

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

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Generally sunny and dry; cold at night with frequent fog

An anticyclone over the British Isles on the 1st progressed eastwards, reaching the North Sea by the 3rd. A weakening trough of low pressure that traversed the United Kingdom on the 4th and 5th was followed by a further anticyclone which crossed southern parts of the British Isles on the 6th, reaching central Europe by the 7th. On the 8th a depression to the west of the British Isles tracked northwards and the associated fronts crossed all areas of the United Kingdom. A weak cold front over southern parts of England and Wales remained slow moving on the 9th, before further fronts from a more vigorous system crossed Wales and western England overnight clearing eastern England later on the 10th. The trailing cold front remained on the 11th, lying along the Channel, affecting places south-east of a line from east Devon to Suffolk. Between the 12th and 16th an anticyclone moved from the south-west approaches across southern areas of England and Wales to the Continent. A depression moved eastwards along the Scottish border on the 17th followed by generally anticyclonic conditions from the 18th onwards although it was briefly interrupted by a shallow depression which developed near western Scotland and moved across England overnight on the 19th/20th in the north-north-westerly airstream. On the 27th the anticyclone moved away south-eastwards, allowing fronts associated with an Atlantic depression to cross all parts of the United Kingdom overnight. On the 29th further active fronts crossed the United Kingdom, clearing most areas on the 30th, although becoming somewhat slow moving over northern England.

Weather

November was generally sunny and very dry in most places in England and Wales; despite the heavy rain on the 29th it was one of the driest Novembers on record in many places in England and Wales. Scotland and Northern Ireland were also generally sunny but had outbreaks of heavy rain in places. Rain spreading south on the 20th turned to snow. Wintry showers occurred during the next two days mainly in eastern coastal areas. There were outbreaks of thunder on the 11th in the far north of Scotland, accompanied by hail in places, and on the 20th in east Kent.

Wind

Winds reached gale force over south-west England on the 3rd, with a mean wind at Gwennap Head, Cornwall of 39 kn and a gust of 57 kn. The 11th was a stormy day in the far north with gale force south-westerly winds; there were several reports of gusts in excess of 52 kn and 61 kn was reported at Lerwick and Fair Isle, Shetland. Gusts of 58 kn and 60 kn were recorded at Benbecula and Butt of Lewis, Western Isles. In south-west England winds approached gale force for a time in the late morning and early afternoon, leaving many roads blocked by fallen trees and telegraph poles. Mean winds were again strong in northern and eastern Scotland on the 28th with 37 kn recorded at Sumburgh, Shetland and Leith, Lothian Region, and 34 kn at Fraserburgh, Grampian Region. Wind directions were mainly easterly or south-easterly until the 11th, westerly or southerly until the 17th, northerly, variable until the 26th, then south-westerly for the rest of the month.

Temperature

Mean monthly temperatures were generally above normal in Scotland but below normal elsewhere in the United Kingdom, ranging from 1°C above normal in the far north-west of Scotland to as much as 2°C below normal on the south coast of England. The 10th was a very mild day for mid November with temperatures some 5°C above normal from southern England to north-east Scotland. By contrast, on the 21st driving conditions were made hazardous by ice, sleet and rain as temperatures fell to -3°C in England and -5°C in Scotland; the temperature fell to -8°C by 2300 GMT at Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway. The highest temperature during the month was 18.0°C at L'Ancrese, Guernsey on the 9th and the lowest temperature was -11.6°C at Carnwath, Strathclyde Region on the 22nd.

Rainfall

Mean monthly rainfall amounts were below normal in most parts of the United Kingdom, the exception being part of north-east England where rainfall was above normal, reaching 124 per cent at Newcastle upon Tyne. Some parts of south-west England and central southern England had less than a quarter of the normal rainfall. November was particularly dry in the southern half of the United Kingdom. Only widespread heavy rain on the 29th prevented the month from being exceptionally dry over England and Wales as a whole, many places in Wales and south-west England having falls of more than 30 mm. Nantmor, Gwynedd and Princetown, Devon had falls of 75 mm and 57 mm respectively. It was the driest November since 1956 over Wales, although only slightly drier than 1983, and over England since 1978. Northern Ireland had the second driest November since 1957. Rainfall in Scotland was closer to normal but generally still below normal, and Perth Aerodrome, Tayside Region had a heavy daily fall on the 9th of 60 mm.

Snow

On the 20th, during the night snow over central areas of Scotland moved southwards to affect most of northern and eastern England as far south as east Kent. By dawn on the 20th snow lay over

much of England north of the Thames, with from 9 cm to 12 cm in some hilly areas. Much of Wales and south-west England had rain rather than snow. Later on the 20th the area of rain and snow over southern England moved away over France. There were wintry showers during the next two days mainly in eastern coastal areas. Parts of eastern Kent had 15 cm of level snow and 10 cm was measured in parts of Yorkshire.

Sunshine

Monthly sunshine amounts were above normal nearly everywhere in the United Kingdom except for some coastal parts of north-west Scotland where it was rather dull with less than 80 per cent of the average. The brightest areas during the month were along the Caledonian Canal, part of central England from Merseyside to The Wash and part of Cumbria and neighbouring Dumfries and Galloway where sunshine amounts were more than 160 per cent of average. The 4th was the sunniest November day recorded at Beaufort Park, Berkshire since 1965. The 11th was a bright day over a wide area of Wales, the Midlands and northern England. Glasgow had its sunniest November since 1947 and at Edinburgh, Botanic Garden it was the sunniest November since records began there in 1939. Wingerworth, Derbyshire reported the sunniest November since records began at the station in 1970. The most daily sunshine during the month was 9.3 hours at Westonbirt Arboretum, Gloucestershire on the 4th and the highest monthly total was 131 hours, at Guernsey Airport.

Fog

Fog formed frequently overnight during the month. Patchy fog formed on the 1st in southern areas and became widespread overnight on the 6th and 7th, persisting all day in parts of eastern England, and again on the 14th when it remained all day in places. Fog formed again overnight on the 22nd and lasted throughout the following day in the Manchester area. There was further patchy fog over the next few days.

Miscellaneous Phenomena

None reported.

Table 1 District values

District	Air temperature °C					Mean 30 cm soil temp°C	Rain- days	Rainfall	Sun- shine
	Highest Max*	Lowest Min*	Max.	Min.	Mean				
			Difference from average					% of average	
0 Scotland N	14.7	-8.2	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	-0.1	-2	60	110
1 Scotland E	15.2	-6.3	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-4	70	130
2 England E & NE	15.1	-9.8	-0.3	-1.1	-0.6	-0.4	-6	72	149
3 East Anglia	15.6	-7.1	-0.6	-1.8	-1.1	-0.3	-5	57	134
4 Midland Counties	16.1	-6.3	-0.3	-2.2	-1.3	-0.7	-7	51	131
5 England SE & Central S	16.0	-5.0	-0.3	-1.4	-0.9	-0.4	-6	36	142
6 Scotland W	13.3	-11.6	+0.1	-0.7	-0.3	-0.2	-4	64	136
7 England NW & Wales N	16.1	-6.6	-0.1	-1.1	-0.8	-0.4	-6	54	144
8 England SW & Wales S	15.6	-6.5	+0.3	-1.1	-0.6	-0.3	-8	42	143
N Ireland	13.2	-7.5	+0.1	-0.9	-0.4	-0.2	-9	52	109
Scotland	15.2	-11.6	+0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-3	64	125
England & Wales	16.1	-9.8	-0.2	-1.5	-0.9	-0.4	-6	51	141

* Highest maximum and lowest minimum of District Value Stations