



LAKE CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION



Great Lakes Iron Ore Trade Down in September

CLEVELAND – Shipments of iron ore from U.S. ports on the Great Lakes decreased 1.2 percent from last year to 4.6 million tons in September. Shipments were below the month's 5-year average by 11.4 percent.

Year-to-date, the iron ore trade stands at 32.2 million tons, a 2.4 percent increase compared to 2025.

Through September, iron ore loadings are 6.1 percent below their 5-year average for the first three quarters 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: September 2021-2026 and 5-Year Average Includes Transshipments to Quebec City for Shipment Overseas

(net tons)

Port	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Average 2021-2025
Duluth, MN	1,059,854	1,006,157	994,576	780,340	605,012	467,060	889,188
Superior, WI	1,366,365	1,318,224	1,141,618	1,383,871	892,833	952,030	1,220,582
Two Harbors, MN	1,349,179	1,590,522	1,683,023	1,702,757	1,483,586	1,483,709	1,561,813
Silver Bay, MN	726,301	267,144	546,116	407,936	557,019	425,581	500,903
Marquette, MI*	520,461	540,303	787,918	819,819	816,612	929,059	697,023
Cleveland, OH**	338,860	337,137	418,808	369,575	331,657	372,617	359,207
Ashtabula, OH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5,361,020	5,059,487	5,572,059	5,464,298	4,686,719	4,630,056	5,228,717

*Marquette = Presque Isle in previous reports

**Transshipments within Cleveland Harbor

Year-To-Date 2021-2026

Port	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Average 2021-2025
Duluth, MN	6,514,507	4,959,927	6,517,107	5,876,277	5,917,978	4,999,716	5,957,159
Superior, WI	8,761,105	8,293,091	8,808,529	8,158,211	6,197,382	5,961,334	8,043,664
Two Harbors, MN	10,825,752	9,683,025	10,810,369	11,158,402	9,595,446	9,450,103	10,414,599
Silver Bay, MN	4,100,001	1,280,618	2,163,643	3,267,115	2,842,214	2,583,628	2,730,718
Marquette, MI*	4,726,335	3,585,807	5,162,131	5,127,792	4,838,288	5,968,635	4,688,071
Cleveland, OH**	2,438,417	1,444,320	3,276,770	2,918,241	2,015,270	3,162,158	2,418,604
Ashtabula, OH	28,553	0	0	0	0	34,181	5,711
Total	37,394,670	29,246,788	36,738,549	36,506,038	31,406,578	32,159,755	34,258,524

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.