

Great Lakes Iron Ore Trade Down in July

CLEVELAND – Shipments of iron ore on the Great Lakes totaled 5.1 million tons in July, a decrease of 10.9 percent compared to 2024. Shipments were below the month's 5-year average by 1.7 percent.

Year-to-date the iron ore trade stands at 21.8 million tons, a decrease of 14.9 compared to a year ago. Iron ore shipments were 7.3 percent below 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 2020-2025 and 5-Year Average

Includes Transshipments to Quebec City for Shipment Overseas

(net tons)

							Average
Port	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2020-2024
Duluth, MN	1,235,506	1,113,967	1,009,221	969,908	853,016	1,141,047	1,036,324
Superior, WI	345,472	1,383,365	1,528,578	1,331,525	1,479,797	938,078	1,213,747
Two Harbors, MN	1,040,098	1,573,093	1,714,045	1,688,169	1,871,492	1,424,692	1,577,379
Silver Bay, MN	325,313	607,650	151,151	521,882	391,240	471,324	399,447
Marquette, MI*	373,246	663,687	590,397	821,541	777,539	853,299	645,282
Cleveland, OH**	133,016	337,080	300,674	430,637	359,591	278,944	312,200
Ashtabula, OH	57,837	0	0	0	0	0	11,567
Total	3,510,488	5,678,842	5,294,066	5,763,662	5,732,675	5,107,384	5,195,947

^{*}Marquette = Presque Isle in previous reports

Year-To-Date 2020-2025

Port	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Average 2020-2024
Duluth, MN	4,357,654	4,322,535	3,169,813	4,469,163	4,284,796	4,465,398	4,120,792
Superior, WI	3,552,795	6,145,914	5,368,097	6,182,405	5,458,482	4,222,123	5,341,539
Two Harbors, MN	6,714,871	8,203,488	6,588,455	7,824,081	7,762,798	6,687,513	7,418,738
Silver Bay, MN	1,951,505	2,572,013	863,363	1,058,651	2,431,723	1,921,248	1,775,451
Marquette, MI*	2,327,814	3,477,332	2,297,120	3,631,167	3,522,892	3,240,454	3,051,265
Cleveland, OH**	1,394,651	1,662,391	791,886	2,453,981	2,116,326	1,217,485	1,683,847
Ashtabula, OH	398,639	28,553	0	0	0	0	85,438
Total	20,697,929	26,412,226	19,078,734	25,619,448	25,577,017	21,754,221	23,477,071

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