Lake Levels and Spring Flooding Risks

National Weather Service
February 19, 2020
Lake Michigan water levels since 1918


575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583

Long-term Average

1986

2013

2019
Why is there so much water?

- Overall, the last 10 years have been MUCH wetter than normal across the Great Lakes states.

- As a whole, the state of Michigan is in the middle of the wettest 1 year period, 3 year period, and 5 year period since records began over 120 years ago.
Michigan 5-Year Rolling Total Precipitation

Long-term Average
Current Conditions – January River Flows
Grand River at Grand Rapids – All Years on Record

Water Year: Oct 1 – Sept 30

Each Water Year is a Line Showing How Much Water Flowed Through the Site

Black Line
50th Percentile

Green Shaded Area
25th to 75th Percentile
Lake Michigan-Huron 6 Month Forecast

Red line
Current levels

Dashed Green line
6-month forecast

Dashed Blue line
Average levels

Red shaded area
Uncertainty range of forecast

Black horizontal year marks
Highest level/year ever measured for that month

https://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/Great-Lakes-Information
LIVING ON THE COAST