

Information

Recorded monthly mean water levels in this bulletin are results from a representative network of water level gages on each lake (see cover map). Providers of these data are U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA, National Ocean Service, and Integrated Science Data Management, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada. Detroit District, Corps of Engineers and Environment and Climate Change Canada derive historic and projected lake levels under auspices of Coordinating Committee on Great Lakes Basic Hydraulic and Hydrologic Data.

The Corps makes the bulletin monthly as a public service. The Corps also, on a weekly basis publishes online the *Great Lakes, Connecting Channels and St. Lawrence River Water Levels and Depths*, which supplies a forecast of depths in connecting rivers between Great Lakes and International Section of St. Lawrence River. This *Monthly Bulletin of the Lake Levels for the Great Lakes* is available free of charge by writing to address shown on front cover, by calling (313) 226-6441 or emailing hghpm@usace.army.mil. Notices of change of address should include the name of the publication. This information is available on the internet at <https://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/GreatLakesInformation.aspx>.

Great Lakes Basin Hydrology August 2022

Preliminary estimates indicate near average precipitation for the Great Lakes basin in August. Lakes Michigan-Huron, Erie, and Ontario basins received slightly above average precipitation during the month, while Lake Superior experienced below average precipitation in August. Over the last 12 months, precipitation estimates are near to slightly below average for all lake basins. Provisional estimates show August water supplies were slightly above average in the Lakes Michigan-Huron and Erie basins, slightly below average in the Lake Superior basin, and near average in the Lake Ontario basin. Outflows from all the Great Lakes were above average in August.

From July to August, water levels declined on Lakes Michigan-Huron and St. Clair by about 1 inch, and water levels declined on Lakes Erie and Ontario by 2 and 8 inches, respectively. Lake Superior rose an inch from July to August. The 6-month forecast of Great Lakes water levels projects Lake Superior to begin its seasonal decline, while Lakes Michigan-Huron, St. Clair, Erie, and Ontario will continue to decline.

PRECIPITATION (INCHES)								
BASIN	August				12-Month Comparison			
	2022	Average (1900-2019)	Diff.	% Of Average	Last 12 Months	Average (1900-2019)	Diff.	% Of Average
Superior	2.26	3.19	-0.93	71	30.04	30.67	-0.63	98
Michigan-Huron	3.50	3.15	0.35	111	30.23	32.95	-2.72	92
Erie	3.66	3.23	0.43	113	34.14	35.94	-1.80	95
Ontario	3.68	3.19	0.49	115	35.59	36.42	-0.83	98
Great Lakes	3.22	3.19	0.03	101	31.29	33.07	-1.78	95

Lake	August WATER SUPPLIES ¹ (cfs)		August OUTFLOW ² (cfs)	
	2022	Average ³ (1900-2008)	2022	Average ³ (1900-2008)
Superior	88,000	94,000	94,000	83,000
Michigan-Huron	63,000	54,000	215,000	195,000
Erie	5,000	-9,000	227,000	209,000
Ontario	5,000	8,000	289,000	256,000

Notes: Values (excluding averages) are based on preliminary computations; cfs denotes cubic feet per second.

¹ Net basin supply is the net result of precipitation falling on the lake, runoff from precipitation falling on the land which flows to the lake, and evaporation from the lake. Negative net basin supply denotes evaporation exceeded runoff and precipitation. The net total supply can be found by adding the net basin supply and the outflow from the upstream lake.

² Does not include diversions.

³ Lake Ontario average water supplies and average outflows are based on period of record 1900-2005