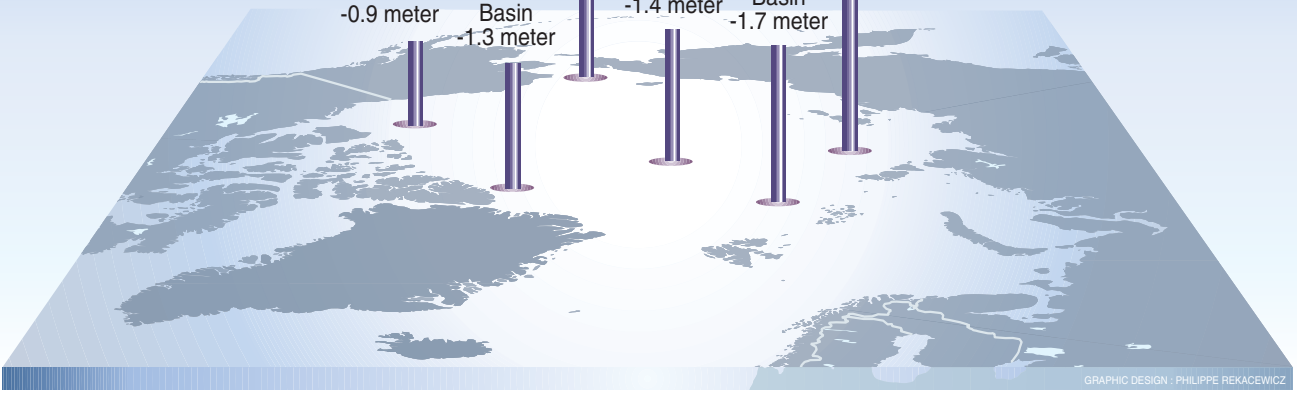
Thinning of the Arctic sea-ice

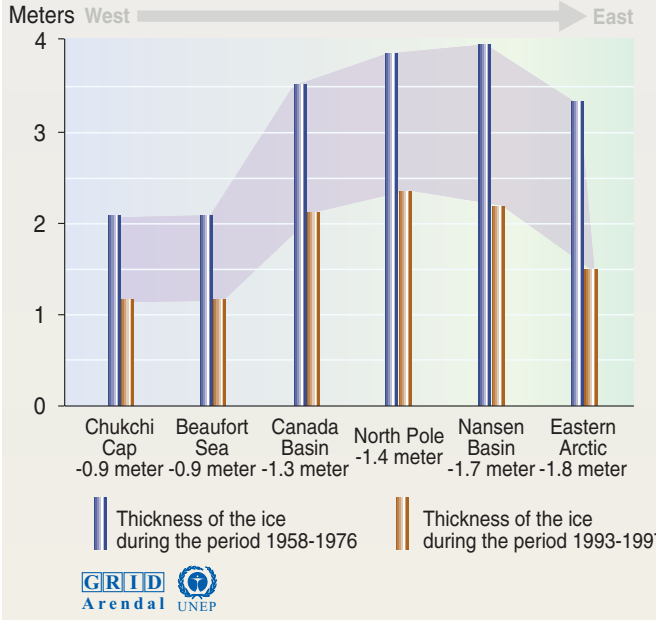
Location of the sampling points

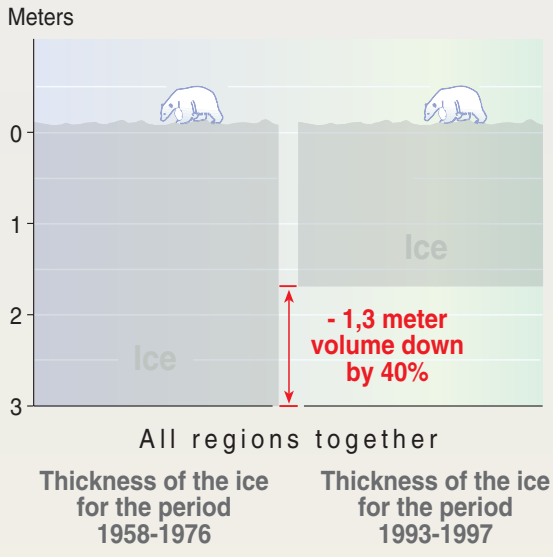
The height of the bars represent the reduction of ice thickness (draft) from the period 1958-1976 to 1993-1997

Ice draft in the 90s is over a meter thinner than three decades earlier



Thinning of the Arctic sea ice cover





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Note: comparison of sea-ice draft data acquired on submarine cruises betwen 1993 and 1997 with data from 1958-1976 indicates that mean ice draft at the end of the melt season has decreased by 1,3 m (from 3,1 m to 1,8 m). Value is down by 40%

Sources: D.A. Rothrock, Y.Yu and G.A. Maykut, Thinning of the Arctic sea-ice cover, University of Washington, Seattle, 1999.