

# Mean Sea Level(glossary)

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mean sea level

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(1)*The average level of the surface of the sea over all stages of tide and seasonal variations.*

(2)*The average height of the surface of the sea at a tide station for all stages of the tide over a 19-year period, usually determined from hourly height readings measured from a fixed predetermined reference level.*

Note to definition (1): Mean sea level in a local context normally means mean sea level for the region calculated from observations at one or more points over a given period of time. Mean sea level in a global context differs from a global geoid by not more than 2 m.

## Sources

ISO TC211. "Mean sea level." In: *ISO TC211 Multilingual Glossary*. Version from 2020-06-02. Concept ID: 284. Available at: <https://isotc211.geolexica.org/concepts/284/>

ISO TC211. "Mean sea level." In: *ISO TC211 Multilingual Glossary*. Version from 2020-06-02. Concept ID: 1562. Available at: <https://isotc211.geolexica.org/concepts/1562/>, referencing to IHO Hydrographic Dictionary S-32, Fifth Edition.

## Discussion

None.

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