

Seasonal Assessment – Winter 2022

The following represents a provisional assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during Winter 2021/22 (December, January and February) and how it compares with the 1991 to 2020 average.

The winter was milder than average, with a mixture of settled spells and wetter weather; January was a particularly dry month, but February was very wet. December began rather unsettled and cold, a period which included Storm Barra, then after a quieter spell it became unsettled again for Christmas week and the first ten days of January. The last day of 2021 and the first day of 2022 were unusually mild across the whole UK. Most of January was quiet and anticyclonic, with a gradual change towards the end being felt most in the north-west where it became milder and wetter with the influence of Storms Malik and Corrie being felt. February became increasingly unsettled, with frequent rain in most areas, and a particularly stormy spell between 16th and 21st including storms Dudley, Eunice and Franklin. The winter overall was the UK's eighth mildest in a series from 1884.

December 2021 saw temperatures averaging out above normal generally, particularly for minima, with fewer frosts than average, despite a rather cold start to the month. Mean temperatures for December were 1.1 °C above the long-term average. Many station records were set for high temperatures around the New Year. England and Wales were notably cold by night during parts of January, but overall it was another rather mild month, especially in Scotland, with the final week particularly mild; monthly-mean temperatures were 0.8 °C above average. February was also relatively mild and frost-free, especially in southern areas, ending up 1.5 °C above average overall.

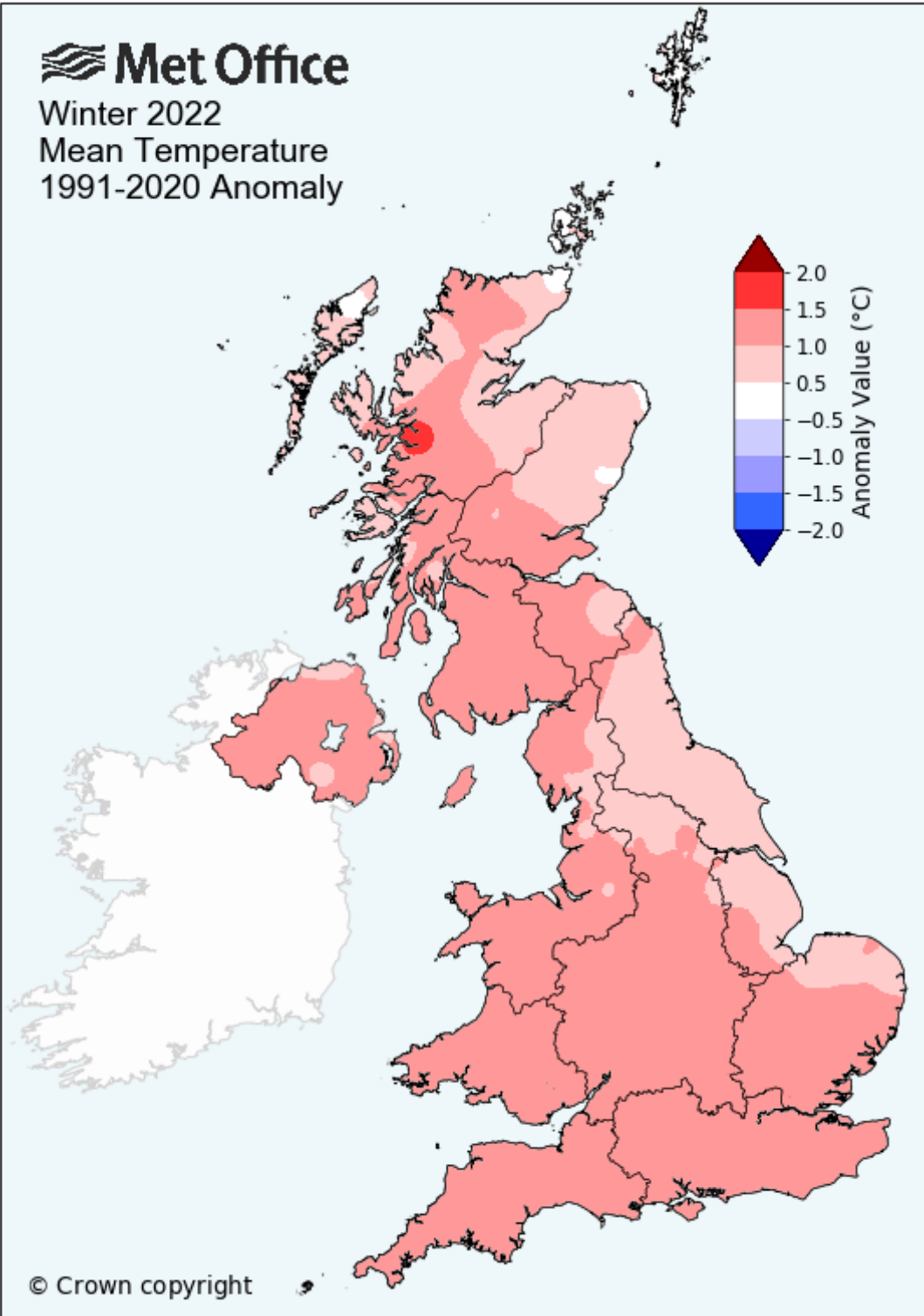
December rainfall totals were slightly below normal in many places, particularly Scotland and northern England, but just above normal in a few locations, giving an overall UK figure of 90% of average. Much of January's rainfall came during the first ten days, and overall it was a very dry month with 50% of average UK rainfall in total. February was much wetter than average in most areas, with 152% of average overall.

Many areas were particularly dull during December, with northern Scotland the exception to this, and it was the UK's dullest December since 1956. January, however, was particularly sunny relative to average in eastern areas, and only north-west Scotland was duller than normal; England had its sunniest January in a series from 1919. Sunshine totals for the UK overall were 65% of average in December, 132% of average in January, and 102% in February.

UK statistical summary		
Mean temperature	Rainfall	Sunshine
The provisional mean value is 5.2 °C, which is 1.1 °C above the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total is 322 mm, which is 93% of the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total is 164 hours, which is 101% of the 1991-2020 average.

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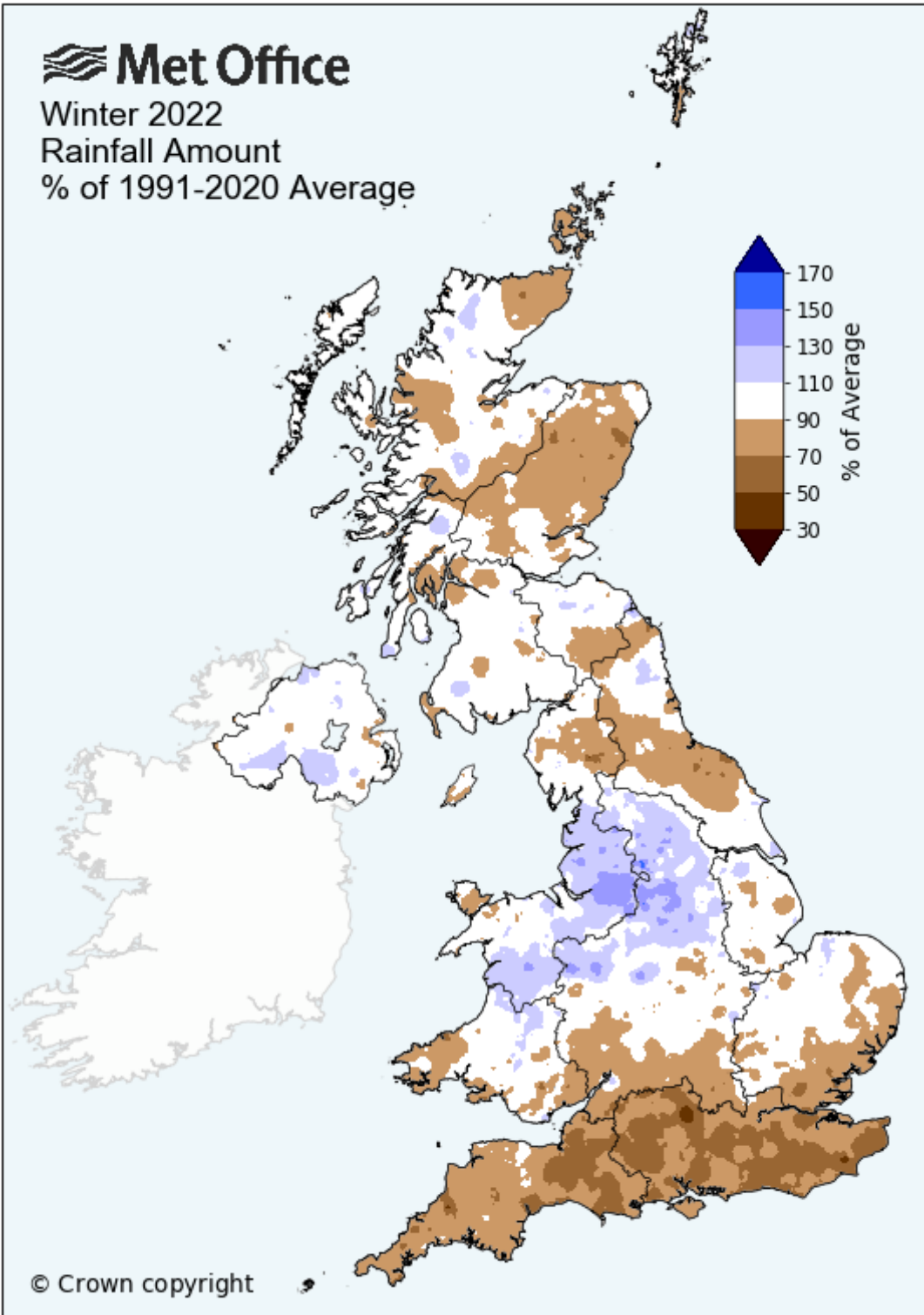
Winter 2022
Mean Temperature
1991-2020 Anomaly



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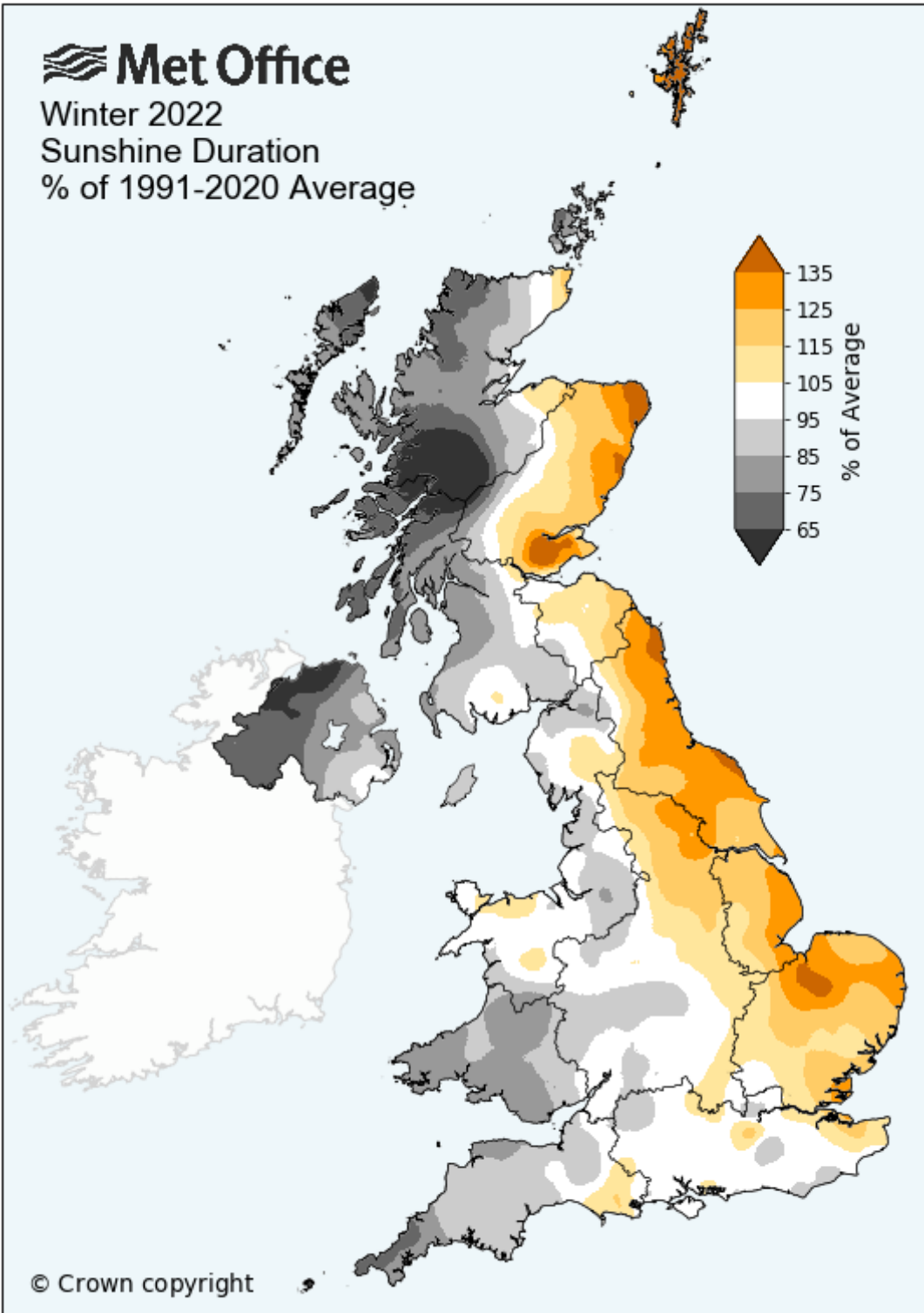
Winter 2022
Rainfall Amount
% of 1991-2020 Average



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Winter 2022
Sunshine Duration
% of 1991-2020 Average



Mean Temperature - Winter 2022 - UK

