

# ICE SHRINK

**A**ccording to NASA's quiz on ice and glaciers, At high elevations, snow builds up to form glaciers, which flow down-hill, extend into warm areas and melt. An 'equilibrium line' separates areas that melt in summer from areas that stay ice covered all year. If more ice melts than accumulates, the glacier retreats. The salty ocean contains more than 97 percent of all the water on Earth, which means that fresh-water is relatively scarce. About 70 percent of Earth's freshwater is held in ice caps and glaciers. The rest of the planet's freshwater resides in lakes (27 percent), swamps (3 percent) and rivers (less than 1 percent).

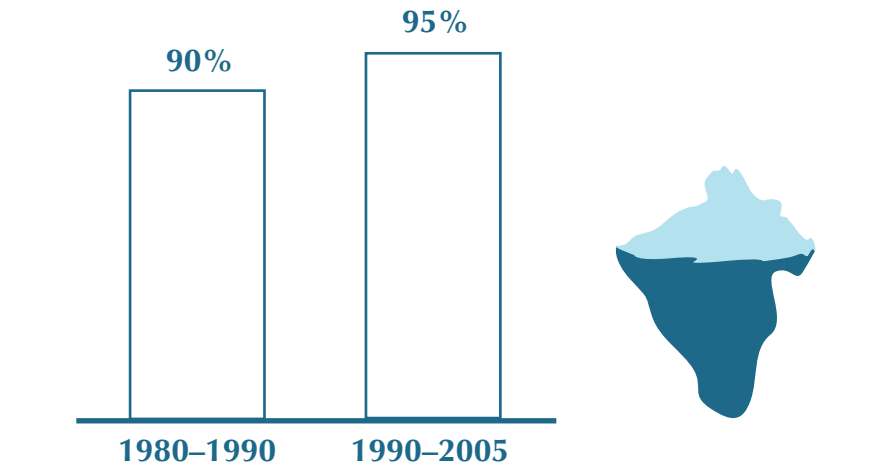
GLOBAL ICE SHRINKAGE AS EVIDENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

During the last ice age, glaciers covered almost one-third of all the land. Even though Antarctica holds the majority of Earth's ice, Greenland, which contains only 10 percent, loses the most ice every year. If all 2.9 million cubic kilometers (0.7 million cubic miles) of Greenland's ice sheet were to melt, it would cause sea level to rise by 7.2 meters (23.6 feet).

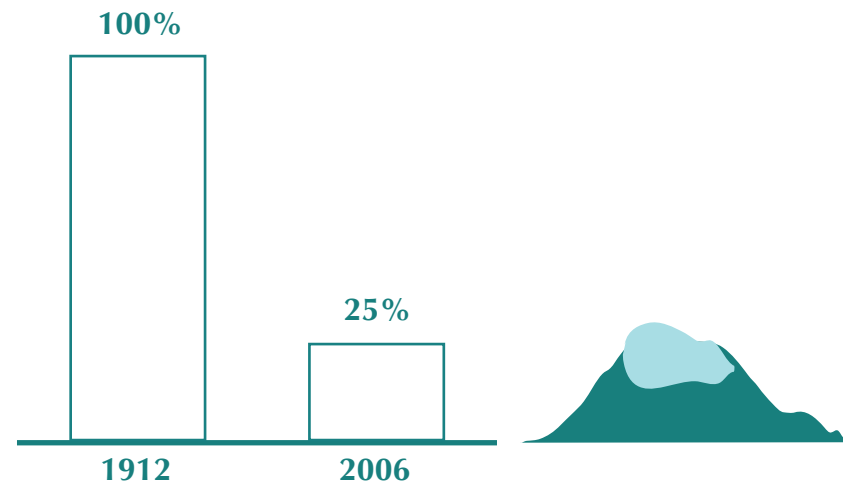
10 to 11 percent of the land is covered by ice today. The vast majority of Earth's ice is found in Antarctica. It has an ice sheet more than 1.8 kilometers (1.1 miles) thick on average, and can be more than 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) thick in some places.

"Climate change: the evidence and our options" Behavior analyst vol. 33,2 (2010): 153-70.

NASA. "Quiz: Ice and Glaciers." NASA, NASA, 6 Dec. 2018, [climate.nasa.gov/climate\\_resources/17/quiz-ice-and-glaciers/](https://climate.nasa.gov/climate_resources/17/quiz-ice-and-glaciers/).



RATES OF RETREAT IN GLACIERS ACROSS THE HIGH ASIA REGION



PERCENTAGE OF ICE ON MOUNT KILIMANJARO'S GLACIERS IN AFRICA