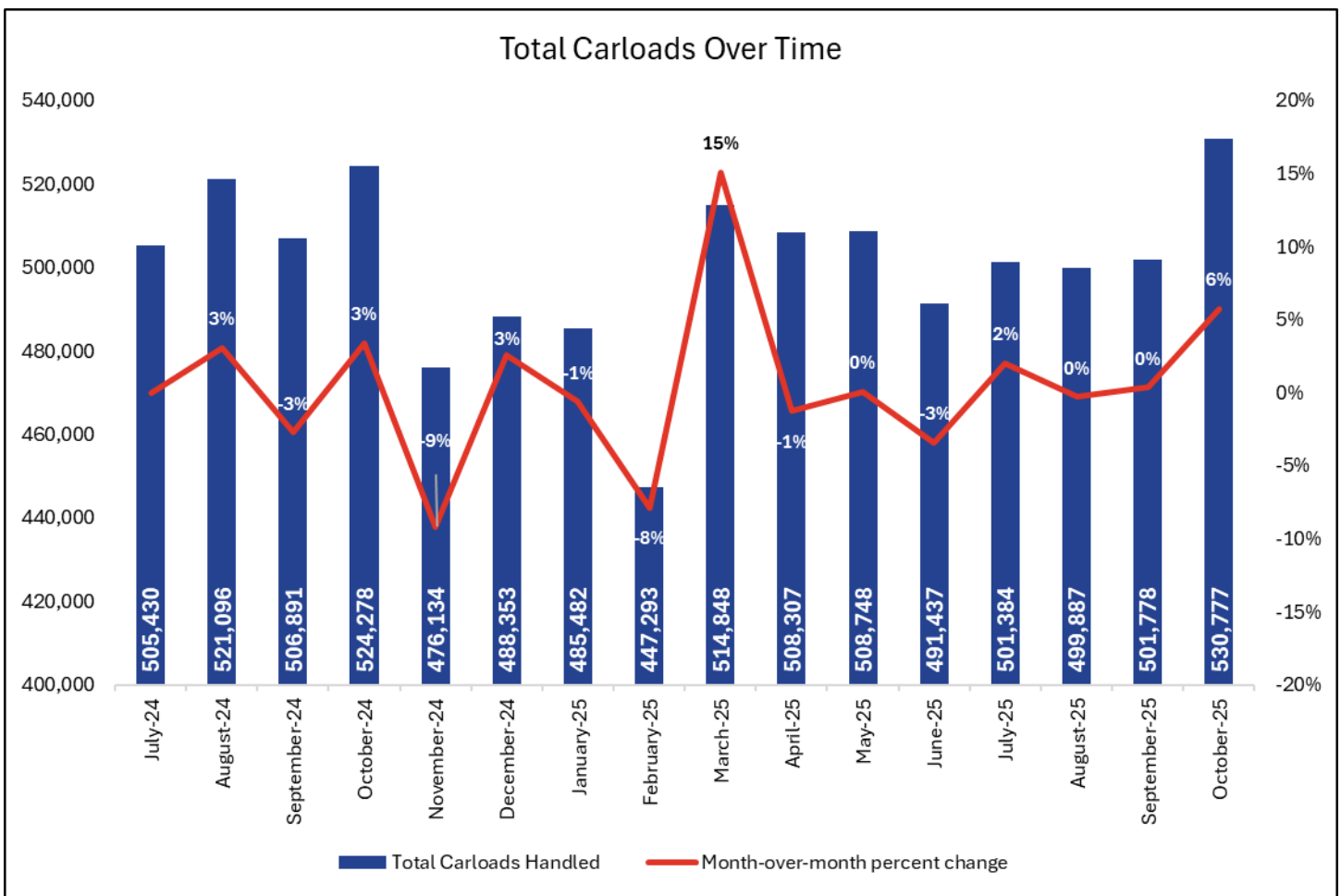




# Short Line Carloads Report – December 2025

## Overall Short Line Carloads Volumes

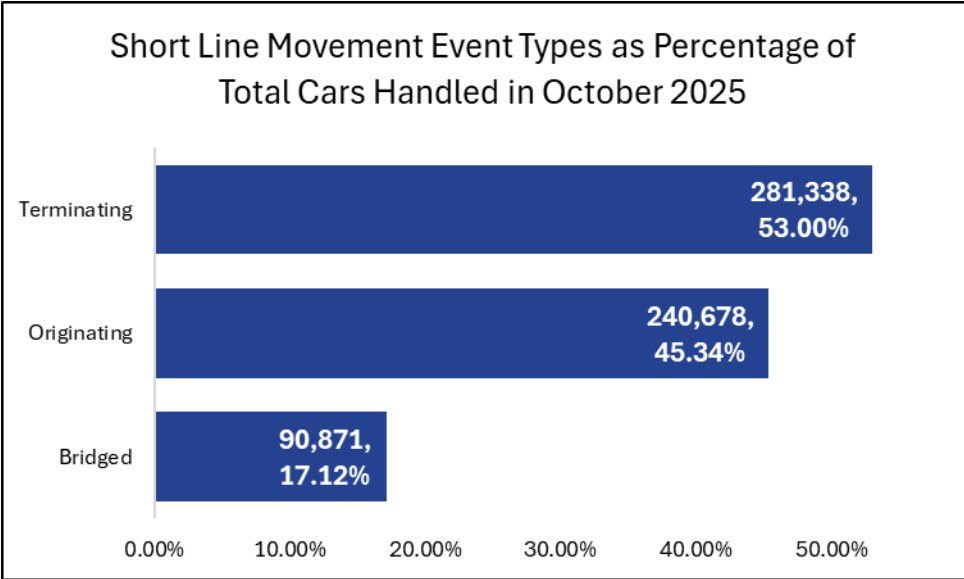
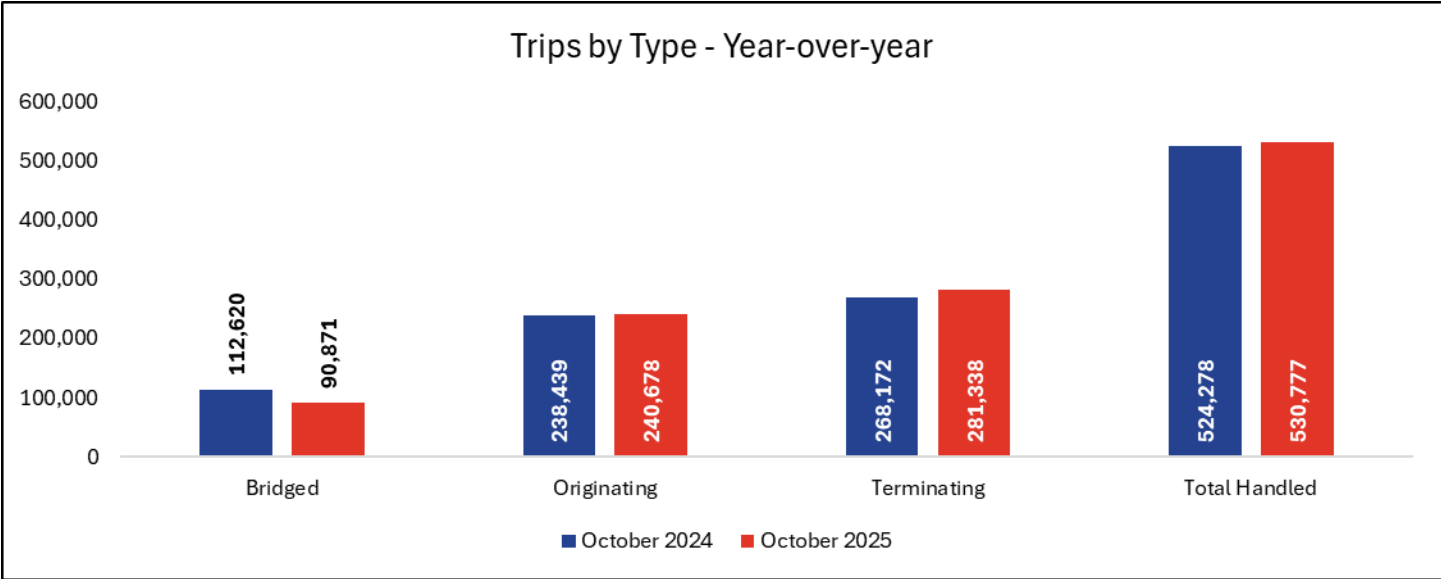
This table presents the long-term trends of carloads handled by short lines and the respective month-over-month percent change. This data series begins with July 2024 carloads, hence there is no data for a month to month change in that field. As seen below, October saw measurable increases in total carloads handled by nearly 30,000 compared to September. Additionally, October’s figures set a record for total carloads handled by besting the October 2024 figure by just over 6,000 carloads.



## Short Line Carload Trends

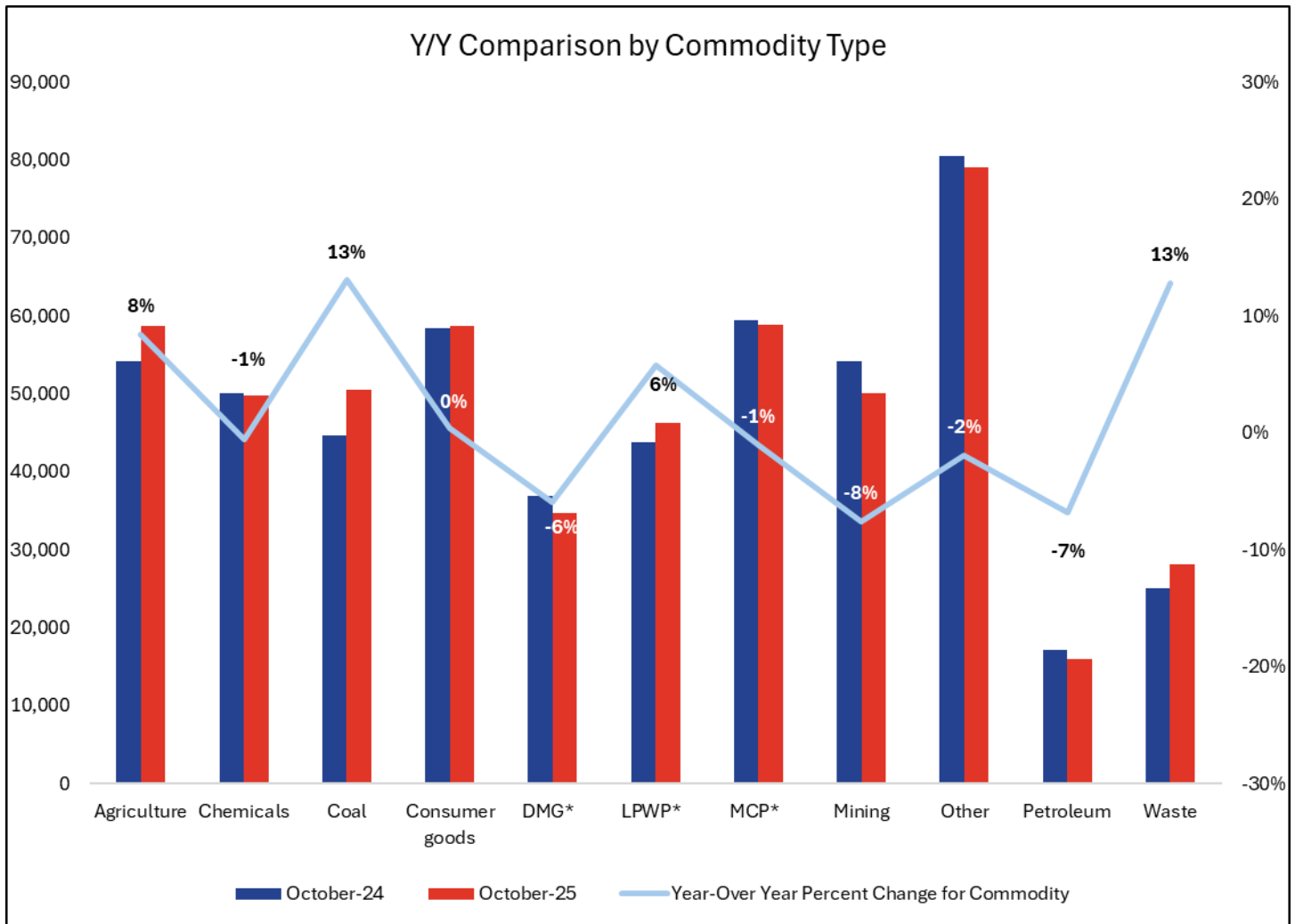
Comparing overall carloads handled, as well as by movement-type, shows that October 2025 overall carloads volume handled staying similar to October 2024 with only a 1% increase. Bridge movements continued decreasing in a year-over-year comparison, this time losing 19%. These losses were once again offset by modest gains in originating (5%) and terminating (1%) carloads.

	October 2024	October 2025	Percent change
Bridged	112,620	90,871	-19%
Originating	238,439	240,678	1%
Terminating	268,172	281,338	5%
Total Handled	524,278	530,777	1%



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.

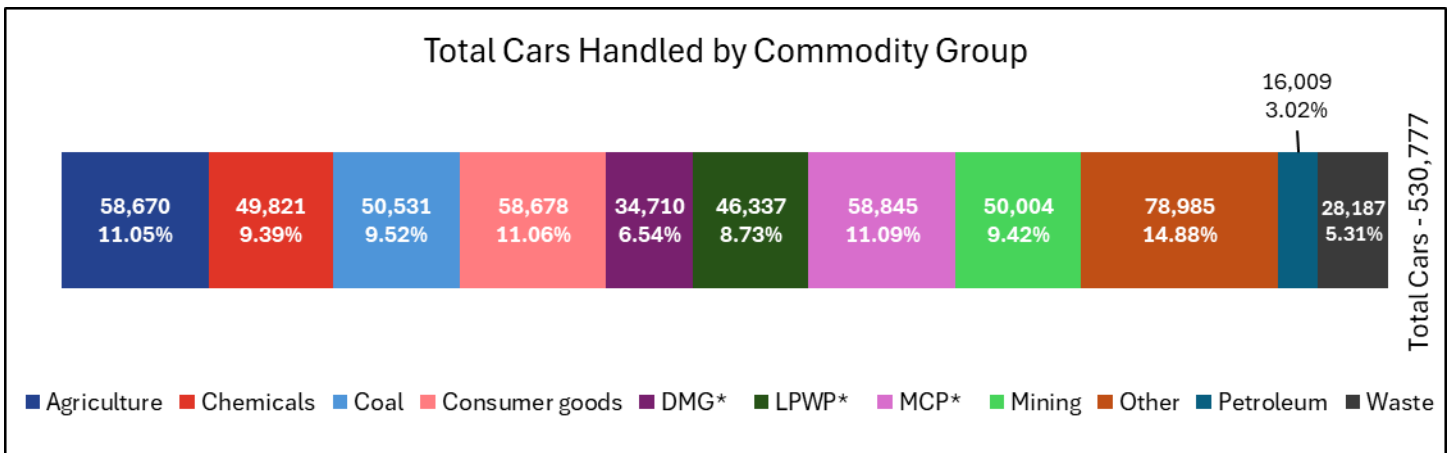


DMG – Durable Manufactured Goods  
 LPWP – Lumber, Paper and Wood Products  
 MCP – Manufacturing and Construction Products

For October, short line carloads movements saw the greatest growth in Waste (13%), Coal (13%), and Agriculture (8%) compared to October 2024. The largest decrease was seen in carloads for petroleum products (13%). When looking at raw carload volumes Coal also saw the greatest growth with a net gain of 5,839 carloads compared to Mining decreasing by a net negative 4,116 carloads.

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

	October 2025	Percentage of Total Carloads Handled
Agriculture	58,670	11.05%
Chemicals	49,821	9.39%
Coal	50,531	9.52%
Consumer goods	58,678	11.06%
DMG*	34,710	6.54%
LPWP*	46,337	8.73%
MCP*	58,845	11.09%
Mining	50,004	9.42%
Other	78,985	14.88%
Petroleum	16,009	3.02%
Waste	28,187	5.31%
Total	530,777	100.00%



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

### Carloads Table

Commodity Group	Trip Type	October 2024	October 2025	Percent change
Agriculture	Originated	35,222	33,314	-5%
	Bridged	3,405	3,122	-8%
	Terminated	23,119	31,638	37%
	Total Handled	54,122	58,670	8%
Chemicals	Originated	12,615	11,283	-11%
	Bridged	13,926	13,374	-4%

Commodity Group	Trip Type	October 2024	October 2025	Percent change
Chemicals	Terminated	29,525	29,730	1%
	Total Handled	50,107	41,013	-18%
Coal	Originated	20,529	25,630	25%
	Bridged	8,271	5,545	-33%
	Terminated	24,939	28,038	12%
	Total Handled	44,692	50,531	13%
Consumer Goods	Originated	22,354	23,785	6%
	Bridged	12,614	11,329	-10%
	Terminated	31,368	30,452	-3%
	Total Handled	58,416	58,678	0%
Durable Manufactured Goods	Originated	8,087	8,773	8%
	Bridged	32,443	29,155	-10%
	Terminated	8,904	7,829	-12%
	Total Handled	36,883	34,710	-6%
Lumber, Paper, and Wood Products	Originated	22,408	22,700	1%
	Bridged	3,474	3,000	-14%
	Terminated	23,674	23,637	0%
	Total Handled	43,812	46,337	6%
Manufacturing or Construction Products	Originated	34,469	33,494	-3%
	Bridged	6,447	5,485	-15%
	Terminated	26,492	27,718	5%
	Total Handled	59,450	58,845	-1%
Mining	Originated	28,604	26,072	-9%
	Bridged	2,725	1,207	-56%
	Terminated	35,556	34,393	-3%
	Total Handled	54,120	50,004	-8%
Petroleum Products	Originated	7,597	7,311	-4%
	Bridged	1,367	1,243	-9%
	Terminated	12,071	11,370	-6%
	Total Handled	17,179	16,009	-7%
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	33,793	33,064	-2%
	Bridged	24,669	14,346	-42%
	Terminated	39,153	41,383	6%
	Total Handled	80,514	78,985	-2%
Waste	Originated	12,761	15,252	20%
	Bridged	3,279	3,065	-7%
	Terminated	13,371	15,150	13%
	Total Handled	24,983	28,187	13%

Commodity Group	Trip Type	October 2024	October 2025	Percent change
Total	Originated	238,439	240,678	1%
	Bridged	112,620	90,871	-19%
	Terminated	268,172	281,338	5%
	Total Handled	524,278	530,777	1%

**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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