



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Detroit District**



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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
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## OCTOBER 2019 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

### LAKE SUPERIOR

Lake Superior rose less than an inch from September to October to a level of 603.28 feet. Lake Superior was 4 inches above its October level of a year ago, and 15 inches above its long term average (LTA) level. The Lake Superior basin received both above average precipitation and water supplies during the month. The latest 6-month forecast indicates that Lake Superior should begin its seasonal decline in November. It's predicted that Lake Superior will be 13 to 15 inches above LTA levels over the next 6 months and 1 to 4 inches below record high levels. Also, the lake is projected to be 1 to 3 inches above last year's levels through February, and about an inch below last year's levels in March and April of 2020.

### LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron experienced very wet conditions during the month of October and the monthly mean level for October of 581.66 feet was slightly higher than its September level (581.63 ft.). The October level was 15 inches above its level from one year ago, 33 inches above its LTA level, and 8 inches below its record high level. Precipitation was 57% above average for the month, which contributed to higher than average water supplies. Lake Michigan-Huron is forecasted to continue its seasonal decline this month. Over the next 6 months, the lake is projected to be 1 to 4 inches below record high monthly mean water levels through January, but in February and March the level is projected to be 1 inch above record high levels, which were set back in 1986. In April, the level is predicted to be an inch below its record high level. Additionally, Lake Michigan-Huron is forecasted to remain above its levels of a year ago by 9 to 17 inches and remain above LTA levels by 32 to 35 inches.

### LAKE ST. CLAIR

Lake St. Clair continued its seasonal decline in October and dropped 4 inches to a level of 576.67 feet. The October level was 10 inches above its level of a year ago, 30 inches above its LTA level, and 7 inches below its record high level. The latest 6-month forecast projects that Lake St. Clair will continue to decline until February and then begin its seasonal rise this spring. Over the next 6 months, the lake is forecasted to be 2 to 10 inches above last year's levels, 28 to 33 inches above LTA levels, and 2 to 6 inches below record high levels.

### LAKE ERIE

Lake Erie declined 5 inches from September to October to a level of 573.29 feet. This October monthly mean level was 7 inches above its level of a year ago, 26 inches above the LTA level, and 8 inches below its record high level. The lake received slightly below average average water supplies in October, despite above average precipitation. The current 6-month forecast indicates that Lake Erie will continue its seasonal decline this month and be relatively steady throughout December, January and February, before beginning its seasonal rise in the spring. The lake is projected to be 5 to 10 inches below record high levels over the next 6 months and 25 to 26 inches above LTA levels. In addition, Lake Erie is predicted to be 0 to 4 inches above last year's level throughout the forecast horizon.

### LAKE ONTARIO

Lake Ontario continued its seasonal decline in October by declining 8 inches to a level of 246.19 feet. The lake's October monthly mean level was 7 inches below its record high level, 17 inches above its LTA October level, and 17 inches above its level of a year ago. Lake Ontario experienced above average precipitation during the month, which contributed to it receiving above average water supplies. The latest 6-month water level forecast projects Lake Ontario to rise slightly from October to November, and then resume its seasonal decline in December before beginning its seasonal rise in 2020. The lake is projected to be 5 to 19 inches below record high levels and 11 to 20 inches above its LTA levels throughout the next 6

months. Also, over the next 6 months, the lake is forecasted to be 12 to 17 inches above its levels from last year for November and December, 4 to 8 inches above levels of a year ago from January to March, and near its level of a year ago in April.