

OCEAN COUNTY

REFERENCE TIDE GAUGE - ATLANTIC CITY

There is no National Ocean Service tide gauge in Ocean County. As a result, the Atlantic City tide gauge is being used as the reference for the county. The gauge is located on the oceanfront in Atlantic City.

Oceanfront

The time difference between the high and low tides along the county's oceanfront and those at the Atlantic City gauge is generally less than 15 minutes.

Back bays

The back bays of Ocean County (from north to south) are Barnegat Bay, Silver Bay, Manahawkin Bay, Little Egg Harbor and Great Bay.

High and low tides on the back bays of Ocean County occur up to around 5 hours later than the high and low tides at the Atlantic City gauge. The greatest time differences occur at the north end of Barnegat Bay near Mantoloking.

The back bays present a problem during prolonged periods of onshore flow. For each successive tide cycle that the back bays are not allowed to drain, the tidal departures increase.

Data Acquisition

In order to access data from the Atlantic City gauge, use the National Ocean Service web site at <http://tidesonline.nos.noaa.gov/> or the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service site at <http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=phi>.

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The tide heights from actual events referenced in the following table are those that were verified by the National Ocean Service.

In the table an asterisk (*) indicates that location experiences back bay type flooding. Being that the reference gauge is on the oceanfront, the tide level associated with that particular location may vary somewhat from event to event based on the number of tide cycles during which there is an onshore flow.

THE PERIOD OF RECORD FOR THE ATLANTIC CITY GAUGE BEGINS IN AUGUST 1911. PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE GAPS WITHIN THE PERIOD OF RECORD DUE TO EQUIPMENT OUTAGES AND/OR DATA AVAILABILITY.

ALL HEIGHTS ARE IN MEAN LOWER LOW WATER (**MLLW**).

- 9.0 FT — December 11, 1992
- 8.8 FT — September 14, 1944 (Hurricane)
October 29, 2012 (Post Tropical Cyclone Sandy)
- 8.6 FT — September 27, 1985 (Hurricane Gloria)
October 31, 1991
- 8.4 FT — March 6, 1962
August 9, 1976 (Hurricane Belle)
- 8.2 FT — November 25, 1950

8.0 FT — MAJOR TIDAL FLOODING BEGINS.

At this level, flooding starts to become severe enough to begin causing structural damage along with widespread flooding of roadways. Vulnerable homes and businesses may be severely damaged or destroyed as water levels rise further above this threshold. Numerous roads become impassable and some neighborhoods may be isolated. The flood waters become a danger to anyone who attempts to cross on foot or in a vehicle.

- March 29, 1984
- 7.8 FT — October 25, 1980
January 4, 1992
January 23, 2016
- 7.6 FT — January 2, 1987
March 19, 1996
- 7.5 FT — October 14, 1977
March 2, 1994
June 4, 2012
- 7.4 FT — December 22, 1972
October 18, 2009
- 7.3 FT — October 23, 1953
December 20, 1995
October 7, 2006
November 13, 2009
- 7.2 FT — September 12, 1960 (Hurricane Donna)
October 22, 1961
December 9, 1973
September 25, 1977
September 26, 1992 (Tropical Storm Danielle)
November 14, 1997
February 5, 1998
October 29, 2011
January 3, 2014
January 10, 2016
February 8, 2016

- 7.1 FT — November 1, 1947
 January 23, 1966
 February 19, 1972
 November 15, 1981
 December 13, 1996
 January 28, 1998
 January 25, 2000
 January 3, 2003
 December 11, 2003
 May 25, 2005
 January 31, 2006

7.0 FT — MODERATE TIDAL FLOODING BEGINS.

At this level, widespread flooding of roadways begins due to high water and/or wave action with many roads becoming impassable. Lives may be at risk when people put themselves in harm's way. Some damage to vulnerable structures may begin to occur.

- November 30, 1944
- August 28, 1971 (Tropical Storm Doria)
- December 2, 1974
- February 26, 1979
- January 10, 1993
- December 6, 1996
- December 25, 2002
- May 12, 2008
- March 9, 2013
- December 9, 2014
- October 2, 2015

- 6.8 FT — Flooding begins along local roads in Ocean Gate*, including Bay View Avenue.
 Flooding begins on Barnegat Avenue and Central Avenue in Surf City*.
 Extensive flooding begins on Long Beach Boulevard from Ship Bottom to Beach Haven*.
 Flooding begins along local roads in Mystic Islands (Little Egg Harbor Township*).
- 6.6 FT — **In eastern Burlington County** - Flooding begins in Green Bank and Lower Bank (both in Washington Township*).
- In eastern Burlington County** - Flooding begins around the Burlington County Route 542 bridge at Wading River*.

- 6.4 FT — Flooding begins in Brick Township*, Dover Township*, Beachwood*, Berkeley Township*, Lacey Township* and Ocean Township*. Flooding begins along local roads in Barnegat Township*, including Bay Shore Drive and East Bay Avenue. Bayside flooding begins in Harvey Cedars*. Flooding begins at the east end of the NJ Route 72 bridge in Ship Bottom*. Flooding begins along local roads in Tuckerton*, including South Green Street.

6.3 FT — COASTAL FLOOD ADVISORY THRESHOLD.

- 6.2 FT — Flooding begins in Point Pleasant Beach* along NJ Route 35 at Broadway. Flooding begins in communities from Point Pleasant* to Seaside Park*. Flooding begins along local roads in Stafford Township* (Beach Haven West and Cedar Bonnets Islands). Flooding begins in Surf City*, Ship Bottom* (along Long Beach Boulevard) and in the communities on the south half of Long Beach Island (including Beach Haven*).

6.0 FT — MINOR TIDAL FLOODING BEGINS.

-2.0 FT — LOW WATER ADVISORY THRESHOLD.

- 3.0 FT — November 19, 1911
December 26, 1924
February 21, 1928
January 22, 1947
February 16, 1953
April 14, 1953
January 2, 1969
February 8, 1985
- 3.1 FT — April 2, 1923
January 23, 1925
February 4, 1927
December 30, 1928
February 14, 1930
December 7, 1931
January 28, 1932
March 9, 2005

- 3.2 FT — December 28, 1911
December 28, 1912
February 15, 1923
December 1, 1929
January 25, 1939
March 7, 1939
February 15, 1946
February 26, 1956
January 28, 1963
December 1, 1963
March 17, 1976
December 22, 1976
- 3.3 FT — March 3, 1912
November 25, 1912
December 8, 1913
January 7, 1924
January 23, 1924
February 14, 1942
March 5, 1954
November 30, 1958
- 3.4 FT — March 7, 1913
January 14, 1918
March 28, 1919
March 7, 1920
March 3, 1950
March 28, 1955
December 31, 1962
December 10, 1977
March 16, 1980
- 3.5 FT — March 11, 1933
December 20, 1934
March 19, 1941
October 26, 1980
- 3.6 FT — December 1, 1944
November 30, 1955
- 3.7 FT — January 6, 1912
February 27, 1925
February 10, 1933
March 24, 1940
February 8, 1951
February 25, 1967
- 3.8 FT — February 23, 1912
November 17, 1925
December 28, 1925
December 26, 1966

- 3.9 FT — January 4, 1913
January 29, 1926
- 4.0 FT — January 26, 1928
January 31, 1966
- 4.1 FT — January 25, 1936
February 2, 1976
- 4.2 FT — March 8, 1932
- 5.2 FT — January 10, 1978