

LEVEL *news*

Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Water Levels



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Water Supplies below Average during March **Canada's Source for Weather on the Web**

Local basin and total water supplies to each of the Great Lakes were below average during March. As result, water levels on the lakes did not change as expected during the month.

Although Lake Superior did continue its seasonal decline, water levels fell a few centimetres more than average during March. Water levels on the remaining lakes did not increase during the month as had been anticipated.

At the end of March, daily levels on lakes Michigan-Huron, St. Clair and Erie were the same as they were at the

end of February. The average water level for March on Lakes Michigan-Huron was the same as it was in February. Although the March average on Lake Erie was 3 cm higher than it was in February, this small change was due to the increase in daily levels experienced during the second half of February. Daily levels declined 5 cm on Lake Ontario during March and the March average for this lake was 1 cm lower than February's.

The latest six-month forecasted range of probable water levels suggests that levels will likely increase on each of the Great Lakes during April.

One Source for all Your Weather Needs

Whether you need to:

- learn about severe weather warnings
- plan an outdoor event
- monitor approaching storms
- head out onto the water
- search past weather events

Environment Canada's weather website: www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca has all the information you need.

(continued on next page)

| Great Lakes Water Level Information | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Lake | March 2005 Monthly Mean Level | | Beginning of April 2005 Level | |
| | Compared to Monthly Average (1918-2004) | Compared to One Year Ago | Compared to Beginning-of-Month Average (1918-2004) | Compared to One Year Ago |
| Superior | 3 cm below | 15 cm above | 4 cm below | 12 cm above |
| Michigan-Huron | 23 cm below | 20 cm above | 25 cm below | 16 cm above |
| St. Clair | 9 cm above | 22 cm above | 3 cm above | 10 cm above |
| Erie | 24 cm above | 34 cm above | 16 cm above | 22 cm above |
| Ontario | 17 cm above | 12 cm above | 7 cm above | 5 cm above |



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Some Popular Pages

When you visit Environment Canada's weather website you will find links to several informative web pages including the following five:

Weather Warnings

From winter storms affecting a few provinces at a time, to tornadoes that can cause devastating damage to a very localized area, Canada experiences a wide variety of hazardous weather. To access the latest information on severe weather from coast to coast, click on the "Weather Warnings" link. This page automatically updates on a regular interval to provide you with the most current information.

5-day Weather

Environment Canada provides detailed 5-day forecasts for locations across the country.

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Editor, Chuck Southam

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March Precipitation over the Great Lakes

As a percentage of the long-term March average:

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|
| Great Lakes Basin | 54% | Lake Erie | 43% |
| Lake Superior | 47% | (including Lake St. Clair) | |
| Lakes Michigan-Huron | 65% | Lake Ontario | 41% |

NOTE: These figures are preliminary

If you don't see your location on the map of Canada, simply click on the province or territory you are interested in and you will get access to a number of additional places.

RADAR Imagery

Environment Canada has a nationwide network of Doppler weather radars constantly scanning the skies for precipitation. The imagery can be viewed on a national scale, regional scale, or at an individual radar site. Radar data is available in near real-time and can be animated to see how the precipitation is moving and changing with time.

Marine Weather

Whether you are a recreational boater, fisher or ship's captain, knowledge of the current and forecast weather, wind and wave conditions on Canada's large bodies of water is important to you. From the "Marine Weather" link access the latest marine weather observations and forecasts for a variety of locations across the country.

Past Weather (Climate Data)

Historical weather data for many locations in the country is now freely accessible. You can check the long term average weather conditions for a given location (Climate Normals & Averages) or access the weather at a given site for a specified period of time (Climate Data Online).

March Outflows from the Great Lakes

As a percentage of the long-term March average:

| | | | |
|---------------|------|--------------|------|
| Lake Superior | 107% | Lake Erie | 110% |
| Lake Huron | 95% | Lake Ontario | 116% |

NOTE: These figures are preliminary