

# State of the Climate

## New Jersey 2022



### Temperatures are climbing

The mid-Atlantic region is one of the most rapidly warming locations in the continental U.S.

Summer 2022 was the  
**3rd warmest  
summer**  
on record in NJ

Average annual temperatures  
in NJ increased nearly  
**4°F**  
since 1900, roughly  
twice the global average

CO<sub>2</sub> levels in the  
atmosphere are  
the highest in at least  
**800,000  
years**

Avg annual temperatures  
are projected to increase  
as much as

**4–5 °F**

by 2100 in a lower emissions  
scenario and as much as

**9–10 °F**

by 2100 in a higher  
emissions scenario

### Sea-level rise is accelerating

And the trend is expected to continue well beyond the 21st century.

Sea level at Atlantic City  
rose about  
**18.2 inches**  
since 1911, more than  
double the global average

**Average annual tidal  
flooding days in Atlantic City**  
1950s: <1  
2007-16: 8  
projected { 2030: 17–75  
2060: 85–315  
with moderate emissions

**Tidal flooding**  
in Atlantic City is  
expected to occur at least  
**240 days a year**  
with moderate emissions by 2100

Sea level is projected  
to increase

**0.5–1.1 ft  
by 2030**

and

**0.9–2.1 ft  
by 2050**

relative to the year 2000

### A hot, dry summer ... and a possible glimpse of the future

Though New Jersey is experiencing more extreme rainfall, much drier conditions are expected between storms. Climate change is likely to increase the frequency and severity of short-term summer droughts.

**Hottest 31 days**  
on record in many places in New  
Jersey (i.e., New Brunswick,  
Hightstown, Long Branch-  
Oakhurst, Freehold-Marlboro,  
Newark Liberty Int'l Airport )

53 days from May to Sept  
saw max temperatures of  
**more than 90 °F**  
in parts of the state

**4th driest summer**  
Summer rainfall was  
5.75 inches below the  
normal of 13.58 inches

Annual precipitation is  
projected to increase  
**<10% by 2100**

but summer rainfall is  
not expected to change  
substantially.

Combined with higher  
temperatures, this may  
contribute to more dry  
summers like in 2022.

### What's at stake for New Jersey?

Warmer temperatures are producing more severe heat waves. Sea-level rise and heavy rains are causing more intense flooding. These and other climate-related hazards are projected to escalate through the 21st century and will fall heaviest on NJ's most vulnerable residents.

#### Health

- Increased heat-related illness
- Degraded air quality
- Spread of vector-borne disease
- Storm-related injury and death

#### Economy

- Damage to infrastructure
- Damage to homes and businesses
- Economic disruption
- Potential decrease in agricultural yields

#### Environment

- Greater wildfire risk
- Habitat loss
- More short-term droughts
- Potential freshwater salinization

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