

Lakes Limestone Trade Down 4.9 Percent in November

CLEVELAND — Shipments of limestone on the Great Lakes totaled nearly 3 million tons in November, a decrease of 4.9 percent compared to a year ago. Limestone cargos were a mere 8,340 tons below the month's 5-year average.

Loadings from U.S. quarries decreased 4.5 percent from 2023 to 2.5 million tons. Shipments from Canadian quarries totaled 498,801 tons, a decrease of 7.1 percent.

Year-to-date the limestone trade stands at 27.1 million tons, a decrease of 1.1 percent compared to a year ago. Loadings from Michigan and Ohio quarries were a near match to 2023 at 21.9 million tons, while shipments from Ontario quarries total 5.2 million tons, a decrease of 4.6 percent from 2023.

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: NOVEMBER 2019-2024 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (NET TONS)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Average 2019-2023
U.S. Ports	2,583,922	2,284,249	2,721,277	2,093,764	2,587,779	2,471,931	2,454,198
Canadian Ports	429,649	581,670	625,608	450,529	536,912	498,801	524,874
Total	3,013,571	2,865,919	3,346,885	2,544,293	3,124,691	2,970,732	2,979,072

YEAR-TO-DATE 2019-2024 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (NET TONS)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023*	2024	Average 2019-2023
U.S. Ports	24,844,595	20,242,293	22,168,663	21,961,432	21,989,249	21,949,322	22,241,246
Canadian Ports	5,390,529	5,234,444	5,818,778	5,588,333	5,423,581	5,171,710	5,491,133
Total	30,235,124	25,476,737	27,987,441	27,549,765	27,412,830	27,121,032	27,732,379

^{*}Revised 7/11/24

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.

###

Information based on data from knowledgeable sources. However, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. LCA assumes no legal responsibility for the outcome of decisions or commitments made on the basis of this information. This report represents the views of LCA and may not necessarily represent the views of its individual members.