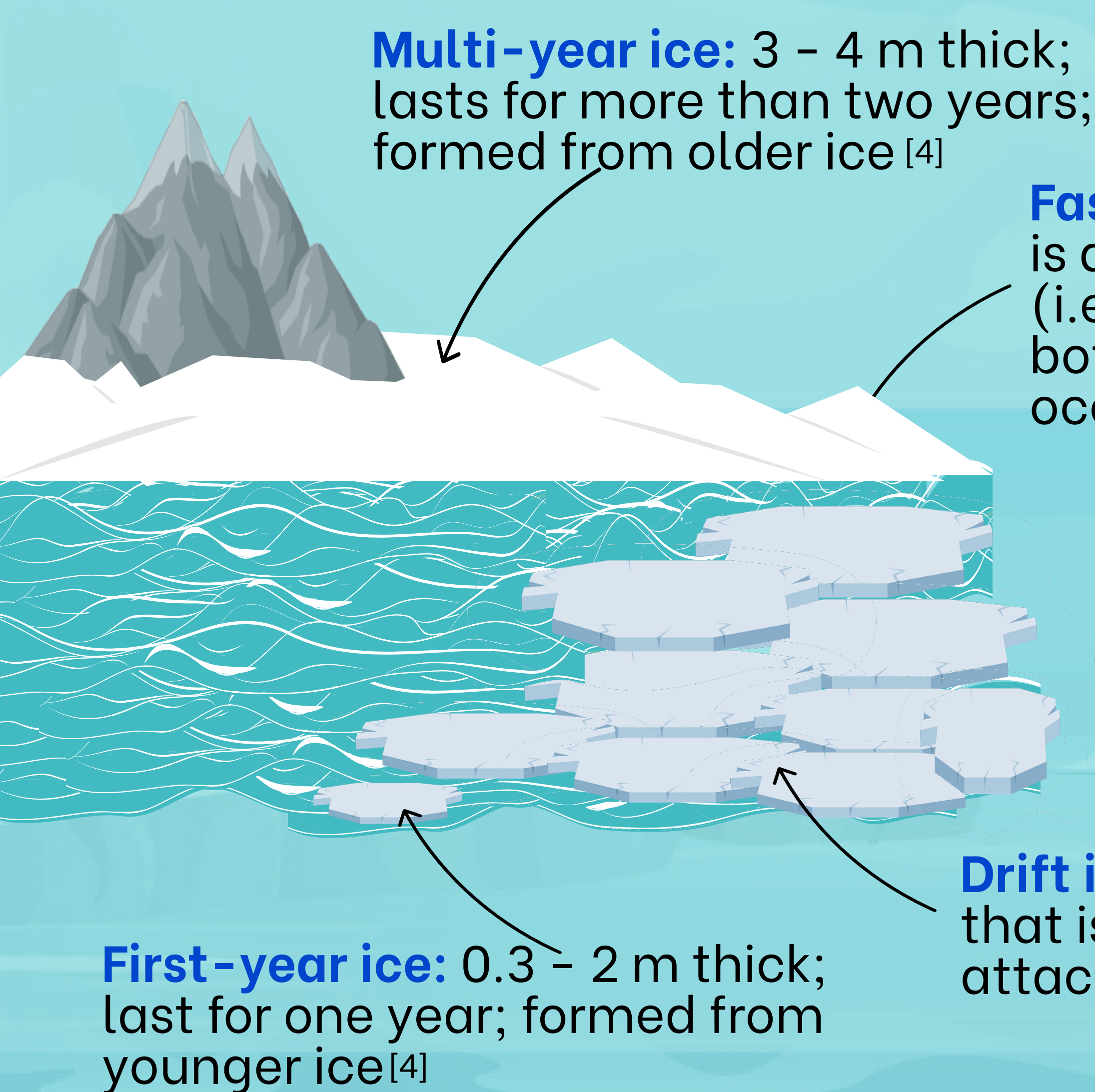


LIFE ON THIN ICE

Impact of Melting Arctic Sea Ice on Northern Communities

WHAT IS SEA ICE?



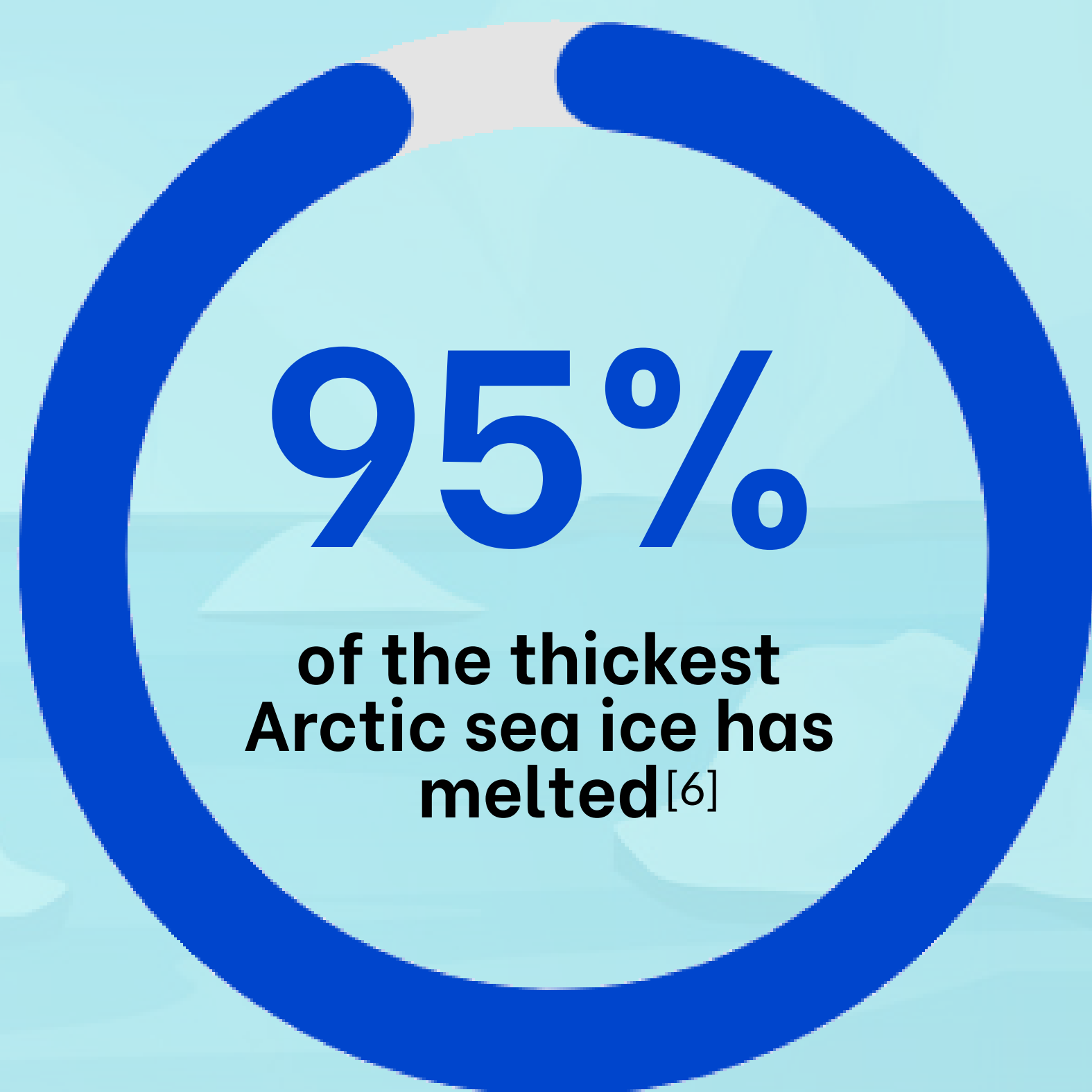
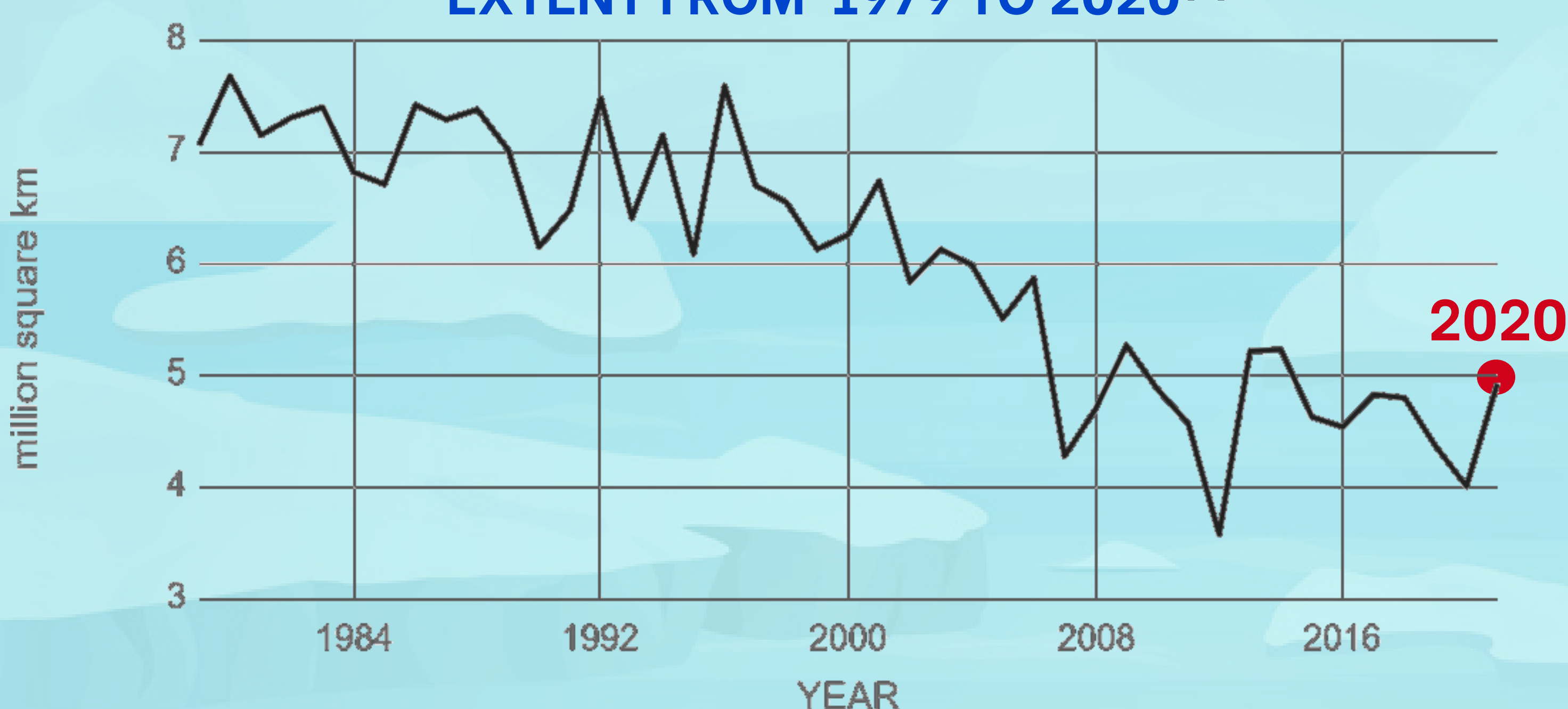
Sea ice is an important part of the Arctic.

It forms, grows, and melts in the ocean. [1]

It affects the global climate.

WHAT IS CURRENTLY HAPPENING TO SEA ICE?

THE AVERAGE MINIMUM SEPTEMBER SEA ICE EXTENT FROM 1979 TO 2020 [5]

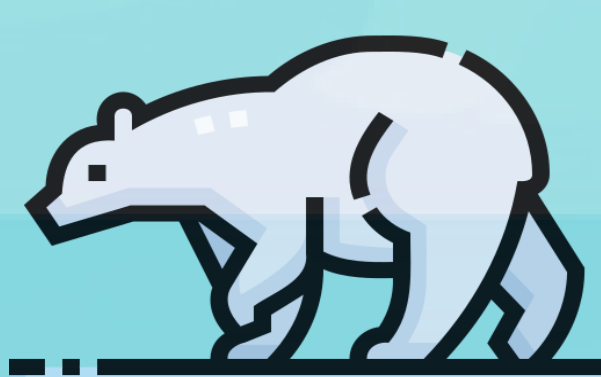


Sea ice is declining by 13% per decade. [5]

WHY IS SEA ICE SO IMPORTANT?



Sea ice helps to maintain Earth's energy balance. [7]



Sea ice provides a habitat for many animals. It also contains nutrients that benefit polar ecosystems. [8]



Since sea ice is cold and salty, it sinks towards the ocean floor, near the equator, promoting oceanic circulation. [1]



Sea ice has a high albedo, which allows it to reflect incoming solar radiation. [7]

IMPACTS ON CANADIAN COMMUNITIES



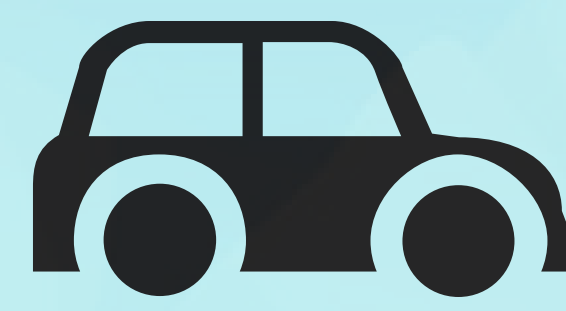
Lifestyle changes [9]



Food insecurity [9]



Activities, like skating, become dangerous [9]



Transportation becomes more dangerous [9]



Changes in tourism [9]

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PROTECT SEA ICE?



Support organizations that take actions to protect the sea ice.



Reduce your own carbon footprint.



More research needs to be done on ways to protect sea ice. We can then learn how to effectively help communities living in the Arctic.

REFERENCES:

