COASTAL EROSION



Sea storms, freeze/thaw cycles, lack of ice cover and flooding due to storm surges are all climatic factors that can contribute to coastal erosion in Nunavik.

All communities report that there is less ice in the bays and on the Nunavik coasts: **the freezing season is shorter.**

The frost season will be about 45 days shorter by 2100.

The rise in sea level will be offset by isostatic rebound

(Phenomenon in which the Earth's crust slowly rises after being relieved of the enormous weight of a glacier).

There will be more offshore storms.

Vulnerable Populations

Some people are more at risk of developing health problems due to their exposure, adaptability or sensitivity.

4.5 % **of the Nunavik population are Elders. They are particularly affected by the loss of sites of cultural value.**

86 % **of Nunavimmiut hunt and fish regularly, using trails along the coast.**

Communities most at risk



Akulivik and **Umiujaq** are at higher risk

Health Impacts

Climate change impacts health and different health determinants (food, land, housing, traditional knowledge, community, family) as defined in the IQI model.

Loss of traditional sites and destruction of archeological or cultural sites can intensify or trigger emotions like sadness, fear, solastalgia, etc.
Nearly 10% of Indigenous people say climate change affects their mental health.

Coastal erosion can make access to the land harder by destroying trails or fishing and hunting territories, making it harder to get traditional food. 66% of Nunavimmiut feared they would run out of food in 2017.

Coastal erosion can affect water quality and coastal ecosystems.

Tininnimiutait (marine organisms present at low tide) are part of the traditional food available year-round and commonly consumed by the communities.

Climate change | NRBHSS

With financial support from:

Plan pour une économie verte

Québec

Services aux Autochtones Canada

Indigenous Services Canada