

Cooperative Institute for
Great Lakes Research

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Great Lakes Science for Society




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Ice cover in the Great Lakes plays a key role in regional weather, environmental quality, and economic prosperity. Understanding and predicting ice cover is important for navigation, weather forecasting, fisheries management, recreational safety, and search-and-rescue efforts.

Did you know...

- Ice cover in the Great Lakes is highly variable from year-to-year and is influenced by annual and longer-term climate trends.
- The winter of 2014 recorded the 2nd largest ice coverage for the Great Lakes, with ~91% of the lakes frozen over (the record is ~95%, set in 1979).

Learn more here



The USCGC *Mackinaw* breaking through Great Lakes ice.