

**04216000 NIAGARA RIVER AT BUFFALO, NY**

Eastern Lake Erie Basin  
Niagara Subbasin

LOCATION.--Lat 42°52'40", long 78°54'59" referenced to North American Datum of 1983, Erie County, NY, Hydrologic Unit 04120104, at head of Niagara River at Buffalo, and 34.3 mi upstream from mouth.

DRAINAGE AREA.--263,700 mi<sup>2</sup>.

**SURFACE-WATER RECORDS**

PERIOD OF RECORD.--January 1860 to September 1960 (monthly discharges only published in WSP 1912), October 1960 to current year. Records of January 1926 to September 1960 daily discharges available in files of U.S. Department of Commerce and U.S. Geological Survey.

REVISED RECORDS.--WSP 1912: 1862 (M), 1955 (M), 1936 (M). WDR NY-77-1: Drainage area.

GAGE.--Discharge determined from several powerplants at Niagara Falls and discharge over the falls. Discharge before 1926 determined from records of Corps of Engineers gages at Buffalo and Cleveland.

COOPERATION.--Records of daily discharge provided by Detroit District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Canada Department of the Environment, not reviewed by the USGS.

REMARKS.--Records do not include water diverted from Lake Michigan by Illinois and Michigan Canal during period of its operation prior to 1910 and by Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, which began operation in 1900, and from Lake Erie by Welland and New York State Canals before 1918. Records include water diverted into Lake Superior from Hudson Bay drainage by the Long Lake project, which began operation in July 1939, and by the Ogoki project, which began operation in July 1943. Figures of monthly mean discharge for 1860 to 1960 and daily discharge for 1961 to 1965, published in WSP 1912, are the official records of the U.S. Lake Survey, and have been coordinated with and concurred by the counterpart Canadian agencies, as have been the extremes for period of record through December 1976 and records October 1977 to current year.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum daily discharge, 347,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, Dec. 2, 1985, result of high, storm-generated Lake Erie level; minimum daily, 90,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, Jan. 13, 1964, Aug. 29, 1984. Maximum monthly mean discharge, 268,400 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, June 1986; minimum monthly mean, 116,200 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, Feb. 1936. Maximum and minimum instantaneous discharges not determined.

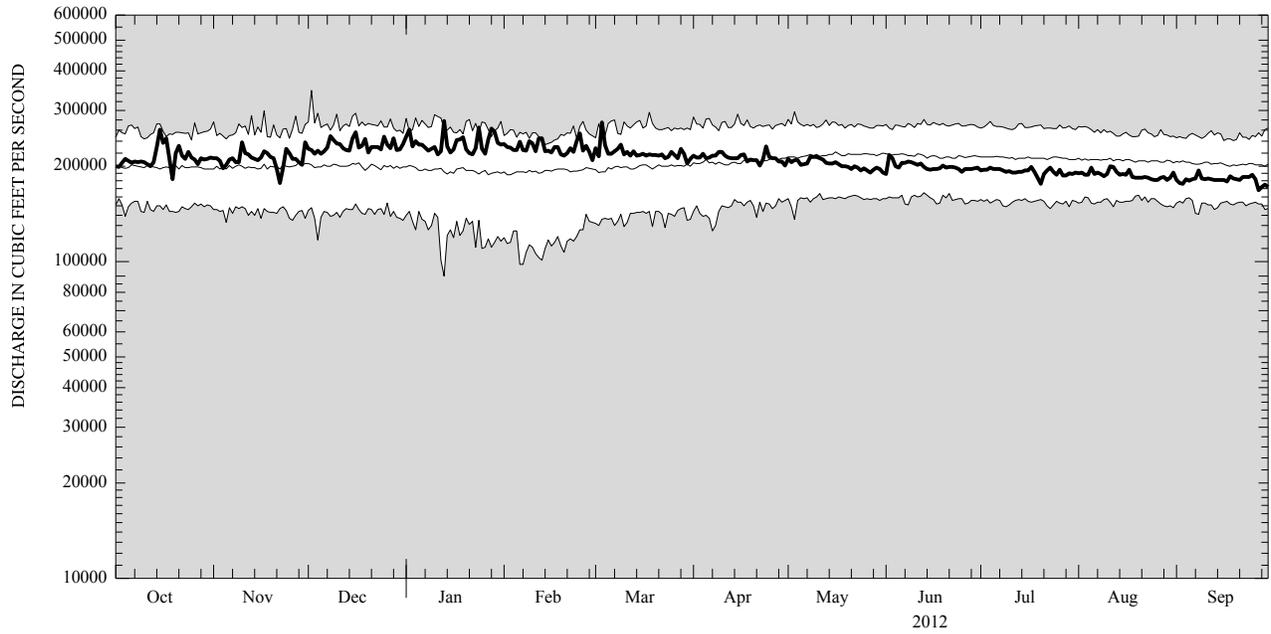
EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR.--Maximum daily discharge, 278,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, Jan 13; minimum daily discharge, 168,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, Sept. 27. Maximum and minimum instantaneous discharges not determined.

## 04216000 NIAGARA RIVER AT BUFFALO, NY—Continued

**DISCHARGE, CUBIC FEET PER SECOND**  
**WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2011 TO SEPTEMBER 2012**  
**DAILY MEAN VALUES**

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	200,000	212,000	227,000	248,000	235,000	228,000	216,000	211,000	189,000	194,000	190,000	181,000
2	199,000	212,000	225,000	261,000	230,000	215,000	213,000	206,000	217,000	195,000	191,000	177,000
3	205,000	208,000	219,000	231,000	229,000	275,000	213,000	209,000	212,000	195,000	188,000	176,000
4	211,000	197,000	224,000	240,000	225,000	233,000	219,000	209,000	200,000	198,000	188,000	182,000
5	208,000	202,000	219,000	234,000	225,000	219,000	212,000	202,000	198,000	196,000	198,000	180,000
6	205,000	210,000	223,000	234,000	239,000	219,000	213,000	203,000	205,000	196,000	189,000	182,000
7	207,000	212,000	229,000	229,000	225,000	223,000	216,000	204,000	205,000	196,000	191,000	183,000
8	206,000	206,000	249,000	224,000	224,000	227,000	216,000	214,000	207,000	194,000	189,000	194,000
9	207,000	206,000	242,000	227,000	240,000	234,000	222,000	214,000	206,000	192,000	186,000	183,000
10	206,000	238,000	236,000	230,000	236,000	218,000	222,000	214,000	204,000	193,000	189,000	182,000
11	203,000	220,000	235,000	218,000	223,000	222,000	216,000	212,000	202,000	191,000	200,000	183,000
12	200,000	218,000	228,000	223,000	245,000	216,000	213,000	210,000	204,000	191,000	199,000	182,000
13	206,000	213,000	225,000	278,000	245,000	223,000	212,000	205,000	199,000	192,000	192,000	181,000
14	230,000	211,000	224,000	231,000	223,000	216,000	212,000	204,000	196,000	192,000	188,000	181,000
15	261,000	209,000	245,000	221,000	224,000	217,000	212,000	204,000	195,000	194,000	189,000	181,000
16	237,000	213,000	256,000	226,000	221,000	219,000	217,000	206,000	196,000	194,000	188,000	181,000
17	245,000	223,000	229,000	242,000	230,000	216,000	218,000	203,000	196,000	199,000	195,000	179,000
18	211,000	220,000	232,000	243,000	230,000	218,000	207,000	200,000	197,000	192,000	185,000	186,000
19	182,000	214,000	244,000	247,000	218,000	217,000	210,000	200,000	201,000	184,000	184,000	183,000
20	220,000	212,000	221,000	226,000	216,000	217,000	209,000	199,000	198,000	176,000	184,000	182,000
21	232,000	196,000	230,000	220,000	220,000	216,000	209,000	196,000	199,000	189,000	184,000	181,000
22	216,000	177,000	230,000	218,000	228,000	218,000	201,000	200,000	199,000	194,000	185,000	185,000
23	211,000	198,000	230,000	228,000	222,000	212,000	210,000	198,000	198,000	198,000	184,000	185,000
24	222,000	227,000	226,000	265,000	240,000	214,000	231,000	194,000	196,000	192,000	182,000	185,000
25	213,000	220,000	248,000	227,000	254,000	222,000	214,000	197,000	192,000	188,000	181,000	188,000
26	210,000	211,000	234,000	219,000	224,000	217,000	212,000	194,000	196,000	195,000	181,000	182,000
27	203,000	211,000	228,000	243,000	232,000	212,000	212,000	191,000	196,000	187,000	184,000	168,000
28	212,000	206,000	245,000	263,000	222,000	227,000	207,000	195,000	196,000	187,000	185,000	172,000
29	210,000	202,000	225,000	257,000	209,000	219,000	207,000	198,000	197,000	190,000	181,000	175,000
30	211,000	238,000	226,000	237,000	---	204,000	201,000	196,000	198,000	189,000	184,000	172,000
31	213,000	---	235,000	234,000	---	211,000	---	191,000	---	191,000	191,000	---
<b>Total</b>	6,602,000	6,342,000	7,189,000	7,324,000	6,634,000	6,844,000	6,392,000	6,279,000	5,994,000	5,954,000	5,825,000	5,432,000
<b>Mean</b>	213,000	211,400	231,900	236,300	228,800	220,800	213,100	202,500	199,800	192,100	187,900	181,100
<b>Max</b>	261,000	238,000	256,000	278,000	254,000	275,000	231,000	214,000	217,000	199,000	200,000	194,000
<b>Min</b>	182,000	177,000	219,000	218,000	209,000	204,000	201,000	191,000	189,000	176,000	181,000	168,000

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CURRENT WATER YEAR DAILY MEAN DISCHARGE (BOLD) WITH DAILY MEDIAN FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.  
SHADED AREAS SHOW HIGHEST AND LOWEST DAILY MEAN FOR PERIOD OF RECORD THROUGH PREVIOUS WATER YEAR.