**Rising Sea Level Statistics**

**Overview**

*“The ocean is absorbing 90 per cent of the heat added to the climate system. This warming is causing an expansion of ocean water which, in combination with water from the melting of land-based ice, is causing sea levels to rise.”*

<https://www.mfe.govt.nz/climate-change/climate-change-and-government/adapting-climate-change/adapting-sea-level-rise>

*“Sea-level rise is a consequence of climate change. Increased global temperatures lead to rising sea levels becafuse warmer waters take up more space and increased meltwater and ice from glaciers and polar ice sheets enter the ocean. Sea level varies naturally from place to place due to local ocean circulation and temperatures and the movement of the land relative to the sea. For example, earthquakes can lift or drop the land.”*

<http://archive.stats.govt.nz/browse_for_stats/environment/environmental-reporting-series/environmental-indicators/Home/Marine/coastal-sea-level-rise.aspx>

**How much coastal sea levels have risen by in the last few years in New Zealand**

* Auckland: 1.60 (±0.08) mm/year from 1899 to 2015
* Dunedin: 1.42 (±0.08) mm/year from 1899 to 2015
* Lyttelton: 2.12 (±0.09) mm/year from 1901 to 2015
* Moturiki (Mount Maunganui): 1.9 (±0.25) mm/year from 1973 to 2015
* New Plymouth: 1.37 (±0.16) mm/year for 1920 and 1955 to 2015.

<http://archive.stats.govt.nz/browse_for_stats/environment/environmental-reporting-series/environmental-indicators/Home/Marine/coastal-sea-level-rise.aspx>