



Lake Washington 2025 REEL FACTS

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General Information: Lake Washington is a 3,000 acre oxbow lake of the Mississippi River. It is one of Mississippi's largest natural lakes, with scenic cypress forests in both ends and most of the western shore, and supports an excellent fishery for crappie, bream, and catfish.

Location: Off of Highway 1 in Washington County about 20 miles south of Greenville and near the towns of Glen Allen and Chatham.

Fishery Management: Crappie, Largemouth Bass, bream, and catfish.

Purchase a Fishing License: <https://www.ms.gov/mdwfp/licensing/login>

Amenities

- 1 MDWFP ramp
- 5 other public ramps
- Fishing piers
- Fish cleaning stations
- Cabins, bait shops, and restaurants available along lake

Creel Limits

- 20 crappie per day, must be over 11 in. long.
- 5 Largemouth Bass per day, must be over 15 in. long.
- 100 bream per day.
- No limit on catfish.
- Regulations also apply while in Paul Love Park.

Regulations

Limblines

- Fishing with limblines and set hooks is prohibited at Lake Washington.

Yo-Yo's and Jugs

- No more than 25 jugs and/or 25 yo-yos may be fished per person.
- Each jug or yo-yo must be tagged or marked with angler's name and address.
- Jugs must be attended during daylight hours, and yo-yos must be attended at all times. For yo-yos, attended means devices (whether set, baited, or tripped) must remain in sight of the angler. However, yo-yos may be unattended (tripped, with hook out of the water) from of 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sportfishing Tips

Crappie

- In the spring, target shoreline areas with jig or minnows, especially near cypress knees. In the summer and winter, troll through deeper, open water areas.

Largemouth Bass

- Target submerged structure such as the piers along the eastern shoreline or the cypress forests in the northwest and southwest portions of the lake.

Bream

- Use crickets or red worms in water 2 – 4 feet in depth, especially from early summer through the fall.

Catfish

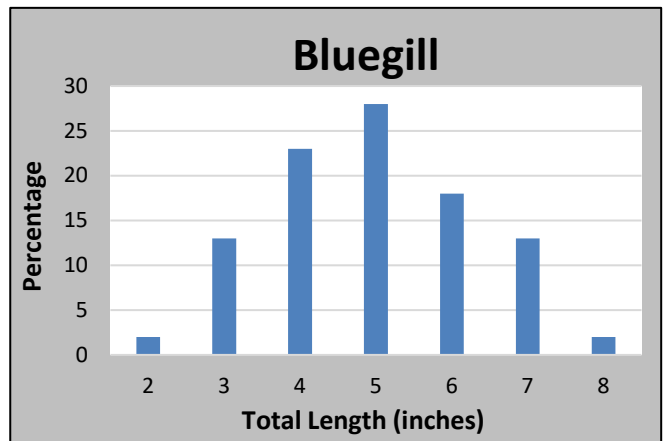
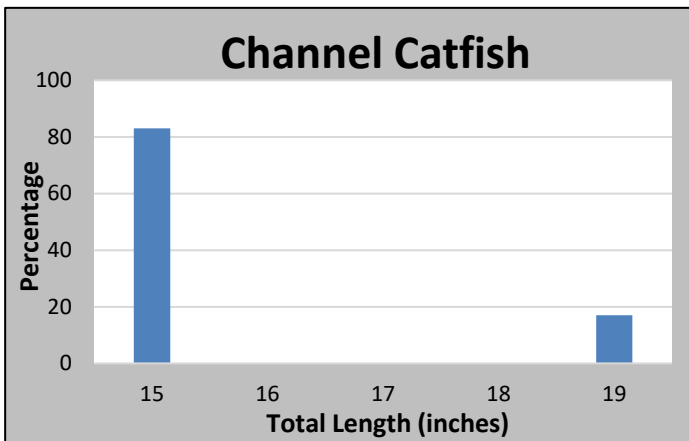
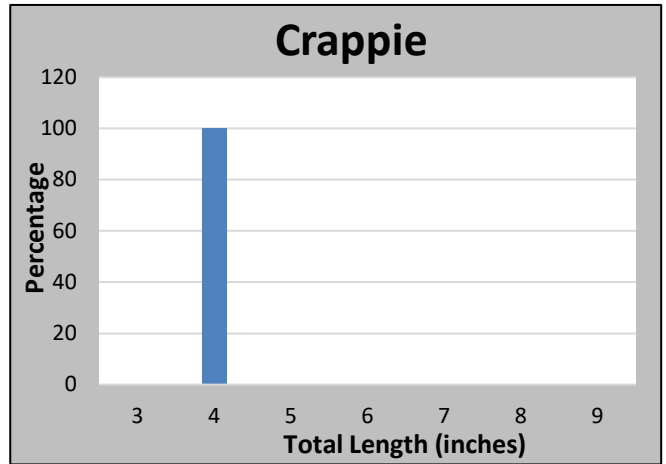
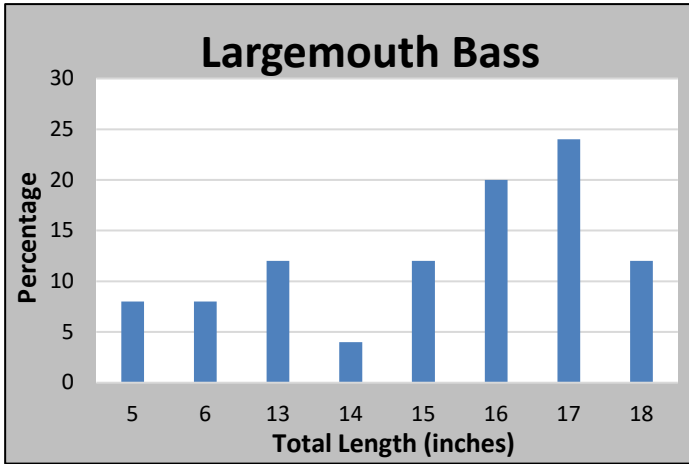
- Use rod and reel, jugs, yo-yos, or trotlines baited with live bait in water less than 5 feet deep.

Below: Results from the 2024 electrofishing survey on Lake Washington. This lake is sampled by electrofishing every 1 to 2 years during the fall. Fish condition was high for all game fish species, indicating healthy, fast-growing fish.

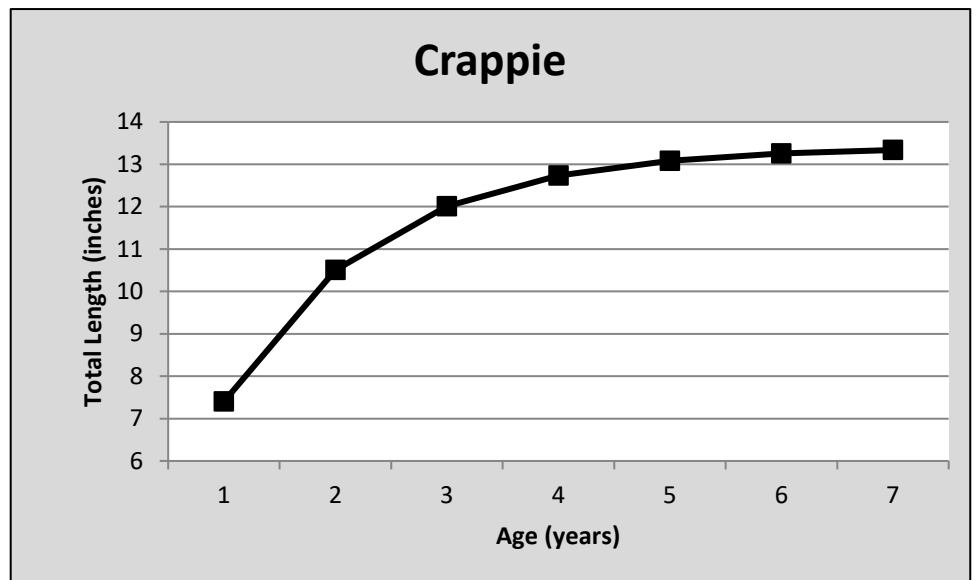
Species	# of Fish Sampled	% of Sample	Average Length (inches)	Max Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate Adult Fish (fish/mile)
Gizzard Shad	61	35	4.0	14.8	-	2
Bluegill	31	18	4.4	8.0	0.1	8
Threadfin Shad	25	14	2.7	3.9	-	0
Largemouth Bass	22	13	15.6	18.1	2.3	7
Yellow Bass	12	7	3.5	3.7	-	0
White Bass	8	5	3.6	3.7	-	0
Longear Sunfish	7	4	3.9	4.5	0.1	2
Channel Catfish	6	3	15.8	19.4	1.4	2
Orangespotted Sunfish	2	1	2.5	2.8	<0.1	2
Black Crappie	1	1	4.1	4.1	<0.1	0



Below: Length distributions for sport fish and catfish from the 2024 electrofishing survey at Lake Washington. These figures indicate a wide size distribution of largemouth bass and bluegill with high numbers of catchable sized fish. The low number of crappie and channel catfish collected during the survey is likely due to low water temperatures and water levels during the sampling period.

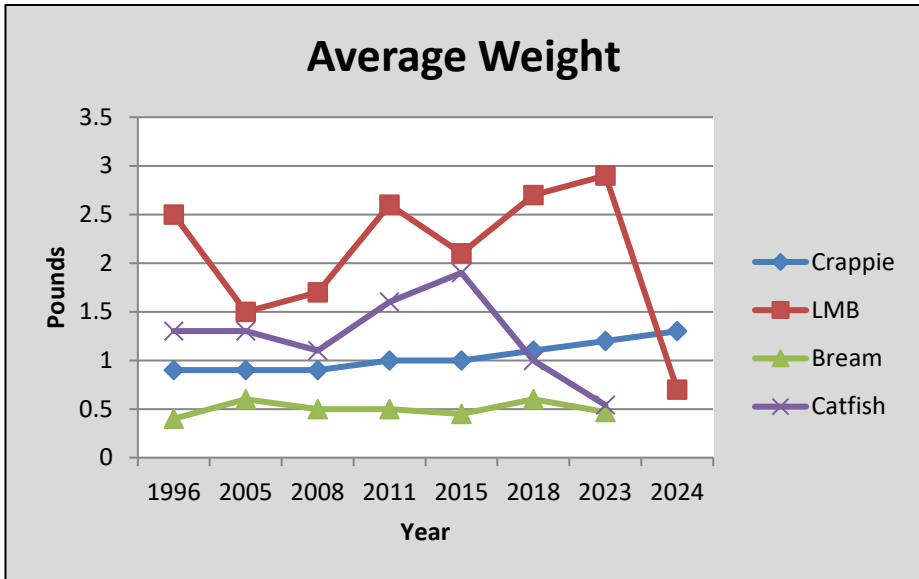
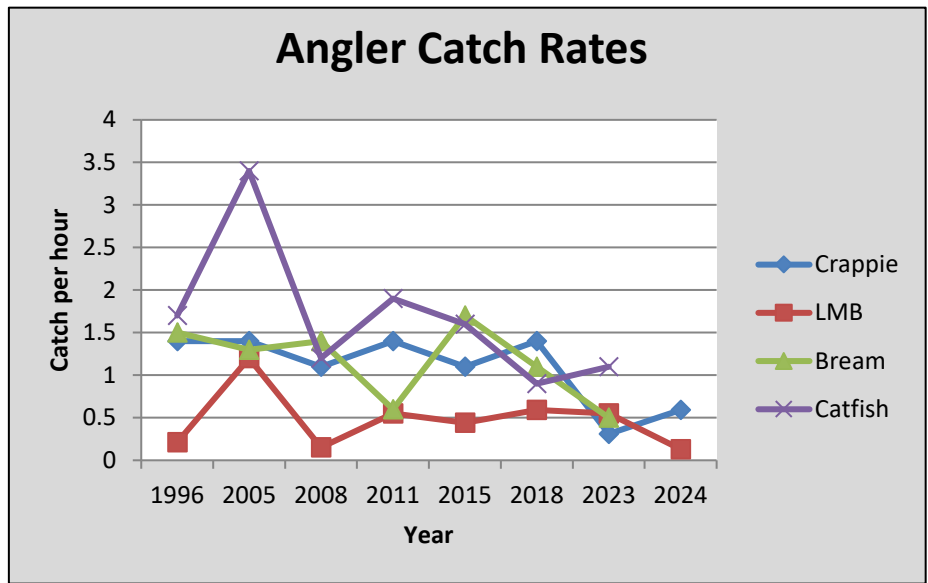


Right: Growth rates for crappie at Lake Washington. Crappie growth rates are above average compared to other lakes in Mississippi.



Right and Below:

Results from angler creel surveys indicate reduced angler catch rates for crappie and bass. In 2024, average weights for bream and crappie were above average compared to other Mississippi lakes.



Below: Lake Washington contains expansive cypress forests throughout much of its northern, southern, and western shoreline. These areas provide abundant fish habitat, are excellent nursery areas for juvenile fish, and provide unique and beautiful fishing and boating opportunities.



Below: Depth map for Lake Washington.

