

# **BUDGET BULLETIN:**

## **THE LAST 5 YEARS OF FISCAL FUTURES**



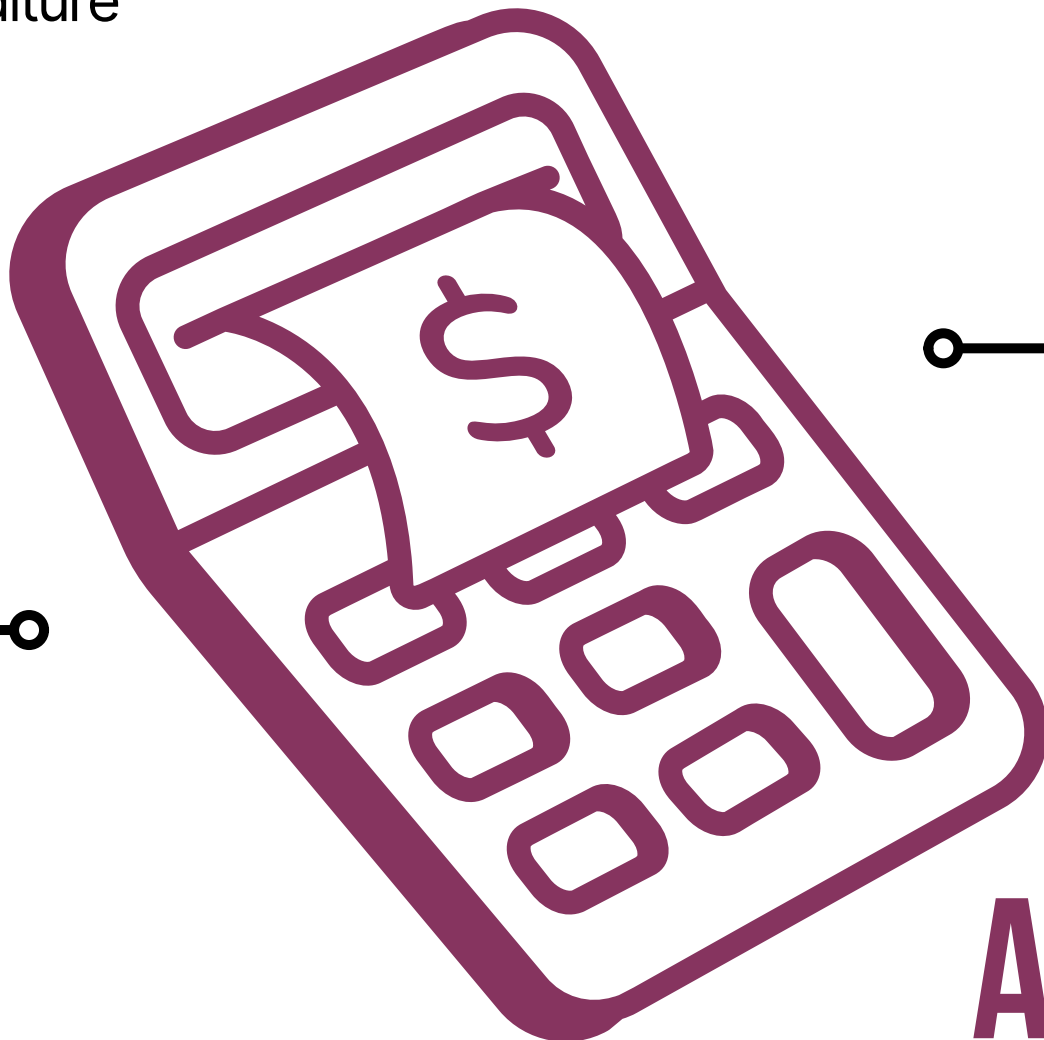
**A summary on Budgets passed  
by the 14<sup>th</sup> Parliament (FY2021-FY2025)**

## 1. OVERALL BALANCE

Budget balance is the difference between government revenue and expenditure

Revenue comes from tax revenue, fees and charges, statutory boards' contributions, and Investment Returns

## 2. REVENUE



# AREAS OF ANALYSIS

## 3. EXPENDITURE

Government's combined spending on operations and development for public services

## 4. SPECIAL TRANSFERS

One-off transfers to businesses, households, individuals, and/or top-ups to Endowment and Trust Funds

# “My fellow Singaporeans...”: Key observations & announcements

## FY2021: EMERGING STRONGER TOGETHER

- **Large primary deficit** mainly due to **COVID-19**.
- **No top-ups** to endowment or trust funds.

Typically during “crisis-mode”, long-term fund injections are suspended to prioritise spending in more urgent areas.

## FY2022: CHARTING OUR NEW WAY FORWARD TOGETHER

- Economy rebounded, revenue picked up slightly.
- Upcoming **GST increases (in 2 phases)** announced to bolster operating revenue.
- Higher property taxes and luxury car duties to build a **more progressive tax system**.

## FY2023: MOVING FORWARD IN A NEW ERA

- Introduced **Majulah Package** - once-off \$8 billion programme for seniors’ retirement needs.
- Sizeable **cost-of-living special transfers** to manage inflation and offset GST hike.
- **No Past Reserves drawn on** - a sign of recovery.

# “My fellow Singaporeans...”: Key observations & announcements

## FY2024: BUILDING OUR SHARED FUTURE TOGETHER

- Large spending, but remained in surplus due to **booming revenues**.
- Channeled into **record-high top-ups to endowment and trust funds** (over \$22 billion) for future needs (e.g., ageing, sustainability).

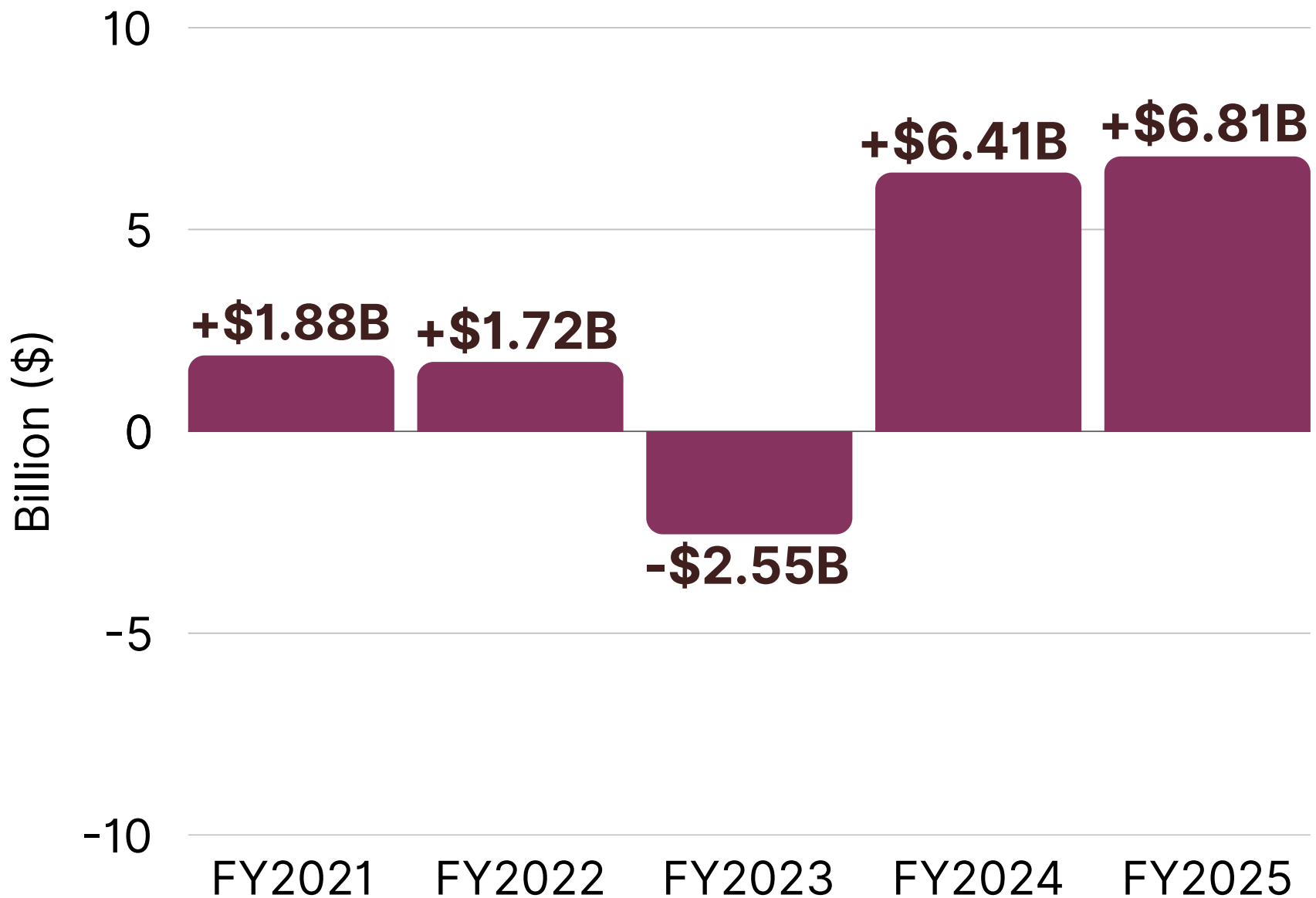
## FY2025: ONWARD TOGETHER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

- **SG60 vouchers** - highest amount of Special Transfers to households since 2021, and more generous than 2015/2020 election-year Budgets.
- **Large funds for infrastructure** (e.g., Changi Airport Development Fund, Coastal/Flood Protection Fund).

FY2021–FY2025 Budgets tell a story of crisis management, recovery and strategic allocation of resources. **Special Transfers were often used as a “balancing lever”** - as cost-of-living vouchers in bad times, top-ups to Funds for long-term needs amidst economic recovery, and “feel-good” payouts in SG60/election year. This nuanced use of one-off transfers reflects an effort to **balance long-term stewardship with short-term public expectations**.



# Overall Balance: Which years were we in surplus vs in deficit?

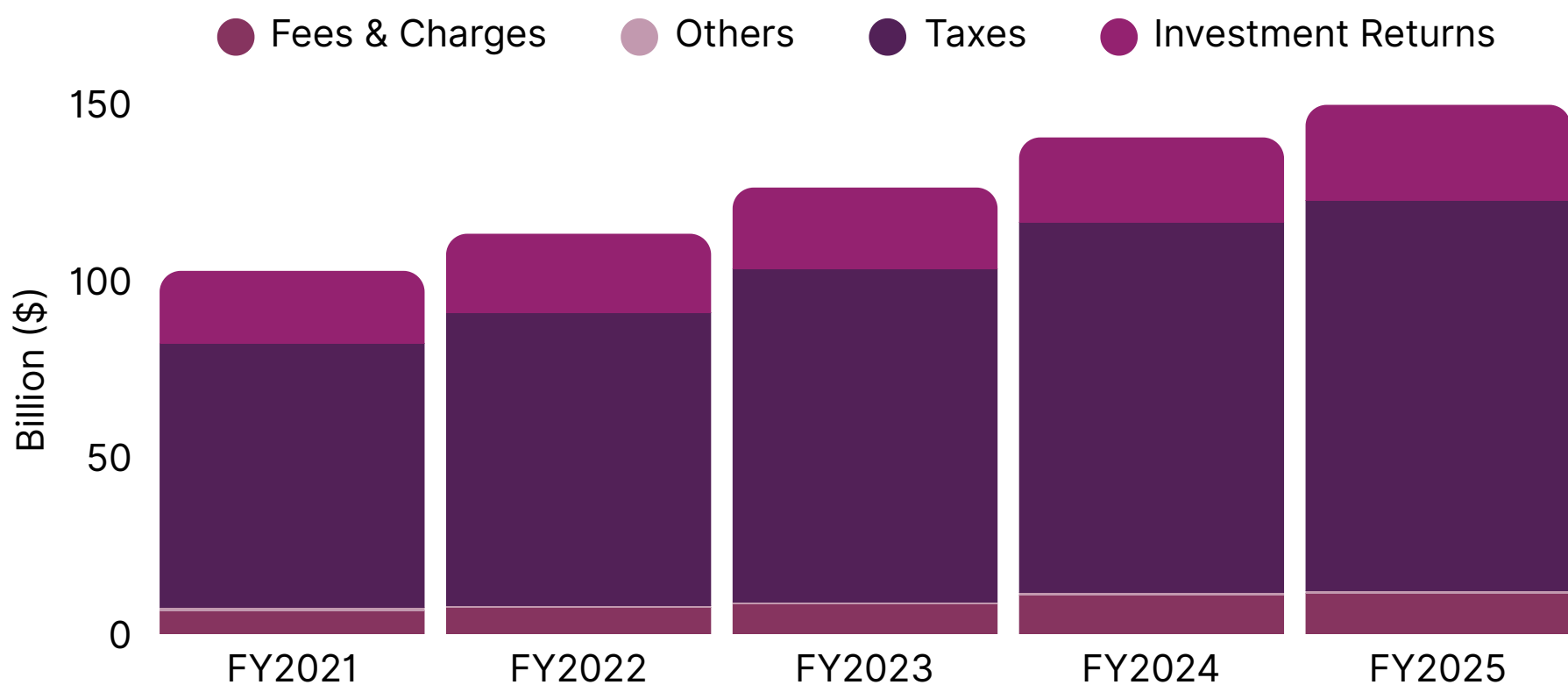
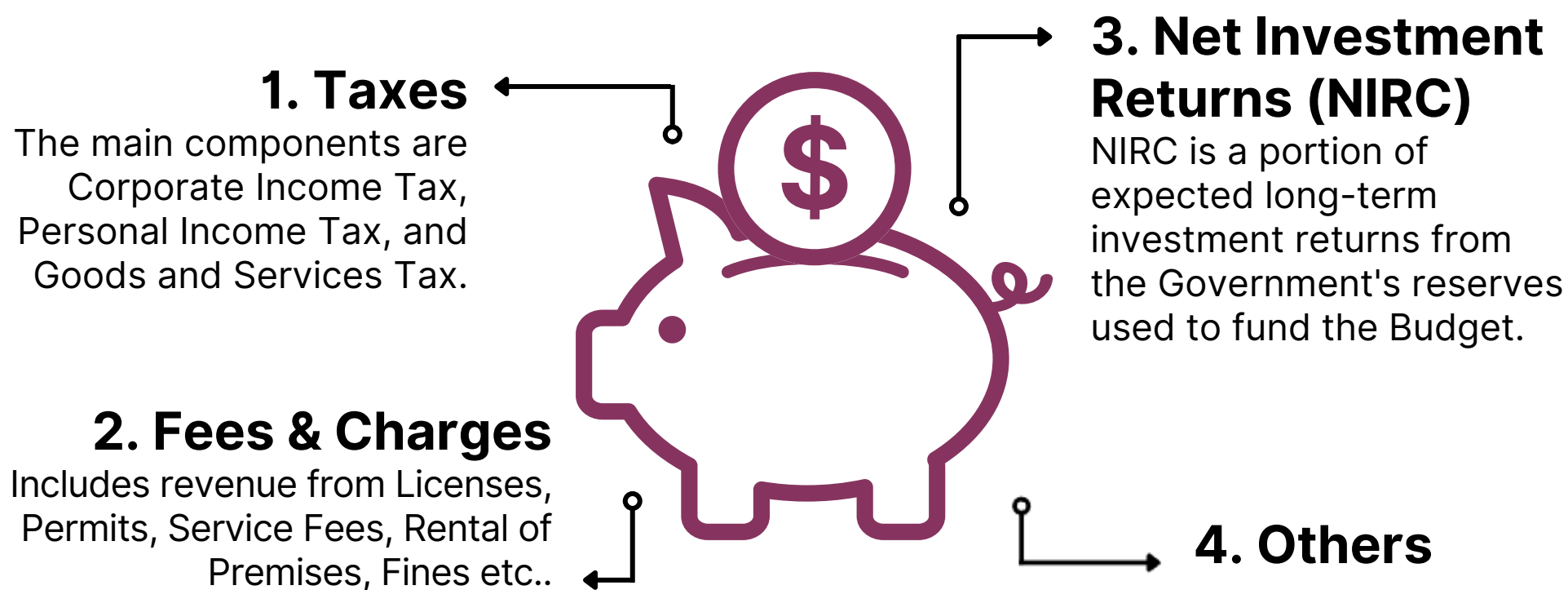


There was a shift from initial surpluses in FY2021 and FY2022 to deficits in FY2023. However, the surpluses in FY2024 and FY2025 anticipate a fiscal recovery.

Over 5 years,  
the estimated  
surplus is  
+\$14.28B!

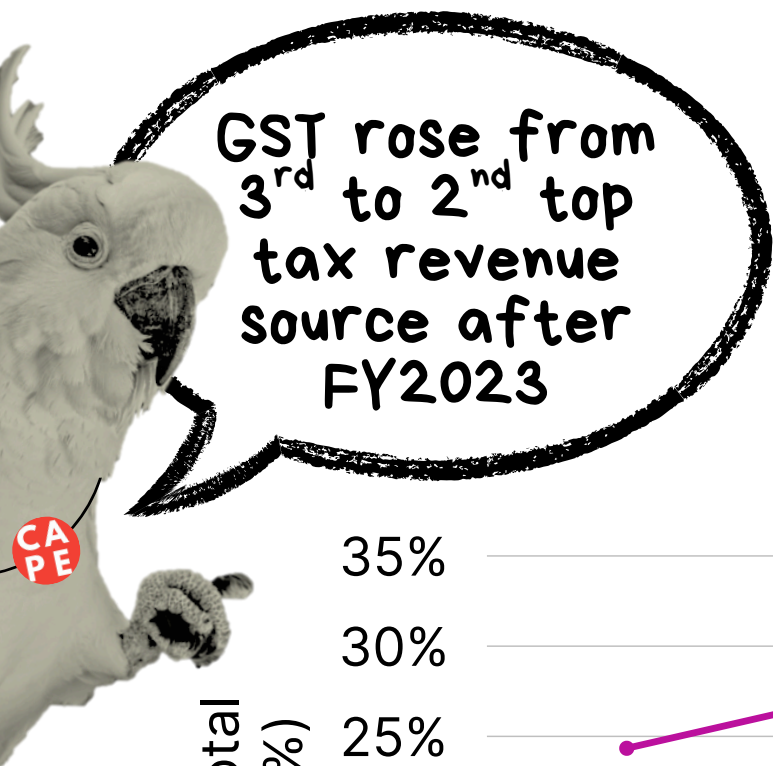


# Revenue: Where was money collected from?



**Taxes remained the main source of revenue** for the budgets, making up 73.7% of the total inflows on average. **Tax revenue also had the highest overall growth (+\$35.6B)** from FY2021 to FY2025, relative to NIRC (+\$6.8B), Fees & Charges (+\$4.9B), and Others (-\$0.1B).

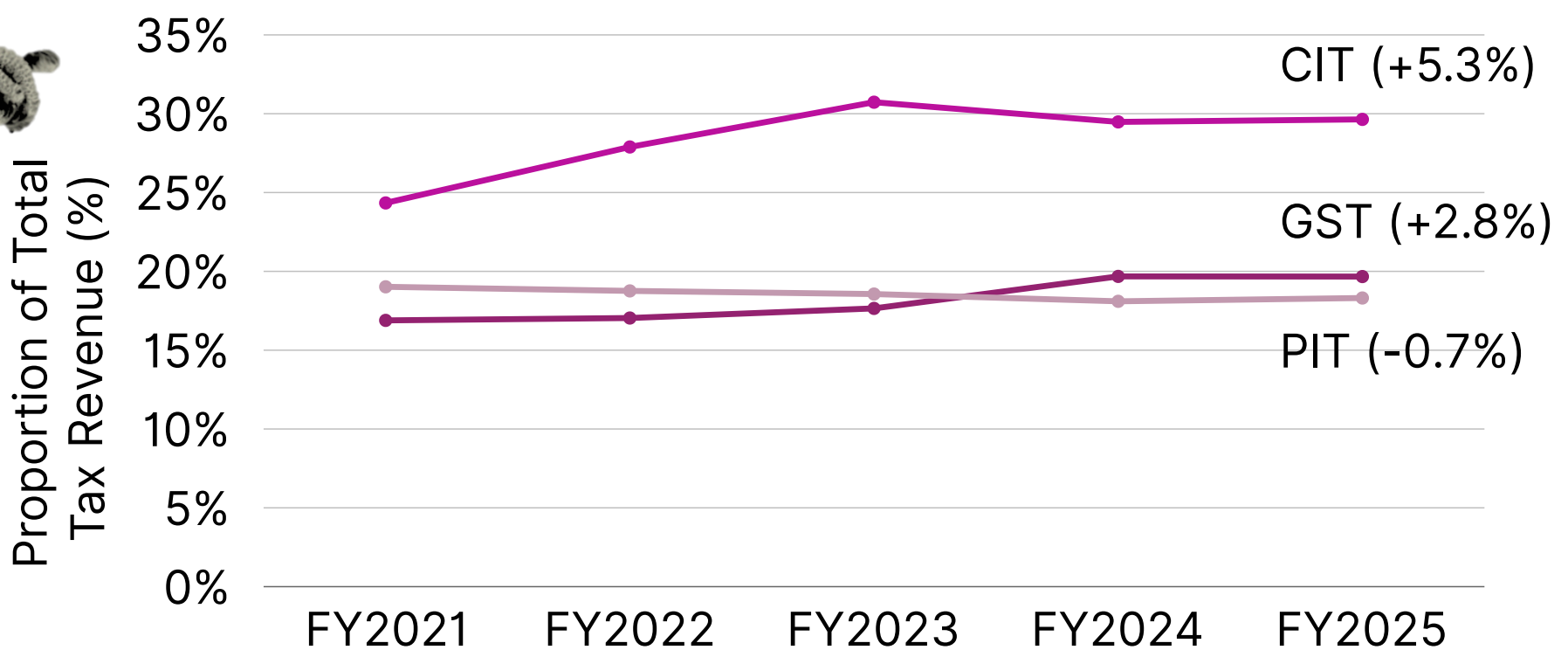
# Revenue: Where was money collected from?



GST rose from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> top tax revenue source after FY2023

## Top 3 Tax Revenue Sources:

- Corporate Income Tax
- Goods & Services Tax
- Personal Income Tax

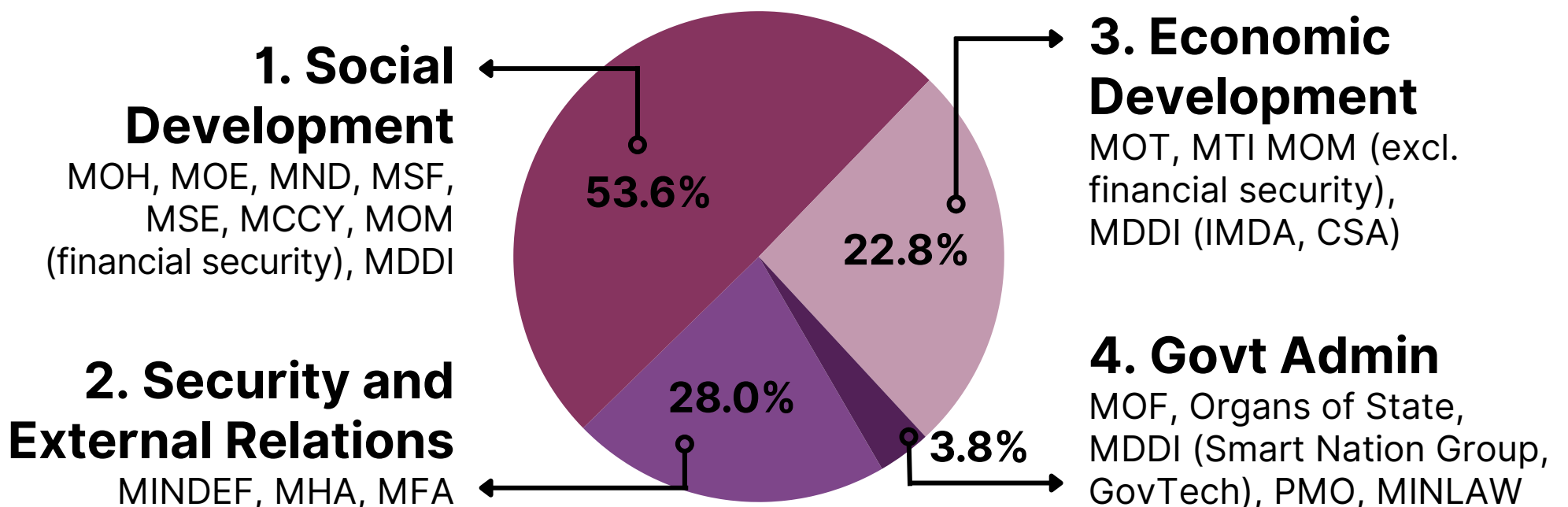


Base (in billion \$): FY2021 n=74.8, FY2022 n=82.7, FY2023 n=94.3, FY2024 n=104.8, FY2025 n=110.3

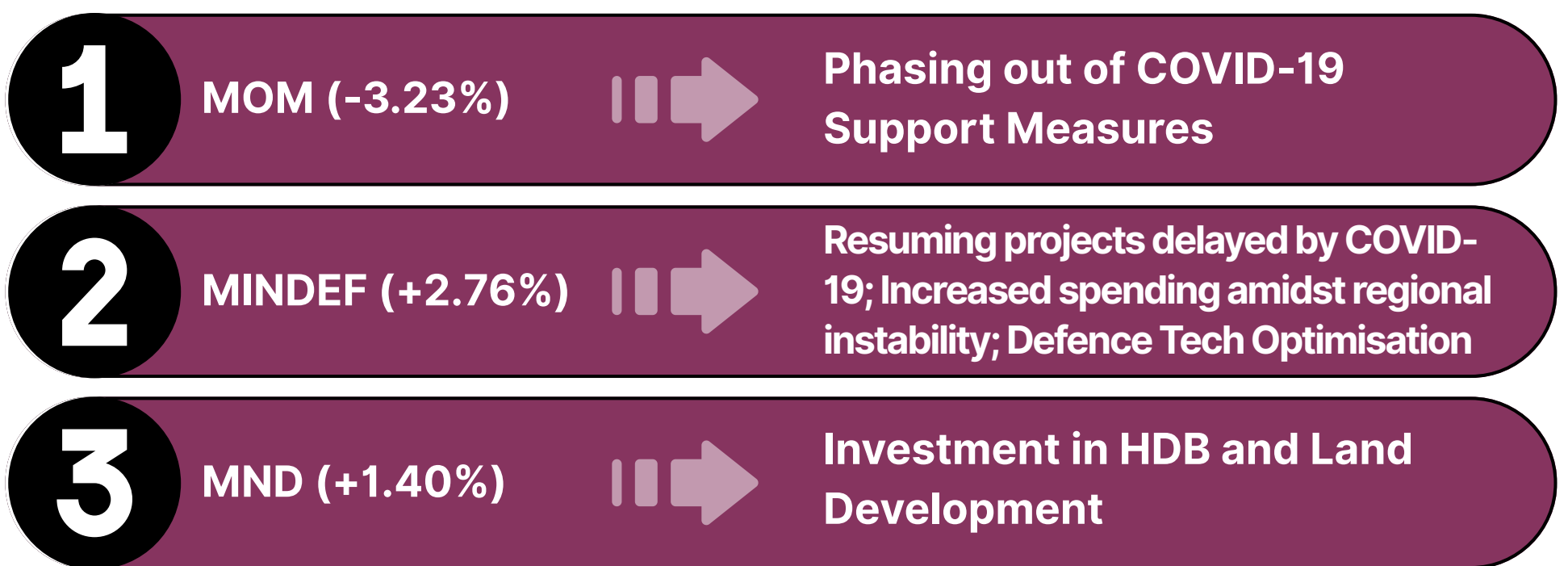
**Tax revenue derived from Corporate Income Tax (+5.3%) and Goods & Services Tax (GST) (+2.8%) increased from FY2021 to FY2025, as opposed to Personal Income Tax (-0.7%). The proportion of tax revenue collected from GST started to exceed that from Personal Income Tax in FY2024.** This could be due to the growth in private consumption, inflation, and the GST rate increase from 7% to 8% on Jan 1, 2023 and from 8% to 9% on Jan 1, 2024.

# Expenditure: How was spending broadly distributed across society?

On average, Social Development made up the largest proportion of Expenditure from FY2021 to FY2025.



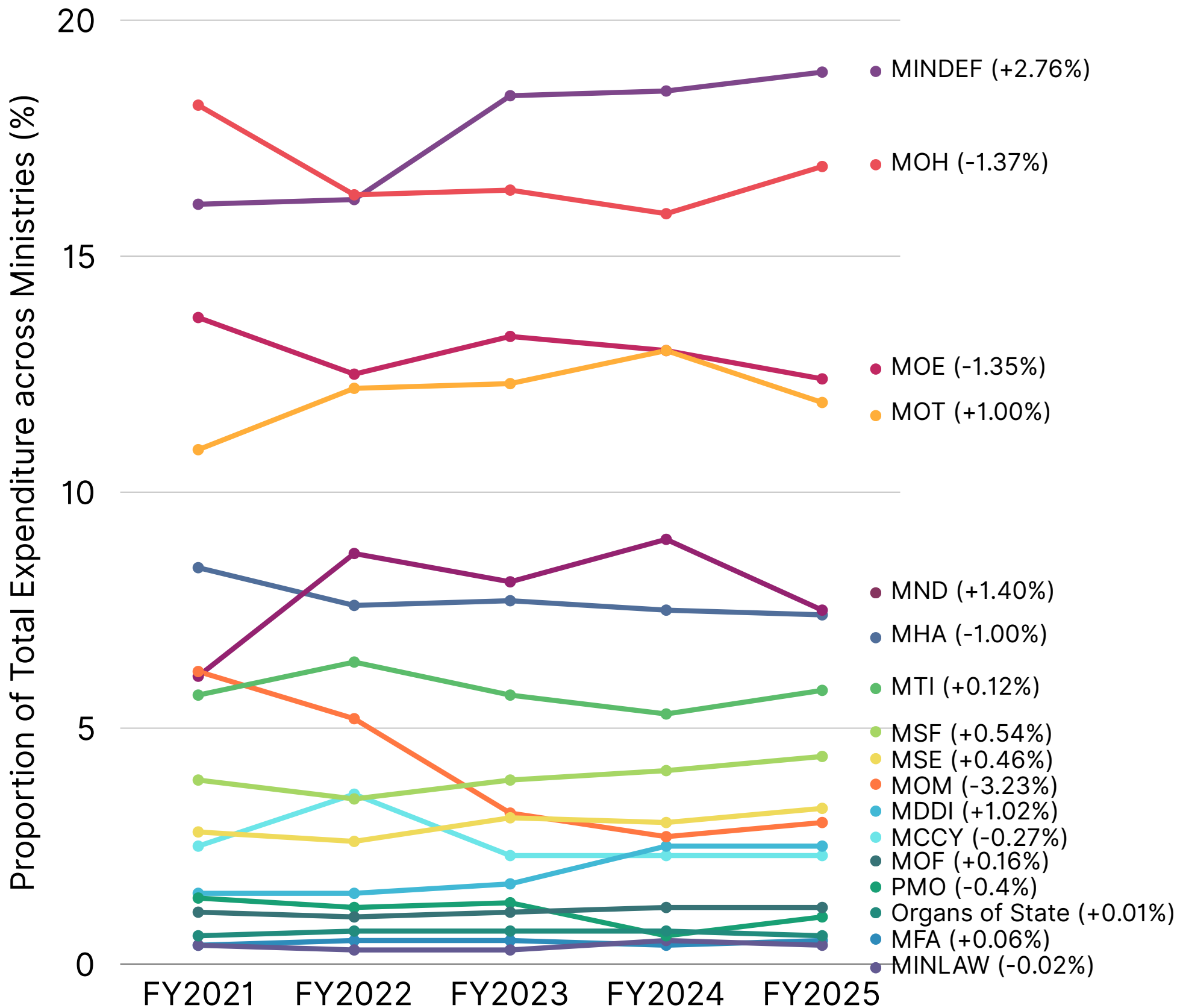
# Expenditure: Ministries with the largest changes in their share of expenditure



Figures reflect overall % change from FY2021 to FY2025.



# Expenditure: A closer look at each Ministry's change in share of expenditure over the years.

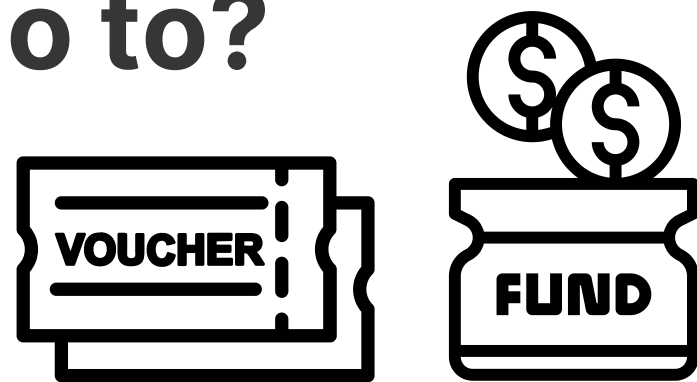


Base (in billion \$) : FY2021 n=94.8, FY2022 n=104.9, FY2023 n=112.9, FY2024 n=123.8, FY2025 n=108.3

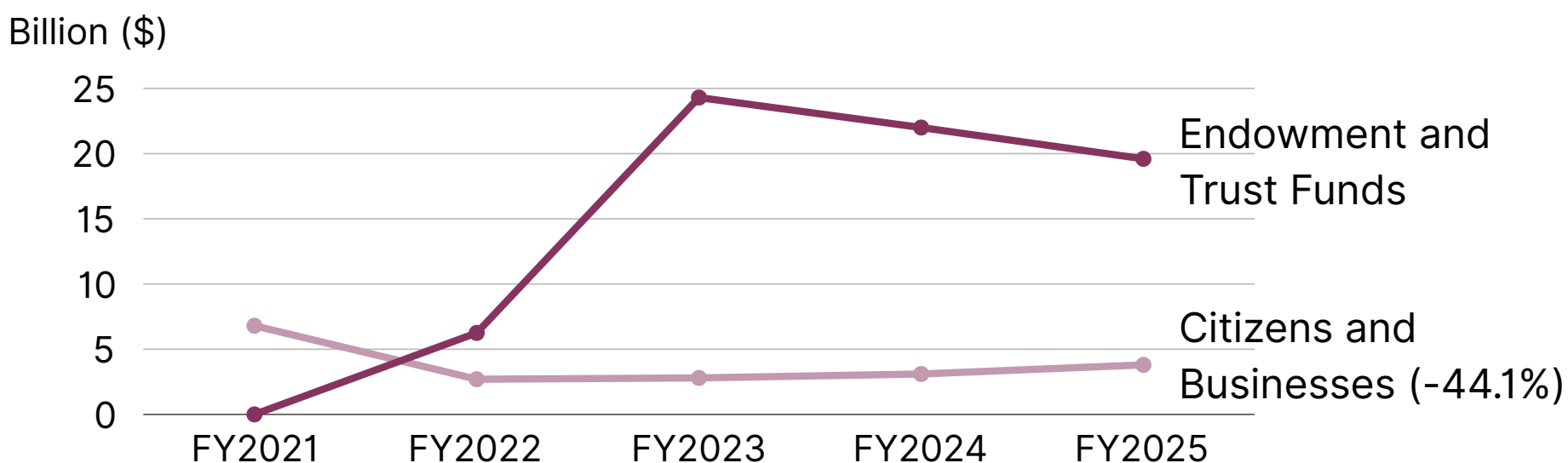
# Special Transfers: Where did once-off “goodies” go to?

Special Transfers typically involve **(a) direct payouts to Singaporeans** and **(b) top-ups to government funds**.

Although these are once-off transfers, they can be a repeated measure in a new Budget, such as how CDC vouchers have been disbursed annually since FY2020.



## Year-on-year change in amount of direct transfers (\$)



**Special transfers were used as the “lever” to fine-tune the Government’s fiscal stance** each year - in the form of direct support in bad times, investment in long-term areas in good times, and “feel-good” payouts as elections near.



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thoughts!  
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**Thank you for reading this special issue of Parliament Tracker!**  
Parliament Tracker is a non-partisan civic data project by CAPE that monitors the performance of the Singapore Parliament.

**A note on methodology for this issue:**

The latest figures at the time of publishing were used. This means Actual Figures (FY2021-2023), Revised Figures (FY2024), and Estimated Figures (FY2025) of the Budgets were used for statistical analyses in this issue.

See all issues and methodology at  
[capesingapore.com/parltracker](https://capesingapore.com/parltracker)