Recent Climatological Trends in Michigan

Jeffrey A. Andresen
Dept. of Geography
Michigan State University
Annual Precipitation
Alma, MI 1930-2000

Frequency of Wet Days and Wet/Wet Days
Caro, MI 1930-2000
Daily Solar Radiation vs. Year
Lansing, MI
1961-1990

Total Seasonal Snowfall
Bay City, Michigan
1929-2004
Summary

- Mean temperatures in Michigan have increased during the last 20-30 years, but remain within the range of observations during the past 120 years.
- Climate has become wetter and cloudier, especially during the last 50 years.
- Ice cover on the Great Lakes has decreased since the 1970’s.
- Seasonal snowfall totals and variability across the region are steady in some areas but increasing in others.
- The onset of spring warming is occurring earlier across much of the region.