

Sea Level Graphs (Geography)

KS4



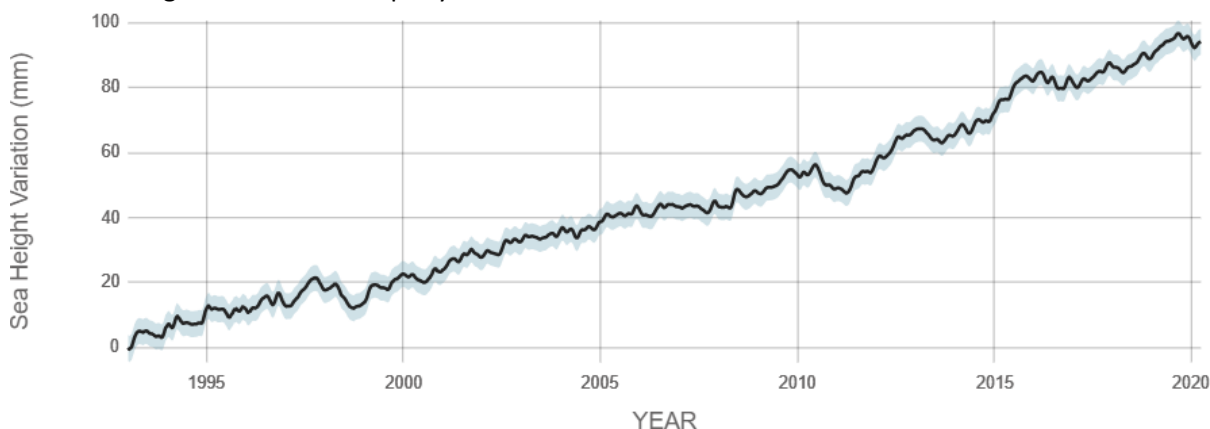
Sea level rise is caused by two main factors: an increase in water from melting ice sheets and glaciers as well as the expanding sea water due to an increase in temperature. The graphs below detail these more subtle changes with ocean sea levels. All graphs are taken from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE

NASA Sea Level Change:

Satellite Data: 1993 to Present

Rate of Change: 3.3 millimetres per year

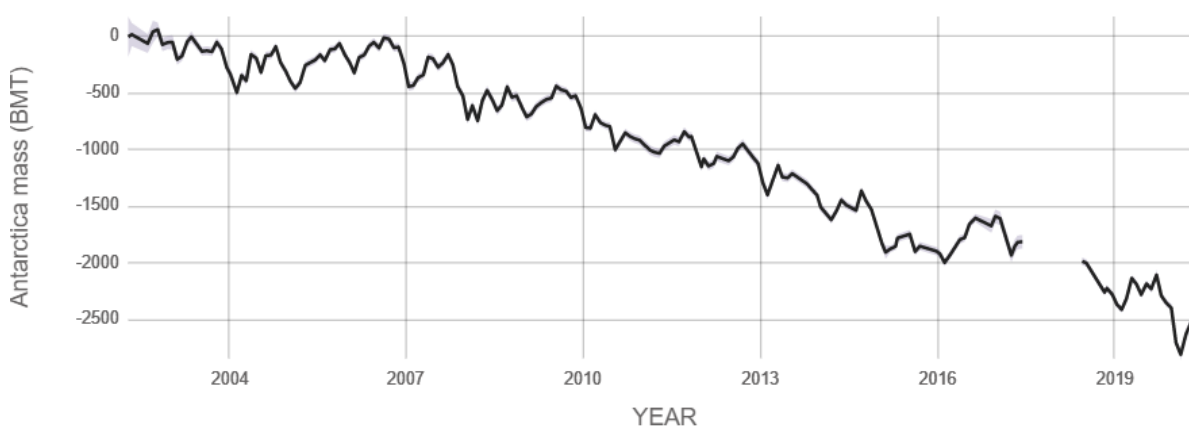


Source: climate.nasa.gov

Antarctica Mass Variation Since 2002

Data source: Ice mass measurements by NASA's GRACE satellites. Gap represents time between missions

Rate of Change: 148.0 billion metric tonnes per year



Source: climate.nasa.gov

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Instructions: Please ensure that you answer each question fully, using the data available in the graphs above to support your interpretations.

1) Briefly describe what each graph is showing:

a. NASA's Sea Level Change:

b. Antarctic Mass Variation:

2) How are these graphs related?

3) Would you use this data to support arguments for man-made climate change? Why or why not?