



LAKE CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION



Iron Ore Trade Down in May

CLEVELAND – Shipments of iron ore from U.S. Great Lakes ports totaled 5 million tons in May, a decrease of 7.7 percent compared to 2024. Shipments were 3.1 percent below the month's 5-year average.

Year-to-date, the iron ore trade stands at 11.7 million tons, a decrease of 18.6 percent compared to a year ago. Iron ore shipments were also 11.8 percent below their 5-year average for five 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: May 2020-2025 and 5-Year Average Includes Transshipments to Quebec City for Shipment Overseas

(net tons)

Port	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Average 2020-2024
Duluth, MN	962,891	774,032	630,018	919,722	915,498	1,216,896	840,432
Superior, WI	867,089	1,184,972	1,234,410	1,424,835	949,840	987,717	1,132,229
Two Harbors, MN	2,059,221	1,814,766	1,763,375	1,786,608	1,412,635	1,331,099	1,767,321
Silver Bay, MN	344,327	612,916	231,971	193,567	832,013	435,651	442,959
Marquette, MI*	411,603	709,733	497,662	813,985	875,311	846,577	661,659
Cleveland, OH**	180,853	409,200	26,776	462,475	448,308	196,081	305,522
Ashtabula, OH	117,937	0	0	0	0	0	23,587
Total	4,943,921	5,505,619	4,384,212	5,601,191	5,433,605	5,014,021	5,173,710

*Marquette = Presque Isle in previous reports

**Transshipments within Cleveland Harbor

Year-To-Date 2020-2025

Port	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Average 2020-2024
Duluth, MN	2,093,511	2,244,021	1,645,187	2,378,597	2,311,020	2,449,281	2,134,467
Superior, WI	2,586,320	3,388,005	2,562,853	3,378,155	2,767,171	2,039,843	2,936,501
Two Harbors, MN	4,437,439	4,780,970	3,753,362	4,299,657	4,341,313	3,933,895	4,322,548
Silver Bay, MN	1,198,389	1,445,281	420,744	346,674	1,610,366	1,000,217	1,004,291
Marquette, MI*	1,508,221	2,147,543	1,144,165	2,032,439	1,942,531	1,628,171	1,754,980
Cleveland, OH**	1,093,256	925,925	366,464	1,669,073	1,433,193	679,567	1,097,582
Ashtabula, OH	249,942	28,553	0	0	0	0	55,699
Total	13,167,078	14,960,298	9,892,775	14,104,594	14,405,594	11,730,974	13,306,068

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.