

Historical Floods: James River at Buchanan, VA

Latitude: 37.531
Flood Stage: 17

Period of Record: 1877-Present
Last Flood: 2/24/2019

Longitude: -79.679
Number of Floods: 79

Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code	Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code
10/3/1877	-9999	-9,999	Missing	C1	1/21/1937	17.12	41,400	Minor	none
11/24/1877	34.9	142,000	Major	C1 C8	5/31/1940	17	41,100	Minor	none
4/1/1886	27	85,000	Major	C1 C9	5/17/1942	19.56	52,300	Minor	none
3/1/1889	27	85,000	Major	C1 C9	5/22/1942	18.4	47,400	Minor	none
10/13/1893	-9999	-9,999	Missing	C1	12/4/1948	17.15	42,600	Minor	none
4/9/1895	19	49,800	Minor	C1	4/14/1949	20.18	54,800	Minor	none
3/5/1899	19.5	51,900	Minor	C1	12/8/1950	18.95	49,800	Minor	none
11/26/1900	21.4	59,800	Moderate	C1	3/12/1952	17.73	42,000	Minor	none
3/1/1902	25	76,000	Moderate	C1	2/22/1953	19.15	48,000	Minor	none
3/24/1903	17.5	43,800	Minor	C1	3/2/1954	18.75	46,400	Minor	none
6/14/1907	17	41,800	Minor	C1	3/7/1955	19.36	48,800	Minor	none
2/16/1908	19	49,800	Minor	C1	4/6/1957	18.78	46,400	Minor	none
3/27/1913	31	105,000	Major	C1	3/31/1960	18.45	44,700	Minor	none
2/2/1915	20	56,100	Minor	C1	10/21/1961	17.68	42,000	Minor	none
3/5/1917	17.7	44,600	Minor	C1	3/13/1963	22.3	61,800	Moderate	none
3/14/1918	17.3	43,000	Minor	C1	3/8/1967	20.77	55,000	Minor	none
1/3/1919	18.5	47,800	Minor	C1	8/20/1969	23.37	65,800	Moderate	none
5/12/1924	21.5	60,000	Moderate	C1	1/1/1970	19.81	49,500	Minor	none
1/23/1935	23.82	70,400	Moderate	none	2/14/1971	18.9	45,900	Minor	none
3/18/1936	26.8	84,100	Major	none	5/31/1971	19.07	46,600	Minor	none

Drainage Area: 2073 square miles
Gage Datum: 802.1 ft MSL

Data represent all historical events.
James Basin

County of Gage: Botetourt
County of Forecast Point: Botetourt

Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code	Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code
2/27/1972	18.52	44,400	Minor	none	1/9/1998	19.95	51,000	Minor	F2
6/22/1972	30.49	111,000	Major	none	2/23/2003	24.03	72,000	Moderate	F2
2/3/1973	18.16	42,900	Minor	none	5/19/2003	18.57	44,600	Minor	F2
3/18/1973	19.23	47,300	Minor	none	11/20/2003	19.63	49,515	Minor	F2
5/29/1973	20.38	52,900	Minor	none	9/29/2004	25.66	61,200	Moderate	F2
12/27/1973	24.17	73,400	Moderate	none	6/26/2006	18.72	37,800	Minor	F2
3/20/1975	17.93	42,000	Minor	none	6/28/2006	21.98	48,300	Moderate	F2
10/10/1976	17	38,300	Minor	none	4/16/2007	17.85	35,100	Minor	F2
4/6/1977	22.81	66,000	Moderate	none	1/26/2010	20.17	42,400	Minor	F2
1/27/1978	22.31	63,200	Moderate	none	1/31/2013	17.5	34,100	Minor	F2
3/15/1978	18.87	45,800	Minor	none	5/8/2013	19.58	40,500	Minor	F2
3/27/1978	18.72	45,200	Minor	none	6/24/2016	20.33	42,900	Minor	F2
2/25/1979	19.91	50,600	Minor	none	5/25/2017	17.43	33,800	Minor	none
4/15/1980	18.29	43,500	Minor	F2	4/16/2018	18.07	35,800	Minor	none
6/13/1982	18.37	43,400	Minor	F2	9/28/2018	17.08	32,800	Minor	none
2/14/1984	19.1	46,700	Minor	F2	2/24/2019	17.92	35,300	Minor	none
11/5/1985	38.84	179,000	Major	F2					
4/16/1987	24.81	76,100	Moderate	F2					
4/22/1992	23.64	69,900	Moderate	F2					
3/5/1993	20.6	54,200	Minor	F2					
1/16/1995	22.7	64,800	Moderate	F2					
1/20/1996	29.24	103,000	Major	F2					
12/2/1996	18.79	45,600	Minor	F2					

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Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code	Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code
Code	Description								
C1	Crest information looks unreliable and incomplete and not used in frequency calculations. Some of the floods are based on current flood stage and nearby gage information.								
C2	Crest information looks reliable despite potential problems. This data was used in frequency calculations.								
C3	Crest height estimated by the USGS.								
C4	Crest height is from the National Weather Service.								
C5	Crest height affected by backwater.								
C6	Crest occurred at a previous flood stage that is lower than the current flood stage. The crests below the new flood stage are not used in flood frequency calculations.								
C7	Crest from USGS yearly peak and/or date is different than the crest we provide. In many cases MARFC uses crest based on backwater or ice effects.								
C8	Crest month or day of occurrence has been estimated by The Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center usually based on nearby gage information.								
C9	Crest date (day) in the month is unknown.								
F1	Flow is an estimate.								
F2	Flow affected by regulation or diversion and in some cases to an unknown degree.								
F3	Flow effected by snow-melt, ice jam or debris jam break up.								
F4	Flow affected by dam failure.								
F5	Flow - All or part of the record affected by urbanization, mining, agricultural changes, channelization or other factors.								
G1	Gage height at a different site and/or datum.								
G2	Gage is not an official USGS gage with crests provided by the NWS. Crest information looks unreliable and incomplete and not used in flood frequency calculations.								
G3	Gage datum changed during this year.								
none	No code; Good Data								