

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DIVISION

**WATER SUPPLY REPORT NUMBER FIVE
SUMMARY OF GROUND-WATER CONDITIONS
IN MICHIGAN
1960**

by
P. R. Giroux and Ted Thompson
U. S. Geological Survey

*Prepared in cooperation with the
United States Department of the Interior
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1961

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INTRODUCTION

This report is the fifth of a series covering ground-water levels and related hydrologic data in the State of Michigan. It summarizes and interprets, in part, the results of the program of measurement of ground-water levels and the collection of other pertinent hydrologic information by the U. S. Geological Survey. The program is a part of the overall water-resources investigation carried out in cooperation with the Michigan Geological Survey, and during 1960, with the following cities, townships, and villages:

<u>Cooperator</u>	<u>Cooperating Official</u>
City of Alma	J. D. McNaughton, City Manager
City of Battle Creek Water and Sewer Div., Dept. of Public Works	K. E. Garvey, Superintendent
City of Grand Ledge, Water Dept.	Harrison Millard, Superintendent.
City of Hastings, Public Services	K. P. Laberteaux, Director
City of Jackson, Water Dept.	J. M. Rogeven, Superintendent
City of Kalamazoo, Utilities Dept.	Albert Sabo, Manager
City of Lansing, Board of Water and Light	O. E. Eckert, General Manager
Village of Ontonagon	Warren Millard, Village Supt.
City of Pontiac, Water Dept.	H. G. Parker, Superintendent
Township of Waterford	J. E. Seeterlin, Township Clerk
City of St. Louis	R. M. Henneberger, Jr., City Mgr.
City of Wyoming	P. T. Spelman, City Engineer
City of Ypsilanti, Water Purification Plant	John Max, Superintendent

Township of Ypsilanti, Water and Sewer Dept. Robert Norris, Manager

Cooperative ground-water investigations by the U. S. Geological Survey in Michigan are directed jointly by O. M. Hackett, Chief of the Ground Water Branch, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C., and W. L. Daoust, State Geologist, Michigan Geological Survey, Lansing, and are supervised by Morris Deutsch, District Geologist.

Records and interpretations of water levels and artesian pressures from 1935 through 1955 have been published in the annual series of U. S. Geological Survey Water-Supply Papers entitled "Water Levels and Artesian Pressures in the United States". The following tabulation lists the papers containing water-level data for Michigan:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>No.</u>
1935	777	1942	944	1949	1156
1936	817	1943	986	1950	1165
1937	840	1944	1016	1951	1191
1938	845	1945	1023	1952	1221
1939	886	1946	1071	1953	1265
1940	906	1947	1096	1954	1321
1941	936	1948	1126	1955	1404

Beginning in 1956, the U. S. Geological Survey discontinued publication of its series of annual reports and is now publishing, at 5-year intervals, a reduced number of water-level records without interpretive text or illustrations. The first of these series for the Northeastern States, which includes Michigan, has been published for the 2-year period 1956-57 as Water-Supply Paper No. 1537. The needs of the State, however, require more detailed and current ground-water information. As a result, publication of annual Water Supply Reports entitled "Summary of ground-water conditions in Michigan" by the Michigan Geological Survey was started in 1956.

The first four reports of this series published, cover ground-water conditions in Michigan for the calendar years 1956 through 1959 as follows:

<u>Water Supply Report</u>	<u>Year</u>
1	1956
2	1957
3	1958
4	1959

The Water Supply Reports are designed to supplement data contained in the Federal reports and also provide interpretive text and illustrations. By means of these ground-water summaries, basic information concerning ground-water conditions in Michigan are made readily available to the public.

Objectives of the Observation Well Program

The observation-well program in Michigan is a part of a nationwide program, the purpose of which was summarized by Sayre (Water-Supply Paper 1404, p. 1, 1957) as follows:

"The objectives of the observation-well program are to provide a day-to-day evaluation of available ground-water supplies, to facilitate the prediction of trends in ground-water levels that will indicate the probable status of important ground-water supplies in the future, to delineate present or potential areas of detrimentally high or low ground-water levels, to aid in the prediction of the base flow of streams, to determine the several forces that act on a ground-water body, and to demonstrate the interplay of those forces in the ground-water regimen, to furnish information for use in basic research, and to provide long-term continuous records of fluctuations of water levels in representative wells. These selected records serve as a framework to which many short-term records collected during an intensive investigation may be related."

Scope of this Report

This report was based on periodic measurements of water levels made during 1960 in 209 wells, of which 57 were equipped with continuous recording gages. The report summarizes water-level changes observed throughout the State, and analyzes these changes in selected areas. During 1960 the program was expanded to include cooperation with the major users of ground water listed above. The main purpose of the expansion was to observe and analyze the effects of pumping on water levels in important areas of ground-water withdrawals. During the year, 24 recording gages were installed in wells tapping several different aquifers in 14 municipalities. The distribution of all wells in which water levels were observed in 1960 is shown in figure 1.

Figure 2 is a geologic section through the Michigan basin illustrating the geometry and extent of the bedrock formations that include important fresh-water aquifers in varying parts of the State. Surficial deposits of glacial drift -- although present over most of the State -- are not shown.

Table 1 lists the basic information for each observation well, and the extremes of water-level fluctuations in 1960 and for the previous period of record. Fluctuations of water levels in representative wells are also shown by numerous hydrographs, and in many cases graphic interpretations of the changes in water level are made by including pertinent climatic and (or) pumpage data.

Several illustrations in this report include graphs showing the cumulative departures of annual precipitation from the long-term mean. These graphs were constructed by using the "zero" or "average" line to denote the average precipitation for the period of record preceding the period of the graph. Starting at this line the excess or deficiency of precipitation for each month or year is

added algebraically to prepare the cumulative departure graph. Thus, for each time unit, a line sloping downward always indicates below-average precipitation and a line sloping upward, above-average precipitation. In cumulative graphs such as these, the slope of the line is the important part -- that is, even where the graph is far below the zero line, if the slope is upward the period is one of above-average precipitation. The end point of the graph thus also gives the total rainfall above or below the average for the entire period of the graph.

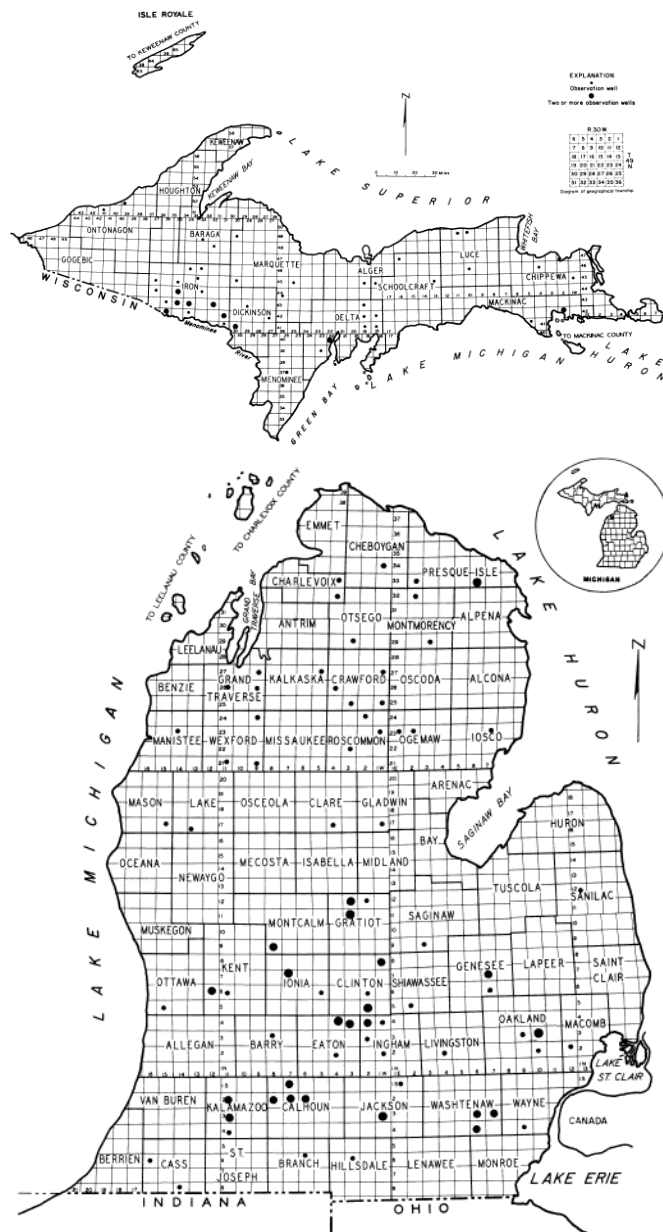


Figure 1. Location of observation wells in Michigan, 1960.

Table 2 lists the reported monthly and annual ground-water pumpage for many municipalities, institutions, and some of the industries in the State.

A discussion of principles of occurrence and movement of ground water and causes of water-level fluctuations was included in previous reports of this series.

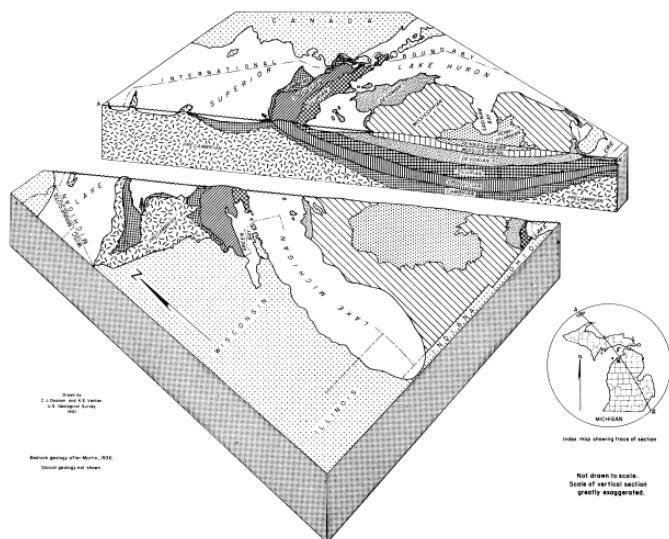


Figure 2. Block diagram showing schematic geological cross-section through the Michigan basin.

Open-File and Published Records

Complete tabulations of water-level measurements and hydrographs for each observation well, records of chemical quality of ground water, water-temperature measurements, well records including logs, aquifer tests, records of pumping for public supply and industrial use, and published and unpublished water-resource reports are on file for public inspection. They may be examined at the office of the Water Resources Section of the Michigan Geological Survey, 4th Floor, Mason Building, Lansing or at the Michigan district office of the U. S. Geological Survey, Ground Water Branch, 407 Capitol Savings and Loan Building, Lansing. Records for the Northern Peninsula are kept on file also in the offices of the State or Federal Geological Surveys, 203 State Office Building, Escanaba.

U. S. Geological Survey Water-Supply Papers are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., or can be consulted at the offices listed above and in major university or municipal libraries. The Federal Survey also issues a monthly publication entitled "Water Resources Review" which briefly summarizes ground-water levels and streamflow throughout the United States. The monthly issues plus spring and annual summaries can be obtained free of charge by application to the Director, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington 25, D. C. Publications of the Michigan Geological Survey can be purchased from the Michigan Department of Conservation, Publications Room, Mason Building, Lansing 26, Michigan.

Reports of cooperative ground-water investigations covering specific areas of the State are published from time to time by the Michigan Geological Survey or the U. S. Geological Survey. These reports are also available for inspection at the offices listed above.

Well-Numbering System

The well-numbering system used by the State and Federal Surveys in Michigan indicates the location of wells within the rectangular subdivision of the public lands with reference to the Michigan meridian and base line (fig. 1). The first two segments of a well number designate township and range; the third segment designates both the section and the well within the section. Thus, well number 32N 6E 16-1 is well number 1 in section 16, Township 32 North, Range 6 East. In the several small areas of the State where the rectangular subdivisions have not been made, wells are numbered as above by projection of the rectangular subdivisions to those areas.

Acknowledgments

Acknowledgment is made to personnel of Federal and State agencies, industrial concerns, municipalities, and public utilities whose cooperation has contributed to the accumulation of the basic data presented in this report.

Appreciation is also extended to Messrs. J. G. Rulison and A. E. Slaughter of the Michigan Geological Survey, for their assistance in the editing of this report series.

PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE

Precipitation and temperature are the major climatic factors affecting the ground-water regimen in any area. Recharge to aquifers is supplied directly or indirectly by precipitation. Ground-water levels are affected by the quantity, the season of occurrence, the intensity, and the nature of the precipitation.

As evidenced by hydrographs of natural fluctuations of water in wells (figs. 3 and 7), spring and fall are the periods when most of the ground-water recharge occurs. In the spring before the growing season starts, snowmelt and rain normally results in large additions to the ground-water reservoirs. Layers of ice, or frost in the ground can impede infiltration when thaws occur. As a result water from snowmelt and early spring precipitation may be mostly lost to the aquifers by quick surface runoff. In the fall after the growing season ends and evapotranspiration demands are reduced by colder weather, substantial rises in water level from rains usually occur.

According to the U. S. Weather Bureau, precipitation during 1960 was well above average in the Northern Peninsula and northwestern part of the Southern Peninsula, and slightly above average in the northeastern part of the Southern Peninsula. In most of the remainder of the State it was considerably below average. For the year precipitation varied from an excess of 13 inches at Grand Marais to a deficiency of 11 inches at Pontiac.

Considerable amounts of ground-water recharge occurred in the spring of 1960, when high-water content snow melted in a few days and heavy precipitation fell. For example, from 7 to 10 inches of rain fell between April 23 - May 10 in the western part of the Northern Peninsula. However, the amount of water available for recharge in the spring far exceeded the infiltration capacity of the land and resulted in abnormal runoff to streams and serious flooding. In the fall of 1960, precipitation was generally deficient, precluding the usual rises and most water levels continued to decline to the end of the year.

Temperatures have a strong effect on recharge rates of water into the aquifers. Accumulations of winter ice and snow cannot be recharged to the ground until it is released by thaws. In addition, the time of occurrence of spring and fall frosts or freezing weather controls the length of the growing season and hence, the amount of water transpired by vegetation. Generally, very little recharge to ground-water aquifers occurs during the growing season. However, cool weather during the warm seasons of the year reduces evapotranspiration demands.

Average temperatures during 1960 were slightly below normal. March was the coldest month of record in most of the State, with below zero readings common at most stations. However, at the end of March and early April, warm temperatures caused sudden thawing. June and July temperatures were cooler than usual thus reducing evapotranspiration. December was very cold averaging between 3 and 5 degrees F below the average and the frozen ground impeded recharge to the aquifers.

SUMMARIES OF GROUND-WATER CONDITIONS

Statewide Changes in Storage from Natural Influences

Generally, in the State, ground-water levels were high at the beginning of the year owing to a carryover of high ground-water levels from the fall of 1959. Many record and near-record highs (figs. 3 and 7) occurred in the spring as the result of recharge from heavy precipitation and snowmelt. Stages continued to be well above the average for the remainder of the year in the Northern Peninsula, but in some areas of the Southern Peninsula stages fell to below-average levels owing to dryness during the fall months.

Northern Peninsula

Figure 3 shows the hydrographs of 1960 month-end levels in four key wells and compares these levels with the extremes and the average for the periods of record, New highs were recorded in all four wells for significant periods during the year. The high water levels resulted

from the large amounts of recharge in the fall of 1959 and again in the spring of 1960.

Figure 4 superimposes hydrographs for three years of record for each of three observation wells. The response of water levels to infiltration from snowmelt and precipitation at different seasons of the year is apparent. Water levels in the shallow Baraga County well quickly respond to recharge while in the deeper Schoolcraft County and Chippewa County wells the recharge effects lag and thus the hydrographs reflect only general seasonal fluctuations.

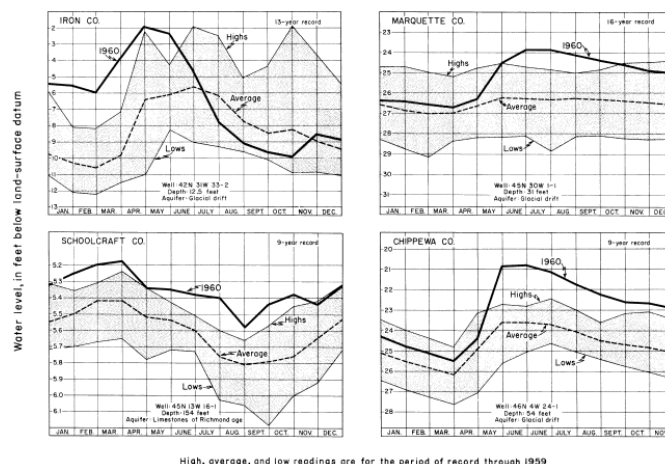


Figure 3. Month-end water levels in key observation wells in the Northern Peninsula, 1960.

In figure 5 the seasonal changes in water level in 2 wells are plotted along with trends in precipitation. In general, the water levels correlate closely with precipitation departures but the pattern of seasonal fluctuations is sometimes changed by periods of intense or continuous precipitation. For instance, in the Chippewa County well the usual long seasonal decline from the spring high in one year to the next spring may be interrupted by heavy fall rains as in 1954 and 1959.

Figure 6 shows the difference in the 1960 hydrographs of three wells finished at similar depths but in different aquifers. The levels in the Ontonagon and Mackinac County wells fluctuate similarly to the Schoolcraft County well in figure 4. However, the graph of the Iron County well lacks the seasonal effects shown in the other hydrographs.

Elsewhere in the Northern Peninsula ground-water levels followed much the same general pattern -- levels were high in the spring (table 1) and then generally remained above average during the remainder of the year.

Many of the observation wells presently observed in the western half of the Northern Peninsula (table 1) are those maintained by the Wisconsin-Michigan Power Co. to evaluate ground-water storage and to aid in the prediction of streamflows in the Menominee River Basin. These wells are finished at shallow depth in glacial-drift deposits and reflect changes in natural storage in the shallow aquifers of that area.

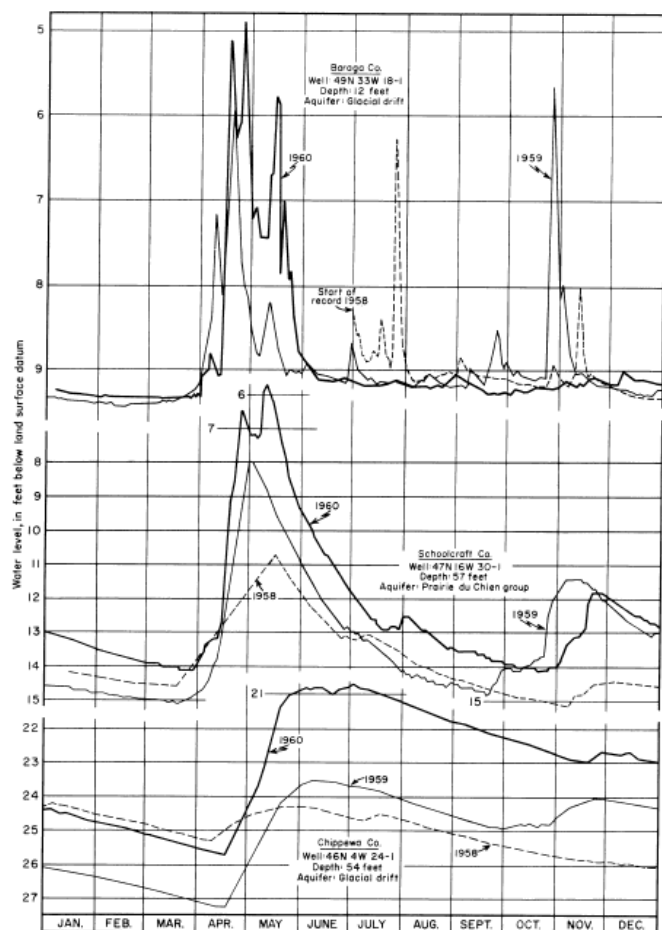


Figure 4. Hydrographs of selected wells in Baraga, Chippewa, and Schoolcraft Counties, 1958-60.

The Company issues monthly summaries of hydrologic conditions and also an annual report (Kurtyka, 1960) containing valuable hydrologic information such as weather, evapotranspiration and ground-water storage data. The report (p. 155) states "Groundwater conditions remained above normal for the Menominee River Basin during 1960***"

"As a result of snow cover releases and excessive precipitation during April, a new record end of the month average well elevation of 5.38 feet was established for the Menominee River Basin. This is about 1.8 feet above the normal April average well elevation."

Southern Peninsula

Figure 7 gives the 1960 month-end levels as compared to the extremes and average of record for eight key wells affected primarily by natural climatic conditions.

In the northern half of the Southern Peninsula the key wells in Roscommon and Kalkaska Counties remained at high stages throughout most of the year. In the spring, levels were at or near record highs.

This was typical of many other observation wells in the area and many new highs of record were observed (table 1). The higher levels were the result of a carryover of high stages from late 1959 and the

additional recharge from heavy snowmelt and precipitation in the spring of 1960.

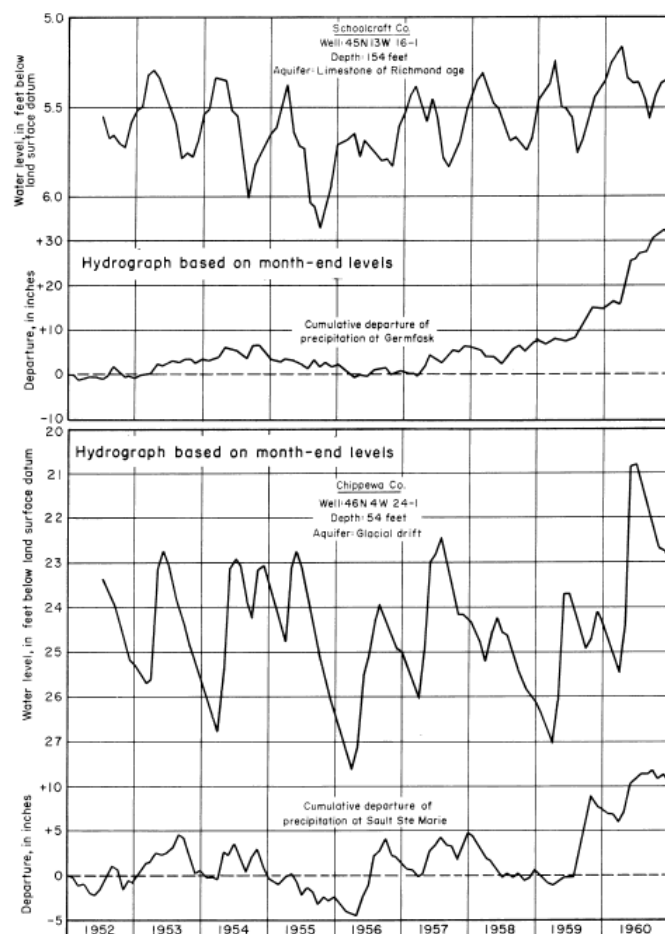


Figure 5. Hydrographs of selected wells in Chippewa and Schoolcraft Counties, and precipitation departures, 1952-60.

In the southern half of the Southern Peninsula, levels in key wells were also higher during the spring than a year ago. However, owing to dryness little or no recovery of water levels occurred in the fall and stages generally fell to below-average by the end of 1960.

In the Thumb area water levels in the key observation well in Sanilac County were at record high stages late in the spring. However, stages fell sharply to below-average levels by late summer. The usual fall recovery did not occur owing to precipitation deficiencies, and end-of-the-year levels were near record low in sharp contrast to the high spring levels.

In Gratiot County the levels in the key well reacted very similarly to the Sanilac County well except that stages fell to below average levels by the end of March.

Levels in the key well in Clinton County were also high in the spring and low at the end of the year but they remained closer to the average stage than levels in the Sanilac and Gratiot County wells.

The levels in the Ingham County well were above average at the beginning of the year but fell to a near-record low stage by the end of the year as a result of

about a 6-inch deficiency of precipitation and increased pumping from the Saginaw formation in the immediate area. Here, the effects of climate are being gradually masked by the influence of pumping in the growing metropolitan area of Lansing.

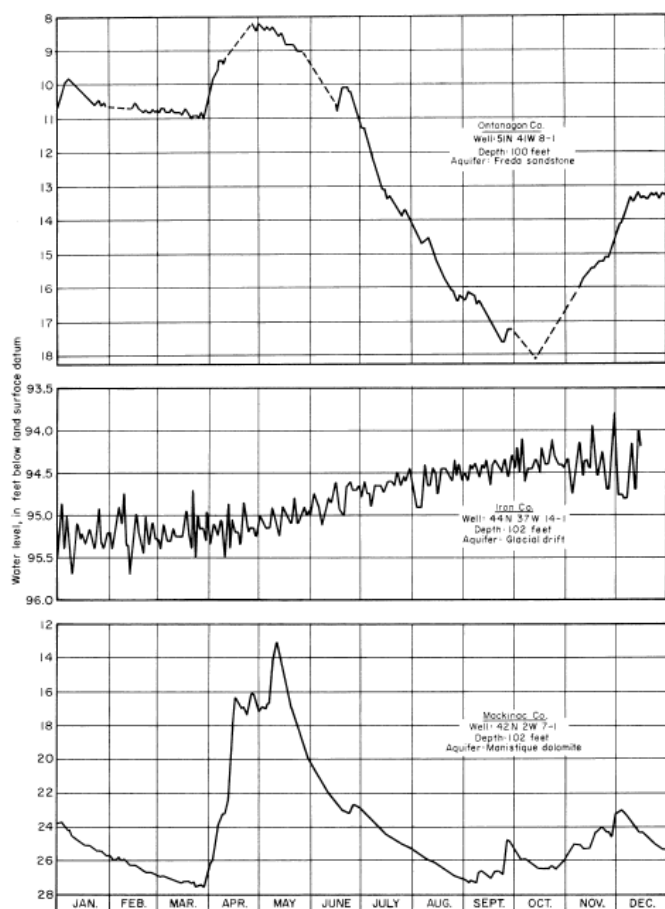


Figure 6. Hydrographs of selected wells in Iron, Mackinac, and Ontonagon Counties, 1960.

The key well in Calhoun County is finished to a depth of 8 feet in glacial drift. In this well levels remained high throughout the year, although precipitation deficiencies in the fall resulted in a continuation of the summer rate of decline.

In Cass County the key well is finished to a depth of 55 feet and is typical of wells in that area. Here, precipitation was about 35 inches for the year and levels were above average from February through December. End-of-the-year levels were about 1 1/2 feet higher than at the end of 1959.

Elsewhere in the southern half of the Southern Peninsula water levels in observation wells at locations remote from pumping effects were also generally high. Several new record-highs were recorded (table 1).

Statewide Changes in Storage from Pumping Influences

In areas where ground water is used for municipal or industrial supplies, water levels are observed to

determine if the discharge from wells exceeds the total natural recharge to the aquifers. Long-term declines, in contrast to seasonal and natural climatic variations, would thus indicate a gradual depletion of the aquifers. A most effective method of determining the amount of water available from an aquifer is the analysis of long-term records of water levels and pumpage.

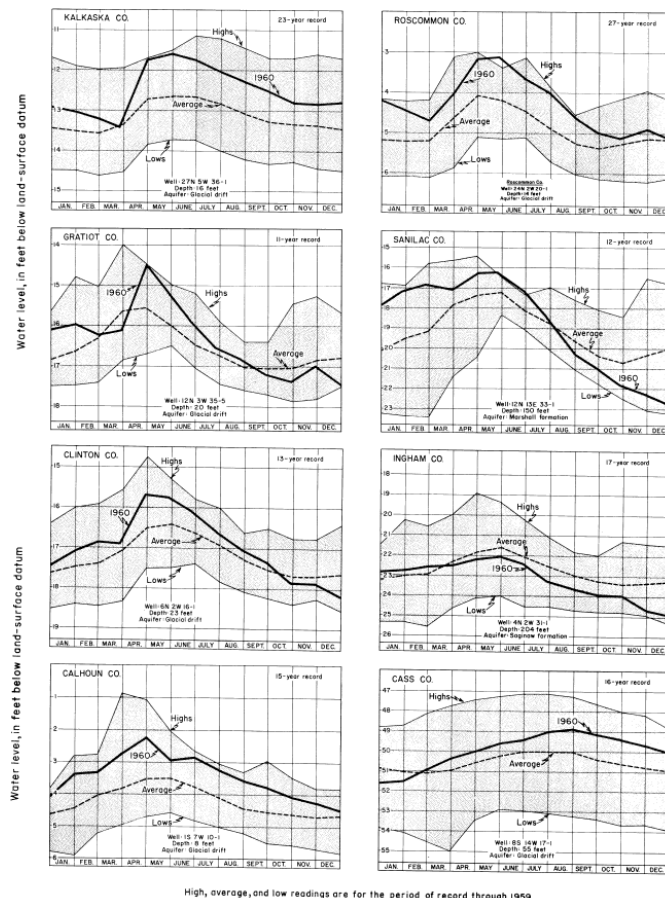


Figure 7. Month-end water levels in key observation wells in the Southern Peninsula, 1960.

A recording station provides for the continuous collection of basic hydrologic data, which serves to indicate the day-to-day effects of pumping within the source aquifer. The information obtained may be especially valuable to municipalities, industries, and institutions and their ground-water consultants in estimating the capacity of aquifers to meet present and future demands for water, the desirable separation between wells, and whether expansion of ground-water systems is feasible.

Northern Peninsula

Ontonagon County

VILLAGE OF ONTONAGON. The village of Ontonagon obtains its municipal supply from a reservoir (52N 39W 30-1) fed by a tile gallery constructed in beach sand along the shore of Lake Superior (Francis, 1950). Lake water is recharged through the sand into the gallery. The water levels in the reservoir reflect the water level in the beach sands along the tile.

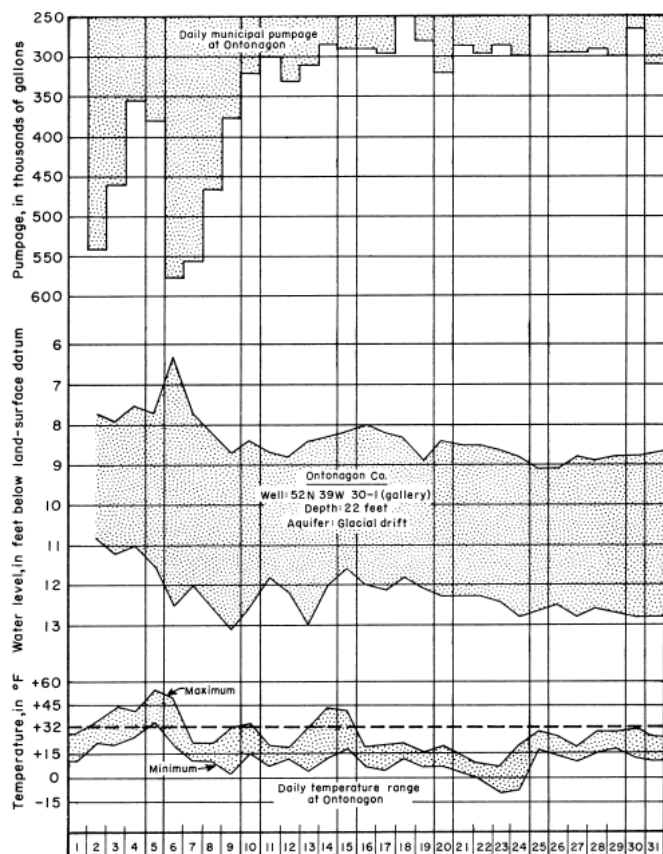


Figure 8. Range of water level and air temperature, and municipal pumpage at Ontonagon, December 1960.

During prolonged periods of freezing weather ice forms on the shore above the gallery and continues to build out over the lake. This reduces the area of recharge in the immediate vicinity of the gallery, slowing the rate of infiltration and resulting in greater drawdown in the aquifer. A continuous recording gage was installed on the gallery December 2, in cooperation with the Village. The water level in the sand is controlled by regulating the rate of pumping. The daily range of water levels and air temperature, and pumpage for December 1960 is shown graphically in figure 8. In early December, maximum daily temperatures were above freezing, no ice formed and water levels remained fairly high during a period when pumpage averaged at least 450,000 gallons daily. Although daily pumpage was reduced to about 300,000 gallons after the 10th of the month, water levels fell steadily indicating the reduction in recharge caused by the buildup of ice.

Municipal withdrawal of ground water was reported as 142 million gallons for 1960 as compared to the 92 mg reported for 1959.

Southern Peninsula

Barry County

CITY OF HASTINGS. The city obtains its water supply from wells finished in glacial drift. Observation well 3N 8W 18-1 is also finished in the glacial drift and reflects the

withdrawal of ground water by municipal and industrial wells.

A continuous recording gage was installed on the observation well at the Fair Grounds on July 28, in cooperation with the city of Hastings. Figure 9 shows the daily range in water levels at this station, precipitation, and pumpage by the city. The nearest municipal well is about a quarter of a mile away, but the water level in the observation well responds quickly to the effects of pumping. The immediate effects of precipitation are masked by pumping from area wells. The deficiency of precipitation during the last half of the year prevented the usual fall rise in water levels.

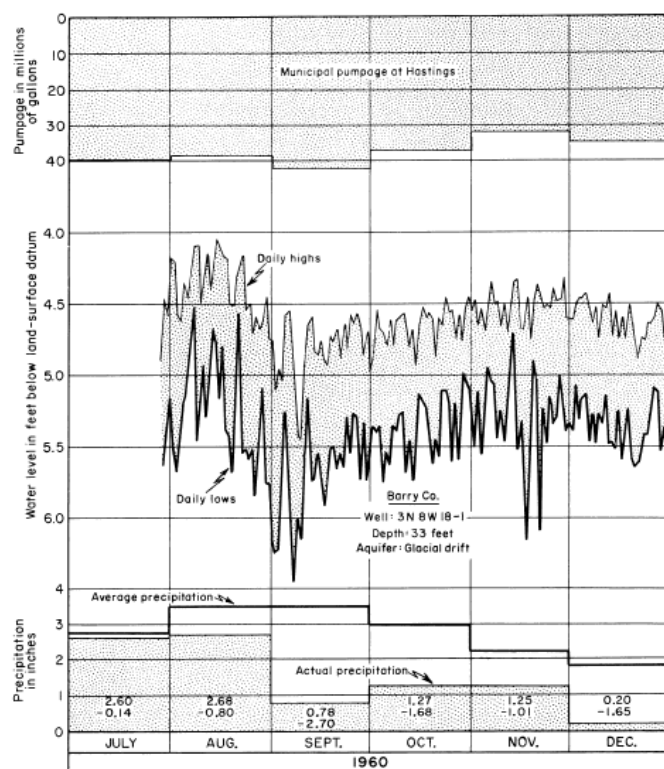


Figure 9. Hydrograph of daily range for well at Hastings, municipal pumpage, and precipitation, July-December 1960.

Municipal withdrawals of ground water by the city of Hastings were reported to be 398 million gallons for the year as compared to 315 mg in 1959. This was an increase of about 25 percent. Average daily use of water was highest in September when 1.37 mgd was pumped.

Branch County

CITY OF COLDWATER. Observation well 6S 6W 22-1 is finished in glacial drift and located at the municipal well field. The water levels are affected by withdrawals of ground water by municipal wells that also tap the glacial drift.

During the winter and spring the water levels in the well were the highest recorded since 1952. However, year-end levels were lower than at the end of 1959 as the result of reduced recharge resulting from dry weather in the fall.

Reported municipal pumpage of 599 million gallons was a record high and 7 mg more than in 1959.

Calhoun County

BATTLE CREEK METROPOLITAN AREA. Most municipal and industrial wells in the area obtain water from the Marshall formation. Some domestic wells are finished in the overlying glacial drift. The city of Battle Creek cooperates in maintaining the observation well network in the area.

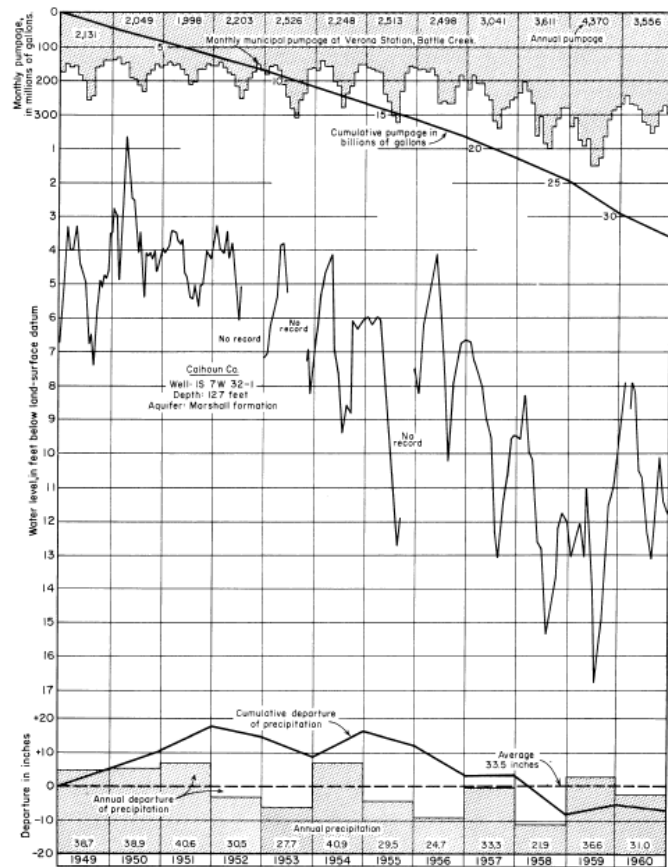


Figure 10. Hydrograph of well at Verona Station, municipal pumpage, and precipitation departures at Battle Creek, 1949-60.

As a result of a carryover of higher ground-water levels from the abundant precipitation and favorable recharge conditions of the fall of 1959, early 1960 levels in observation wells were the highest observed for the last few years. However, precipitation deficiencies in the latter part of the year reduced the usual fall recharge. Year-end levels were 0.3 to 1.5 feet lower than at the end of 1959. No extremes of water levels were recorded in 1960 (table 1).

Figure 10 shows the late 1959 and early 1960 recovery of water levels in the observation well at Battle Creek's Verona well field mostly owing to decreased pumpage and also to large amounts of recharge from precipitation. Water levels in late fall of 1960 declined as a result of dry weather.

Total municipal pumpage was reported to be 3.6 billion gallons. This was in marked contrast to the record 4.4

bg reported for 1959. Water use decreased in 1960 (fig. 10), reversing the rising trend since 1956.

CITY OF MARSHALL. The three observation wells in the city (table 1) tap the Marshall formation and reflect municipal and industrial withdrawals of ground water from that aquifer in the Marshall area.

In the spring, levels were among the highest observed for the past 10 years. By year-end, however, levels had fallen to about the same as at the end of 1959.

Total municipal pumpage was reported as 358 million gallons for the year, which was 66 mg less than in 1959.

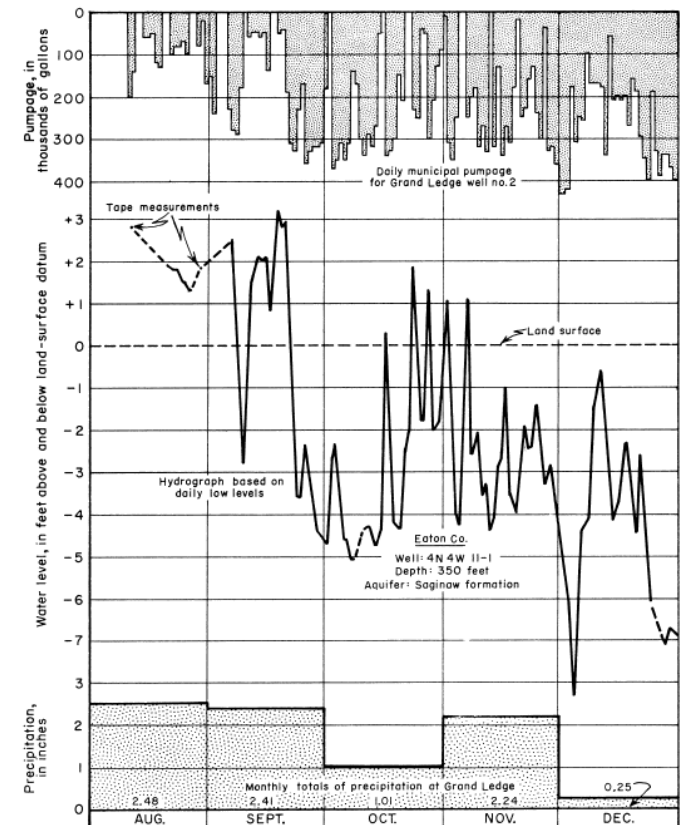


Figure 11. Hydrograph of well, pumpage, and precipitation at Grand Ledge, August-December 1960.

Eaton County

CITY OF CHARLOTTE. Observation well 2N 4W 19-1 and municipal supply wells at the Municipal Park in Charlotte are finished in glacial drift. Stages in the observation well are affected by municipal pumping. Based on quarterly measurements, levels in the observation well were the highest since 1952.

Reported municipal withdrawals of ground water were 389 million gallons (table 2), which was slightly lower than the record high of 391 mg pumped in 1959.

CITY OF GRAND LEDGE. The two observation wells and the municipal wells in Grand Ledge are finished in the Saginaw formation.

A recording gage was installed August 11 on well 4N 4W 11-1 and is being maintained in cooperation with the city of Grand Ledge.

In figure 11 the marked effects of pumping during the August-December period by city well no. 2 are reflected in the water levels in the observation well. Pumpage effects and lack of recharge owing to relatively dry weather in the fall caused stages to decline. Although Grand Ledge well no. 2 is located about a half-mile southeast of the observation well, the influence of its pumping is quickly felt in the observation well. Changes in stage of the Grand River adjacent to the well field also affect the water levels in the observation well.

By early summer of 1960 stages in the other observation well at Grand Ledge (table 1, well 4N 4W 2-1) rose from the low of record in September of 1959 to the highest observed stage since 1956. Despite a subsequent sharp decline as a result of pumpage and deficient precipitation, year-end levels were still about half a foot higher than at the end of 1959.

Total municipal pumpage was reported as 150 million gallons (table 2), which was about 20 percent less than in 1959.

Genesee County

FLINT METROPOLITAN AREA. The city of Flint obtains its municipal water supply from the Flint River. However, Burton Township to the south, Beecher Metropolitan Water District to the north, and many industries in the area obtain water from the Saginaw formation or from the overlying glacial drift.

Observation wells in the area reflect changes in water levels owing to pumping from the drift and bedrock. However, water levels in a few shallow wells finished in the glacial drift (table 1) respond principally to natural climatic conditions. Observed spring levels in these shallow drift deposits were among the highest of the past several years, but by the end of the year were much lower than at the end of 1959.

In the deeper drift deposits (table 1, well 7N 7E 20-2) water levels during the spring were the highest observed since 1952, but by the end of the year fell to about 2 feet below the level observed at the end of 1959. In well 7N 7E 32-1 the effects of nearby pumping from the drift aquifer influences water levels and stages in this well have been falling for several years. However, in 1960, a small net gain for the year was observed.

In the Saginaw formation the highest levels since 1953 were observed in the spring. However, year-end levels were only slightly higher than at the close of 1959.

Water levels in well 6N 7E 9-1 (fig. 12) tapping the Saginaw formation at the Grand Blanc Fisher Body Plant dropped to the lowest stage of record by late summer owing to the increased pumpage at the plant. The net decline of about 2 feet for the year resulted from a combination of pumpage and precipitation deficiencies.

Reported pumpage by the plant was 79.8 million gallons for the year, or about 10 percent more than in 1959.

Gratiot County

CITY OF ALMA. Municipal and industrial wells obtain water from the buried outwash. One deep municipal well taps the underlying Saginaw formation but is seldom used because the water is of poor chemical quality. Observation wells in the Alma area are finished in shallow drift and in deeply buried sand and gravel outwash. Water levels in the shallow drift primarily reflect climatic conditions, whereas artesian pressures in the buried outwash are affected mainly by municipal and industrial pumping.

In May 1960 a recording gage was installed on well 11N 3W 4-1 (TW 6) in cooperation with the city of Alma to observe changes in artesian pressure resulting from withdrawals of ground water in the area. The daily low water levels from this recording gage and monthly water-level measurements in four other observation wells in Alma are plotted to a common mean sea level datum so that comparison can readily be made (fig. 13). The Reed Excavating Co. well is finished in the shallow drift, whereas the other four observation wells tap the buried outwash. Precipitation deficiencies prevented normal amounts of water from recharging to the aquifer and thus recovery of water levels from the summer lows was principally due to the decreased pumpage. The water levels in TW 6 are affected principally by the pumping of municipal well 7. Observed stages in the buried outwash were lowest for the area in the Court and Prospect wells where the effect of pumping by city wells 2 and 4 is reflected.

Total municipal withdrawals of 645 million gallons of ground water for the year was reported by the city of Alma. This was about the same as in 1959. Pumpage averaged slightly more than 2 mgd during the period June-August.

CITY OF ST. LOUIS. Municipal and industrial water supplies in the city are obtained from wells tapping deeply buried sand and gravel outwash deposits. In August 1960, a continuous recording gage was installed on St. Louis well 3 (12N 3W 24-2) to observe fluctuations of water levels in response to pumpage and climatic conditions (fig. 14). From the short-term record it is apparent that the water levels are affected primarily by pumping. Pumping in September was about 7 million gallons less than in August, and a net rise in stage of about 6 feet was recorded. Increased pumping in October then resulted in a sharp decline to the lowest stage for the short period of record. However, in November and December levels rose nearly 15 feet when pumping decreased sharply.

Although water levels in this observation well respond primarily to the nearby pumping, some relation with precipitation departures is evident during the months October-December. During this period monthly deficiencies or excesses in precipitation correlated with changes in stage shown on the hydrograph.

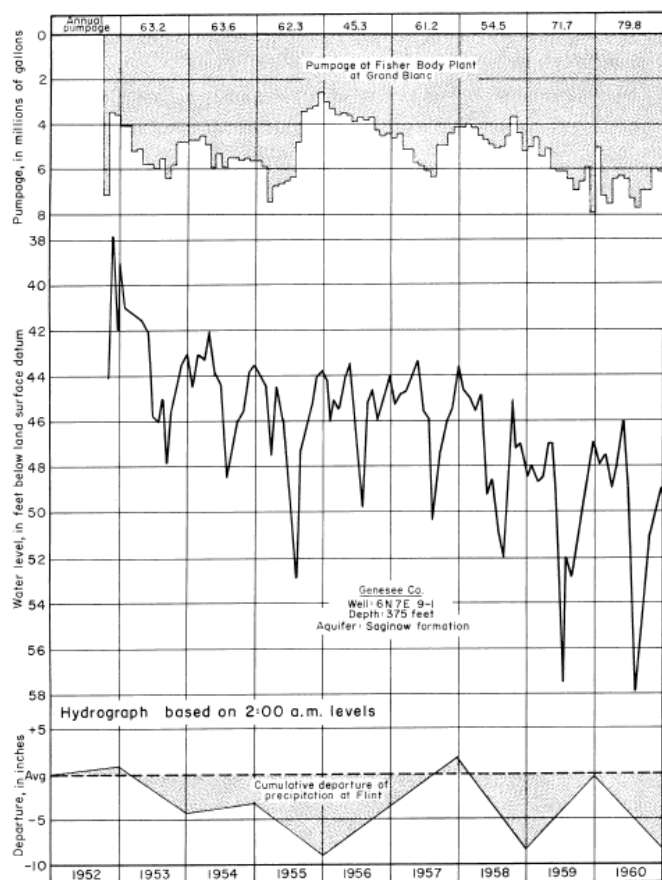


Figure 12. Hydrograph of well at Fisher Body Plant near Grand Blanc, pumpage, and precipitation departures, 1952-60.

Reported municipal withdrawal of 262 million gallons (table 2) by the city of St. Louis was somewhat higher than in 1959 but considerably below the 315 mg pumped in 1958.

Ingham County

LANSING METROPOLITAN AREA. The Saginaw formation is the principal source of water for municipal, industrial, and domestic wells in the area, although a few wells obtain water from the overlying glacial drift.

All but one of the area observation wells are finished in the Saginaw formation. The water levels in the rock wells reflect changes in distribution and rate of pumping from the formation. A few on the perimeter of the area (fig. 7 and table 1, Ingham County) primarily reflect climatic conditions.

Ground-water levels in most of the observation wells were generally higher than in 1959 when many record low stages were recorded. The higher stages resulted from recharge due to favorable conditions in the spring and also from a small reported area decrease in total pumpage withdrawals, although Michigan State University pumped 100 million gallons more than in 1959, mostly owing to increased use for golf course irrigation and additional married housing.

In mid-1960, five recording gages were installed in this area and are being maintained in cooperation with the

Lansing Board of Water and Light. The hydrographs constructed from daily low water levels in these wells are shown by figure 15A. The Holt and Airport wells are at some distance from, centers of heavy pumping and in these wells the continuation of the summer decline to the end of the year reflected reduced recharge from precipitation in the fall. All the hydrographs in figure 15 were plotted in mean-sea level datum to illustrate the difference in altitude of observed ground-water levels in the metropolitan area. The levels in the Holt well are nearly 200 feet higher than at the Seymour well. The water level on the east side of the area (Michigan State University well), on the west (Wheeler well), and the northwest (airport well) are each at about the same elevation and about 85 feet lower than the levels in the Holt well.

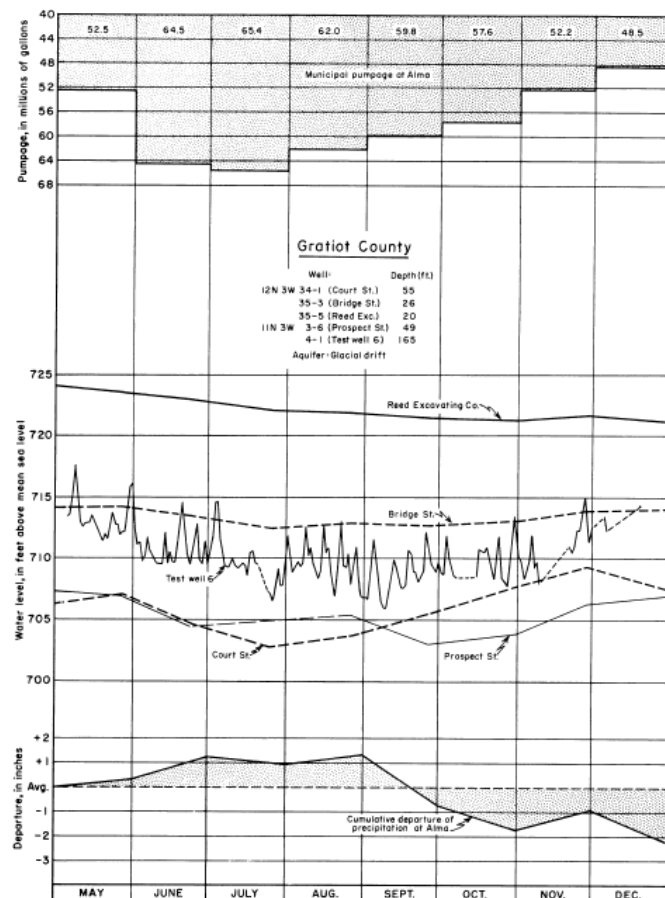


Figure 13. Hydrographs of wells, municipal pumpage, and precipitation at Alma, May-December 1960.

Generally, ground-water levels for the year, as compared to 1959, were about 10 feet lower in the northwestern part, and 2-3 feet lower in the southwestern part of the area. Gains of as much as 9 feet, however, were recorded in the central and eastern part. These wide differences were principally the result of changes in the rate and distribution of pumping by municipal, industrial, and institutional wells. In a few of the wells stages in the spring were the highest observed in recent years. However, precipitation deficiencies late in the year (fig. 15B) resulted in less-than-usual recharge

and levels in many wells showed a net decline for the year.

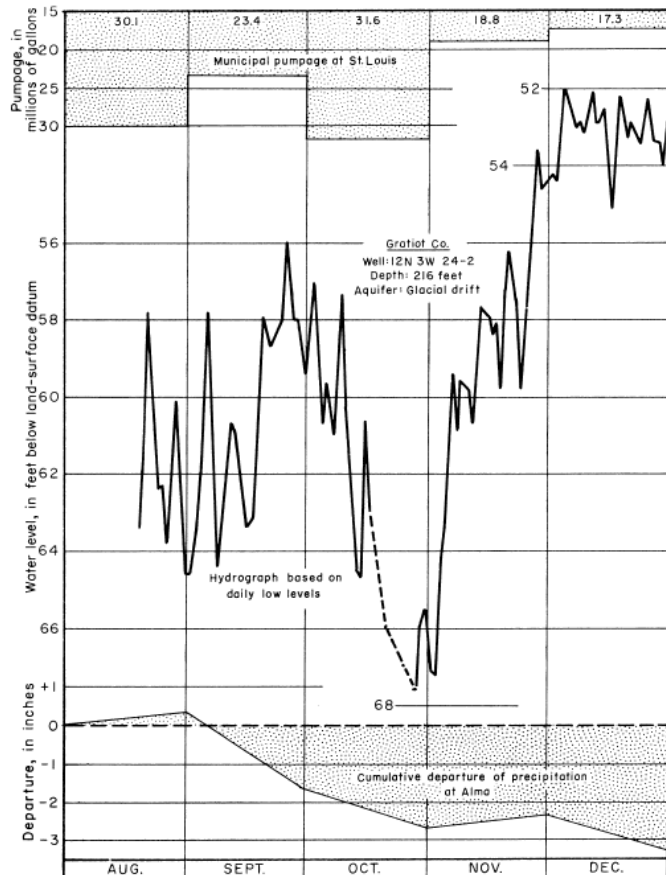


Figure 14. Hydrograph of St Louis well no. 3, pumpage, and precipitation departures, August-December, 1960.

Total reported withdrawals of ground water for municipal and institutional use in the Lansing Metropolitan area (table 2) averaged about 22.9 million gallons per day in 1960. The total in 1960 was 8.4 billion gallons as compared to 8.2 in 1959. This represented about 15 percent of the total ground-water pumpage listed in table 2, indicating the importance of ground-water resources to the Lansing area.

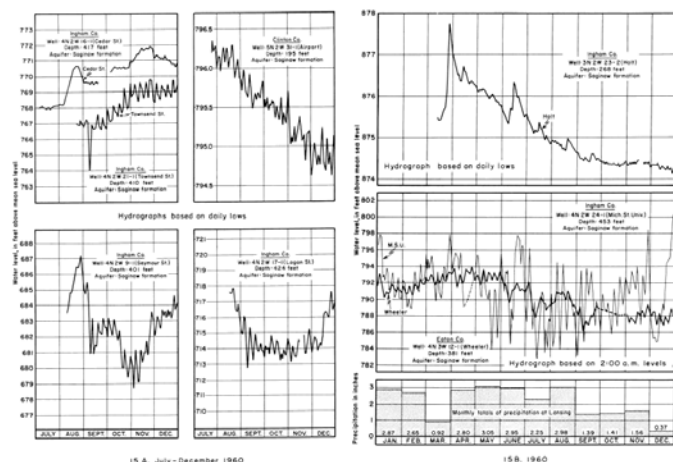


Figure 15. Hydrographs of selected wells in the greater Lansing area, and precipitation, 1960.

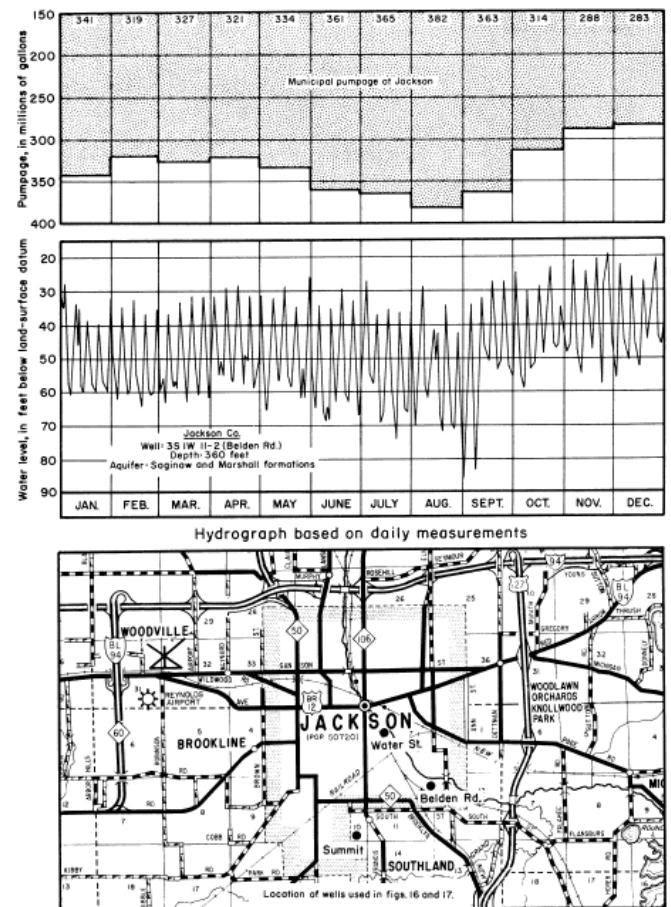


Figure 16. Hydrograph of well at Belden Road Station and municipal pumpage, 1960.

Jackson County

CITY OF JACKSON. Most municipal, industrial, and institutional wells in and near Jackson obtain water from sandstone strata in the Saginaw, Parma, and Marshall formations.

An observation well at the Belden Road municipal well field (3S 1W 11-2) is finished in these sandstone formations and reflects withdrawals of ground water by the city of Jackson. Figure 16 shows the large fluctuations of water level in this observation well from the nearby pumping and the monthly totals of precipitation and pumpage. The hydrograph was constructed from daily water-level measurements made by city personnel. Although the nearby pumping causes large declines in the water levels, these levels recover quickly when the pumping is reduced. Year-end stages in this well were higher than at the end of 1959.

In September 1960, recording gages were installed in cooperation with the city of Jackson, on two unused wells, one on Water Street and one in Summit Township, about 1.1 and 1.7 miles from the city well field, respectively (see map, fig. 16). Facsimiles of monthly recorder charts from these two wells are shown on figure 17. The fluctuations of water levels on these charts demonstrate that the effects of pumping at the Belden Road Station extend quickly over a large area. The

Water Street well is closer to the pumping at the Belden Road Station, and the fluctuations in this well are about 50 percent greater than in the Summit well. The marked recoveries of water level are due to decreased pumpage during weekends. The annual range in water-level fluctuation is about 10 feet in the Summit well, 19 feet in the Water Street well, and more than 65 feet in the Belden Road observation well.

Reported municipal withdrawals of ground water by the city of Jackson totaled 4.0 billion gallons in 1960 as compared to 4.5 in 1959. An additional 0.5 bg was pumped by the State Prison at Jackson (table 2).

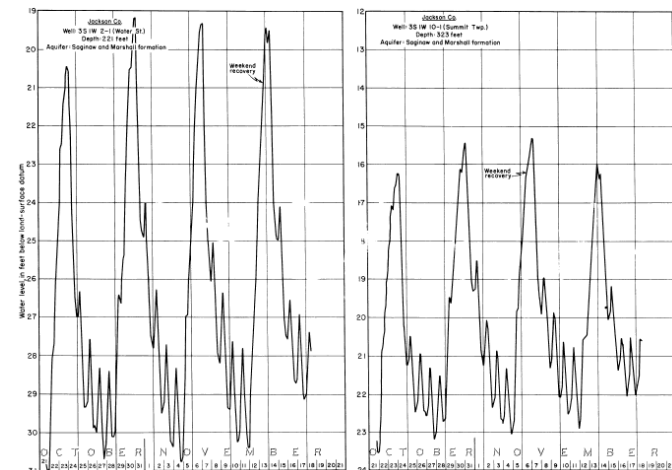


Figure 17. Monthly recorder charts from 2 wells in the Jackson area, October 21-November 18, 1960.

Kalamazoo County

CITY OF KALAMAZOO. All wells in the greater Kalamazoo area obtain water from glacial-drift aquifers.

In the spring, levels in a few observation wells in the Kalamazoo area after having fallen to record and near record lows for 3 consecutive years, responded to above-average precipitation and rose to the highest stages recorded since 1952. The gain in storage was later offset by a deficiency of 7 inches of precipitation in the August-December period. Since 1952 this area has experienced a total deficiency of precipitation of about 30 inches, or nearly a year's normal rainfall.

Figure 18 shows the effect of area pumping and climatological conditions on water levels in selected Kalamazoo observation wells. Following the summer decline, levels normally rise as pumping decreases, evapotranspiration ends, and fall rains occur. However, in 1960, the hydrographs for the late fall period are rather flat indicating reduced recharge owing to the dryness. The figure also shows the effect of pumping from the lower aquifer at Station 9 on the water levels in two observation wells, A and As. Although there is about 40 feet of sandy clay between the upper and lower aquifers, the pumping of the municipal wells tapping the lower aquifer at this station also affects water levels in the upper aquifer. This illustrates the effect of infiltration or leakage from the recharge channel at the field. A detailed study of the hydraulic characteristics of this field

was made by the U. S. Geological Survey in cooperation with the city of Kalamazoo (Deutsch, 1962).

The Stockbridge well was drilled by the city of Kalamazoo to replace the Burdick well, which is to be abandoned. Hydrographs from both these wells reflect pumping in the Axtell Creek area, which is the main area of municipal withdrawals of ground water. The Allied Paper well is further from the influence of heavy pumping and water-level fluctuations in the well are smaller. The water levels at Station 9 (wells A and As) are about 100 feet higher than at the Axtell Creek area wells.

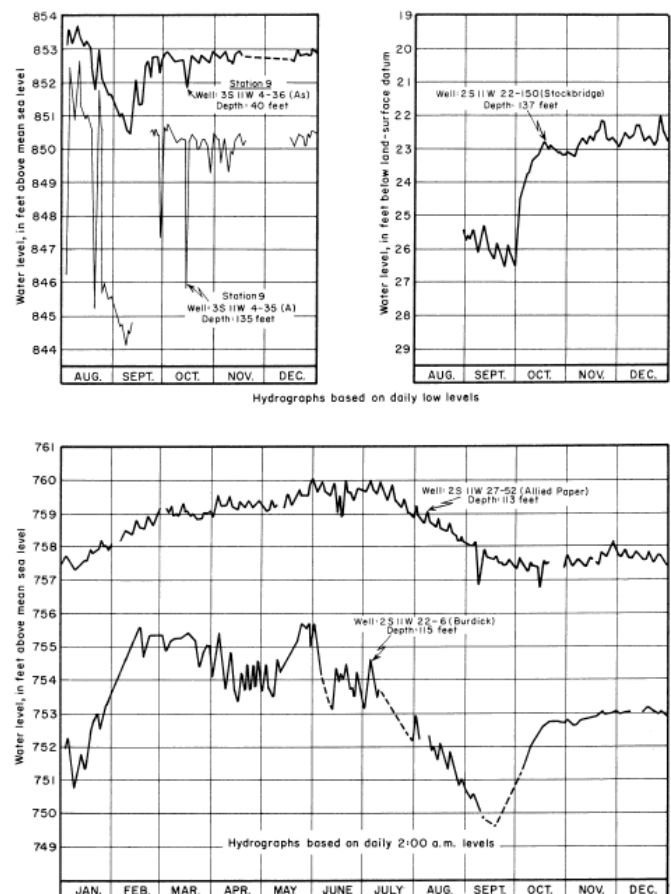


Figure 18. Hydrographs of selected wells finished in glacial drift at Kalamazoo, 1960.

The two observation wells at Station 9 and the Stockbridge observation well were equipped with recording gages in August 1960, and are being maintained in cooperation with the city of Kalamazoo.

Reported municipal withdrawal of ground water by the city was 5,086 million gallons (table 2), or slightly less than the record pumpage of 5,116 mg in 1959.

Kent County

CITY OF WYOMING. Municipal water supplies are obtained from wells finished in the Marshall formation and from some wells tapping the overlying glacial drift. In June 1960, 3 observation wells tapping the Marshall formation were equipped with recording gages and are being maintained in cooperation with the city. The water

levels in these wells reflect withdrawals of ground water from the Marshall formation by the city and other public and industrial users.

Figure 19 shows the fluctuations for the period of record. The fluctuations of water levels in the 50th Street and Lear wells correlate very closely. Similar but smaller fluctuations were observed in the Boss well, which is further from areas of heavy pumping. The low stages for the period of record in all three wells were recorded in early September following heavy pumping during the summer (table 2). In the 50th Street and Lear wells the net summer declines were about 20 feet. By mid-October, water levels in both wells recovered to stages higher than those observed at the beginning of the summer. However, despite decreased pumping, a 5-inch deficiency of precipitation for the period September-December precluded further rises in stage for the remainder of the year.

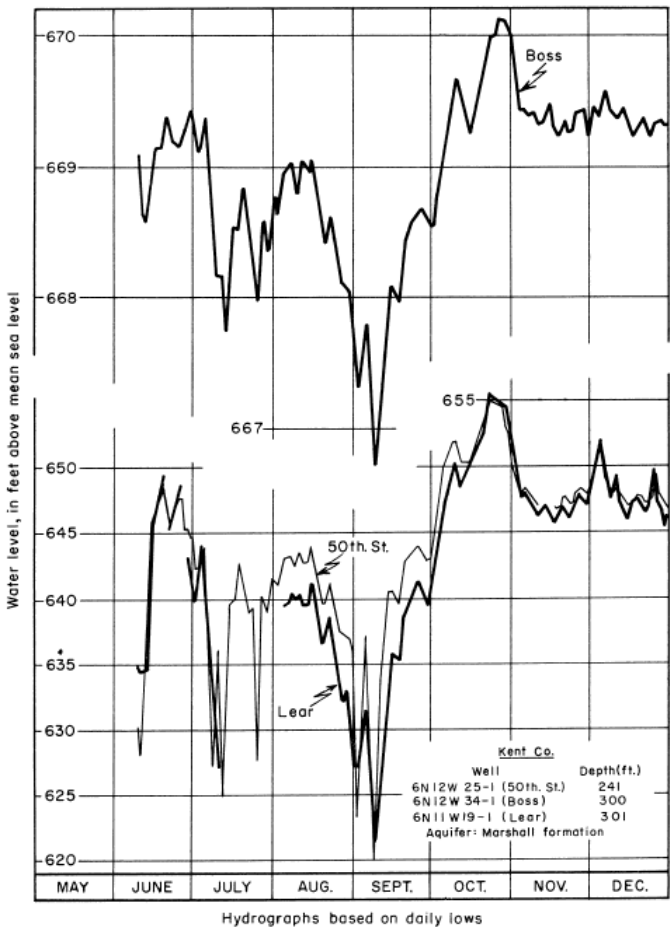


Figure 19. Hydrographs of 3 wells in the Wyoming area, June-December 1960.

Observations of changes in water level in the drift aquifer were not made in 1960.

Reported municipal pumpage by the city of Wyoming totaled 1,530 million gallons for the year (table 2), which was less than the 1,685 mg reported for 1959.

Oakland County

CITY OF PONTIAC. Municipal and industrial supplies of water in the city are obtained from wells tapping glacial-drift aquifers. The two observation wells in Pontiac reflect withdrawals of water from the drift and also climatic conditions.

Figure 20 is a generalized long-term hydrograph for well 3N 10E 32-1 at the city's Walnut Street Station. In this well the long-term decline in ground-water levels was reversed in 1956 when the distribution of pumping by municipal wells was changed to stop the lowering of the piezometric surface. By regulation of pumping, the water levels in the Walnut Street area have been generally stabilized. However, in 1960 a total precipitation deficiency of nearly 11 inches for the year resulted in lower levels. Nearly 6 inches of this deficiency occurred during the fall months when conditions are usually favorable for ground-water recharge. This reduced recharge impeded the usual fall recovery of ground-water levels.

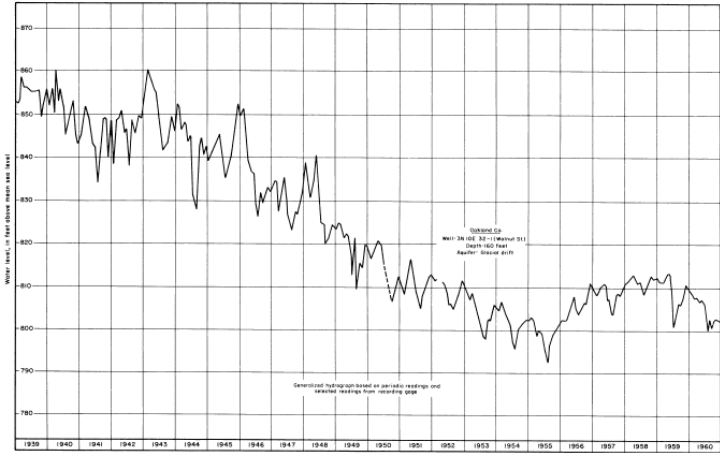


Figure 20. Hydrograph of well in Pontiac, for period 1939-60.

Recording gages in Pontiac are maintained in cooperation with the city on two wells (Walnut Street and Orchard Lake). Figure 21 shows the hydrographs for these wells along with total municipal pumpage and precipitation departures for 1960. Water levels at the Walnut Street well were about 3 feet lower than at the Orchard Lake well.

Reported municipal pumpage at Pontiac totaled 3,798 million gallons in 1960 as compared to 3,925 mg reported for 1959.

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP. The township obtains its water for public supply from wells tapping the glacial-drift aquifers. In July 1960, a continuous recording gage was installed on an unused public-supply well at Josephine Street (well 3N 9E 36-1) in cooperation with the township in order to observe changes in ground-water levels in response to pumpage and climatic conditions. Figure 22 shows the hydrograph for the period July-December 1960 along with pumpage by the township and precipitation departures. The fall seasonal recovery

generally observed in wells in this area failed to materialize despite decreased withdrawals. As shown by the precipitation departure graph, this was largely the result of a deficiency of more than 6 inches of rainfall from average for the period.

Reported township pumpage for the year was about 284 million gallons (table 2).

Washtenaw County

CITY OF YPSILANTI. The city obtains its municipal water supply from wells finished in glacial drift. In June 1960 a continuous recording gage was installed on a well at Gilbert Park and is being maintained in cooperation with the city of Ypsilanti. In addition, a few miscellaneous measurements of water level were taken in two other wells in the city (table 1).

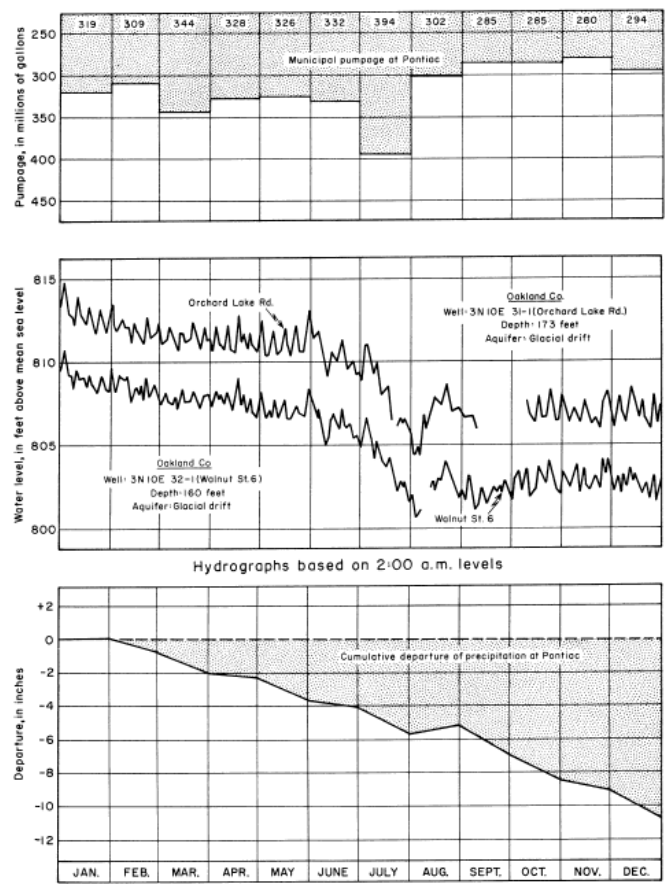


Figure 21. Hydrographs of 2 wells, pumpage, and precipitation departures at Pontiac, 1960.

The water levels in the well at Gilbert Park were measured periodically in some of the past years (table 1). On the basis of the entire record, the stage in early September 1960 (fig. 23) was the lowest observed. The rise of water levels in the fall resulting from decreased municipal pumping was small, as a precipitation deficiency of nearly three inches was recorded during November and December.

Reported withdrawals of ground water by the city of Ypsilanti totaled 1,186 million gallons for the year, slightly less than the 1,205 mg reported for 1959.

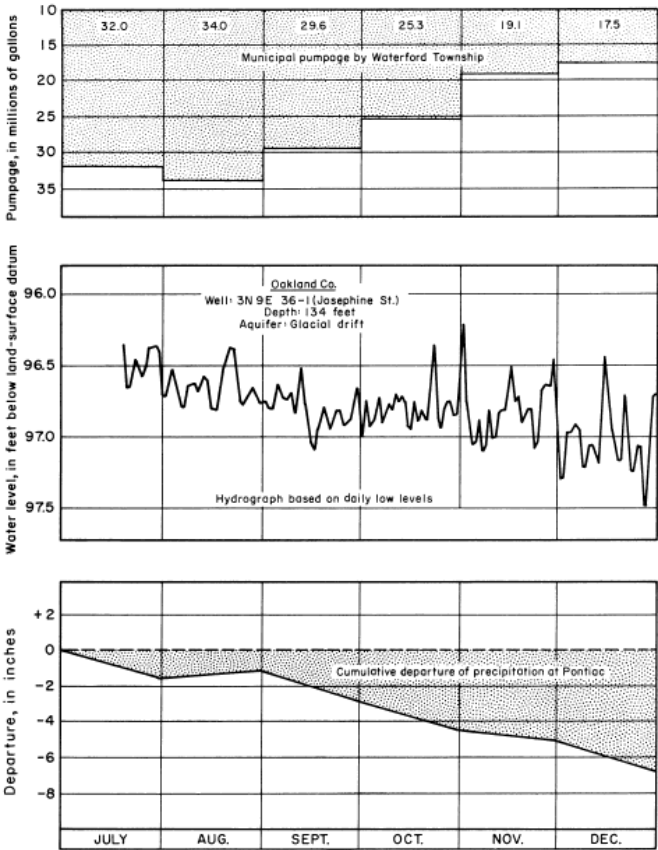


Figure 22. Hydrograph of well in Waterford Township, pumpage, and precipitation departures, July-December 1960.

YPSILANTI STATE HOSPITAL. Institutional water supplies are obtained from wells tapping the glacial drift. Water levels in the two observation wells at the hospital reflect pumping by the institution and climatic conditions. Stages were generally higher during the year than in the past several years and pumpage was about the same as in 1959. Favorable periods of precipitation during the early part of the year contributed recharge to the aquifer, although in the fall, recharge, was less than usual.

Total reported institutional withdrawal of ground water in 1960 was 227 million gallons (table 2).

YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP. Public supply wells and the observation wells at the township well field are finished in glacial drift. In July 1960 a continuous recording gage was installed on observation well 3S 7E 24-6 in cooperation with the township. The daily low stages from this well, township pumpage, and monthly totals of precipitation are shown by figure 24. Levels fell to their lowest of record in early August, as the result of heavy withdrawals of ground water plus a 4-inch deficiency of rainfall for the year. Four of the six observation wells measured at the well field also fell to new lows of record (table 1).

Reported municipal pumpage of 2,191 million gallons was the highest of record and was 187 mg more than was pumped in 1959.

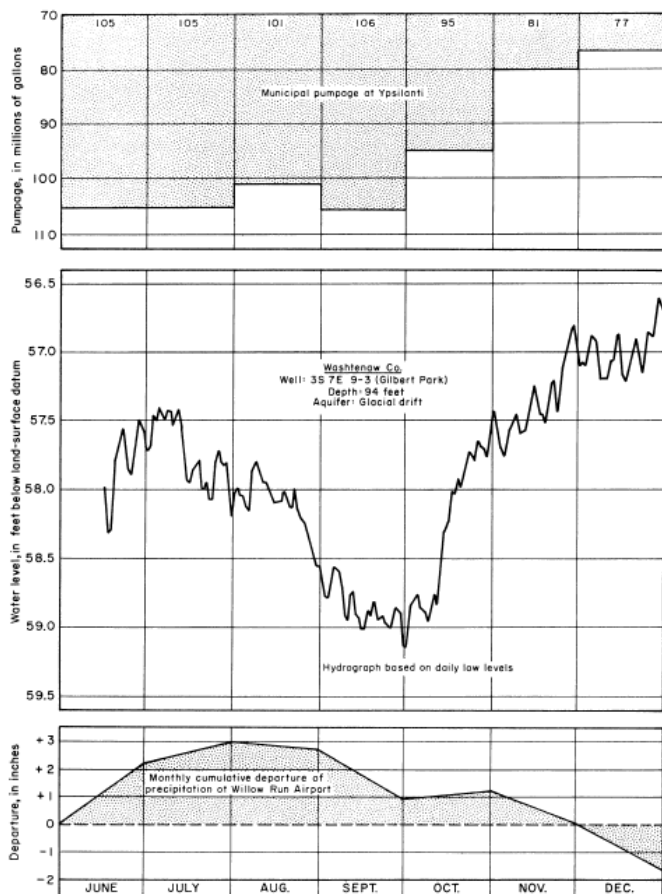


Figure 23. Hydrograph of well in Ypsilanti, pumpage, and precipitation departures, June-December 1960.

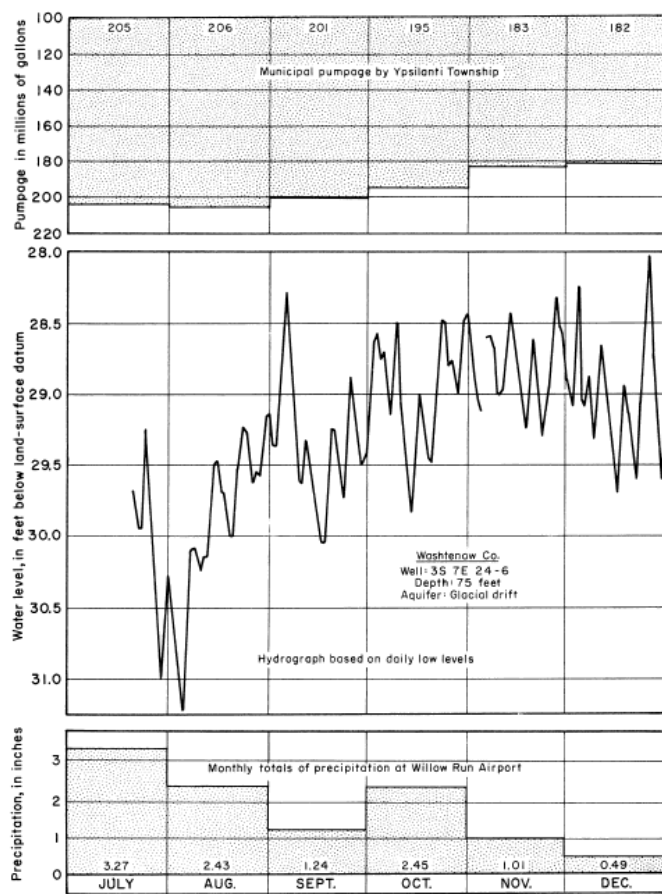


Figure 24. Hydrograph of well at Ypsilanti Township well field, pumpage and precipitation, July-December 1960.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
Gerald E. Eddy, *Director*
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DIVISION
William L. Daoust, *State Geologist*