April 2025 Monthly Weather Report

This document provides a summary of the UK's weather and climate statistics for April 2025.

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UK overview

April started in a similar vein to March, with high pressure bringing settled conditions to the UK. The first two weeks saw very little rain over the UK, with some showers in the southwest on the 3rd but otherwise dry conditions. Temperatures were above average for the first week, before cooler air from the east moved in from the 6th to the 10th, leading to temperatures slightly below average for much of the UK, particularly in the south east. The 12th saw the high pressure shift and low pressure moved in, bringing frontal rain across the UK, with heavy rain on the 14th and 15th. Unsettled weather persisted, with rain across Scotland on the 16th and western parts of the UK, especially Northern Ireland, on the 18th. Further frontal systems brought heavy rain to Northern Ireland, southwest England and Wales on the 22nd, before more settled conditions returned. Some frontal systems brought rain on the 26th, but the last week of the month saw high pressure bring continued settled weather and above average temperatures.

April was warmer than average across the UK, with a mean temperature of 9.6°C, 1.7°C above the long-term average. Maximum temperatures in particular were above average (for the UK, 2.8°C above average), but minimum temperatures were overall closer to average. It was the UK's third warmest April on record, and the third warmest for all four nations as well. It was also a very dry month, although not record breaking, with the UK recording just over half of the normal April rainfall. Northern Ireland was the only nation to see above average rainfall, with 84.8 mm of rain (114% of the average). County Durham, Banffshire and Tyne and Wear all recorded their second driest April on record. This was the sunniest April on record for the UK with 228.9 hours of sunshine recorded, 147% of the long-term average. England also saw its sunniest April, while Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland all recorded their second sunniest April, after 2021.

Reference climatology used for calculating anomalies is the period 1991-2020 unless otherwise stated.

Weather impacts

- **Extensive wildfires in the forests of Galloway, southwest Scotland between the 3rd and 7th led to the precautionary evacuation of people from local properties**
- **Northern Ireland fire and rescue service also experienced reports of numerous wildfires mid-month**

The extended spell of dry weather raised the wildfire risk and outbreaks were reported from a range of locations across the UK during this period, the main focus being across Northern Ireland, southwest Scotland and Wales. One of the most extensive wildfires broke out in the forests of Galloway, southwest Scotland between the 3rd and 7th, with reports of a fire front some two to three miles long at one stage. This led to the precautionary evacuation of people from local properties. In terms of the sheer numbers of fires, the fire and rescue service of Northern Ireland reported on the 9th that as many as 214 calls had been received relating to wildfires within a five-day period, with up to 146 gorse fires reported from within the Mourne Mountains area in just three days. One of the most notable fires in Wales was reported from the Bryngawr Country Park in Bridgend on the 5th/6th, the burn scar from the fire terminating just short of local housing. The mid and west Wales Fire and Rescue Service reportedly logged 192 wildfire-related calls in the week to the 11th.

The weather pattern changed on the 13th as Atlantic weather fronts displaced the high pressure away to the east, ushering in a more changeable period of weather. Heavy rain and thunderstorms affected parts of southwest England and south Wales on the 15th and overnight into the 16th with several roads in Devon closed by a mixture of excess surface water, fallen trees and downed power cables. Further heavy rain affected southwest England, south Wales and parts of Northern Ireland on the 18th but with very little in the way of impacts.

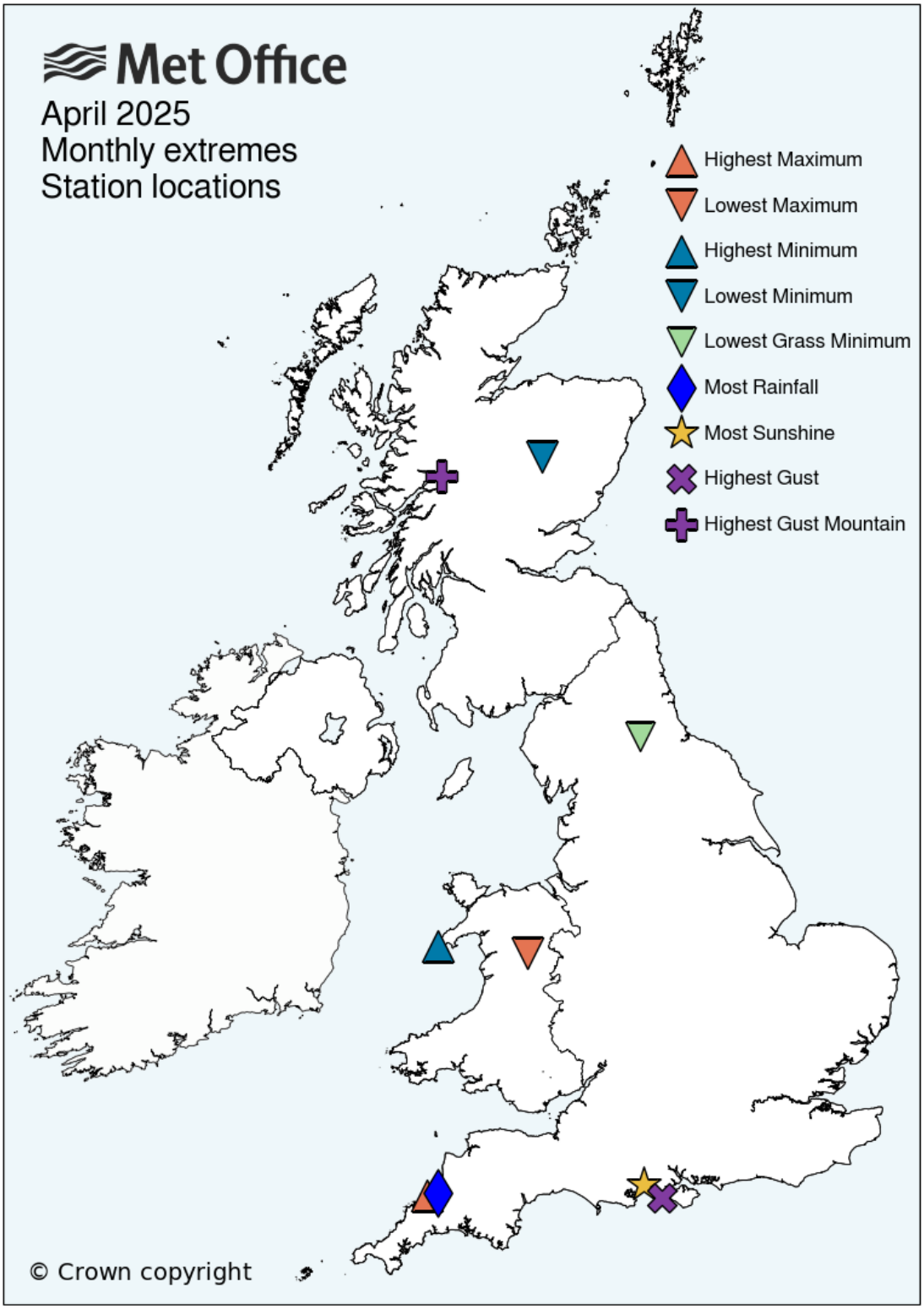
Monthly extremes

The table below lists UK monthly weather extremes recorded at individual weather stations during April 2025 from data available on 06/05/2025. The map shows the location of these stations.

Highest Maximum	**26.9°C** on **30th** at Treknow (Cornwall, 100mAMSL)
Lowest Maximum	**6.3°C** on **16th** at Lake Vyrnwy No 2 (Powys (north), 360mAMSL)
Highest Minimum	**14.1°C** on **30th** at Aberdaron (Gwynedd, 86mAMSL)
Lowest Minimum	**-5.8°C** on **4th** at Braemar No 2 (Aberdeenshire, 327mAMSL)
Lowest Grass Minimum	**-11.2°C** on **7th** at Copley (Durham, 253mAMSL)
Most Rainfall	**83.2mm** on **15th** at Otterham Station (Cornwall, 235mAMSL)
Most Sunshine	**14.0hr** on **30th** at Hurn (Dorset, 10mAMSL)
Highest Gust	**70Kt 81mph** on **16th** at Wight: Needles Old Battery (Isle Of Wight, 80mAMSL)
Highest Gust (mountain*)	**68Kt 78mph** on **27th** at Aonach Mor (Inverness-shire, 1130mAMSL)
Greatest Snow Depth at 0900 UTC	No non-zero values.

mAMSL refers to station elevation in metres above mean sea level.

*Mountain stations are above 500mAMSL.


Met Office
April 2025
Monthly extremes
Station locations
Highest Maximum
Lowest Maximum
Highest Minimum
Lowest Minimum
Lowest Grass Minimum
Most Rainfall
Most Sunshine
Highest Gust
Highest Gust Mountain
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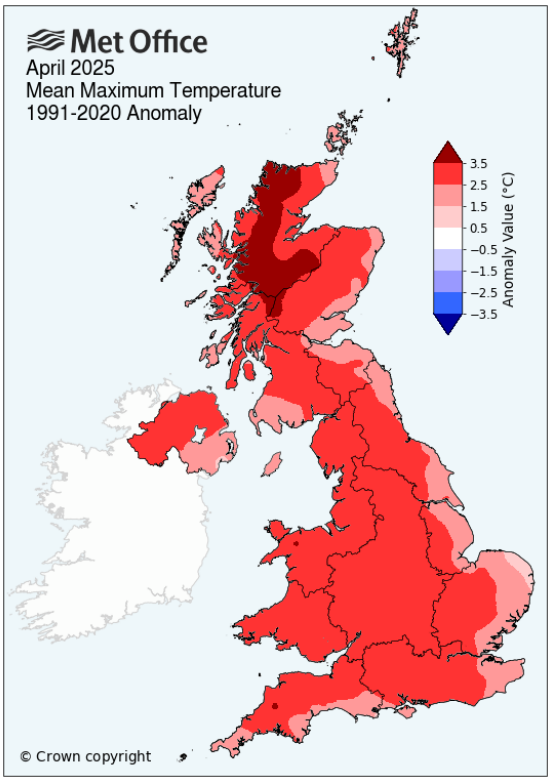
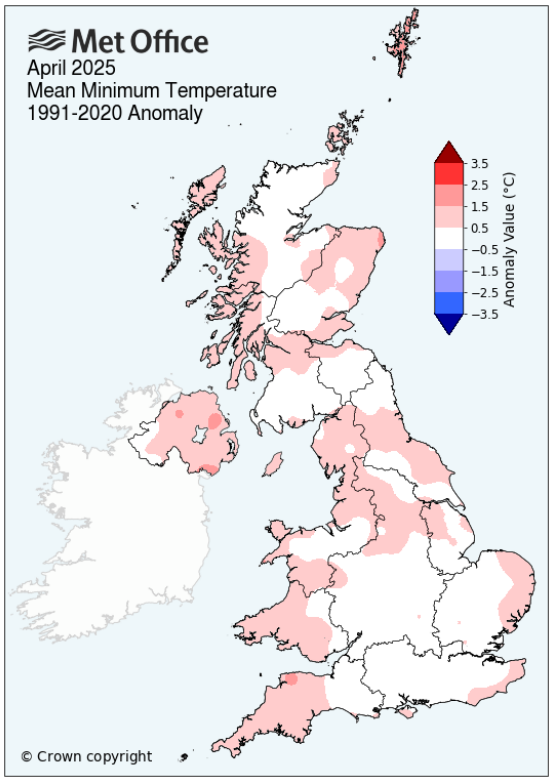
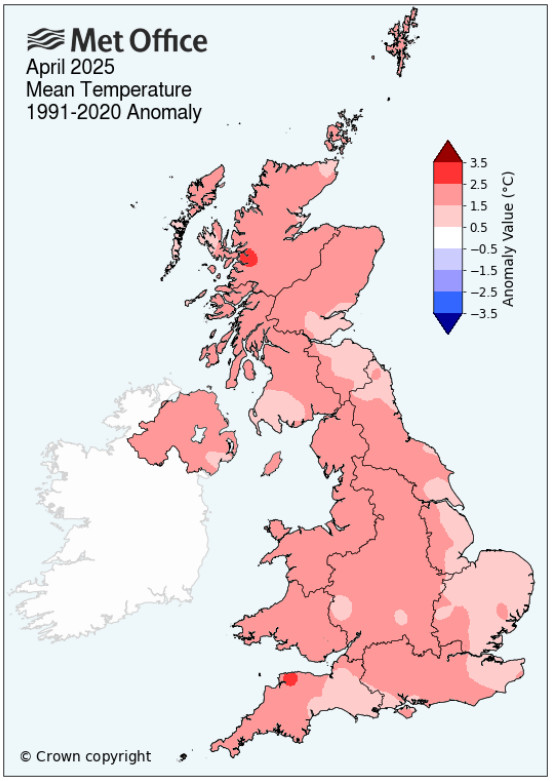
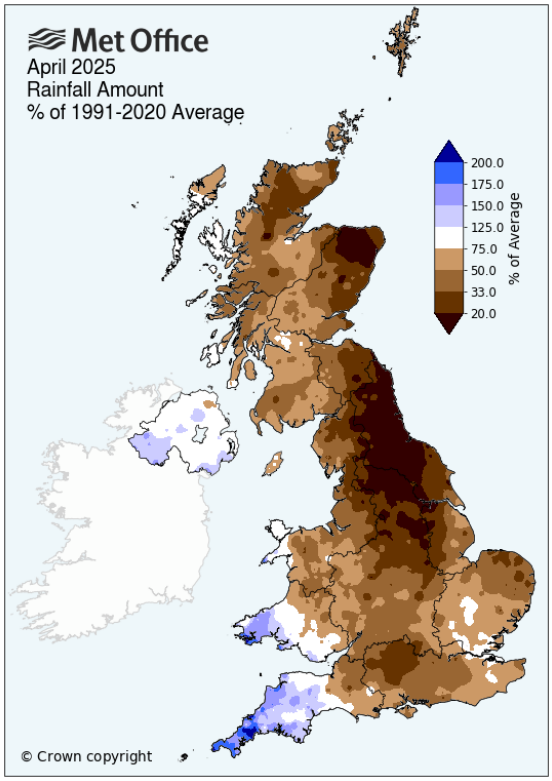
Monthly maps

These maps show monthly average daily maximum, monthly average daily minimum and monthly mean temperature and monthly rainfall for April 2025 as anomalies relative to the April 1991-2020 long term average.

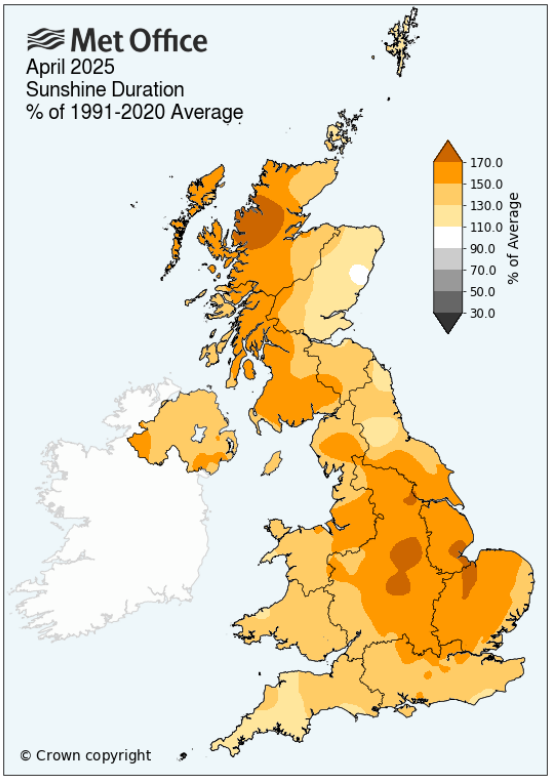


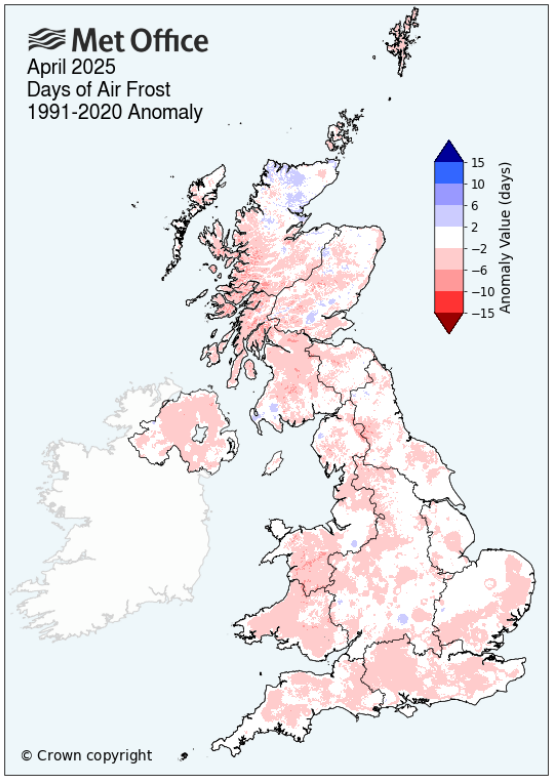


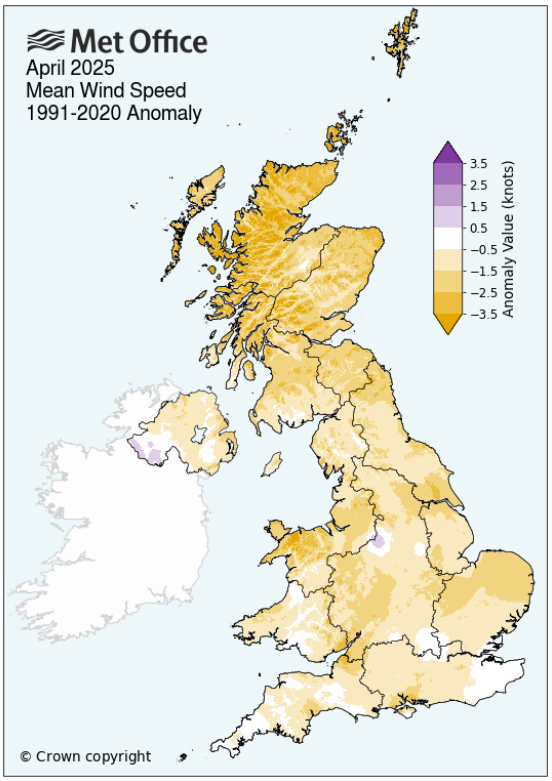


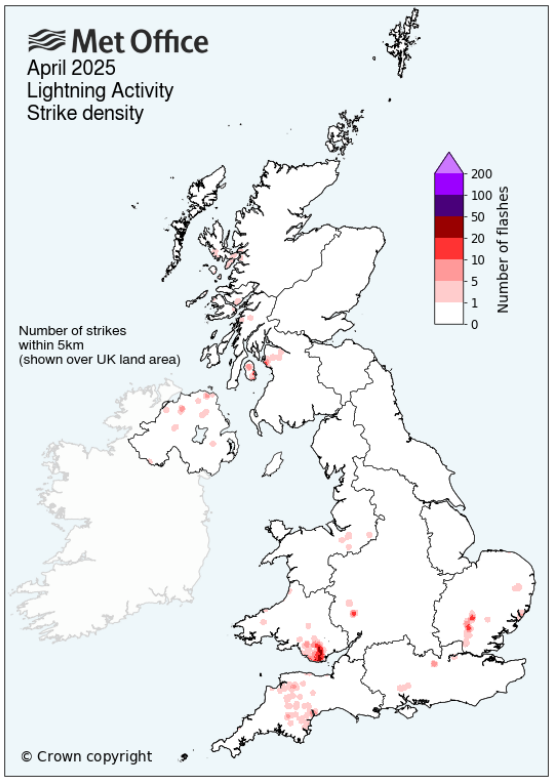


These maps show monthly sunshine, monthly air frost and monthly windspeed for April 2025 as anomalies relative to the April 1991-2020 long term average, plus a map showing lightning activity as the number of strikes within a 5km radius of any land location.









Monthly climate statistics - actuals and anomalies

These tables show the UK and national climate statistics for April 2025 for max, min and mean temperature, rainfall, sunshine and windspeed as actual values and anomalies relative to the April 1991-2020 long term average. The position of the value within the full series (in both ascending and descending order) is shown in the two ‘Rank’ columns. Central England Temperature (CET) and England & Wales Precipitation (EWP) are also included.

Mean maximum temperature

Region	Maxtemp (°C)	1991-2020 Anomaly (°C)	Rank - warmest	Rank - coldest	Series length (yrs)
UK	14.9	2.8	3	140	142
England	15.8	2.8	3	140	142
Wales	15.2	3.0	4	139	142
Scotland	13.2	2.9	3	140	142
Northern Ireland	14.6	2.6	3	140	142
Central England	16.5	3.1	4	145	148

Mean minimum temperature

Region	Mintemp (°C)	1991-2020 Anomaly (°C)	Rank - warmest	Rank - coldest	Series length (yrs)
UK	4.3	0.5	16	127	142
England	4.7	0.4	18	125	142
Wales	4.8	0.6	17	126	142
Scotland	3.3	0.5	17	126	142
Northern Ireland	5.0	1.1	9	134	142
Central England	5.2	0.6	20	129	148

Mean temperature

Region	Meantemp (°C)	1991-2020 Anomaly (°C)	Rank - warmest	Rank - coldest	Series length (yrs)
UK	9.6	1.7	3	140	142
England	10.3	1.6	3	140	142
Wales	10.0	1.9	3	140	142
Scotland	8.3	1.7	3	140	142
Northern Ireland	9.8	1.9	3	140	142
Central England	10.9	1.9	3	365	367

Rainfall

Region	Rainfall (mm)	% of 1991-2020 Average	Rank - wettest	Rank - driest	Series length (yrs)
UK	40.4	56	161	30	190
England	28.3	50	157	34	190
Wales	70.3	80	113	78	190
Scotland	44.8	48	172	19	190
Northern Ireland	84.8	114	50	141	190
EWP (England and Wales)	37.4	59	201	60	260

Sunshine

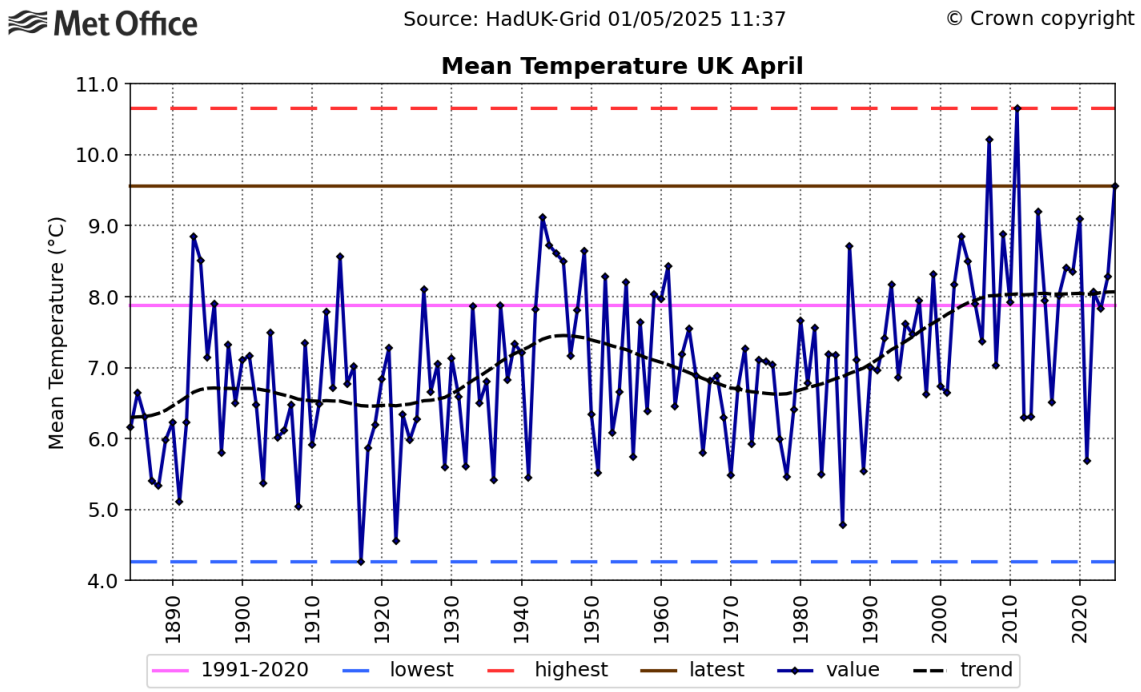
Region	Sunshine (hours)	% of 1991-2020 Average	Rank - sunniest	Rank - dullest	Series length (yrs)
UK	228.9	147	1	116	116
England	244.8	149	1	116	116
Wales	222.1	141	2	115	116
Scotland	206.5	146	2	115	116
Northern Ireland	215.7	146	2	115	116

Windspeed

Region	Windspeed (knots)	1991-2020 Anomaly (knots)	Rank - windiest	Rank - calmest	Series length (yrs)
UK	7.8	-1.5	55	3	57
England	7.2	-1.2	56	2	57
Wales	8.2	-1.3	49	9	57
Scotland	8.7	-2.3	56	2	57
Northern Ireland	8.0	-0.7	39	19	57

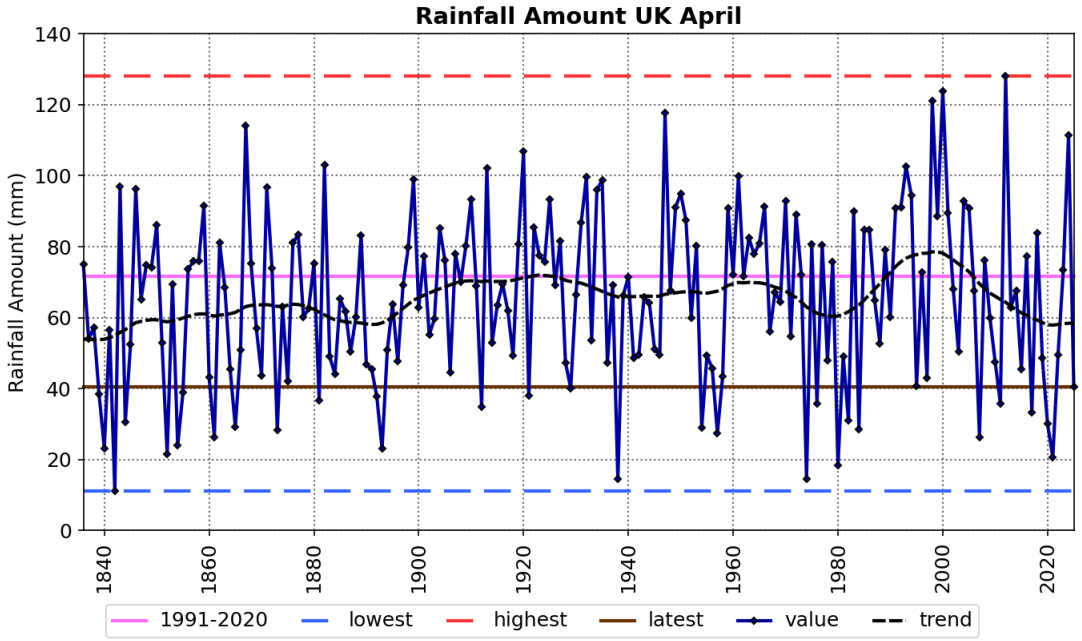
Monthly time-series

These charts show time-series for the UK for April for monthly mean temperature (from 1884), monthly rainfall (from 1836) and monthly sunshine (from 1919). The brown line shows the latest (2025) value. The hatched black line is a smoothing filter which shows the long-term trend. The tables below show statistics for the latest year, latest 10 years 2016-2025, the most recent 30-year climate reference period 1991-2020 and the 30-year baseline climate reference period 1961-1990.



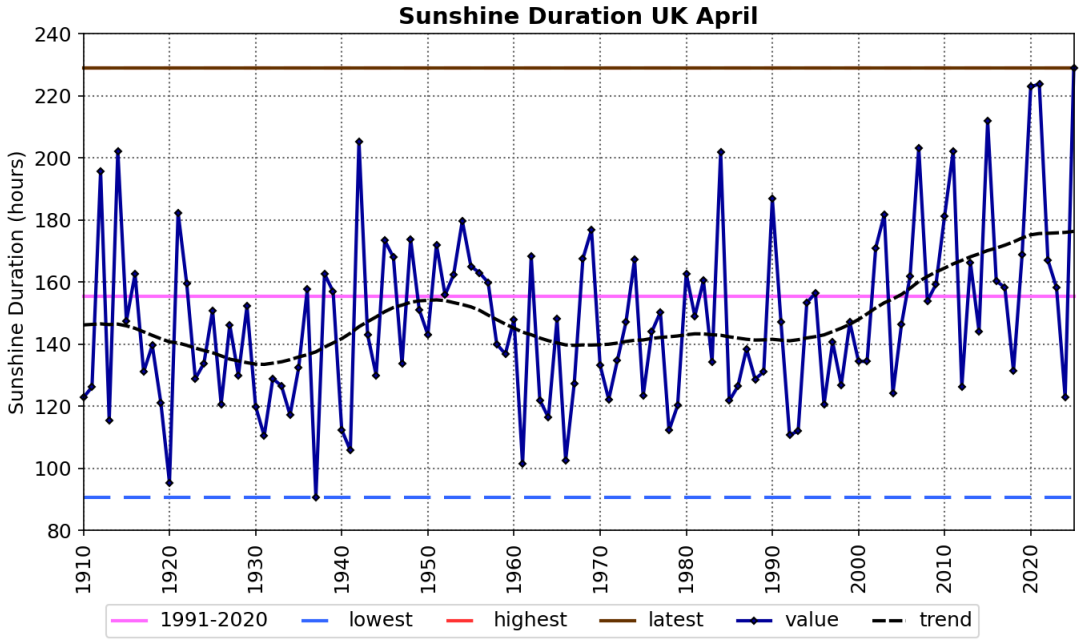
Period	1961-1990	1991-2020	2016-2025	2025
Meantemp (°C)	6.7	7.9	8.0	9.6

Met Office Source: HadUK-Grid 01/05/2025 11:37 © Crown copyright



Period	1961-1990	1991-2020	2016-2025	2025
Rainfall (mm)	66.0	71.7	56.8	40.4

Met Office Source: HadUK-Grid 01/05/2025 11:37 © Crown copyright

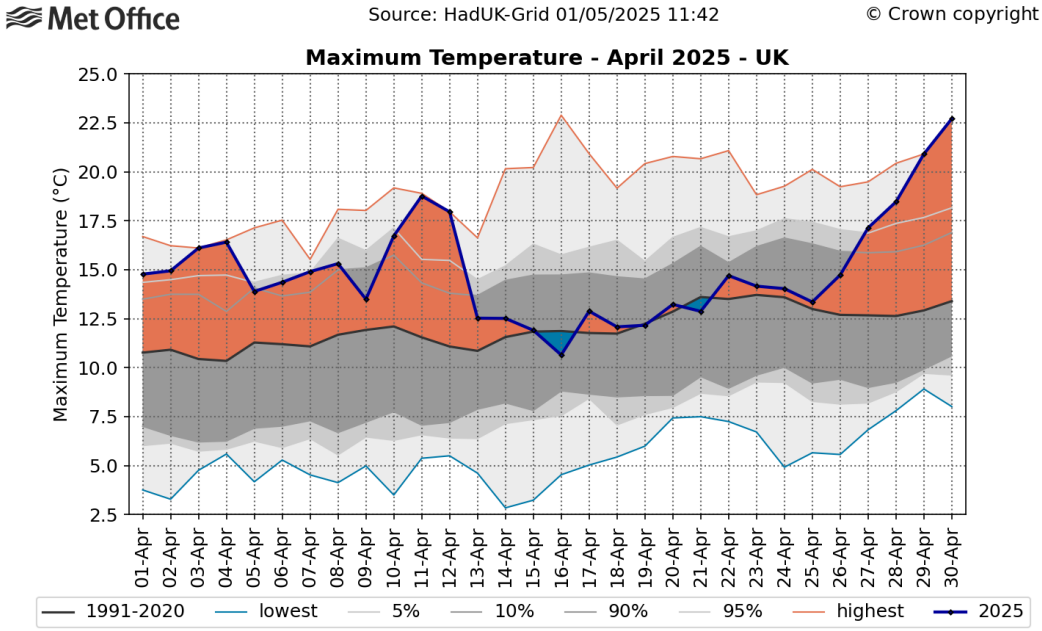


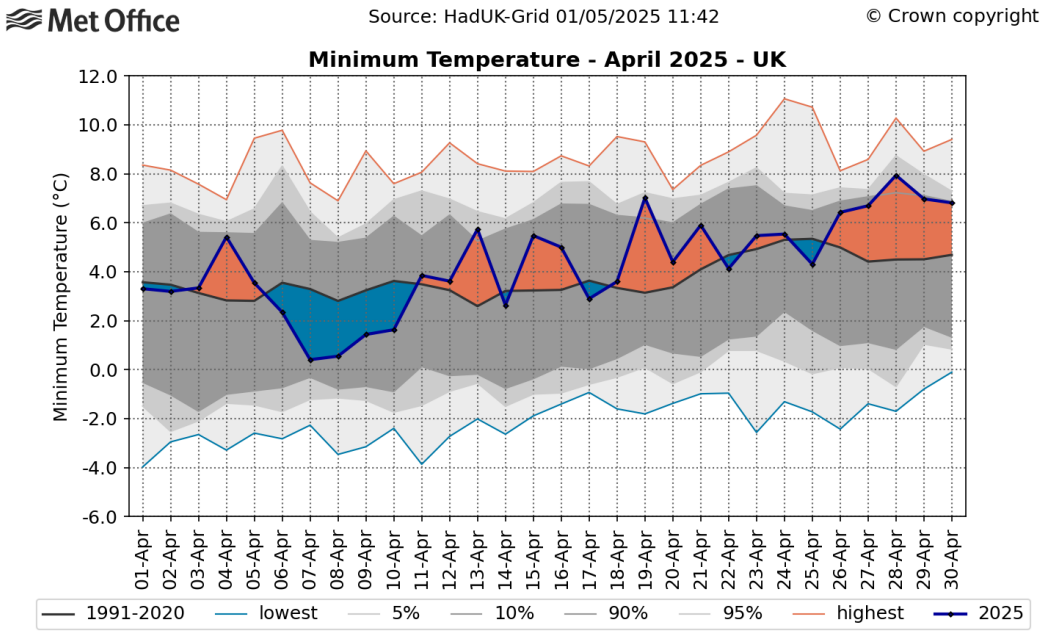
Period	1961-1990	1991-2020	2016-2025	2025
Sunshine (hours)	140.9	155.3	174.3	228.9

Daily time-series

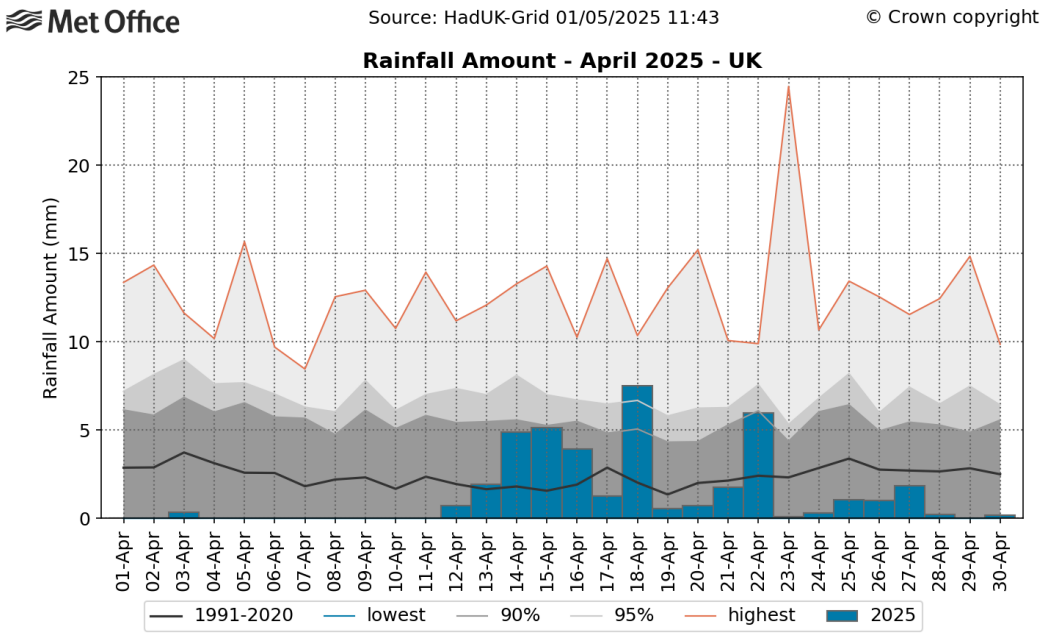
These charts show time-series of UK area-average daily maximum and daily minimum temperature and daily rainfall for each day of April 2025. The areas shaded in grey show the highest and lowest values in the daily temperature series (from 1960) and daily rainfall series (from 1891) together with percentiles and the 1991-2020 long term averages for each day. The rainfall accumulation chart shows the daily rainfall series as an accumulation through the month.

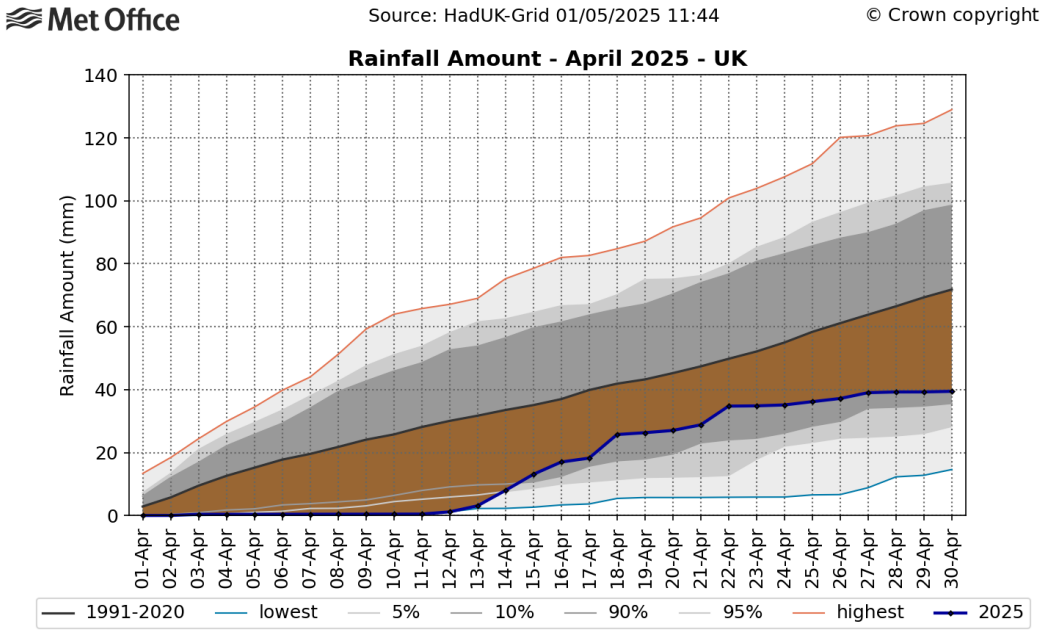
Daily maximum and daily minimum temperature





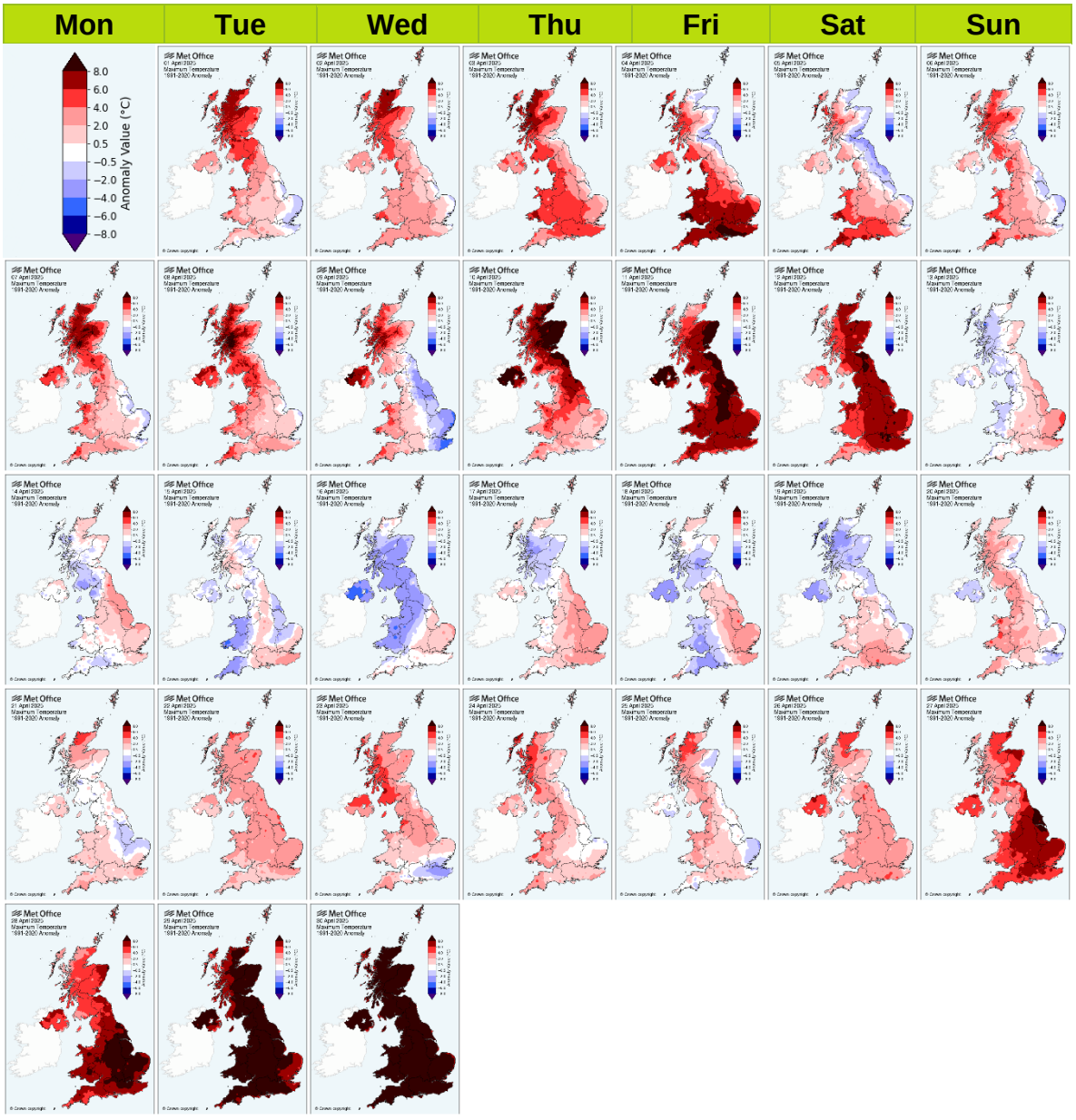
Daily rainfall and rainfall accumulation





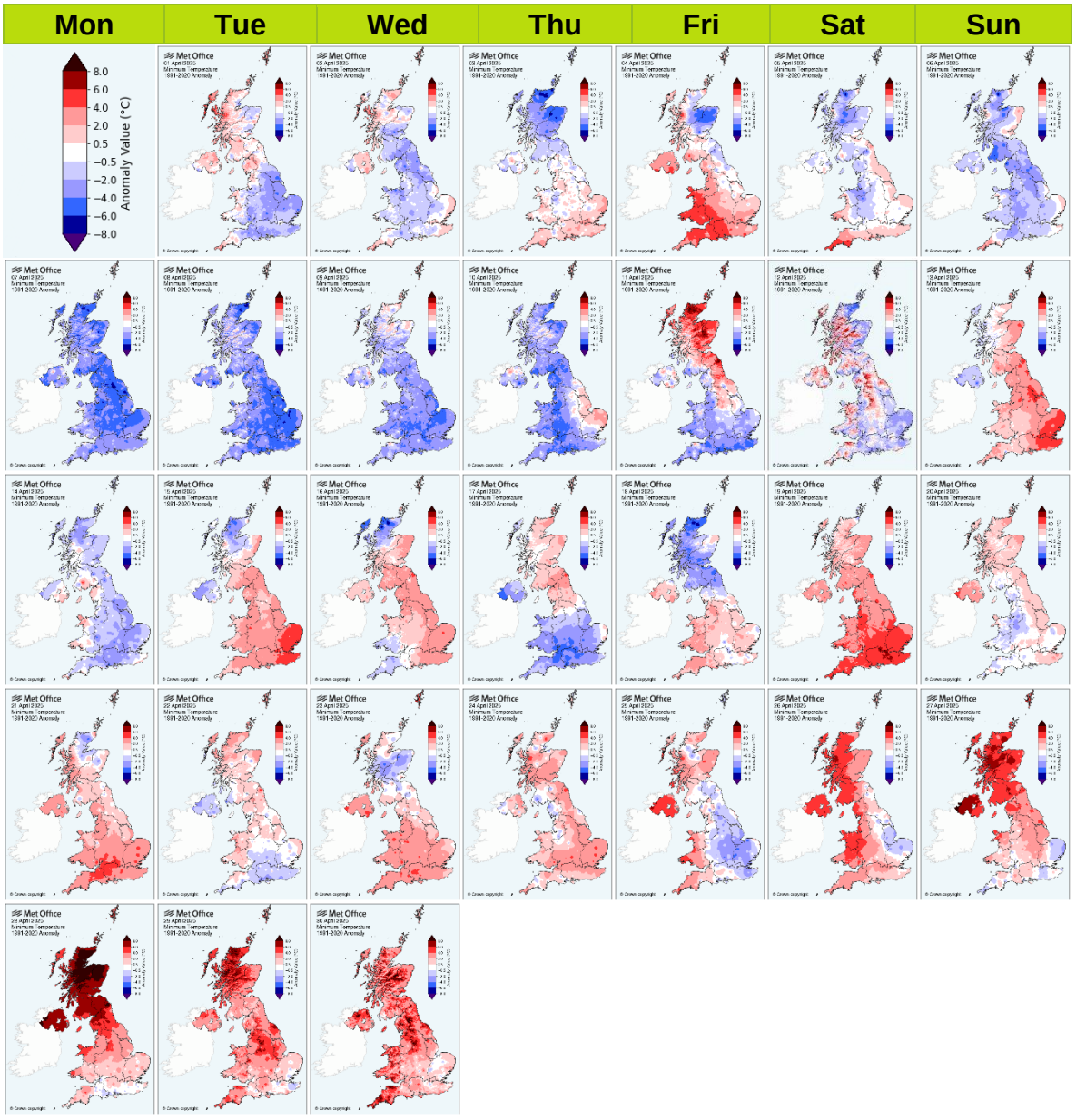
Daily maximum temperature maps - calendar view

These maps show daily maximum temperatures for each day of April 2025 as anomalies relative to the April 1991-2020 long term average. The daily maximum temperature is the maximum from 0900UTC on the day in question to 0900UTC the following day. Normally, the maximum occurs in the early afternoon.



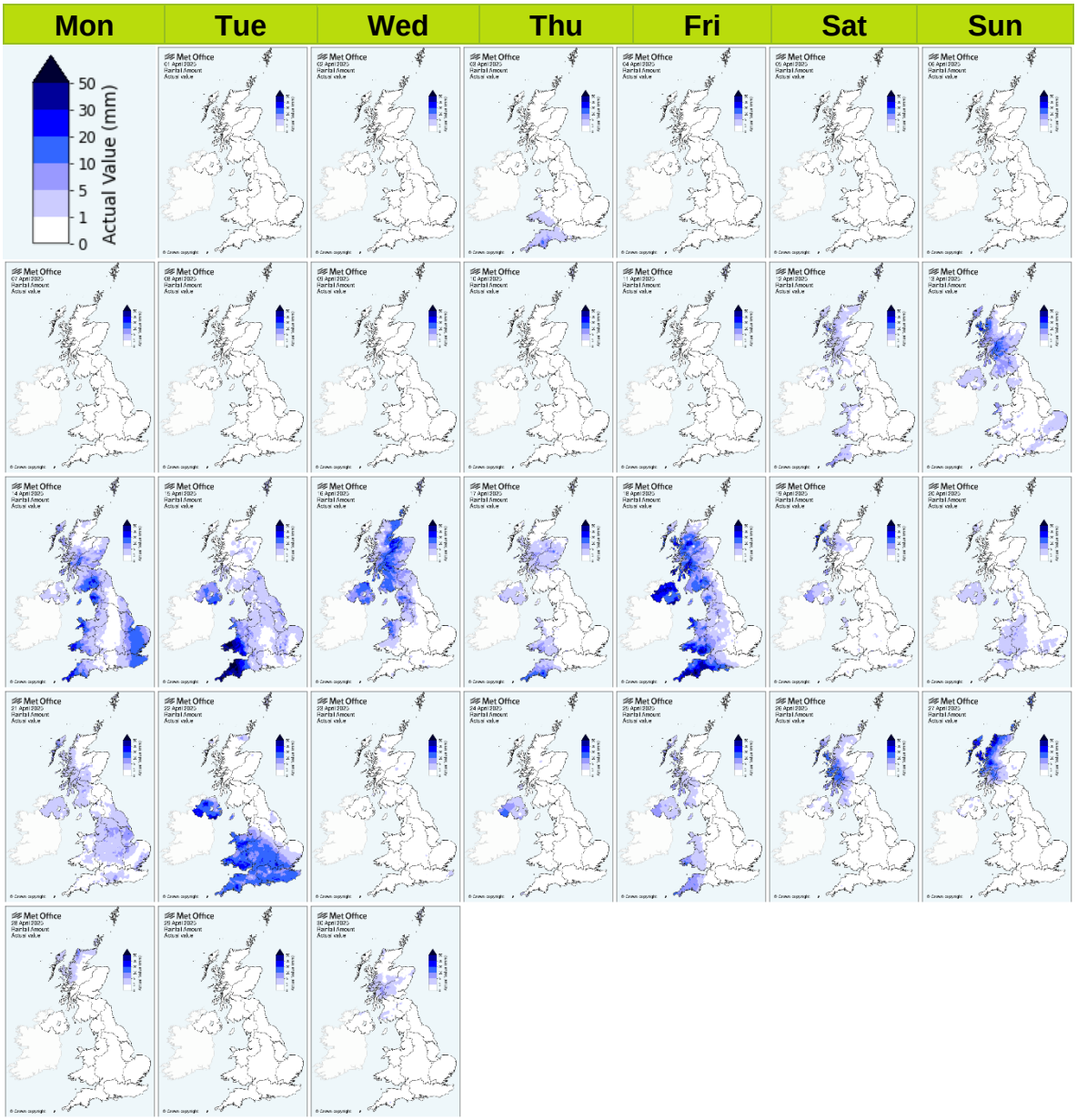
Daily minimum temperature maps - calendar view

These maps show daily minimum temperatures for each day of April 2025 as anomalies relative to the April 1991-2020 long term average. The daily minimum temperature is the minimum from 0900UTC the previous day to 0900UTC on the day in question. Normally, the minimum occurs in the early morning.



Daily rainfall maps - calendar view

These maps show daily rainfall for each day of April 2025 as daily totals. The daily rainfall is the total from 0900UTC on the day in question to 0900UTC the following day.

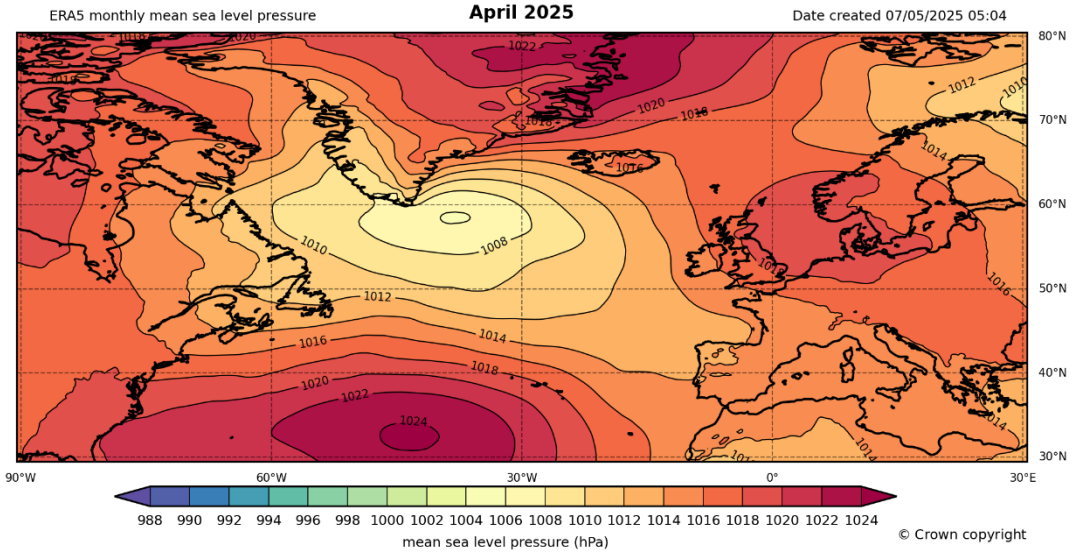


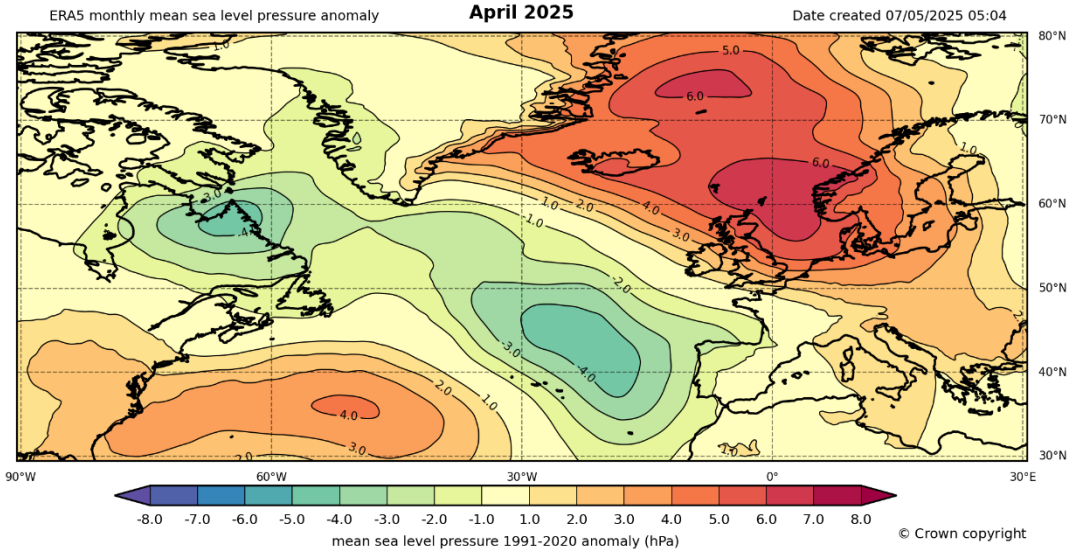
Monthly atmospheric circulation

Mean sea level pressure

These charts show the monthly mean sea level pressure for April 2025 for the UK and north Atlantic, based on the ERA5 reanalysis (Hersbach et al, 2019), both as actual values and as an anomaly relative to the April long term average. These charts provide an indication of the weather characteristics of the month overall i.e. whether the weather type has been generally settled (high pressure) or unsettled (low pressure) during the month.

The UK was under the influence of high pressure for much of the month, with a high pressure anomaly centred in the North Sea between north-east Scotland and Norway. Pressure was lower than normal over the Azores.

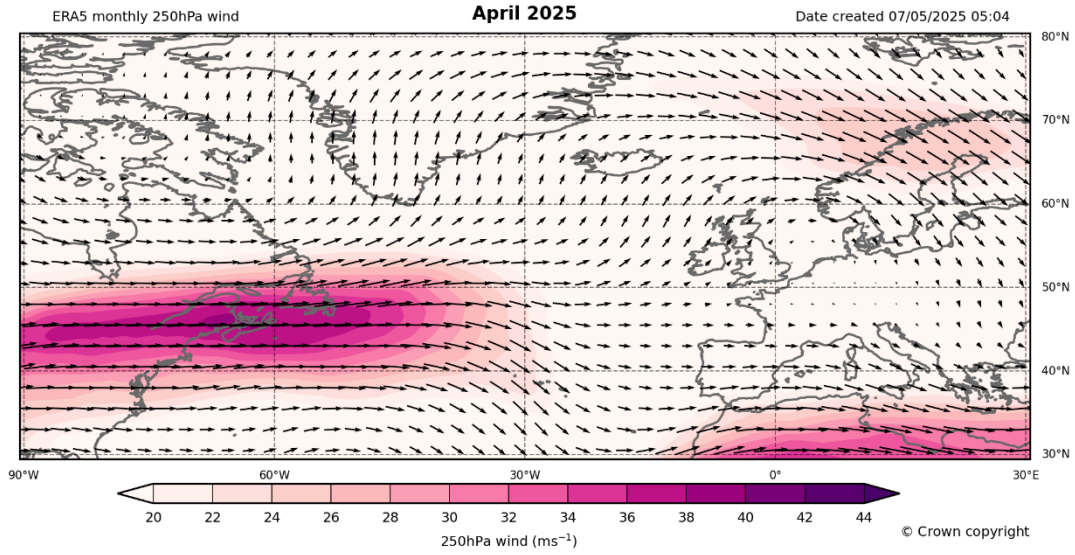


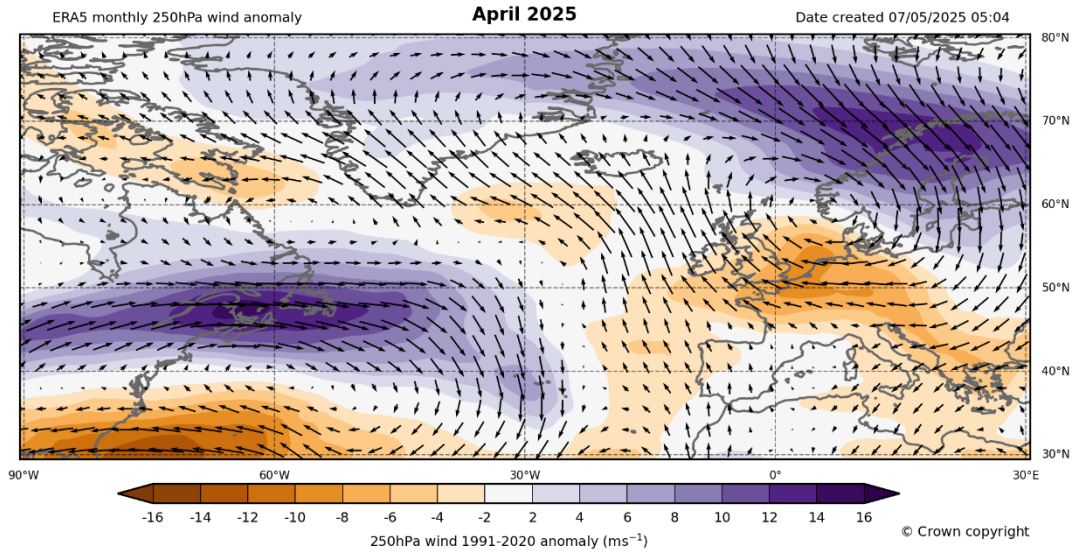


250hPa wind speed and direction

These charts show the monthly 250hPa wind speed and direction for April 2025 for the UK and north Atlantic, based on the ERA5 reanalysis (Hersbach et al, 2019), both as actual values and as an anomaly relative to the April long term average. This provides an indication of the mean strength and position of the jet stream compared to normal. The wind anomaly map shows shaded (scalar) wind speed anomalies with arrows as (vector) wind anomalies.

As with March 2025, high pressure resulted in the jetstream being displaced away from the UK, with a south-easterly anomaly in upper level flow.





Weather diary

- **Dry, sunny and very mild**

  From the 1st to the 12th, high pressure was centred predominantly to north and east of UK. Fine, dry and sunny weather was prevalent for most regions, and mild during the day especially in central southern England and south Wales with temps reaching low 20s Celsius. It was however much cooler and cloudy at times along the east coast with maxima restricted to 10 to 12 Celsius. A minor system with its attendant fronts brought the first measurable rainfall of the month to the southwest and Wales on the 3rd before drifting away north and fizzling out. There were some rather cold nights around the 8th and 9th with overnight temperatures falling below freezing in all regions.

  As the high pressure declined, this allowed weather systems off the Atlantic to cross the UK from west to east bringing some significant rainfall to all parts. An area of low pressure developed over the Bay of Biscay on the 14th and influenced the weather over England and Wales, drifting north into Northern Ireland and Scotland by the 17th, before moving away into the northern North Sea. Rainfall totals for western counties on the 15th hit 80mm particularly around south Wales, Devon and Cornwall. Another such system brought more heavy and persistent rainfall to western and southern counties again on the 18th, with 24-hour totals hitting 50mm in several places.

  From the 24th, high pressure re-established its influence over the UK, leading to dry, sunny and very warm conditions once again, with all regions experiencing their warmest and sunniest days on the 30th. Maximum temperatures were widely into the mid to high 20s Celcius and stations recording up to 14 hours of bright sunshine.

Notes

The Met Office National Meteorological Library and Archive holds a near-continuous record of monthly weather reports from 1884, and this report forms a continuation of that series. The purpose of each report is to provide an overview of the weather conditions across the UK for that month. The emphasis is mainly based on observations from the surface network of weather stations. Climate series based on from data from these stations are used to provide long term context.

This summary was produced on 09/05/2025 11:15. The statistics are a provisional assessment of the observational data available at the time of production. Ongoing data receipt and quality assurance processes may result in subsequent updates to the statistics presented.

If you have any questions or feedback about this product, spot any data errors or omissions, or wish to obtain further data, please contact the Met Office.

For historical monthly weather reports please visit the Library and Archive.

- The land-surface observations presented in this report are from the Met Office official weather station network which includes both automatic weather stations and manual climate stations operated by volunteer observers. Rainfall data are from the official registered rain-gauge network which includes rain-gauges operated by a number of key partners including the Environment Agency, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency and Northern Ireland Water.
- The observations are carefully managed such that they conform to current best-practice observational standards as defined by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The observations also pass through a range of quality assurance procedures at the Met Office before application for climate monitoring.
- Daily and monthly maps, monthly statistics and monthly time-series are primarily based on the HadUK-Grid dataset of 1km resolution UK gridded climate data (Hollis et al, 2019). Monthly statistics from the monthly Central England temperature series 1659 (Manley, 1974) and England and Wales precipitation series from 1766 (Wigley et al, 1984) provide long term context.
- The monthly lightning activity map is based on data from the Met Office LEELA (Lightning Electromagnetic Emission Location by Arrival time difference) system. This is an automatic lightning location network comprising around ten lightning outstation sensors located across Europe.
- The monthly maps of mean sea level pressure and 250hPa wind speed and direction are based on the ERA5 reanalysis (Hersbach et al, 2019). ERA5 is the fifth generation ECMWF reanalysis for the global climate and weather for the past 4 to 7 decades. Reanalysis combines model data with observations from across the world into a globally complete and consistent dataset using the laws of physics.

Hersbach, H., Bell, B., Berrisford, P., Biavati, G., Horányi, A., Muñoz Sabater, J., Nicolas, J., Peubey, C., Radu, R., Rozum, I., Schepers, D., Simmons, A., Soci, C., Dee, D., Thépaut, J-N. (2019): ERA5 monthly averaged data on single levels from 1959 to present. Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) Climate Data Store (CDS). https://doi.org/10.24381/cds.f17050d7

Hollis, D, McCarthy, MP, Kendon, M, Legg, T, Simpson, I. HadUK-Grid - A new UK dataset of gridded climate observations. Geosci Data J. 2019; 6: 151-159. https://doi.org/10.1002/gdj3.78

Manley, G. (1974), Central England temperatures: Monthly means 1659 to 1973. Q.J.R. Meteorol. Soc., 100: 389-405. https://doi.org/10.1002/qj.49710042511

Wigley, T.M.L., Lough, J.M. and Jones, P.D. (1984), Spatial patterns of precipitation in England and Wales and a revised, homogeneous England and Wales precipitation series. J. Climatol., 4: 1-25. https://doi.org/10.1002/joc.3370040102