

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

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Rather warm generally with very variable rainfall

A deep depression lay to the west of the British Isles on the 1st and 2nd, and fronts moved slowly northwards over the country. Pressure then rose, especially over southern Britain, though fronts continued to skirt Northern Ireland and Scotland, and by the 5th a substantial high lay over England and Wales. This anticyclone persisted until the 8th, though weak fronts continued to affect the extreme north-west, but by the 10th low pressure to the south had come to dominate the weather over the United Kingdom. On the 11th and 12th, this low meandered about over southern England, before moving away eastwards by the 13th. A brief ridge of high pressure intervened, to be followed on the 14th by an active depression moving eastwards across southern England.

Further frontal systems crossed the British Isles over the next few days, and the system which crossed on the night of the 17th/18th was particularly active over Northern Ireland, Wales and northern England. This changeable type of weather continued until the 19th, when an anticyclone became almost stationary to the west of Ireland. It remained in this position until the 23rd, while occasional weak fronts moved south-east across Britain from Iceland. It then gradually repositioned itself to the south-west of Cornwall allowing further frontal systems to travel south-eastwards across Scotland and eastern England on the 25th and 26th. The high then moved slowly north-eastwards into the North Sea on the 27th and 28th. The month ended with a cold front trailing across Scotland, high pressure to the east and to the west of the British Isles, and low pressure over France.

Weather

Outbreaks of rain affected Scotland, Northern Ireland, and parts of northern England and Wales on the 1st, and later in the day thundery rain and thunderstorms spread into south-west and southern England. They spread further into eastern and central England on the 2nd, but apart from a little drizzle in the east and north, the 3rd was essentially dry everywhere. A few showers or outbreaks of rain occurred in northern and western parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland between the 4th and 8th, but for the rest of the country this period was dry.

Thunderstorms spread into the south-west of Cornwall very late on the 8th, and then moved north-eastwards across England and Wales and into Scotland during the 9th. There were further thunderstorms in many parts of Great Britain on the 10th and 11th, but on the 12th showers and isolated thunderstorms became restricted to southern England. Widespread and locally heavy rain affected much of the country apart from northern and central Scotland later on the 13th and on the 14th, clearing away southwards, though with some thunder in the London area.

On the evening of the 15th there were scattered thunderstorms in South Wales, Wiltshire and parts of the Thames Valley, and the next day persistent rain affected southern parts of England and Wales into the afternoon, again with local thunderstorms in the south-east. In the meantime, there were showers in other parts of the country.

On the 17th a belt of continuous rain swept from the west across all parts of the country apart from northern and central Scotland during the late afternoon and evening, followed by scattered showers on the 18th and 19th. Showery weather persisted over parts of Scotland on the 20th, with more prolonged rain on the 21st, but England and Wales were dry on both days.

From the 22nd to the 24th there were scattered showers in Scotland and northern and eastern England, but on the 25th rain moved across Scotland, Northern Ireland, northern England, north Wales and parts of the Midlands and East Anglia. By the 26th all parts of the country were dry. On the remaining days of the month there were outbreaks of rain or drizzle in the Western Isles and in Northern Ireland, with an isolated thunderstorm over the Cairngorms on the 28th, and isolated showers over the Pennines and in Cornwall on the 30th.

Wind

There were no low-level gales, except on the 12th at Lerwick, Shetland, but the 26th was generally the windiest day of the month with gales reported at Cairngorm, Grampian and at Great Dun Fell, Cumbria. The highest gust reported was 55 knots at Great Dun Fell on the 26th, whilst a gust of 49 knots was reported at Cairngorm on the same day.

Temperature

Monthly mean temperatures were generally above average, except in parts of northern and eastern Scotland. Values ranged from 1.6 °C above the average at St James's Park, Greater London and Edenbridge, Kent to 1.1 °C below normal at Lerwick, Shetland. The highest temperature reported during the month was 28.6 °C at Northolt, Greater London on the 8th, and the lowest was -0.1 °C at Leith Hall, Grampian on the 25th.

Rainfall

Monthly rainfall totals were substantially above the average in parts of south-west England, south Wales and the Midlands but were well below average in eastern and north-eastern England. Amounts ranged from 43% of average at Skegness, Lincolnshire to 443% of average at Cudrose, Cornwall, nearly half of which, a total of 123 mm, fell in a single day on the 8th and was the highest reported daily rainfall of the month. The highest daily fall in Scotland was 47 mm at Isle of Rum, Highland on the 25th, whilst the highest daily fall in Northern Ireland was a total of 43 mm at Trassey Slievenaman, Down on the 11th.

Snow

There were no reports of snow or sleet anywhere in the British Isles during the month.

Sunshine

It was a dull month generally in Scotland and Northern Ireland, but was sunny in most parts of England and Wales. Monthly totals varied from 57% of average at Kirkwall, Orkney and at Fort Augustus, Highland to 124% of average at Ross on Wye, Hereford and Worcester. The highest daily total of the month was 15.8 hours on the 27th at Boulmer, Northumberland and the highest monthly total was 269.1 hours at Eastbourne, East Sussex.

Fog

Some patchy hill and coastal fog was reported on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd in Wales, northern and south-west England, and in the Channel Islands. Fog was widespread in southern England at dawn on the 4th and on the 8th. Fog patches again affected some western and northern coasts of Scotland on the 4th and 9th, and the coasts of south-west England and Wales on the 5th and 7th. On the 10th there were fog patches in northern and western parts of the United Kingdom, and these had developed in other parts by dawn on the 11th. A few patches remained over hills on the 12th, and reappeared on some western coasts on the 14th. Very isolated coastal fog patches were reported in the west on the 15th and 16th, and in northern Scotland and the Channel Islands on the 17th. Fog was not again reported until dawn on the 24th in Lincolnshire, and on the 26th there was extensive fog in the Bristol Channel. More patchy fog was reported around south-west England and Wales on the 27th, and a few dawn patches in East Anglia on the 28th. Patchy fog occurred at dawn in a few places in England on the 30th.

Miscellaneous phenomena

A small tornado which moved roof tiles and garden furniture was reported at Bingham, Nottinghamshire on the 10th.