

## **Storm Dave 4 to 5 April 2026**

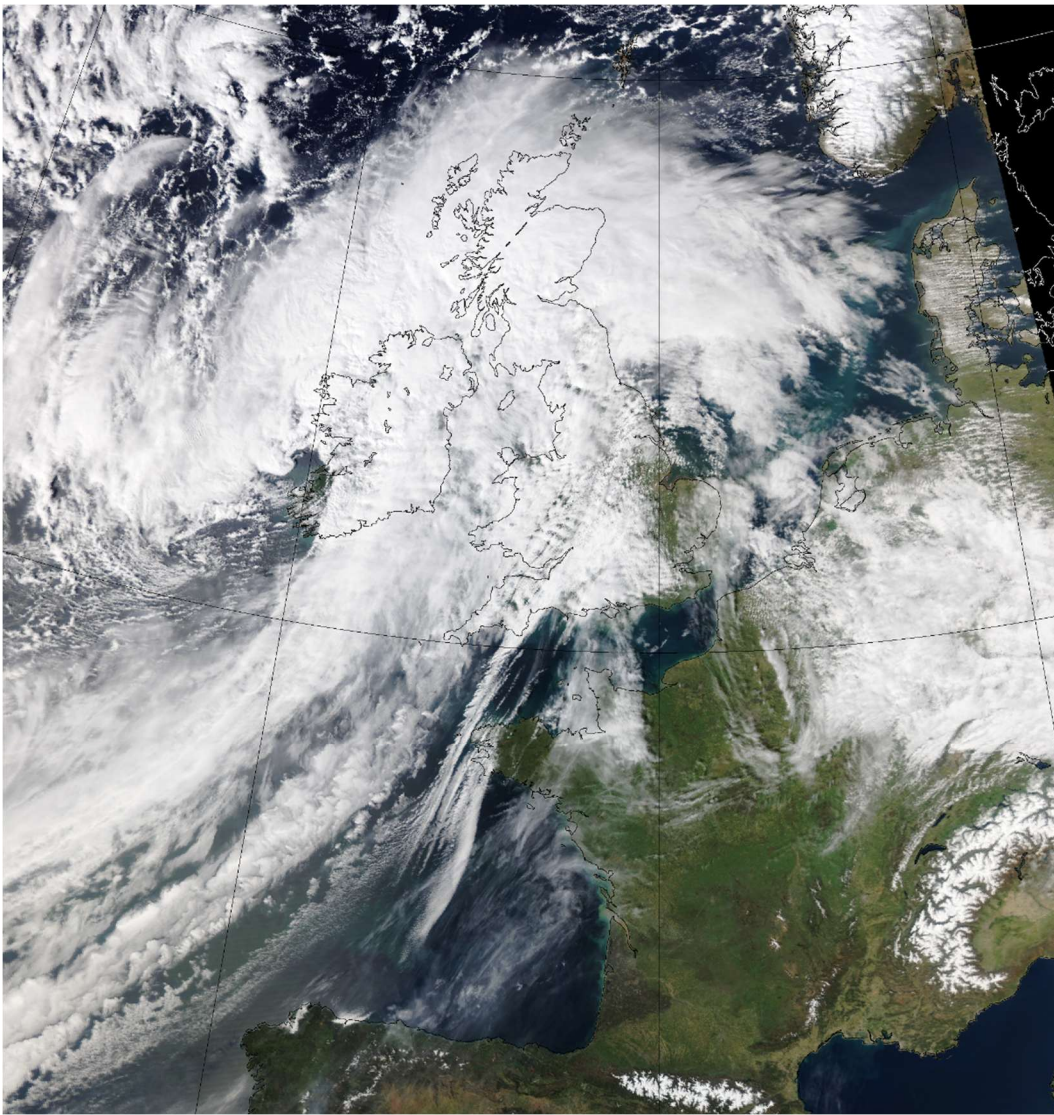
**Storm Dave brought some wet and very windy weather to western and northern parts of the UK overnight from 4 to 5 April 2026. Winds gusted at over 60Kt (69mph) in the worst affected areas, including a gust of 81Kt (93mph) at Capel Curig, Gwynedd, the highest April gust at this station in a 30-year record. A number of other stations also recorded their highest April wind gust on record. For the UK overall, based on the number of stations exceeding gusts of 50Kt (58mph) or 60Kt (69mph), this was the most severe April windstorm since storm naming was introduced in autumn 2015 – exceeding other named April storms in severity including Kathleen in 2024, Noa in 2023 and Hannah in 2019. The most severe April windstorm in the UK’s observational records occurred on 1 April 1994, with several stations recording gusts of over 70Kt (81mph), including 87Kt (100mph) at Flat Holm, South Glamorgan, the UK’s highest April wind gust on record.**

### **Impacts**

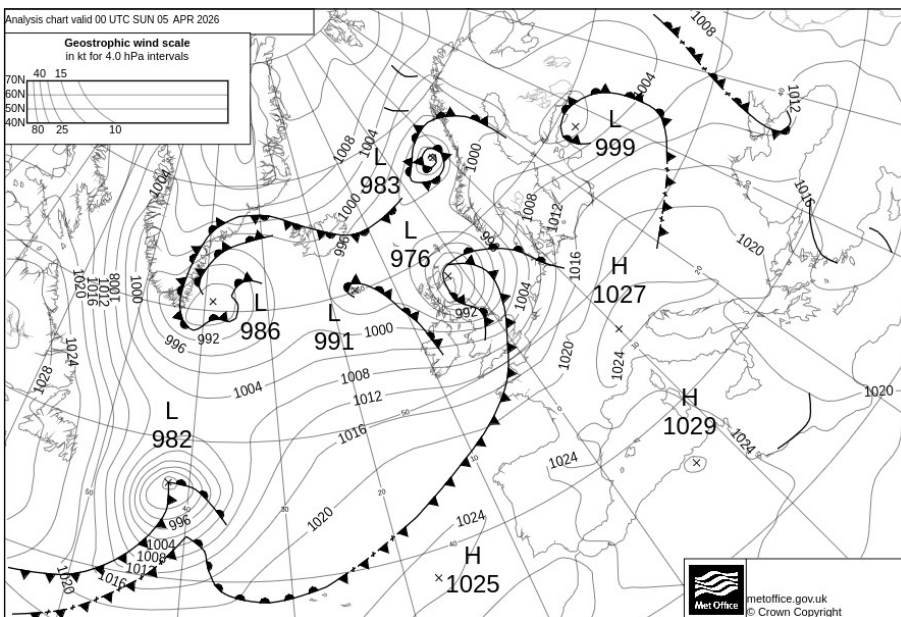
Storm Dave brought widespread disruption to road and rail travel during the Easter weekend, and the tourism industry was affected in some areas due to cancellations as a result of the forecast bad weather. In south and west Wales, thousands of homes were reported to have lost power, while a number of homes in parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland also lost power. In Blackpool, the end wall of a house partially collapsed and a tree fell on a house in Staffordshire. Some ferry services were cancelled in western Scotland, and from Belfast to Scotland. Several trunk roads in Scotland including the A8, A87 and A83 were blocked by fallen trees while parts of the West Highlands, Western Isles and Argyll experienced lying snow. Speed restrictions were placed on several bridges including the Queensferry Crossing and Forth Road Bridge.

### **Weather data**

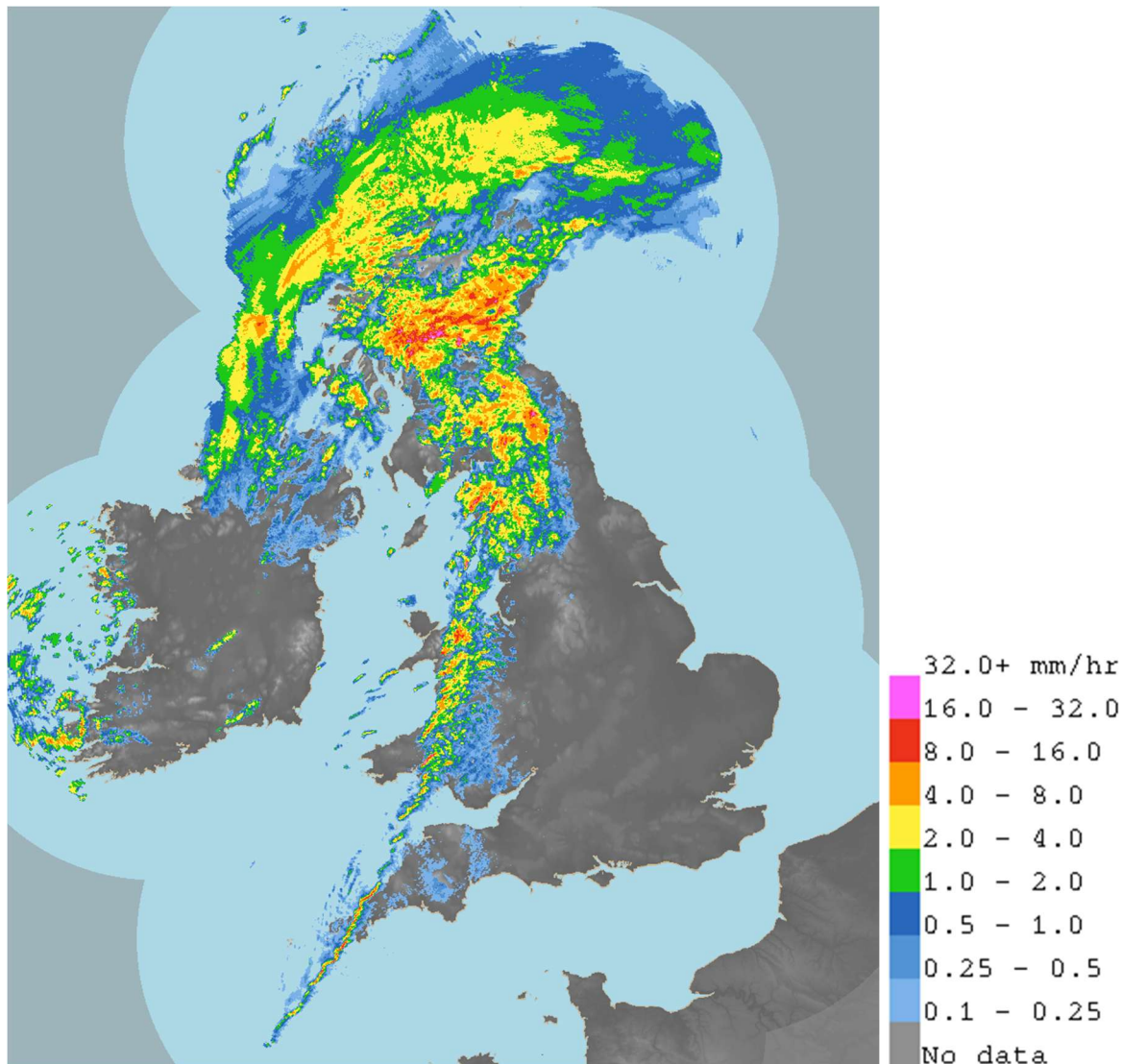
The visible satellite image on 4 April 2026 shows storm Dave approaching the UK. The low pressure centre (deepening at this stage) is over south-west Ireland. Image copyright Met Office / NOAA / NASA.



The analysis charts at 0000 UTC 5 April 2026 shows storm Dave tracking north-east with the low pressure centre over north-east Scotland.

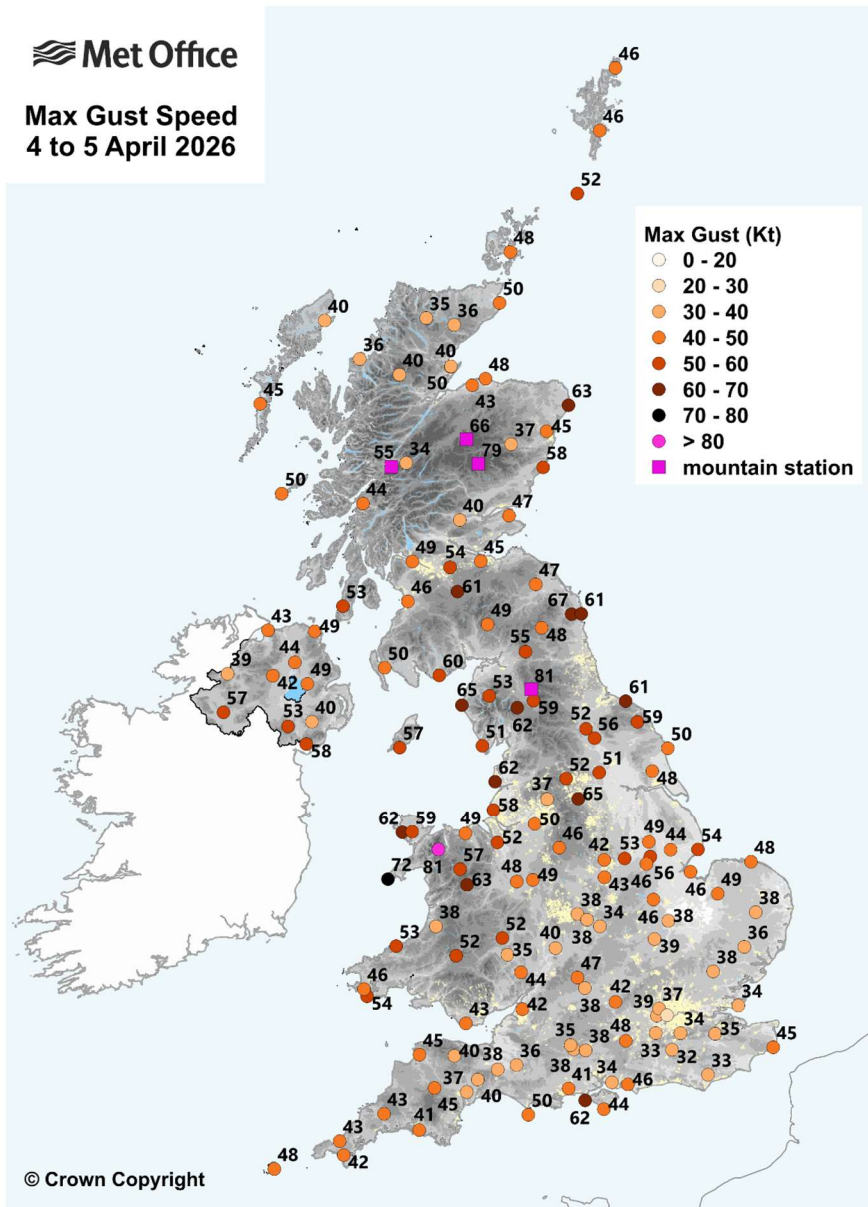


The rain-radar images at 1730 UTC 4 April 2026 shows weather fronts from storm Dave extending from Northern Ireland to Cornwall. The chart shows extensive heavy rain across central Scotland and some intense bursts embedded in the cold front extending from west Wales to Cornwall, although overall accumulations were modest.

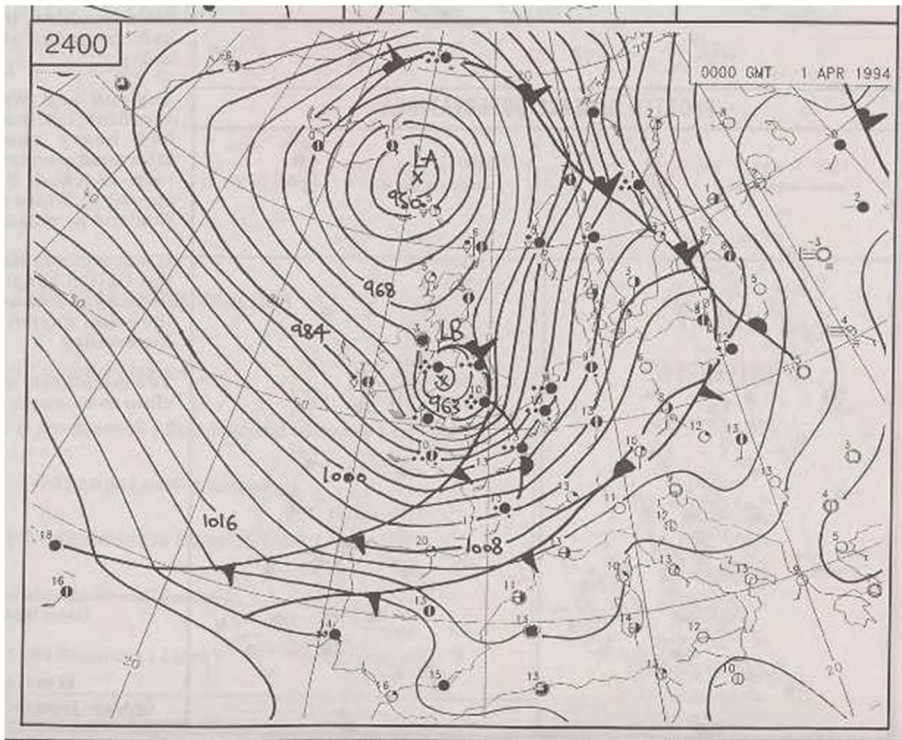


The chart below shows maximum gust speeds from 4 to 5 April 2026. The strongest gusts of over 60Kt (69mph) were across Wales, Northern England and southern and eastern Scotland. Parts of North Wales experienced the highest gusts including 81Kt (93mph) at Capel Curig and 72Kt (83mph) at Aberdaron (both Gwynedd), while a number of stations recorded their highest April gust speed on record. These included the 81Kt gust at Capel Curig – the highest April wind gust at this station in a 30-year record, exceeding 70Kt (81mph) on 17 April 2013. Overall, there are fewer than ten recorded wind gusts in April in the UK’s observational records reaching or exceeding 80Kt (92mph), mostly at exposed coastal locations.

Max Gust Speed  
4 to 5 April 2026

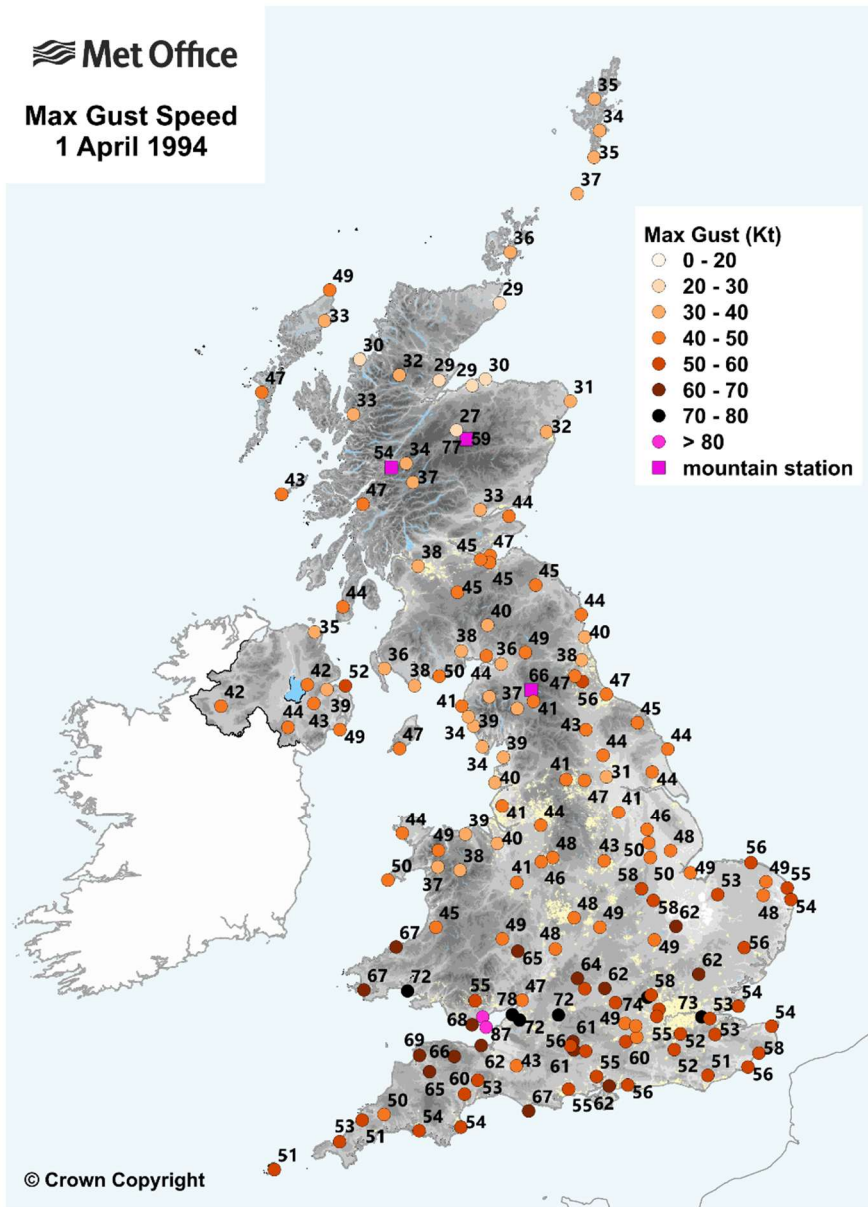


Storm Dave was an unusually severe wind storm for the time of year. Other examples of named storms in the UK in April include storm Kathleen on 6 to 7 April 2024, storm Noa on 12 April 2023 and storm Hannah on 26 to 27 April 2019, and prior to this, 17 to 18 April 2013 - before storm naming was introduced. The most severe April wind storm in the UK's observational records is 1 April 1994. The analysis chart at 0000UTC 1 April 1994 shows this storm, with the low pressure centre at 963hPa, much deeper than storm Dave. The second chart shows maximum gust speeds across the UK on this date.

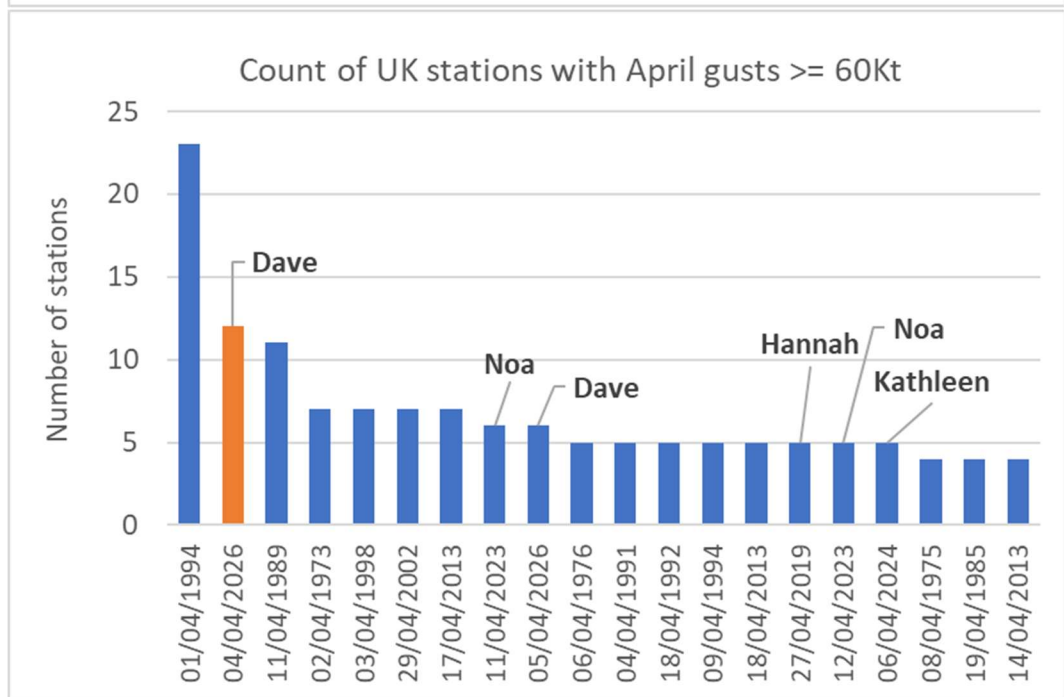
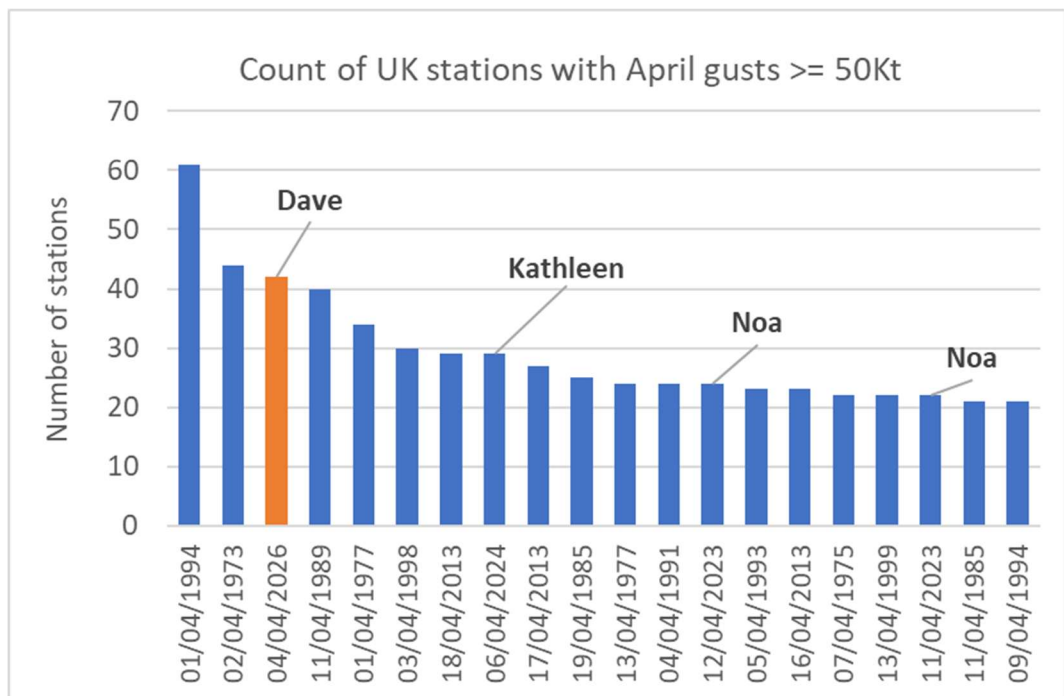


 **Met Office**

**Max Gust Speed  
1 April 1994**



The charts below shows the number of stations across the UK recording maximum gust speeds  $\geq 50\text{Kt}$  (58mph) and  $60\text{Kt}$  (69mph) by date in April. These provides an indication of the severity of storm Dave compared to earlier April storms; by these metrics Dave was the UK's most severe April wind storm since storm naming was introduced in autumn 2015 - and the most severe since the April 1994 storm. However, all storms differ in terms of the precise track and locations worst affected making direct comparisons difficult.



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Last updated 24/04/2026

