

Greenland glacier moving at record speed

A giant glacier believed to have been responsible for producing the iceberg that sank the Titanic is moving at the fastest speed ever recorded, according to a recent scientific study

Jakobshavn (Ilulissat) Glacier

Moved at rate of 17km per year in 2012, equal to 46 metres per day – almost four times as fast as summer pace during 1990s

Jakobshavn (Ilulissat)

Jakobshavn Fjord

Disko Bay

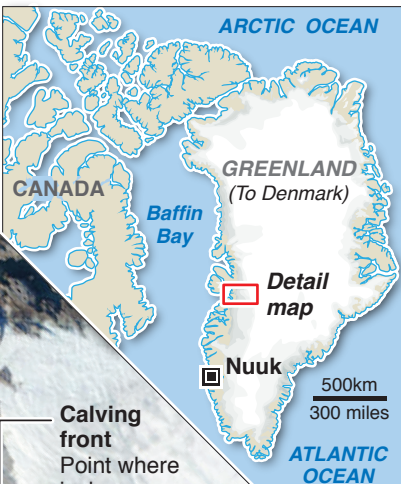
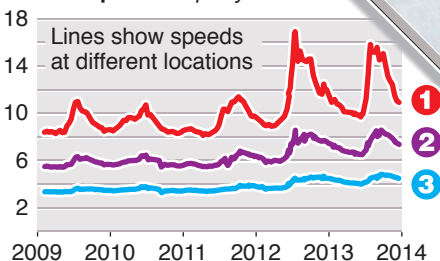
Calving front

Point where icebergs break off

Icebergs

Glacier is likely birthplace of Titanic iceberg (85 percent of bergs in North Atlantic come from west coast of Greenland)

Glacier speed km per year



GREENLAND ICE SHEET

25km
15 miles

Ice stream

Acceleration means glacier is adding more ice to ocean than before. Between 2000 and 2011, glacier increased global sea level by around 1mm

Picture: Jacques Descloitres, MODIS Rapid Response Team, NASA/GSFC

Sources: University of Washington, German Aerospace Centre (DLR)

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