

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

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Cool but generally dry, with variable sunshine

For the first few days of the month pressure was relatively high over southern England, whilst Atlantic fronts affected northern and western parts, although a cold front cleared all of the country on the 2nd. On the 4th a small depression moved north-east from Cornwall to northern England, and became slow-moving over the North Sea on the 5th. High pressure then returned to the English Channel on the 6th and 7th, with weak fronts crossing Northern Ireland and Scotland, but a more vigorous frontal system moved swiftly south-east across all areas on the 8th and 9th.

Between the 10th and the 12th active Atlantic frontal systems moved quickly eastwards across the United Kingdom. Following the passage of a small anticyclone eastwards over southern England and northern France on the 13th, a complex depression became almost stationary over England until the 15th.

On the 16th a developing anticyclone moved across England and Wales from the west; this then slowly moved to northern France by the 20th, while weak fronts crossed Wales, the Midlands and East Anglia. During the 21st and 22nd an active depression moved eastwards across northern France and into Germany, whilst high pressure established itself to the west of Scotland and Northern Ireland. This remained the pattern until the 25th, with weak fronts moving southwards across Britain. The high then moved into Ireland on the 26th, and drifted slowly southwards on the 27th and 28th. A shallow depression formed temporarily over Northern Ireland on the 29th, after which the anticyclone re-established itself over the Irish Sea on the 30th and 31st.

Weather

There were showers or outbreaks of rain in many parts of the west and north between the 1st and the 3rd, with thunderstorms in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire on the 2nd, but the south-east remained dry. More general rain spread across England and Wales on the 4th, and on into Scotland the next day; for a while this rain was persistent and slow-moving over northern England. On the 6th, 7th and 8th, there were outbreaks of rain or drizzle in parts of Scotland, Northern Ireland and the west and north of England, but on the morning of the 9th rain spread into south-east England before dying out. There were a few scattered showers in places on the 10th, and on the 11th rain spread across all parts of the country except northern and central Scotland. On the 12th rain over southern

England, East Anglia and the Midlands cleared away, after which showers developed widely across the country, with thunderstorms reported over a large area of eastern, northern and central England. Except for a few showers in western Scotland and Northern Ireland the 13th was a dry day. Outbreaks of mostly light rain or showers affected some parts of the country over the next few days, but many places remained dry.

Thunderstorms developed over east Wales on the 14th, over the Midlands and East Anglia on the 15th, but by the 18th everywhere was dry except for parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland. On the 19th there were outbreaks of rain in north Wales and northern England, and on the 20th there were showers in northern and western Scotland, with drizzle in western Wales and south-west England at first. On the 21st and 22nd, the showers in Scotland persisted, and rain, heavy in places, affected much of England and Wales. There were scattered showers on the 23rd, but these became restricted to Scotland on the 24th. Outbreaks of mostly light rain affected most of England except the south on the 25th, but the remainder of the month was dry apart from isolated showers or outbreaks of light rain or drizzle near some coasts.

Wind

In most parts of the United Kingdom, the 9th, 11th and 12th were the windiest days of the month. The highest gust reported was 60 knots at Great Dun Fell, Cumbria on the 9th, whilst a gust of 59 knots was reported at High Bradfield, South Yorkshire on the 11th. There were only two other reports of gusts over 50 knots: 52 knots at Cairngorm, Grampian on the 18th and at Honington, Suffolk on the 12th.

Temperature

It was a cool month everywhere, with mean temperatures ranging from 0.3 °C below average in parts of Kent, Devon and Cornwall to 1.8 °C below average in parts of Shropshire, Greater Manchester and Tayside. The highest temperature reached was only 26.7 °C at Elmstone, Kent on the 20th, whilst the lowest was -1.4 °C at Tyndrum, Central Region on the 26th.

Rainfall

Most parts of the United Kingdom, except for the east and north-east of England, were drier than normal, and parts of the Midlands and south-east England were particularly dry. Monthly totals varied from 26% of average at Astwood Bank, Hereford and Worcester to 278% of average at Whitby Coastguard, North Yorkshire. The highest reported daily rainfall of the month was 62 mm at Carlton-in-Cleveland, Cleveland on the 4th; the highest daily fall in Scotland was 46 mm at Carterhouse, Borders on the 4th, and in Northern Ireland it was 20 mm on the 2nd at Knockarevan and at Loch Navar Forest, both in Fermanagh.

Snow

There were no confirmed reports of snow or sleet.

Sunshine

The sunniest parts of the country were the southern half of England and Wales, and Northern Ireland, whilst northern Scotland was particularly dull. Monthly totals varied from 132% of average at Oxford, Oxfordshire and at Lough Cowey, Down to only 63% of average at Baltasound, Shetland. The highest daily total of the month was 14.5 hours at Tiree, Strathclyde on the 5th and the highest monthly total was 271.9 hours at St Helier, Jersey.

Fog

On the 3rd and on the 7th there was patchy coastal fog in extreme northern Scotland, whilst on the 8th fog affected the coasts of South Wales at times. Some hill fog was reported in Northern Ireland and in south-west England on the 14th. More widespread fog formed for while around dawn on the 15th in Northern Ireland, north-west England and north Wales, south-west England and in East Anglia. On the 17th fog was very widespread at dawn over many parts of England, Wales and southern Scotland. Hill and coastal fog developed near English Channel coasts during the evening of the 20th and persisted into the morning of the 21st. Some patchy hill and valley fog affected parts of Scotland on the morning of the 28th, and a few fog patches were reported in southern England on the 29th. Patchy hill, coastal and valley fog formed for a while towards morning on the 31st in western Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and south-west England.

Miscellaneous phenomena

None were reported.