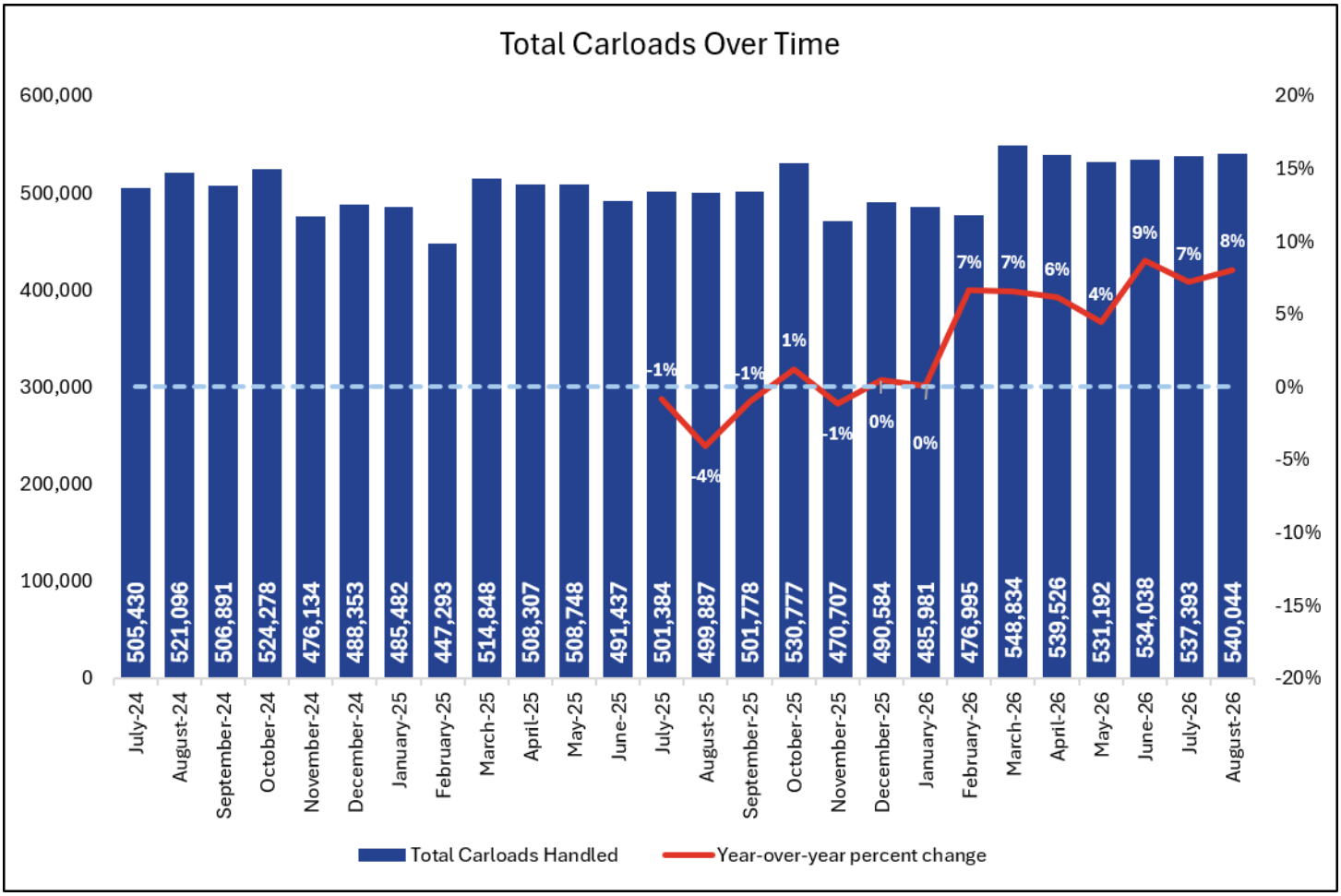
American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association.

Short Line Carloads Report – October 2026

Overall Short Line Carloads Volumes

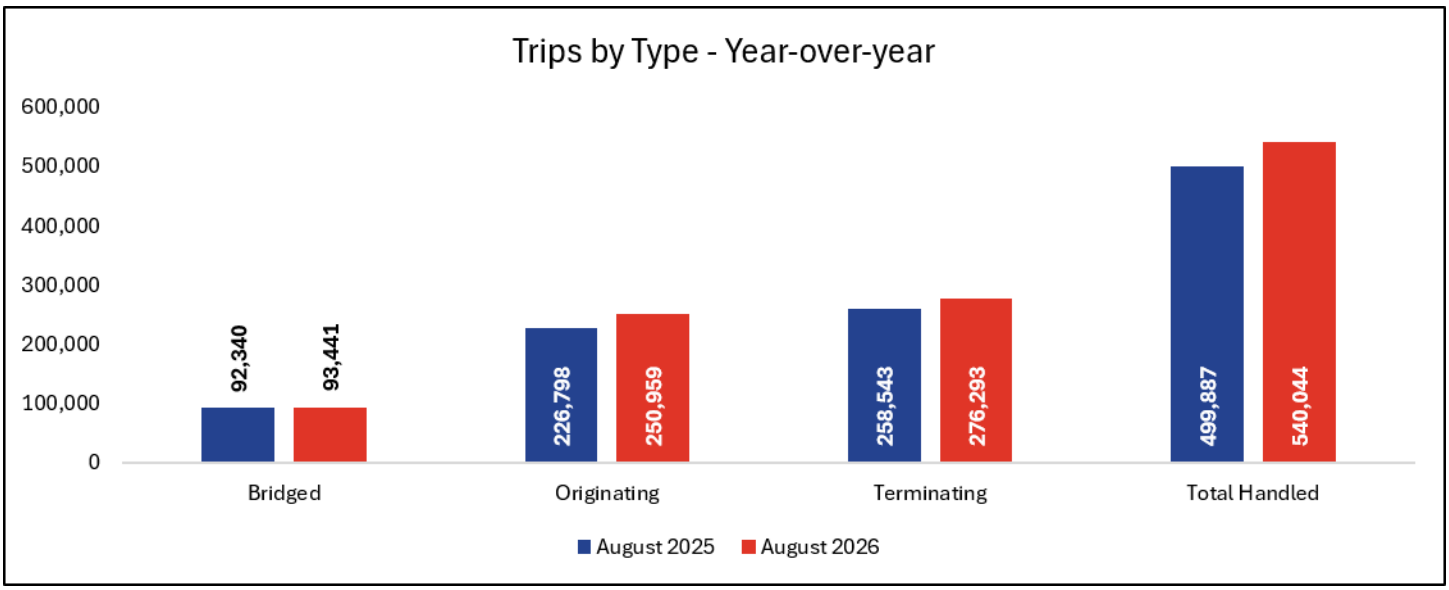
This table presents the long-term trends of carloads handled by short lines and the respective month-over-month percent change. This data series begins with July 2024 carloads, hence there is no data for a month to month change in that field. As seen below, August 2026 maintained the recent trend of annual growth. August 2026 was up 8% compared to last August. This remains in line with most of 2026 being up by about 6% in annual comparisons with 2025.

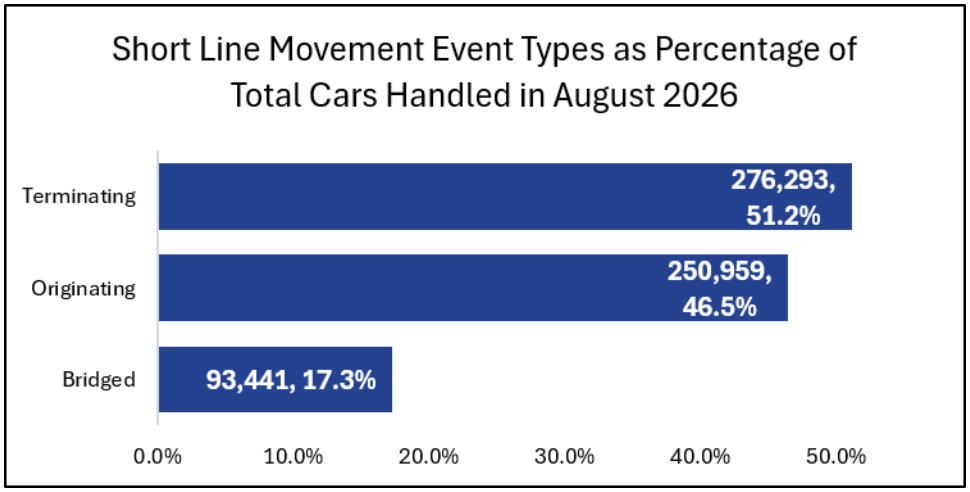


Short Line Carload Trends

All movement types saw increases compared to August 2025. Originations and terminations continued to represent the bulk of the overall increase for carloads handled. While bridge movements did experience a modest increase of about 1,000 carloads when compared to August 2025, this was a smaller change than has been seen recently during the course of 2026.

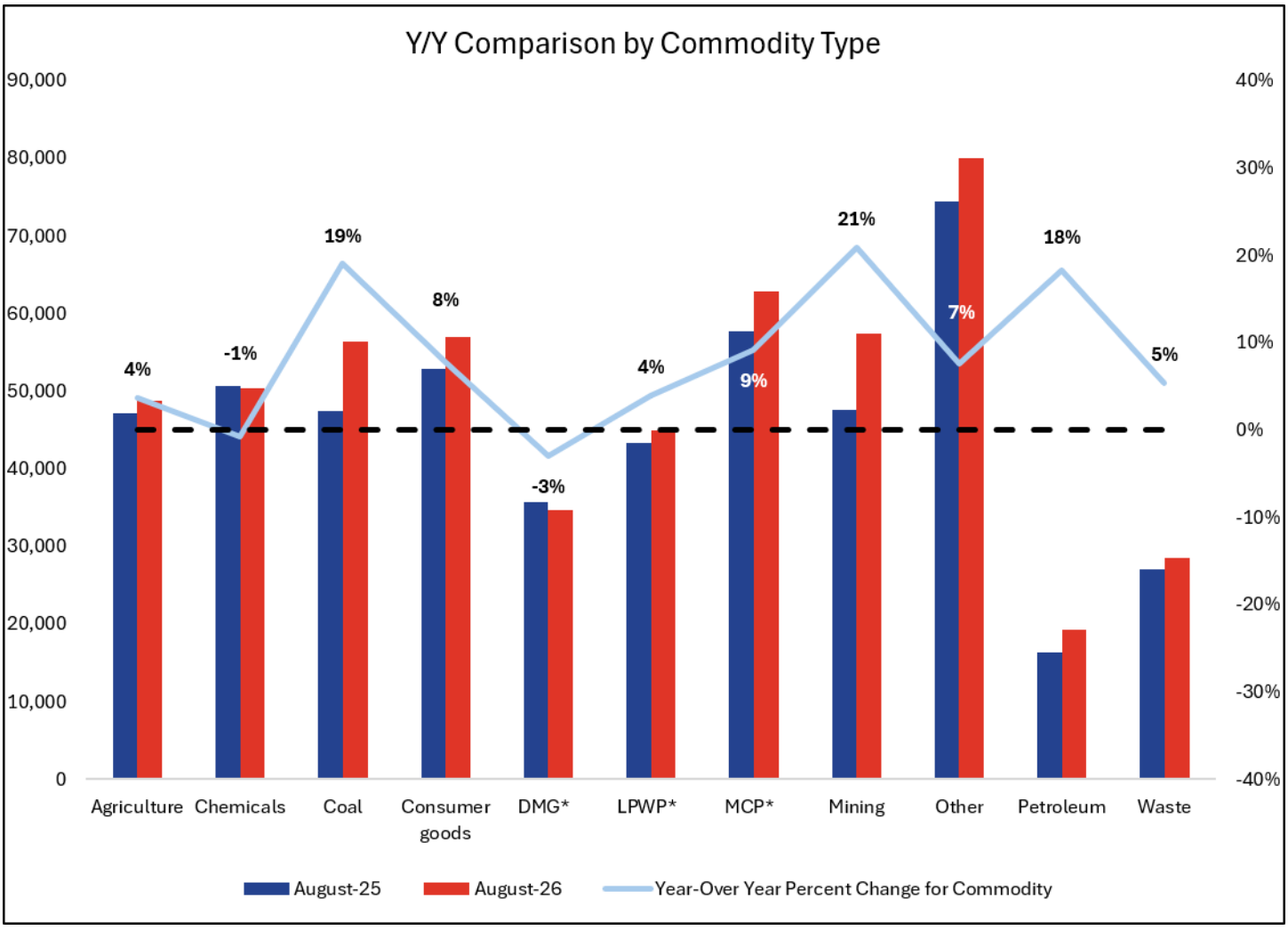
	August 2025	August 2026	Percent change
Bridged	92,340	93,441	**1%**
Originating	226,798	250,959	**11%**
Terminating	258,543	276,293	**7%**
Total Handled	499,887	540,044	**8%**





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.

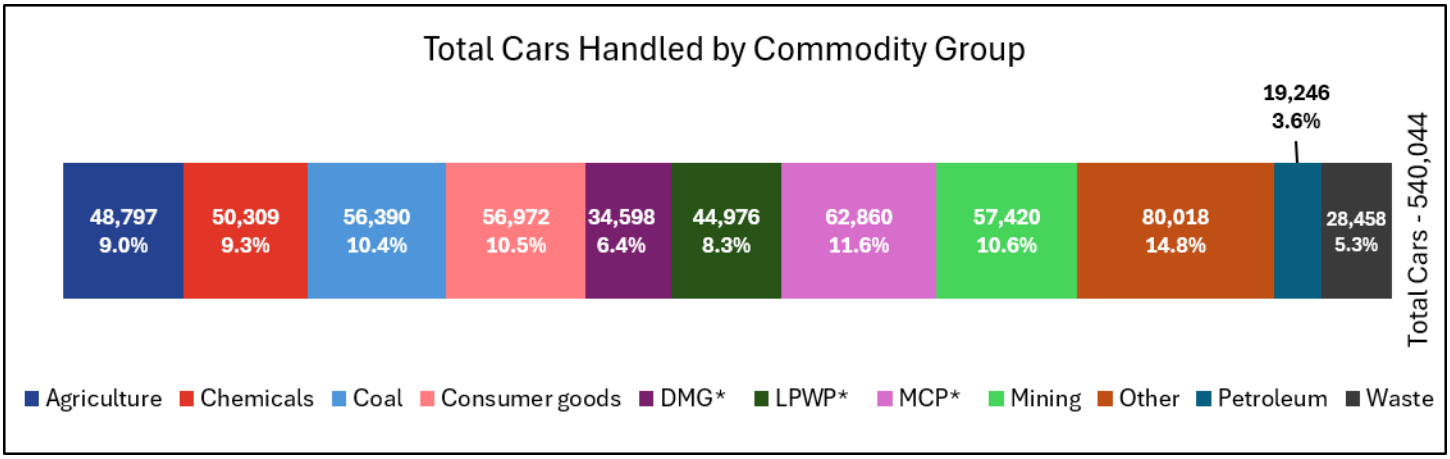


DMG – Durable Manufactured Goods
LPWP – Lumber, Paper and Wood Products
MCP – Manufacturing and Construction Products

For August 2026, carloads handled by short lines grew the most in the Mining (21%), Coal (19%), and Petroleum (18%) commodity groups when compared to August 2025. For the same annual comparison, the commodity groups of Durable Manufactured Goods and Chemicals contracted the most with decreases of 3% and 1% respectively. The Mining and Coal commodity groups saw the largest jumps in raw carloads handled with each experiencing an increase of over 9,000 carloads. Durable Manufactured Goods saw a net loss of 1,086 carloads handled making it the largest net carload loss for annual comparisons.

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

	August 2026	Percentage of Total Carloads Handled
Agriculture	48,797	9.0%
Chemicals	50,309	9.3%
Coal	56,390	10.4%
Consumer goods	56,972	10.5%
DMG*	34,598	6.4%
LPWP*	44,976	8.3%
MCP*	62,860	11.6%
Mining	57,420	10.6%
Other	80,018	14.8%
Petroleum	19,246	3.6%
Waste	28,458	5.3%
Total	540,044	100.0%



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

Carloads Table

Commodity Group	Trip Type	August 2025	August 2026	Percent change
Agriculture	Originated	26,659	28,996	9%
	Bridged	2,918	3,725	28%
	Terminated	24,032	22,682	-6%
	Total Handled	47,094	48,797	4%

Commodity Group	Trip Type	August 2025	August 2026	Percent change
Chemicals	Originated	12,306	12,407	1%
	Bridged	13,649	13,331	-2%
	Terminated	29,931	29,640	-1%
	Total Handled	50,694	50,309	-1%
Coal	Originated	22,235	30,127	35%
	Bridged	5,189	2,928	-44%
	Terminated	26,880	30,646	14%
	Total Handled	47,351	56,390	19%
Consumer Goods	Originated	21,723	23,212	7%
	Bridged	11,817	10,819	-8%
	Terminated	25,823	29,505	14%
	Total Handled	52,907	56,972	8%
Durable Manufactured Goods	Originated	9,364	9,280	-1%
	Bridged	30,206	29,568	-2%
	Terminated	7,484	6,785	-9%
	Total Handled	35,684	34,598	-3%
Lumber, Paper, and Wood Products	Originated	22,174	23,253	5%
	Bridged	3,130	3,427	9%
	Terminated	22,980	23,344	2%
	Total Handled	43,262	44,976	4%
Manufacturing or Construction Products	Originated	33,343	35,835	7%
	Bridged	5,714	6,886	21%
	Terminated	25,935	28,271	9%
	Total Handled	57,627	62,860	9%
Mining	Originated	24,894	27,757	12%
	Bridged	1,121	2,705	141%
	Terminated	32,474	38,544	19%
	Total Handled	47,530	57,420	21%
Petroleum Products	Originated	7,374	9,889	34%
	Bridged	1,237	1,229	-1%
	Terminated	11,399	12,845	13%
	Total Handled	16,273	19,246	18%
Other *Includes but not limited to misc. freight shipments; mail, express or other contract traffic; freight forwarder traffic; misc. mixed shipments, etc.*	Originated	32,484	35,031	8%
	Bridged	14,136	15,118	7%
	Terminated	36,846	39,074	6%
	Total Handled	74,437	80,018	7%
Waste	Originated	14,242	15,172	7%
	Bridged	3,223	3,705	15%

Commodity Group	Trip Type	August 2025	August 2026	Percent change
Waste	Terminated	14,759	14,957	1%
	Total Handled	27,028	28,458	5%
Total	Originated	226,798	250,959	11%
	Bridged	92,340	93,441	1%
	Terminated	258,543	276,293	7%
	Total Handled	499,887	540,044	8%

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 ASLRRA and Railinc based on waybill data submitted by railroads.

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