

Annual 2015

The following represents an assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during 2015 and how it compares with the 1981 to 2010 average.

Until mid-November 2015 saw mostly quiet weather. The summer was rather cool and wet, but early autumn provided fine, sunny weather as compensation. However from late autumn a succession of Atlantic storms brought exceptional rainfall to the north and west, causing widespread severe flooding to many towns and cities. In an echo of November 2009, storm Desmond on 5 December brought 341mm in 24-hours to Honister Pass, Cumbria (a new UK record) and there was further severe flooding in the north around Christmas and New Year associated with storms Eva and Frank.

The UK mean temperature was 9.2 °C, 0.4 °C above the 1981-2010 long term average. For most months, temperatures were fairly near average, although somewhat below from May to September. New UK temperature records of 36.7 °C and 22.4 °C were set on 1 July and 1 November respectively. November was very mild and December exceptionally so; easily the mildest December in the CET series from 1659. Remarkably there were no air frosts during December across southern Britain.

The UK rainfall total was 1272 mm, 110% of the 1981-2010 average and seventh-wettest in the UK series; these seven years include 2015, 2014, 2012, 2008, 2002 and 2000. March, April and June were dry in the south-east and September and October in the north-west before the onset of the storms. Twice the normal rainfall fell across Snowdonia, northern England and southern Scotland in November, followed by two to three times in December. The latter was the wettest calendar month in the series for the UK.

2015 was a sunny year for most areas, especially the north-east. January to April and September were all sunny months, whereas November was duller in the UK series.

UK statistical summary

UK statistical summary

Mean temperature

The mean value is 9.2 °C, which is 0.4 °C above the 1981-2010 average.

Rainfall

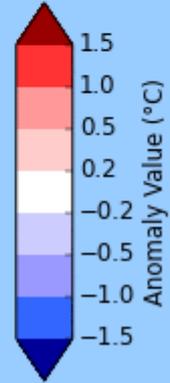
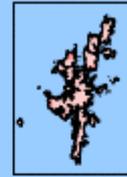
The total is 1272 mm, which is 110% of the 1981-2010 average.

Sunshine

The total is 1457 hours, which is 106% of the 1981-2010 average.



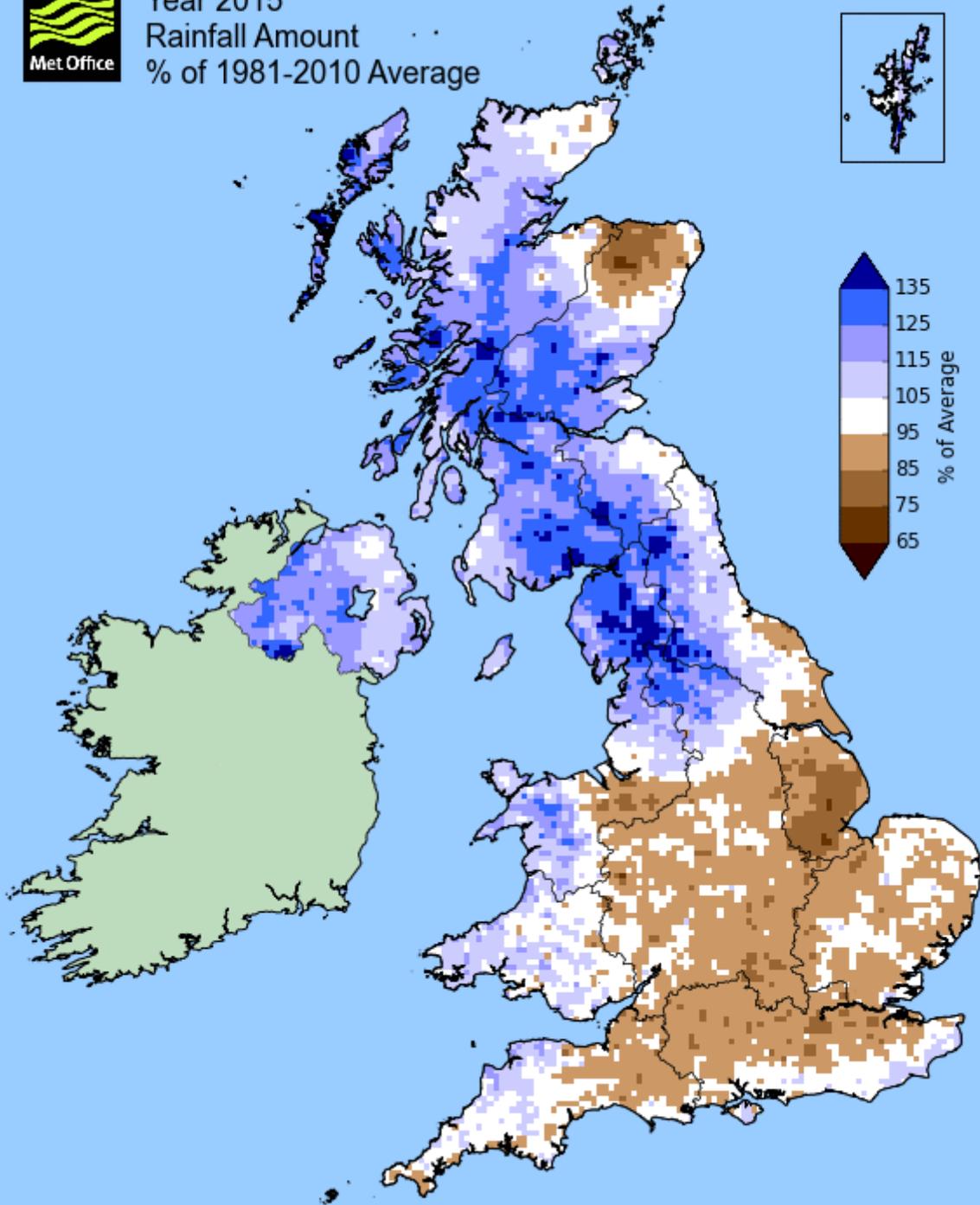
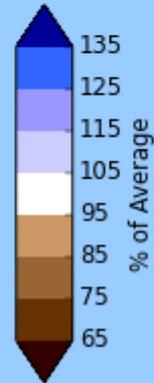
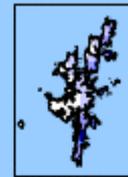
Year 2015
Mean Temperature
1981-2010 Anomaly



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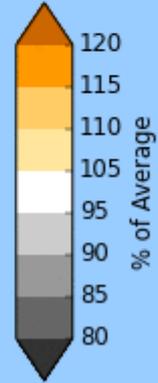
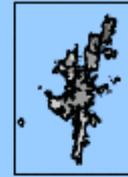
Year 2015
Rainfall Amount
% of 1981-2010 Average



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Year 2015
Sunshine Duration
% of 1981-2010 Average



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