



LAKE CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION



Great Lakes Iron Ore Trade Down 2.5 Percent in 2024

CLEVELAND – Shipments of iron ore on the Great Lakes totaled 4.6 million tons in December, a decrease of 4.5 percent compared to a year ago. Shipments were just slightly above the 5-year average for the month.

The year-end total for the iron ore trade stands at 49.8 million tons, a decrease of 2.5 percent compared to 2023.

Compared to the trade's 5-year average, 2024 iron ore loadings were up 3.8 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 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	623,346	711,111	585,725	740,415	862,141	677,106	704,548
Superior, WI	962,300	615,368	1,080,199	839,100	1,100,736	1,232,047	919,541
Two Harbors, MN	1,459,835	1,716,377	1,559,111	1,284,398	1,377,157	1,498,123	1,479,376
Silver Bay, MN	666,188	507,707	369,820	0	363,521	370,464	381,447
Marquette, MI*	774,946	737,384	557,936	653,474	676,569	568,958	680,062
Cleveland, OH**	332,708	180,961	370,347	468,968	394,364	211,882	349,470
Ashtabula, OH	18,925	185,489	0	0	0	0	40,883
Total	4,838,248	4,654,397	4,523,138	3,986,355	4,774,488	4,558,580	4,555,325

*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	8,359,607	8,047,633	8,843,603	7,381,085	9,048,127	7,976,581	8,336,011
Superior, WI	11,602,998	7,037,669	11,719,625	11,290,354	†12,414,374	11,719,743	10,813,004
Two Harbors, MN	16,942,617	13,303,809	15,407,333	13,953,527	14,918,359	15,282,891	14,905,129
Silver Bay, MN	5,632,842	4,382,861	5,873,375	1,735,362	3,239,443	4,297,301	4,172,777
Marquette, MI*	6,999,782	5,391,001	6,144,094	5,394,125	7,075,000	6,868,584	6,200,800
Cleveland, OH**	2,679,189	2,021,923	3,617,145	2,560,605	4,362,457	3,629,510	3,048,264
Ashtabula, OH	1,246,992	1,046,225	28,553	0	0	0	464,354
Total	53,464,027	41,231,121	51,633,728	42,315,058	†51,057,760	49,774,610	47,940,339

† Revised 2/29/24

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.