LAKE ERIE WATER TEMPERATURE DATA
ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 1916-1992

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1. INTRODUCTION

Water temperature data from several sites around the Great Lakes were obtained to determine if any regional climatic changes or trends could be detected based upon these data sets. The study was partially supported by the NOAA Office of Global Programs. Site selection was based upon location and reasonable data access.

This technical memorandum contains data for Erie, PA from 1916-1992. Water temperature data are from Erie, Pennsylvania's Chestnut Street plant. The plant superintendent, Mr. John Presogna, facilitated data collation by arranging for some of his staff to enter the data into a computer compatible format.

Data are available from 1916 to 1992. However, no data are available for 1956. A 60” pipe extends about 1.25 miles offshore from the Chestnut Street plant; the intake depth is 27-30’ below the surface. Originally, the intake pipe was located in the Bay, but a new pipe was built in the early part of this century because of water quality concerns with respect to cholera. In 1908, the pipe was tunneled under the peninsula that forms the bay.

Water temperatures are taken in the plant six times a week (never on Sunday) between 08:00 and 09:00 h. However, this was not the case for 1959-1963 and 1979-1981 when significantly more data were available. The data are plotted and shown in the accompanying figures. Prior to final plotting all data were checked for consistency, and all questionable values were deleted All missing data are denoted by -999.

Data files are identified as TM094Dxx.edt where xx identifies the data year. Data are organized into four columns: month, day, year, and temperature. Although the data are reported to the nearest 0.1°C, a more reasonable estimate of their accuracy is 0.5°C given all the uncertainties with the raw data.

All data are available in a simple ASCII format. The data files are available from GLERL’s WWW site or from the anonymous FTP site. From the GLERL home page (www.glerl.noaa.gov), select FTP server, or point your browser to: ftp://ftp.glerl.noaa.gov/publications/tech_reports/glerl-94.

Although great care has been used in checking these data, mistakes may still be present. If errors are found, please contact the author at mccormick@glerl.noaa.gov.
Erie, PA 1932

Days of data = 306

Water Temperature (°C)

Erie, PA 1933

Days of data = 304

Water Temperature (°C)

Erie, PA 1934

Days of data = 304

Water Temperature (°C)

Erie, PA 1935

Days of data = 305

Water Temperature (°C)
Erie, PA 1936

Days of data = 303

Erie, PA 1937

Days of data = 307

Erie, PA 1938

Days of data = 305

Erie, PA 1939

Days of data = 305
Erie, PA 1961
Days of data = 362

Erie, PA 1962
Days of data = 360

Erie, PA 1963
Days of data = 324

Erie, PA 1964
Days of data = 240
Erie, PA 1969

Days of data = 252

Erie, PA 1970

Days of data = 253

Erie, PA 1971

Days of data = 251

Erie, PA 1972

Days of data = 251
Erie, PA 1977

Days of data = 252

Erie, PA 1978

Days of data = 250

Erie, PA 1979

Days of data = 361

Erie, PA 1980

Days of data = 361
Erie, PA 1985

Days of data = 304

Erie, PA 1986

Days of data = 296

Erie, PA 1987

Days of data = 296

Erie, PA 1988

Days of data = 304