

Big Boats Up The River

If you spend a few days along the Hudson River **estuary**, then you are likely to see some very big ships pass by.

Ships up to 750 feet long travel to and from the **Port** of Albany. They carry many different kinds of **cargo**.

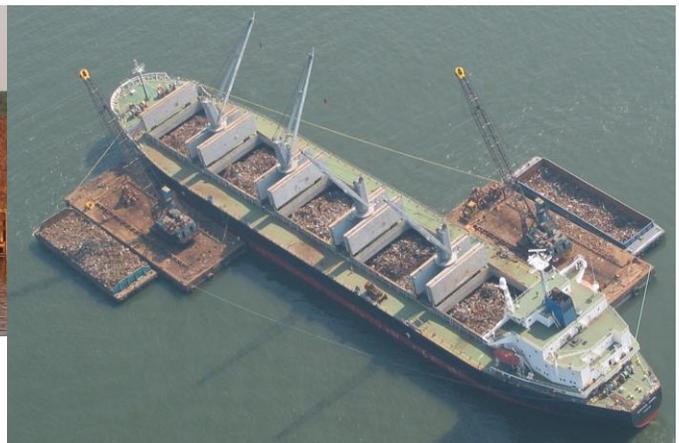


This ship is being loaded with **grain**. Behind the ship is a building called a **grain elevator**. The grain stored in this building is brought to Albany from western states by railroad trains.

These are stacks of huge blades for windmills. The windmills will make electricity. The ships that carry these blades and other large **machinery** are called heavy lift ships.



Scrap iron is shipped from Albany. The rusted iron from wrecked cars, broken washing machines, and other items can be recycled to make new metal.



This table shows the numbers of ships that **docked** at the Port of Albany from January to June, 2008. It also shows what cargoes they carried, including the grain, scrap iron, and heavy lift cargoes mentioned above.

The **molasses** brought to Albany is mixed with grain to make food for farm animals. The salt is the kind spread on roads during snow and ice storms. Steel and pipe are used in construction projects. Wood pulp is the raw material from which most paper is made. Use the table to answer the questions below.

Ships Docking at the Port of Albany, January to June 2008

		Month					
		January	February	March	April	May	June
Cargo	grain	3		1		1	1
	heavy lift	2		1	7	2	4
	molasses			1			
	salt		1				
	scrap iron	1		1	1	1	1
	steel/pipe			3		2	2
	wood pulp	1	1	1		2	1

- In what month did the greatest number of heavy lift ships dock at Albany?
How many docked at Albany in that month? _____
- In what month did the greatest number of ships dock at Albany? _____
How many docked in Albany in that month? _____
- In what month did the smallest number of ships dock at Albany? _____
How many docked in Albany in that month? _____
- How many times did ships carrying steel or pipe dock at Albany during these six months? _____
- Which cargo was carried in and out of the Port of Albany most often?
_____ How many times? _____