

HIGHLIGHTS OF GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE IN WISCONSIN

Land and Water Area — According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Wisconsin encompasses 65,496 square miles, of which 54,158 square miles is land. At 11,339 square miles, Wisconsin has the fourth largest water area in the United States, behind Alaska, Michigan, and Florida.

Lakes — The largest lake in Wisconsin is Lake Winnebago (206 square miles), which covers parts of three counties. The deepest natural lake is Green Lake in Green Lake County with a maximum depth of 236 feet. Most of Wisconsin's largest lakes are concentrated in the northern two-thirds of the state, and they include artificial bodies of water created by dams. Wisconsin has 15,074 documented lakes, of which approximately 40% are named. Green County has only five lakes while Vilas County has 1,318.

High Points — The state's highest recorded elevation is Timms Hill in Price County, at 1,951.5 feet. There are several other recorded elevations of at least 1,900 feet in Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Price, and Vilas Counties.

Temperature — In 2012, the annual statewide average temperature was 47.4° Fahrenheit. Across the state, average regional temperatures varied from 44.4° in the north central area to 50.3° in the southwest. In all regions of the state, average temperatures in 2012 were significantly higher than normal temperature figures, which are the averages for the period 1981-2010, based on computations by the State Climatology Office.

Precipitation — In 2012, the total statewide average rainfall was 27.99 inches. Regional precipitation averages varied from a high of 29.91 inches in the east central area to a low of 26.71 inches in the south central area. In all regions of the state, rainfall totals in 2012 were significantly lower than normal precipitation figures, which correspond to the averages for the period 1981-2010, according to the State Climatology Office.

The following tables present selected data. Consult footnoted sources for more detailed information about geography and climate.

WISCONSIN'S LARGEST WATER AREAS

Name	County ¹	Area in Acres
Lake Winnebago	Winnebago (also Calumet and Fond du Lac)	131,939
Lake Pepin	Pepin (also Buffalo and Pierce)	24,550
Peterson Lake	Juneau (also Adams and Wood)	23,173
Lake Chippewa (Chippewa Flowage)	Sawyer	14,593
Lake Poygan	Winnebago (also Waushara)	14,024
Castle Rock Lake	Juneau (also Adams)	12,981
Turtle-Flambeau Flowage	Iron	12,942
Lake Koshkonong	Rock (also Dane and Jefferson)	10,595
Lake Mendota	Dane	9,781
Lake Butte des Morts	Winnebago	8,581
Lake Onalaska	La Crosse	8,391
Green Lake (Big Green) ²	Green Lake	7,920
Lake St. Croix	St. Croix (also Pierce)	7,696
Lake Wisconsin	Sauk (also Columbia)	7,197
Beaver Dam Lake	Dodge (also Juneau)	6,718
Big Eau Pleine Reservoir	Marathon	6,348
Shawano Lake	Shawano	6,215
Lake Wisconsin	Chippewa	6,148
Geneva Lake	Wauworth	5,401
Lac Courte Oreilles	Sawyer	5,139
Puckaway Lake	Green Lake (also Marquette)	5,013
Lake Du Bay	Portage (also Marathon)	4,649
Lake Winneshiek	Crawford	4,635
Lake Winneconne	Winnebago	4,553
Willow Flowage	Oneida	4,217
Lac Vieux Desert	Vilas	4,017
Wigwam Slough	La Crosse (also Vernon)	3,988
Trout Lake	Vilas	3,864
Pelican Lake	Oneida	3,545
Fence Lake	Vilas	3,483
Long Lake	Washburn	3,478
Tomahawk Lake	Oneida	3,462
Lake Monona	Dane	3,359
Round Lake	Sawyer	3,294
Lake Kegonsa	Dane	3,200
Grindstone Lake	Sawyer	3,176
Rainbow Flowage	Oneida	3,153
Gile Flowage	Iron	3,138

Note: Wisconsin's largest water areas are limited to those that are named, as determined by the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council.

¹County listed first contains the water's source of origin. Other counties covered by the water area are shown in parentheses.

²Green Lake, at a maximum depth of 236 feet, is Wisconsin's deepest natural lake. Including artificial water areas, Lake Wazee is Wisconsin's deepest lake with a maximum depth of 350 feet.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, departmental data, at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/lakepages/Results.aspx> [February 14, 2013].

LAND AND INLAND LAKE AREA OF WISCONSIN COUNTIES

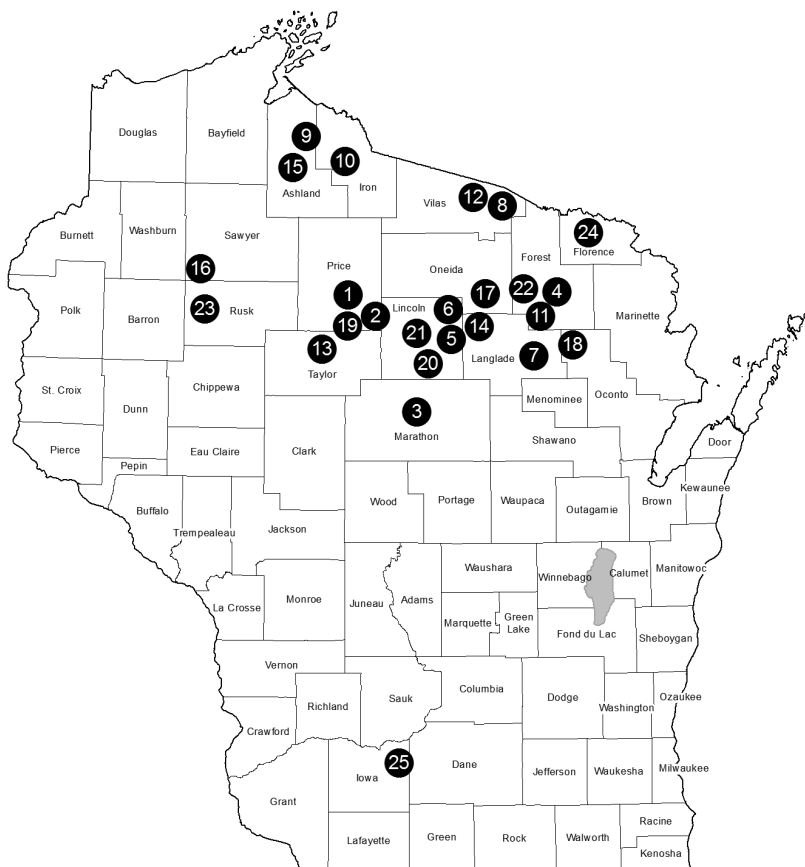
County	Total Land Area		Inland Lakes ¹			
	Acres ²	Rank	Number ²	Number Rank	Acres ²	Acres Rank
Adams	413,213	43	46	43	2,302	53
Ashland	668,822	11	157	23	5,936	38
Barron	552,135	24	369	17	17,748	15
Bayfield	945,832	2	962	4	22,629	9
Brown	339,013	56	22	61	170	71
Buffalo	429,846	42	8	69	196	70
Burnett	525,982	28	509	8	31,258	7
Calumet	203,671	68	8	70	98	72
Chippewa	645,358	13	449	11	20,027	13
Clark	774,282	7	32	54	1,076	58
Columbia	489,939	34	56	41	3,095	49
Crawford	365,222	52	77	34	6,243	35
Dane	766,233	8	63	37	21,788	11
Dodge	560,400	22	29	56	14,246	20
Door	308,466	59	25	60	3,254	48
Douglas	834,647	4	431	14	14,113	21
Dunn	544,067	26	20	63	3,953	43
Eau Claire	408,309	44	20	64	2,838	52
Florence	312,445	58	259	19	7,261	32
Fond du Lac	460,514	40	41	44	1,650	55
Forest	649,003	12	824	6	22,531	10
Grant	733,983	9	33	51	1,569	56
Green	373,732	50	5	72	350	63
Green Lake	223,640	65	36	49	17,120	16
Iowa	488,051	35	15	66	685	60
Iron	485,231	36	494	10	29,368	8
Jackson	632,141	15	135	26	5,004	40
Jefferson	356,143	53	33	52	3,710	44
Juneau	490,832	33	57	39	45,950	5
Kenosha	174,074	69	34	50	3,674	45
Kewaunee	219,212	66	15	67	251	66
La Crosse	289,079	61	19	65	8,568	30
Lafayette	405,496	46	8	71	620	61
Langlade	557,210	23	841	5	9,122	28
Lincoln	362,543	21	729	7	15,585	17
Manitowoc	377,013	48	1	31	1,492	57
Marathon	988,789	1	194	22	19,762	14
Marquette	895,582	3	442	12	13,735	22
Menominee	291,585	60	93	32	5,736	39
Milwaukee	228,869	64	128	28	4,044	42
Monroe	154,497	70	41	45	197	69
Monroe	576,496	19	119	29	3,433	47
Oconto	638,712	14	378	16	11,053	26
Oncida	712,301	10	1,129	2	68,447	3
Outagamie	408,015	45	33	53	213	68
Ozaukee	149,169	71	38	46	703	59
Pepin	148,469	72	29	57	278	64
Pierce	367,198	51	38	47	6,016	37
Polk	584,936	17	437	13	20,900	12
Portage	512,434	29	137	25	12,215	24
Price	802,800	6	388	15	15,048	19
Racine	212,801	67	22	62	3,030	51
Richland	375,137	49	9	68	251	67
Rock	459,611	41	75	35	11,159	25
Rusk	584,694	18	250	20	7,854	31
St. Croix	462,291	39	63	38	3,653	46
Sauk	531,777	27	28	58	10,993	27
Sawyer	804,675	5	495	9	56,587	4
Shawano	571,557	20	134	27	8,912	29
Sheboygan	327,210	57	69	36	2,106	54
Taylor	623,921	16	284	18	6,183	36
Trempealeau	469,097	38	26	59	409	62
Vernon	506,611	32	57	40	256	65
Vilas	548,227	25	1,318	1	93,889	2
Walworth	355,281	54	37	48	12,798	23
Washburn	510,152	30	964	3	31,265	6
Washington	275,650	63	53	42	3,072	50
Waukesha	351,727	55	117	30	15,133	18
Waupaca	478,536	37	240	21	7,152	33
Waushara	400,738	47	138	24	4,623	41
Winnebago	278,072	62	30	55	169,755	1
Wood	507,595	31	78	33	6,245	34
STATE	34,660,994		15,074		982,574	

¹Lake Superior and Lake Michigan not included in totals.

²Land area statistics reported by the U.S. Census Bureau; lake statistics provided by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Sources: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, *Wisconsin Lakes, 2009*, at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/lakebook/wilakes2009bma.pdf>; U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, 2010 Census of Population and Housing, *Summary Population and Housing Characteristics, Wisconsin*, Table 16. Rank calculated by Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau. State totals may not add due to rounding.

WISCONSIN'S HIGH POINTS



Rank	Name	County	Elevation in Feet
1	Timms Hill	Price	1,951.5
2	Pearson Hill	Price	1,951.0
3	Rib Mountain	Marathon	1,941.8
4	Sugarbush Hill	Forest	1,939.0
5	Lookout Mountain	Lincoln	1,920.0
6	Harrison Hills	Lincoln	1,910.0
7	Kent Lookout Tower	Langlade	1,903.0
8	Unnamed	Vilas	1,900.0
9	Mount Whittlesey	Ashland	1,872.0
10	Penokee Range	Iron	1,870.0
11	East Hill	Forest	1,850.0
12	Military Hill	Vilas	1,848.0
13	Unnamed	Taylor	1,840.0
14	Baldy Hill	Langlade	1,831.0
15	Gogebic Range	Ashland	1,820.0
16	Meteor Hill	Sawyer	1,801.0
17	Unnamed	Oneida	1,800.0
18	Carter Hills	Oconto	1,781.0
19	Spokes Hill	Price	1,780.0
20	Irma Hill	Lincoln	1,770.0
21	Chase Hill	Lincoln	1,760.0
22	West Hill	Forest	1,750.0
23	Blue Hills	Rusk	1,750.0
24	Unnamed	Florence	1,730.0
25	Blue Mounds	Iowa	1,719.0

Note: Elevations are not field verified. The highest points for individual counties are available on the Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office Web site, at: <http://www.sco.wisc.edu/mapping-topics/wisconsin-high-points.html>.
 Source: Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office, departmental data, May 2013.

**WISCONSIN TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION,
By Region and Month, 2012**

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual ¹
Statewide													
2012 Temperature (°F)	20.8	26.1	45.4	44.9	59.2	67.1	74.7	67.2	57.7	45.1	34.6	25.6	47.4
Normal Temperature ²	15.4	19.8	30.6	44.0	55.1	64.6	69.2	67.3	58.8	46.5	33.4	19.9	43.7
2012 Precipitation (inches)	1.05	0.37	1.99	2.68	4.71	3.23	3.28	2.31	1.52	3.85	1.17	1.83	27.99
Normal Precipitation ²	1.13	1.06	1.79	2.97	3.55	4.22	4.05	4.00	3.72	2.84	2.18	1.45	32.96
Regions³													
Northwest													
2012 Temperature	18.5	24.3	42.7	44.3	57.5	65.2	73.0	65.9	56.8	42.9	32.6	21.9	45.5
Normal Temperature	12.0	16.9	28.5	42.4	54.1	63.1	68.3	66.3	57.5	44.9	31.0	16.8	41.8
2012 Precipitation	0.84	0.25	1.62	2.64	6.44	5.42	3.05	1.74	1.23	2.43	0.95	1.24	27.85
Normal Precipitation	0.95	0.88	1.61	2.65	3.37	4.04	4.14	4.05	3.97	3.07	1.96	1.21	31.89
North Central													
2012 Temperature	16.9	22.4	42.3	42.2	56.5	64.6	71.7	64.4	54.6	42.3	32.0	23.0	44.4
Normal Temperature	12.5	16.6	27.3	41.3	52.9	62.2	66.6	64.7	56.3	43.8	30.8	17.2	41.0
2012 Precipitation	1.23	0.43	1.44	2.21	4.76	4.48	3.64	1.93	1.81	4.17	1.48	1.33	28.91
Normal Precipitation	1.14	0.96	1.67	2.61	3.40	4.00	4.00	3.78	4.00	3.22	2.10	1.44	32.32
Northeast													
2012 Temperature	20.0	25.4	43.2	43.1	57.3	65.1	72.1	65.7	55.7	44.1	33.0	25.2	45.8
Normal Temperature	14.4	18.4	28.6	42.1	53.2	62.7	67.1	65.2	56.8	44.7	32.3	19.3	42.1
2012 Precipitation	0.86	0.28	1.77	1.69	3.67	3.58	4.81	1.91	1.87	4.98	1.37	1.63	28.42
Normal Precipitation	1.15	0.99	1.75	2.63	3.34	3.86	3.68	3.39	3.60	3.06	2.20	1.51	31.15
West Central													
2012 Temperature	21.5	26.8	48.1	47.4	61.9	69.1	75.8	67.7	59.0	45.8	35.4	24.3	48.6
Normal Temperature	15.3	20.2	31.8	46.0	57.1	66.6	70.9	68.6	60.0	47.5	33.5	19.6	44.8
2012 Precipitation	0.83	0.40	1.51	2.93	5.27	4.06	2.32	1.50	1.11	2.91	1.12	1.82	26.78
Normal Precipitation	0.96	0.93	1.84	3.11	3.80	4.44	4.34	4.57	3.89	2.49	2.09	1.24	33.71
Central													
2012 Temperature	21.9	27.3	47.1	45.7	60.7	68.3	76.3	68.4	58.5	46.2	35.5	26.8	48.6
Normal Temperature	16.8	21.2	31.9	45.5	56.5	66.0	70.3	68.1	59.6	47.3	34.4	20.9	44.9
2012 Precipitation	1.01	0.27	2.47	3.26	5.39	2.09	1.89	3.35	1.43	4.66	1.19	1.83	28.84
Normal Precipitation	1.12	1.06	1.81	3.03	3.68	4.40	4.21	3.99	3.61	2.56	2.18	1.41	33.06
East Central													
2012 Temperature	24.0	28.5	44.7	44.1	58.0	67.2	74.9	68.4	58.9	46.8	37.0	29.7	48.5
Normal Temperature	18.9	22.2	31.7	43.8	54.3	64.4	69.6	68.3	60.3	48.2	36.2	23.6	45.1
2012 Precipitation	1.20	0.37	2.70	2.65	4.24	2.30	4.41	2.89	1.12	4.99	0.89	2.15	29.91
Normal Precipitation	1.37	1.21	1.79	2.88	3.19	3.80	3.42	3.51	3.30	2.66	2.33	1.60	31.07
Southwest													
2012 Temperature	23.0	28.4	49.5	47.9	62.5	69.7	78.6	70.1	60.4	47.8	37.1	28.0	50.3
Normal Temperature	17.8	22.2	33.9	46.9	57.6	67.2	71.3	69.2	60.8	48.6	35.6	22.0	46.1
2012 Precipitation	1.22	0.28	2.20	3.68	3.74	1.19	2.89	2.56	1.95	3.65	1.51	2.03	26.90
Normal Precipitation	1.09	1.12	1.94	3.63	4.02	4.90	4.47	4.56	3.48	2.50	2.29	1.49	35.49
South Central													
2012 Temperature	23.7	28.7	49.1	46.8	62.3	70.1	78.4	69.5	60.0	47.6	36.9	29.8	50.2
Normal Temperature	18.8	23.3	34.0	46.7	57.6	67.3	71.4	69.3	61.0	48.8	36.5	23.0	46.5
2012 Precipitation	1.23	0.57	2.73	2.94	3.31	0.48	3.39	2.34	1.52	4.24	1.02	2.94	26.71
Normal Precipitation	1.30	1.42	2.05	3.53	3.76	4.68	4.14	4.15	3.51	2.73	2.44	1.76	35.46
Southeast													
2012 Temperature	25.4	29.5	48.0	45.2	60.0	68.6	77.4	69.4	60.3	47.6	37.7	31.5	50.1
Normal Temperature	20.8	24.9	34.5	45.9	56.0	66.2	71.1	69.7	61.8	49.7	38.0	25.1	47.0
2012 Precipitation	1.40	0.72	3.19	2.49	3.25	0.75	3.26	2.44	1.81	3.82	0.55	3.29	26.97
Normal Precipitation	1.58	1.49	2.02	3.46	3.62	4.02	3.80	4.00	3.41	2.71	2.56	1.92	34.59

¹Annual temperature reflects the average of the monthly figures; annual precipitation is the total for the year.
²Normal temperatures and normal precipitation are the averages for the period 1981-2010, based on data computed by the State Climatology Office.
³The counties in each region are:
Northwest — Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Douglas, Polk, Rusk, Sawyer, and Washburn.
North Central — Ashland, Clark, Iron, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Price, Taylor, and Vilas.
Northeast — Florence, Forest, Langlade, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, and Shawano.
West Central — Buffalo, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, St. Croix, and Trempealeau.
Central — Adams, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Portage, Waupaca, Waushara, and Wood.
East Central — Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Sheboygan, and Winnebago.
Southwest — Crawford, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland, Sauk, and Vernon.
South Central — Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Jefferson, and Rock.
Southeast — Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha.
Source: Wisconsin State Climatology Office, departmental data [June 2013].