Oceana County was originally laid off in 1831, but was later officially organized in 1851. The county coordinates are Range 15W-18W and Township 13N-16N. Adjacent counties include Mason (north), Lake (northeast), Newaygo (east), and Muskegon (south).

Here is a listing of original source records available at the Archives for Oceana County, including the years of coverage and the Record Group number. Finding aids available in the Archives, arranged by RG, give a more itemized listing of each collection.

**Cemeteries**
Oceana County files 1965-1976 RG 83-53

**Census**
Federal census 1880 RG 63-42

**Land**
Rural Property Inventory 1936-1942 RG 72-76

**Military**
GAR post records 1876-1945 RG 63-19

* Oceana County GAR posts: 26 (Hart), 52 (Pentwater), 68 (Shelby), 138 (Ferry), 299 (Crystal Valley), 397 (Walkerville), 449 (Mears)
* See also Guide No. 4: War Records, Guide No. 7: Post-War Records, Guide No. 4c: Spanish American War, and Guide No. 4d: World War I

**Poor home / relief**
Record of inmates of poorhouse 1887-1948 RG 63-42
Prison records
* See Guide No. 3: Correctional Facilities Records

Tax records
Record of tax receipts 1856-1878 RG 63-42

Vital records
* See Guide No. 19: Vital Records

Updated: May 2018