

# MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

COMPILED FROM RETURNS OF OFFICIAL AND VOLUNTARY OBSERVERS

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## Generally cool, wet and dull

On the 1st and 2nd low pressure was to the north of Scotland and high pressure over the Bay of Biscay, while fronts associated with a mid-Atlantic depression were crossing the British Isles, clearing all areas by the 4th. Another Atlantic depression and its associated frontal system affected western areas of the United Kingdom on the 5th and the depression itself crossed Northern Ireland and Scotland on the 6th and 7th, leaving the British Isles in a northerly airstream on the 8th. The airstream remained predominantly northerly over the next week, associated with an extensive complex low-pressure system that extended from Scandinavia to Spain. A transient ridge of high pressure on the 16th and 17th gave way once more to low pressure during the 18th, followed by a series of fronts and troughs until the 22nd. A deepening depression in mid-Atlantic on the 25th crossed northern areas of the United Kingdom between the 27th and 29th. By the end of the month a weak ridge of high pressure was affecting south-western areas while low pressure dominated north-west Scotland.

### Weather

The first half of June was cool and showery, with many places on the eastern side of the United Kingdom having twice as much rain as could normally be expected. It remained unsettled for the rest of the month; there was only a little improvement during the third week, with the best of the weather being in the north. During the last week there was a further deterioration and, for the first time since 1969, there was no play on the first day of the tennis championships at Wimbledon. However, the weather improved in the last few days of the month. Thunderstorms occurred over the Midlands and south-east on the 8th and from the 11th to 13th were widespread over Wales, the Midlands and south-east England. Intense thundery activity occurred on the 14th, London and the south-east being badly affected by thunderstorms which caused flooding on some roads. Seven people were taken to hospital after lightning hit a tree in a park in Stroud, Gloucestershire. On the 16th thunderstorms were again widespread. Thunderstorms over Manchester on the 26th gave some heavy rainfall overnight. On the 29th and 30th most places remained cloudy with some rain, but warmer than usual. Hailstones of diameter 10 mm to 20 mm were reported at Levington, Suffolk on the 4th, at Kielder Castle, Northumberland on the 14th and during a thunderstorm at Towy Castle, Dyfed on the 16th.

### Wind

It was a quiet month. The windiest day was the 6th when four low-level anemograph stations recorded hourly mean winds of 34 kn or more, including Gwennap Head, Cornwall, 43 kn and Shoreham-by-Sea, East Sussex, 38 kn. Highest gusts recorded at low-level stations were 57 kn at Aigburth, Merseyside and Gwennap Head. Wind directions were mainly westerly or southerly during the month.

### Temperature

Mean monthly temperatures were below normal through the United Kingdom, ranging from 2.3 °C below normal in north-east England to less than 1 °C below normal in the London area.

The highest temperature on the 1st was 21.4 °C at Poole, Dorset. The 9th was the coldest June day in the London area since 1964. Some ground frost in parts of the south on the 10th added to the unseasonal conditions. Between the 11th and 13th it remained cool and there was air frost in parts of Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. Sheffield, Weston Park, South Yorkshire reported the lowest night-time temperature for June for 10 years. It was the second coldest June, together with that of 1927, in Northern Ireland this century. By the 27th temperatures were again near normal. Over much of England and Wales the end of the month was unusually warm: Silsoe, Bedfordshire recorded a minimum of 18.0 °C on the 28th, the warmest June night on record at the station, and Ashover, Derbyshire, with 17.9 °C on the 29th had the warmest June night since records began there in 1967. The highest temperature of the month was 30.0 °C, recorded at St Helier, Jersey on the 29th. The lowest temperature was -2.0 °C at Dall (Rannoch School), Tayside on the 13th.

### Rainfall

Monthly rainfall totals were above normal in all areas except northern Scotland and the Western Isles ranging from 289 per cent of average at Ringway, Greater Manchester to 52 per cent at Benbecula, Western Isles.

Heavy rain in places, mainly in western areas on the 5th included heavy falls of 65 mm at Princetown, Devon, 62 mm at Penwhirn, Dumfries and Galloway, and 60 mm at Bryansford, Co. Down. On the 6th and 7th there was heavy rain in southern areas, and many roads were flooded. Rainfall amounts looked likely to set a June record with some parts of East Anglia having exceeded the monthly average by about the 14th. On the 14th intense showery activity was reported across eastern England and south-east Scotland with hourly totals of 6 mm or more being recorded. On the 15th storms in Essex and Suffolk gave 30 mm to 50 mm of rain generally; the rainfall observer at Sudbury, Suffolk recorded a fall of 71 mm in 24 hours and extensive flooding caused severe disruption to traffic. Worthing, West Sussex reported the fourth wettest June since their records began in 1887. Sheffield, Weston Park

reported the greatest consecutive number of days of rain falling for June since 1935. Silsoe, Bedfordshire reported the wettest June since 1958.

### Sunshine

Sunshine amounts were below normal everywhere except for parts of northern Scotland and the Western Isles and ranged from 117 per cent at Tiree, Strathclyde to less than 40 per cent in Cambridgeshire.

Only in the south and west was there any significant sunshine on the 11th. On the 16th Helensburgh, Strathclyde recorded the most sunshine in a day with 17.3 hours. On the 18th and 19th Scotland, Northern Ireland and northern England had the best of the sunshine. The 25th was the dullest day in England and Wales. Silsoe, Bedfordshire reported the lowest mean daily sunshine on record for June at the station with only 3.7 hours. In Northern Ireland it was the second dullest June since 1941. The most sunshine measured in the month was 233 hours at Tiree, Strathclyde.

### Fog

Overnight fog patches formed on the 5th and during the second and last weeks of the month, mainly in eastern and central areas. On the 27th and 28th fog affected many parts of south-west England and the Channel Islands, where Jersey Airport was closed and thousands of holiday-makers were stranded for up to 24 hours; many flights were diverted to Southampton Airport. Hill and coastal fog occurred mainly in the south-west during the second half of the month.

### Miscellaneous Phenomena

On the 11th a funnel cloud was reported around midday to the north-east of Valley, Gwynedd and another was observed at about the same time near Wittering, Cambridgeshire and Stamford, Lincolnshire. On the 26th a whirlwind was observed at Aston, near Sheffield, South Yorkshire; the sky was reported to have turned black, with a rapid increase of wind speed that uprooted apple trees and destroyed greenhouses before blowing itself out in a few minutes.

**Table 1 District values**

| District                 | Air temperature °C      |             |      |      |      | Mean 30 cm soil temp °C | Rain-days | Rainfall | Sunshine |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|------|------|------|-------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|
|                          | Highest Max*            | Lowest Min* | Max. | Min. | Mean |                         |           |          |          |
|                          | Difference from average |             |      |      |      | % of average            |           |          |          |
| 0 Scotland N             | 22.2                    | -0.9        | -1.7 | -1.5 | -1.6 | -0.2                    | +1        | 83       | 90       |
| 1 Scotland E             | 20.9                    | -0.7        | -2.7 | -1.1 | -1.9 | -0.4                    | +4        | 143      | 71       |
| 2 England E & NE         | 27.0                    | -1.5        | -2.5 | -0.5 | -1.5 | -0.9                    | +10       | 168      | 51       |
| 3 East Anglia            | 28.5                    | 1.9         | -1.9 | -0.1 | -1.0 | -0.9                    | +10       | 185      | 57       |
| 4 Midland Counties       | 27.6                    | 1.4         | -2.2 | -0.4 | -1.3 | -1.0                    | +10       | 196      | 58       |
| 5 England SE & Central S | 28.5                    | 3.1         | -1.4 | -0.2 | -0.8 | -0.7                    | +7        | 150      | 73       |
| 6 Scotland W             | 21.1                    | -1.5        | -2.0 | -1.1 | -1.6 | -0.4                    | +3        | 114      | 74       |
| 7 England NW & Wales N   | 23.3                    | 2.0         | -2.7 | -0.2 | -1.5 | -0.6                    | +7        | 164      | 60       |
| 8 England SW & Wales S   | 26.1                    | 0.9         | -1.7 | -0.5 | -1.1 | -0.5                    | +6        | 146      | 70       |
| N Ireland                | 21.5                    | 0.0         | -2.2 | -0.9 | -1.5 | -0.6                    | +4        | 127      | 66       |
| Scotland                 | 22.2                    | -1.5        | -2.1 | -1.2 | -1.7 | -0.3                    | +3        | 110      | 78       |
| England & Wales          | 28.5                    | -1.5        | -2.1 | -0.3 | -1.2 | -0.8                    | +8        | 167      | 61       |

\* Highest maximum and lowest minimum of District Value Stations