THE NEW SPACE AGE

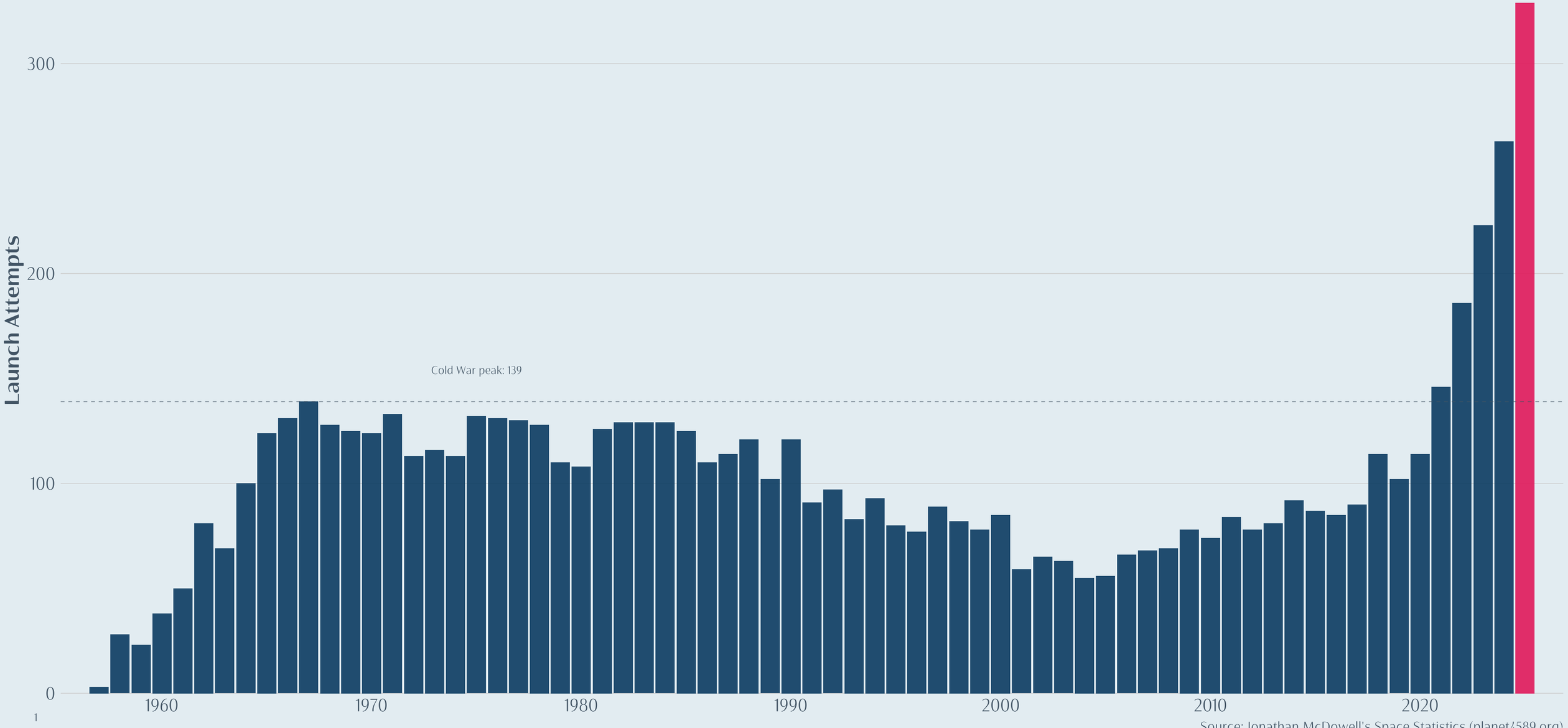
2025 Year in Review

Record launches · SpaceX dominance · The reusability revolution

329	4,526	3,194 t	82%
LAUNCHES	SATELLITES	MASS TO ORBIT	US SAT SHARE

The New Space Age: Annual Global Orbital Launch Attempts

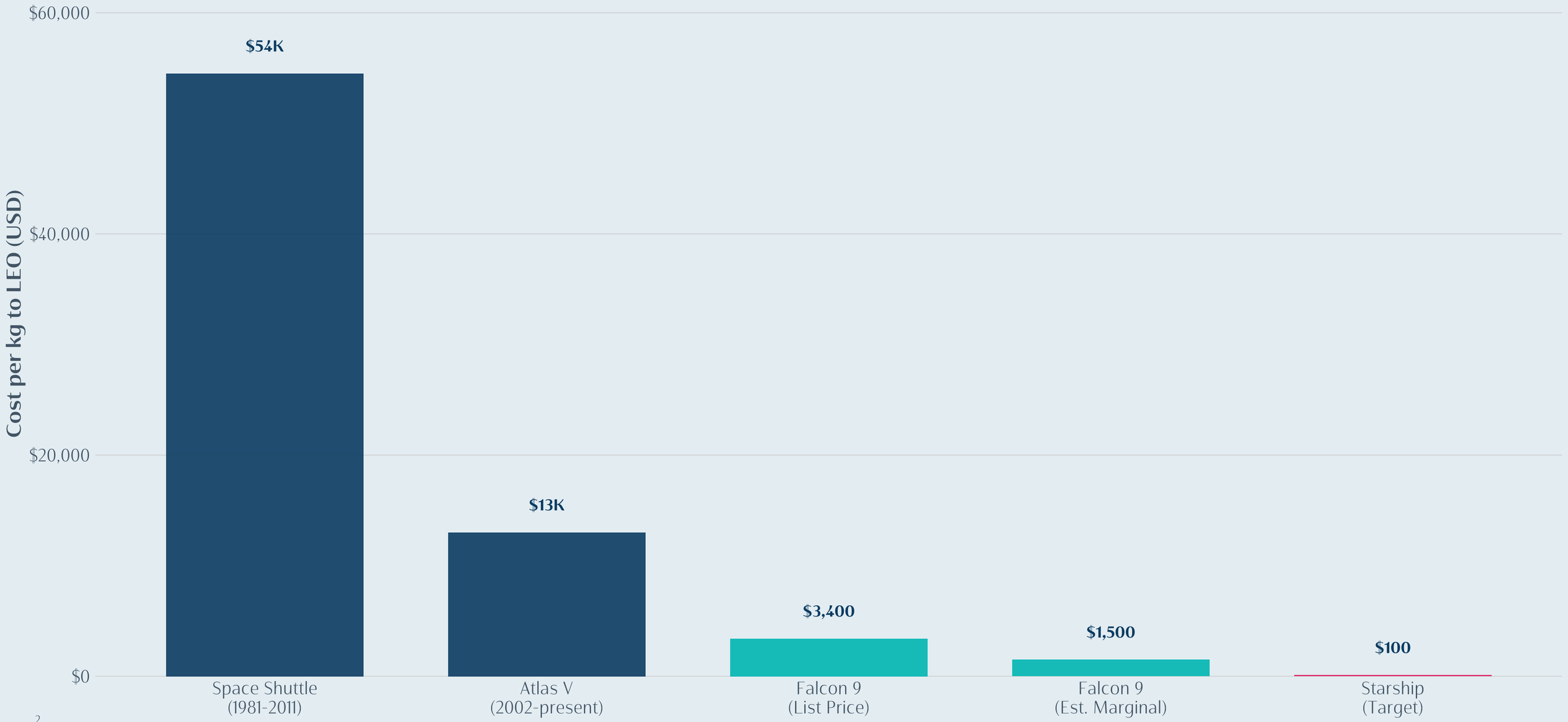
From Sputnik to Starlink: 329 launches in 2025 — more than double the Cold War peak.



Source: Jonathan McDowell's Space Statistics (planet4589.org)

The Great Unlock: Launch Costs Plummeting

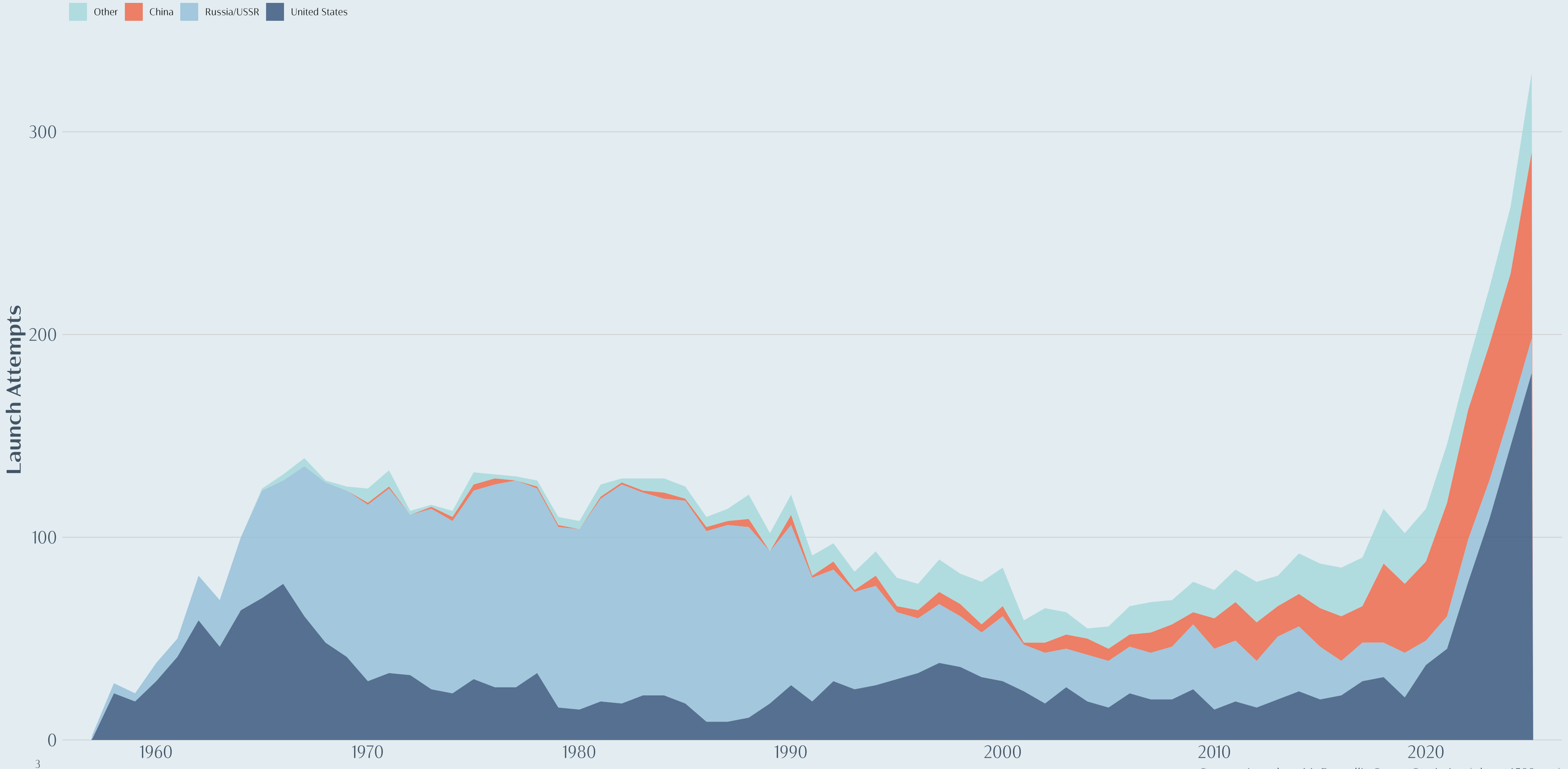
Cost per kilogram to low Earth orbit has fallen ~94% from the Space Shuttle era — and Starship aims for further reductions.



Source: NASA, The Planetary Society | List price = $74M/22t; marginal cost est. from industry analysis; Starship target aspirational

Space Launch Activity by Major Powers

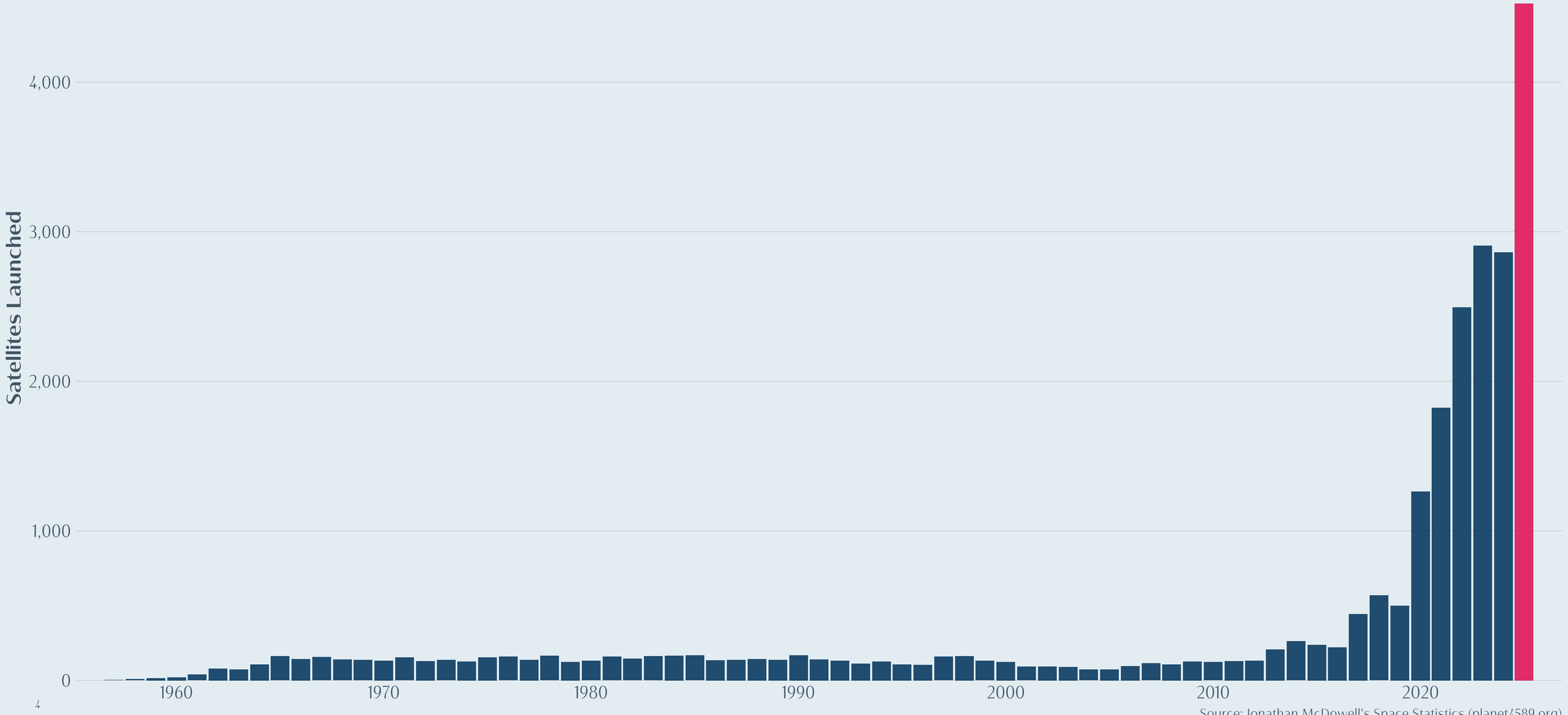
US dominance returns after decades of parity with Russia — China emerges as a major player



Source: Jonathan McDowell's Space Statistics (planet4589.org)

The Satellite Explosion

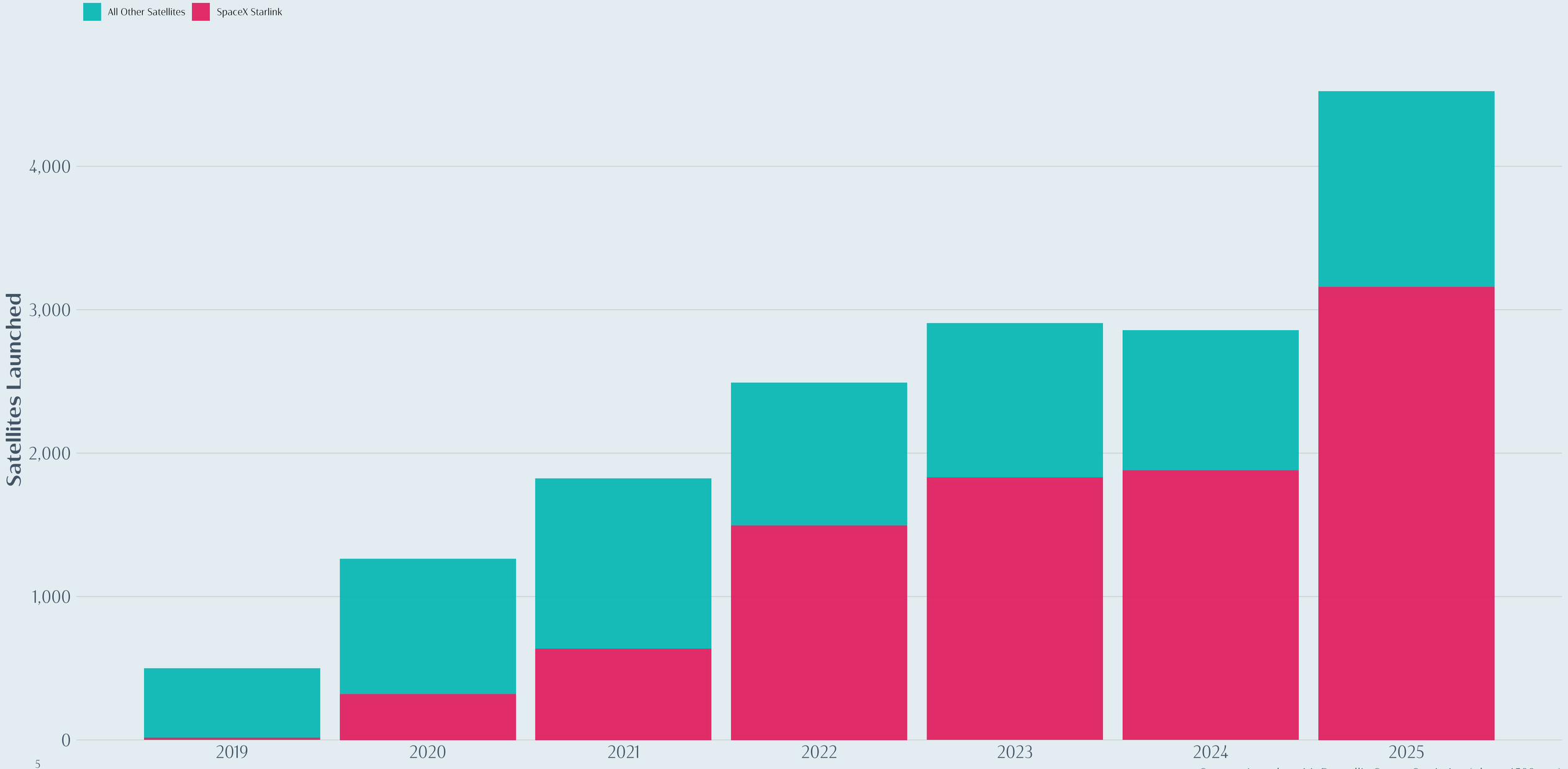
*From dozens to thousands: **4,526 satellites launched in 2025** alone.*



Source: Jonathan McDowell's Space Statistics (planet4589.org)

Starlink vs. The World

One company's constellation accounted for 70% of all satellites launched in 2025.



Source: Jonathan McDowell's Space Statistics (planet4589.org)

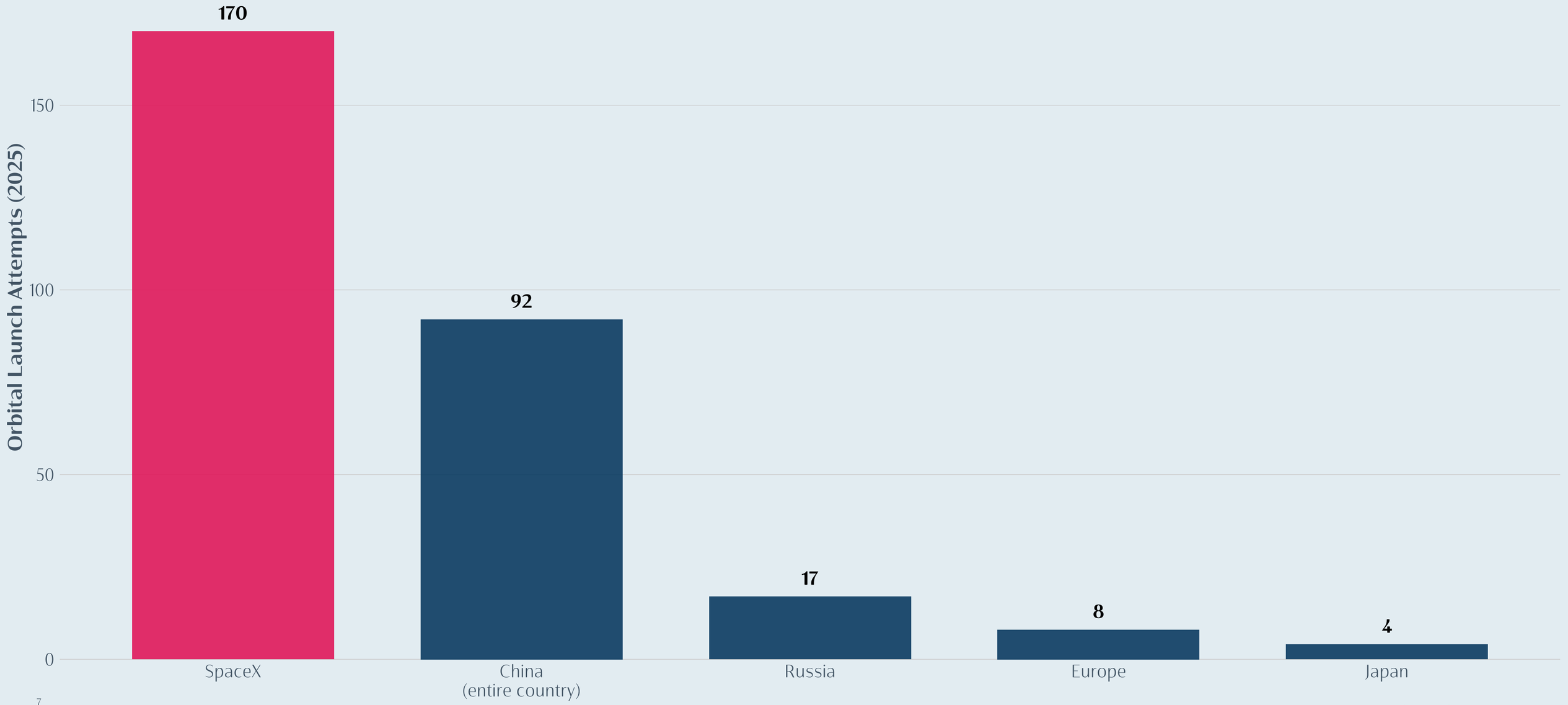
American Space Dominance

US share of global satellite launches surged from ~56% in 2019 to 82% in 2025.

Source: Jonathan McDowell's Space Statistics (planet4589.org)

SpaceX vs. The World's Space Powers

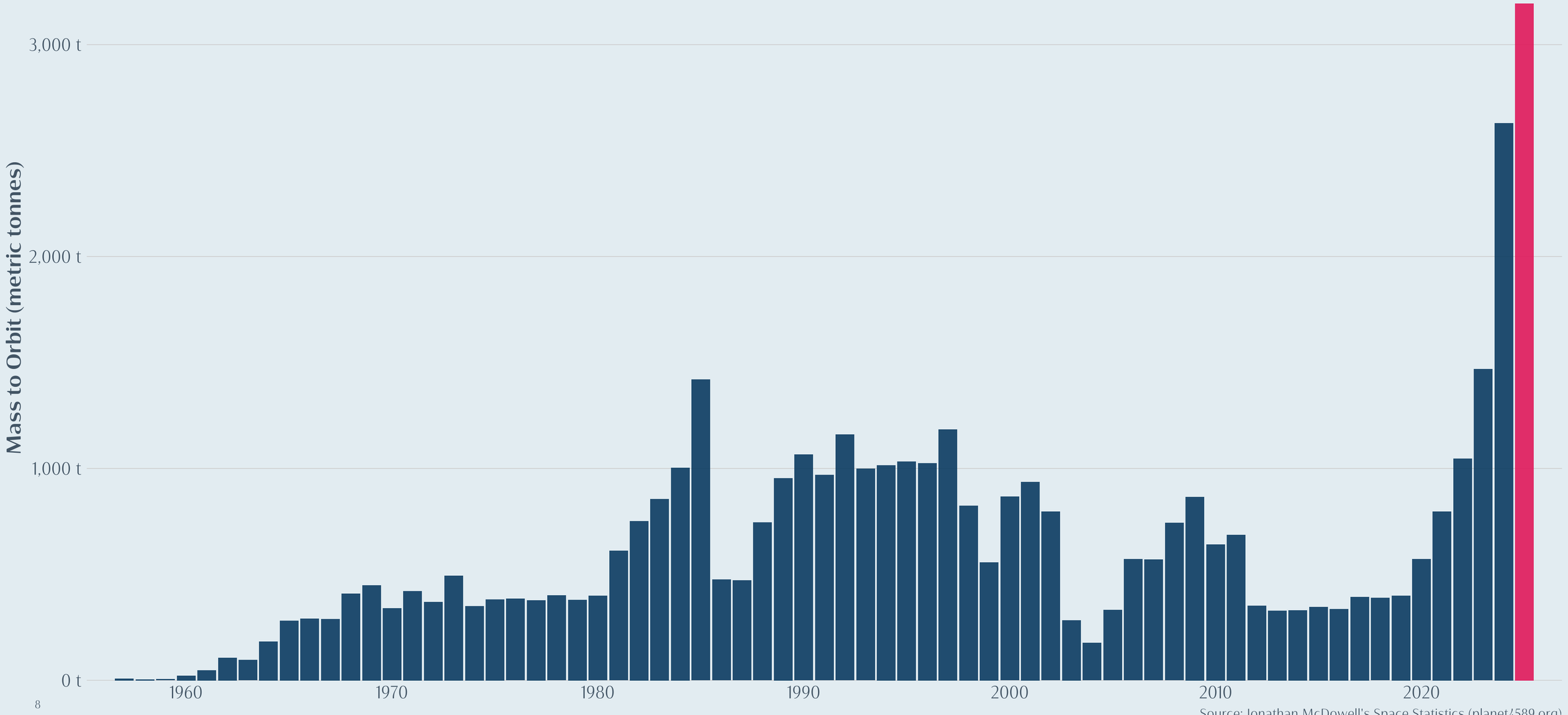
One company launched more rockets than China, Russia, Europe, and Japan combined.



Source: Jonathan McDowell's Space Statistics (planet4589.org) | SpaceX figures from company data

Payload Mass to Orbit

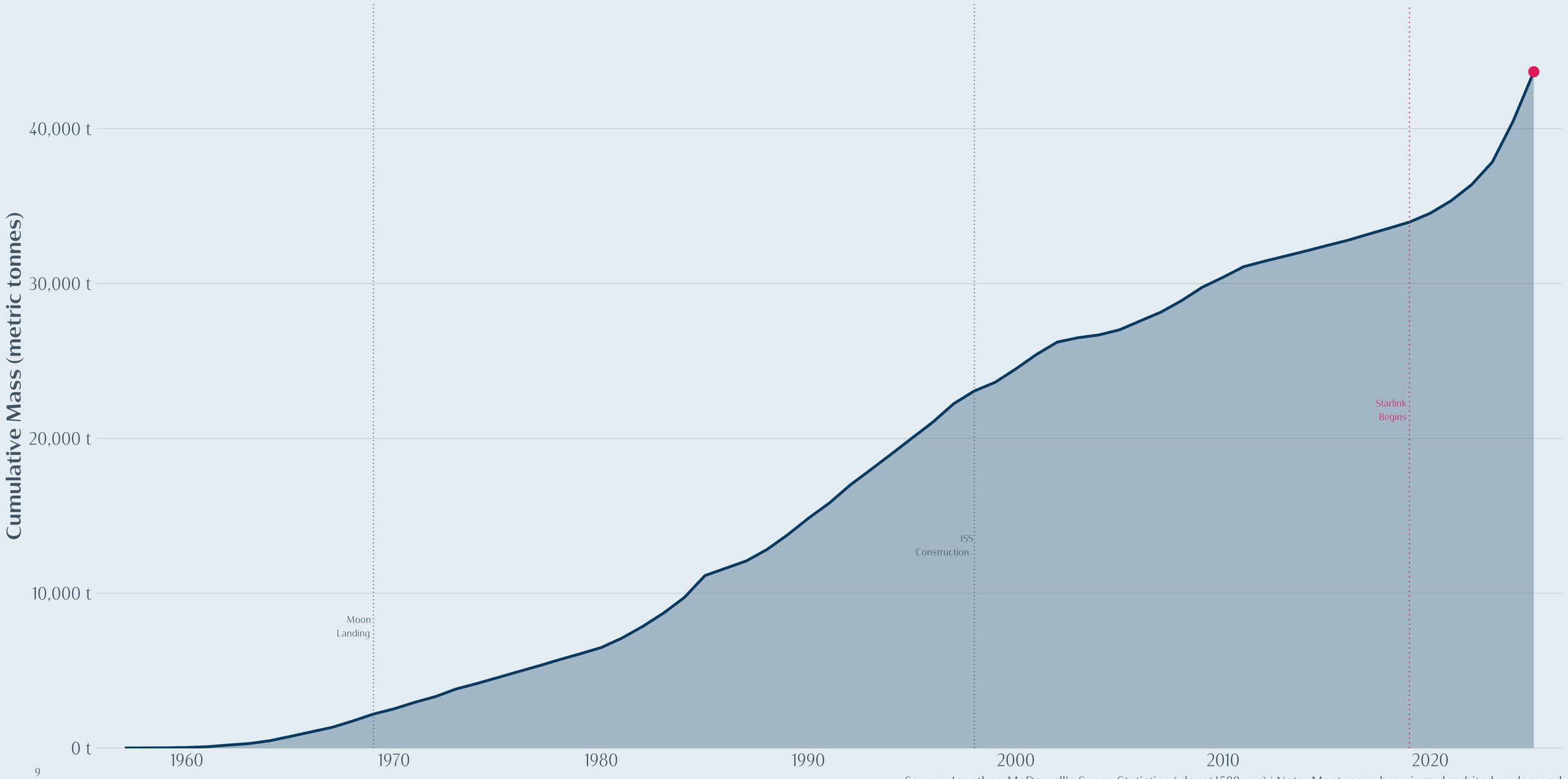
Record 3,194 metric tonnes launched to orbit in 2025.



Source: Jonathan McDowell's Space Statistics (planet4589.org)

Cumulative Payload Mass Launched to Orbit

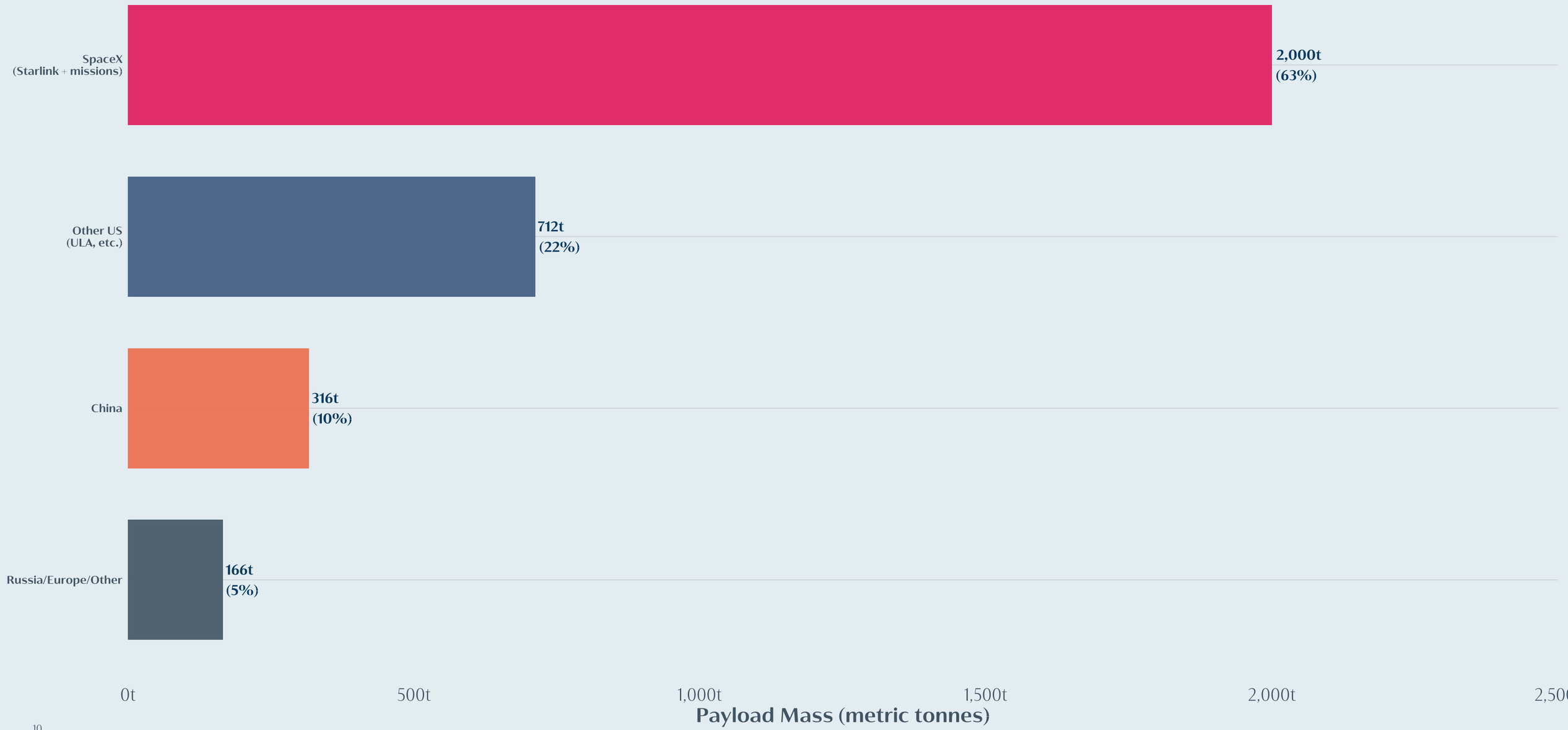
*Since 1957, humanity has launched **43,678 metric tonnes** to orbit.*



Source: Jonathan McDowell's Space Statistics (planet4589.org) | Note: Most mass has since deorbited or decayed

Payload Mass to Orbit by Source (2025)

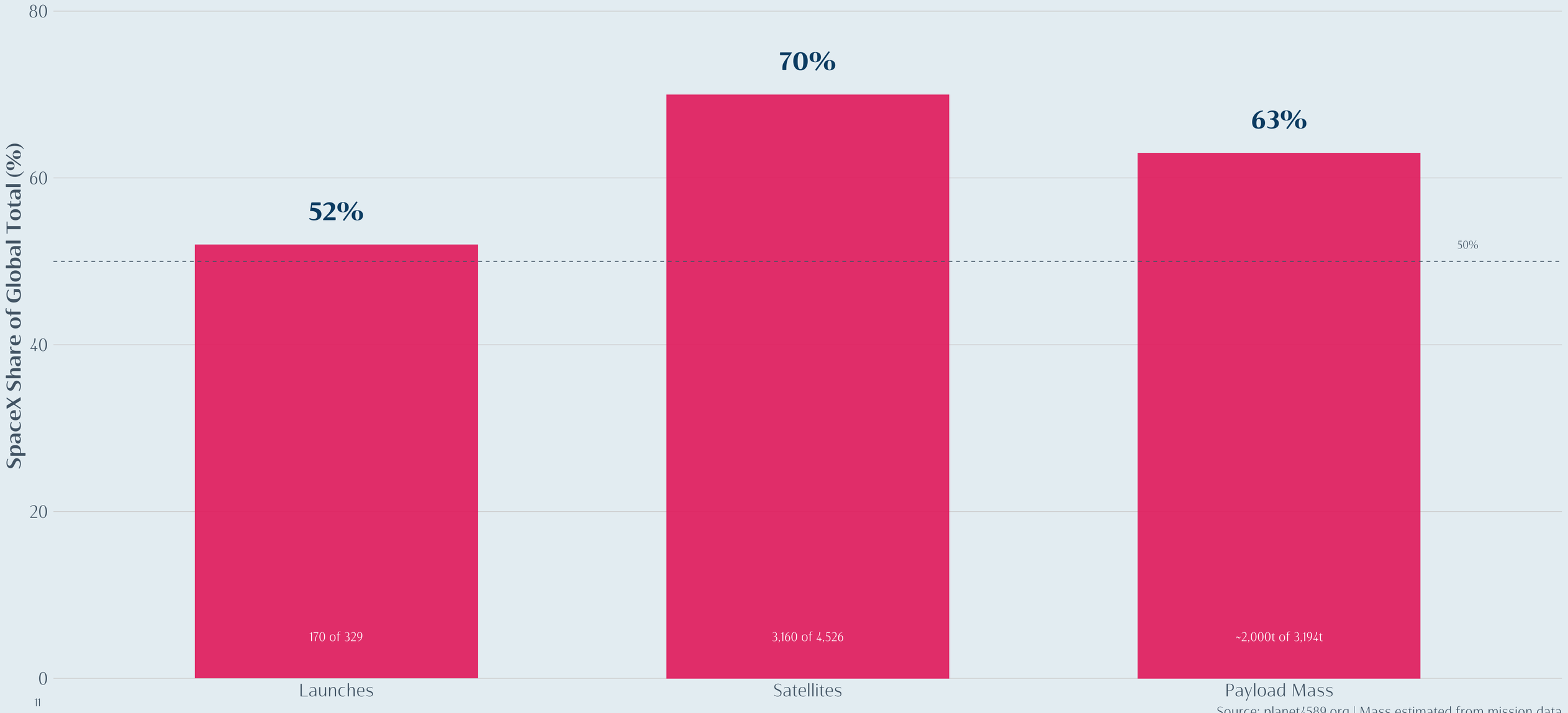
SpaceX launched ~63% of all payload mass in 2025, dominating both satellite count and mass.



Source: planet4589.org | SpaceX estimate based on mission manifest

One Company's Share of Global Space Activity (2025)

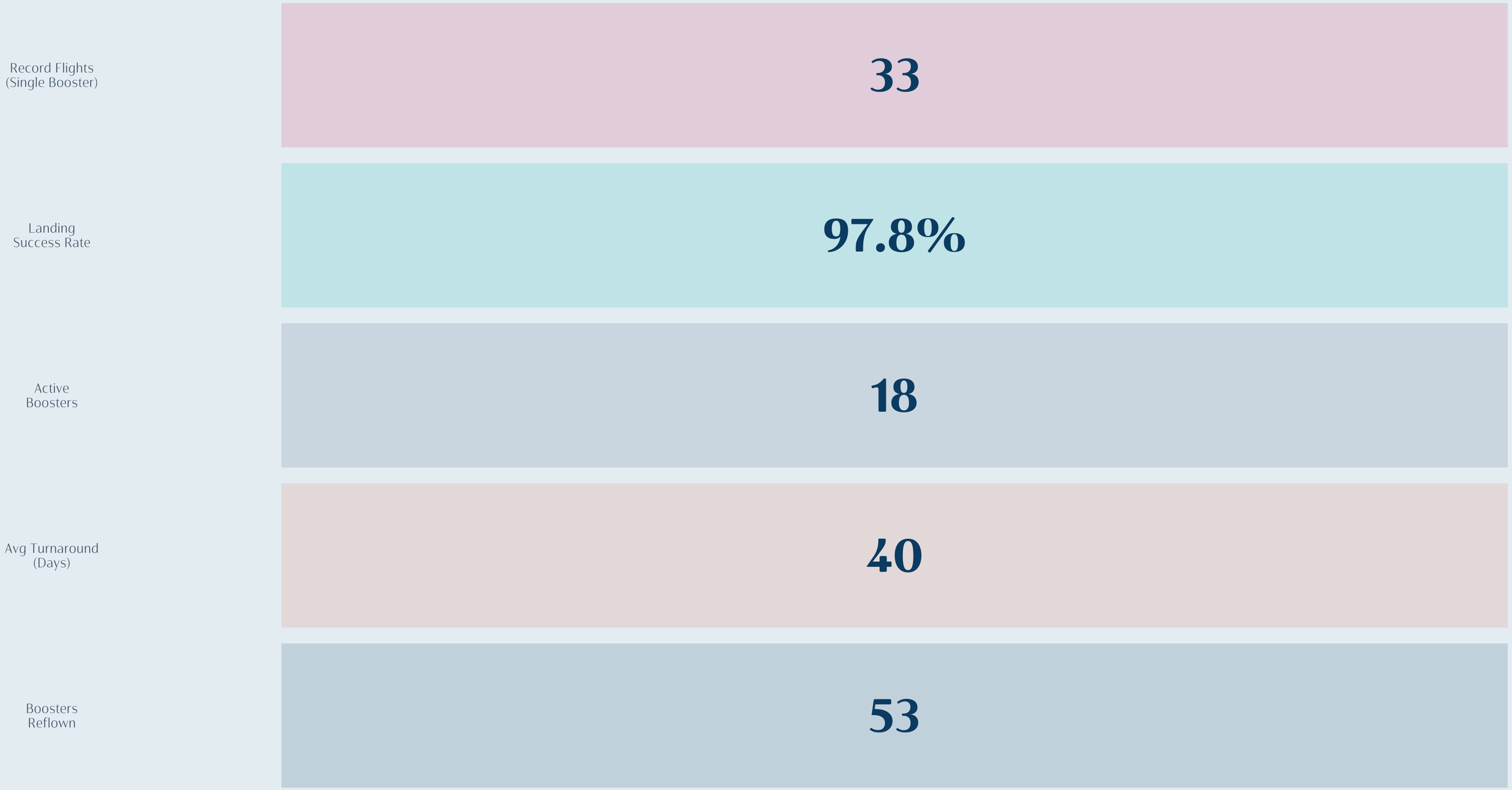
SpaceX accounted for 52% of launches, 70% of satellites, and ~63% of payload mass.



Source: planet4589.org | Mass estimated from mission data

The Reusability Revolution

SpaceX's Falcon 9 transformed spaceflight economics. Booster B1067 set a record of 33 flights on Feb 21, 2026.



Source: SpaceX, r/SpaceX tracking data | Data as of Feb 2026 | 575/588 successful booster landings since Dec 2015

2026: Themes to Watch

The new space age continues to accelerate — key milestones ahead

ARTEMIS II

First crewed lunar mission in 50+ years

Spring 2026

STARSHIP ORBITAL

Full stack testing continues

Ongoing

NEW GLENN

Blue Origin ramps up operations

Operational

CHINA LUNAR

Mengzhou spacecraft milestones

Mid-2026

REUSABILITY FRONTIER

Pushing toward 40+ flights

Ongoing

Source: Jonathan McDowell's Space Statistics (planet4589.org) | jeffreycleveland.com/presentations