Steel Market Update Community Chat

CRU



Featuring:

Philip K. Bell

President and CEO

Steel Manufacturers Association

November 17, 2026 // Michael Cowden, Editor-in-Chief

UPCOMING events

Steel 101 Workshop

Charleston, S.C. // Feb. 25-26, 2027

An introduction to steelmaking and market fundamentals // *Tour of Nucor Berkeley*

Tampa Steel Conference 2027

Tampa, Fla. // March 7-9, 2027

Get an early jump on what's driving the North American flat-rolled steel industry at the *JW Marriott Tampa Water Street*

Steel 101 Workshop

Fort Wayne, Ind. // May 18-19, 2027

An introduction to steelmaking and market fundamentals // *Tour of SDI Butler*

For more information about our workshops and conferences visit:

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Steel Market Update Community Chat

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Contact david.schollaert@crugroup.com for participation information.




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Stelco to restart idled Hamilton finishing operations on Dec. 1

U.S. Steel, USW deadlocked in labor contract talks despite Cliffs deal

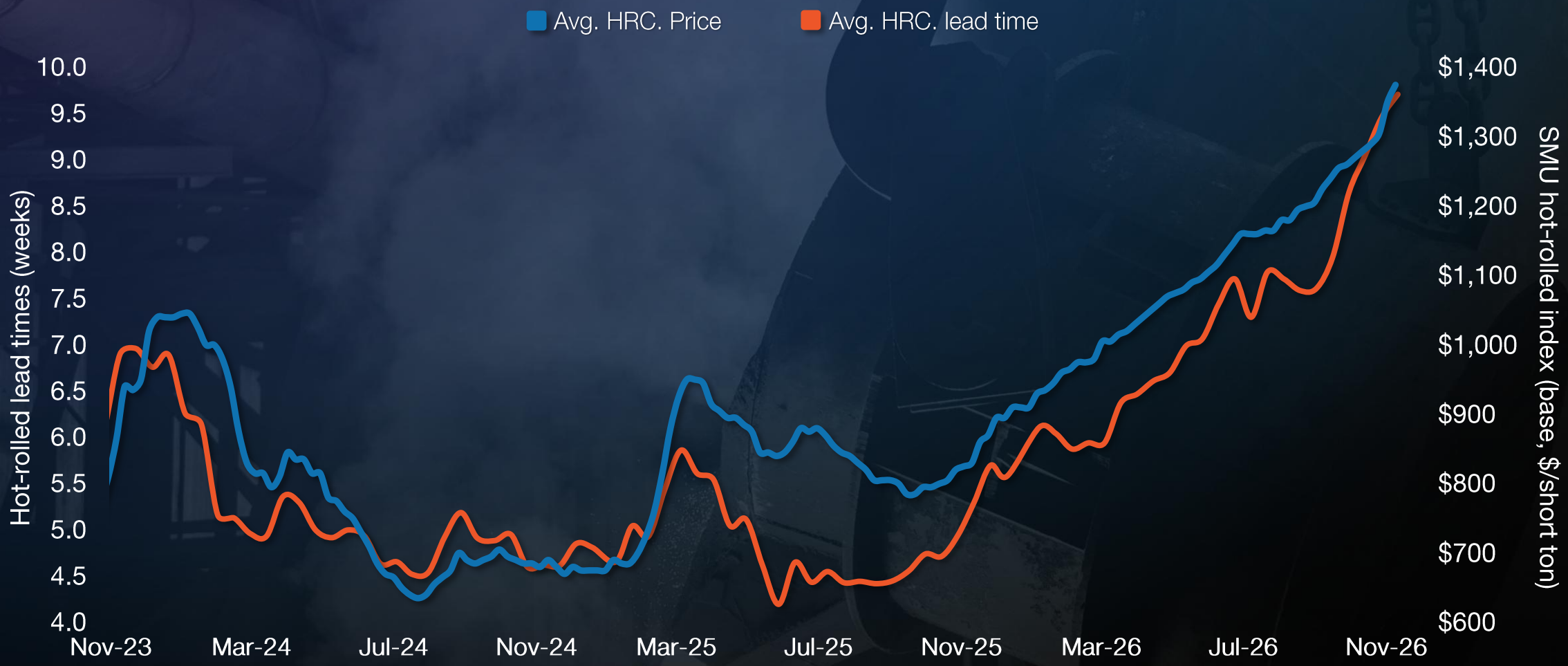
SMU Price Ranges rise on tight supply, no signs of a year-end slowdown

SMU Survey: Steel buyers turn to imports as lead times stretch and prices rise

Dodge Momentum Index declines in October as data center planning slows down

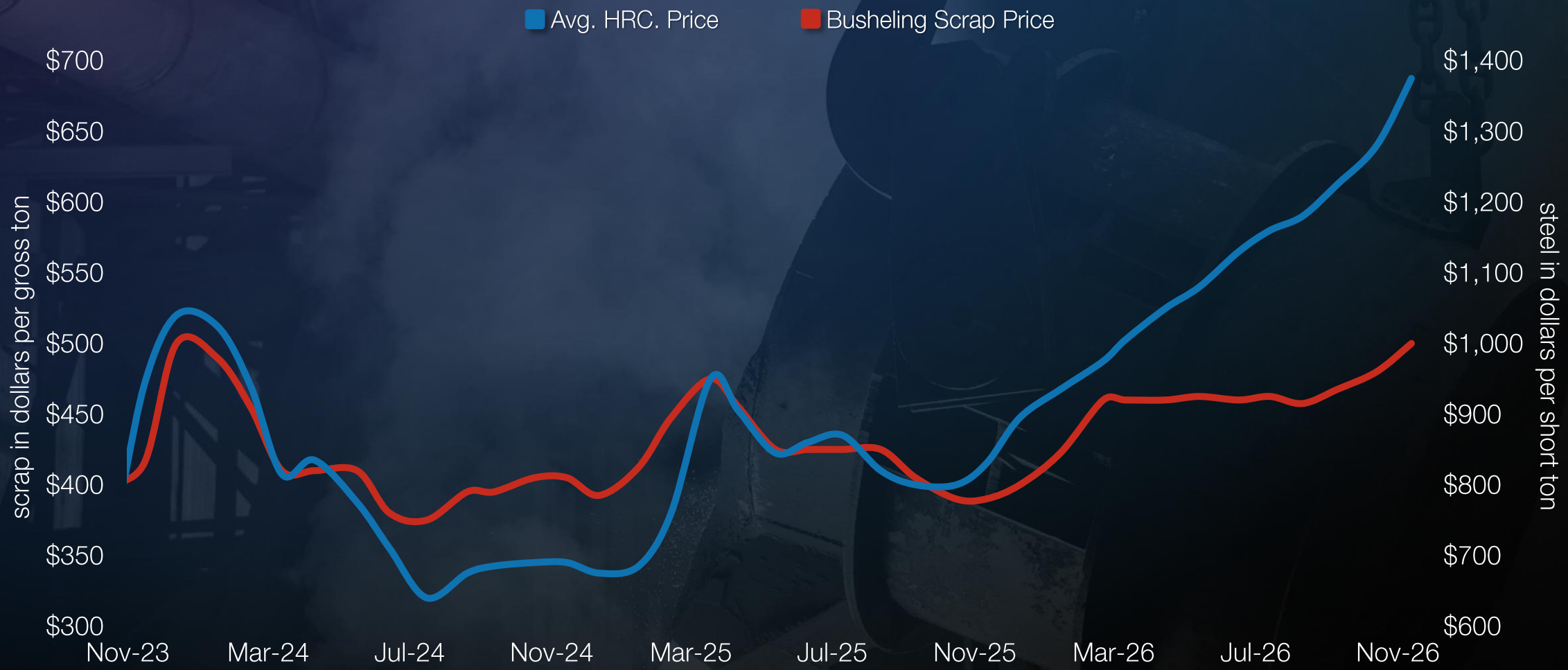
Hot-rolled steel prices vs. lead times

SMU's hot-rolled steel prices and lead times, with data through Nov. 11, 2026.



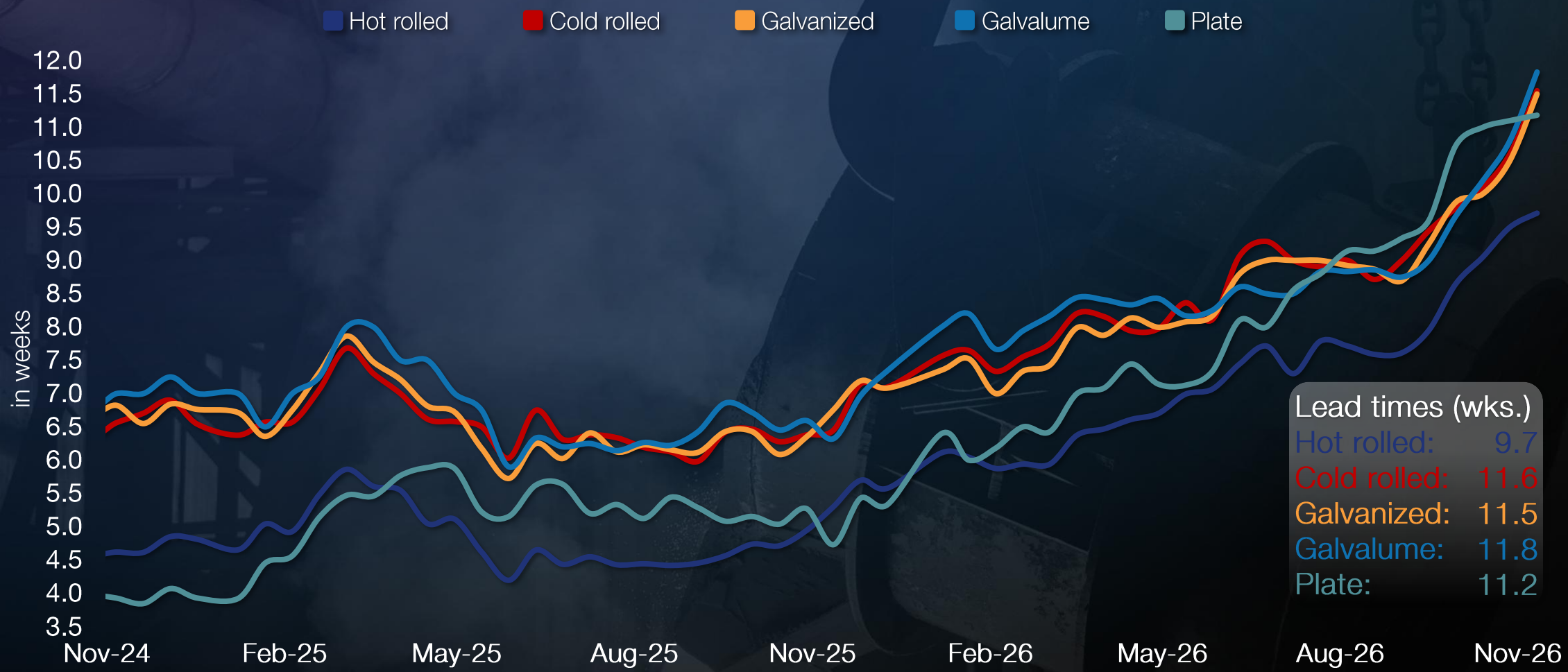
Hot-rolled steel prices vs. prime scrap

SMU's hot-rolled steel prices and busheling scrap prices, with data through Nov. 13, 2026.



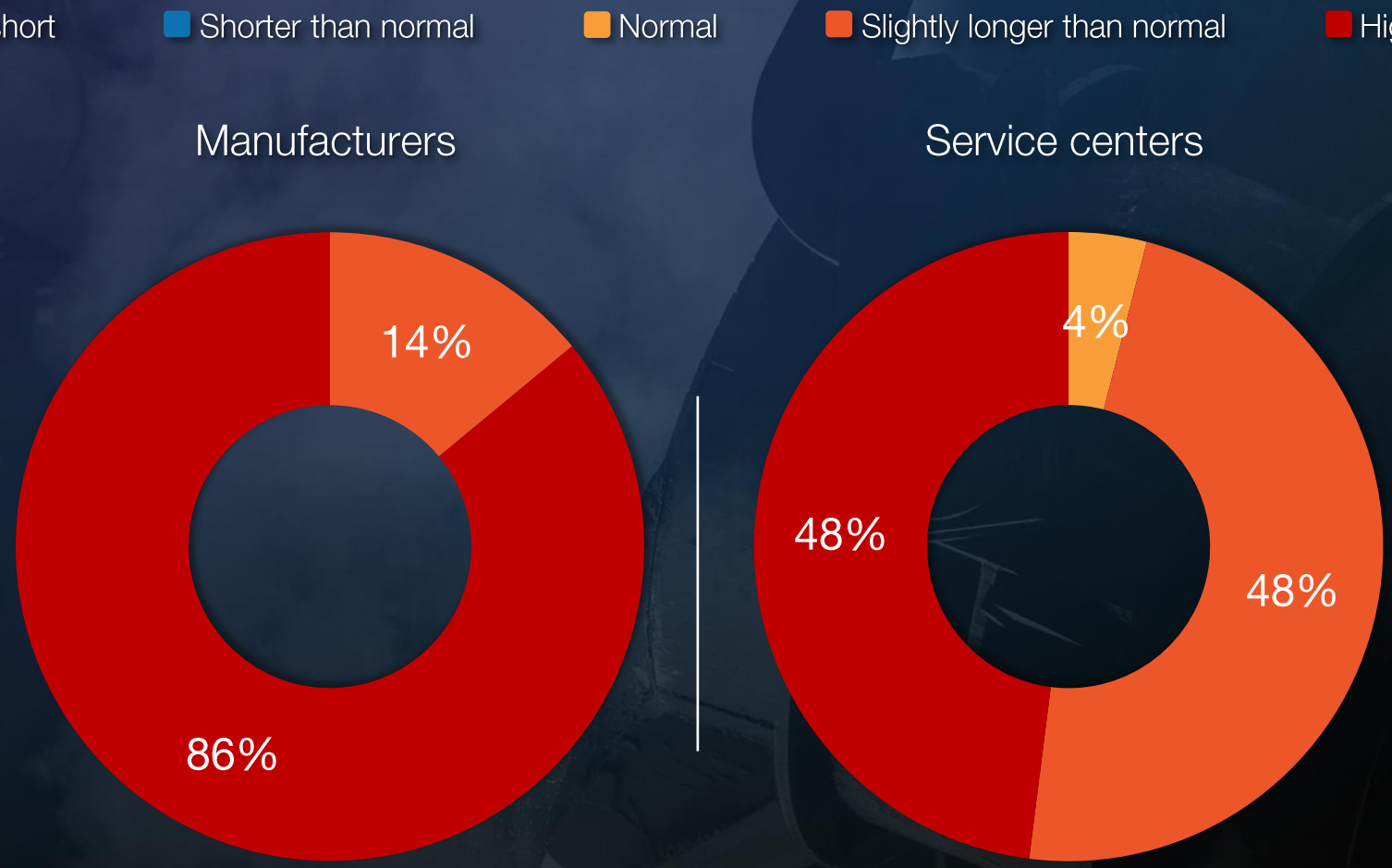
Steel mill lead times by product

SMU lead times on new steel orders by product through Nov. 11, 2026.



Buyers' view of mill lead times

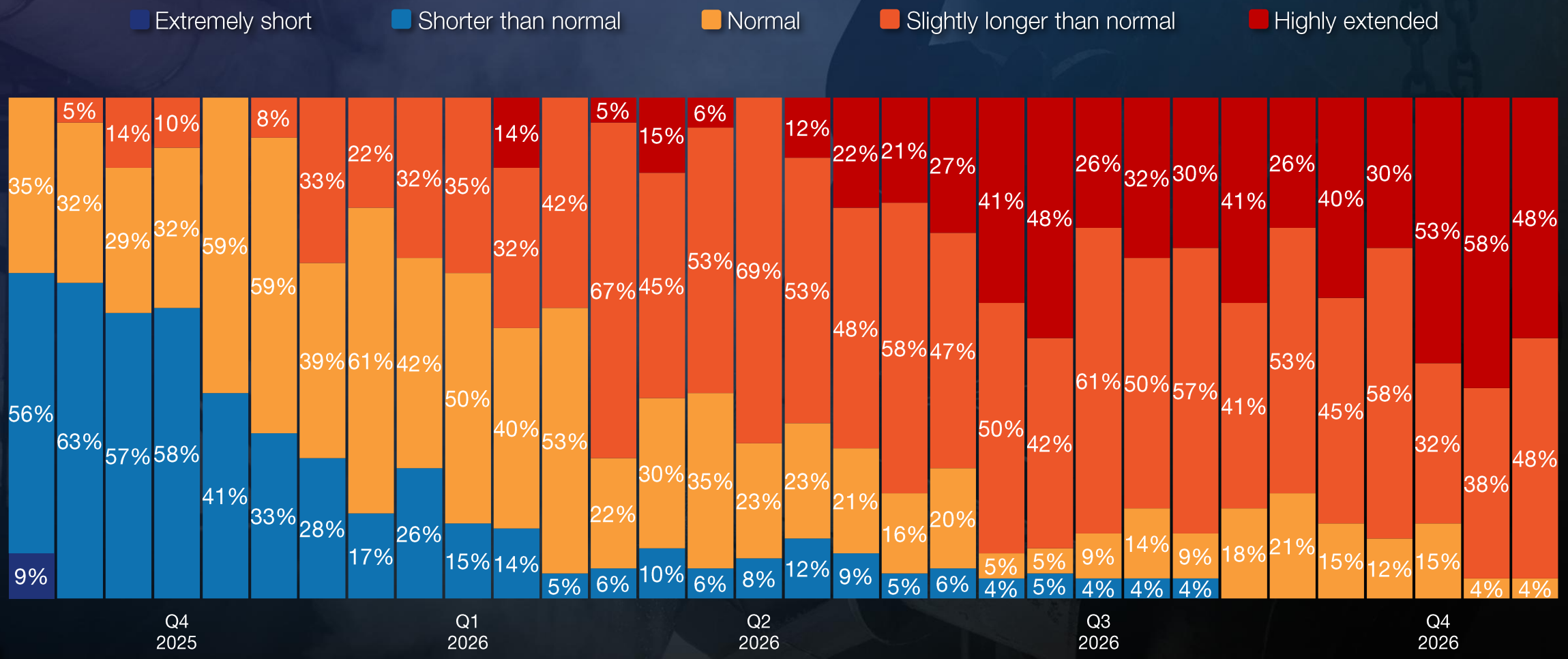
How would you describe domestic mill lead times for new orders placed right now?



Buyers' view of mill lead times history

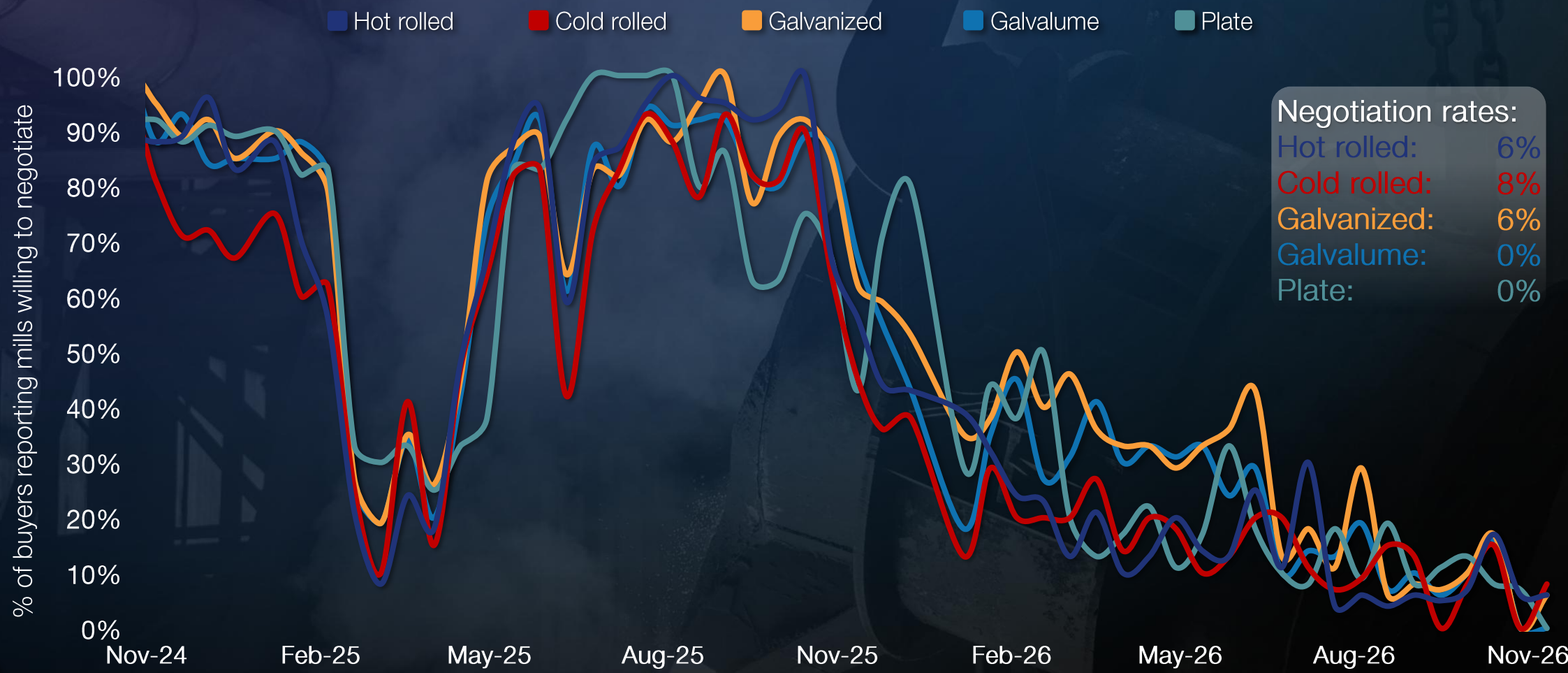
Service centers

How would you describe domestic mill lead times for new orders placed right now?



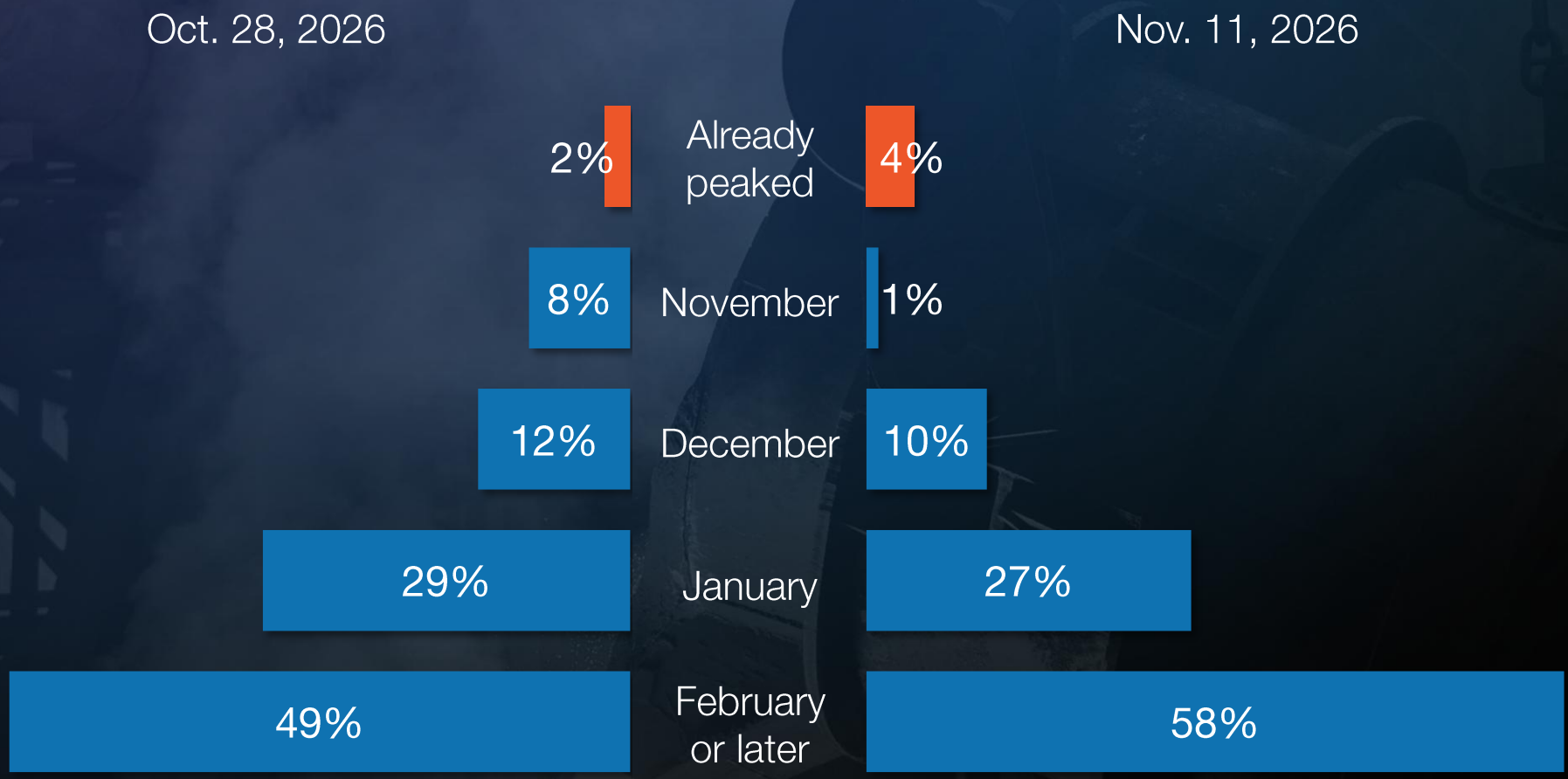
Steel mill negotiations

SMU's price negotiations on new steel orders by product through Nov. 11, 2026.



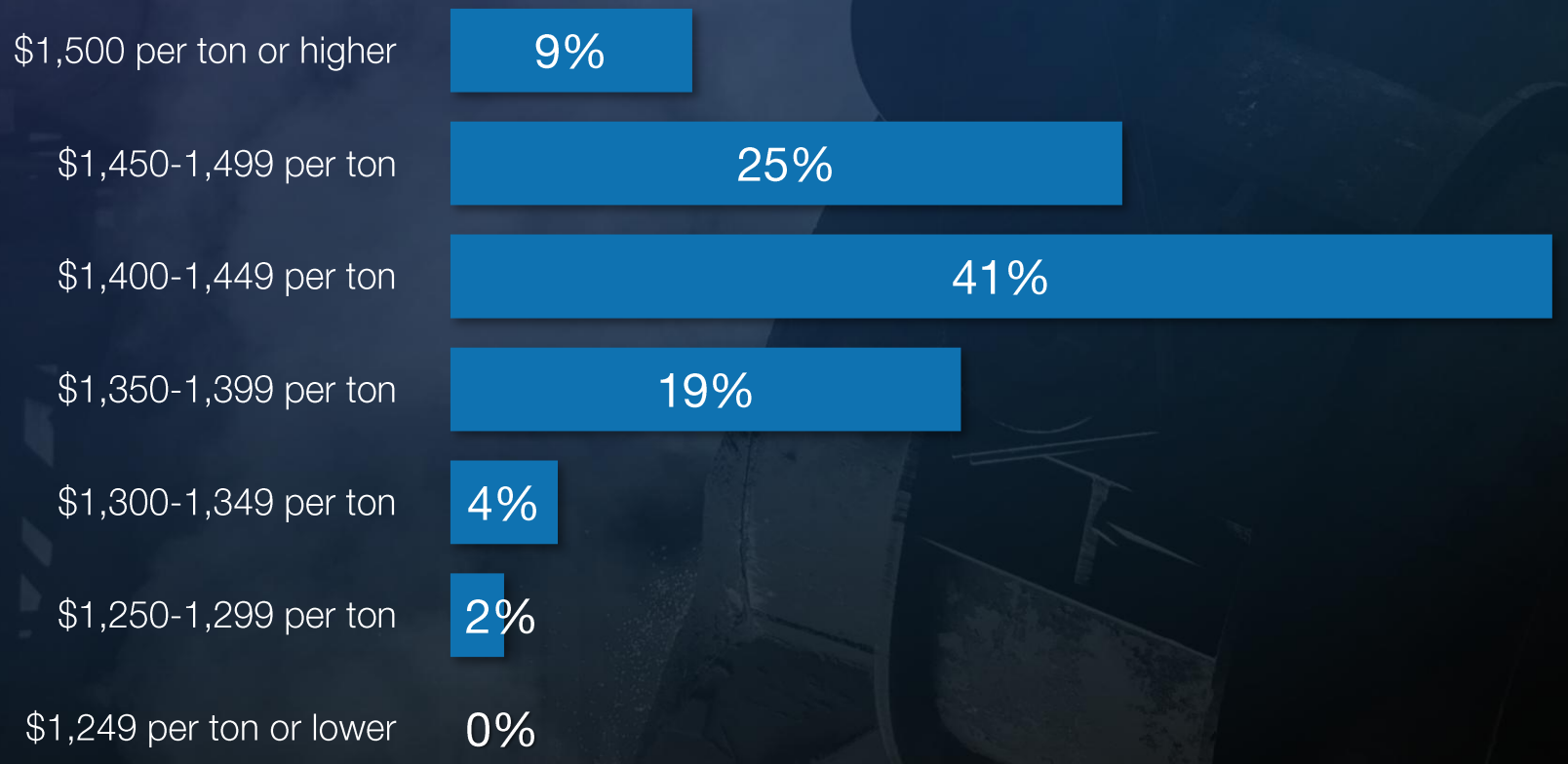
Hot rolled inflection point

When do you think steel prices will peak?



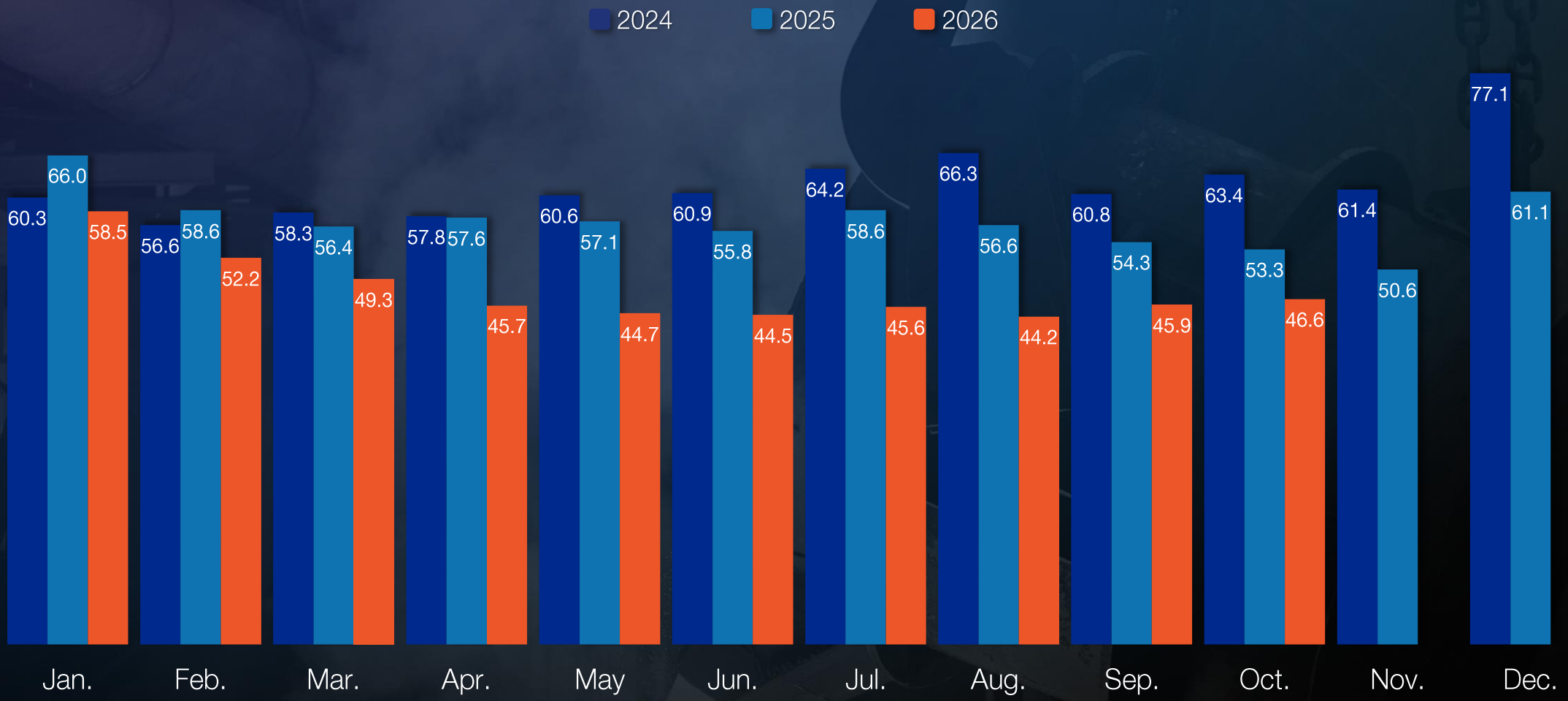
Future hot rolled prices

Where do you think HRC prices will be in two months?



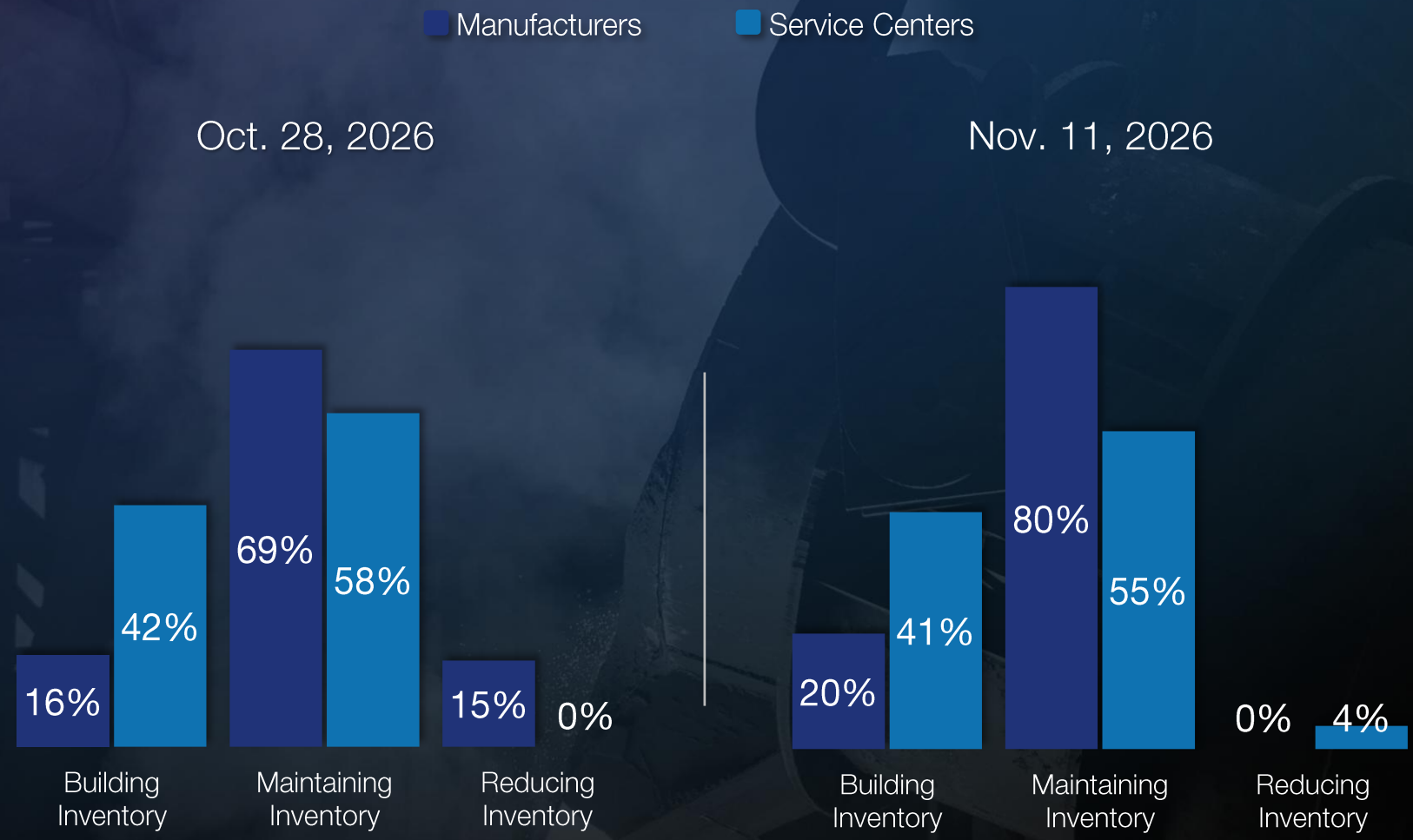
Service center inventories history

SMU's flat rolled product shipping days of supply, with data through October 2026.



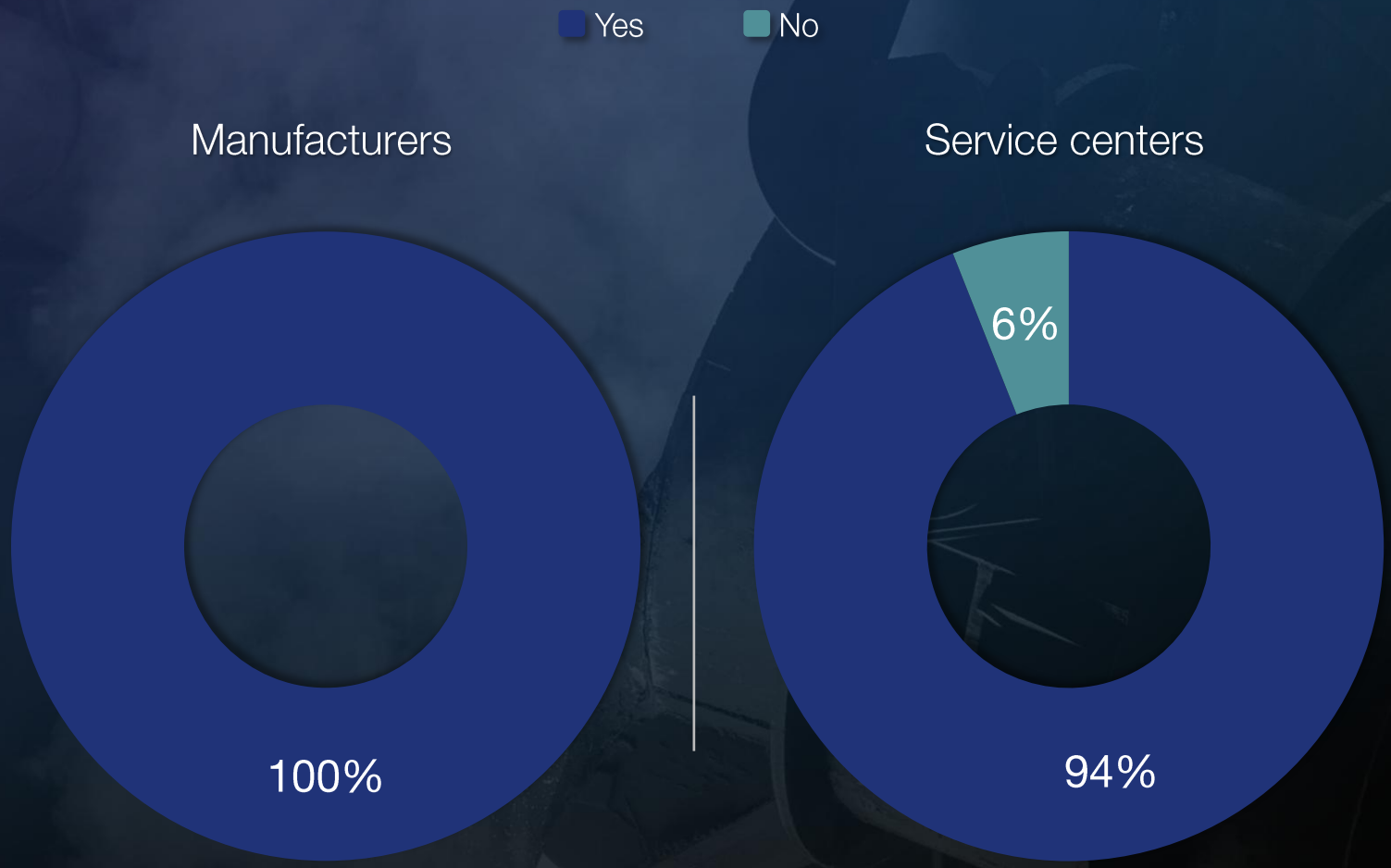
Manufacturer and service center inventory buying patterns

Is your company building, reducing, or maintaining its flat-rolled steel inventory?



Foreign steel competitiveness

Are your foreign steel suppliers quoting you competitive prices for new orders for future delivery?



Foreign steel competitiveness

Service centers

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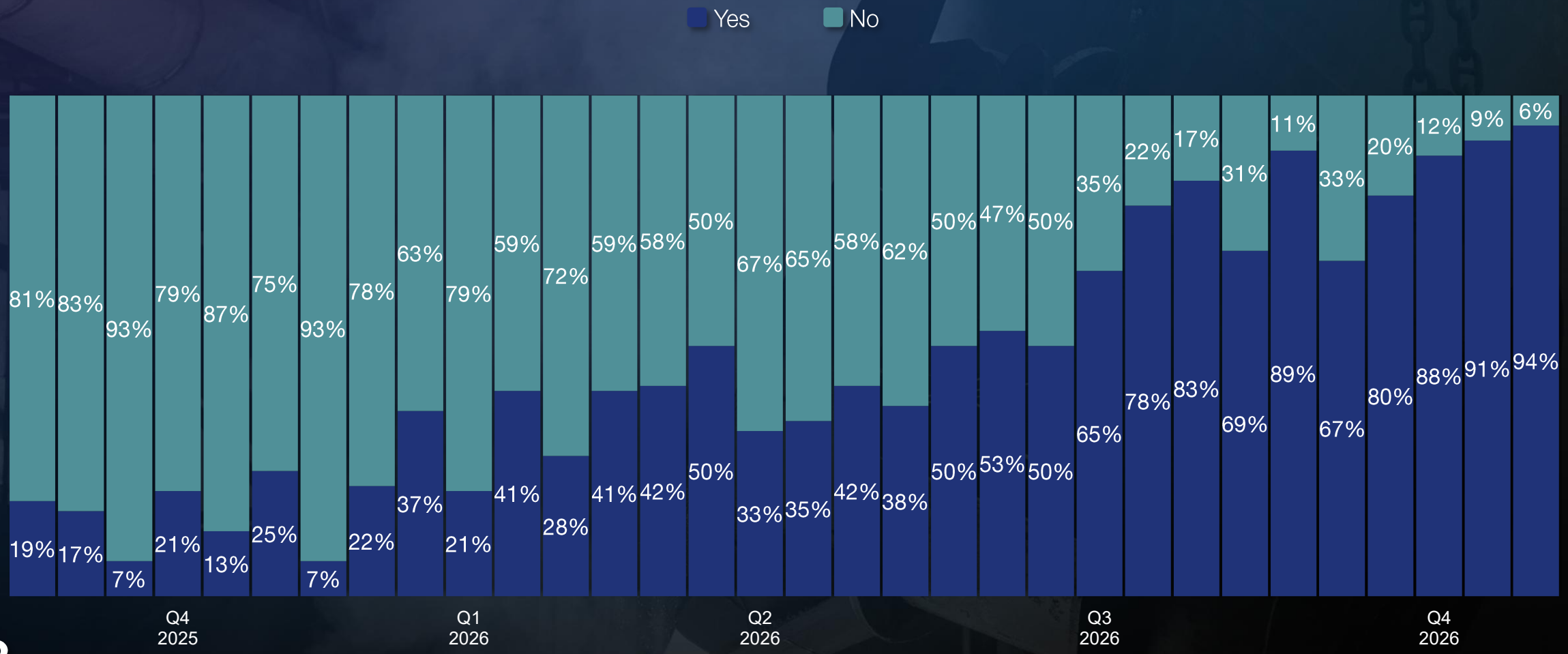
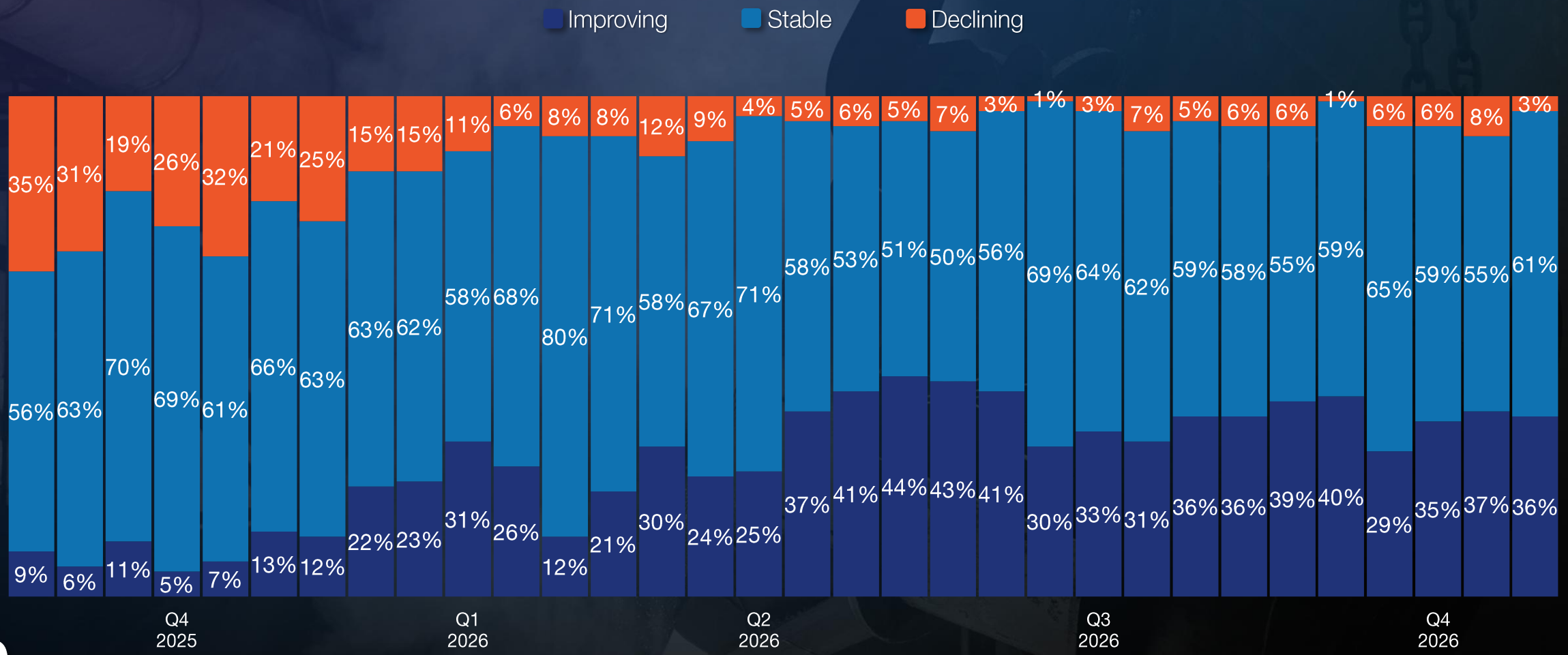


Overall demand history

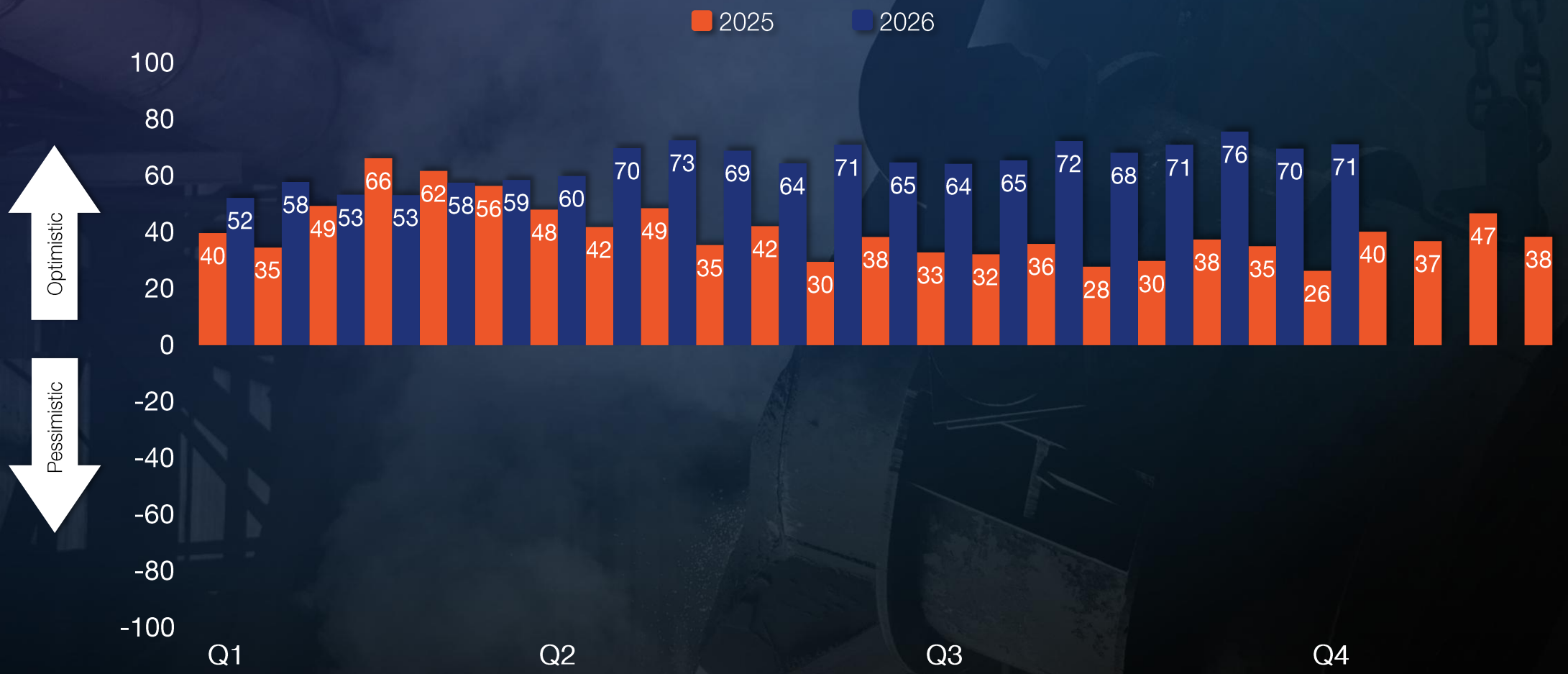
How is demand for your products?



Steel buyers' sentiment

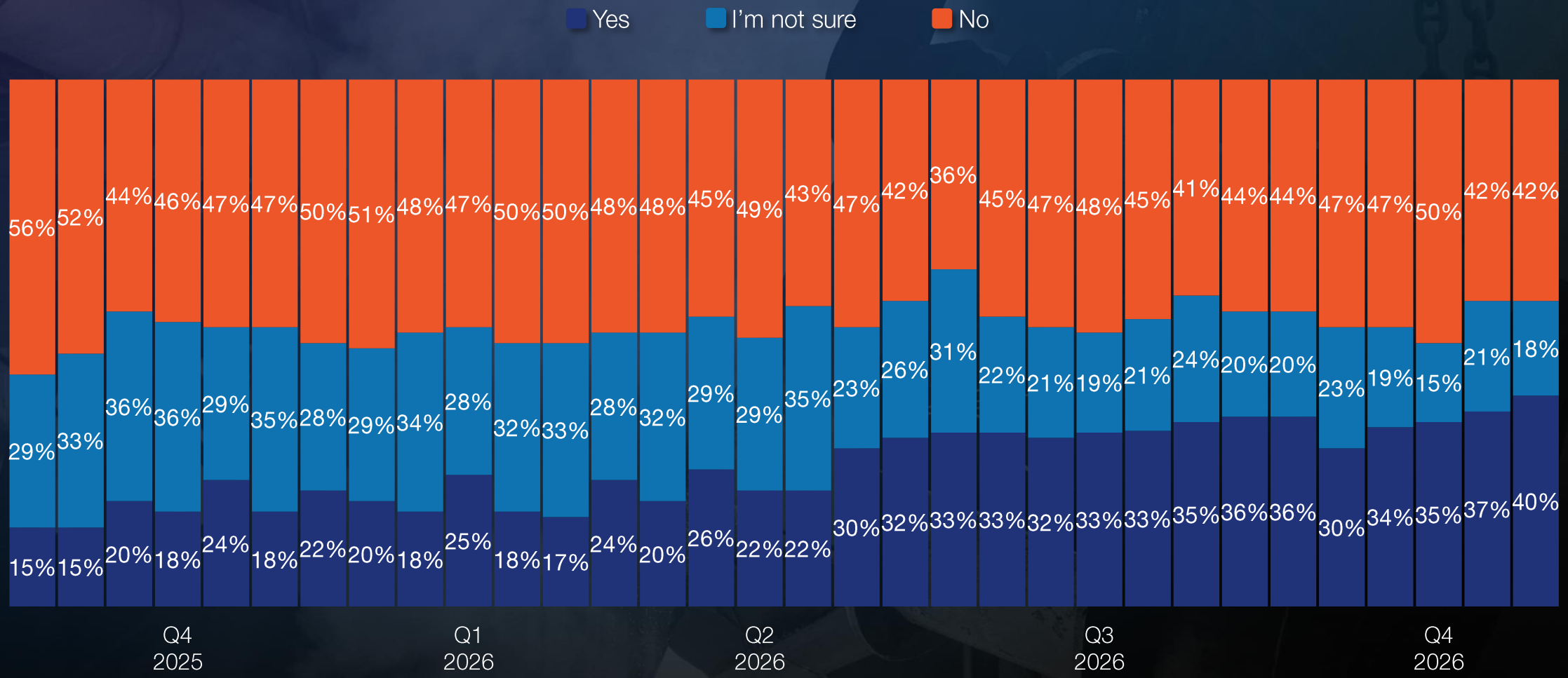
Up one point to +71

SMU's current steel buyers' sentiment index, with data through Oct. 14, 2026.



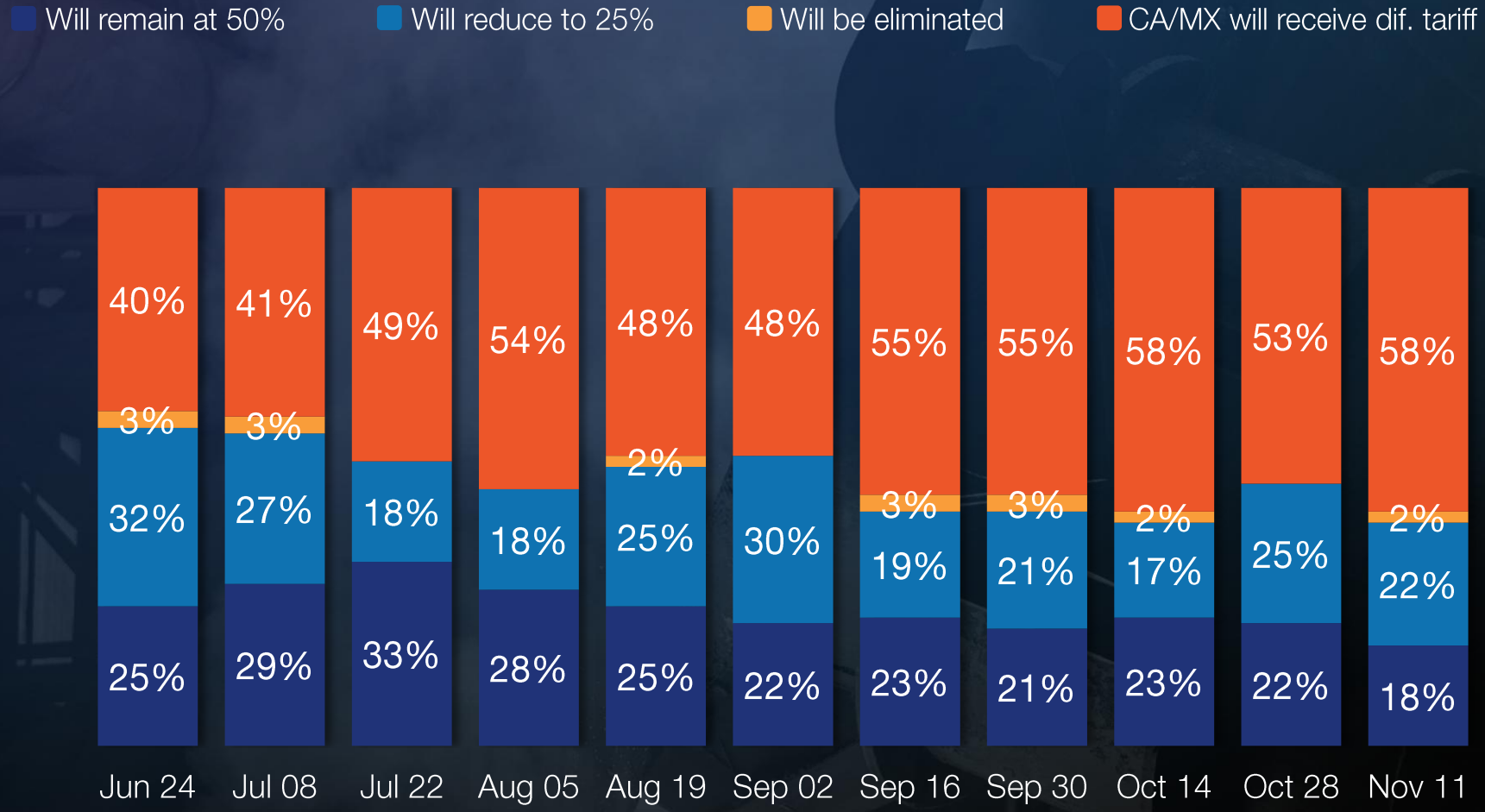
Popularity of Trump's tariffs

Are President Trump's tariff policies helping your business?



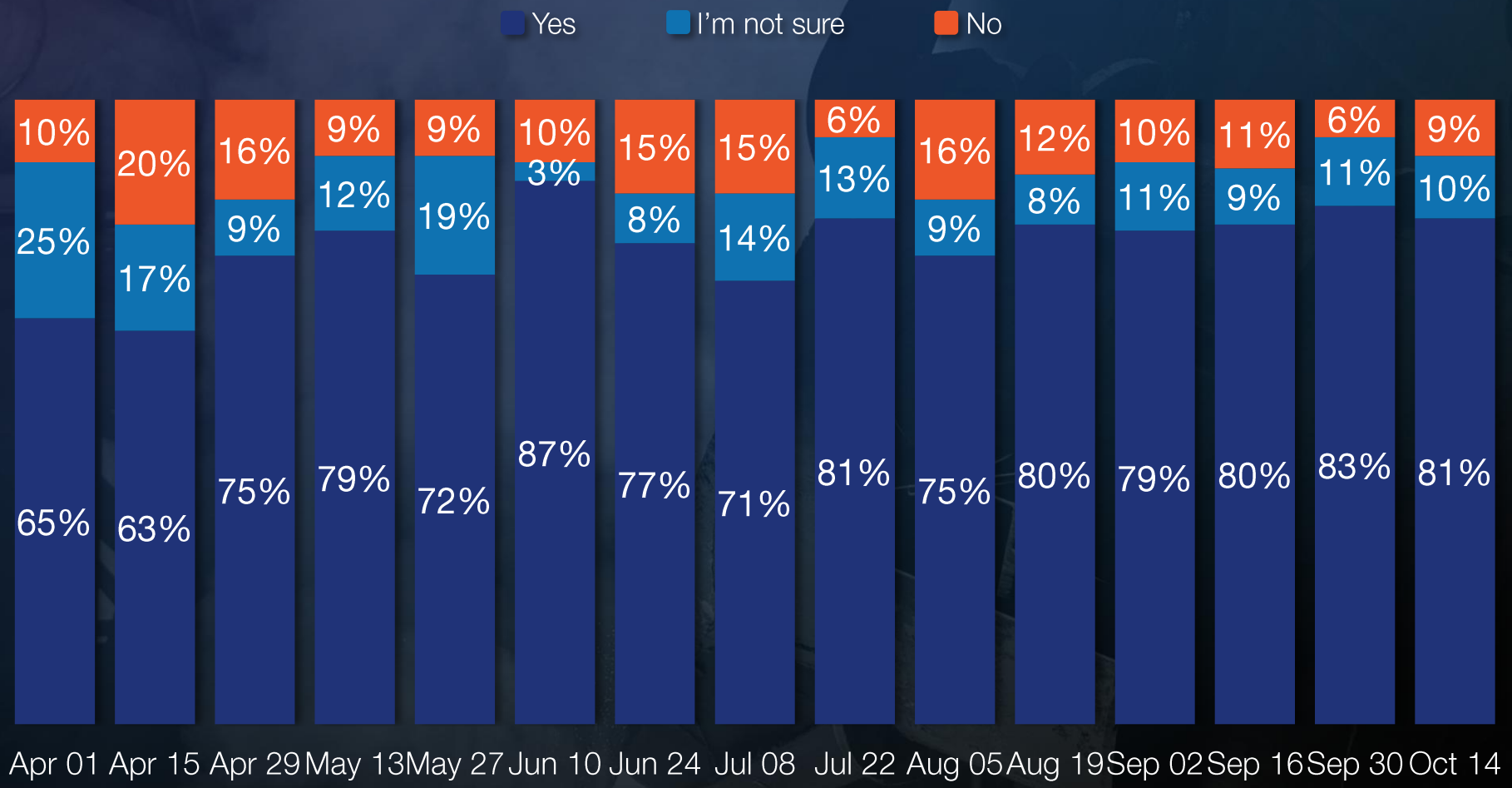
USMCA review outcome

What will happen to Section 232 tariffs on Canada and Mexico as part of the USMCA review?



Iran war implications

Is the Iran war having an impact on your business?



FEATURED guest



Philip Bell
SMA

Philip K. Bell is President of the Washington, DC-based Steel Manufacturers Association. Prior to leading the SMA, Phil served as Director of External Communications and Public Affairs for Gerdau North America based in Tampa, FL. He is a 25-year industry veteran, who developed an interest in the steel industry and manufacturing in the late 1980s while working in maintenance and operations at Elementis Chromium in Corpus Christi, TX. He has held executive-level positions in operations, human resources and public affairs with Gerdau, the SGL Carbon Group, and Qualitech Steel Corporation.

Mr. Bell currently serves on the U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Advisory Committee on Steel (ITAC 11), advising the Secretary of Commerce and United States Trade Representative on trade policy, trade agreements, and other trade related matters that benefit U.S. businesses, workers, and the economy.

THANKS *for listening*

We're glad you joined!

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