



Atlas of Canada 6th Edition
(archival version)

Break-up of Sea Ice

The typical retreat of the sea ice cover from the late winter to late summer is shown on this map. Sea ice is any form of ice that is found at sea and has originated from the freezing of seawater. Melting of sea ice begins in spring in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and East Newfoundland, retreating northward towards the Labrador coast. In June openings appear in Baffin Bay and the Beaufort Sea, while clearing is already underway in Hudson Bay. Break-up continues throughout the summer months, reaching a minimum extent around mid-September. The map shows the typical retreat of the sea ice cover from late winter (mid-March) to late summer (mid-September) on a bi-weekly basis. The dates shown in the legend of the map indicate the extent of the sea ice cover at those dates.

0 150 300 450 600 km

Lambert Conformal Conic Projection. Standard Parallels 49°N and 77°N

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| Break-up of Sea Ice
March 15
April 1
April 15
May 1
May 15
June 1
June 15
July 1
July 15
August 1
August 15
Sept. 01 to Oct. 01 (irregular breakup)
Permanent ice | Populated Places
• 1 - 4 999
• 5 000 - 49 999
• 50 000 - 99 999
• 100 000 and greater
○ Provincial and Territorial Capital
★ National Capital | Road network
• Road network
• Ferry route
Boundaries
• International
• Provincial / Territorial
• EEZ (200 mile)
• Canada / Kaikaiti Nunaa dividing line |
|---|--|---|

Source(s):
Break-up of Sea Ice
Regional Ice Charts from 1969 to 1998, Canadian Ice Service, Environment Canada.
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