

Seasonal Assessment – Winter 2024

The following represents a provisional assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during Winter 2024 (December 2023, January and February 2024) and how it compares with the 1991 to 2020 average.

The winter has been milder than average overall, but very variable with cold, wintry spells in early December and mid-January contrasting with much milder, wetter, unsettled and occasionally stormy weather at other times. December began in a cold snap, with some very hard frosts (-4.7degC at Culdrose, Cornwall on 2nd and -12.5°C at Altnaharra, Sutherland on 3rd). However, the weather turned mild with the arrival of storms Elin and Fergus on the 9th to 10th. Thereafter the weather continued mild through most of the month, except across the far north, dull and wet at times with persistent rain from a succession of Atlantic fronts. December ended with a spell of very unsettled, turbulent weather, with storm Gerrit on 27th to 29th bringing further strong winds and heavy rains as the year ended. January began the same way, with the eighth named storm of the 2023-24 winter, Henk, on the 2nd. High pressure became established across the UK in mid-January, bringing dry, sunny conditions and a marked drop in temperature. However, January ended the same way it began, with the arrival of the ninth and tenth named storms of the season, Isha and Jocelyn. February was mild and wet, but without the succession of low-pressure systems that dominated December and January.

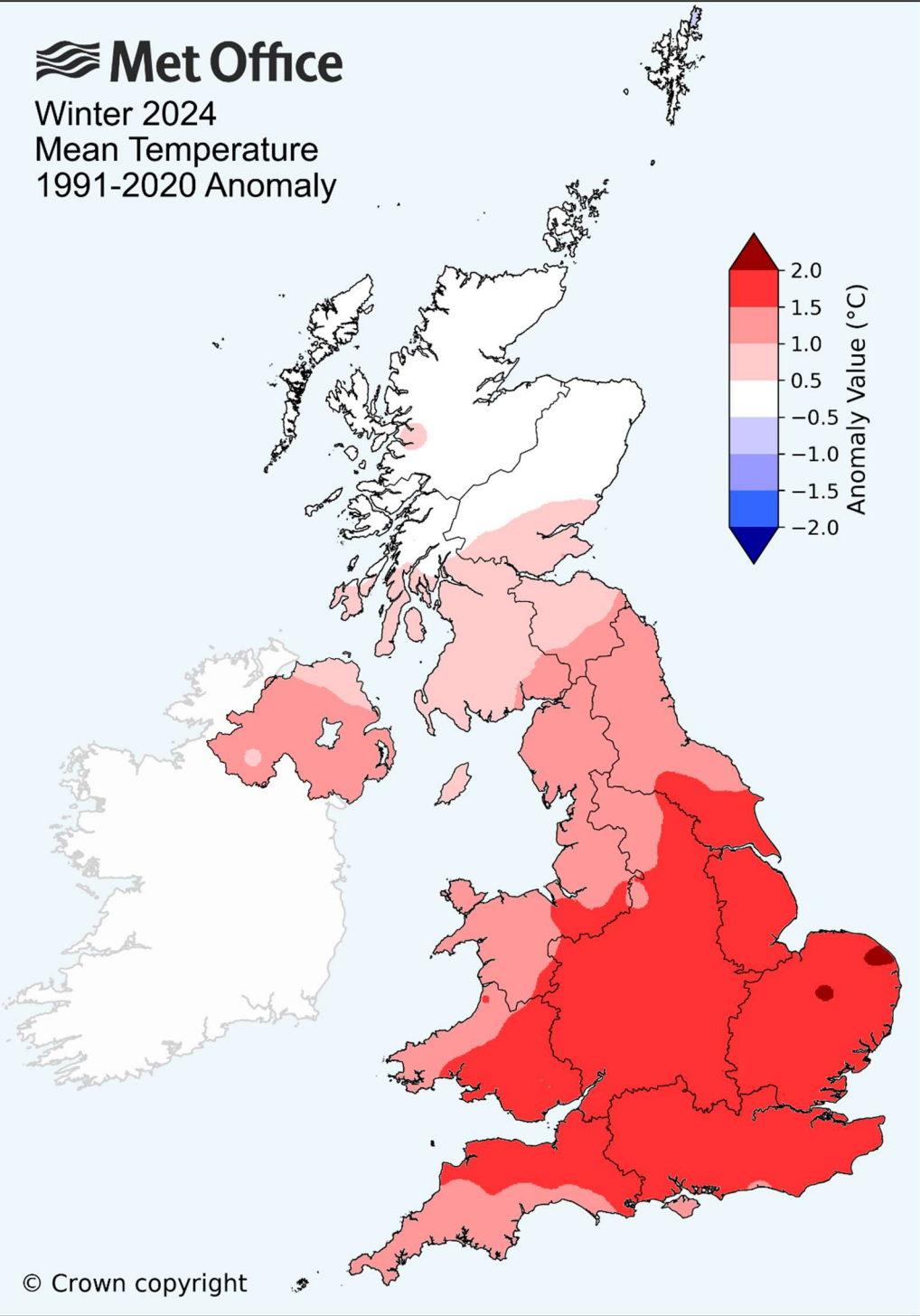
Temperatures for winter overall were above average, with the highest anomalies, exceeding +1.5°C, across England and Wales. The UK recorded a provisional seasonal mean temperature of 5.29°C, 1.20°C above the 1991-2020 long term average, making this the fifth-warmest winter in the series from 1884, marginally ahead of 5.28°C in 2020. For England and Wales combined, this was the second warmest winter on record, just behind 2016. The UK provisionally recorded 445.8mm of rainfall, 129% the 1991-2020 average and the eighth-wettest winter. Rainfall totals were above average for all regions of the UK. Southern England was particularly wet with 153% of the 1991-2020 average rainfall. It was a slightly duller than normal winter, with the UK experiencing 145.6 hours of sunshine (90% of the 1991-2020 average).

The UK recorded its highest daily minimum temperature on record for Christmas Day with 12.4°C at Exeter Airport and East Malling, Kent. In January, the UK saw another record broken, with the highest daily maximum temperature of 19.9°C recorded on the 28th at Achfary, Sutherland. February saw extensive rain across southern England, with East Anglia experiencing a record-breaking 106.4mm of rain (248% of the 1991-2020 average).

UK statistical summary		
Mean temperature	Rainfall	Sunshine
The provisional mean value for Winter is 5.29°C, which is 1.2°C above the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total for Winter is 445.8 mm, which is 129% of the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total for Winter is 145.6 hours, which is 90% of the 1991-2020 average.

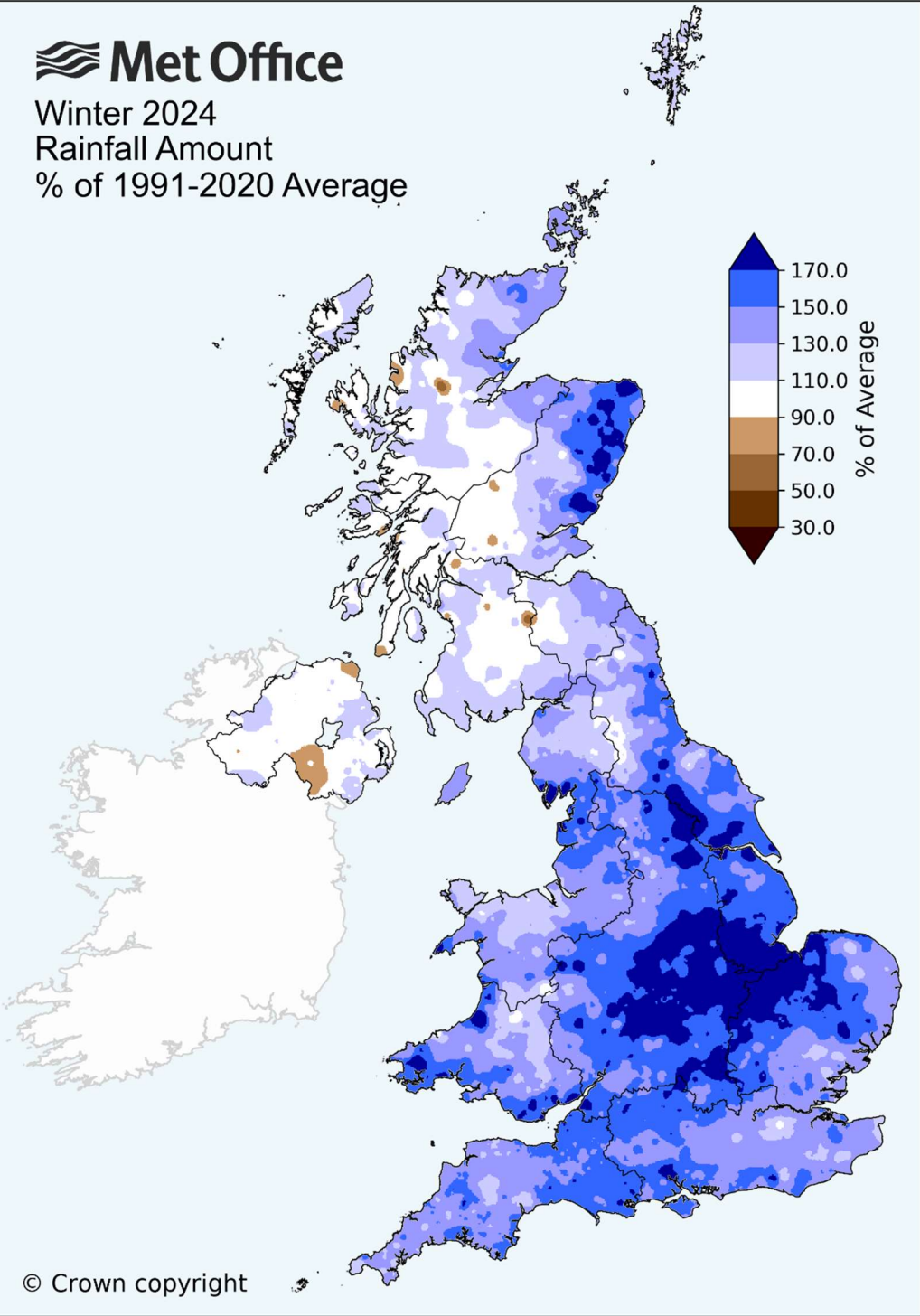


Winter 2024
Mean Temperature
1991-2020 Anomaly





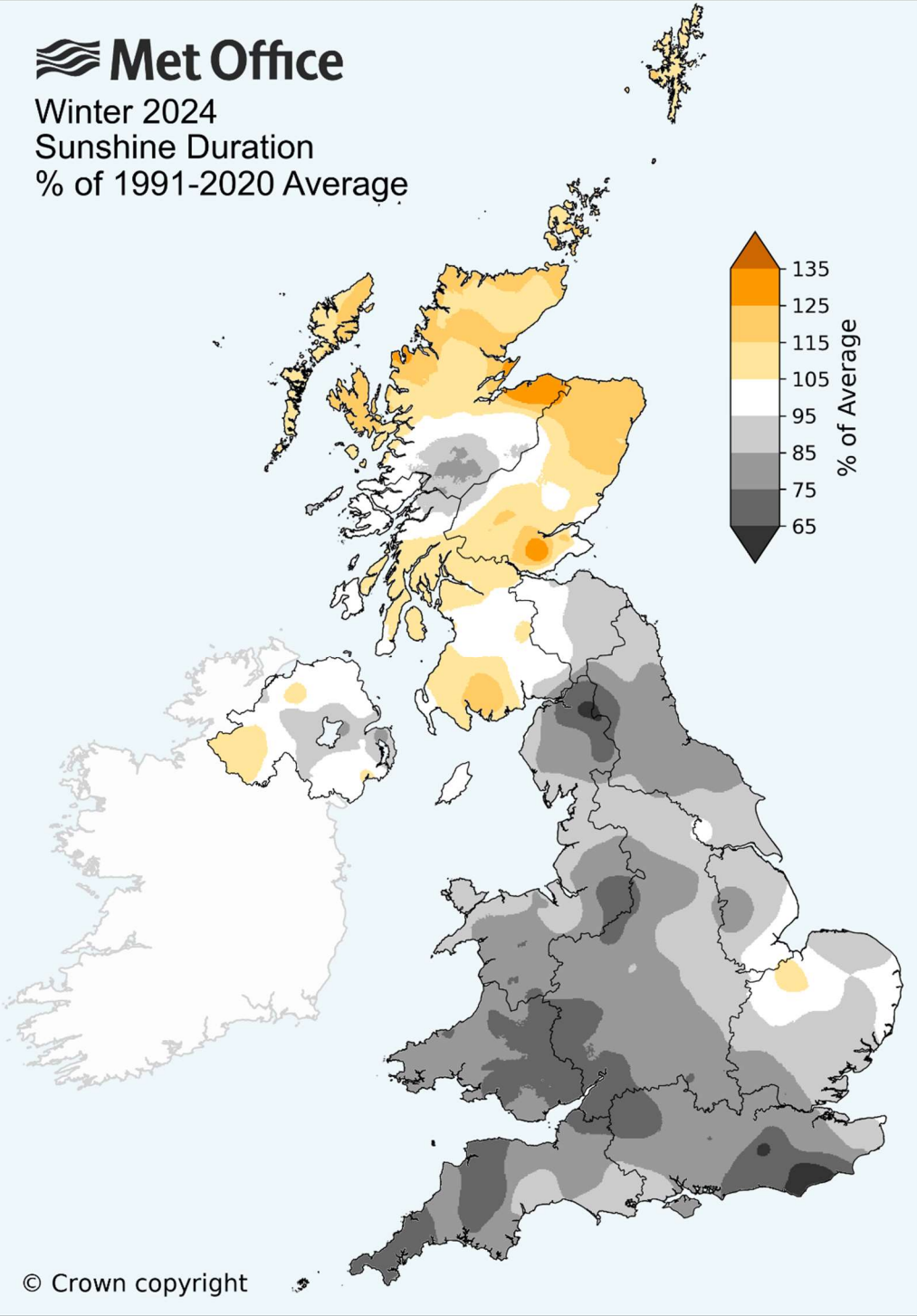
Winter 2024
Rainfall Amount
% of 1991-2020 Average



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Winter 2024
Sunshine Duration
% of 1991-2020 Average



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