

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

May 3, 2017



Lakes Limestone Trade Down 16.3 Percent in April

CLEVELAND — Shipments of limestone on the Great Lakes totaled 1,630,081 tons in April, a decrease of 16.3 percent compared to a year ago. Loadings also trailed the month's 5-year average by 22.4 percent.

Loadings at U.S. quarries totaled 1,332,839 tons, a decrease of 14 percent compared to a year ago. Shipments from Canadian docks totaled 297,242 tons, a decrease of 24.7 percent.

Year-to-date the Lakes limestone trade stands at 1.7 million tons, a decrease of 24.3 percent compared to the same point in 2016. Shipments from U.S. quarries are down 23.3 percent. Loadings out of Canadian quarries are off by 24.7 percent.

The year-to-date total includes 78,489 tons shipped from U.S. quarries in March.

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: APRIL 2012-2017 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (net tons)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Average 2012-2016
U.S. Ports	2,111,327	1,596,519	968,472	1,604,339	1,552,490	1,332,839	1,566,629
Canadian Ports	462,006	247,670	14,658	214,366	394,773	297,242	266,695
Total	2,573,333	1,844,189	983,130	1,818,705	1,947,263	1,630,081	2,100,019

YEAR-TO-DATE 2012-2017 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (net tons)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Average 2012-2016
U.S. Ports	2,291,394	1,889,379	968,472	1,801,615	1,840,722	1,411,328	1,758,316
Canadian Ports	462,006	248,141	14,658	238,096	416,882	297,242	275,957
Total	2,753,400	2,137,520	983,130	2,039,711	2,257,604	1,708,570	2,034,273

U.S. ports: Calcite, MI, Cedarville, MI, Drummond Island, MI, Marblehead, OH, Port Inland, MI and Presque Isle, MI. Canadian ports: Bruce Mines, Manitoulin Island and Smelter Bay (all Ontario).

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 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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