

Lakes Limestone Trade Down in May

CLEVELAND — Shipments of limestone on the Great Lakes totaled 2.9 million tons in May, a decrease of 25.5 percent compared to a year ago. May's loadings were also below the month's 5-year average by 24.5 percent.

Loadings from U.S. quarries totaled 2.2 million tons, a decrease of 27.1 percent compared to 2022. Shipments from Canadian quarries totaled 685,331 tons, a decrease of 19.9 percent.

Year-to-date the Lakes limestone trade stands at nearly 4.9 million tons, a decrease of 16.5 percent compared to a year ago. Loadings from Michigan and Ohio quarries total 3.9 million tons, a decrease of 16.2 percent. Shipments from Ontario quarries total 1 million tons, a decrease of 17.7 percent.

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: MAY 2018-2023 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (NET TONS)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Average 2018-2022
U.S. Ports	3,155,346	3,413,862	2,722,283	2,892,367	3,042,869	2,217,034	3,045,345
Canadian Ports	632,187	890,484	802,468	801,551	855,108	685,331	796,360
Total	3,787,533	4,304,346	3,524,751	3,693,918	3,897,977	2,902,365	3,841,705

YEAR-TO-DATE 2018-2023 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (NET TONS)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Average 2018-2022
U.S. Ports	4,469,074	5,506,628	4,740,948	4,864,932	4,689,242	3,929,849	4,854,165
Canadian Ports	808,801	1,180,221	1,047,659	1,321,703	1,225,215	1,008,370	1,116,720
Total	5,277,875	6,686,849	5,788,607	6,186,635	5,914,457	4,938,219	5,970,885

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, Port Colborne (from August 2017 on) and Smelter Bay (all Ontario).

About Lake Carriers' Association

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.

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