

# MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

COMPILED FROM RETURNS OF OFFICIAL AND VOLUNTARY OBSERVERS

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## Changeable; very dull in the south-west, sunny in the east; generally warm

A shallow area of low pressure lay across the British Isles on the 1st. While a ridge of high pressure covered Scotland and northern England during the 3rd, southern areas were still affected by frontal activity, but later the front weakened. During the 4th an anticyclone covered all parts of the United Kingdom. Later on the 5th a complex low-pressure area began to push northwards from France. During the 6th as the area of instability moved northwards and westwards, the depression circled back to be centred over the South-west Approaches during the 7th. On the 8th fronts moved north-eastwards across England and Wales, but low pressure moved away during the 9th and pressure rose to the south. On the 10th pressure was high over the Low Countries and low over the eastern North Atlantic, with all parts of Great Britain in a southerly airstream. Between the 11th and 16th a succession of frontal troughs crossed all areas, interrupted on the 14th by a transient ridge of high pressure; all areas remained in an unstable westerly airstream. Further troughs affected southern areas early on the 16th, but later in the afternoon pressure rose everywhere. On the 18th fronts associated with a depression moving rapidly eastwards crossed all areas. Early on the 20th the depression filled as a ridge of high pressure extended north-eastwards across southern areas. Overnight on the 20th/21st a series of weak fronts moved across Great Britain, after which an anticyclone became established temporarily over the British Isles. A fresh series of frontal troughs associated with an Atlantic depression moved across all areas during the 23rd. The depression crossed Scotland and northern England on the 24th. On the 25th, pressure began to rise again and continued to rise slowly over the next 24 hours. Nevertheless a low pressure area over France was working its way slowly northwards, affecting south-western areas later on the 29th and moving north-eastwards on the 30th and 31st.

### Weather

The weather was changeable, with showers, sometimes accompanied by thunder, and longer periods of rain. Heavy rain fell in parts of Scotland, Northern Ireland and northern England on the 1st. During the afternoon of the 2nd rain spread across Kent and Sussex, where thunder was reported, later spreading across south-eastern England, East Anglia and the Midlands; thunderstorms occurred over North Wales and north-west England, with heavy showers, some of hail. Thunderstorms, some severe with hail, moved northwards over southern England late on the 5th, and crossed parts of Wales and the Midlands during the night; further thunderstorms occurred over Wales and north-west England early on the 6th and again widely on the 7th. Lightning caused structural damage in North Wales and Scotland on the 8th. Thunder outbreaks over south-west England on the 23rd became widespread by the evening, with the south-east being worst affected. The main thundery activity moved to East Anglia and eastern England on the 24th. Further heavy rain fell over parts of south-east England and the Midlands on the 30th.

### Wind

July was a generally quiet month. The highest gusts recorded by low-level anemographs were 51 kn at Culdrose, Cornwall on the 7th and 50 kn at Portland Bill, Dorset on the 5th and Inchterf, Strathclyde Region on the 25th, and at high level, 60 kn at Great Dun Fell, Cumbria on the 5th. Directions were mainly south-westerly.

### Temperature

Mean monthly temperatures were above normal nearly everywhere, ranging from more than 3 °C above normal in the western Highlands to nearly 1 °C below normal in the Isles of Scilly. Scotland had one of the warmest Julys on record.

The temperature reached 27 °C in many inland spots and also on the coasts of south and north-west England and along the Welsh coast on the 4th and 5th, with 30 °C at both Southampton and Kinlochewe, Highland Region on the 4th. Temperatures remained high, especially in Scotland, until the 7th, but the next hot day was the 11th with 29 °C or 30 °C over much of East Anglia and eastern England. The highest temperature during the month was 32.1 °C at Cromer, Norfolk on the 11th and the lowest was 4.1 °C at Glenlee, Dumfries & Galloway on the 17th.

### Rainfall

Monthly rainfall totals were above normal in northern Scotland, Shetland and Orkney, the Forth-Clyde Valley, and England and Wales south of a line from Anglesey to Essex, and below normal elsewhere, and ranged from 280% in the Isles of Scilly to as little as 26% in Lincolnshire.

Heavy rain came to Wales and southern England during the night of the 17th/18th with 49 mm measured at Penmaen, 42 mm at Mumbles and 41 mm at Swansea, all in West Glamorgan. Further heavy rain fell across parts of southern England and the Midlands on the 30th, with 50 mm at Elmdon, West Midlands, whereas in contrast Nottingham had only 1 mm, an example of how localised the rainfall was. The highest daily rainfall

recorded was 107 mm at St Mary's, Isles of Scilly on the 5th; other heavy falls included 53 mm at Craibstone, Grampian on the 22nd, and at Coventry (Bablake), Warwickshire on the 30th.

### Sunshine

Monthly sunshine amounts were above average over westernmost areas of Scotland and the whole of England apart from the south-west peninsula, and below average elsewhere, ranging from 138% at Cromer, Norfolk to just over 50% in west Cornwall.

Northern areas were generally sunny from the 2nd to 7th, with often unbroken sunshine in western Scotland. During the following two weeks most of the sun was in the south and east of England. The most sunshine in a day was 16.3 hours at Benbecula, Western Isles and the most in the month was 253 hours at Shanklin, Isle of Wight.

### Fog

Overnight fog spread across much of East Anglia on the 3rd, and was widespread over much of England and Wales on the 4th. Patchy fog formed on the 9th in the far north of Scotland, on the 10th in southern England and on the 22nd and 25th over parts of south-east England and East Anglia. Coastal fog occurred in south-east Scotland and north-east England on the 2nd and 3rd, and over Orkney, Shetland and eastern Scotland on the 7th. On the 8th coastal fog affected north-east Scotland, where it persisted all day, and north-east England. Fog occurred frequently on hills and coasts in South Wales and southern England between the 11th and 21st. Some fog patches occurred on coasts in eastern Scotland on the 23rd, and over hills in England and Wales on the 26th.

### Miscellaneous Phenomena

On the 13th a short-lived tornado caused damage to roofs and power lines at Castle Bytham, south-west Lincolnshire.

**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	30.4	5.5	+2.2	+2.0	+2.1	+1.5	−2	86	112
1 Scotland E	26.6	6.5	+1.2	+2.1	+1.6	+1.5	0	80	89
2 England E & NE	29.4	6.0	+2.1	+1.7	+1.9	+1.1	−2	61	110
3 East Anglia	30.6	7.7	+1.7	+1.4	+1.5	+0.7	−3	77	113
4 Midland Counties	29.2	8.2	+1.7	+1.5	+1.6	+0.7	0	124	116
5 England SE & Central S	28.5	9.0	+0.5	+1.3	+0.9	+0.5	+3	153	107
6 Scotland W	26.6	5.0	+1.9	+2.0	+2.0	+1.0	−2	90	100
7 England NW & Wales N	28.7	5.3	+1.8	+1.7	+1.8	+0.7	+1	74	96
8 England SW & Wales S	28.8	8.6	+0.2	+1.4	+0.8	0.0	+4	119	84
N Ireland	25.5	6.4	+1.6	+2.2	+1.9	+0.5	−1	78	103
Scotland	30.4	5.0	+1.8	+2.0	+1.9	+1.3	−1	87	100
England & Wales	30.6	5.3	+1.3	+1.5	+1.4	+0.6	+1	100	104

\* Highest maximum and lowest minimum of District Value Stations