

Great Lakes Iron Ore Trade Down Slightly in July

CLEVELAND – Shipments of iron ore on the Great Lakes totaled 5.7 million tons in July, a decrease of less than one percent compared to a year ago. Shipments were above the month's 5-year average by 6.9 percent.

Year-to-date the iron ore trade stands at 25.6 million tons, a near match compared to the same point in 2023. Iron ore shipments were 7.9 percent above their 5-year average for the first seven 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: July 2019-2024 and 5-Year Average

Includes Transshipments to Quebec City for Shipment Overseas

(net tons)

							Average
Port	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2019-2023
Duluth, MN	1,242,870	1,235,506	1,113,967	1,009,221	969,908	853,016	1,114,294
Superior, WI	1,362,328	345,472	1,383,365	1,528,578	1,331,525	1,479,797	1,190,254
Two Harbors, MN	1,988,696	1,040,098	1,573,093	1,714,045	1,688,169	1,871,492	1,600,820
Silver Bay, MN	691,577	325,313	607,650	151,151	521,882	391,240	459,515
Marquette, MI*	771,756	373,246	663,687	590,397	821,541	777,539	644,125
Cleveland, OH**	269,889	133,016	337,080	300,674	430,637	359,591	294,259
Ashtabula, OH	235,228	57,837	0	0	0	0	58,613
Total	6,562,344	3,510,488	5,678,842	5,294,066	5,763,662	5,732,675	5,361,880

^{*}Marquette = Presque Isle in previous reports

Year-To-Date 2019-2024

							Average
Port	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2019-2023
Duluth, MN	4,541,951	4,357,654	4,322,535	3,169,813	4,469,163	4,284,796	4,172,223
Superior, WI	5,493,506	3,552,795	6,145,914	5,368,097	6,182,405	5,458,482	5,348,543
Two Harbors, MN	8,753,933	6,714,871	8,203,488	6,588,455	7,824,081	7,762,798	7,616,965
Silver Bay, MN	2,596,327	1,951,505	2,572,013	863,363	1,058,651	2,431,723	1,808,372
Marquette, MI*	3,256,379	2,327,814	3,477,332	2,297,120	3,631,167	3,522,892	2,997,962
Cleveland, OH**	1,373,118	1,394,651	1,662,391	791,886	2,453,981	2,116,326	1,535,205
Ashtabula, OH	740,031	398,639	28,553	0	0	0	233,445
Total	26,755,245	20,697,929	26,412,226	19,078,734	25,619,448	25,577,017	23,712,716

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.

^{**}Transshipments within Cleveland Harbor