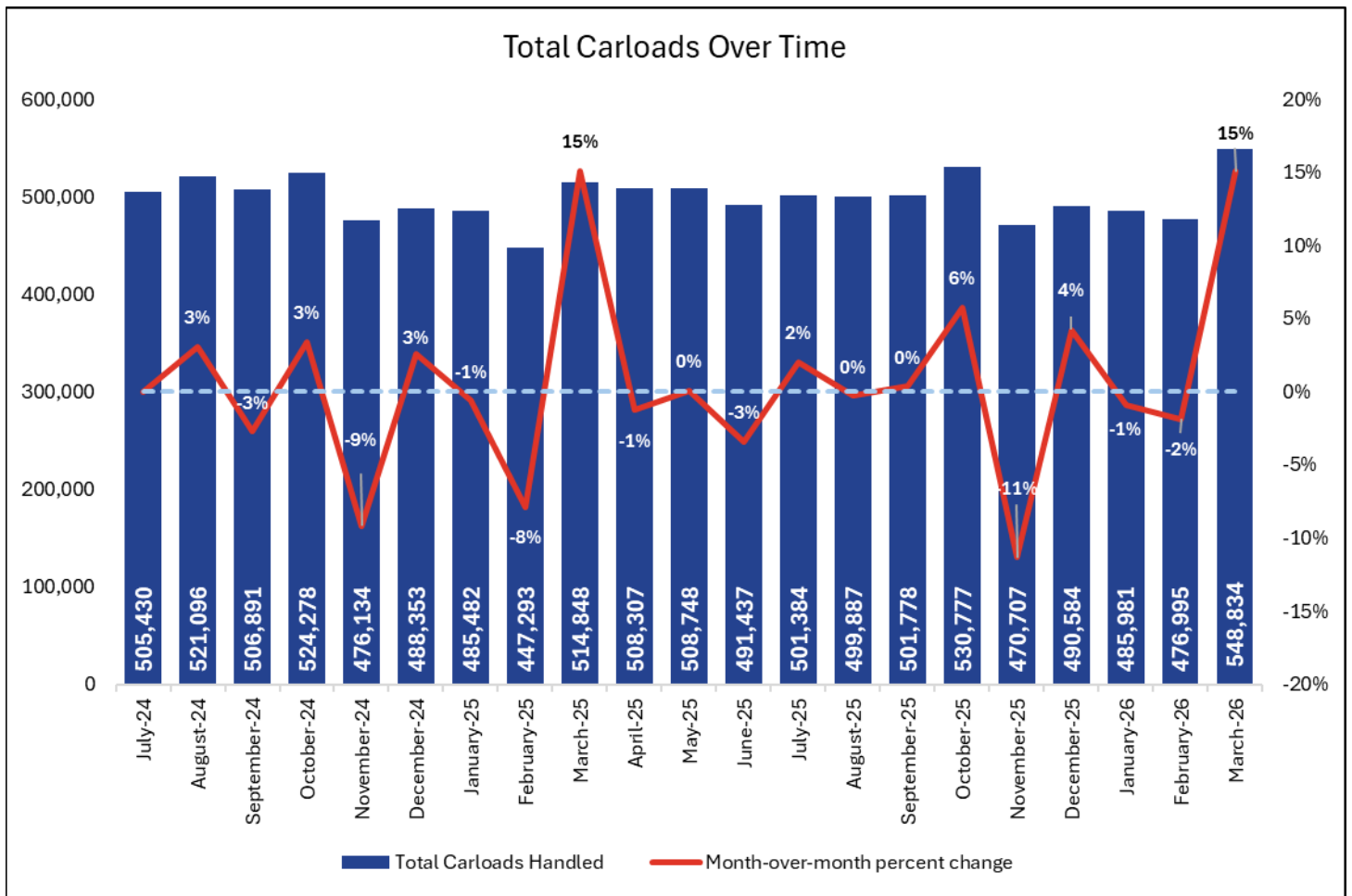




## Short Line Carloads Report – May 2026

### Overall Short Line Carloads Volumes

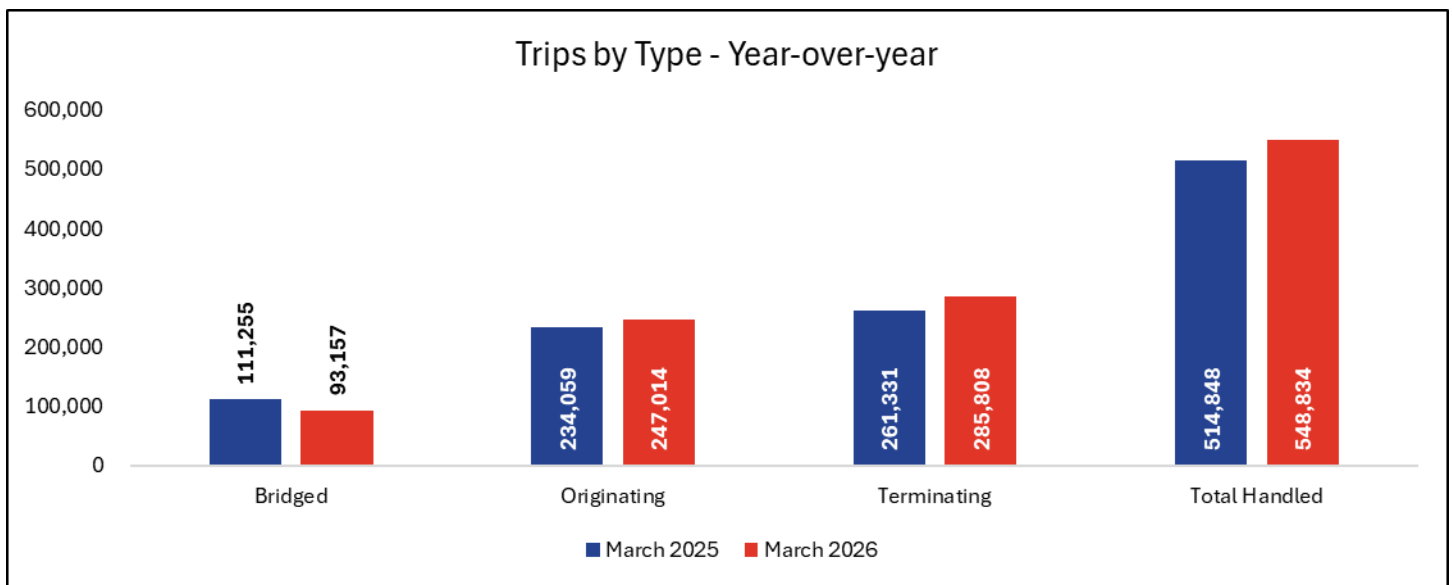
This table presents the long-term trends of carloads handled by short lines and the respective month-over-month percent change. This data series begins with July 2024 carloads, hence there is no data for a month to month change in that field. As seen below, March 2026 is significantly higher than February 2026’s volumes. Additionally, March 2026 carload volumes are up by a substantial margin compared to March 2025. In fact, March 2026 carload volumes are the highest monthly total since tracking of carloads handled began in July 2024.

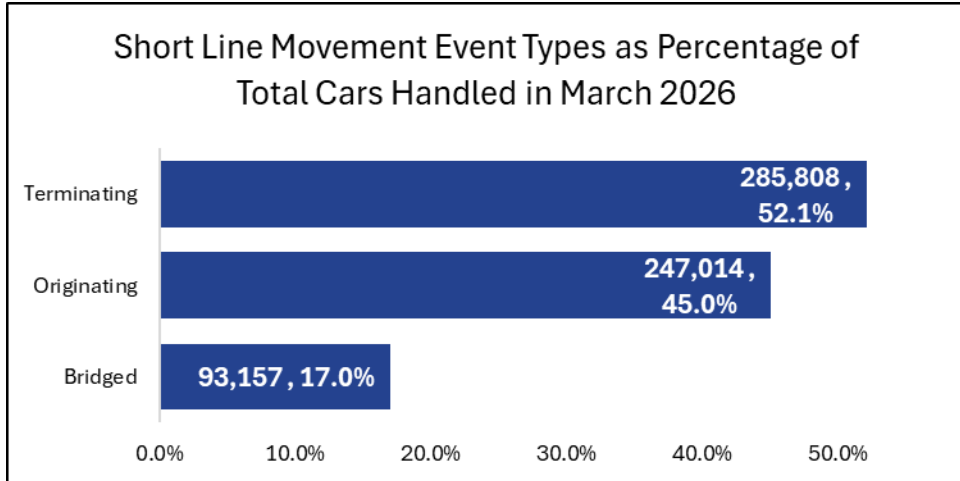


## Short Line Carload Trends

March 2026 carload volumes were up nearly across the board with regards to movement types. Bridged movements continue to contract in annual comparisons, but they were comparable with the contractions seen recently. Meanwhile, originations, terminations, and total carloads handled all saw measurable growth compared to March 2025 volumes. While the percentage increase may seem small, the raw carload totals increased by approximately 13,000 originations, 25,000 terminations, and 34,000 carloads handled.

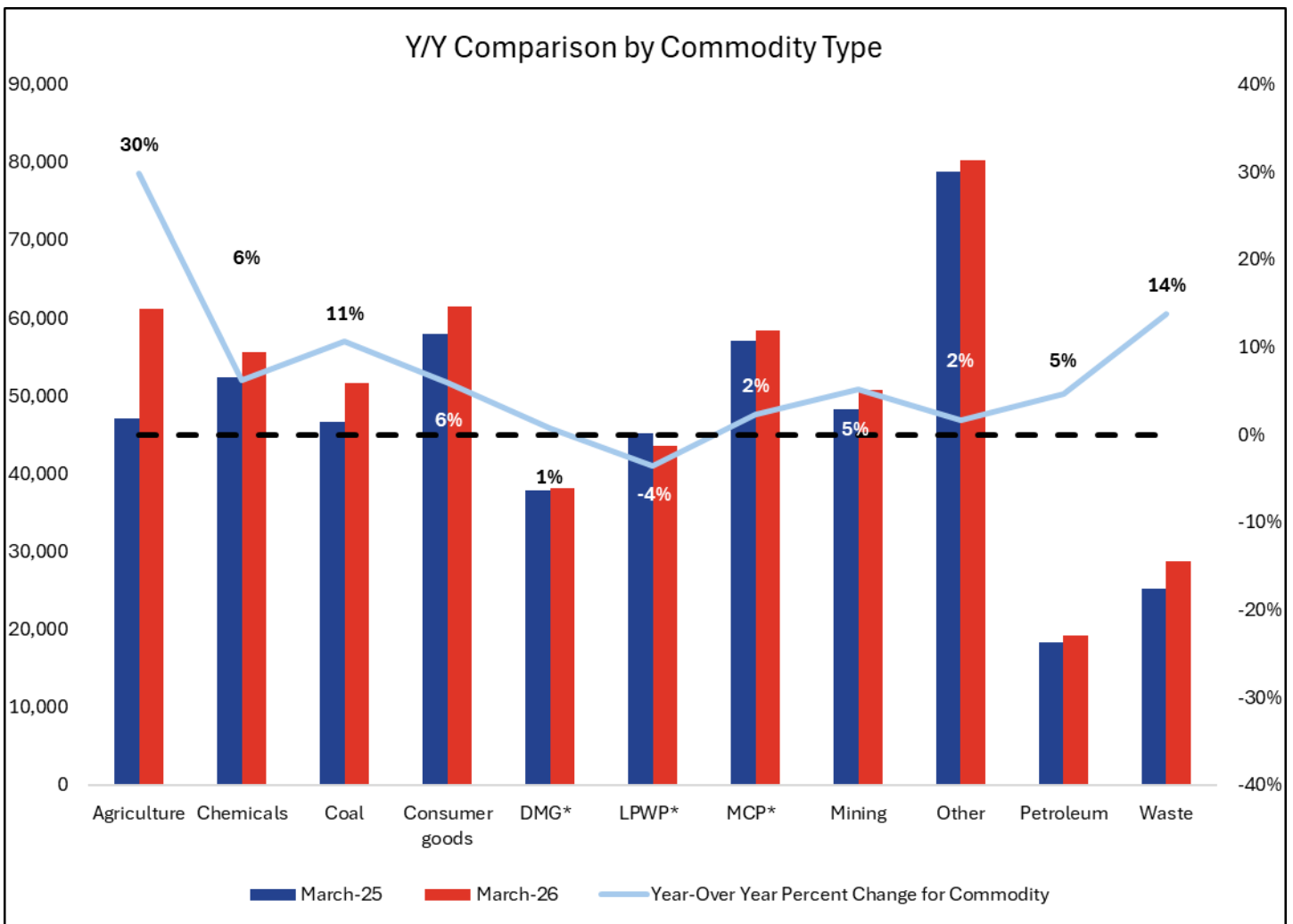
	March 2025	March 2026	Percent change
Bridged	111,255	93,157	-16%
Originating	234,059	247,014	6%
Terminating	261,331	285,808	9%
Total Handled	514,848	548,834	7%





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.

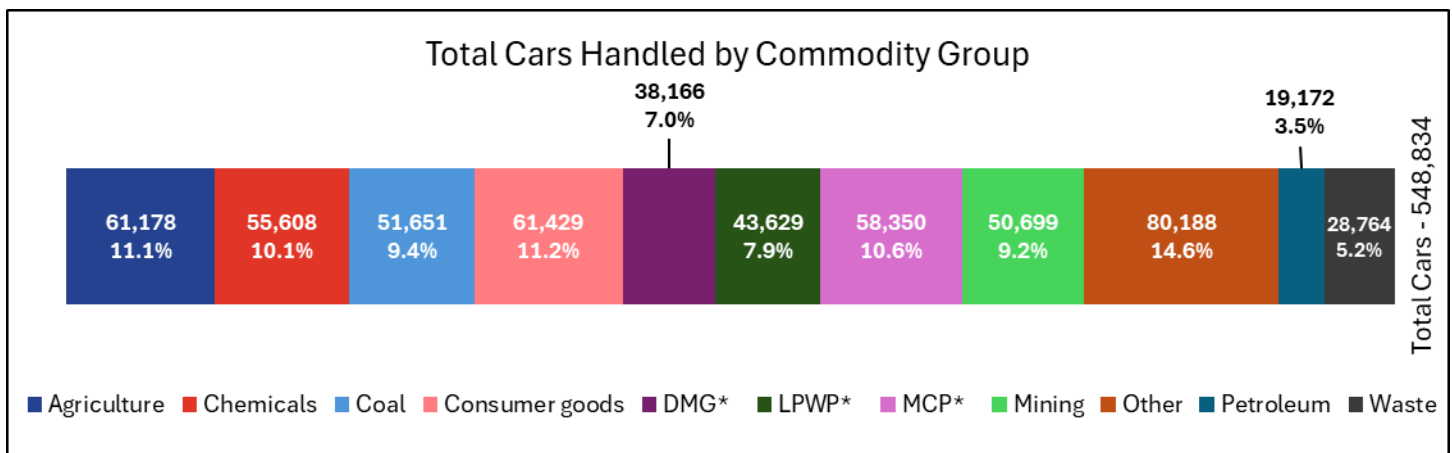


DMG – Durable Manufactured Goods  
 LPWP – Lumber, Paper and Wood Products  
 MCP – Manufacturing and Construction Products

March 2026 carloads handled grew the most in Agriculture (30%), Waste (14%), and Coal (11%) categories compared to March 2025. The only commodity category to see a decrease compared to March 2025 was Lumber, Paper and Wood Products, which fell by 4%. Agriculture also saw the greatest annual growth of raw carloads handled with an increase of 14,053. Lumber, Paper and Wood Products suffered a net loss 1,586 carloads handled compared to March 2025.

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

	March 2026	Percentage of Total Carloads Handled
Agriculture	61,178	11.1%
Chemicals	55,608	10.1%
Coal	51,651	9.4%
Consumer goods	61,429	11.2%
DMG*	38,166	7.0%
LPWP*	43,629	7.9%
MCP*	58,350	10.6%
Mining	50,699	9.2%
Other	80,188	14.6%
Petroleum	19,172	3.5%
Waste	28,764	5.2%
Total	548,834	100.0%



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

**Carloads Table**

Commodity Group	Trip Type	March 2025	March 2026	Percent change
Agriculture	Originated	31,151	32,517	4%
	Bridged	2,363	3,894	65%
	Terminated	19,522	32,873	68%
	Total Handled	50,673	61,178	21%
Chemicals	Originated	13,411	14,433	8%
	Bridged	14,446	13,635	-6%
	Terminated	30,105	32,924	9%
	Total Handled	52,368	55,608	6%
Coal	Originated	21,278	26,039	22%
	Bridged	9,064	3,608	-60%
	Terminated	28,367	27,778	-2%
	Total Handled	46,667	51,651	11%
Consumer Goods	Originated	24,221	24,565	1%
	Bridged	11,720	11,787	1%
	Terminated	29,612	32,174	9%
	Total Handled	57,942	61,429	6%
Durable Manufactured Goods	Originated	9,270	9,476	2%
	Bridged	32,887	31,546	-4%
	Terminated	7,961	8,148	2%
	Total Handled	37,866	38,166	1%
Lumber, Paper, and Wood Products	Originated	23,114	22,765	-2%
	Bridged	3,514	2,981	-15%
	Terminated	23,878	22,738	-5%
	Total Handled	45,215	43,629	-4%
Manufacturing or Construction Products	Originated	32,193	33,500	4%
	Bridged	6,761	5,649	-16%
	Terminated	25,928	26,544	2%
	Total Handled	57,030	58,350	2%
Mining	Originated	23,964	24,563	2%
	Bridged	2,602	1,806	-31%
	Terminated	31,298	33,376	7%
	Total Handled	48,202	50,699	5%
Petroleum Products	Originated	8,017	8,356	4%
	Bridged	1,489	1,520	2%

Commodity Group	Trip Type	March 2025	March 2026	Percent change
Petroleum Products	Terminated	12,629	13,769	9%
	Total Handled	18,316	19,172	5%
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	34,034	34,442	1%
	Bridged	23,100	13,648	-41%
	Terminated	38,621	40,795	6%
	Total Handled	78,849	80,188	2%
Waste	Originated	13,406	16,358	22%
	Bridged	3,309	3,083	-7%
	Terminated	13,410	14,689	10%
	Total Handled	25,268	28,764	14%
Total	Originated	212,781	220,975	4%
	Bridged	102,191	89,549	-12%
	Terminated	232,964	258,030	11%
	Total Handled	471,729	497,183	5%

**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.

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