

**The following represents a provisional assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during 2023 and how it compares with the 1991 to 2020 average.**

Overall, 2023 was a very warm and rather wet year for the UK. The most notable features were the record-breaking temperatures in June, the exceptional heatwave in early September and run of named storms through the autumn and early winter. The year included cold snaps in mid-January, early March and late November to early December, by far the most impactful weather occurred in the second half of the year. Two named storms in August were followed by a further six - from Agnes (late September) to Gerrit (late December). Several of these caused significant disruption from heavy rain and strong winds. The Met Office issued two red rain warnings for storm Babet in the second half of October covering parts of eastern Scotland, and this event caused severe and widespread flooding. Storm Ciaran in early November was exceptionally powerful but fortunately the strongest winds missed the UK to the south. The year ended on a turbulent note with a run of very unsettled, wet and windy weather.

The UK annual mean temperature was 9.97°C, 0.83°C above the 1991-2020 long term average and the second-warmest year for the UK in the series from 1884, behind 2022 (10.03°C). Wales and Northern Ireland both had their warmest years on record. The UK also had its warmest year for minimum temperature on record. Eight of the 12 months of the year were warmer than average; February, June, September and December were particularly warm. June 2023 was the UK's warmest June on record by a wide margin, and the warmest month of the year - the last year this occurred being 1966. September 2023 was the UK's equal-warmest September on record, including a run of seven consecutive days exceeding 30°C somewhere in the UK - the longest such September run on record. Unusually, the UK's highest temperature was 33.5°C on 10th September, only the fifth time this has occurred in September in observational records. The monthly anomalies for June (+2.5°C relative to 1991-2020) and September (+2.2°C) were the highest since December 2015.

It was a wetter than average year across most of the UK except western Scotland. The UK recorded 1290mm, 111% of the 1991-2020 annual average rainfall, just outside the top-ten in the series. Northern Ireland (121% of 1991-2020 average) and England (120%) provisionally had their third and sixth-wettest years respectively in series from 1836. Some parts of the UK received over a third more rainfall than normal. 2023 included the UK's sixth wettest March, sixth-wettest July, equal-sixth wettest October and equal-eighth wettest December. July 2023 was Northern Ireland's equal-wettest July and October 2023 eastern Scotland's wettest October on record in series from 1836 – the latter by a large margin. In contrast, February was very dry across much of the southern half of the UK with many areas receiving less than 20% of normal rainfall. Sunshine was variable, but near-average for the UK overall with 102% of the 1991-2020 long term average. June was an especially sunny month with an average of over eight hours of sunshine per day compared to fewer than five in July and August.

### UK statistical summary

#### Mean temperature

The provisional mean is 9.97°C, which is 0.83°C above the 1991-2020 average.

#### Rainfall

The provisional total is 1290 mm, which is 111% of the 1991-2020 average.

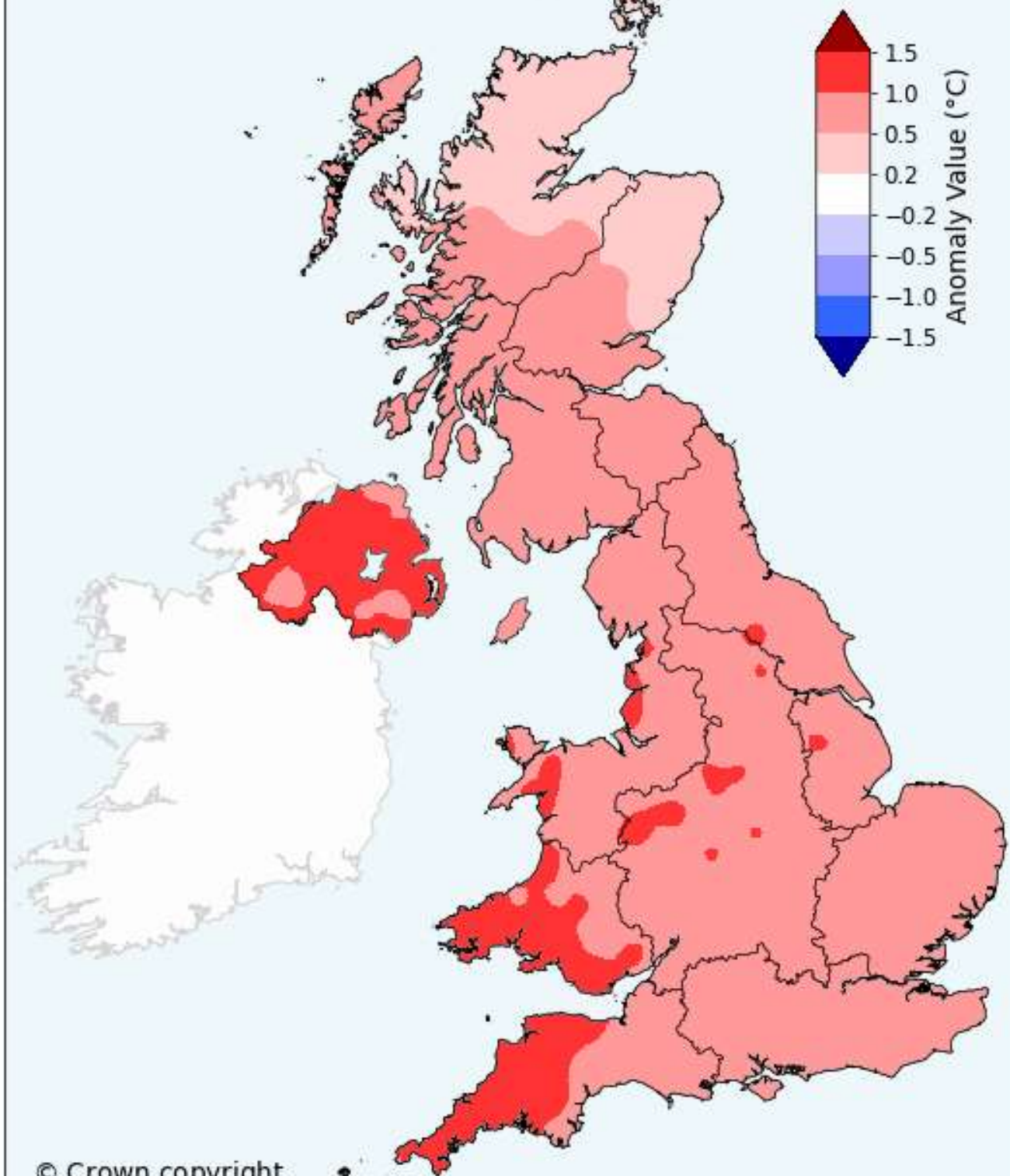
#### Sunshine

The provisional total is 1435 hours, which is 102% of the 1991-2020 average.

 **Met Office**

Year 2023

Mean Temperature  
1991-2020 Anomaly



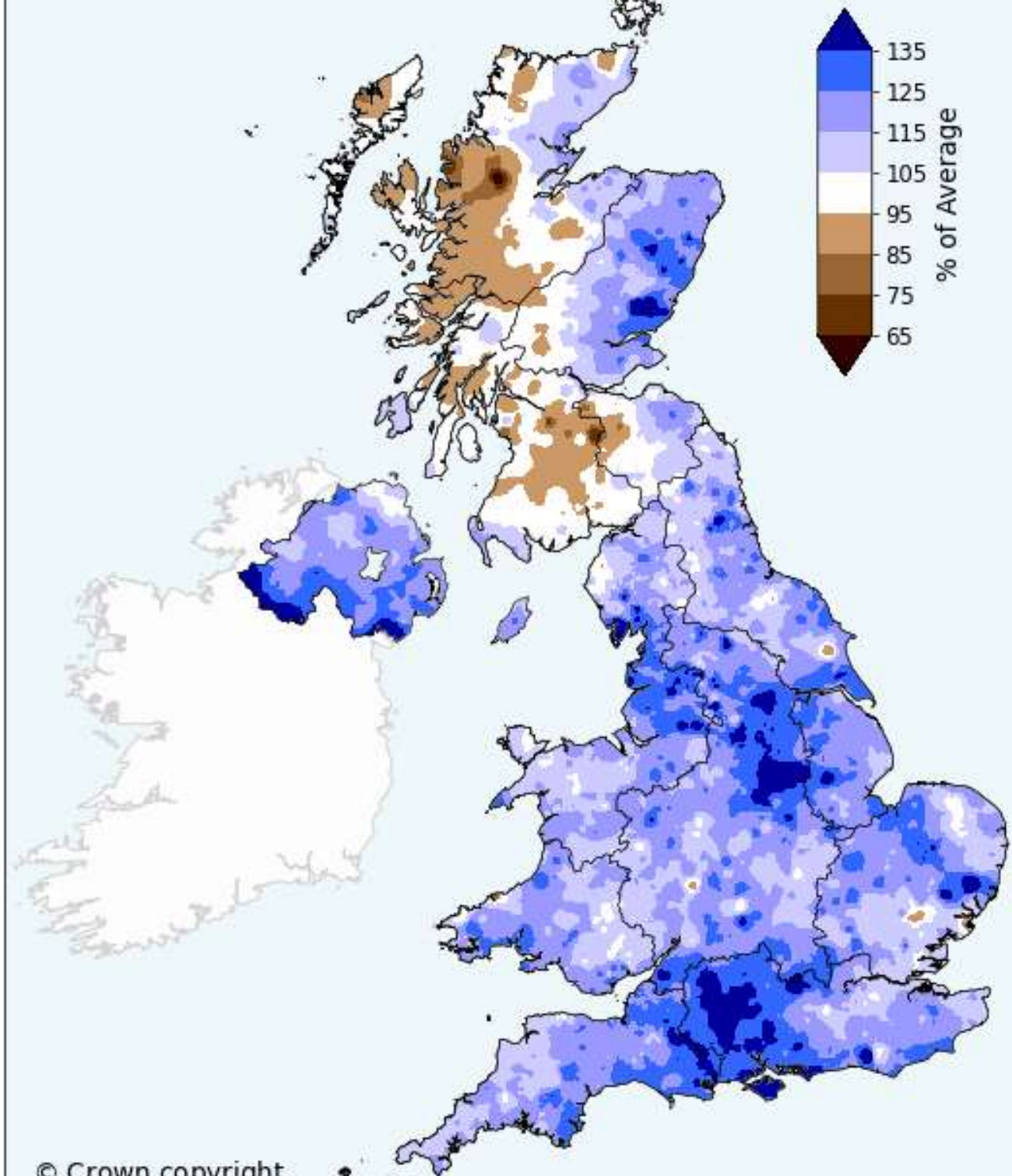
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Year 2023

Rainfall Amount

% of 1991-2020 Average



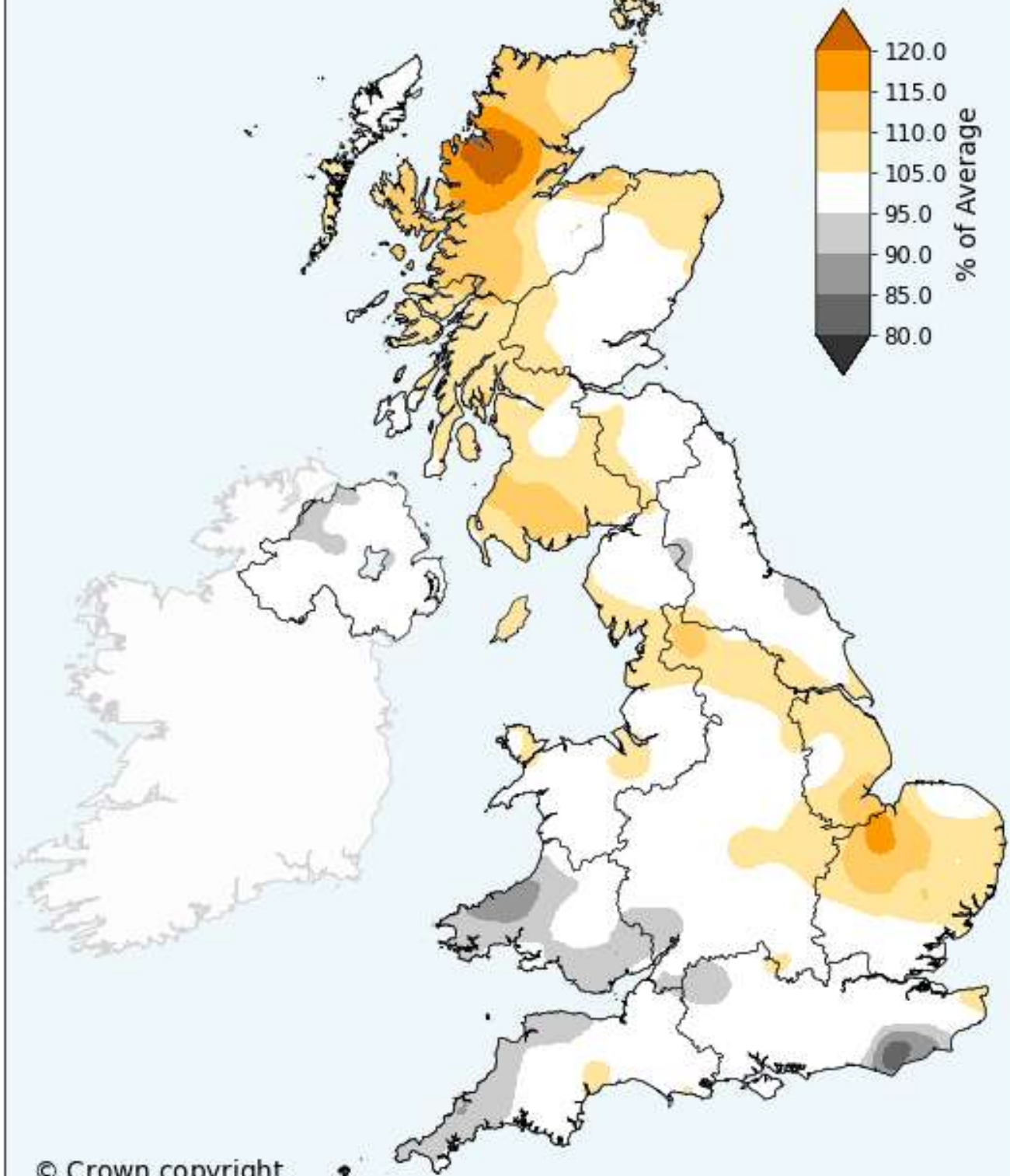
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Year 2023

Sunshine Duration

% of 1991-2020 Average



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