

MONTHLY WEATHER BULLETIN

NO. 335
APRIL 2014



Bluebells covered the floor of Killenthomas Wood near Rathangan, Co Kildare in late April. Bluebells are a perennial and are one of Ireland's most striking wild flowers. The flowering period for bluebells usually starts in early April and ends in May. (Photo courtesy of Kieran Commins)

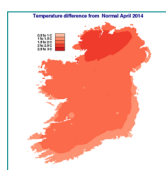
DRY IN PLACES; ABOVE AVERAGE TEMPERATURES EVERYWHERE

Rainfall totals were variable across the country with percentage of Long-Term Average (LTA) values ranging from just 25% at Carrigans (Kildrum), Co Donegal (a monthly total of 16.2 mm) to 167% at Kenmare (Derreen), Co Kerry (a monthly total of 213.9 mm). The majority of stations around the country reported

wetter conditions in 2013. The month's wettest days were mainly the 2nd, 5th, 25th and 30th, with the month's wettest day on the 25th at Glencar (Dreenagh), Co Kerry with 50.6 mm. The wettest day of April was at Meelick (Victoria Lock), Co Offaly on the 30th with 28.0 mm, its highest for the month since 1947 and 2nd highest



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ABOVE AVERAGE TEMPERATURES
EVERYWHERE
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On the 27th of April, developing cumulonimbus clouds along with distance showers were captured in this image taken in the Lough Boora Parklands, Co Offaly. The day was mainly dry but some showers with thunder affected stations in Offaly, with up to 5 mm recorded at Clonmacnoise. Lough Boora Parklands, originally a peat harvesting site is now a spectacular haven for animals, birds and plants, as well as the home to some of the most environmentally influenced sculptures in Ireland. Here, a sculpture 'Cycles' by Caroline Madden represents the cyclical nature of land and mankind's interaction. (Photo courtesy of Kieran Commins)

for April since 1941.

Mean temperatures were above their LTA everywhere. Deviations from LTA ranged from 0.8°C at Sherkin Island, Co Cork (a monthly mean temperature of 10.3°C) to 2.6°C at Glenties Hatchery, Co Donegal (a monthly mean temperature of 10.8°C). Mean temperatures ranged between 9.3°C at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (1.8°C above its LTA) to 11.4°C at both

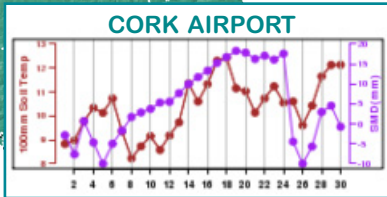
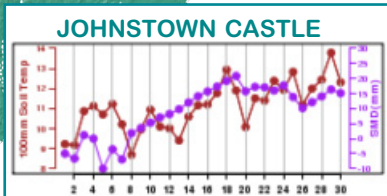
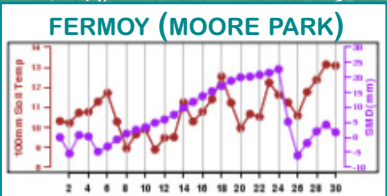
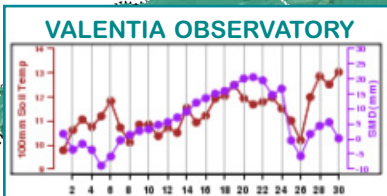
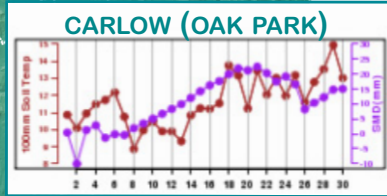
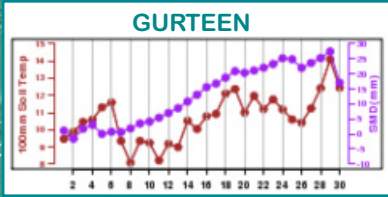
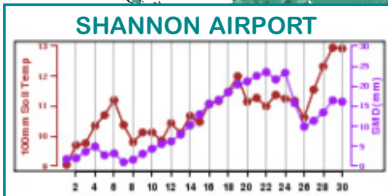
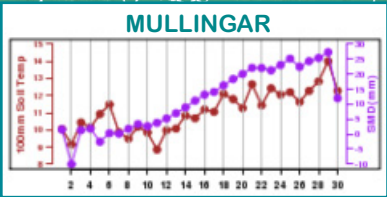
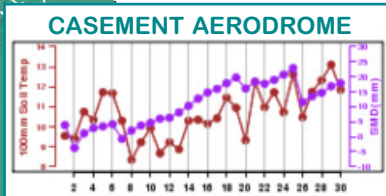
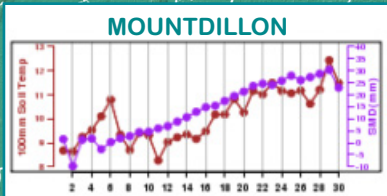
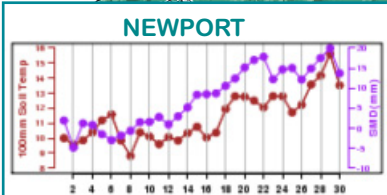
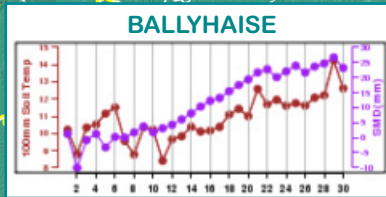
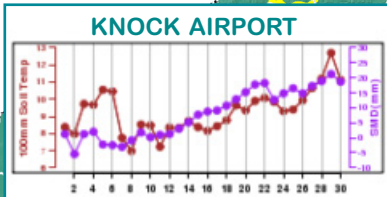
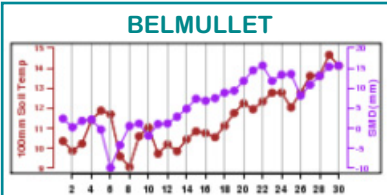
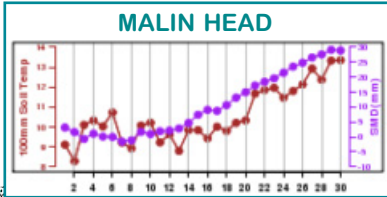
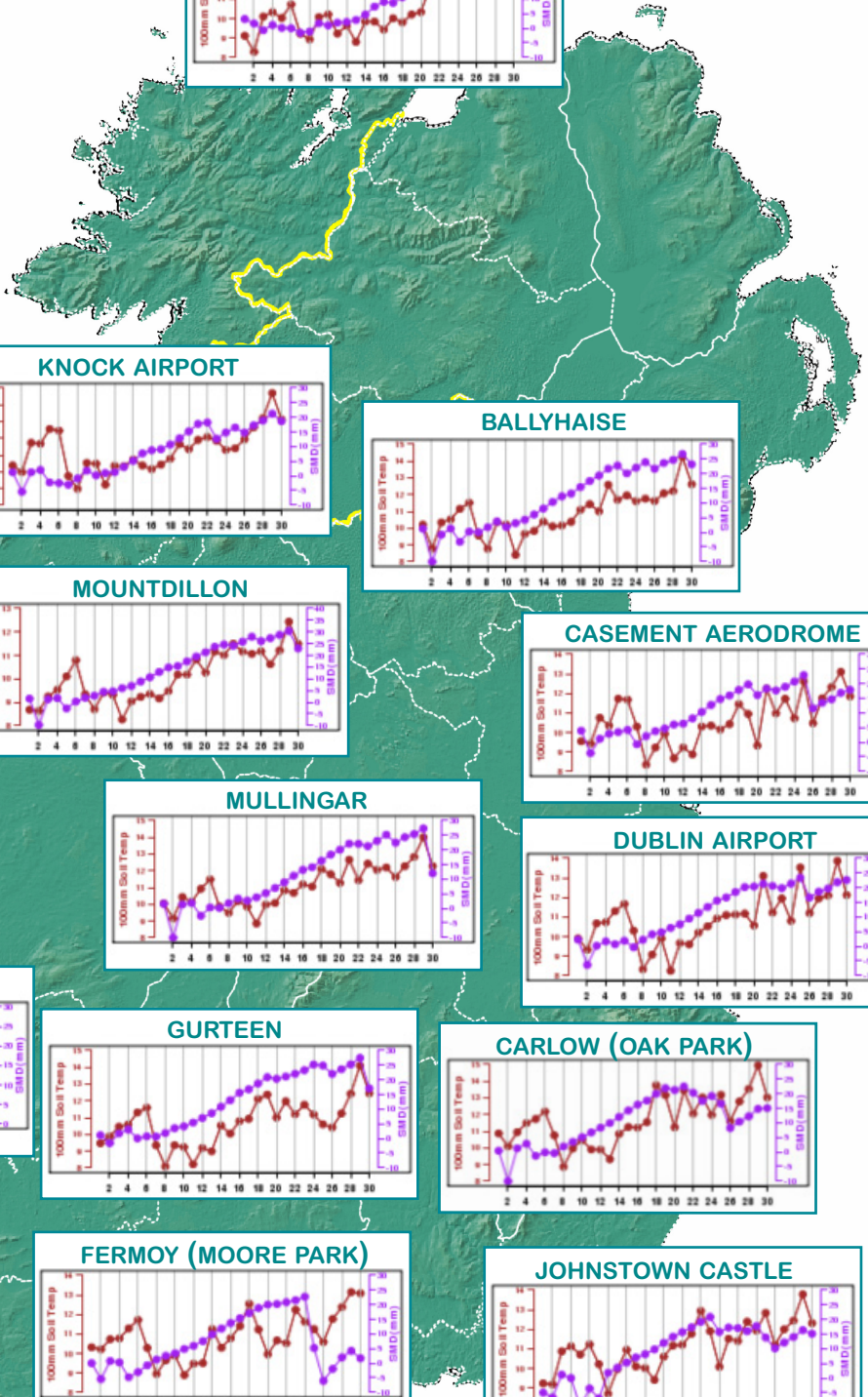
Ardtarmon, Co Sligo (2.4°C above its LTA) and Dooks, Co Kerry. The majority of highest air maxima were between the 27th and 29th, with the month's highest maxima of 21.0°C at Cavan (Drumconnick) on the 29th. Lowest minimum air and grass temperatures were mostly recorded between the 18th and the 20th, with the lowest air minimum recorded at Castleconnell, Co Limerick with -1.9°C on the 20th and lowest grass minimum of -6.8°C recorded at Piltown (Kildalton Agricultural College), Co Kilkenny on the 19th.

The majority of sunshine totals were above average. Percentage of LTA values ranged from 84% at Sherkin Island, Co Cork (total monthly sunshine 149.5 hours) to 118% at Dublin Airport (total monthly sunshine 185.9 hours). Daily mean sunshine ranged from 4.4 hours at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (92 % of its LTA and its dullest April since 2001) to 5.9 hours at Belmullet, Co Mayo (113% of its LTA). The sunniest day was the 29th at Shannon Airport, Co Clare with 13.6 hours. The number of dull days (*days with less than 0.5 hours of sunshine*) ranged from two a numerous stations to seven at Dungarvan (Carriglea), Co Waterford.

Wind and Elements

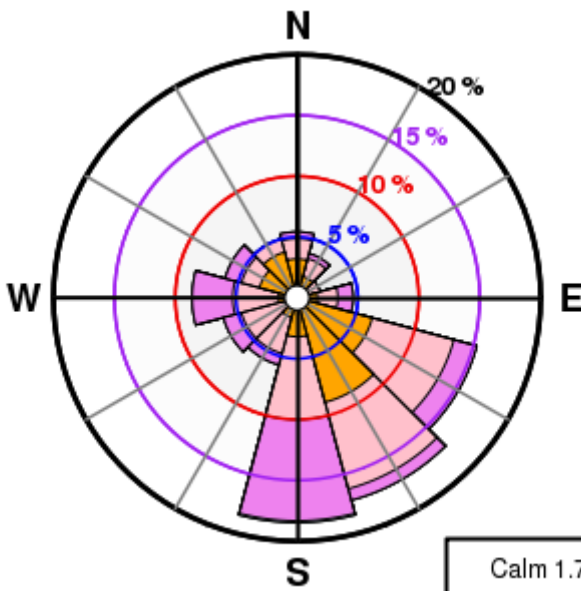
Monthly mean wind speeds ranged from 6.3 knots (12km/h) at Fermoy (Moore Park) and Mullingar to 13.9 knots (26km/h) at Malin Head. Valentia Observatory reported the month's highest gust of 56 knots (104km/h) on the 25th. Gale force winds (*mean 10-minute wind speed of greater than 34 knots*) were reported on the 6th and 25th along parts of the Atlantic coast, with the highest 10-minute wind speed of 35 knots (65 km/h) recorded at Malin Head on the 6th and at Sherkin Island on the 25th. There were no storm force winds (*mean 10-minute wind speed of greater than 41 knots*) reported this month. One report of snow at Dundalk (Annaskeagh Water Works), Co Louth on the 2nd. Fog was reported on 23 days across the country with thunderstorm activity was recorded on less than a third of the days. The severest thunderstorm activity was on the 27th, with one report of a funnel cloud on this date in the Cork area.

DAILY SOIL MOISTURE DEFICITS & SOIL TEMPERATURES

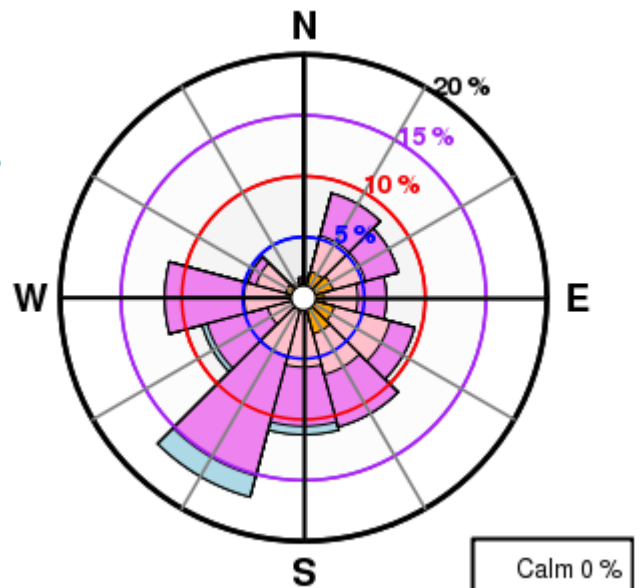


COUNTY / STATION	WIND (knots)										ELEMENTS (no.of days)					
	MEAN SPEED	MAX. 10-MIN. DIR.	MEAN SPEED	DATE/HOUR	MAX. GUST DIR.	GUST SPEED	DATE/TIME	DAYS WITH		HOURS WITH		SNOW	SNOW LYING	HAIL	THUNDER	FOG
								GALES	GUST > 34KNOTS	GUST > 34KNOTS	GUST > 34KNOTS					
CO CARLOW OAK PARK	7.1	190°	22	6/08	180°	31	6/0816	0	0	0						
CO CAVAN BALLYHAISE	6.5	220°	23	6/13	220°	38	6/1355	0	2	6						
CO CLARE SHANNON AIRPORT	8.7	220°	28	6/08	80°	39	25/2032	0	3	9	0	0	1	2	2	
CO CORK FERMOY (MOORE PARK)	6.3	100°	25	25/21	100°	39	25/2059	0	2	4						
SHERKIN ISLAND	11.5	100°	35	25/18	100°	49	25/1841	1	6	19						
ROCHE'S POINT	11.1	110°	32	25/21	110°	45	25/2043	0	4	14						
CORK AIRPORT	9.6	100°	34	25/21	90°	46	25/2036	1	4	12	0	0	1	1	12	
CO DONEGAL MALIN HEAD	13.9	220°	35	6/14	230°	45	6/1500	1	7	42						
FINNER	9.8	230°	28	6/15	180°	41	16/0152	0	5	12						
CO DUBLIN DUBLIN AIRPORT	9.8	250°	25	13/16	200°	38	6/1053	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	4	
		110°	25	26/10												
CASEMENT AERODROME	8.6	240°	27	6/12	190°	41	6/0925	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	2	
CO GALWAY MACE HEAD	12.3	80°	34	25/21	70°	47	25/2257	1	6	20						
ATHENRY	7.5	220°	23	6/10	230°	40	6/1102	0	2	4						
CO KERRY VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	8.9	90°	28	25/19	80°	56	25/1937	0	3	9						
CO MAYO CLAREMORRIS	8.1	210°	26	6/12	210°	38	6/1212	0	1	3						
BELMULLET	10.3	190°	34	6/01	180°	44	6/0117	1	2	10						
NEWPORT	8.9	210°	27	6/11	210°	40	6/1351	0	2	5						
KNOCK AIRPORT	9.1	220°	24	6/15	220°	37	6/1405	0	2	6	0				7	
		260°	24	13/13												
CO MEATH DUNSANY (GRANGE)	8.0	100°	22	26/11	190°	33	6/0950	0	0	0						
CO ROSCOMMON MOUNTDILLON	7.2	220°	23	6/14	230°	36	6/1436	0	1	2						
CO TIPPERARY GURTEEN (AG COLLEGE)	8.4	190°	23	6/08	190°	32	6/0828	0	0	0						
					100°	32	25/2252									
CO WESTMEATH MULLINGAR	6.3	170°	19	6/08	170°	30	6/0754	0	0	0						
CO WEXFORD JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	7.9	120°	23	26/00	120°	35	26/0003	0	1	1						

CARLOW (OAK PARK)



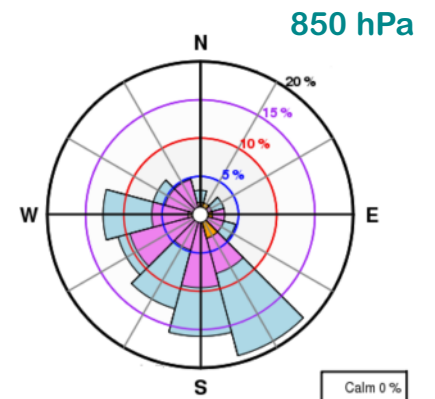
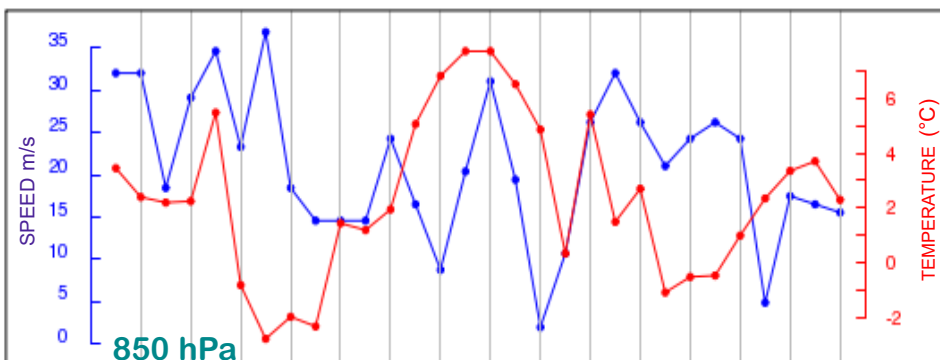
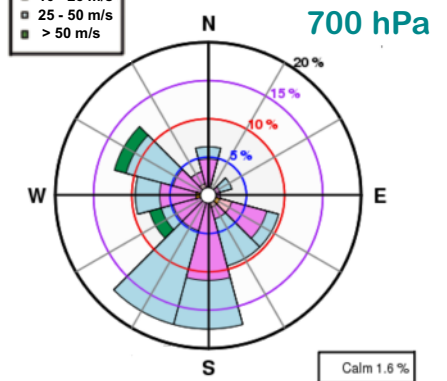
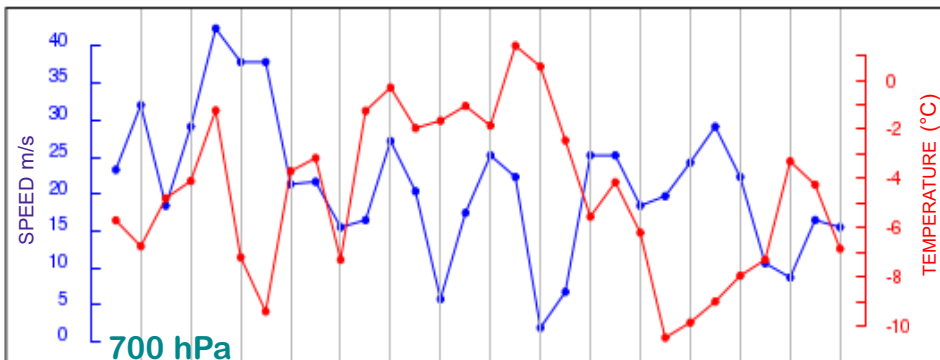
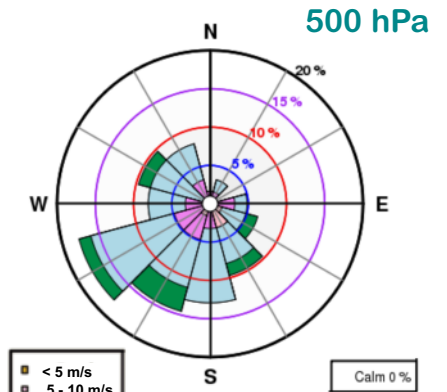
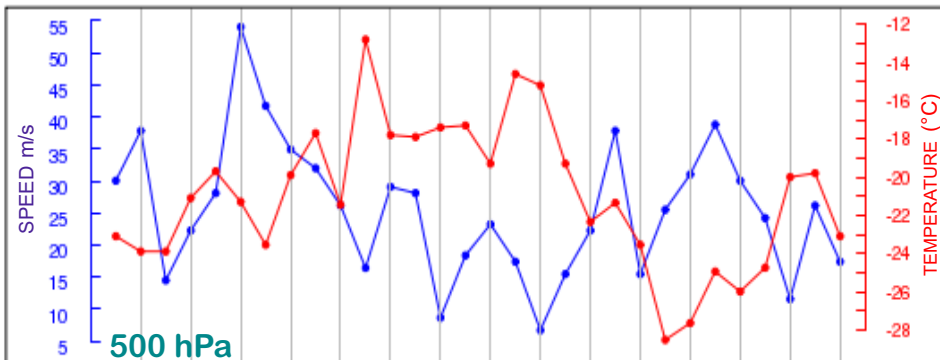
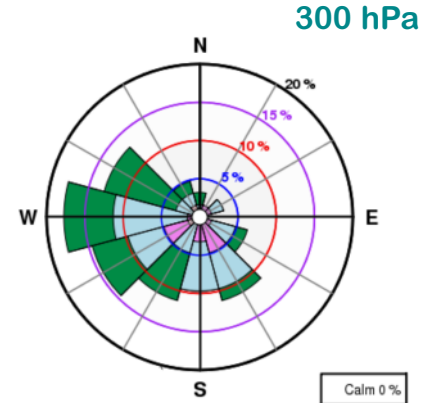
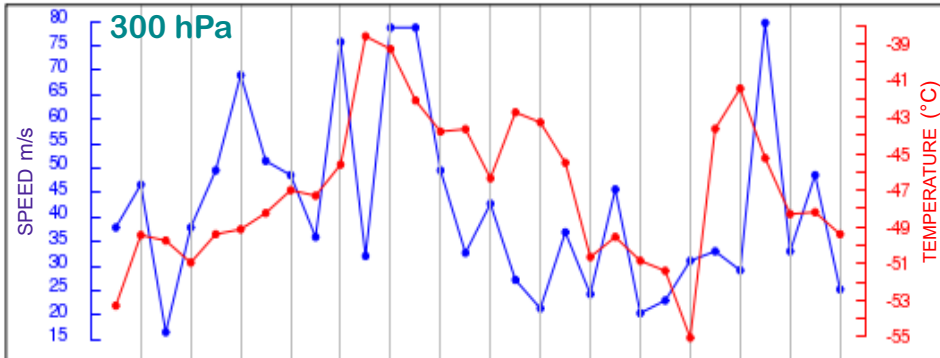
BELMULLET



PERCENTAGE FREQUENCY OF WIND DIRECTION

Upper Atmosphere wind and temperature readings are made at Valentia Observatory twice a day by a radiosonde (a balloon with instruments attached). Shown below are daily average wind speeds and temperatures at defined pressure levels, 850, 700, 500 and 300 hPa, corresponding approximately to heights of 1.5, 3, 6 and 10 km. Monthly wind roses are also shown for each pressure level.

UPPER AIR WIND SPEED AND TEMPERATURE APRIL 2014



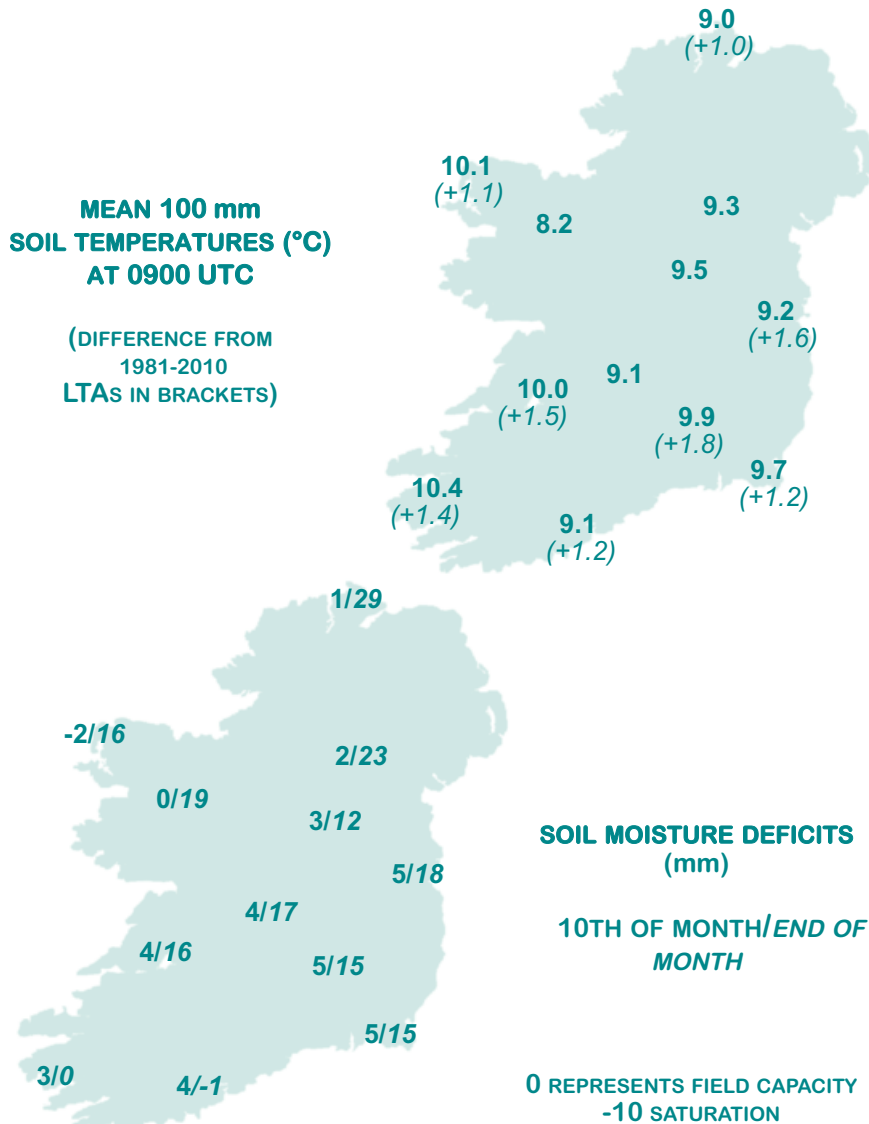
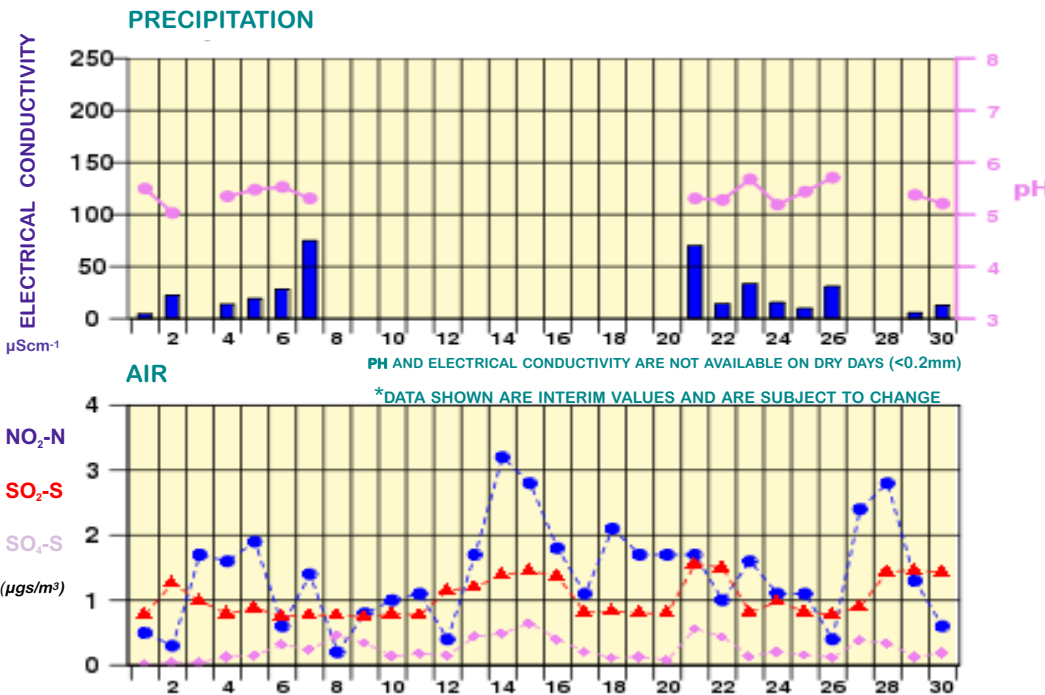
DAY OF MONTH

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF PRECIPITATION AND AIR SAMPLES AT VALENTIA OBSERVATORY

Acid rain occurs when pollutants combine with moisture in the air to form sulphuric or nitric acid. pH is the simplest way of measuring the acidity of precipitation. Usually pH of 7.00 is considered neutral but this is not the case in rainfall samples. Pure water in the atmosphere has an equilibrium pH value of 5.65 at 20°C owing to carbon dioxide in the air dissolving to form carbonic acid. Any value below pH 5.65 is considered acid while any value above is considered alkaline.

Conductivity measures the total ion activity in the rainfall, i.e. the higher the conductivity the greater the number of ions.

Sulphur dioxide and sulphate in air contribute to the formation of sulphuric acid; nitrate in air contributes to the formation of nitric acid.



MEAN SOIL TEMPERATURES (°C) AT 0900 UTC

COUNTY/STATION	100 mm	200 mm	300 mm
CO CARLOW			
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	9.9	9.8	10.0
CO. CAVAN			
BALLYHAISE	9.3	9.6	10.1
CO CLARE			
SHANNON AIRPORT	10.0	10.1	10.1
CARRON	9.7		10.1
CO CORK			
ROCHE'S POINT	9.7	9.9	10.2
FERMOY (MOORE PARK)	9.5	9.5	9.9
CORK AIRPORT	9.1	8.9	9.7
SHERKIN ISLAND	10.1	10.2	10.5
BALINCURRIG (PEAFIELD)	9.1	9.2	9.9
CO DONEGAL			
MALIN HEAD	9.0	9.3	9.4
CO DUBLIN			
PHOENIX PARK	10.0	10.5	10.6
DUBLIN AIRPORT	8.8	9.1	9.6
CASEMENT AERODROME	9.2	9.3	9.7
CO KERRY			
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	10.4	10.6	10.9
CO KILKENNY			
THOMASTOWN (MT JULIET)	10.8	10.5	10.9
CO LIMERICK			
MOUNT RUSSELL	8.8	9.4	
CO MAYO			
BELMULLET	10.1	10.6	11.1
STRAIDE	9.9		
KNOCK AIRPORT	8.2	8.5	8.7
CO MEATH			
WARRENSTOWN	9.2	9.7	10.8
DUNSANY (GRANGE)	9.1	9.8	10.1
CO TIPPERARY			
GURTEEN (AG COLLEGE)	9.1	9.2	9.5
FETHARD (PARSONSHILL)	9.0	9.6	
CO WATERFORD			
DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	10.1	10.3	
CO WESTMEATH			
MULLINGAR	9.5	9.8	10.2
CO. WEXFORD			
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	9.7	9.6	9.9
JFK PARK	10.4	10.2	11.1
CO WICKLOW			
ASHFORD (CRONYKEERY)	10.4	10.3	10.7

10-DAY VALUES FOR SELECTED AGROMETEOROLOGICAL STATIONS		RAINFALL (mm)				TEMPERATURE (°C)											SUNSHINE (hours)				
STATION	PERIOD	AMOUNT	% OF AVERAGE	RAIN DAYS	WET DAYS	MEAN MAX.	MEAN MIN.	MEAN DAILY	DIFF. FROM AVERAGE	LOWEST MIN.	DATE	DAYS WITH AIR FROST	DEGREE DAYS > 4.4°C	DEGREE DAYS > 10.0°C	LOWEST *GRASS-MIN. **	DATE	DAYS WITH GROUND FROST	MEAN 10CM AT 0900H	MEAN 30CM AT 0900H	TOTAL NO. OF HOURS	% OF AVERAGE
CO CORK	1-10	48.4	8	5		12.7	6.8	9.8		2.0	8	0	54	9	1.7	8	0	9.0	9.1	30.8	
BALLINCURRIG	11-20	5.2	2	1		14.4	3.8	9.1		1.5	19	0	50	11	0.2	11	0	8.5	10.0	72.7	
(PEAFIELD)	21-END	62.0	8	7		13.9	6.3	10.1		4.6	29	0	57	12	3.9	29	0	9.9	10.5	46.5	
	MONTH	115.6	136	18	13	13.7	5.7	9.7	1.6	1.5	11	0	161	32	0.2	11	0	9.1	9.9	150.0	93
CO DONEGAL	1-10	20.9	8	6		13.9	7.0	10.5		2.2	8	0	61	14	-1.6	8	1	-	-	-	-
GLENTIES HATCHERY	11-20	3.9	4	1		14.3	5.2	9.8		-0.7	18	1	55	13	-3.4	18	4	-	-	-	-
	21-END	4.3	4	2		17.8	6.4	12.1		2.0	28	0	78	31	-1.7	28	3	-	-	-	-
	MONTH	29.1	30	16	9	15.3	6.2	10.8	2.6	-0.7	18	1	194	57	-3.4	18	8	-	-	-	-
CO KERRY	1-10	18.4	9	4		14.4	7.3	10.9		5.7	8	0	65	16	4.1	7	0	-	-	43.9	
ARDFERT	11-20	0.9	2	0		15.2	5.6	10.4		2.0	20	0	61	17	0.1	20	0	-	-	58.1	
(LISCAHANE)	21-END	23.9	6	4		16.1	6.7	11.4		4.9	28	0	70	23	2.5	24	0	-	-	47.5	
	MONTH	43.2	62	17	8	15.2	6.5	10.9	1.8	2.0	20	0	196	56	0.1	20	0	-	-	149.5	94
CO MONAGHAN	1-10	36.7	7	6		13.4	6.9	10.2		3.0	7	0	58	13	-0.5	7	2	-	-	-	-
CARRICKMACROSS	11-20	1.0	2	0		14.1	3.3	8.7		0.5	18	0	48	11	-3.1	18	7	-	-	-	-
	21-END	23.4	7	5		15.1	6.8	11.0		3.7	24	0	66	18	-0.1	24	1	-	-	-	-
	MONTH	61.1	95	16	11	14.2	5.6	9.9	1.7	0.5	18	0	172	42	-3.1	18	10	-	-	-	-
CO WATERFORD	1-10	55.4	7	6		13.4	7.2	10.3		3.5	9	0	59	12	-0.4	8	1	-	10.0	24.4	
DUNGARVAN	11-20	4.2	2	2		14.4	4.0	9.2		-0.3	19	1	52	13	-2.6	19	6	-	10.0	72.1	
(CARRIGLEA)	21-END	53.8	6	6		14.3	6.8	10.6		4.0	29	0	62	14	-0.4	24	1	-	10.9	55.1	
	MONTH	113.4	140	15	14	14.0	6.0	10.0	1.0	-0.3	19	1	173	39	-2.6	19	8	-	10.3	151.6	95
CO WEXFORD	1-10	43.8	8	7		12.8	7.2	10.0		2.5	8	0	56	8	2.5	8	0	10.0	10.2	31.9	
JFK PARK	11-20	8.6	2	2		13.8	4.9	9.4		3.0	19	0	50	10	-1.0	19	2	10.2	11.1	65.7	
	21-END	31.4	5	5		14.4	7.0	10.7		5.0	29	0	63	15	4.2	25	0	11.1	12.0	55.1	
	MONTH	83.8	114	15	14	13.7	6.4	10.0	1.4	2.5	8	0	170	34	-1.0	19	2	10.4	11.1	152.7	96
CO WICKLOW	1-10	32.4	6	6		13.8	7.0	10.4		2.6	1	0	60	14	-3.1	1	4	9.8	9.9	27.9	
ASHFORD	11-20	2.7	1	1		13.5	3.1	8.3		0.1	19	0	44	9	-6.1	19	7	9.5	10.4	69.1	
(CRONYKEERY)	1-END	17.7	5	4		14.1	6.4	10.3		1.7	24	0	60	15	-4.6	24	4	11.8	11.8	69.3	
	MONTH	52.8	76	12	11	13.8	5.5	9.6	1.0	0.1	19	0	164	38	-6.1	19	15	10.4	10.7	166.3	110

P.E. (PENMAN)		GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION (MJ/m ²)				MONTHLY EVAPORATION (mm) FROM CLASS A PAN			
STATION /COUNTY	TOTAL (mm)	STATION /COUNTY	1ST-10TH	11TH-20TH	21ST-END	TOTAL	COUNTY/ STATION	MONTHLY RAINFALL (mm)	MONTHLY EVAPORATION (mm)
CO CARLOW		CO CARLOW							
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	58	CARLOW (OAK PARK)*	106.26	155.65	162.71	424.62			
CO CAVAN		CO CAVAN							
BALLYHAISE	56	BALLYHAISE*	105.92	159.36	151.00	416.28			
CO CLARE		CO CORK							
SHANNON AIRPORT	59	ROCHE'S POINT*	105.27	177.60	163.14	446.01	CO KERRY		
CO CORK		CO DONEGAL					VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	87.4	68.5
CORK AIRPORT	47	MALIN HEAD*	106.38	154.39	172.64	433.41	CO KERRY		
CO DONEGAL		CO DUBLIN					NORTH KERRY LANDFILL	69.8	52.7
MALIN HEAD	58	DUBLIN AIRPORT*	108.90	157.33	162.46	428.69	CO MAYO		
CO DUBLIN		CO KERRY					NEWPORT (FURNACE)	51.4	46.8
DUBLIN AIRPORT	55	VALENTIA OBS.*	112.05	149.18	149.31	410.54	CO OFFALY		
CASEMENT AERODROME	56	CO MAYO					DERRYGREENAGH	64.6	57.9
CO KERRY		BELMULLET*	121.49	126.82	169.97	418.28	CO WATERFORD		
VALENTIA OBS.	56	CO TIPPERARY					DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	113.4	59.9
CO MAYO		GURTEEN (AG.COLLEGE)*	112.43	160.48	147.07	419.98	CO WEXFORD		
BELMULLET	56	CO WESTMEATH					JFK PARK	83.8	65.3
KNOCK AIRPORT	52	MULLINGAR*	101.23	151.94	140.36	393.53			
CO TIPPERARY		CO WEXFORD							
GURTEEN (AG.COLLEGE)	59	JOHNSTOWN CASTLE*	109.79	167.33	164.64	441.76			
CO WESTMEATH									
MULLINGAR	54								
CO WEXFORD									
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	52								

GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION VALUES FOR STATIONS MARKED
* ARE PROVISIONAL
* ARE FROM NEW AUTOSOL INSTRUMENTS
RAINFALL VALUES MARKED * ARE ESTIMATED.

Tuesday April 1st: Heavy thunder and rain in the North died out overnight. Rain spread into the South during the afternoon, pushing, slowly, northwards. Warm and sunny in the Midlands and West, cooler and cloudier nearer to southern and eastern coasts. Winds were light to fresh, southerly.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 26.5 mm at Glenivkee (Caragh River Area)
Temperature: Lowest max. 9.9°C at Cork Apt, highest max. 17.8°C at Glenties Hatchery.
Lowest min. 0.3°C at Castleconnell, highest min. 9.1°C at Valentia Obs
Sunshine: 0.2 hours at Wexford Wildfowl Reserve to 11.3 hours at Belmullet

Wednesday April 2nd: Overnight rain and drizzle in many areas continued through the morning, though much of the North remained dry. Rain continued in the East for the rest of the day but cleared away from the Midlands by early evening. Winds were light southeasterly.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 20.1 mm at Tinahealy (Mucklagh)
Temperature: Lowest max. 9.7°C at Carrickmacross (Dunoge), highest max. 15.5°C at Killarney (Muckross Hse). Lowest min. 4.0°C at Delphi Lodge, highest min. 10.0°C at Dooks
Sunshine: Nil at numerous locations to 4.4 hours at Valentia Obs

Thursday April 3rd: Overnight rain in the East with widespread mist or fog. The fog cleared in the morning, leaving a mainly dry day with some short sunny spells. The evening and night continued dry with some fog in places again. Winds were moderate, southeasterly.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 10.9 mm at Kenmare (Dereen)
Temperature: Lowest max. 11.2°C at Roche's Point, highest max. 17.8°C at Ardfert (Liscahane). Lowest min. 6.0°C at Athy (Chanterlands), highest min. 10.5°C at Killarney (Muckross Hse), Dooks
Sunshine: 0.1 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse), Ashford (Cronykeery), JFK Park to 9.1 hours at Ardfert (Liscahane)

Friday April 4th: Mostly dry overnight with patchy drizzle along south and west coasts. Some mist and fog in places also. Dry with some sunshine, before rain and drizzle affected the South and Southwest by late afternoon. Rain in most parts during the evening and night. Winds were light, south to southeast.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 22.2 mm at Glengarriff (Innacullin)
Temperature: Lowest max. 11.7°C at Roche's Point, highest max. 16.3°C at Springfield Castle. Lowest min. 4.2°C at Mullingar, highest min. 9.5°C at Sligo Apt
Sunshine: 1.0 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse) to 4.8 hours at Sherkin Island

Saturday April 5th: Rain and drizzle overnight, but dry in northern parts. Fog in places. Rain in the morning continued into the afternoon in many parts. Heavy rain in the Southwest by later on moved northeastwards during the evening. Winds were moderate to strong, southerly.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 39.2 mm at Gernapeka
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.7°C at Roche's Point, highest max. 17.7°C at Dublin (Glasnevin). Lowest min. 6.4°C at Ballina GC, highest min. 10.5°C at Dublin (Glasnevin)
Sunshine: Nil at numerous locations to 3.5 hours at Belmullet, Casement

Sunday April 6th: Overnight rain in the South and West, heavy in places, spread over the country before a band of heavy showers crossed the country. Showers cleared the east coast around lunchtime and the rest of the day was mainly dry, bright and sunny with clear skies and high temperatures. Winds were strong, with some gusts, southerly.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 38.4 mm at Glenivkee (Caragh River Area)
Temperature: Lowest max. 11.0°C at Belderrig, highest max. 17.0°C at Ashford (Cronykeery). Lowest min. 5.5°C at Ballycroy-Knockmoyleen, highest min. 12.1°C at Phoenix Park, Dublin (Glasnevin), Warrenstown
Sunshine: 3.9 hours at Dublin Apt to 8.8 hours at Ardfert (Liscahane)

Monday April 7th: Overnight rain in the South and East, cleared in the morning. Sunny spells with occasional showers thereafter, some heavy with hail and/or thunder. Showers became less frequent. Winds were moderate to fresh, west to southwest.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 13.9 mm at Pettigo (Belault)
Temperature: Lowest max. 9.6°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 14.6°C at Piltown (Kildalton). Lowest min. 2.4°C at Mullingar, highest min. 9.1°C at Dublin (Glasnevin)
Sunshine: 2.4 hours at Edenderry (Ballinla) to 9.2 hours at Sherkin Island

Tuesday April 8th: Light showers overnight in the western half spread to the rest of the country, for a while, in the early afternoon, but quickly died out. Light rain spread into the West and Northwest by late evening. Winds were moderate, west or southwest.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 6.2 mm at Charleville GC
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.2°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 15.0°C at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse). Lowest min. 0.6°C at Dundalk (Annaskeagh), highest min. 7.7°C at Wexford Wildfowl Reserve
Sunshine: 2.2 hours at Wexford Wildfowl Reserve to 9.8 hours at Dublin (Glasnevin)

Wednesday April 9th: Patchy rain on western and northern coasts died out before midday leaving a generally dry day. There were some sunny breaks, the best in the East, but it remained mostly cloudy. Winds were moderate to fresh, west to southwest.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 6.6 mm at Dooncarton
Temperature: Lowest max. 11.7°C at Slieve Bloom Mtns (Nealstown), Fethard (Parsonshill), highest max. 15.5°C at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse), Cavan (Drumconnick). Lowest min. 2.1°C at Ballymore, highest min. 9.5°C at Dooks, Oughterard (Ardnasillagh)
Sunshine: Nil at numerous locations to 4.8 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse)

Thursday April 10th: Rain in the North and Northwest overnight. The morning was generally dry, apart from some rain in western and northern areas. Rain affected eastern areas through the afternoon, but cleared in the West and North. The evening remained mostly dry with some sunny/clear spells. Winds were light to moderate, variable in direction.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 4.9 mm at Cresslough (Carrownamaddy)
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.2°C at Ballymore, highest max. 15.9°C at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse). Lowest min. 3.9°C at Horseleap, highest min. 9.8°C at Maam Valley
Sunshine: 1.1 hours at Newport (Furnace) to 8.5 hours at Belmullet

Friday April 11th: Some rain and drizzle in the North overnight, but dry elsewhere, with a ground frost in places. The day continued to be mostly dry, with some sunshine at times breaking through the cloud cover. Winds were light, southwesterly.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 7.3 mm at Maam Valley
Temperature: Lowest max. 9.7°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 14.0°C at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse). Lowest min. -0.8°C at Castleconnell, highest min. 7.5°C at Ballycroy-Knockmoyleen
Sunshine: 0.1 hours at Ardfert (Liscahane) to 7.6 hours at Ashford (Cronykeery)

Saturday April 12th: Overnight rain in the Northwest spread slowly southeastwards bringing rain to most parts of the country. The front cleared during the early afternoon, leaving a mixture of cloudy and sunny periods. Winds were moderate to fresh, westerly.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 3.3 mm at Cloghane
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.4°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 16.1°C at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse). Lowest min. 2.7°C at Fethard (Parsonshill), highest min. 8.9°C at Dooks
Sunshine: 1.5 hours at Ardfert (Liscahane) to 6.3 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard)

Sunday April 13th: Mostly cloudy overnight with a mist in places. Occasional showers in the North. A cold front approached in the afternoon bringing cloud and rain to the Northwest during the evening. Winds were moderate to strong, west to northwest.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 5.1 mm at Cresslough (Carrownamaddy)
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.1°C at Malin Head, highest max. 16.5°C at Glengarriff (Innacullin). Lowest min. 3.4°C at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse), Ashford (Cronykeery), highest min. 8.5°C at Mace Head, Newport (Furnace), Sherkin Island, Dooks
Sunshine: 1.6 hours at Valentia Obs to 6.3 hours at Sherkin Island, Cork Apt

Monday April 14th: There was a touch of ground frost around dawn with clear skies overnight. Plenty of sunny spells with some broken cloud cover during the day, particularly in the southern half. Mainly dry with the odd light shower. Winds were light to moderate, northerly.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 0.9 mm at Sallins (Kerdiffstown)
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.8°C at Belderrig, highest max. 16.2°C at Killarney (Muckross Hse). Lowest min. 1.4°C at Horseleap, Thomastown (Mt Juliet), highest min. 9.0°C at Valentia Obs
Sunshine: 5.0 hours at Belmullet to 12.4 hours at Wexford Wildfowl Reserve

Tuesday April 15th: Some frost overnight in clear skies led to a sunny day overall with little cloud cover and minimal rainfall. Winds were moderate to fresh, southerly with occasional strong gusts.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 1.3 mm at Dooncarton
Temperature: Lowest max. 12.3°C at Roche's Point, Wexford Wildfowl Reserve, highest max. 17.9°C at Glenties Hatchery. Lowest min. -1.4°C at Castleconnell, highest min. 8.0°C at Ballycroy-Knockmoyleen
Sunshine: 9.6 hours at Newport (Furnace) to 12.8 hours at Casement

Wednesday April 16th: Some minor frost overnight before becoming a mainly dry day with sunny spells, except in parts of the West and Northwest, where it was cloudy with some scattered outbreaks of rain and drizzle, with some mist in the evening. Winds were moderate, southerly.
Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 3.0 mm at Falcarragh (Lough Altan)
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.6°C at Ballycroy-Knockmoyleen, highest max. 18.6°C at Shannon Apt. Lowest min. 1.1°C at Dublin Apt, Carrickmacross (Dunoge), highest min. 9.6°C at Valentia Obs
Sunshine: Nil at Newport (Furnace) to 10.3 hours at Dublin Apt

Thursday April 17th: Patchy light rain in the North and Northwest during the morning; cleared leaving a mainly dry day. Mainly cloudy in the East, with some good spells of sunshine elsewhere. Winds were moderate, west to northwest.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 4.5 mm at Cresslough (Carrownamaddy)
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.2°C at Ballyshannon (Cathleen's Fall), highest max. 17.4°C at Glengarriff (Ilnacullin). Lowest min. 5.3°C at Thomastown (Mt Juliet), highest min. 10.4°C at Dublin (Glasnevin)
Sunshine: Nil at Edenderry (Ballinla) to 5.6 hours at Sherkin Island

Friday April 18th: Dry and clear overnight with fog and ground frost in the Midlands and East. Dry and sunny in most places during the day, but some rain and drizzle in parts of the West and Southwest. The evening and night were sunny/clear with a ground frost developing in parts. Winds were light, variable in direction.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 5.0 mm at Limerick Junction (Solohead)
Temperature: Lowest max. 9.9°C at Carron, highest max. 17.5°C at Cavan (Drumconnick)
Lowest min. -1.1°C at Dublin Apt, highest min. 9.3°C at Sherkin Island
Sunshine: 1.7 hours at Sherkin Island to 13.4 hours at Dublin Apt

Saturday April 19th: Generally dry overnight, but with some rain and drizzle in western parts. Some mist and fog also overnight in places. A dry day, with some long sunny periods. The evening and night were dry with sunny/clear spells, a ground frost developed after dark. Winds were light to moderate, east to southeast.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 2.5 mm at Glenivkee (Caragh River Area)
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.3°C at Belderrig, highest max. 18.7°C at Ballymore
Lowest min. -0.4°C at Thomastown (Mt Juliet), highest min. 9.2°C at Newport (Furnace)
Sunshine: 0.8 hours at Belmullet to 12.3 hours at Dublin Apt

Sunday April 20th: Mist, drizzle and fog in many places overnight under clear skies, with a slight to sharp ground frost in central and eastern parts. It was a mostly warm, sunny day, though eastern parts were cooler and cloudier. A band of showery rain spread from the Southeast in the afternoon and brought rain to all but the North and Northwest where it remained dry. Winds were light to fresh, northeasterly.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 29.3 mm at Celbridge (Ardrass Hse)
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.7°C at Malin Head, highest max. 19.1°C at Glenties Hatchery.
Lowest min. -1.9°C at Castleconnell, highest min. 7.5°C at Ballycroy-Knockmoyleen
Sunshine: 2.9 hours at Wexford Wildfowl Reserve to 13.5 hours at Ballyshannon (Cathleen's Fall)

Monday April 21st: Showery outbreaks of rain overnight cleared everywhere but the south coast by dawn. Slight mist overnight cleared by dawn. Much of the country experienced a good sunny day with some long hours of sunshine, though it remained cloudier further south. Further rain along the east coast after dark. Winds were fresh, easterly.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 15.2 mm at Kenmare (Dereen)
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.9°C at Cork Apt, highest max. 19.4°C at Glenties Hatchery
Lowest min. 5.8°C at Dundalk (Annaskeagh), Ardfer (Lisachane), highest min. 10.0°C at Ballycroy-Knockmoyleen
Sunshine: Nil at Sherkin Island to 11.1 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard)

Tuesday April 22nd: Overnight fog and mist patches cleared by morning. It was dry in many parts but there were isolated and scattered showers during the day, becoming widespread by afternoon. Best of the sunshine was in the West and Northwest. By nightfall heavy rain approached from the Southwest. Winds were light to moderate, east to southeast.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 21.9 mm at Carndolla
Temperature: Lowest max. 11.9°C at Slieve Bloom Mtns (Nealstown), Mount Russell, highest max. 18.9°C at Glenties Hatchery. Lowest min. 3.2°C at Castleconnell, highest min. 10.6°C at Newport (Furnace)
Sunshine: Nil at numerous locations to 5.3 hours at Ballyshannon (Cathleen's Fall)

Wednesday April 23rd: A band of rain crossed the country from the Southwest overnight clearing most areas by mid-morning. Isolated showers followed, some heavy with thunder, spreading everywhere by evening. There were long sunny breaks between showers, especially in the South and West. By nightfall there were dry conditions in many areas. Winds were light, south to southeast.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 22.8 mm at Ballyvaughan (Ballyconry)
Temperature: Lowest max. 12.6°C at Roche's Point, highest max. 18.5°C at Cavan (Drumconnick). Lowest min. 6.0°C at Glengarriff (Ilnacullin), highest min. 10.5°C at Dublin (Glasnevin)
Sunshine: 3.8 hours at Ardfer (Lisachane) to 10.7 hours at Ballincurrig (Peafield)

Thursday April 24th: Well scattered showers, with isolated heavy showers in the West. It was otherwise a dry sunny day, with prolonged spells of sunshine in the South and East. Winds were moderate, southerly.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 19.4 mm at Adare Manor
Temperature: Lowest max. 12.8°C at Genealy (Kilmacurragh Park), highest max. 17.7°C at Oughterard (Ardnasillagh). Lowest min. 1.1°C at Mt Dillon, highest min. 12.1°C at Arklow (Ballyrichard)
Sunshine: 7.0 hours at Valentia Obs to 12.0 hours at Ashford (Cronykeery)

Friday April 25th: Showers overnight in Munster and northeast Ulster. A slow-moving broad band of heavy rain spread into the Southwest in the afternoon, reaching Connacht and south Leinster by the end of the day. Winds were moderate to strong, southeasterly.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 50.6 mm at Glencar (Dreenagh)
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.8°C at Cork Apt, highest max. 18.5°C at Lullymore
Lowest min. 1.4°C at Mt Dillon, highest min. 9.1°C at Roche's Point
Sunshine: 0.3 hours at Ballincurrig (Peafield) to 11.7 hours at Dublin Apt

Saturday April 26th: Heavy rain in places overnight. Rain in the South and Southwest during morning died out in the afternoon. Countywide it was mainly sunny thereafter with a few scattered showers. Mainly dry in the evening and night with the odd shower. Winds were light to strong, variable in direction.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 29.8 mm at Banteer Lyre
Temperature: Lowest max. 10.5°C at Genealy (Kilmacurragh Park), highest max. 17.1°C at Glenties Hatchery. Lowest min. 3.3°C at Dundalk (Annaskeagh), highest min. 10.8°C at Slieve Bloom Mtns (Nealstown)
Sunshine: 0.1 hours at Ardfer (Lisachane) to 9.3 hours at Belmullet

Sunday April 27th: Dry overnight with clear spells, the rest of the day was mostly dry with few thundery downpours in the Midlands and South. Winds were light to fresh, east to northeast.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 9.9 mm at Bartlemy
Temperature: Lowest max. 12.0°C at Belderrig, highest max. 19.1°C at Newport
Lowest min. 2.8°C at Glenties Hatchery, highest min. 9.8°C at Slieve Bloom Mtns (Nealstown)
Sunshine: 2.8 hours at Sherkin Island to 13.2 hours at Belmullet

Monday April 28th: Generally dry, with good sunny spells during the day, though heavier cloud cover in the North and Northeast. Some light showers developed through the afternoon and evening. Winds were light, northeasterly.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 4.4 mm at Macroom (Cahirbaroule)
Temperature: Lowest max. 12.2°C at Belderrig, highest max. 20.4°C at Newport 20.4°C at Newport (Furnace). Lowest min. 2.0°C at Glenties Hatchery, highest min. 10.7°C at Dublin (Glasnevin)
Sunshine: Nil at Edenderry (Ballinla) to 11.6 hours at Sherkin Island

Tuesday April 29th: Dry for much of the day, though cloudier in the North of the country, with long unbroken spells of sunshine in the East and West. A few light showers in the West and South in the evening. Winds were light, southeasterly.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 13.2 mm at Bandon (The Gully)
Temperature: Lowest max. 12.9°C at Roche's Point, highest max. 21.0°C at Cavan (Drumconnick). Lowest min. 2.8°C at Thomastown (Mt Juliet), highest min. 10.7°C at Newport (Furnace)
Sunshine: 4.5 hours at Ballyshannon (Cathleen's Fall) to 13.6 hours at Shannon Apt

Wednesday April 30th: Some scattered rain and drizzle in the early hours, it became a mixed day of sunshine and showery rain spreading from the West. Some heavy and thundery showers, as the fronts passed through, particularly in the West and the Midlands towards evening. Winds were moderate, southwesterly.

Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 37.5 mm at Portumna OPW
Temperature: Lowest max. 12.2°C at Johnstown, highest max. 18.9°C at Sligo Apt. Lowest min. 2.3°C at Dublin Apt, highest min. 11.0°C at Dooks
Sunshine: Nil at numerous locations to 5.2 hours at Shannon Apt

VARIABLE MONTHLY RAINFALL TOTALS

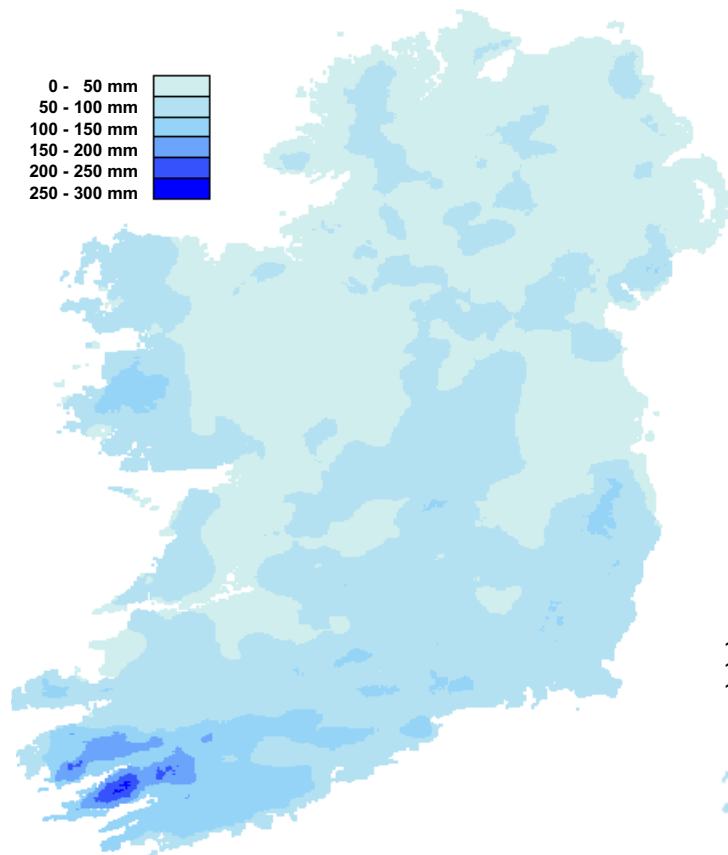
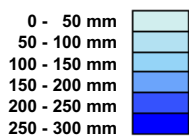
Rainfall totals were variable across the country with mainly above Long-Term Average (LTA) values in the southern half of the country. Percentage of LTA values were lowest in the Northwest from just 25% at Carrigans (Kildrum), Co Donegal. Carrigans reported its monthly total of 16.2 mm as April's lowest monthly accumulation and the stations driest April since it opened in 1997. Stations in parts of Donegal, Galway, Leitrim, Mayo and Sligo had their driest April on record (station observations starting up to 30 years ago). Other longer-term stations in the area like Glentornan (Lake Nabrukbaddy), Co Donegal, recorded a monthly total of 52.9 mm and had its 2nd driest April on available record since 1948. Percentage of LTA values were highest in parts of the South and Southwest, with up to 167% of LTA reported at Kenmare (Derreen), Co Kerry. Kenmare reported the month's highest rainfall total in a low-lying region (area below 200 m) with 213.9 mm. This was its wettest April in 9 years and the 7th wettest April at the station since it opened 74 years ago. The month's overall highest accumulation was at a gauge in the Cumberagh Mountains, Co Kerry with 224.8 mm, its wettest April since 2003. The majority of stations around the country reported wetter conditions in 2013. The month's wettest days were mainly the 2nd, 5th, 25th and 30th, with the overall wettest day reported at Glencar (Dreenagh) Co Kerry on the 25th with 50.6 mm.

The number of wet days (*days with 1 mm or more rainfall*) ranged from five at stations in Westmeath and Donegal to 18 at stations in Cork, Kerry and Mayo.

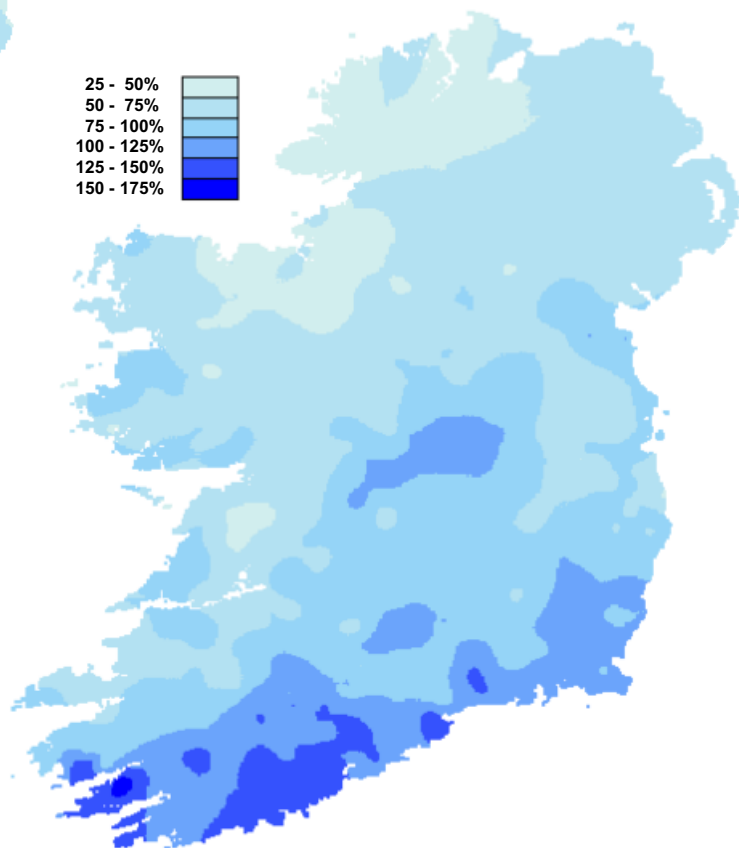
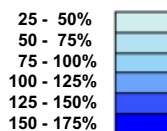
COUNTY/ STATION	TOTAL AMOUNT (mm)	% OF 1981-2010 AVERAGE	MOST IN A DAY / DATE		NUMBER OF RAINDAYS (>0.2mm)	NUMBER OF WETDAYS (>1mm)
CO CARLOW						
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	54.1	97	10.8	25	11	11
CO CAVAN						
BALLYHAISE	50.6	74	12.4	2	15	11
CO CLARE						
CARRON	39.8	45	6.9	23	18	13
SHANNON AIRPORT	40.6	69	10.1	25	15	9
CO CORK						
BALLINCURRIG (PEAFIELD)	115.6	136	35.4	25	18	13
CORK AIRPORT	108.7	142	26.9	25	18	16
FERMOY (MOORE PARK)	69.7	106	24.3	25	19	14
ROCHE'S POINT	73.9	125	17.8	25	15	12
SHERKIN ISLAND	76.2	103	27.1	25	18	12
CO DONEGAL						
BALLYSHANNON (CATHLEEN'S FALL)	44.0	62	10.8	7	21	13
GLENTIES HATCHERY	29.1	30	6.7	5	16	9
MALIN HEAD	31.8	49	6.9	2	15	10
CO DUBLIN						
CASEMENT AERODROME	40.7	78	6.2	25	15	12
DUBLIN (MERRION SQUARE)	45.3	92	9.9	30	13	10
DUBLIN AIRPORT	37.2	69	6.9	25	17	13
DUBLIN (PHOENIX PARK)	38.1	72	6.6	25	14	9
CO GALWAY						
MAAM VALLEY	98.7	63	22.5	5	23	16
CO KERRY						
ARDFERT (LISCAHANE)	43.2	62	13.0	25	17	8
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	87.4	90	21.0	25	21	13
CO KILKENNY						
THOMASTOWN (MT. JULIET)	52.2	81	16.8	25	12	11
CO LIMERICK						
MOUNT RUSSELL	87.4	103	29.3	25	18	15
CO MAYO						
BELMULLET	54.8	76	13.0	5	18	10
DELPHI LODGE	135.2		34.9	5	22	17
KNOCK AIRPORT	44.4	54	6.1	23	16	13
STRAIDE	36.2	48	5.6	2	18	11
CO MEATH						
WARRENTOWN	33.2	56	9.3	2	13	8
CO MONAGHAN						
CARRICKMACROSS (DUNOGE)	61.1	95	17.5	2	16	11
CO OFFALY						
DERRYGREENAGH	64.6	104	16.0	30	16	11
CO ROSCOMMON						
MOUNTDILLON	40.7	61	11.1	30	17	7
CO SLIGO						
ARDTARMON	28.0	43	5.2	5	16	9
CO TIPPERARY						
FETHARD (PARSONSHILL)	62.5	98	16.2	25	16	11
GURTEEN (AG.COLLEGE)	37.6	63	11.6	30	13	9
CO WATERFORD						
DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	113.4	140	30.1	25	15	14
WATERFORD (TYCOR)	77.5	110	14.9	25	16	12
CO WESTMEATH						
MULLINGAR	62.3	95	23.2	30	15	10
CO WEXFORD						
CLONROCHE (KNOXTOWN)	95.2		15.0	25	14	12
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	68.3	97	14.8	5	16	10
CO WICKLOW						
ASHFORD (CRONYKEERY)	52.8	76	11.5	2	12	11

* ESTIMATED DATA USED IN CALCULATION. TABLE REPRESENTS DATA FROM A SMALL SELECTION OF RAINFALL STATIONS. ALL DATA IS 09-09 HR

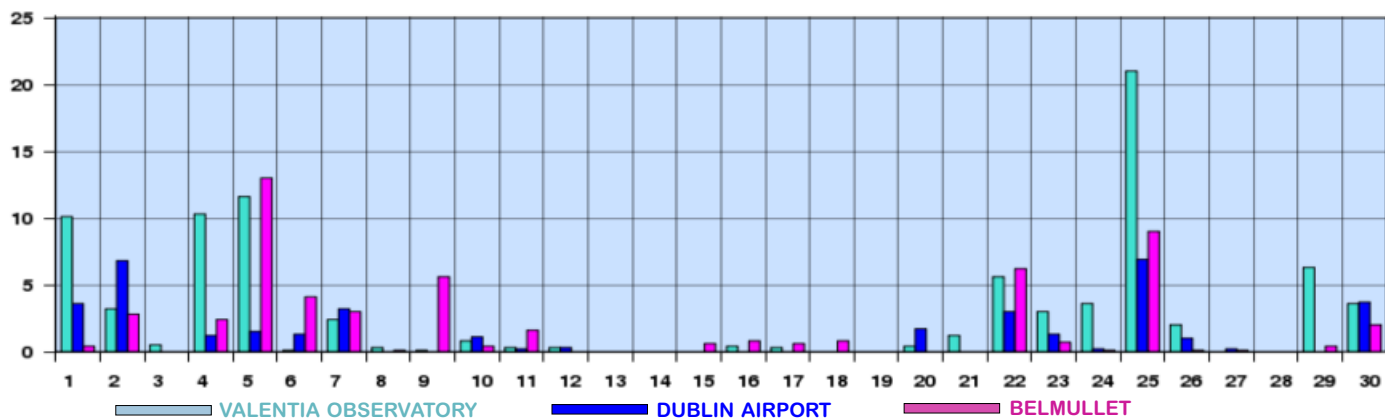
TOTAL RAINFALL (mm)



PERCENTAGE OF NORMAL RAINFALL (1981-2010 NORMALS)

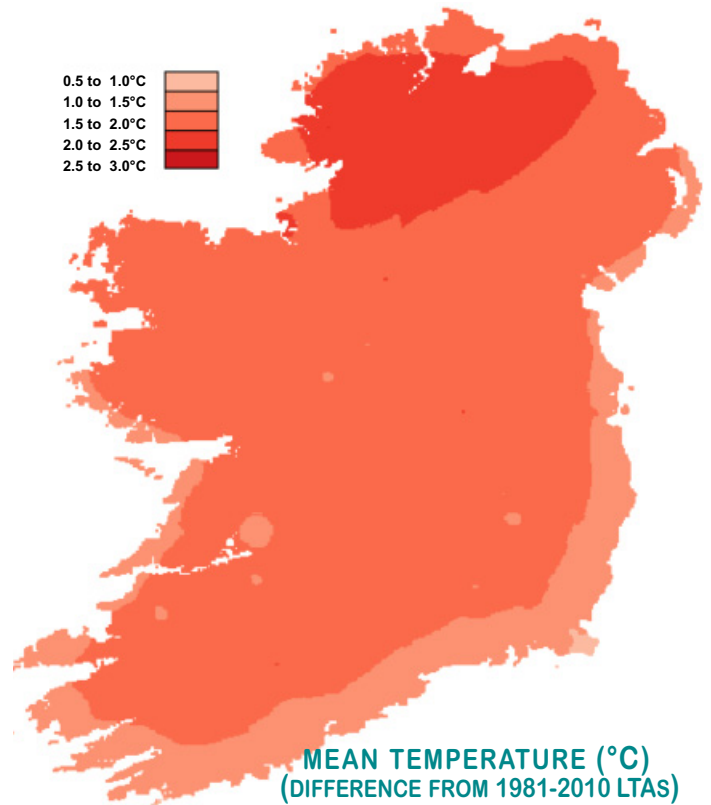
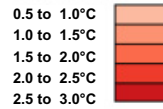


DAILY 0901-0900hr RAINFALL VALUES (mm)



MEAN AIR TEMPERATURES ABOVE AVERAGE

All monthly mean air temperatures were above their Long-Term Average (LTA) with largest differences from average in the North and Northwest. Deviations from LTA ranged from 0.8°C at Sherkin Island Co Cork (a monthly mean temperature of 10.3°C) to 2.6°C at Glenties Hatchery, Co Donegal (a monthly mean temperature of 10.8°C). Monthly mean air temperatures ranged from 9.3°C at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (1.8°C above its LTA) to 11.4°C at both Ardtarmon, Co Sligo (2.4°C above its LTA) and Dooks, Co Kerry. All stations had higher mean air temperatures in 2011. Mean highest air maximum temperatures were all above their LTAs with differences of up to 3°C above normal in the Northwest at Glenties Hatchery. The majority of highest air maxima were between the 27th and 29th, with highest maxima ranging from 14.9°C at Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford to 21.0°C at Cavan (Drumconnick). Mean lowest air minimum temperatures were also all above their LTAs with differences up to 2.8°C above normal at Mallow (Spa Hse), Co Cork. Lowest air and grass minima were mainly between the 18th and 20th, with lowest air minima ranging from -1.9°C at Castleconnell, Co Limerick to 4.8°C at Ardtarmon, Co Sligo. The April lowest air minimum recorded at Waterford (Tycor) of 4.5°C was the highest during April at the station since

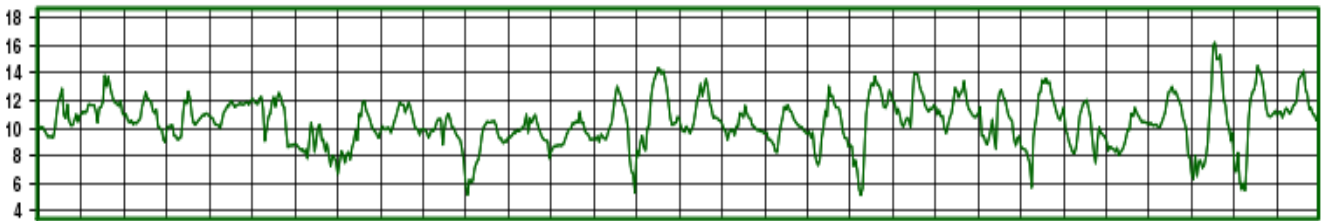


**MEAN TEMPERATURE (°C)
(DIFFERENCE FROM 1981-2010 LTAS)**

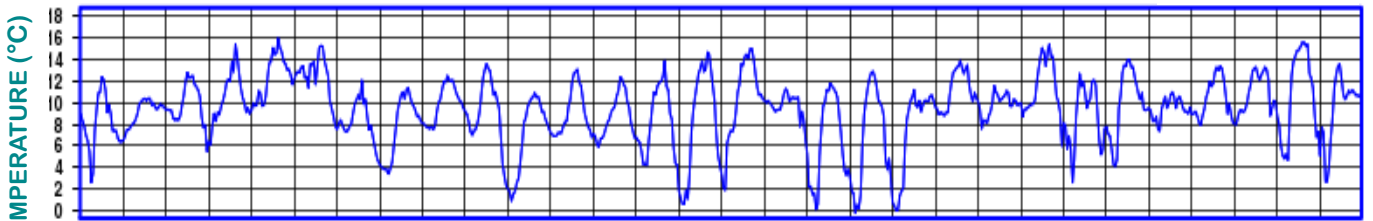
it opened in 1961. The lowest grass minimum was -6.8°C recorded at Piltown (Kildalton Agricultural College), Co Kilkenny. The number of days with air frost were zero at numerous locations to four at Dublin Airport. Ground frost was recorded at all stations with up to 15 days reported at Ashford (Cronykeery), Co Wicklow.

HOURLY TEMPERATURES APRIL 2014

VALENTIA OBSERVATORY



DUBLIN AIRPORT



BELMULLET



DAY OF MONTH

COUNTY/ STATION	MEAN MAX.	MEAN MIN.	DIFFERENCE FROM 1981-2010		HIGHEST MAX./DATE	LOWEST MIN./DATE	LOWEST GRASS MIN./DATE		DAYS WITH FROST	
			MEAN	AVERAGE			AIR	GROUND		
CO CARLOW										
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	14.4	6.0	10.2	1.3	18.2 29	1.2 20	-3.1 11	0	8	
CO CAVAN										
BALLYHAISE	14.0	5.9	10.0	1.7	18.7 29	-0.6 20	-1.7 15	1	5	
CO CLARE										
CARRON	13.6	6.3	9.9	1.7	16.9 29	3.1 15	-2.0 11	0	6	
SHANNON AIRPORT	14.7	7.3	11.0	1.5	19.1 29	1.9 20	-3.4 20	0	4	
CO CORK										
BALLINCURRIG (PEAFIELD)	13.7	5.7	9.7	1.6	16.6 28	1.5 11 19	0.2 11	0	0	
CORK AIRPORT	12.5	6.5	9.5	1.1	15.6 28	2.5 8	-4.0 19	0	6	
FERMOY (MOORE PARK)	13.7	6.2	9.9	1.5	16.5 28	-0.3 20	-3.4 20	1	4	
ROCHE'S POINT	12.4	7.7	10.1	1.0	15.6 20	3.9 19	0.4 19	0	0	
SHERKIN ISLAND	12.7	8.0	10.3	0.8	15.2 27	3.5 11	-0.9 11	0	1	
CO DONEGAL										
BALLYSHANNON (CATHLEEN'S FALL)	14.2	7.1	10.7	2.3	18.1 29	1.7 18		0		
GLENTIES HATCHERY	15.3	6.2	10.8	2.6	20.7 29	-0.7 18	-3.4 18	1	8	
MALIN HEAD	12.8	7.2	10.0	1.7	17.0 30	2.4 18	-2.0 15	0	6	
CO DUBLIN										
CASEMENT AERODROME	13.8	5.7	9.8	1.6	16.7 29	0.2 20	-4.6 20	0	10	
DUBLIN (MERRION SQUARE)	13.7	7.4	10.5	1.1	17.2 5	2.9 19		0	0	
DUBLIN AIRPORT	13.6	4.9	9.3	1.0	16.4 5	-1.1 18	-5.3 15	4	11	
DUBLIN (PHOENIX PARK)	14.5	6.1	10.3	1.8	17.6 5 23	1.0 20	-3.3 20	0	13	
CO GALWAY										
MAAM VALLEY	14.4	7.2	10.8	1.9	18.4 27	3.6 20	1.4 20	0	0	
CO KERRY										
ARDFERT (LISCAHANE)	15.2	6.5	10.9	1.8	20.2 28	2.0 20	0.1 20	0	0	
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	13.0	8.0	10.5	1.1	16.3 28	4.2 20	0.9 15	0	0	
CO KILKENNY										
THOMASTOWN (MT. JULIET)	14.6	5.3	10.0	1.5	18.4 29	-0.9 20	-3.8 20	3	8	
CO LIMERICK										
MOUNTRUSSELL	13.4	6.5	10.0	1.8	16.4 16 28	2.7 20	-1.2 20	0	4	
CO MAYO										
BELMULLET	13.8	7.5	10.7	1.7	18.4 21	3.1 1	0.4 1	0	0	
DELPHI LODGE	14.2	7.3	10.8	1.7	18.2 28	3.1 20	-2.5 20	0	4	
KNOCK AIRPORT	13.2	5.4	9.3	1.8	18.6 29	1.6 20	-1.2 18	0	4	
STRAIDE	14.8	5.6	10.2	1.6	19.2 28 29	1.2 16	-5.5 16	0	13	
CO MEATH										
WARRENTOWN	14.7	5.7	10.2	1.8	17.9 29	0.3 11	-3.4 18	0	6	
CO MONAGHAN										
CARRICKMACROSS (DUNOGE)	14.2	5.6	9.9	1.7	17.4 29	0.5 18	-3.1 18	0	10	
CO OFFALY										
DERRYGREENAGH	14.9	5.5	10.2	2.1	19.5 29	0.1 15	-3.4 20	0	9	
CO ROSCOMMON										
MOUNTDILLON	14.8	4.9	9.9	1.4	18.8 29	-1.4 20	-6.6 20	2	11	
CO SLIGO										
ARDTARMON	14.9	8.0	11.4	2.4	20.1 29	4.8 8	1.0 20	0	0	
CO TIPPERARY										
FETHARD (PARSONSHILL)	13.7	5.8	9.8	1.8	17.5 29	2.1 11	1.4 11	0	0	
GURTEEN (AG.COLLEGE)	14.3	5.1	9.7	1.5	17.9 29	-0.5 20	-5.1 20	1	11	
CO WATERFORD										
DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	14.0	6.0	10.0	1.0	16.3 28	-0.3 19	-2.6 19	1	8	
WATERFORD (TYCOR)	14.2	7.1	10.6	1.5	16.9 29	4.1 19		0		
CO WESTMEATH										
MULLINGAR	14.3	5.1	9.7	1.5	18.7 29	-0.3 11	-5.2 20	1	13	
CO WEXFORD										
CLONRACHE (KNOXTOWN)	-----	-----	-----	-----	not available	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	12.6	6.5	9.5	1.0	14.9 28	3.2 8	-1.5 14	0	6	
CO WICKLOW										
ASHFORD (CRONYKEERY)	13.8	5.5	9.6	1.0	17.0 6	0.1 19	-6.1 19	0	15	

* ESTIMATED DATA USED IN CALCULATION. TABLE REPRESENTS DATA FROM A SMALL SELECTION OF STATIONS. ALL DATA IS 09-09 HR

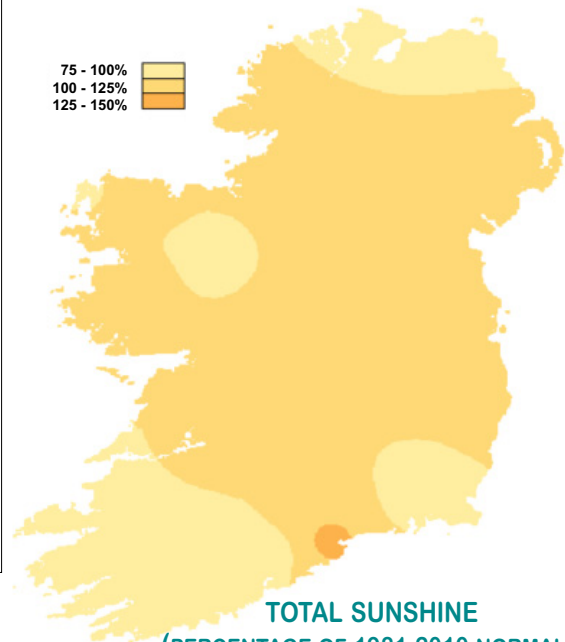
COUNTY/ STATION	DAILY MEAN (HOURS/DAY)	% OF 1981-2010 LTA	DULL DAYS (<0.5 HRS)	MOST IN A DAY/DATE	
CO CLARE					
SHANNON AIRPORT	5.34	104	2	13.6	29
CO CORK					
BALLINCURRIG (PEAFIELD)	5.00	93	6	12.2	15
CORK AIRPORT	4.82	90	6	11.7	14
SHERKIN ISLAND	4.98	84	3	12.0	15
CO DONEGAL					
BALLYSHANNON (CATHLEEN'S FALL)	5.71	114	4	13.5	20
CO DUBLIN					
CASEMENT AERODROME	5.76	114	2	12.8	15
DUBLIN (GLASNEVIN)	5.64	108	3	11.7	29
DUBLIN AIRPORT	6.20	118	2	13.4	18
CO KERRY					
ARDFERT (LISCAHANE)	4.98	94	3	11.7	20
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	4.76	92	3	12.1	20
CO MAYO					
BELMULLET	5.89	113	2	13.2	27
KNOCK AIRPORT	4.40	92	2	12.2	20
NEWPORT (FURNACE)	4.50	95	4	12.2	20
STRAIDE	4.70	97	3	12.4	20
CO OFFALY					
EDENDERRY (BALLINLA)	-----not available-----				
CO WATERFORD					
DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	5.05	95	7	12.3	14
CO WEXFORD					
CLONROCHE (KNOXTOWN)	4.90*	89*	4*	11.1	15*
JFK PARK	5.09	96	5	11.3	15
WEXFORD WILDFOWL RESERVE	4.85	95	5	12.5	18
CO WICKLOW					
ARKLOW (BALLYRICHARD HSE.)	5.45		5	13.1	18
ASHFORD (CRONYKEERY)	5.54	110	5	12.4	29

* PARTIAL DATA USED IN CALCULATION

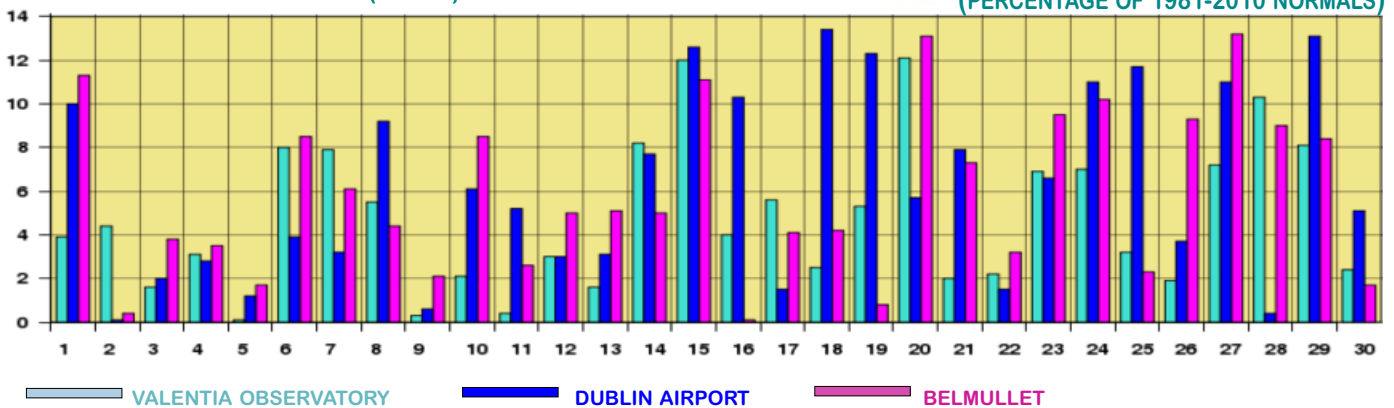
**VARIABLE MONTHLY SUNSHINE TOTALS;
HIGHEST DAILY SUNSHINE AT SHANNON
AIRPORT**

The majority of sunshine totals were above average with below average monthly totals in parts of West, Southwest, Southeast and North. Percentage of LTA values ranged from 84% at Sherkin Island, Co Cork (total monthly sunshine 149.5 hours), its dullest April since 1996 to 118% at Dublin Airport (total monthly sunshine 185.9 hours). Daily mean sunshine ranged from 4.4 hours at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (92 % of its LTA and its dullest April since 2001) to 6.2 hours at Dublin Airport (118% of its LTA). The sunniest day was the 29th at Shannon Airport, Co Clare with 13.6 hours of sunshine, equalling its highest on record since 1946.

Percentage of LTA Global Solar Radiation values were on or above average, with the highest at Malin Head, Co Donegal with 110%.

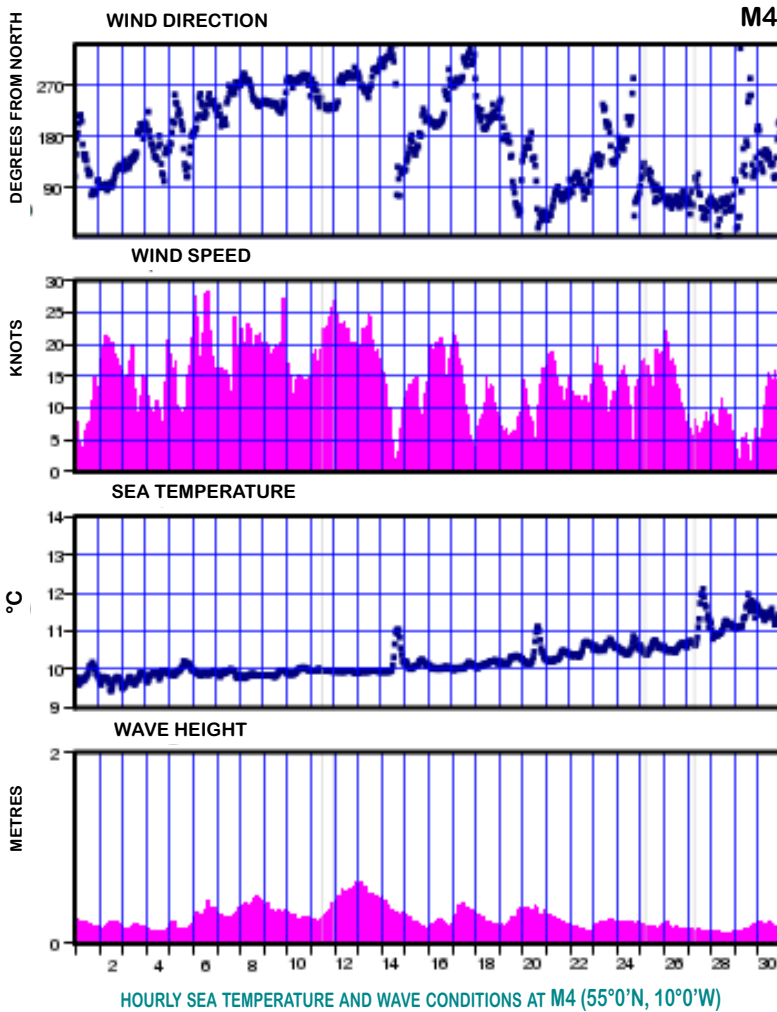


DAILY SUNSHINE VALUES (HOURS)



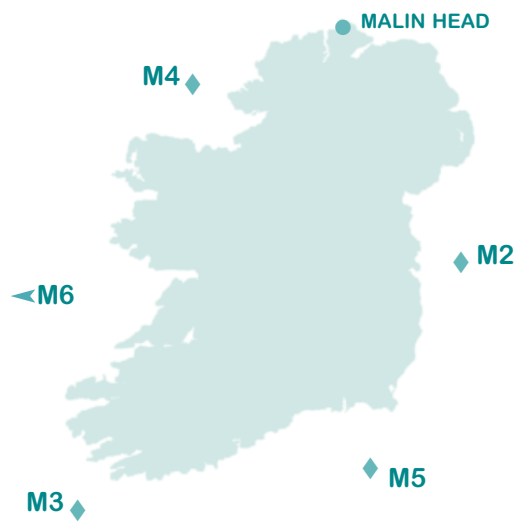
**TOTAL SUNSHINE
(PERCENTAGE OF 1981-2010 NORMALS)**

MARINE OBSERVATIONS FROM IRISH MARINE DATA BUOY NETWORK

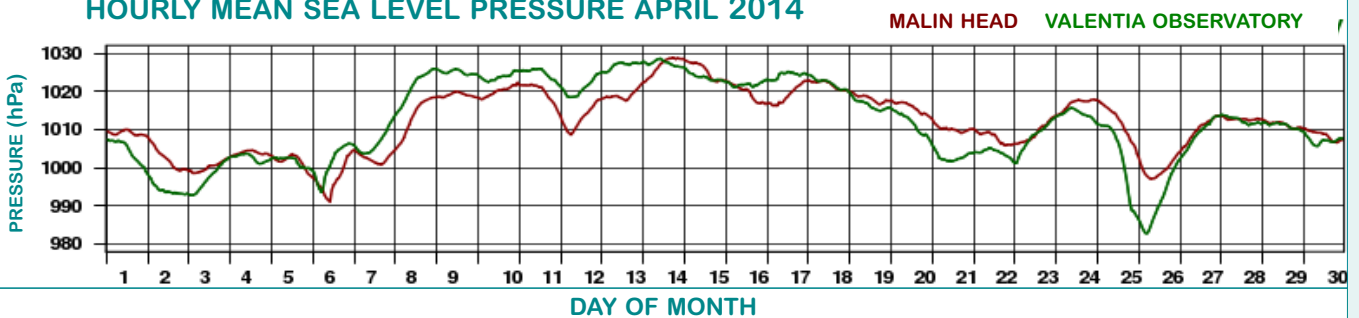


BUOY	SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°C)	MEAN WIND SPEED (knots)	MAX 10-MIN WIND (knots)	MEAN SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT (m)	MAX SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT (m)
M2		not available			
M3	10.8	13.0	32.2	2.5	5.6
M4	10.3	13.2	28.2	2.5	6.4
M5	10.1	12.4	25.6	n/a	n/a
M6		not available			
MALIN HEAD	9.4	* PARTIAL DATA			

SUMMARY OF MEAN MONTHLY VALUES

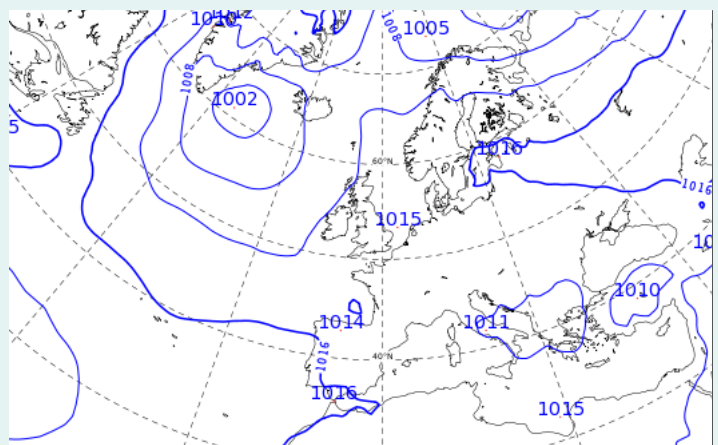


HOURLY MEAN SEA LEVEL PRESSURE APRIL 2014



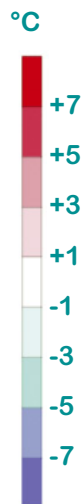
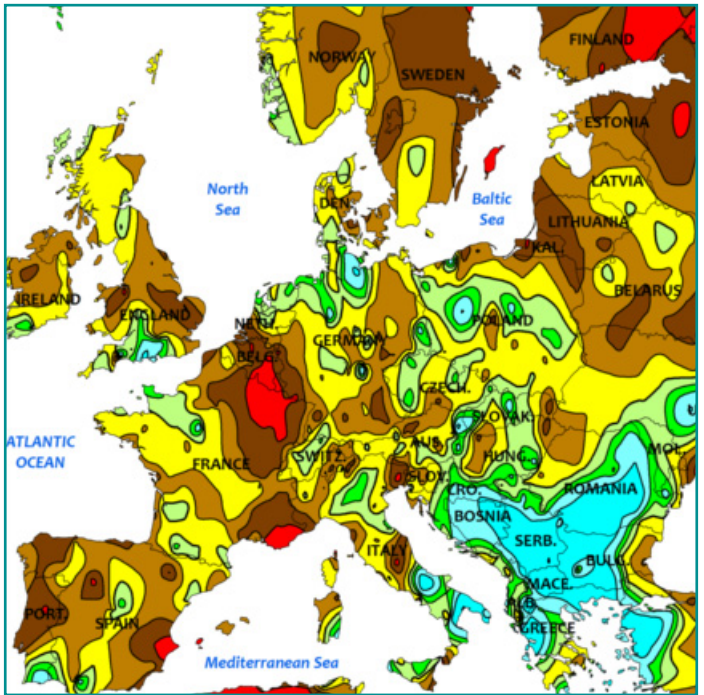
ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE

Monthly mean sea level pressure values ranged from around 1012 hPa in the West and Southwest to just over 1013 hPa in the Southeast. The month's lowest pressure value of 979.4 hPa was recorded at Sherkin Island on the 26th at 0500 UTC as a depression of 978 hPa was located over Cork and Kerry before moving along the southern coast. The month's highest pressure value of 1029.1 hPa was recorded at Shannon Airport on the 14th at 1100 UTC as a high pressure system of 1029 hPa was situated over the whole country.



MONTHLY MEAN MSL PRESSURE, BASED ON 1200 UTC VALUES

APRIL RAINFALL
(PERCENTAGE OF 1961-1990 NORMAL)



APRIL MEAN TEMPERATURE
(DIFFERENCE FROM 1961-1990 NORMAL)

MAPS SUPPLIED BY NOAA
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTRE,
US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.
GLOBAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS
SUPPLIED BY AON BENFIELD

GLOBAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

A world map with several callout boxes providing details on major weather events from April 2014:

- United States:** Several severe weather outbreaks affected the United States between the 2nd and 4th, 12th and 14th and 27th and May 1st. Tornadoes of up to EF-3 were reported as well as softball sized hail and flash flooding due to heavy rainfall. Over 50 people were killed during these events with cost of damage into billions of dollars.
- Romania, Serbia and Bulgaria:** Between the 19th and 22nd in Romania, Serbia and Bulgaria, heavy rains combined with melting snowpack led to the flooding in parts. Several rivers overflowed their banks and roads were cut off by landslides. At least four people were killed with hundreds of homes were destroyed and with nearly 50,000 acres submerged by flood waters.
- China:** Severe thunderstorms between the 7th and the 9th affected China's Xinjiang, Guangxi, Yunnan, and Guizhou provinces. Large hail, strong gusts and flooding caused damage to residential property and agriculture. Luckily no serious injuries or fatalities were reported.
- Bangladesh:** A powerful storm heavily impacted the districts of Netrokona, Sunamganj, Tangail, and Naogaon in Bangladesh on the 27th and 28th. Strong winds killed at least 16 people, destroyed more than 1,000 tin and mud-built homes and uprooted trees and electricity poles.
- Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Australia and New Zealand:** Cyclone Ita affected the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Australia and New Zealand during the first two weeks of April. Cyclone Ita was first identified on April 1st and made landfall at Cape Flattery in Australia's northern Queensland on April 12th. Wind speeds (1-minute sustained winds) of up to 250 km/h were recorded along with a low pressure centre of 930 hPa. In the Solomon Islands, Ita caused flash flooding after 1000 mm of rain fell in over four days. Over 40 people were killed in the capital city Honiara when the river flowing through the city burst its banks.