

2007 LIMESTONE TRADE

Shipments of limestone from U.S. and Canadian ports totaled 34 million net tons in 2007, a decrease of 12.8 percent from 2006, and nearly 10 percent off the trade's 5-year average. The sluggish construction market significantly reduced demand for aggregate. The trade also was impacted by low inventories when shipments resumed in March and April, and a labor dispute that idled three U.S.-Flag lakers that are steadily engaged in the trade for several months.

The dredging crisis played a role. The largest vessels in the stone trade sometimes lost as much as 5,000 tons each trip because of lack of adequate dredging.

**2007 LIMESTONE SHIPMENTS
BY MONTH**

(net tons)

MONTH	U.S. PORTS	CANADIAN PORTS	TOTAL
January	245,000	0	245,000
February	0	0	0
March	105,000	95,000	200,000
April	2,485,315	609,875	3,095,190
May	3,498,762	869,900	4,368,662
June	3,526,974	855,600	4,382,574
July	3,683,964	741,400	4,425,364
August	3,316,880	650,200	3,967,080
September	3,279,096	638,900	3,917,996
October	3,060,631	557,300	3,617,931
November	3,026,967	672,700	3,699,667
December	1,732,502	349,500	2,082,002
TOTAL	27,961,091	6,040,375	34,001,466

**GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE SHIPMENTS
CALENDAR YEARS 1998-2007**

(net tons)

CALENDAR YEAR	U.S. PORTS	CANADIAN PORTS	TOTAL
1998	34,950,366	5,922,573	40,874,937
1999	31,738,565	6,585,998	38,326,562
2000	31,002,777	7,116,220	38,120,997
2001	30,724,237	7,180,562	37,906,800
2002	30,673,673	6,863,570	37,539,245
2003	27,067,685	7,115,172	34,184,860
2004	31,691,083	8,530,969	40,224,056
2005	29,984,216	7,741,161	37,725,377
2006	30,908,502	8,069,219	38,977,721
2007	27,961,091	6,040,375	34,001,466
10-YEAR TOTAL	306,702,195	71,165,819	377,882,021