



LAKE CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION



Great Lakes Iron Ore Trade Increases 25.5 Percent in March

CLEVELAND – Shipments of iron ore on the Great Lakes totaled 1.6 million tons in March, an increase of 25.5 percent compared to 2023. Loadings also topped the month’s 5-year average by 47.5 percent.

Year-to-date the iron ore trade stands at 4.4 million tons, an increase of 16.8 percent compared to a year ago. Iron ore shipments are 31.9 percent above their 5-year average for the first three months of the year.

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: March 2019-2024 and 5-Year Average Includes Transshipments to Quebec City for Shipment Overseas

(net tons)

Port	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Average 2019-2023
Duluth, MN	188,289	194,436	152,933	89,805	176,207	289,592	160,334
Superior, WI	120,248	273,399	297,293	64,613	264,994	91,884	204,109
Two Harbors, MN	210,504	188,899	396,737	213,598	309,365	530,938	263,821
Silver Bay, MN	123,857	169,362	63,012	37,218	0	61,915	78,690
Marquette, MI*	59,753	101,156	201,592	36,743	162,057	151,687	112,260
Cleveland, OH**	272,121	317,461	171,456	137,240	346,980	455,025	249,052
Ashtabula, OH	0	18,478	0	0	0	0	3,696
Total	974,772	1,263,191	1,283,023	579,217	1,259,603	1,581,041	1,071,961

*Marquette = Presque Isle in previous reports

**Transshipments within Cleveland Harbor

Year-To-Date 2019-2024

Port	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Average 2019-2023
Duluth, MN	632,493	360,665	445,476	408,609	594,812	662,712	488,411
Superior, WI	584,752	749,552	958,781	509,632	815,989	799,703	723,741
Two Harbors, MN	1,102,581	609,860	1,412,625	902,674	988,765	1,407,676	1,003,301
Silver Bay, MN	156,652	390,154	208,995	112,691	0	342,177	173,698
Marquette, MI*	376,590	373,523	622,118	275,967	558,781	421,011	441,396
Cleveland, OH**	380,025	528,412	221,922	226,196	779,657	733,015	427,242
Ashtabula, OH	162,056	73,847	28,553	0	0	0	52,891
Total	3,395,149	3,086,013	3,898,470	2,435,769	3,738,004	4,366,294	3,310,681

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.