Great Lakes Iron Ore Trade Down in 2020

CLEVELAND – Shipments of iron ore on the Great Lakes totaled 4.7 million tons in December, a decrease of 3.8 percent compared to a year ago. Shipments were also below the 5-year average for the month by 7.2 percent.

The year-end total for the iron ore trade stands at 41.2 million tons, a decrease of 22.9 percent compared to 2019.

Compared to the trade's 5-year average, 2020 iron ore loadings were down 21 percent.

Since 1880, Lake Carriers' has represented the U.S.-flag Great Lakes fleet, which today can move more than 90 million tons of cargos annually that are the foundation of American industry, infrastructure, and power: iron ore, stone, coal, cement, and other dry bulk materials such as grain, salt, and sand. More information is available at www.lcaships.com.

Great Lakes Iron Ore Shipments: December 2015-2020 and 5-Year Average
Includes Transshipments to Quebec City for Shipment Overseas
(net tons)

Port	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Average 2015-2019
Duluth, MN	341,190	530,059	615,659	1,050,260	623,346	711,111	632,103
Superior, WI	826,291	717,728	988,145	1,139,119	962,300	615,368	926,717
Two Harbors, MN	1,791,142	1,551,989	1,664,415	1,715,904	1,459,835	1,716,377	1,636,657
Silver Bay, MN	322,045	623,913	413,931	559,980	666,188	507,707	517,211
Presque Isle, MI	500,275	566,114	799,140	760,133	774,946	737,384	680,122
Escanaba, MI*	420,260	474,735	0	0	0	0	178,999
Cleveland, OH**	206,653	323,281	340,924	342,422	332,708	180,961	309,198
Ashtabula, OH	0	187,942	255,176	206,382	18,925	185,489	133,685
Conneaut, OH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**4,407,856**	**4,975,761**	**5,077,390**	**5,774,200**	**4,838,248**	**4,654,397**	**5,014,691**

* Dock ceased operations in April 2017.
** Transshipments within Cleveland Harbor

Year-To-Date 2015-2020

Port	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Average 2015-2019
Duluth, MN	5,306,677	4,888,510	6,783,868	8,111,519	8,359,607	8,047,633	6,690,036
Superior, WI	8,861,446	9,856,836	12,793,591	12,939,250	11,602,998	7,037,669	11,210,824
Two Harbors, MN	15,790,901	16,197,220	17,898,849	16,839,494	16,942,617	13,303,809	16,733,816
Silver Bay, MN	4,537,902	3,520,540	5,974,645	6,415,696	5,632,842	4,382,861	5,216,325
Presque Isle, MI	5,790,245	7,140,799	6,991,557	7,161,470	6,999,782	5,391,001	6,816,771
Escanaba, MI	3,416,583	4,268,338	1,016,867	0	0	0	1,740,358
Cleveland, OH	3,408,452	3,008,200	3,004,585	2,925,618	2,679,189	2,021,923	3,005,209
Ashtabula, OH	0	291,741	1,292,394	1,190,934	1,246,992	1,046,225	804,412
Conneaut, OH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**47,112,206**	**49,172,184**	**55,756,356**	**55,583,981**	**53,464,027**	**41,231,121**	**52,217,751**

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. Report represents the views of Lake Carriers' Association and may not necessarily represent the views of its individual members.