

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

February 19, 2018



Heavy Ice Slows U.S.-Flag Cargo Movement on Lakes in January

CLEVELAND — Heavy ice formations on the Great Lakes in January took a toll on U.S.-flag cargo movement. U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (lakers) moved 1.5 million tons of cargo, a decrease of 31 percent compared to a year ago. The float was down even more compared to the month's 5-year average: 40 percent.

All commodities were down, but the largest decrease came in iron ore. Shipments totaled 1.4 million tons, a drop of 23 percent.

U.S.-Flag Dry-Bulk Carriage on the Great Lakes January 2013-2018 and 5-Year Average

(net tons)

Commodity	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Average 2013-2017
Iron Ore							
Direct Shipments	2,469,561	1,277,149	1,907,144	1,603,693	1,592,600	1,152,826	1,770,029
Transshipments	250,979	223,149	166,377	60,627	192,940	220,288	178,814
Total - Iron Ore	2,720,540	1,500,298	2,073,521	1,664,320	1,785,540	1,373,114	1,948,844
Coal							
Lake Superior	57,538	158,845	428,167	66,158	80,050	0	158,152
Lake Michigan	83,129	60,713	42,423	0	0	0	37,253
Lake Erie	43,906	148,682	113,548	123,819	92,536	34,449	104,498
Total - Coal	184,573	368,240	584,138	189,977	172,586	34,449	299,903
Limestone	0	0	104,338	180,204	0	0	56,908
Cement	59,475	37,790	181,291	150,775	107,660	48,792	107,398
Salt	24,020	45,767	0	77,072	73,188	23,140	44,009
Sand	13,892	0	0	0	0	0	2,778
Grain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	3,002,500	1,952,095	2,943,288	2,262,348	2,138,974	1,479,495	2,459,841

Lake Carriers' Association represents 13 American companies that operate 45 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.

###

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.

20325 Center Ridge Rd., Ste. 720 ♦ Rocky River, OH 44116-3572 ♦ www.lcaships.com

Representing Operators of U.S.-Flag Vessels on the Great Lakes Since 1880

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY • ANDRIE INC. • ARMSTRONG STEAMSHIP COMPANY • BELL STEAMSHIP COMPANY • CENTRAL MARINE LOGISTICS, INC.
GREAT LAKES FLEET • INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC. • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY • LAKE MICHIGAN CARFERRY SERVICE, INC.
PERE MARQUETTE SHIPPING COMPANY • PORT CITY MARINE SERVICES, INC. • SOO MARINE SUPPLY, INC. • VANENKEVORT TUG & BARGE, INC.