

Seasonal Assessment – Winter 2022

First 2 months – December 2021 and January 2022

The following represents a provisional assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during the first two months of Winter 2022 (December and January) and how it compares with the 1991 to 2020 average.

The winter so far has been milder than average, with a mixture of settled spells and wetter weather. 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.

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.

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.

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. Sunshine totals for the UK overall were 65% of average in December and 132% of average in January, with England having its sunniest January in a series from 1919.

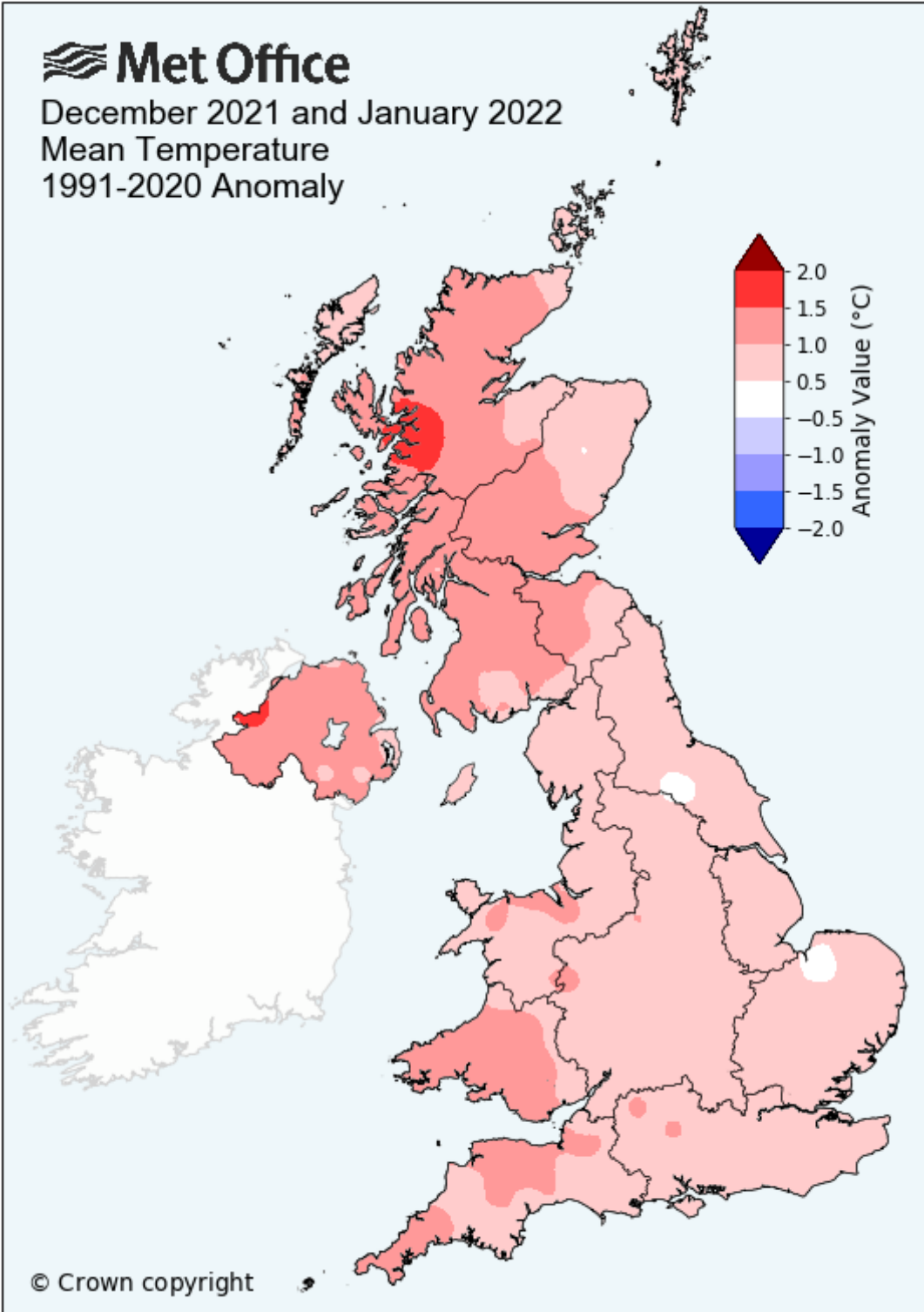
UK statistical summary		
Mean temperature	Rainfall	Sunshine
The provisional mean value for December and January is 5.0 °C, which is 0.9 °C above the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total for December and January is 176 mm, which is 71% of the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total for December and January is 90 hours, which is 100% of the 1991-2020 average.

 **Met Office**

December 2021 and January 2022

Mean Temperature

1991-2020 Anomaly

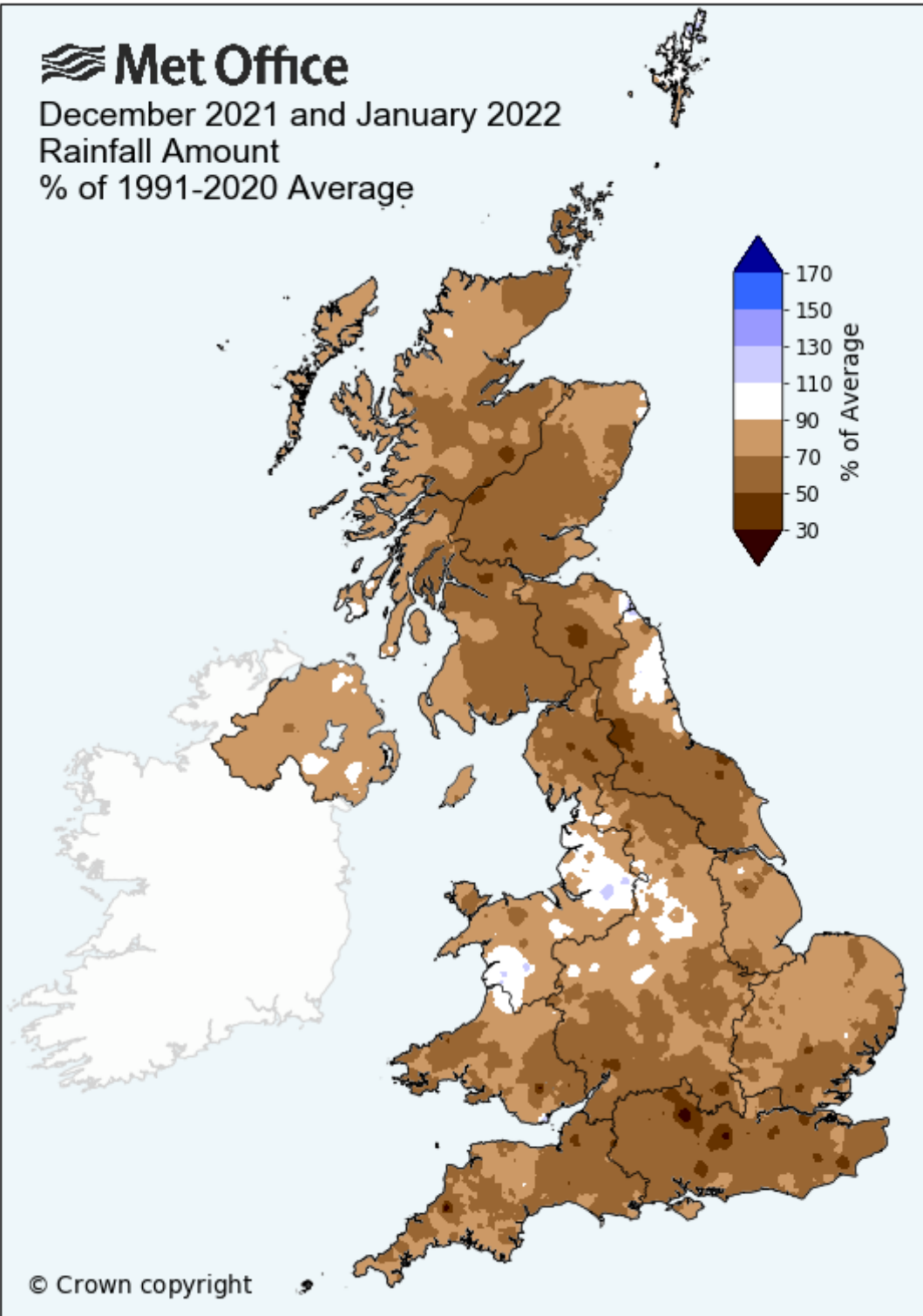


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December 2021 and January 2022

Rainfall Amount

% of 1991-2020 Average

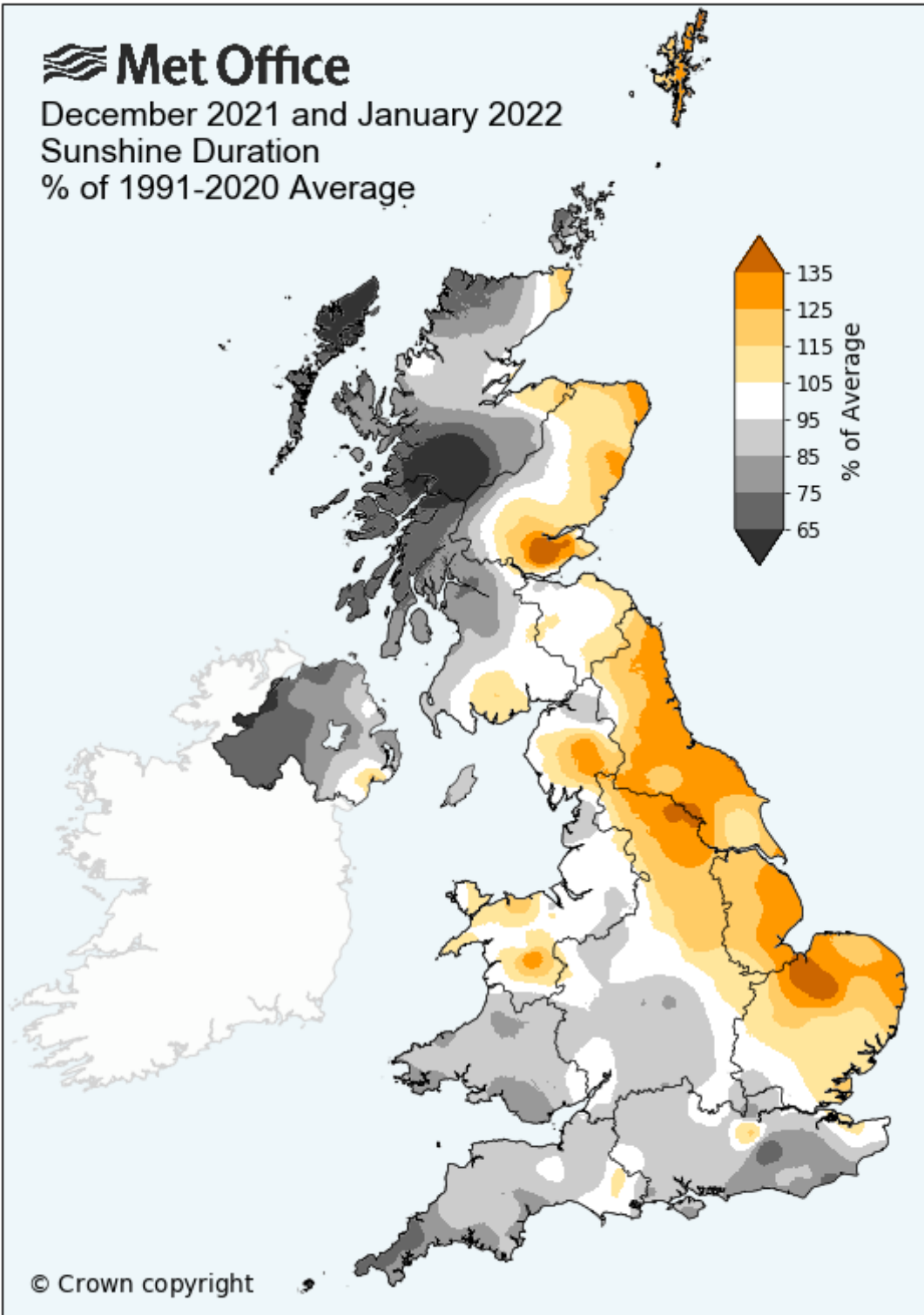


 **Met Office**

December 2021 and January 2022

Sunshine Duration

% of 1991-2020 Average



Mean Temperature - Winter 2022 - UK

