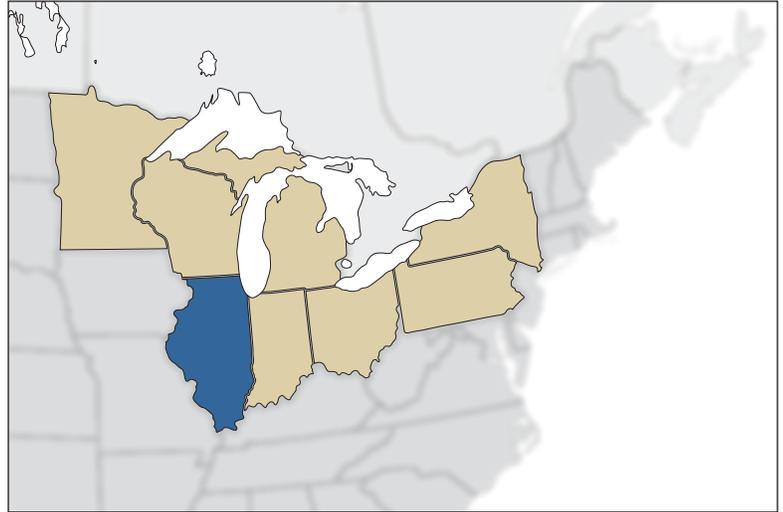




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# Illinois



## Illinois Relies on Great Lakes-Seaway Shipping

The state of Illinois borders 63 miles of Lake Michigan. This shoreline is dominated by Chicago – the largest city in the Great Lakes Seaway region. More than 9 million tons of inbound and outbound cargoes are handled at the state’s deep-draft ports and terminals.

Great Lakes-Seaway shipping is critical to the dynamic economy of northeastern Illinois. For example, a variety of Chicago-area manufacturers depend on waterborne transportation for delivery of semi-finished steel products such as coil, wire and slab imported from Europe, South America and Asia. Construction materials such as sand, gravel, cement and asphalt are delivered by ship to Chicago to feed the city’s growth. At the port of Waukegan, bulk gypsum is brought by ship from mines in Michigan to use in the manufacture of construction materials. State, county and municipal transportation agencies rely on lake ships to deliver large quantities of salt for winter road deicing.

Jobs	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Local Purchases	Local Taxes Paid
3249	\$366 million	\$216 million	\$41 million	\$109 million

Port	Annual Cargo Tonnage	Major Cargoes Handled
Chicago*	9,091,085	coal, fuel oil, gasoline, asphalt, wood chips, iron ore, limestone, sand/gravel, steel scrap, salt, cement, pig iron, iron & steel, wheat, soybeans, sugar
Waukegan	249,193	gypsum, machinery, stone

\* Includes marine terminals along the Chicago River, Calumet River and Lake Calumet

Sources:

Waterborne Commerce of the United States, 2020 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Economic Impacts of Maritime Shipping in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region, 2023 – Martin Associates