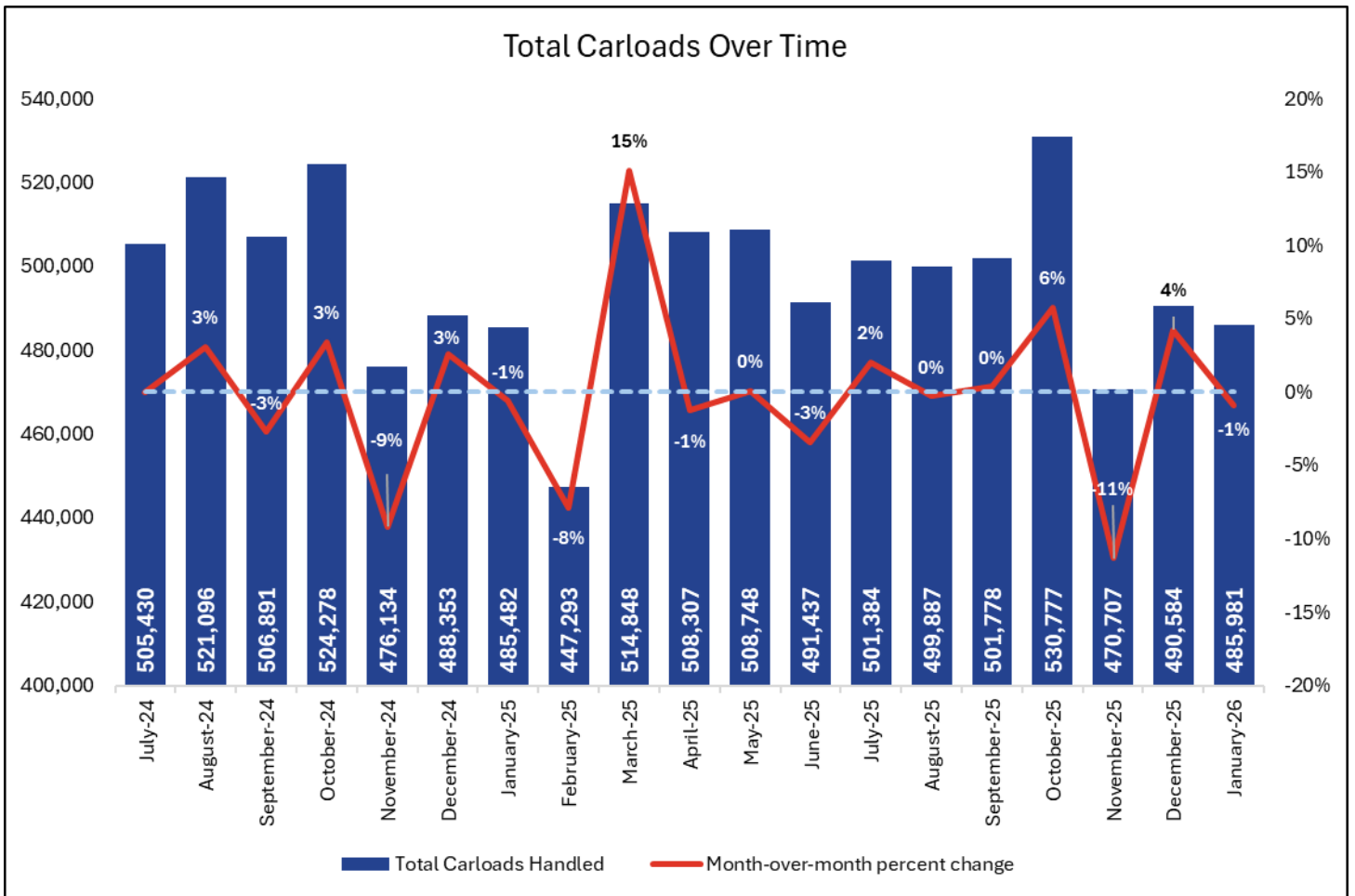




# Short Line Carloads Report – March 2026

## Overall Short Line Carloads Volumes

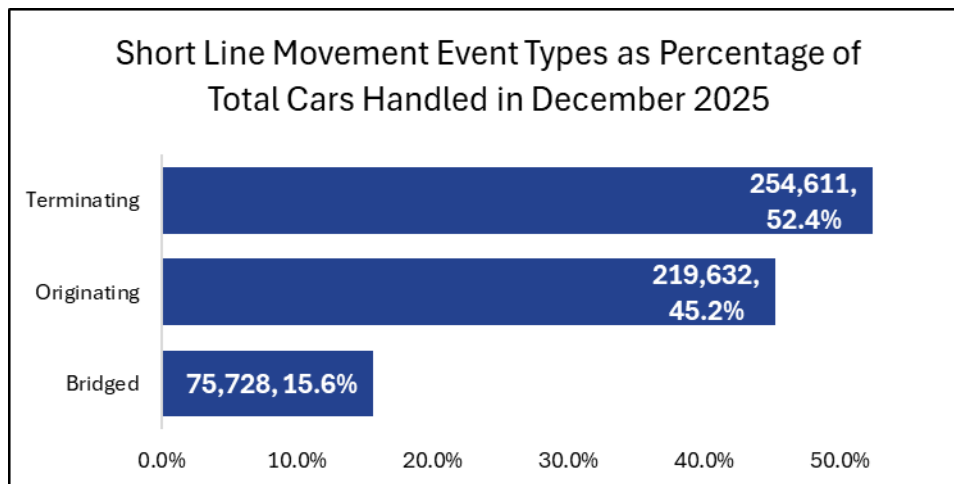
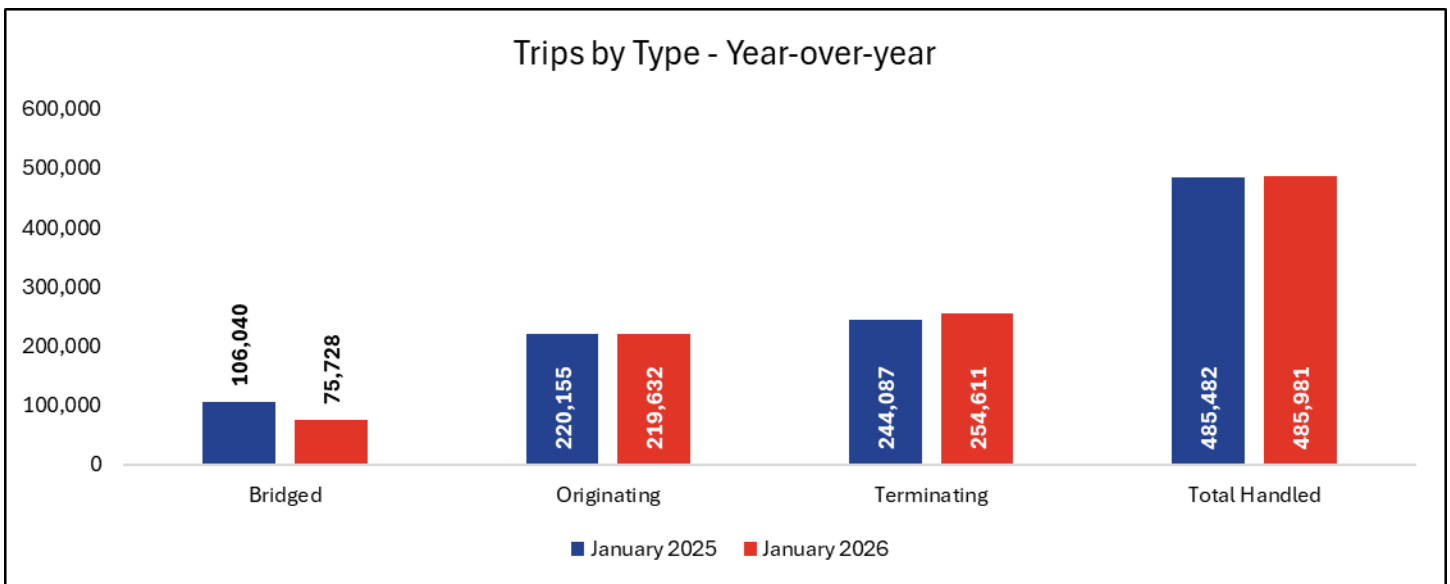
This table presents the long-term trends of carloads handled by short lines and the respective month-over-month percent change. This data series begins with July 2024 carloads, hence there is no data for a month to month change in that field. As seen below, January 2026 decreased slightly from December 2025 but was slightly higher than January 2025’s volumes.



## Short Line Carload Trends

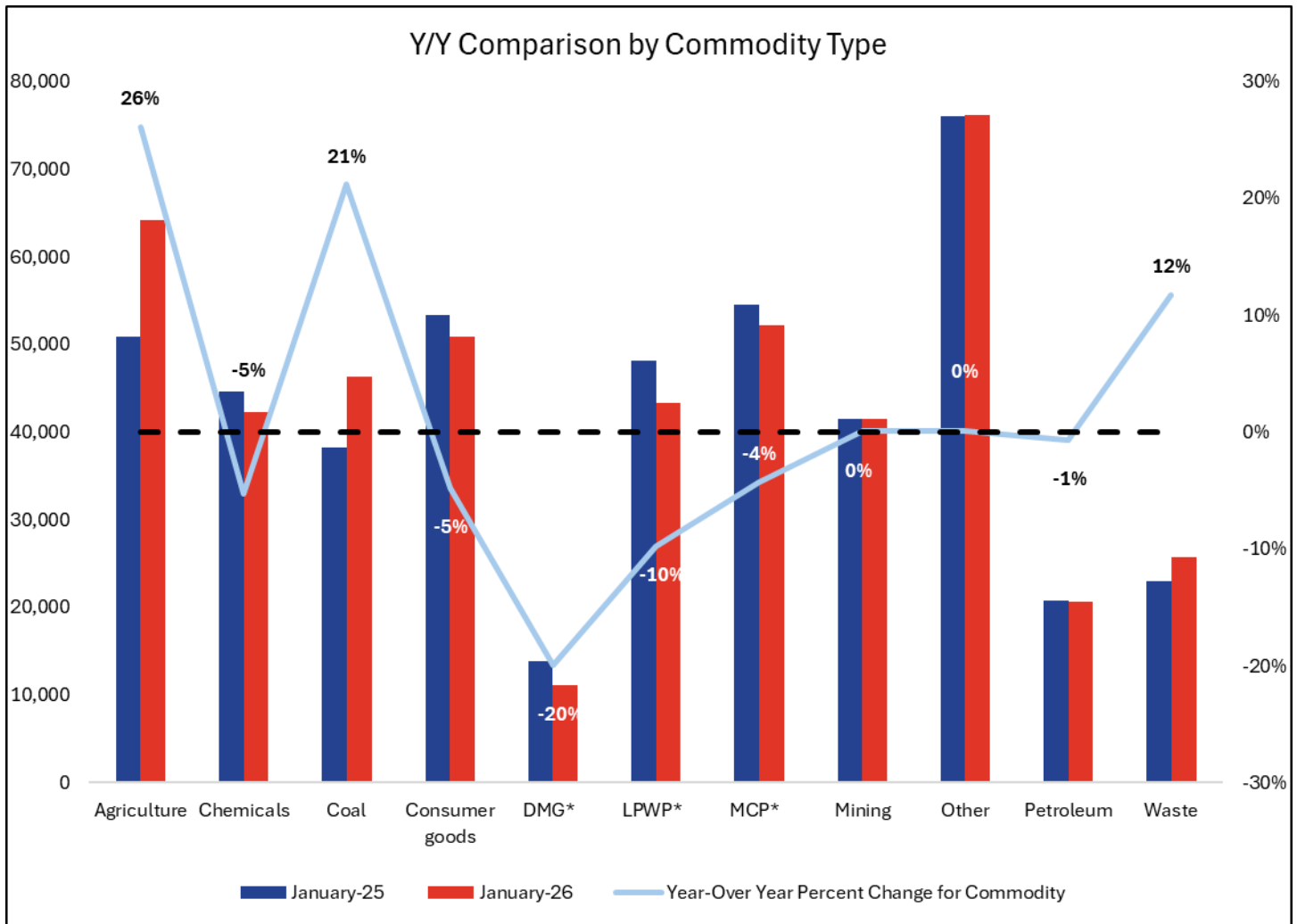
When comparing overall carloads handled, as well as by movement-type, terminations were up 4% and originations saw very little variation from a year prior. However, bridge movements saw a significant decrease, losing approximately a third of their volumes compared to a year ago. This is a consistent trend and keeping overall carload volumes essentially flat in annual comparison.

	January 2025	January 2026	Percent change
Bridged	106,040	75,728	-29%
Originating	220,155	219,632	0%
Terminating	244,087	254,611	4%
Total Handled	485,482	485,981	0%



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.

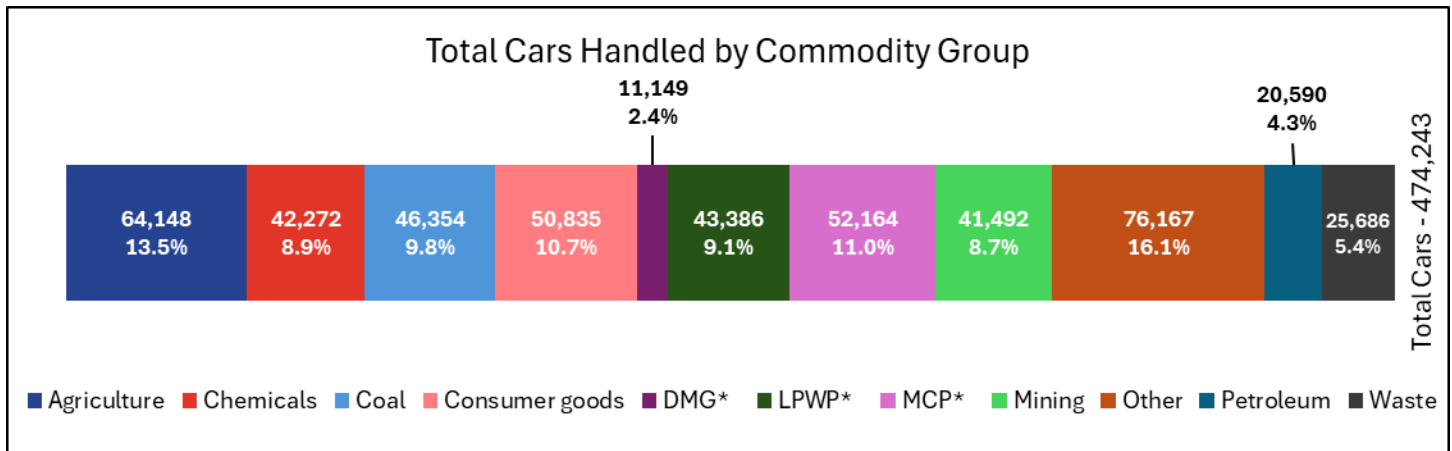


DMG – Durable Manufactured Goods  
 LPWP – Lumber, Paper and Wood Products  
 MCP – Manufacturing and Construction Products

January carloads handled grew the most in Agriculture (26%), Coal (21%), and Waste (12%) categories compared to January 2025. The largest decreases were seen in carloads handled for Durable Manufactured Goods (-20%) and Lumber, Paper and Wood Products (-10%). With a net gain of 13,299 carloads, Agriculture also saw the greatest annual growth of raw carloads. With a net loss of 4,700 carloads handled, Lumber, Paper and Wood Products was the commodity group with the largest decrease among the commodity categories compared to January 2025.

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

	January 2026	Percentage of Total Carloads Handled
Agriculture	64,148	13.5%
Chemicals	42,272	8.9%
Coal	46,354	9.8%
Consumer goods	50,835	10.7%
DMG*	11,149	2.4%
LPWP*	43,386	9.1%
MCP*	52,164	11.0%
Mining	41,492	8.7%
Other	76,167	16.1%
Petroleum	20,590	4.3%
Waste	25,686	5.4%
Total	474,243	100.0%



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

### Carloads Table

Commodity Group	Trip Type	January 2025	January 2026	Percent change
Agriculture	Originated	31,124	34,587	11%
	Bridged	3,767	3,515	-7%
	Terminated	19,725	29,561	50%
	Total Handled	47,521	60,730	28%

Commodity Group	Trip Type	January 2025	January 2026	Percent change
Chemicals	Originated	13,135	12,346	-6%
	Bridged	15,022	12,266	-18%
	Terminated	31,494	29,926	-5%
	Total Handled	52,706	50,097	-5%
Coal	Originated	20,234	22,505	11%
	Bridged	13,522	5,400	-60%
	Terminated	17,999	23,849	33%
	Total Handled	40,702	44,820	10%
Consumer Goods	Originated	23,039	21,402	-7%
	Bridged	11,981	10,557	-12%
	Terminated	30,362	29,433	-3%
	Total Handled	57,310	55,646	-3%
Durable Manufactured Goods	Originated	7,806	6,318	-19%
	Bridged	24,784	18,133	-27%
	Terminated	5,489	4,831	-12%
	Total Handled	28,712	22,889	-20%
Lumber, Paper, and Wood Products	Originated	23,533	21,538	-8%
	Bridged	3,341	2,698	-19%
	Terminated	24,553	21,848	-11%
	Total Handled	45,773	41,625	-9%
Manufacturing or Construction Products	Originated	30,384	28,869	-5%
	Bridged	4,943	5,354	8%
	Terminated	24,113	23,295	-3%
	Total Handled	52,887	51,535	-3%
Mining	Originated	16,870	17,717	5%
	Bridged	3,860	1,461	-62%
	Terminated	24,566	23,775	-3%
	Total Handled	38,197	36,773	-4%
Petroleum Products	Originated	7,938	7,535	-5%
	Bridged	1,873	1,260	-33%
	Terminated	12,795	13,055	2%
	Total Handled	18,374	17,938	-2%
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	34,678	33,740	-3%
	Bridged	20,593	12,710	-38%
	Terminated	41,420	42,427	2%
	Total Handled	81,504	80,178	-2%
Waste	Originated	11,414	13,075	15%
	Bridged	2,354	2,374	1%

Commodity Group	Trip Type	January 2025	January 2026	Percent change
Waste	Terminated	11,571	12,611	9%
	Total Handled	21,796	23,750	9%
Total	Originated	220,155	219,632	0%
	Bridged	106,040	75,728	-29%
	Terminated	244,087	254,611	4%
	Total Handled	485,482	485,981	0%

**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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