



LAKE CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION



Lakes Limestone Trade Down in October

CLEVELAND — Shipments of limestone on the Great Lakes totaled 3.2 million tons in October, a decrease of 3.8 percent compared to 2024. Limestone cargos were also below the month's 5-year average by 10.7 percent.

Loadings from U.S. quarries totaled 2.6 million tons, a 6.1 percent reduction. Shipments from Canadian quarries increased 6.8 percent to 626,805 tons.

Year-to-date, the limestone trade stands at 22.8 million tons, a decrease of 5.6 percent compared to a year ago. Loadings from Michigan and Ohio quarries decreased 4.5 percent from last year to 18.6 million tons; while shipments from Ontario quarries total 4.2 million tons, a decrease of 10 percent.

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: OCTOBER 2020-2025 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (NET TONS)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Average 2020-2024
U.S. Ports	2,574,791	2,915,616	3,197,709	2,992,462	2,740,218	2,573,839	2,884,159
Canadian Ports	708,406	638,517	736,157	835,201	587,069	626,805	701,070
Total	3,283,197	3,554,133	3,933,866	3,827,663	3,327,287	3,200,644	3,585,229

YEAR-TO-DATE 2020-2025 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (NET TONS)

	2020	2021	2022	2023*	2024	2025	Average 2020-2024
U.S. Ports	17,958,044	19,447,386	19,867,668	19,401,470	19,477,391	18,601,030	19,230,392
Canadian Ports	4,652,774	5,193,170	5,137,804	4,886,669	4,672,909	4,208,832	4,908,665
Total	22,610,818	24,640,556	25,005,472	24,288,139	24,150,300	22,809,862	24,139,057

*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.

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