

2006 GREAT LAKES DRY-BULK COMMERCE

The major Great Lakes dry-bulk trades totaled 168.8 million net tons in 2006, an increase of 2.4 percent over 2005, and 3 percent better than the trades' 5-year average. The vast majority of these cargos were hauled by U.S.- and Canadian-Flag Lakers; ocean-going vessels are almost exclusively engaged in the grain trade (although they have begun to load some iron ore for export overseas). U.S.-Flag carriage and the major cargos are analyzed separately in following sections. However, a common theme runs through all the reports. Cargo totals continue to be negatively impacted by the decades-long dredging crisis on the Great Lakes.

GREAT LAKES DRY-BULK COMMERCE CALENDAR YEARS 2001-2006 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE (net tons)

COMMODITY	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	AVERAGE 2001-2005
IRON ORE*							
From Lake Superior	40,895,075	46,249,620	41,321,104	48,074,811	45,240,419	45,635,055	44,356,206
From Lake Michigan.....	6,207,512	4,070,538	3,884,938	5,036,886	3,705,873	4,505,150	4,581,149
From Eastern Canada.....	8,570,932	8,597,065	10,135,198	9,502,914	9,241,256	9,737,893	9,209,473
TOTAL – IRON ORE	55,673,519	58,917,223	55,341,240	62,614,611	58,187,548	59,878,098	58,146,828
COAL							
From Lake Superior	18,708,650	19,966,279	19,520,190	20,150,004	21,939,208	22,683,590	20,062,866
From Lake Michigan.....	2,582,492	2,465,634	2,994,306	3,946,020	4,183,423	3,578,388	3,234,375
From Lake Erie.....	23,064,174	19,480,372	17,239,773	15,840,836	16,584,057	15,525,475	18,441,842
TOTAL – COAL	44,355,316	41,912,285	39,754,269	39,936,860	42,706,688	41,878,453	41,739,083
LIMESTONE							
From U.S. Ports.....	30,724,237	30,673,673	27,067,685	31,691,083	29,984,216	30,908,502	30,028,179
From Canadian Ports.....	7,180,562	6,863,570	7,115,172	8,530,969	7,741,161	8,069,219	7,486,287
TOTAL – LIMESTONE ...	37,904,799	37,537,243	34,182,857	40,222,052	37,725,377	38,977,721	37,514,466
SALT.....	7,671,321	7,287,312	8,506,778	9,239,658	9,255,371	9,726,216	8,392,088
CEMENT.....	5,470,198	5,341,759	5,390,169	5,508,635	5,048,817	4,800,056	5,351,916
POTASH.....	563,882	587,296	579,352	728,701	584,672	483,174	608,781
GRAIN	14,011,286	12,094,537	11,624,713	11,667,639	11,377,508	13,027,667	12,155,137
TOTAL.....	165,650,321	163,677,655	155,379,378	169,918,156	164,885,981	168,771,385	163,908,299

* To convert iron ore to gross tons, multiply by .89286.