

Uber Freight

Chemical Current

Supply chain newsletter for
chemical shippers

July 2025



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Executive summary

After 2 months of declines, the chemical industry showed signs of stabilization in June. Producer prices rose 0.3%, led by gains in manufactured fibers, agricultural inputs, inorganic chemicals, and consumer products. Year-over-year, prices were up 1.2%, though softness persisted in synthetic rubber and coatings, and bulk petrochemical pricing remained flat. Production grew 0.5% in June, marking a turnaround from flat output in April and May. Growth was concentrated in resins, synthetic rubber, coatings, and industrial gases, while areas such as fertilizers, crop protection, and some specialty chemicals experienced pullbacks. Capacity utilization inched up to 81.0%. Import prices held steady for the month but continued to trend below prior-year levels—a pattern now lasting 31 consecutive months. This prolonged decline could signal ongoing competitive pressures from global markets.

Indicator	M/M	Y/Y
Chemical Production (Jun)	↑ 0.5%	↑ 0.1%
Chemical Producer Prices (Jun)	↑ 0.5%	↑ 1.2%
Chemical Import Prices (Jun)	~ 0.0%	↓ 1.3%
Indicator		
Chemical Capacity Utilization (Jun)	↑ 81.0%	

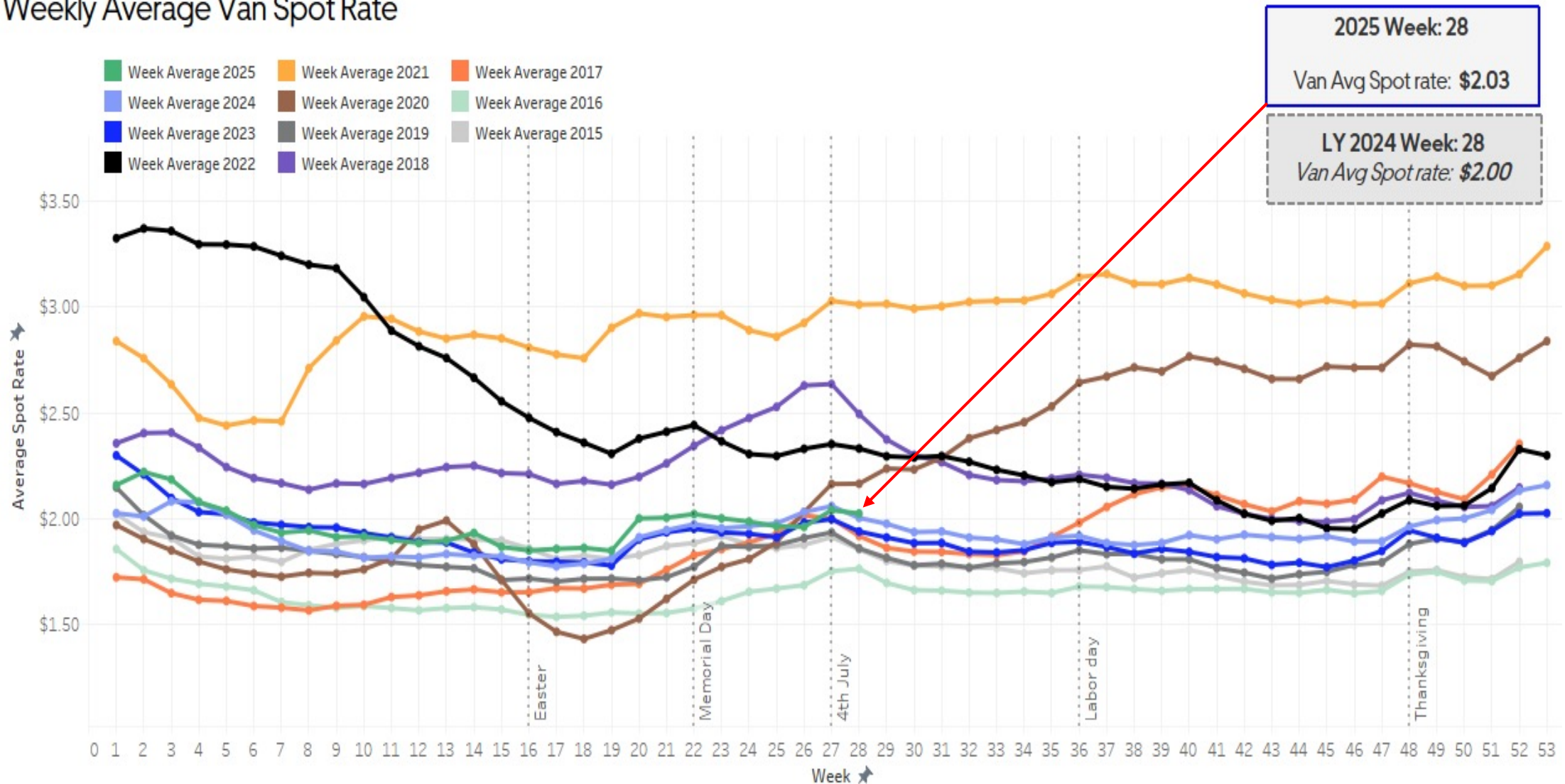
Source: American Chemistry Council

Chemical transportation trends



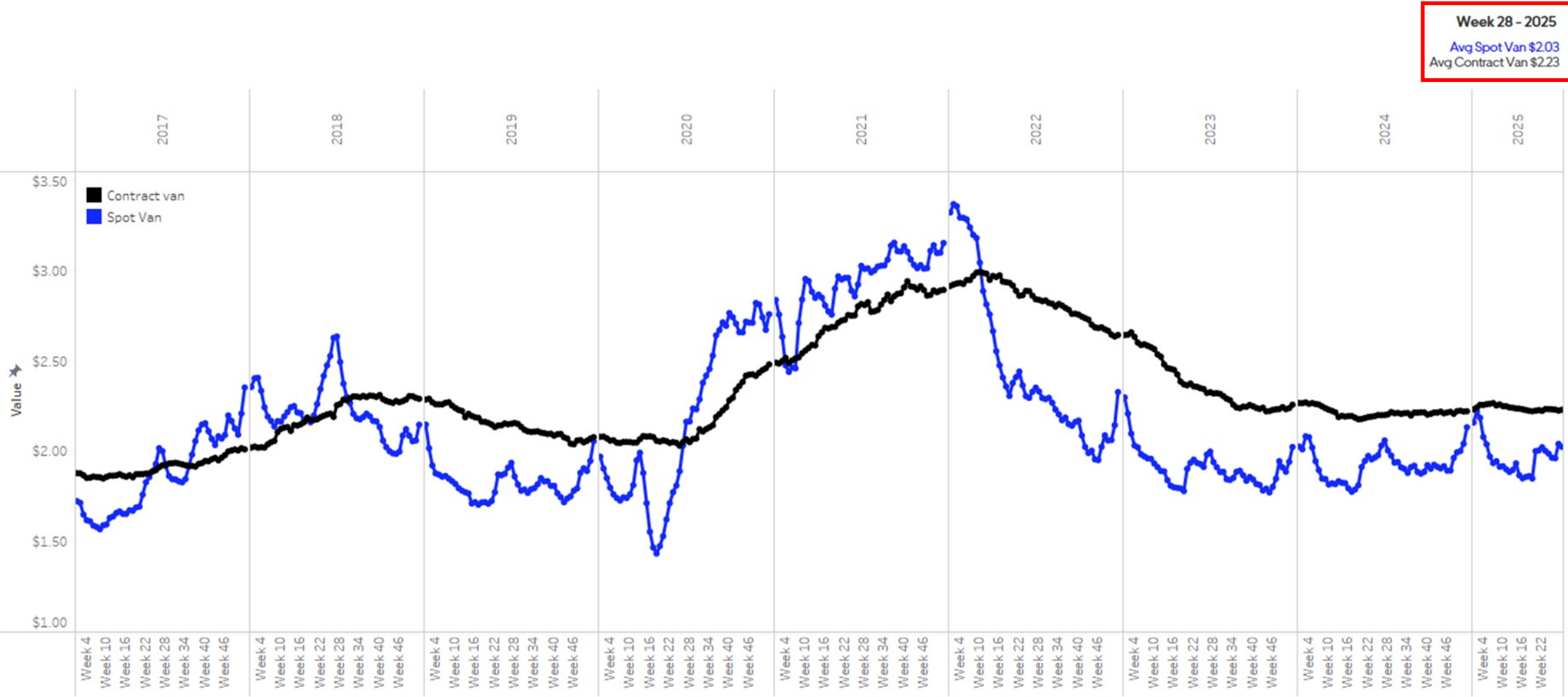
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Weekly Average Van Spot Rate



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Weekly Average Van Spot vs Contract rates



Week 28 - 2025

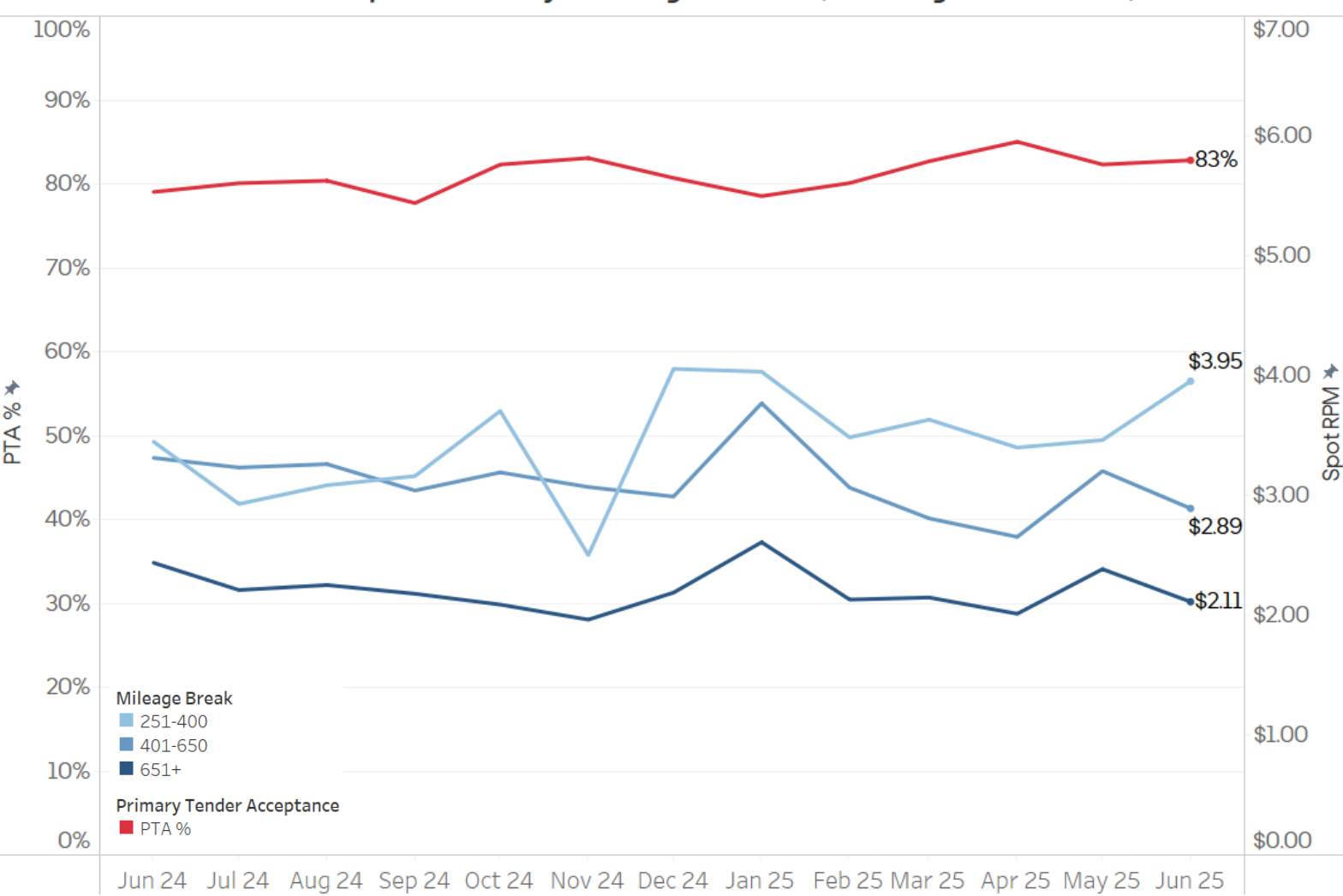
Avg Spot Van \$2.03

Avg Contract Van \$2.23

Hazardous materials tendering trends

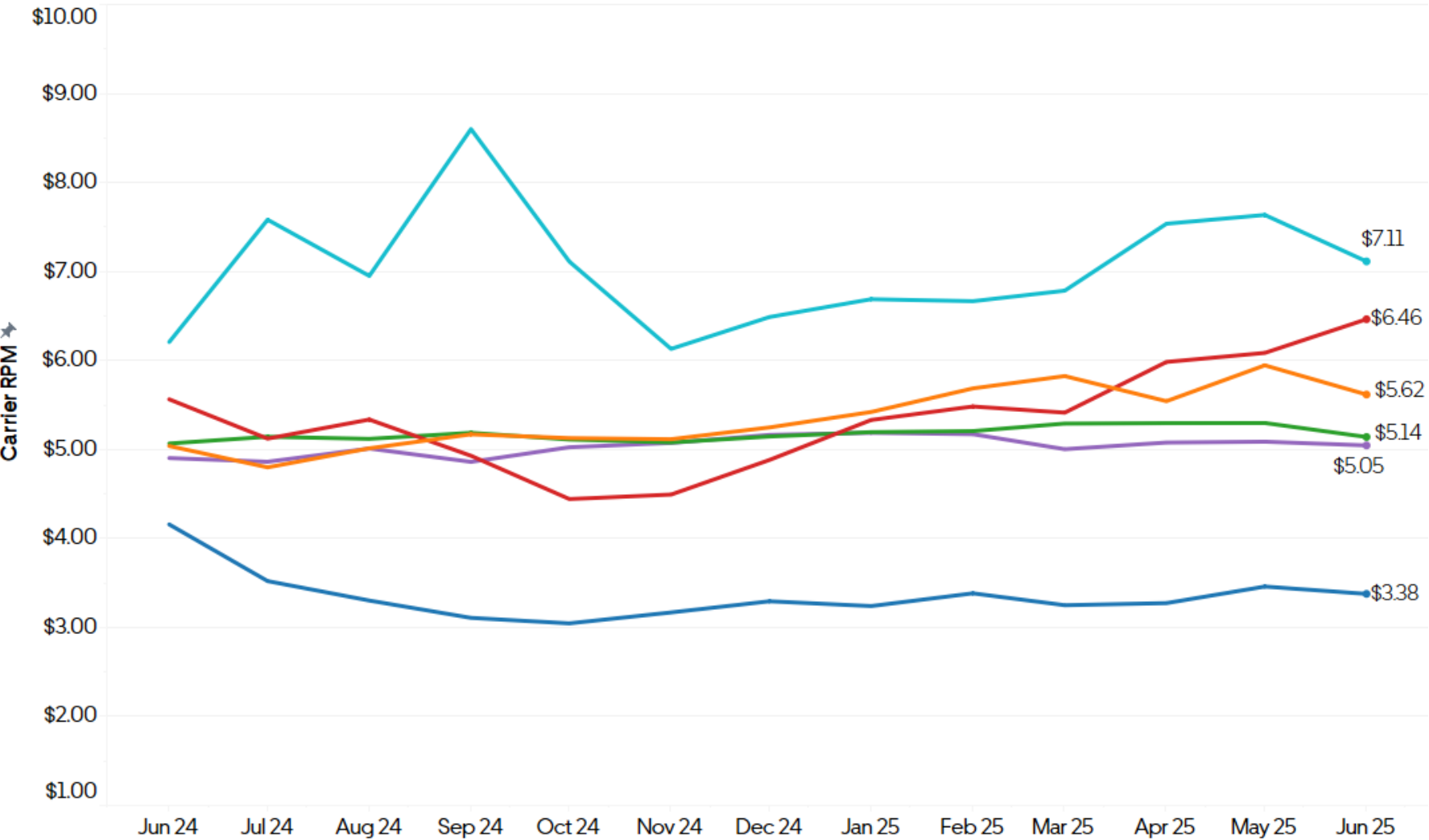
- Spot Rate per Mile (RPM) for long haul (> 650 miles) dry van Truckload (TL) Hazmat have retreated month-over-month, in line with seasonality, but still holding a 4% premium over Non-Haz spot dry van rates
- Primary Tender Acceptance (PTA) for Hazmat Truckload (TL) remains stable at 83%

Hazmat TL: PTA % vs Spot RPM by Mileage Break (Trailing 13 Months)



Bulk pricing trends

Bulk Rate per Mile by Equipment Type(Trailing 13 Months)





- **Multi-Compartment & Liquid Bulk Tankers** have sustained range-bound stability for over 13 months
- **Food Grade** RPM retreated -5.5% in June after its peak in May
- **ISO Tank/Intermodal** bulk rates continue to climb
- **Dry Bulk Tanker** rates remain in a prolonged trough that began July 2024

Bulk Equipment Type

- Dry Bulk Tanker
- Food Grade
- ISO Tank/Intermodal Container
- Liquid Bulk Tanker
- Multi-Compartment Bulk Trailer
- Specialized

Diesel fuel pricing trends

 Current national diesel price - **\$3.812/gal**
(As of 7/21/25)

 Brent Crude - **\$68.19 (\$/bbl)** *(As of 7/23/25)*  WTI Crude - **\$64.92 (\$/bbl)** *(As of 7/23/25)*

Current dry van
fuel surcharge

Fuel Surcharge
➡ **\$0.42** (\$0.00) → Rate is neutral
Source: DAT (as of 7/22/25)

Current reefer
fuel surcharge

Fuel Surcharge
➡ **\$0.46** (\$0.00) → Rate is neutral
Source: DAT (as of 7/22/25)

1 Year national diesel fuel averages



Source: DAT(as of 7/22/25)

- National average for diesel prices on the rise for the third consecutive week
- Crude oil prices grind lower on announcement of Russia’s deadline to end the Ukraine war & trade talks with Japan

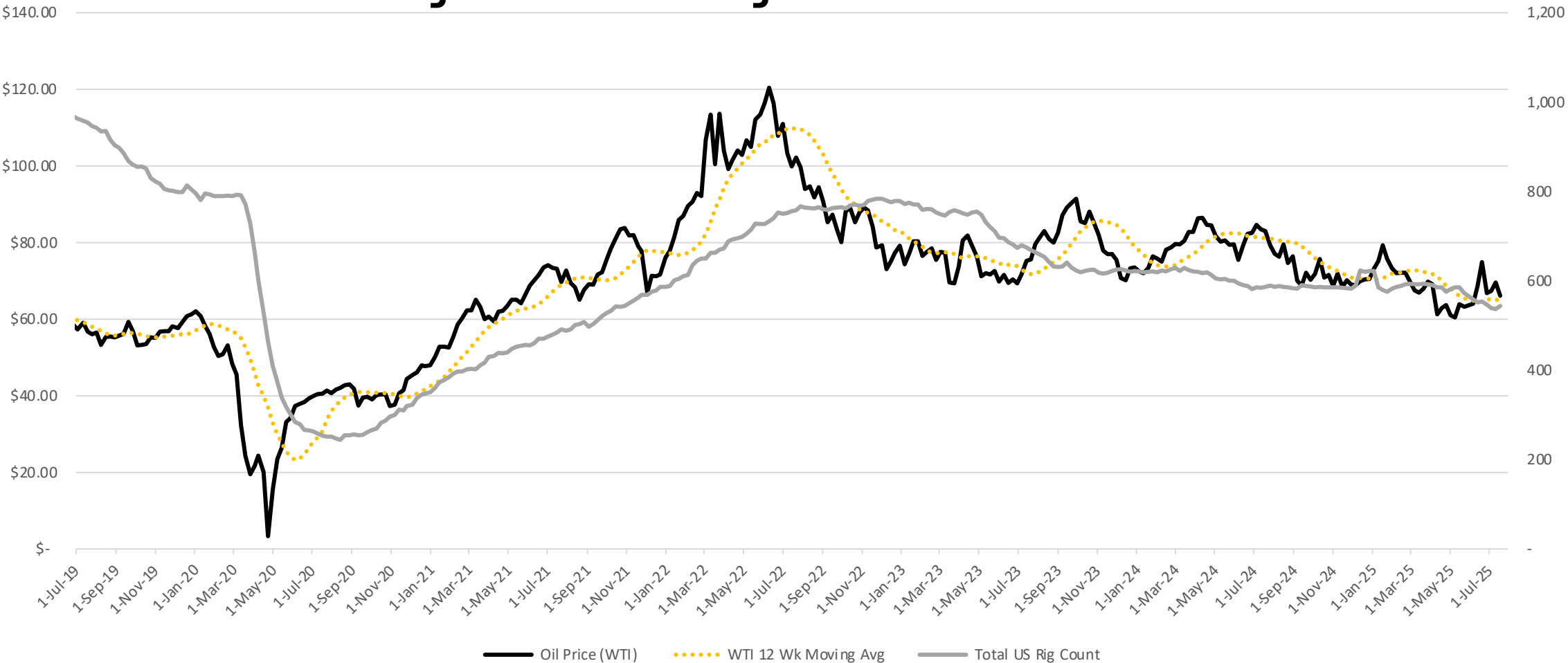
Chemical supply chain overview



Chemical industry news and updates: Energy

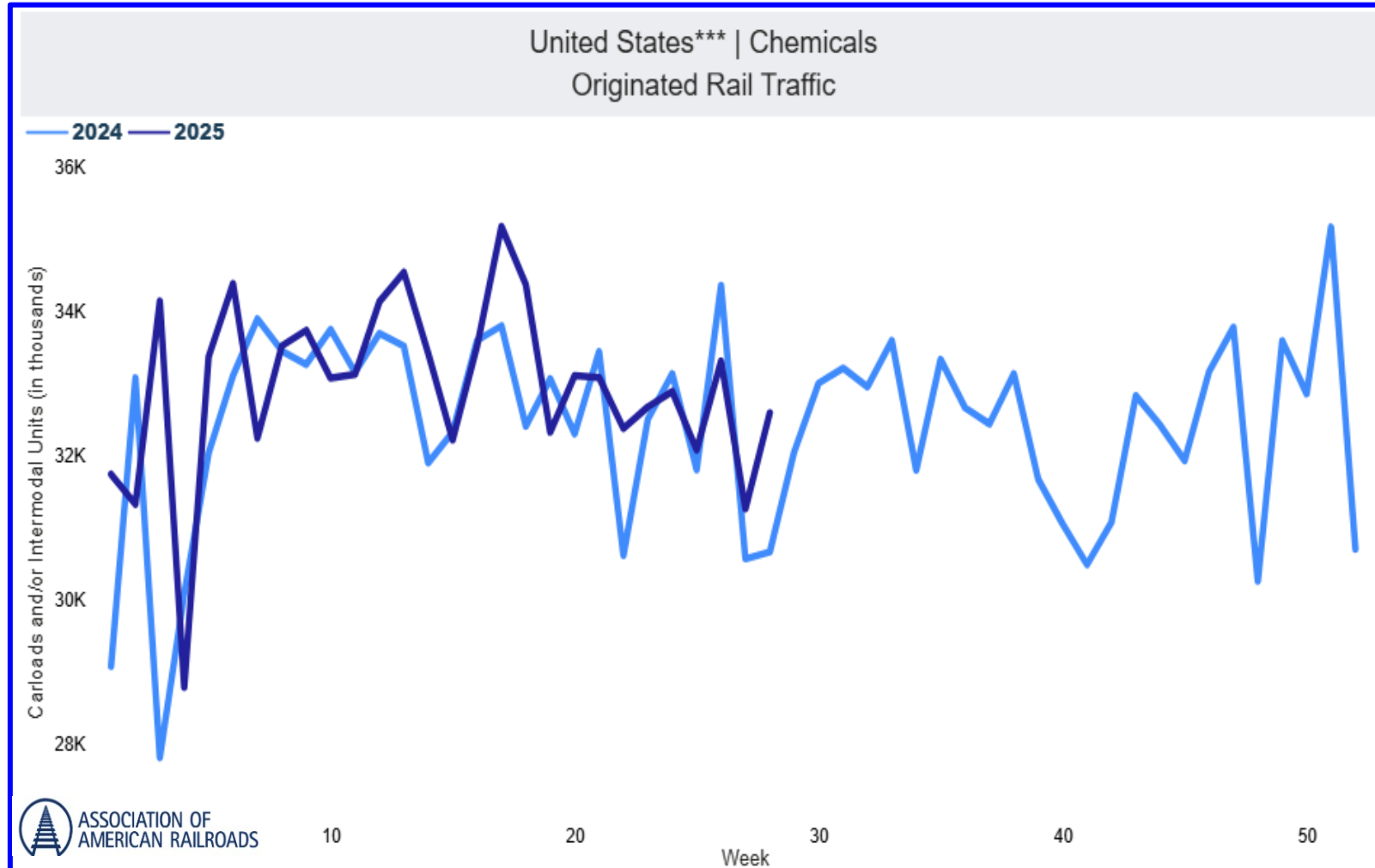
Baker Hughes count of active oil & gas rigs is up 7 to 544 for the week ending July 18. This increase comes after setting a new four-year low the previous week.

Baker Hughes Total US Rig Count verse WTI Price



****12-week moving average of WTI prices and US Rig Counts have historic correlation***

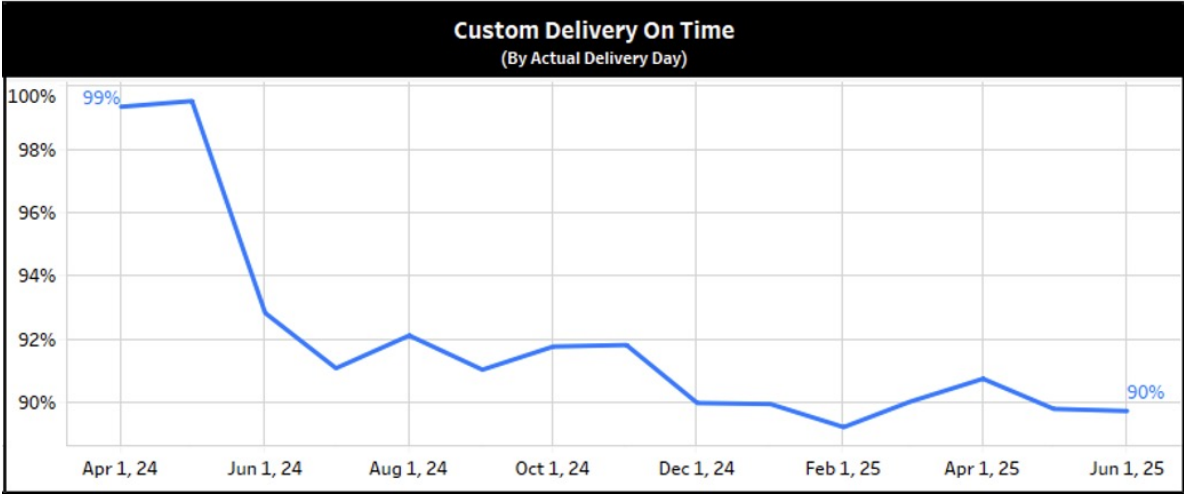
Weekly rail traffic - Chemicals



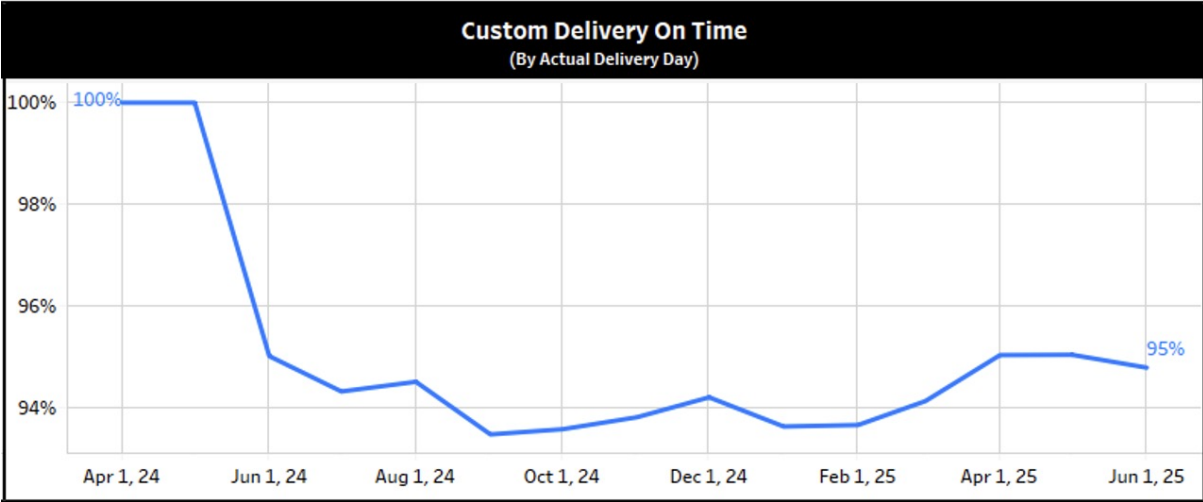
Based on figures from the Association of American Railroads, the number of railcars transporting chemicals reached 33,599 during the week ending July 12. That marks a 0.4% increase year-over-year when averaged over 13 weeks, and a 1.8% gain compared to the same period last year. This marks the seventh increase in the past 13 weeks, signaling a steady upward trend.

Chemical vertical on-time delivery by mode

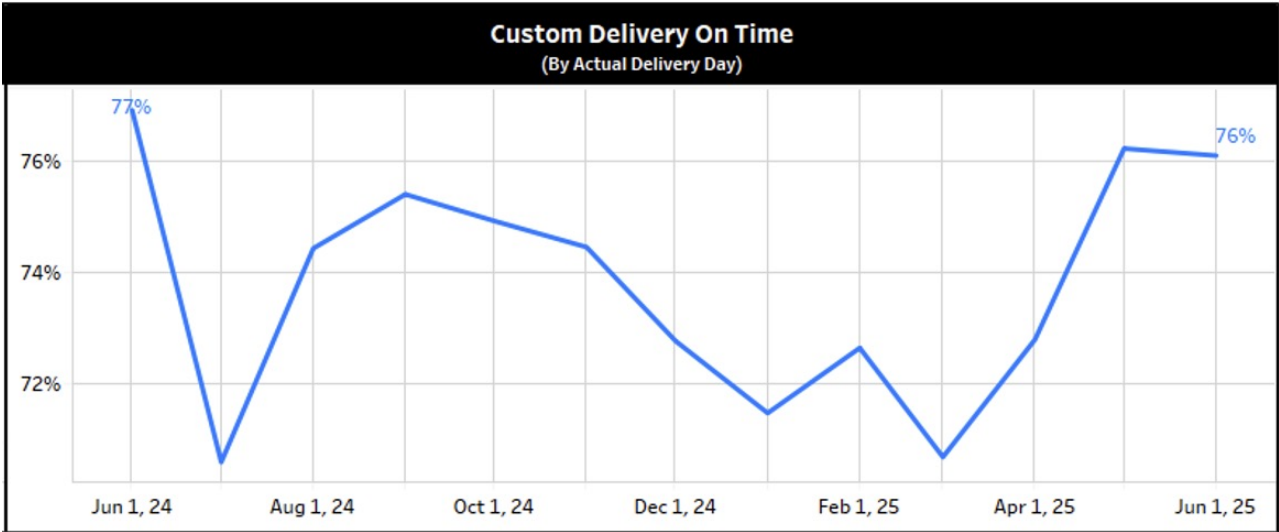
LTL



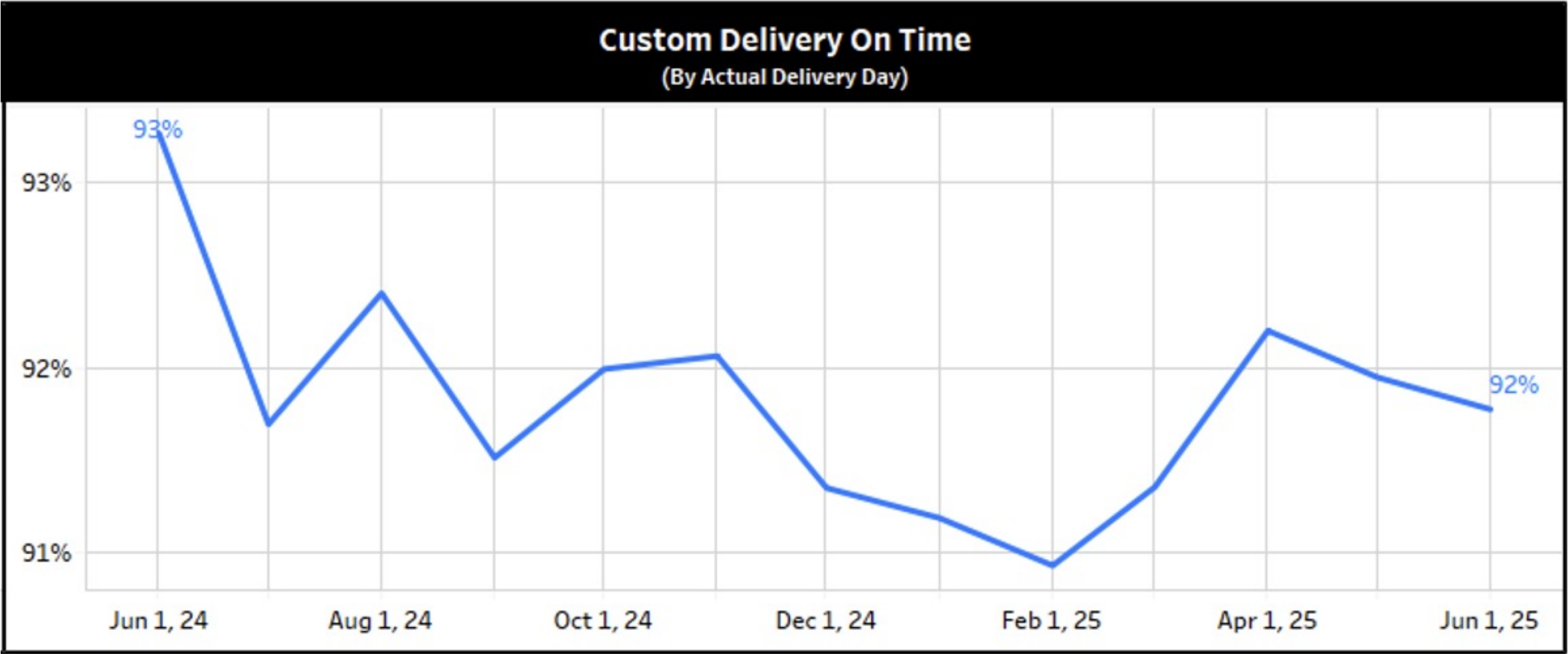
TL



Other



Chemical vertical on-time delivery*



*More than 170,000 shipments each month, including all modes and two-hour tolerance for delivery appointments

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