

Seasonal Assessment – Winter 2023

First 2 months – December 2022 and January 2023

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

The winter so far has been slightly colder than average, with an alternation between cold, settled spells and milder, wetter weather. The first half of December was fine and settled but increasingly cold, with Braemar (Aberdeenshire) recording a low of -17.3 °C on the 13th, followed by a rapid transition to an unsettled westerly regime. The milder weather continued until almost half-way through January, after which temperatures dropped once more, this second cold spell however being shorter and less severe than the first. It became gradually milder again by the end of January, but with any rainfall mostly restricted to Scotland.

December 2022 saw temperatures averaging out to rather below normal, particularly for minima, with more frosts than average. Mean temperatures for December were 1.3 °C below the long-term average, this being the only colder-than-average month in 2022. Parts of Scotland were notably cold by night in mid-January, but overall it was a slightly milder than average month, with monthly-mean temperatures 0.4 °C above average.

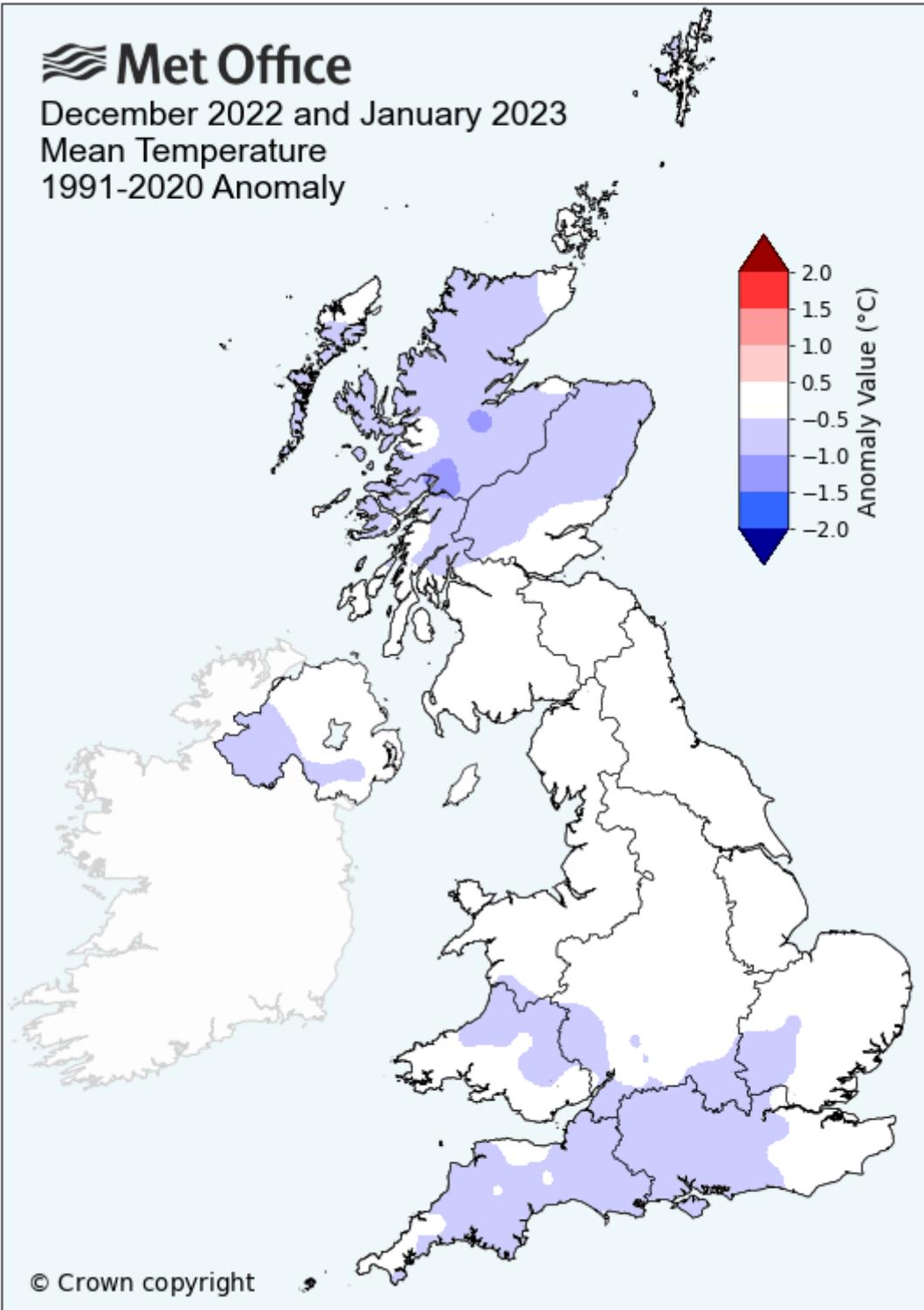
December rainfall totals were slightly below normal in many places, particularly over western Scotland, but just above normal in eastern Scotland and southern England, giving an overall UK figure of 87% of average. Most of January's rainfall came during the first half of the month, and overall it was a near-average month with 103% of average UK rainfall in total.

Most areas were sunnier than average in December, with north-eastern areas the exception. January was particularly sunny relative to average, with only north-west Scotland being duller than normal. Sunshine totals for the UK overall were 116% of average in December and 133% of average in January, with England having its second sunniest January in a series from 1919.

UK statistical summary		
Mean temperature	Rainfall	Sunshine
The provisional mean value for December and January is 3.6 °C, which is 0.4 °C below the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total for December and January is 237 mm, which is 95% of the 1991-2020 average.	The provisional total for December and January is 112 hours, which is 125% of the 1991-2020 average.

 **Met Office**

December 2022 and January 2023
Mean Temperature
1991-2020 Anomaly

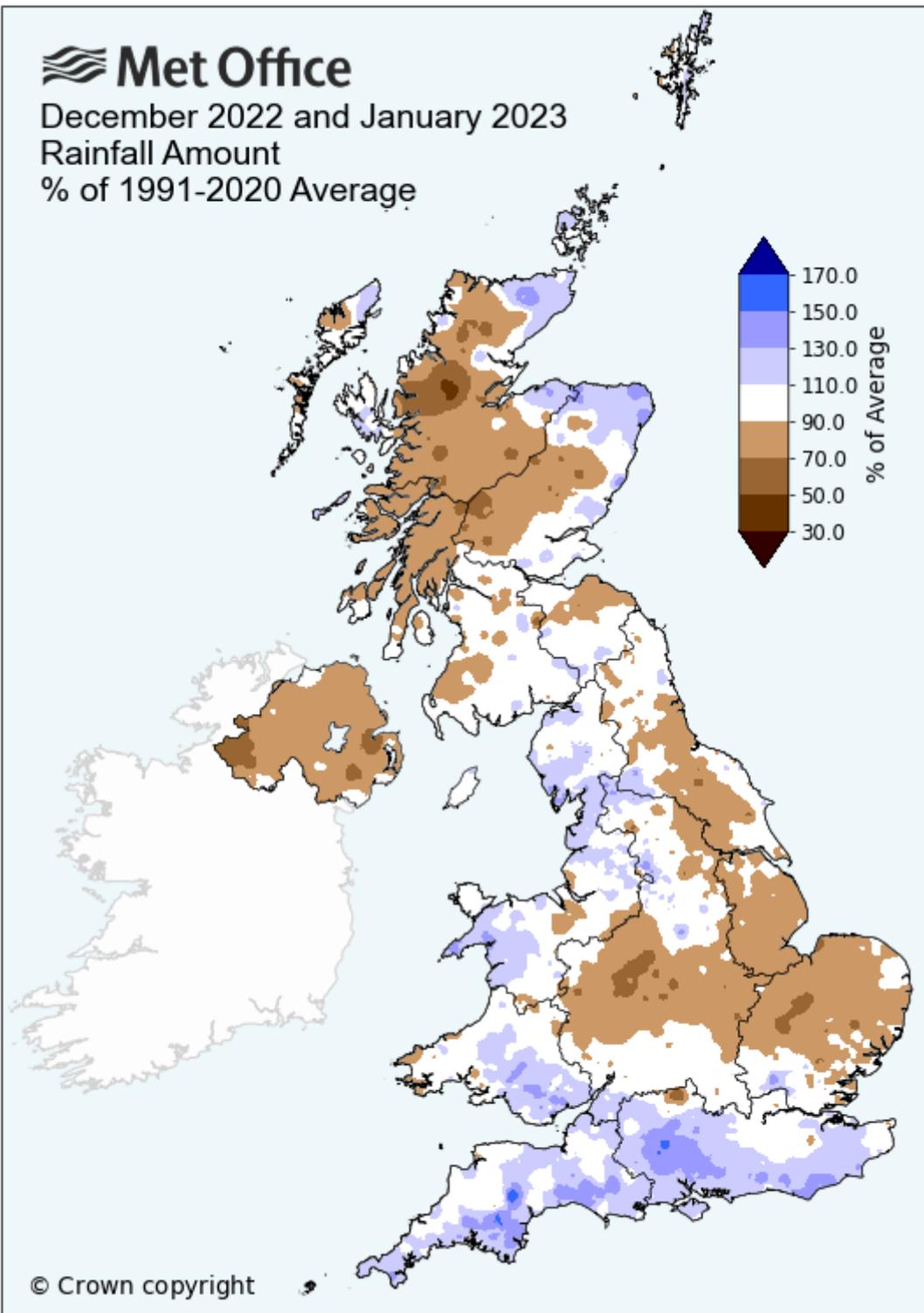


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December 2022 and January 2023

Rainfall Amount

% of 1991-2020 Average



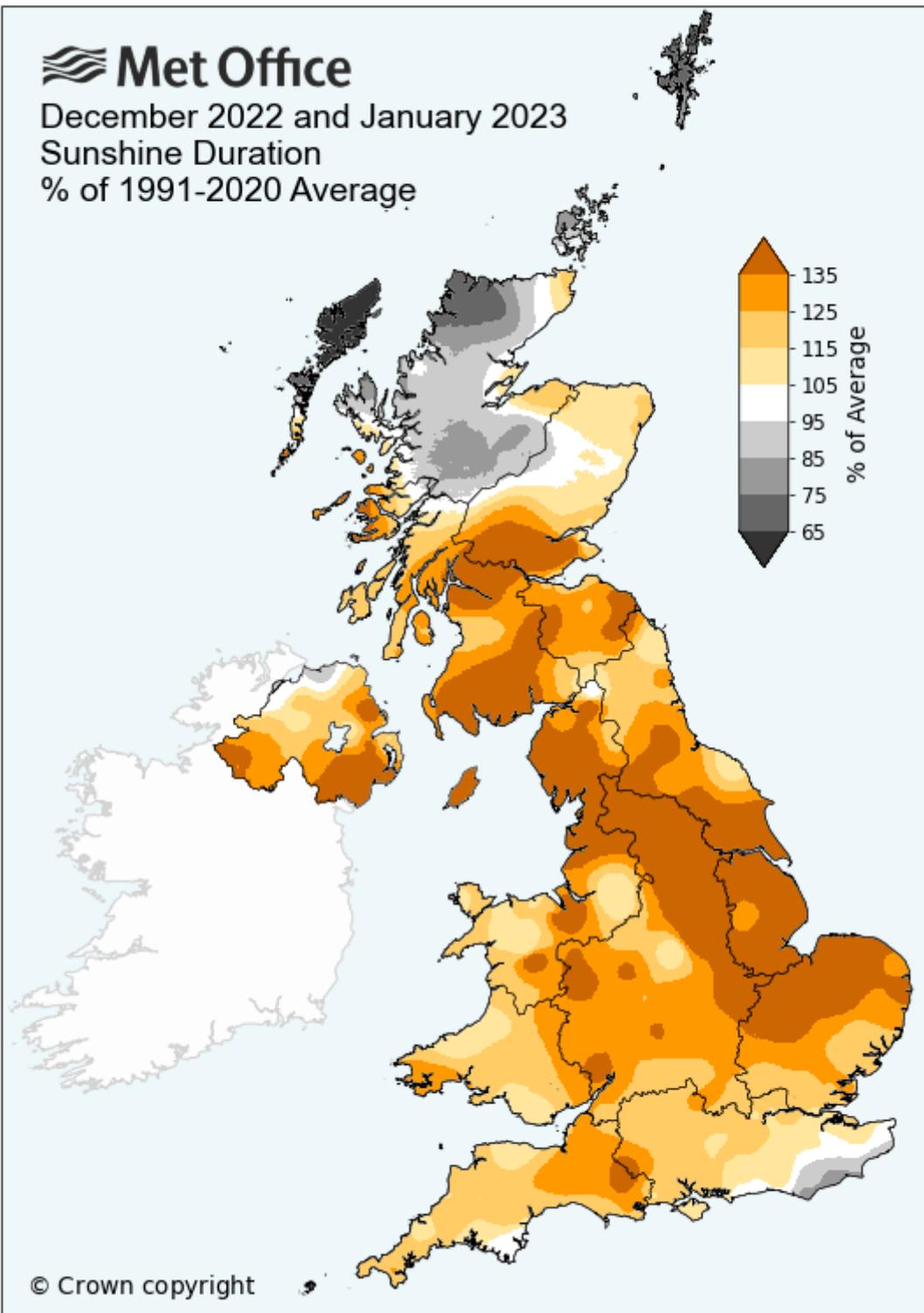
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December 2022 and January 2023

Sunshine Duration

% of 1991-2020 Average



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