

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 at the Trump Pier 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://storms.nos.noaa.gov/>.

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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. They may vary slightly from figures found in National Weather Service publications.

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.

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

- 9.0 FT — December 11, 1992.
- 8.8 FT — September 14, 1944 (Hurricane).
- 8.6 FT — September 27, 1985 (Hurricane Gloria).
- 8.5 FT — October 31, 1991.
- 8.4 FT — March 6, 1962 and August 9, 1976 (Hurricane Belle).
- 8.2 FT — November 25, 1950.
- 8.0 FT — SEVERE TIDAL FLOODING BEGINS.**
March 29, 1984.
- 7.8 FT — October 25, 1980 and January 4, 1992.
- 7.6 FT — January 2, 1987 and March 19, 1996.
- 7.5 FT — October 14, 1977 and March 2, 1994.
- 7.4 FT — December 22, 1972.
- 7.3 FT — December 20, 1995 and October 7, 2006.
- 7.2 FT — September 12, 1960; October 22, 1961; December 9, 1973; September 25, 1977;
November 14, 1997 and February 5, 1998.
- 7.1 FT — January 23, 1966; November 15, 1981; December 13, 1996; January 28, 1998; January
25, 2000; January 3, 2003; December 11, 2003; May 25, 2005 and January 31, 2006.
- 7.0 FT — MODERATE TIDAL FLOODING BEGINS.**
February 19, 1972; December 2, 1974; December 6, 1996; December 25, 2002 and May
12, 2008.
- 6.9 FT — Flooding occurs along local roads in Ocean Gate*, including Bay View Avenue.
Flooding occurs along local roads in Mystic Islands (Little Egg Harbor Township*).
In eastern Burlington County - Flooding begins in Green Bank and Lower Bank (both
in Washington Township*).
- 6.7 FT — **In eastern Burlington County** - Flooding begins around the Burlington County Route
542 bridge at Wading River*.
- 6.5 FT — Flooding begins in Dover Township*, Berkeley Township* and Ocean Township*.
Flooding occurs along local roads in Barnegat Township*, including Bay Shore Drive
and East Bay Avenue.
Bayside flooding occurs in Harvey Cedars*.
Flooding occurs at the east end of the NJ Route 72 bridge in Ship Bottom*.
Flooding occurs along local roads in Tuckerton*, including South Green Street.
- 6.3 FT — Flooding occurs in Point Pleasant Beach* along NJ Route 35 at Broadway.
Flooding begins in communities from Point Pleasant* to Seaside Park*.
Flooding occurs along local roads in Stafford Township* (Beach Haven West and Cedar
Bonnets Islands).
Flooding begins in Surf City*, Ship Bottom* and in the communities on the south half of
Long Beach Island (including Beach Haven*).
- 6.0 FT — MINOR TIDAL FLOODING BEGINS.**
- 1.8 FT — BLOWOUT TIDE.**
- 3.1 FT — March 9, 2005.
- 3.8 FT — February 23, 1912; November 17, 1925; December 28, 1925 and December 25, 1966.
- 3.9 FT — January 4, 1913 and January 29, 1926.
- 4.0 FT — January 26, 1928; January 25, 1936 and January 31, 1966.
- 4.1 FT — February 2, 1976.
- 4.2 FT — March 8, 1932.
- 5.2 FT — January 10, 1978.

UPDATED AUGUST 2009