

## INTRODUCTION

In order to provide waterborne commerce information as soon as possible, the Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center (WCSC) has prepared this summary document of estimated waterborne commerce statistics for calendar year 1998. The foreign import and export estimates were furnished by the Bureau of the Census. The domestic national totals are based on CY98 data collected from vessel operating companies, estimates of tonnage still to be reported by delinquent vessel operating companies and on data collected at Corps locks. Both the foreign and domestic data are subject to correction and may differ slightly from the final figures to be released in October.

All graphs and tables (except page 1) show domestic tonnages (short tons). All graphs after page 1 include all internal tonnage, which is tonnage moving exclusively on waterways within the boundaries of the United States. The deep-draft sections of the Mississippi, the Columbia and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway include some domestic coastwise data as well. This coastwise tonnage travels on these internal waterways and also Coastwise (the oceans or the Gulf of Mexico). All the data for the current year (1998) is either estimated or preliminary. The prior years' data (to 1998) are the actual compiled figures. Also, please note that rounding may result in commodity tonnages which do not add up to the totals for a waterway.

WCSC is also using the Internet to expedite release of statistics. Please visit our World Wide Web home page at:

**[www.wrsc.usace.army.mil/ndc/wcsc.htm](http://www.wrsc.usace.army.mil/ndc/wcsc.htm)**.

There you will find the most timely WCSC statistics including this report, quarterly estimates and our monthly internal traffic indicators.

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