

# MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

COMPILED FROM RETURNS OF OFFICIAL AND VOLUNTARY OBSERVERS

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## Mainly dry but wet at mid month

High pressure covered the United Kingdom for the first three days of the month. As the anticyclone slipped away into central Europe, troughs associated with a developing depression off western Scotland affected much of the region away from the east coast. During the 8th the depression moved south-eastwards across western areas; there was a change to an unsettled westerly airstream as a cold front crossed all areas on the 10th. During the next day a deepening Atlantic depression approached western areas of the British Isles and gradually moved eastwards, crossing Scotland during the 12th and leaving all areas in an unstable airstream for the following two days. A trough of low pressure crossed southern England on the 13th, followed by a transient ridge of high pressure. Further troughs late on the 14th and during the 15th brought a westerly airflow. A developing area of high pressure on the 17th brought a general rise of pressure across the United Kingdom, but troughs on its north-western flank affected Scotland and some western coastal areas of England and Wales. On the 18th pressure was high over France and a depression north of Scotland was moving eastwards. The associated cold front affected many northern and central areas of the United Kingdom on the 18th and southern areas on the 19th. On the 21st and 22nd a complex depression tracked from near Iceland into the North Sea, then moved southwards across eastern France and the Mediterranean on the 23rd. A ridge of high pressure covered north-western areas by the 25th and south-eastern areas by the 27th, but a cold front affected all areas except south-east England on the 29th; as pressure rose again the front weakened and became slow moving.

### Weather

The month started generally dry except in Orkney and Shetland, but during the first week unsettled weather returned to all parts. The south-eastward passage of the depression across western areas of the United Kingdom on the 8th brought heavy rain to some places. After a brief drier interval, there was a change to an unsettled westerly airstream on the 10th, with rain or showers in most areas although with some drier spells. On the 25th brighter weather came to the north-west, spreading to the south-east by the 27th. Further rain reached all areas except south-eastern England on the 29th, with substantial falls in Devon, Cornwall and Dyfed. The 30th was a dry day except in the Midlands and north-east England. Thunderstorms were reported here and there on several days, with an outbreak over the Bristol Channel on the 12th. Hail was widespread between the 10th and 13th, and 22nd and 25th.

### Wind

It was very windy on the 11th with gales in many areas, especially the south and south-west, where Plymouth (Mount Batten), Devon recorded a mean speed of 40 kn, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex 42 kn and Gwennap Head, Cornwall reached storm force with a mean speed of 48 kn; a young cyclist was blown off his bicycle into the sea and drowned at Peacehaven, East Sussex. There were further gales, mainly in the north-west, on the 12th. On the 20th severe north-westerly gales affected north and north-east Scotland, with mean wind

speeds of 44 kn recorded at Fraserburgh, Grampian Region, and 41 kn at Sumburgh, Shetland and Butt of Lewis, Western Isles. Highest gusts at low-level stations were 71 kn at Gwennap Head on the 11th and 70 kn at Fair Isle, Shetland on the 20th. Wind directions were southerly at the beginning of the month, then became westerly before veering to northerly later in the month.

### Temperature

Mean monthly temperatures were near normal everywhere in the United Kingdom and ranged from 0.5 °C above normal in Shetland to 0.4 °C below normal at Aberporth, Dyfed.

The month started off mild in most parts of the United Kingdom. In southern areas it remained mild until the 22nd; in northern areas it was cooler for a time between the 10th and 15th, with a further mild spell until the 22nd. As the result of a change to a north-easterly airflow on the 22nd most places became colder, particularly in parts of southern and eastern England where so far temperatures had been normal. Oxford reported the lowest absolute maximum for November (12.6 °C on the 15th and 19th) since 1957 and fourth lowest since 1881. The highest temperature in the month was 15.7 °C at Jersey, Channel Islands on the 1st and the lowest was -10.0 °C at St Harmon, Powys on the 28th.

### Rainfall

Monthly rainfall values for all districts were below normal, although one or two places had considerably more than the monthly average; amounts ranged from more than 130 per cent at Brize Norton, Oxfordshire to just over 40 per cent at Edinburgh.

Apart from a few spots of rain here and there the first week was generally dry. There was widespread rain on the 8th and from the 10th onwards some places had rain nearly every day. Heavy rain occurred in central areas on the 20th. On the 12th there was a fall of 52 mm in a day at Holme Moss, West Yorkshire. Among other large falls were 45 mm at Princetown, Devon on the 11th, 48 mm at

Machynlleth, Powys on the 18th and 47 mm at Knockanrock, Highland Region on the 22nd.

### Snow

The first 10 days of the month were snow free. Snow was reported lying on higher ground in Scotland and northern England from the 11th onwards and in North Wales on the 13th. Fresh falls of snow or sleet occurred down to near sea level between the 23rd and 25th. Snow fell widely on the 23rd, with reports as far south as Cornwall. There were reports of falls of sleet at Washington, West Sussex and Okehampton, Devon reported snow above 500 m on central parts of Dartmoor on the 13th. However, amounts were very small and disappeared quickly.

### Sunshine

Sunshine amounts were below normal in most areas except parts of southern and eastern Scotland, south-west England and west Wales where it was quite sunny; sunshine ranged from about 60 per cent in central England to 148 per cent at Aberporth, Dyfed.

At the beginning of the month there were some good sunny periods, especially in the south and south-west. Most of the United Kingdom became sunny by the 14th. The highest daily sunshine total was 8.5 hours recorded at Boulmer, Northumberland on the 2nd, Aberporth, Dyfed on the 3rd, Swansea, West Glamorgan on the 4th, and Long Sutton and Southsea, Hampshire on the 14th. The highest monthly total was 89.5 hours at Swansea, West Glamorgan.

### Fog

Apart from the 4th, overnight fog became widespread on a number of days during the first week with southern and central England most affected, the fog clearing during the day. Later in the month fog was confined to central and south-east England with some patches of freezing fog persisting through much of the day on the 29th.

### 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			
0 Scotland N	14.1	−3.0	+0.1	+0.8	+0.5	+0.1	−2	76	74
1 Scotland E	15.3	−6.4	−0.2	+0.9	+0.3	+0.1	−3	69	93
2 England E & NE	14.3	−6.2	−0.1	+0.8	+0.4	+0.3	−2	80	82
3 East Anglia	13.5	−4.5	−0.4	+0.7	+0.1	+0.8	−2	86	73
4 Midland Counties	14.4	−5.2	−0.5	+0.7	+0.1	+0.4	−2	87	69
5 England SE & Central S	14.1	−4.0	−0.3	+0.4	0.0	+0.7	−4	86	83
6 Scotland W	14.3	−7.6	−0.1	+0.8	+0.4	+0.3	−2	73	103
7 England NW & Wales N	17.0	−4.0	−0.2	+0.9	+0.1	+0.4	−3	74	90
8 England SW & Wales S	14.7	−5.5	0.0	+0.5	0.0	+0.1	−3	91	106
N Ireland	14.5	−3.5	+0.1	+1.1	+0.6	+0.3	−3	78	94
Scotland	15.3	−7.6	−0.1	+0.8	+0.4	+0.2	−2	75	90
England & Wales	17.0	−6.2	−0.3	+0.7	+0.1	+0.5	−3	83	84

\* Highest maximum and lowest minimum of District Value Stations