



# New Record Low: Global Sea Ice Levels Plummet

## Description

In February of this year, satellite measurements showed that there was less sea ice covering the oceans than ever before. This is because of the warmer temperatures in the world causing the ice to melt. The global average temperatures in February were 1.59°C higher than before the Industrial Revolution, making it the third warmest February on record.

The high temperatures affected the sea ice extent globally, including in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. In the Arctic, the sea ice was 8% below average, missing an area of ice about the size of the UK. This was the third month in a row to have the lowest ice extent in the Arctic.

In the Antarctic, the sea ice has been declining over the past two years. In February, the ice reached its fourth-lowest extent, remaining 26% below average. This decline in ice levels is concerning as it can harm polar ecosystems and contribute to sea level rise.

## Vocabulary List:

1. **Extent** /ɪk'stɛnt/ (noun): The area or range covered by something.
2. **Declining** /dɪ'klaɪnɪŋ/ (verb): Becoming smaller or weaker.
3. **Ecosystems** /'i:kəʊ,sɪstəmz/ (noun): Communities of living organisms interacting with their environment.
4. **Contribute** /kən'trɪb.ju:t/ (verb): To give (something such as money or time) to help achieve or provide something.
5. **Concern** /kən'sɜ:n/ (noun): A matter that is important or affects someone.
6. **Temperatures** /'tɛmpərətʃərz/ (noun): A measure of how hot or cold something is often measured in degrees.

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. What was the global average temperature difference in February compared to before the Industrial Revolution?

- Option: 1.59°C higher
- Option: 0.5°C higher
- Option: 2.3°C lower



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Option: No change

2. In the Arctic, the sea ice extent was below average by what percentage in February?

- Option: 2%
- Option: 8%
- Option: 15%
- Option: 20%

3. How many months in a row had the lowest ice extent in the Arctic?

- Option: 1
- Option: 2
- Option: 3
- Option: 4

4. What percentage below average was the sea ice extent in the Antarctic in February?

- Option: 10%
- Option: 15%
- Option: 20%
- Option: 26%

5. Why is the decline in Antarctic sea ice concerning?

- Option: It causes extreme weather events
- Option: It impacts marine wildlife
- Option: It leads to increased ocean acidity
- Option: It harms polar ecosystems and contributes to sea level rise

6. What was the rank of February in terms of global temperature records?

- Option: Warmest
- Option: Second warmest
- Option: Third warmest
- Option: Coldest

### True-False

7. Satellite measurements in February showed there was higher sea ice coverage than ever before.

8. The decline in Antarctic sea ice levels has no impact on polar ecosystems.



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9. The Arctic sea ice extent in February was 5% below average.
10. The global average temperatures in February were lower than pre-Industrial Revolution levels.
11. February experienced the highest recorded global temperatures in history.
12. The sea ice decline in the Arctic and Antarctic regions is solely due to natural causes.

### Gap-Fill

13. The global average temperatures in February were 1.59°C higher than before the \_\_\_\_\_ Revolution.
14. In the Arctic, the sea ice was 8% below average, missing an area of ice about the size of \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The sea ice in the Antarctic reached its fourth-lowest extent in February, remaining 26% below \_\_\_\_\_.
16. The decline in ice levels is concerning as it can harm \_\_\_\_\_ ecosystems and contribute to sea level rise.
17. The Arctic sea ice extent has been declining over the past \_\_\_\_\_ years.
18. The third month in a row to have the lowest ice extent in the Arctic indicates a \_\_\_\_\_ trend.

### Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. 1.59°C higher 2. 8% 3. 3 4. 26% 5. It harms polar ecosystems and contributes to sea level rise 6. Third warmest

**True-False:** 7. False 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. False 12. False

**Gap-Fill:** 13. Industrial 14. the UK 15. average 16. polar 17. two 18. declining



## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What is the unfair treatment of a person or group based on certain characteristics known as?  
Option: Opportunities  
Option: Discrimination  
Option: Inequalities  
Option: Capabilities
2. Which term refers to the percentage of total sales in a market that a company has?  
Option: Market Share  
Option: Sales  
Option: Funding  
Option: Affordable
3. What is a useful or valuable quality skill or person known as in business terms?  
Option: Asset  
Option: Seized  
Option: Stockpile  
Option: Critics
4. Which digital or virtual form of currency uses cryptography for security?  
Option: Importance  
Option: Cryptocurrency  
Option: Concern  
Option: Temperatures
5. What term means to give something typically money or efforts to help a situation or achieve a goal?  
Option: Expect  
Option: Protested  
Option: Contribute  
Option: Oppose
6. What term refers to the degree or scale to which something happens or is the case?  
Option: Declining  
Option: Extent  
Option: Ecosystems  
Option: Importance
7. What is the act of ending a dispute or disagreement by mutual agreement?



- Option: Allegations
- Option: Settlement
- Option: Dispute
- Option: Funding

8. What term refers to something that is easy to perceive or understand?

- Option: Protest
- Option: Transparent
- Option: Stockpile
- Option: Seized

9. What term indicates the significance or value of something?

- Option: Oppose
- Option: Expect
- Option: Importance
- Option: Concern

10. What term expresses a worry or regard for something important?

- Option: Concern
- Option: Asset
- Option: Critics
- Option: Capabilities

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. \_\_\_\_\_ in opportunities can lead to societal disparities.
12. The group decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the new policy due to its negative impact.
13. We \_\_\_\_\_ better sales results following the marketing campaign.
14. The students organized \_\_\_\_\_ to protest against the tuition fee hike.
15. Due to the funding shortage the project was \_\_\_\_\_ put on hold.
16. Authorities \_\_\_\_\_ the illegal goods during the raid.
17. Her leadership \_\_\_\_\_ were evident in the successful project completion.
18. The citizens \_\_\_\_\_ against the construction of the new factory in the residential area.



19. The NGO was able to continue its operations due to the generous \_\_\_\_\_ received.
20. The team proved they were \_\_\_\_\_ of handling multiple projects simultaneously.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The company's revenue is directly linked to its performance in selling products and services.
22. The legal team worked tirelessly to resolve the between the two parties.
23. The new housing development aimed to provide options for low-income families.
24. The journalist made serious against the government official regarding corruption.
25. There is a growing about the impact of climate change on the environment.
26. The company faced challenges due to the demand for their products.
27. Conservation efforts are crucial to protect the delicate balance of in the region.
28. Citizens gathered to against the government's decision to increase taxes.
29. The country decided to essential supplies in preparation for the upcoming storm.
30. The film received mixed reviews from with some praising the acting and others criticizing the plot.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Discrimination 2. Market Share 3. Asset 4. Cryptocurrency 5. Contribute 6. Extent 7. Settlement 8. Transparent 9. Importance 10. Concern

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Inequalities 12. Oppose 13. Expect 14. Demonstrations 15. temporarily 16. Seized 17. Capabilities 18. Protested 19. Funding 20. capable

**Matching sentence:** 1. Sales 2. Dispute 3. Affordable 4. Allegations 5. Concern 6. Declining 7. Ecosystems 8. Protest 9. Stockpile 10. Critics

## CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL2

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