

Quebec Relies on Great Lakes-Seaway Shipping

Quebec is the gateway to the Great Lakes-Seaway system. The St. Lawrence River acts as a valuable connection to Ontario and U.S. markets farther west. More than 56 million tons of Great Lakes-Seaway cargo is handled at Quebec ports.

Mining companies depend on the Great Lakes-Seaway system to transport iron ore from mines in Quebec and

Labrador to steel mills in Ontario, Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan. Major refineries use ships to move petroleum products from Sarnia and Nanticoke, Ontario, to the Port of Montreal and Sept-Iles. A major refinery in Quebec City also ships products through the Seaway to Ontario markets. The international Port of Montreal and the Port of Quebec act as transshipment hubs for grain and other bulk cargoes that are transferred from Great Lakes ships to larger ocean carriers.

Jobs	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Local Purchases	Total Taxes Paid
35,000	\$1.8 billion	\$6.2 billion	\$1 billion	\$880 million

Invested in Quebec port, terminal and waterway infrastructure \$1.2 billion

Port	Major Cargoes Handled	
Baie-Comeau	Grain	
Côte-Ste-Catherine	Salt, gypsum, potash	
Montréal	Grain, liquid bulk	
Port Cartier	Iron ore, grain	
Quebec	Grain, coal, concentrates, liquid bulk	
Sept-Îles	Iron ore, general cargo	
Sorel	Grain	
Trois-Rivières	Grain	
Valleyfield	Salt, liquid bulk	

Sources

The Economic Impacts of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway Navigation System, Martin Associates (October 2011)

Infrastructure Investment Survey of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway System, Martin Associates (January 2015)

Note: Figures exclude impacts created by international maritime commerce at St. Lawrence River ports in Quebec, where cargo does not transit the St. Lawrence Seaway lock system to and from the upper lakes