

# Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

May 9, 2018



## Great Lakes Limestone Trade Down 23 Percent in April

CLEVELAND — The coldest April since 1997 put a chill on the Great Lakes limestone trade. Shipments totaled just 1,254,226 net tons, a decrease of 23 percent compared to a year ago. Loadings trailed the month's 5-year average by even more – 33.3 percent.

Loadings at U.S. ports totaled 1.1 million tons, a decrease of 19 percent. Shipments from Canadian quarries totaled 177,000 tons, a decrease of nearly 41 percent.

Year-to-date the limestone trade stands at 1.5 million tons, a decrease of 12.8 percent. Shipments from U.S. ports total 1.3 million tons, a decrease of 7 percent. The year-to-date total for U.S. ports includes 17,664 tons loaded in February and 218,452 tons shipped in March.

No limestone moved from Canadian quarries during the first quarter, so the April total is also the year-to-date total for Canadian ports.

### GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: APRIL 2013-2018 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE

(net tons)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Average 2013-2017
U.S. Ports	1,596,519	968,472	1,604,339	1,552,490	1,332,839	1,077,612	1,410,932
Canadian Ports	247,670	14,658	214,366	394,773	297,242	176,614	233,742
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,844,189</b>	<b>983,130</b>	<b>1,818,705</b>	<b>1,947,263</b>	<b>1,630,081</b>	<b>1,254,226</b>	<b>1,878,416</b>

### YEAR-TO-DATE 2013-2018 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE

(net tons)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Average 2013-2017
U.S. Ports	1,889,379	968,472	1,801,615	1,840,722	1,411,328	1,313,728	1,582,303
Canadian Ports	248,141	14,658	238,096	416,882	297,242	176,614	243,004
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,137,520</b>	<b>983,130</b>	<b>2,039,711</b>	<b>2,257,604</b>	<b>1,708,570</b>	<b>1,490,342</b>	<b>2,068,311</b>

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).

Since 1880, Lake Carriers' Association has represented the U.S.-flag Great Lakes fleet, which today can annually move more than 90 million tons of cargos that are the foundation of American manufacturing, power generation, and construction: iron ore, limestone, coal, cement, and other dry bulk materials such as grain and sand. In turn, these cargos generate and sustain more than 103,000 jobs in the eight Great Lakes states and have an annual economic impact of more than \$20 billion. More information is available at [www.lcaships.com](http://www.lcaships.com). Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President (440-333-9996).

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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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