

Document 1

Is sea level rising?

Sea level is rising **at an increasing rate**.

With the majority of Americans living in coastal states, rising water levels can have large impacts.

Global sea level has been rising at an increasing rate since the 20th century.

- 5 Analysis of a global network of tide gauge records shows that sea level has been rising at the rate of about 0.6 inches per decade since 1900. Since 1992, satellite altimeters indicate that the rate of rise has increased to 1.2 inches per decade—a significantly larger rate than at any other time over the last 2000 years.

<http://oceanservice.noaa.gov>, 12 Sept 2016

Document 2

The two major causes of global sea-level rise are thermal expansion caused by warming of the oceans (since water expands as it warms) and the loss of land-based ice, such as glaciers and ice sheets, due to increased melting. The oceans are absorbing more than 90% of the increased atmospheric heat associated with emissions from human activity.

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<http://oceanservice.noaa.gov>, 12 Sept 2016

Document 3

