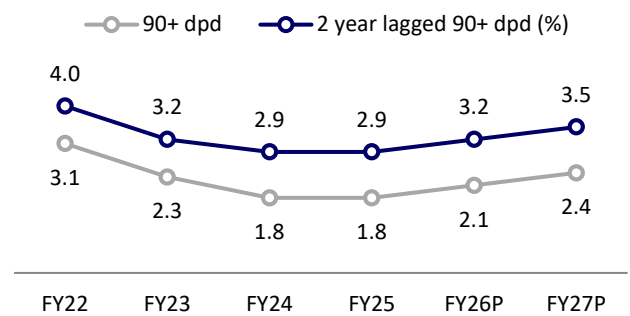
Segmental 90+ trends (%)



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

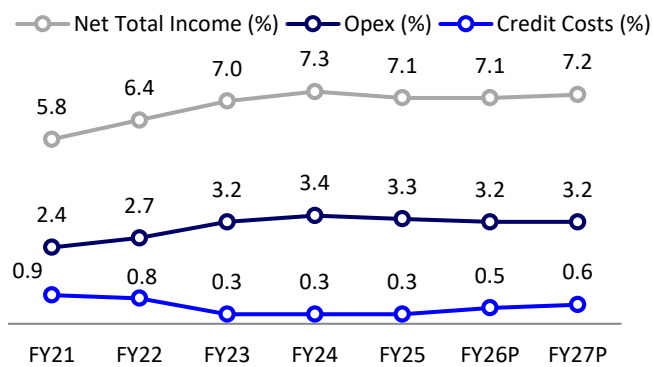
**Exhibit 17: Overall NPAs across the housing sector have inched up in FY26**

Trend in overall NPA



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

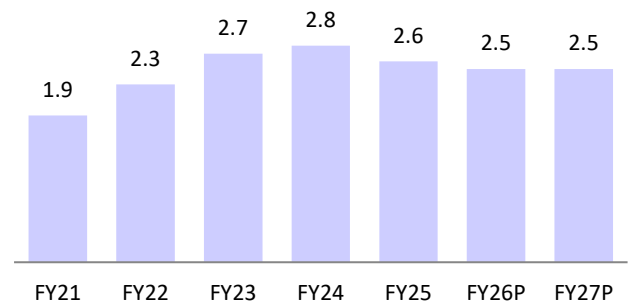
**Exhibit 18: Key metrics for HFCs (%)**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 19: RoMA to decline in FY26/FY27 due to rising competition and increased delinquencies**

Trend in Return on Managed Assets (%)



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

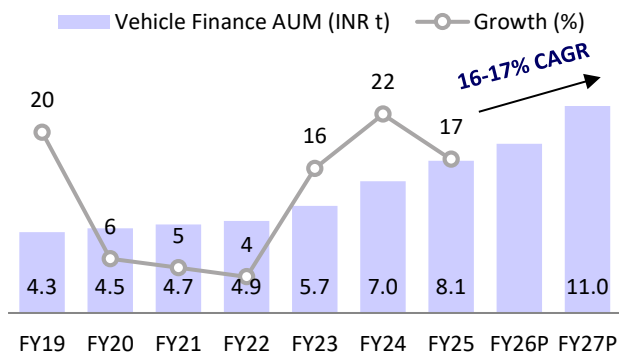


### Vehicle Finance: Balancing core strength with diversification into newer segments

- The vehicle financing sector is poised for sustained growth, with AUM projected to expand at ~16-17% annually over the next two years. This momentum is driven by a revival in vehicle demand, GST-led affordability gains, improving rural incomes, and a broader consumption uptick. Notably, used vehicle financing is outpacing new vehicle loans, supported by superior risk-adjusted returns and growing customer acceptance, making it a key contributor to overall portfolio expansion.
- PVs have gained the strongest traction post-GST cuts, with a clear pickup in demand in the second half of the year. CVs are expected to grow at ~3-4%, supported by improved infrastructure activity and healthy demand for used CVs. Tractor sales are poised for 8-10% growth, reflecting improved monsoon patterns and stable farm income. Overall vehicle finance AUM is projected to reach INR11t by Mar'27.
- A key structural trend shaping the industry is the faster growth of used vehicle financing relative to new vehicle financing. Almost all major lenders have seen their used vehicle portfolios expand more rapidly over the last five years, driven by higher customer acceptance, better formalization of the used vehicle market, and more favorable risk-adjusted returns.
- The portfolio composition is also evolving, with the share of cars and utility vehicles expected to increase from about 29% of total vehicle AUM to nearly ~37% by FY27. At the same time, vehicle financiers are steadily broadening their product mix beyond their traditional domain. The proportion of non-vehicle loans has risen from 19% in FY19 to around 23% in FY23, driven by growth in home loans, LAP, MSME credit, and unsecured products. This diversification is enabling lenders to smooth earnings and mitigate the cyclicity inherent in pure vehicle finance portfolios.
- Asset quality remains broadly stable, though early-bucket delinquencies have inched up in recent quarters. The 90+dpd bucket improved last year on the back of strong rollbacks, but is likely to rise modestly this fiscal, especially in commercial vehicle and two- and three-wheeler portfolios. A gradual improvement is expected next year as macro conditions strengthen.
- Profitability is expected to ease slightly this year, primarily due to higher credit costs, even as NIMs remain largely stable given the predominantly fixed-rate nature of vehicle loan portfolios. Operating expenses should remain well-contained, with scale benefits helping absorb the cost of diversification into new segments. Return on managed assets is likely to dip to around 2.3% this year, but should recover to ~2.4% next year as credit costs normalize.

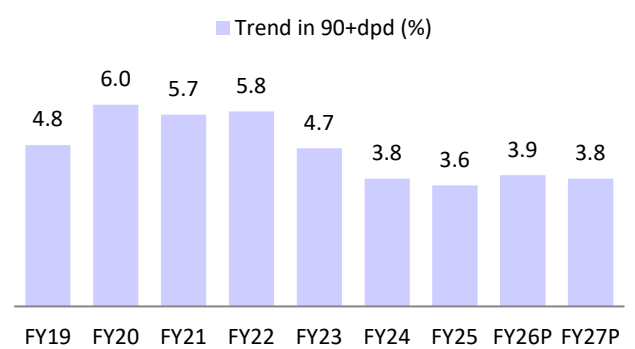
**The sector is entering its next phase amid a supportive demand environment, increasing used-vehicle adoption, a robust rural recovery, and favorable policy tailwinds. Although delinquencies and credit costs require close attention, growth prospects remain strong, and profitability is expected to remain stable over the medium term. A mix of core vehicle finance strength and diversification into non-vehicle segments positions lenders for sustained, balanced expansion.**

**Exhibit 20: VF AUM to grow 16-17% over FY26-FY27**



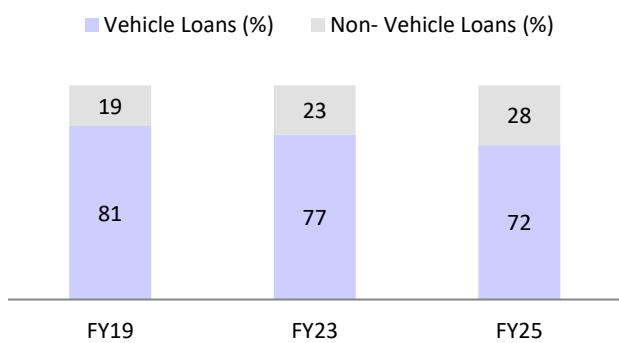
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 21: 90+dpd expected to rise in FY26P**



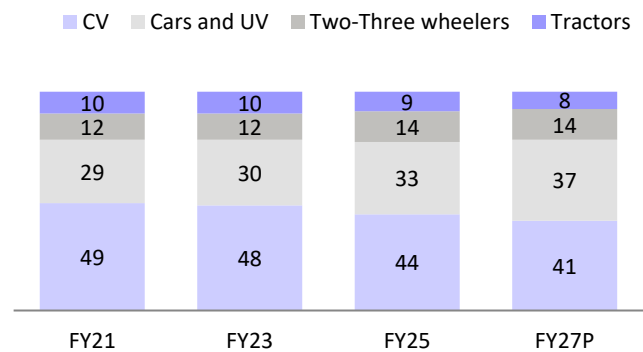
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 22: VF: Mix of auto and non-auto loans (%)**



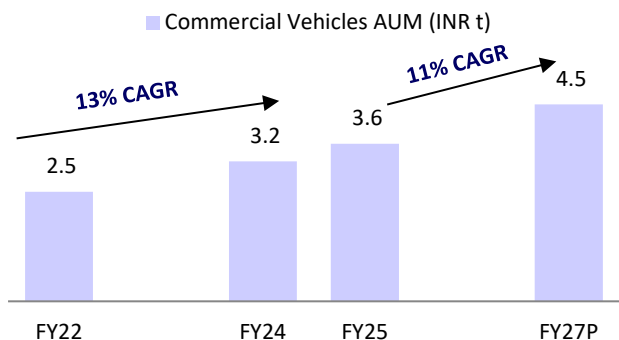
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 23: AUM mix of vehicle financiers (%)**



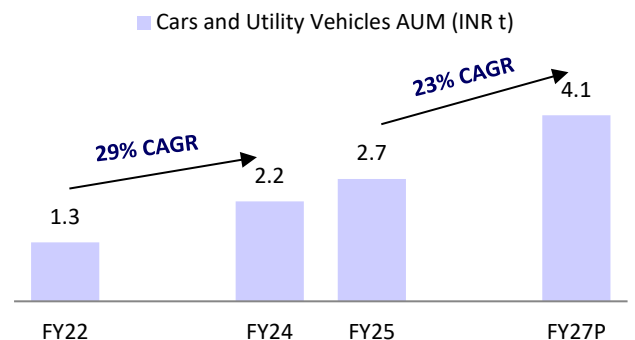
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 24: CV loans AUM to post 11% CAGR from FY25-FY27P**



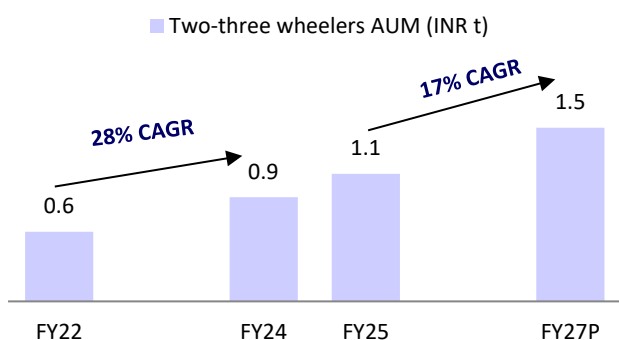
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 25: Cars and UV AUM to post 23% CAGR from FY25-FY27P**



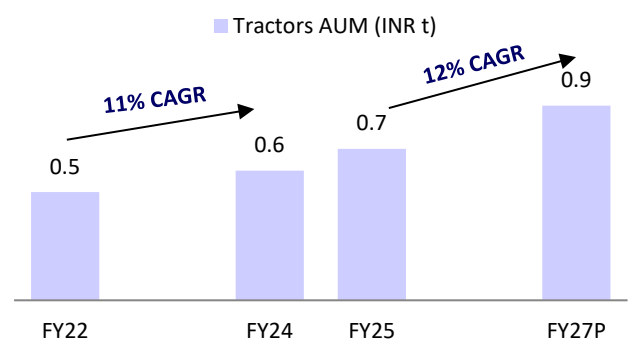
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 26: 2W-3W loans AUM to post 17% CAGR from FY25-FY27P**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 27: Tractor AUM to post 12% CAGR from FY25-FY27P**

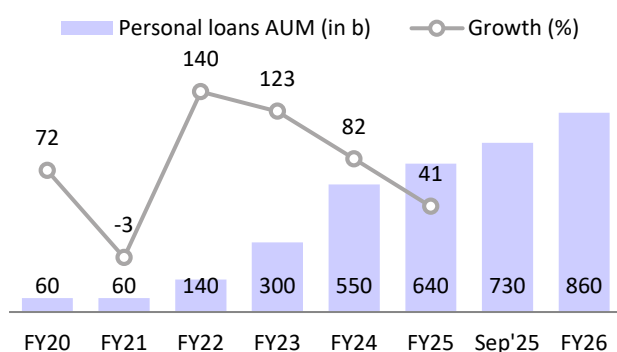


Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

### Specialized lenders: Growth moderates as risk curves steepen

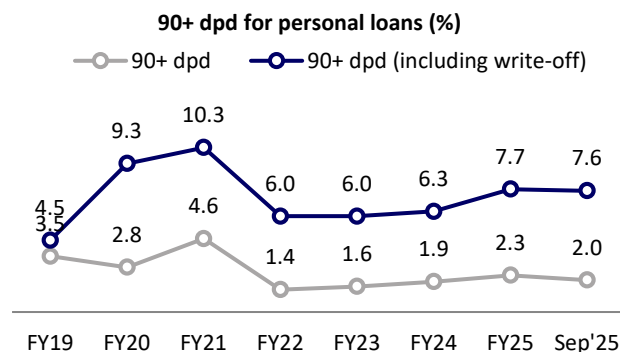
- The specialized NBFC segment, targeting niche or underpenetrated segments such as affordable housing, personal loans, MSME financing, and education loans, has been among the fastest-growing pockets of the Indian NBFC ecosystem over the past five years, doubling its share of total NBFC AUM.
- While growth remains positive, the sector is entering a more disciplined phase with moderated expansion, rising delinquencies in select segments, and the need for calibrated risk management. Asset quality stress is most visible in unsecured MSME loans, with secured MSME portfolios showing early-bucket pressure. Personal loan delinquencies are stabilizing, and funding remains largely reliant on banks and large NBFCs.
- **Secured MSME Segment:** The secured MSME segment, focused primarily on Tier-3/Tier-4 geographies and secured against residential or commercial property, has grown from INR100b in FY20 to INR650b in 1HFY26. While growth has been resilient, future expansion is expected to moderate due to a more conservative stance by lenders. Asset quality shows rising early-bucket delinquencies with 30+dpd at ~6.4% as of Sep'25 vs ~4.5% in Mar'24, though still below historical peaks. Profitability is likely to moderate in FY26 due to margin contraction and higher credit costs.
- **Unsecured MSME Segment:** Unsecured MSME loans, including business loans and supply chain finance, experienced rapid growth post-COVID, but have decelerated meaningfully over the past 18 months. In FY26, growth is expected to remain muted amid rising delinquencies. Asset quality pressures stem from higher borrower leverage and overlap with microfinance-like exposures.
- **Personal Loans:** Personal loans, primarily short-tenor (up to 12 months) and modest ticket sizes (INR50k–INR250k), drove the highest growth among specialized NBFCs (~75% CAGR over FY20-FY24). In FY25, the growth in this segment slowed due to regulatory interventions and more selective customer acquisition. Early-bucket delinquencies are stabilizing, although risk varies by ticket size and borrower profile. Loans below INR50k, previously 75% of portfolio, now form ~30%, reflecting portfolio rebalancing. Profitability is expected to recover gradually as credit costs stabilize and operational efficiencies improve.
- **Education Loans:** Education financing continues to benefit from rising tuition costs, increasing aspirations, and disciplined underwriting. Growth is moderating due to visa restrictions and policy tightening in the US (~30% drop in inflows) and Canada, prompting NBFCs to diversify toward the UK, Germany, and Ireland. Asset quality remains robust as ~85% of the portfolio is under moratorium; repayment history from alumni also supports performance. Profitability remains strong due to high yields and low credit cost volatility.

**Exhibit 28: Personal loans: AUM growth (%)**



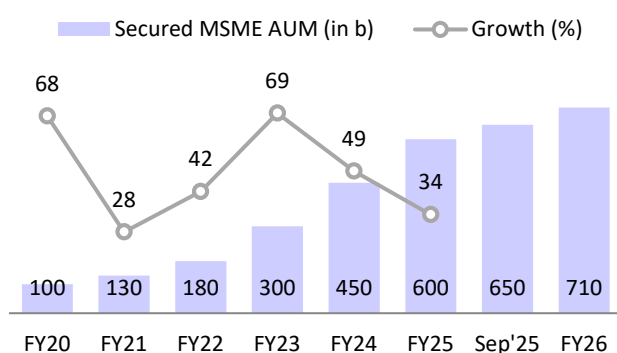
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 29: Delinquencies in personal loans**



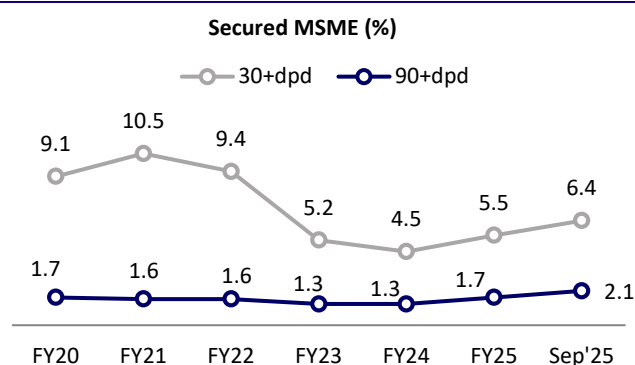
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 30: Secured MSME: AUM growth (%)**



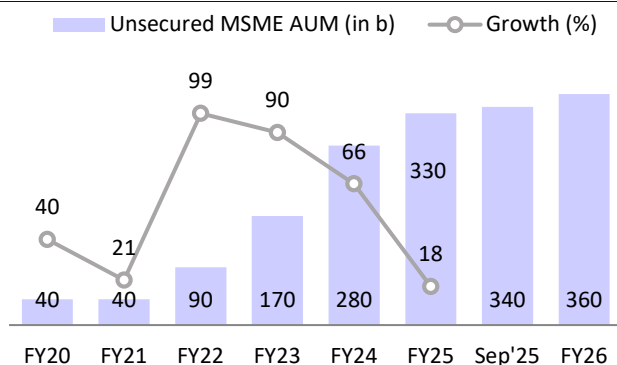
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 31: Delinquencies in secured MSME book**



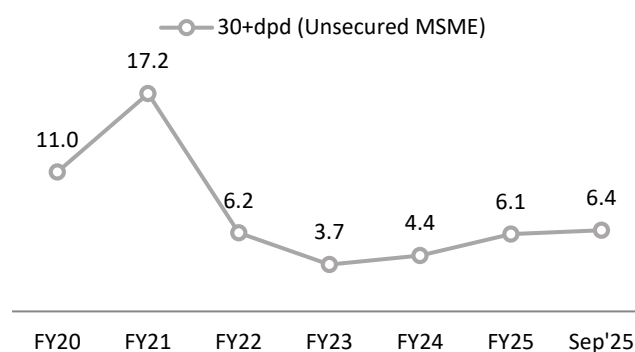
Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 32: Unsecured MSME: AUM growth (%)**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

**Exhibit 33: Delinquencies in unsecured MSME book (%)**



Source: MOFSL, CRISIL

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