

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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U.S.-Flag Cargo Movement on Lakes Little Changed in January

CLEVELAND — U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (lakers) moved 2.1 million tons of dry-bulk cargo in January, a decrease of 125,000 tons compared to a year ago. This January's float was, however, down nearly a quarter from the month's 5-year average.

Iron ore cargos for steel production increased by 120,000 tons, but coal cargos, mostly for power generation, dipped by 17,000 tons. No limestone was loaded in January.

U.S.-Flag Dry-Bulk Carriage on the Great Lakes January 2012-2017 and 5-Year Average

(net tons)

Commodity	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Average 2012-2016
Iron Ore							
Direct Shipments	3,161,812	2,469,561	1,277,149	1,907,144	1,603,693	1,592,600	2,083,872
Transshipments	136,544	250,979	223,149	166,377	60,627	192,940	167,535
Total - Iron Ore	3,298,356	2,720,540	1,500,298	2,073,521	1,664,320	1,785,540	2,251,407
Coal							0
Lake Superior	169,730	57,538	158,845	428,167	66,158	80,050	176,088
Lake Michigan	76,870	83,129	60,713	42,423	0	0	52,627
Lake Erie	54,958	43,906	148,682	113,548	123,819	92,536	96,983
Total - Coal	301,558	184,573	368,240	584,138	189,977	172,586	325,697
Limestone	25,628	0	0	104,338	180,204	0	62,034
Cement	72,707	59,475	37,790	181,291	150,775	107,660	100,408
Salt	214,093	24,020	45,767	0	77,072	73,188	72,190
Sand	0	13,892	0	0	0	0	2,778
Grain	15,764	0	0	0	0	0	3,153
Totals	3,928,106	3,002,500	1,952,095	2,943,288	2,262,348	2,138,974	2,817,667

Lake Carriers' Association represents 13 American companies that operate 49 U.S.-flag vessels on the Great Lakes and carry the raw materials that drive the nation's economy: iron ore and fluxstone for the steel industry, aggregate and cement for the construction industry, coal for power generation, as well as salt, sand and grain. Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 100 million tons of cargo per year. More information is available at www.lcaships.com.

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Information based on data from knowledgeable sources. However, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Lake Carriers' Association assumes no legal responsibility for the outcome of decisions or commitments made on the basis of this information. This report represents the views of Lake Carriers' Association and may not necessarily represent the views of its individual members.

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