

Seasonal Assessment – Spring 2023

The following represents a provisional assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during Spring 2023 (March, April and May) and how it compares with the 1991 to 2020 average.

Spring overall saw temperatures slightly above average in many areas, due mainly to rather warm conditions during much of May. March and April saw an alternation between colder and milder spells of weather, with a notable cold spell in early March, and it was chilly for a time in late April. Altnaharra (Sutherland) recorded -16.0 °C on March 9th. Up until the middle of May any spells of settled weather were short-lived, with only parts of north-west Scotland having been drier than average, and southern areas had been quite wet with relatively little sunshine, but the second half of May was much drier and sunnier. Porthmadog (Gwynedd) reached 25.1 °C on May 30th.

Temperatures in March averaged out to near normal, though northern Scotland was slightly colder. Mean temperatures for March were equal to the long-term average. April also saw near-average temperatures generally, with Northern Ireland being slightly warmer than average, and UK monthly-mean temperatures were 0.1 °C below average. Most of May was warmer than average, especially by day and in western areas, though with no particularly warm spells, and mean temperatures were 1.0 °C above average.

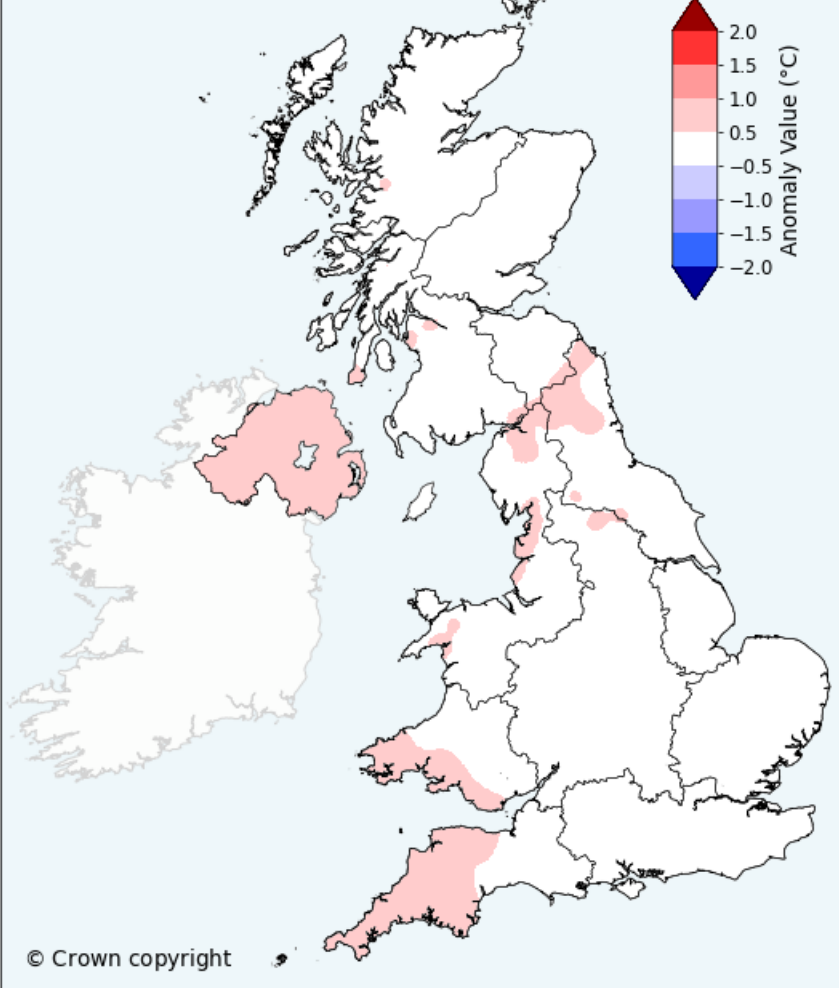
Many areas in the southern half of the UK had more than double their average March rainfall, and only in north-west Scotland was rainfall appreciably below average. The overall UK rainfall total was 155% of average, making it provisionally the sixth wettest March in a series back to 1836. April rainfall totals were generally closer to average, again drier in some northern areas but rather wet in parts of the south and east, giving 97% of average UK rainfall overall. May was rather wet in a band from Devon to Norfolk but a very dry month in some other areas, with 55% of average for the UK.

Sunshine was in relatively short supply for many areas during March, particularly the south, with only parts of Scotland being the exception to this. Most northern and eastern areas had sunshine totals near or above average in April, but again some southern areas were duller. May was quite sunny in Wales and western/central England but slightly duller than average in a few other areas. Sunshine totals for the UK overall were 74% of average in March, 102% of average in April, and 108% in May.

UK statistical summary		
Mean temperature	Rainfall	Sunshine
The provisional mean value is 8.4 °C, which is 0.3 °C above the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total is 241 mm, which is 106% of the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total is 447 hours, which is 98% of the 1991-2020 average.

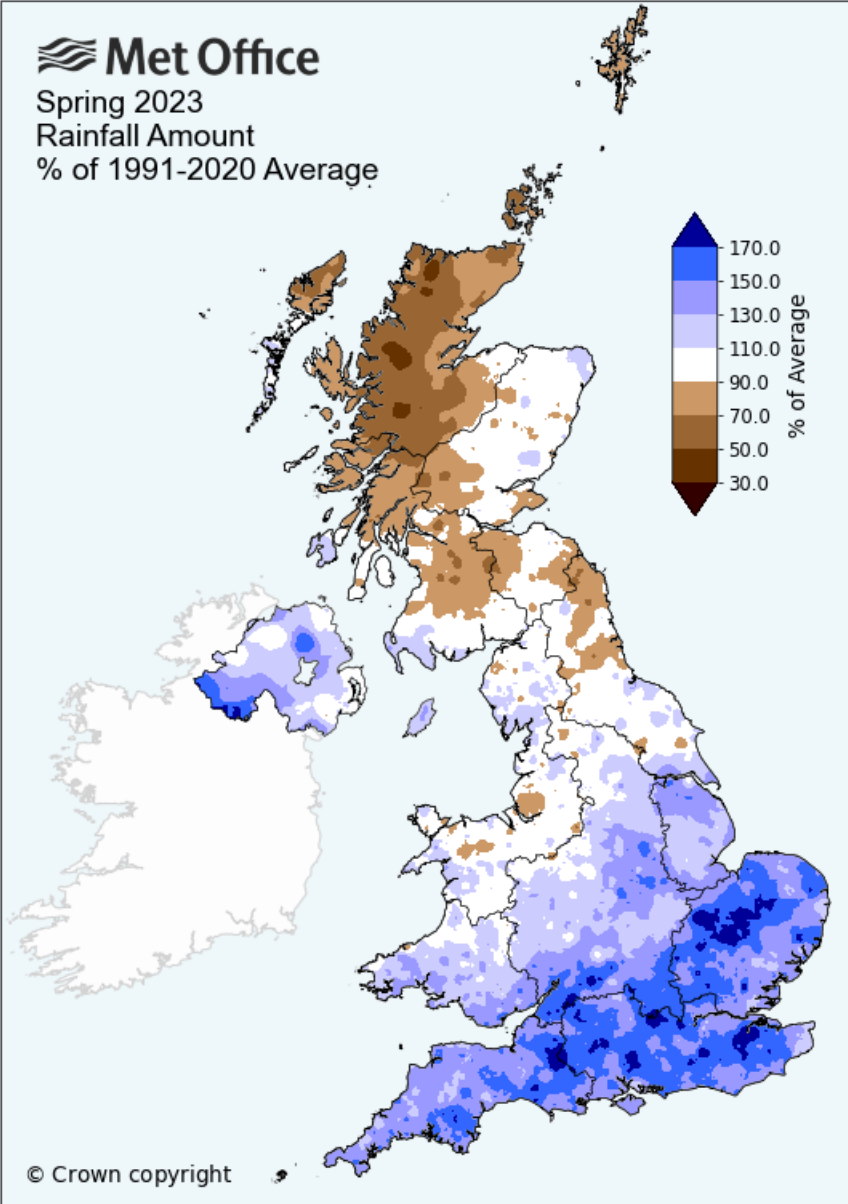
 **Met Office**

Spring 2023
Mean Temperature
1991-2020 Anomaly



 **Met Office**

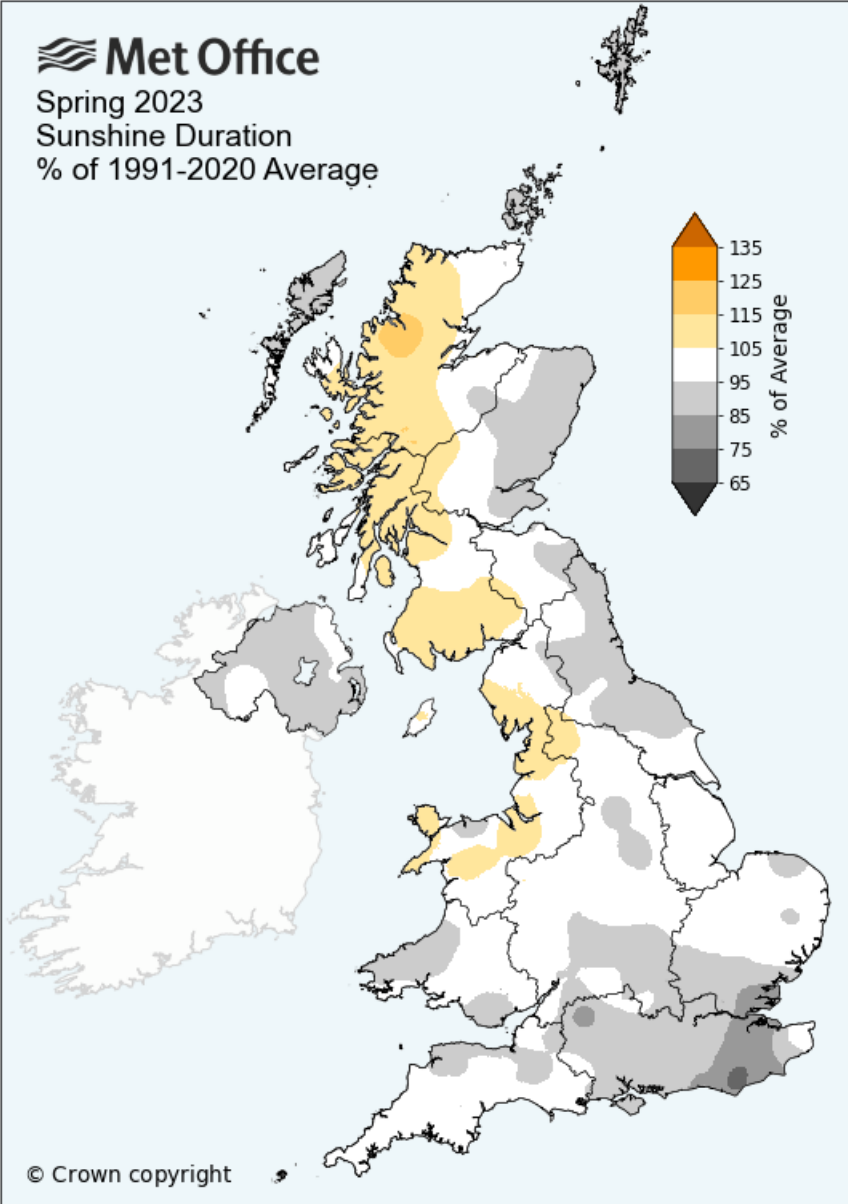
Spring 2023
Rainfall Amount
% of 1991-2020 Average



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Spring 2023
Sunshine Duration
% of 1991-2020 Average



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