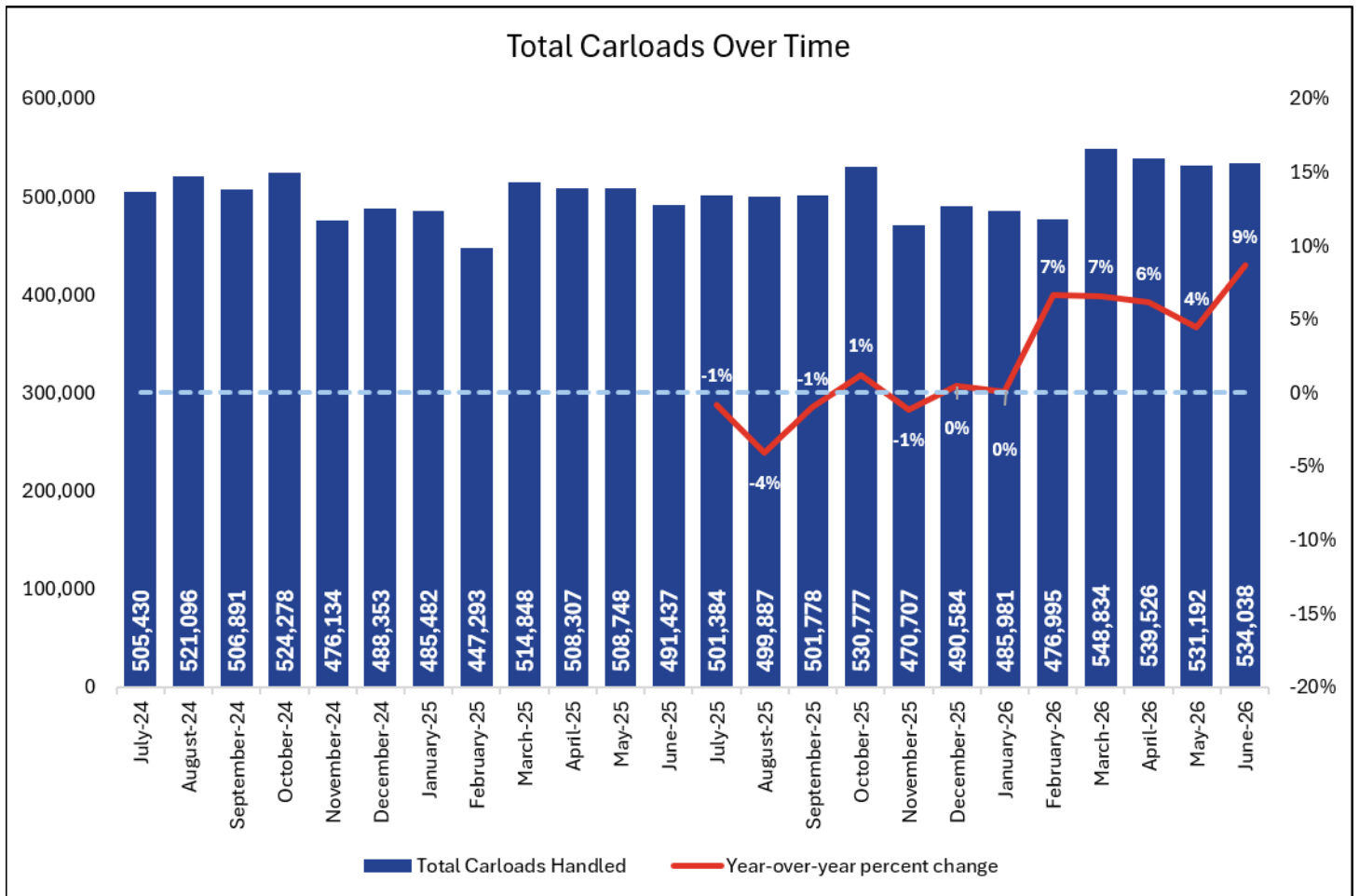




Short Line Carloads Report – August 2026

Overall Short Line Carloads Volumes

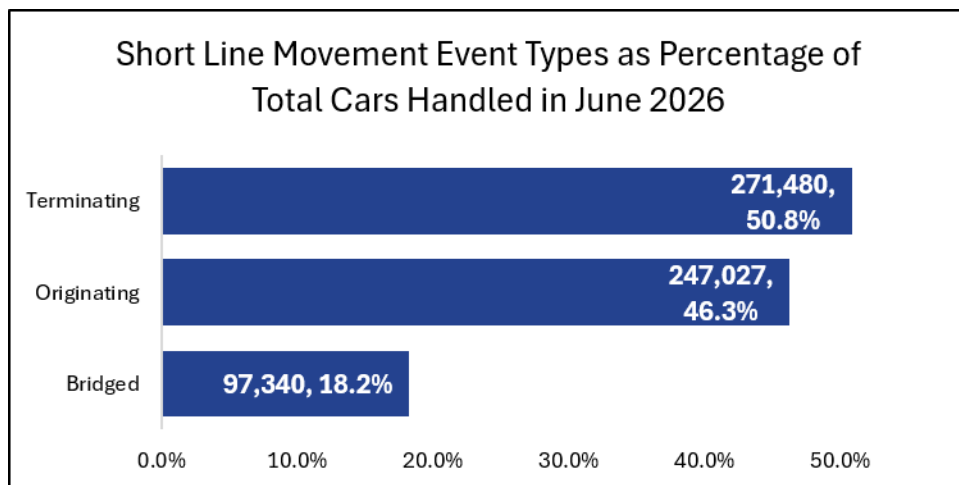
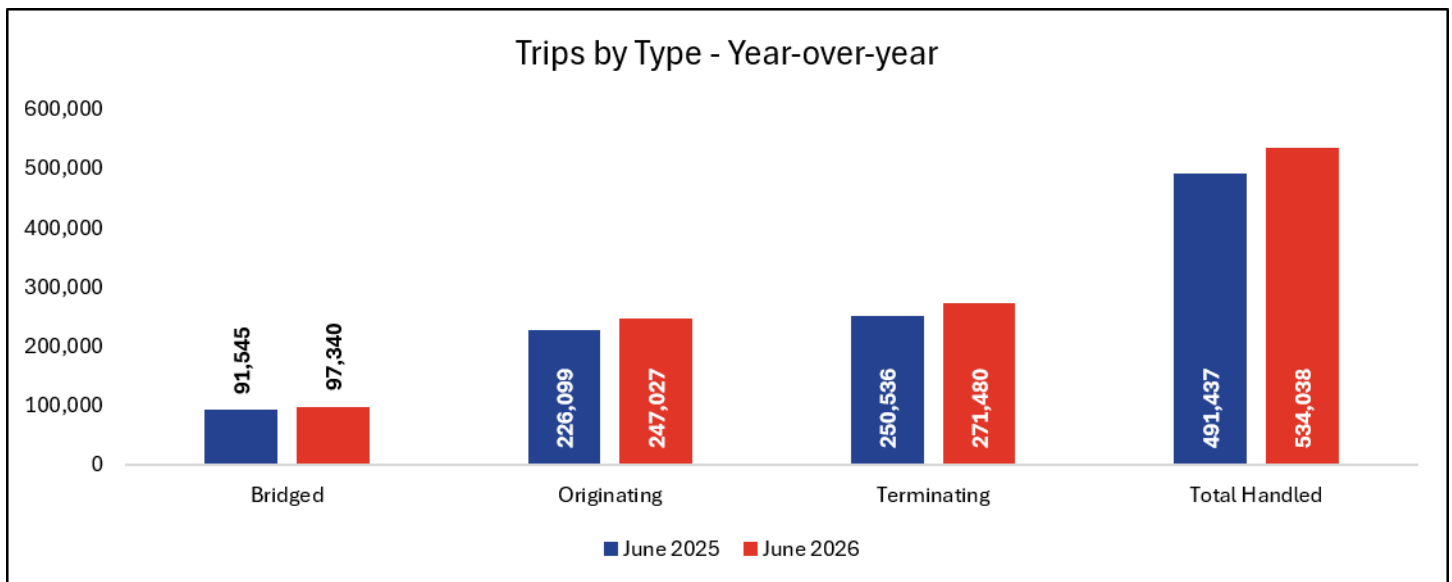
This table presents the long-term trends of carloads handled by short lines and the respective month-over-month percent change. This data series begins with July 2024 carloads, hence there is no data for a month to month change in that field. As seen below, June 2026 experienced a significant increase compared to the previous June with a 9% increase in carloads handled.



Short Line Carload Trends

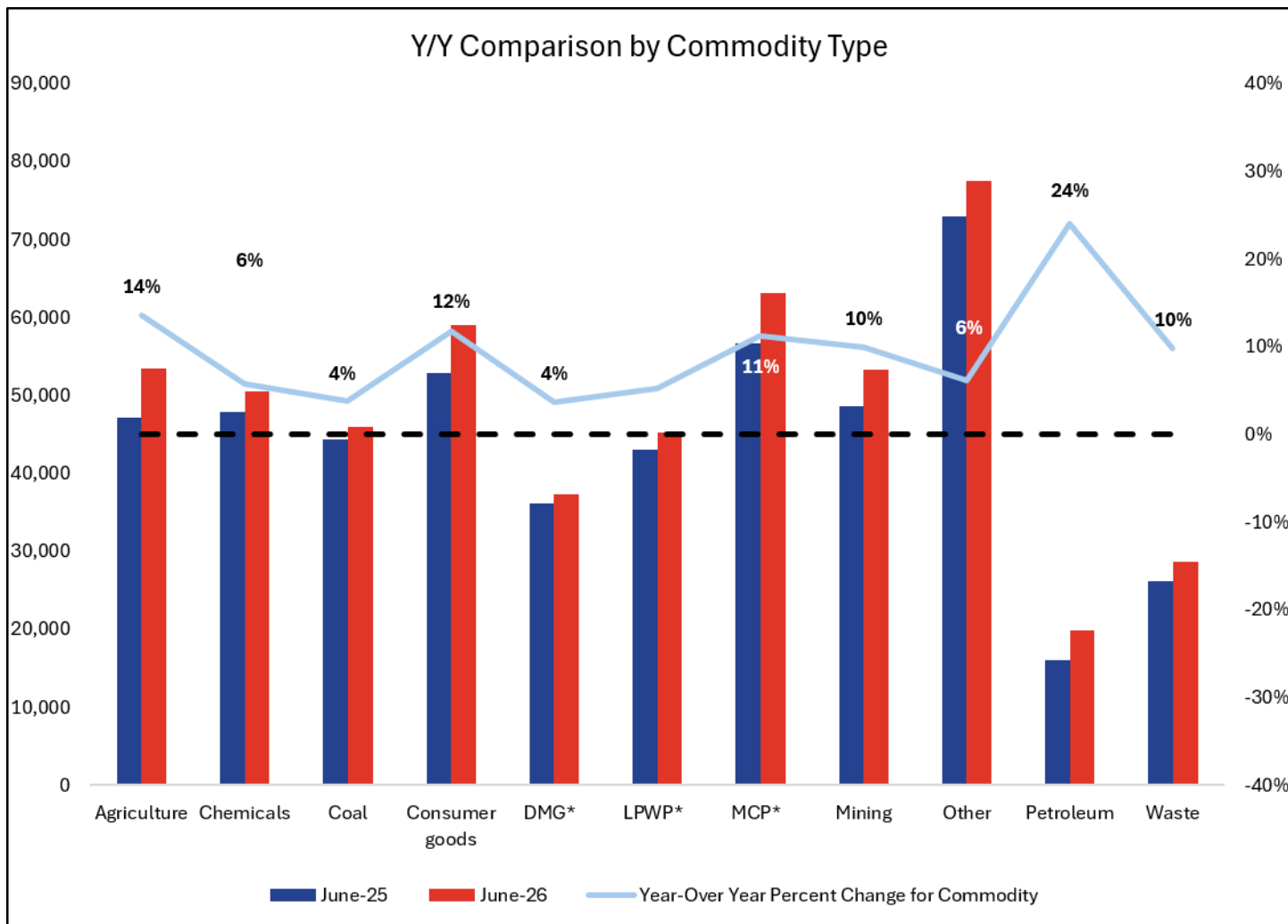
All movement types saw a measurable increase compared to June 2025. For the first time since production of this report, total bridge movements increased in annual comparisons by just over 6%. Terminations were up 8%, while originations and total carloads handled both increased nearly 10% compared to last June. From a raw car count, these changes are also significant positive increases. Bridged movements are up by nearly 6,000 carloads, originations and terminations were up by almost 21,000 carloads each, and total carloads were up almost 43,000.

	June 2025	June 2026	Percent change
Bridged	91,545	97,340	6%
Originating	226,099	247,027	9%
Terminating	250,536	271,480	8%
Total Handled	491,437	534,038	9%



Note – These values may add to more than 100%. This is due to the nature of some carloads being handled multiple times by multiple railroads across the three movement event types.

The following chart provides the Year-Over-Year monthly comparison by commodity, identifying the drivers of overall carload volume.

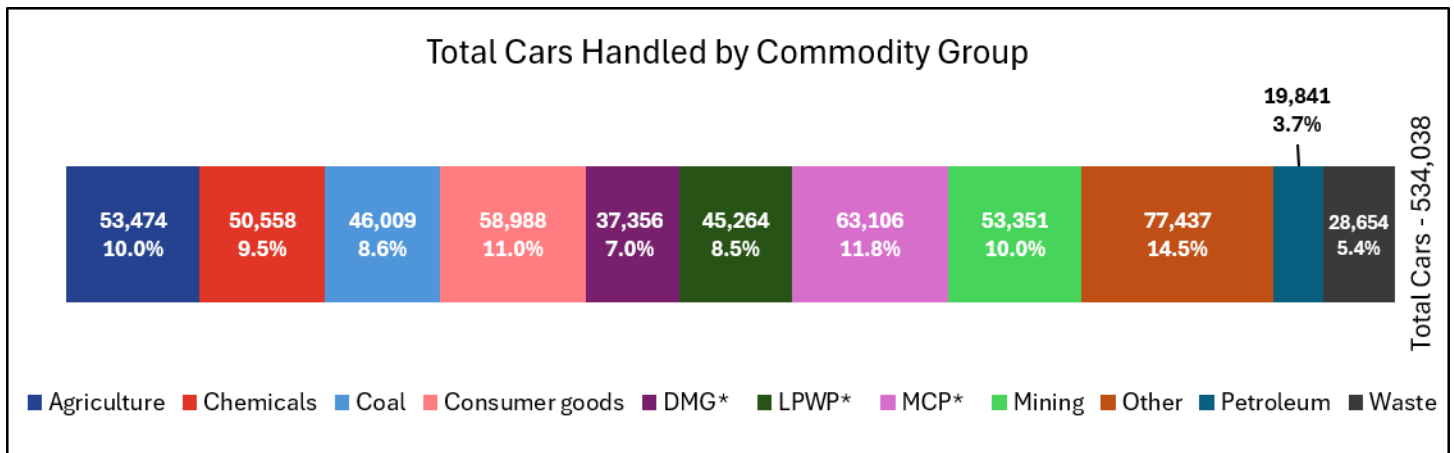


DMG – Durable Manufactured Goods
 LPWP – Lumber, Paper and Wood Products
 MCP – Manufacturing and Construction Products

June 2026 carloads handled grew the most in Petroleum (24%), Agriculture (14%), and Consumer Goods (12%) commodity groups compared to June 2025. Not a single commodity group decreased compared to June 2025, though the smallest increase was seen in Coal (4%). Manufacturing and Construction products saw the greatest annual growth of raw carloads handled with an increase of 6,378. Coal had a net gain of only 1,701 carloads compared to June 2025.

The following table and chart show the individual commodity volumes as well as their percentage of total carloads handled.

	June 2026	Percentage of Total Carloads Handled
Agriculture	53,474	10.0%
Chemicals	50,558	9.5%
Coal	46,009	8.6%
Consumer goods	58,988	11.0%
DMG*	37,356	7.0%
LPWP*	45,264	8.5%
MCP*	63,106	11.8%
Mining	53,351	10.0%
Other	77,437	14.5%
Petroleum	19,841	3.7%
Waste	28,654	5.4%
Total	534,038	100.0%



DMG – Durable Manufactured Goods

LPWP – Lumber, Paper and Wood Products

MCP – Manufacturing and Construction Products

Carloads Table

Commodity Group	Trip Type	June 2025	June 2026	Percent change
Agriculture	Originated	28,154	31,783	13%
	Bridged	2,600	4,001	54%
	Terminated	22,318	25,193	13%
	Total Handled	47,107	53,474	14%
Chemicals	Originated	11,538	12,091	5%
	Bridged	11,644	13,471	16%

Commodity Group	Trip Type	June 2025	June 2026	Percent change
Chemicals	Terminated	28,685	30,461	6%
	Total Handled	47,826	50,558	6%
Coal	Originated	21,232	25,455	20%
	Bridged	8,591	2,939	-66%
	Terminated	23,542	23,670	1%
	Total Handled	44,308	46,009	4%
Consumer Goods	Originated	21,284	23,580	11%
	Bridged	10,760	12,250	14%
	Terminated	26,798	29,846	11%
	Total Handled	52,785	58,988	12%
Durable Manufactured Goods	Originated	8,844	9,500	7%
	Bridged	29,791	31,932	7%
	Terminated	7,996	8,293	4%
	Total Handled	36,060	37,356	4%
Lumber, Paper, and Wood Products	Originated	22,602	22,655	0%
	Bridged	2,967	3,613	22%
	Terminated	22,135	24,142	9%
	Total Handled	43,029	45,264	5%
Manufacturing or Construction Products	Originated	32,421	35,921	11%
	Bridged	5,700	7,102	25%
	Terminated	26,115	28,218	8%
	Total Handled	56,728	63,106	11%
Mining	Originated	25,108	25,691	2%
	Bridged	1,531	2,331	52%
	Terminated	33,311	36,107	8%
	Total Handled	48,537	53,351	10%
Petroleum Products	Originated	8,269	9,733	18%
	Bridged	1,309	1,478	13%
	Terminated	10,608	13,383	26%
	Total Handled	16,006	19,841	24%
Other <i>Includes but not limited to misc. freight shipments; mail, express or other contract traffic; freight forwarder traffic; misc. mixed shipments, etc.</i>	Originated	32,973	34,043	3%
	Bridged	13,595	14,901	10%
	Terminated	34,739	37,582	8%
	Total Handled	72,935	77,437	6%
Waste	Originated	13,674	16,575	21%
	Bridged	3,057	3,322	9%
	Terminated	14,289	14,585	2%
	Total Handled	26,116	28,654	10%

Commodity Group	Trip Type	June 2025	June 2026	Percent change
Total	Originated	226,099	247,027	9%
	Bridged	91,545	97,340	6%
	Terminated	250,536	271,480	8%
	Total Handled	491,437	534,038	9%

Definitions

- **Originated**- A carload's initial point of shipment.
- **Bridged** - A carload shipment that originates on one railroad, is transported by a bridge railroad, and then transferred to another railroad for its final destination.
- **Terminated** - A carload shipment of a commodity that originated on one railroad but was unloaded from the receiving railroad at its final destination, with no further rail transportation planned.
- **Total handled** – Total number of individual carloads that were either an origination, termination, or a bridge movement, moved by at least one short line. This total will generally be smaller than the sum of originated, bridged and terminated movements as adding those together results in double (or triple) counting of the same carload.

Carload data is based on a custom short line carload report created in cooperation between ASLRRRA and Railinc based on waybill data submitted by railroads.

This work product may not be disseminated without permission granted by ASLRRRA. Contact ASLRRRA at foelsner@aslrra.org for all inquiries.