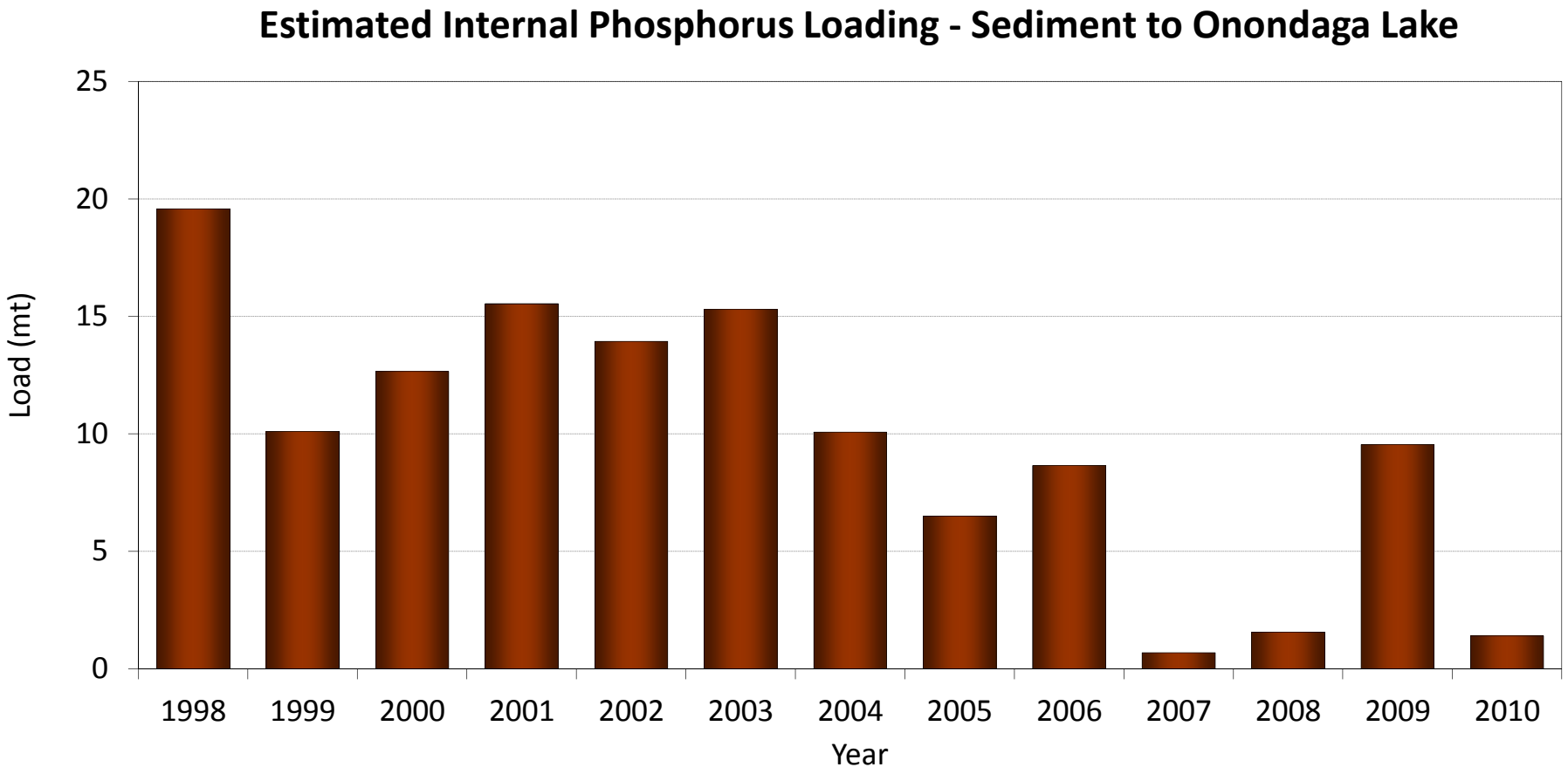
Library Reference 7.12



Overall, internal phosphorus loading from sediments to Onondaga Lake waters has decreased over time, from nearly 20 metric tons in 1998 to about 1 metric ton in 2010. Changes in internal loading may be attributed to the changes in dissolved oxygen and nitrate concentrations in the lake's lower waters (see text for discussion).

Note: Sediment loading is estimated as the difference between Spring (approximately June 15) and Fall (approximately Sept 15) total phosphrous concentrations in lower waters (12, 15 and 18 meters). Mass is calculated from concentration using these volumes (m^3) by depth: 12m = 19,383,000; 15m = 15,005,000; 18m = 8,283,000.