

Information

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

This bulletin is produced 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 provides a forecast of depths in the connecting rivers between the Great Lakes and the International Section of the St. Lawrence River. This *Monthly Bulletin of the Lake Levels for the Great Lakes* may be obtained free of charge by writing to the address shown on the front cover, by calling (313) 226-6442 or emailing hhpm@usace.army.mil. Notices of change of address should include the name of the publication. This information is available on the internet at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/GreatLakesInformation.aspx>.

Great Lakes Basin Hydrology October 2014

Overall, the Great Lakes basin received precipitation that was 33% above average in October. Lakes Superior, and Michigan-Huron experienced precipitation that was significantly above average for October, while Lake Erie saw below average precipitation. Lake Ontario received near average precipitation. Lake Michigan-Huron has experienced above average precipitation for 7 consecutive months. The net basin supply of water to Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron were well above average, while Lake Erie was slightly above average. Lake Ontario saw slightly below average net basin supply. The net basin supplies to Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron have been above average for the past 7 months. The tables below list October precipitation and water supply information for all Great Lakes basins.

A comparison of monthly mean lake levels for October to long-term average (1918-2013) shows Lake Superior 8 inches above average, and Lake Michigan-Huron 4 inches above average. Lakes St. Clair and Erie were 8 and 7 inches, respectively, above long-term average, while Lake Ontario was an inch below average.

PRECIPITATION (INCHES)								
BASIN	October				12-Month Comparison			
	2014	Average (1900-2010)	Diff.	% of Average	Last 12 Months	Average (1900-2010)	Diff.	% of Average
Superior	3.95	2.86	1.09	138	32.99	30.46	2.53	108
Michigan-Huron	4.36	2.89	1.47	151	35.01	32.44	2.57	108
Erie	2.53	2.78	-0.25	91	35.43	35.43	0.00	100
Ontario	3.07	3.12	-0.05	98	35.98	35.73	0.25	101
Great Lakes	3.84	2.89	0.95	133	34.59	32.64	1.95	106

LAKE	October Net Basin Supplies ¹ (cfs)		October Outflows ² (cfs)	
	2014	Average (1900-2008)	2014	Average ³ (1900-2008)
Superior	105,000	40,000	110,000	80,000
Michigan-Huron	139,000	1,000	198,000	191,000
Erie	-15,000	-21,000	215,000	201,000
Ontario	5,000	7,000	263,000	243,000

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