



SUMMER 2015

(JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST)

Cool everywhere; wet and windy in most parts

Temperature: summer mean air temperatures all below average

Nearly all stations reported below LTA mean temperatures during the three months of the season, resulting in below average summer mean temperatures, the majority with differences of over -1.0°C . Deviations from seasonal LTA ranged from -1.7°C (summer mean temperature of 13.1°C) at Athenry, Co Galway to -0.5°C (summer mean temperature of 14.3°C) at Phoenix Park, Co Dublin. The coolest conditions (compared to monthly LTAs) were the Northwest and Midlands in July, while the nearest to normal conditions for the time of year were in parts of Dublin in June. The warmest summer days were mainly June 30th and July 3rd, with the highest temperature of summer and of the year so far, reported at Dublin (Phoenix Park) on June 30th with 25.6°C . Summer's highest temperatures reported mainly in parts of the West, Southwest and South were the lowest in 13 to 28 years. Shannon Airport's summer maximum of 22.9°C was its lowest since 1980. Most of the summer minima were between June 7th and 9th with summer's lowest air and grass minima both recorded on June 9th in the Dublin area. Dublin Airport had summer's lowest air temperature of 0.7°C (its lowest for summer since the station opened in 1942) while Casement Aerodrome had the summer's lowest grass minimum of -3.4°C (its lowest for summer in 50 years).

Rainfall: mainly above average rainfall; 'dry spells' reported in June

Rainfall totals were variable for summer with the majority of stations reporting above Long-Term Average (LTA) rainfall. The driest area (compared to monthly LTA) was the Dublin area in June where monthly LTAs of below 30% were recorded, attributed to 'dry spells'¹ between the 6th and 26th. The wettest area was in the South during July, where some stations reported around 200% of the normal monthly rainfall was reported. Summer percentage of LTAs values ranged from 74% (165.9 mm) at Gurteen, Co Tipperary its driest summer in seven years to 132% at both Roche's Point, Co Cork (280.5 mm) and Knock Airport, Co Mayo (390.8 mm). The wettest day was July 6th at Cork Airport with 41.3 mm, its wettest summer day since 2008. The number of wet days² ranged from 27 at some Dublin stations to 56 at Knock Airport.

Sunshine: Dublin stations report sunniest summer day

Seasonal sunshine totals were lowest at Knock Airport where 291.2 hours (daily mean sunshine 3.17 hrs/day) was reported, its dullest summer since the station opened in 1996. The highest seasonal sunshine was 496.9 hours (daily mean sunshine 5.40 hrs/day) at Dublin Airport. The sunniest summer's day was June 10th reported at both Dublin Airport and Casement Aerodrome with 15.7 hours, Dublin Airport's highest daily summer sunshine in 5 years. The number of dull days³ ranged from six at Dublin Airport to 20 at Knock Airport.

Wind: highest 10-minute summer mean wind speed at Malin Head since 1988

Seasonal wind speeds were the highest in at least six years at the majority of stations with records of up to 41 years exceeded at Shannon Airport (mean wind speed of 9.9 knots (18km/h)). Seasonal mean wind speeds ranged from 5.9 knots (11km/h) at Mullingar, Co Westmeath (its windiest summer in 11 years) to 13.8 knots (26km/h) at Mace Head, Co Galway (its windiest summer in 7 years). Gale-force winds were reported on 9 days, with four of these days (June 1st, June 2nd, July 17th and August 3rd) reporting severe gales. Malin Head reported the seasons highest 10-minute mean wind speed and highest gust on June 1st with 47 knots (87km/h) and 65 knots (120km/h), respectively, both the highest reported since the summer of 1988.

The Poulter Index is a method of rating the summer weather (June to August), using a formula based on mean temperature, rainfall and sunshine for selected stations, i.e. the higher the index, the 'better' the summer weather. This summer index was the 18th lowest in the last 50 years. The summer of 2012 had the lowest Poulter Index value during the last 50 years.

EXTREME VALUES FOR SUMMER AT SYNOPTIC STATIONS

Rainfall

Highest seasonal total: 390.8 mm (132% of LTA) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo
Lowest seasonal total: 147.5 mm (78% of LTA) at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin (*its driest summer since 2006*)
Highest daily rainfall: 41.3 mm at Cork Airport on July 6th (*its wettest summer day since 2008*)

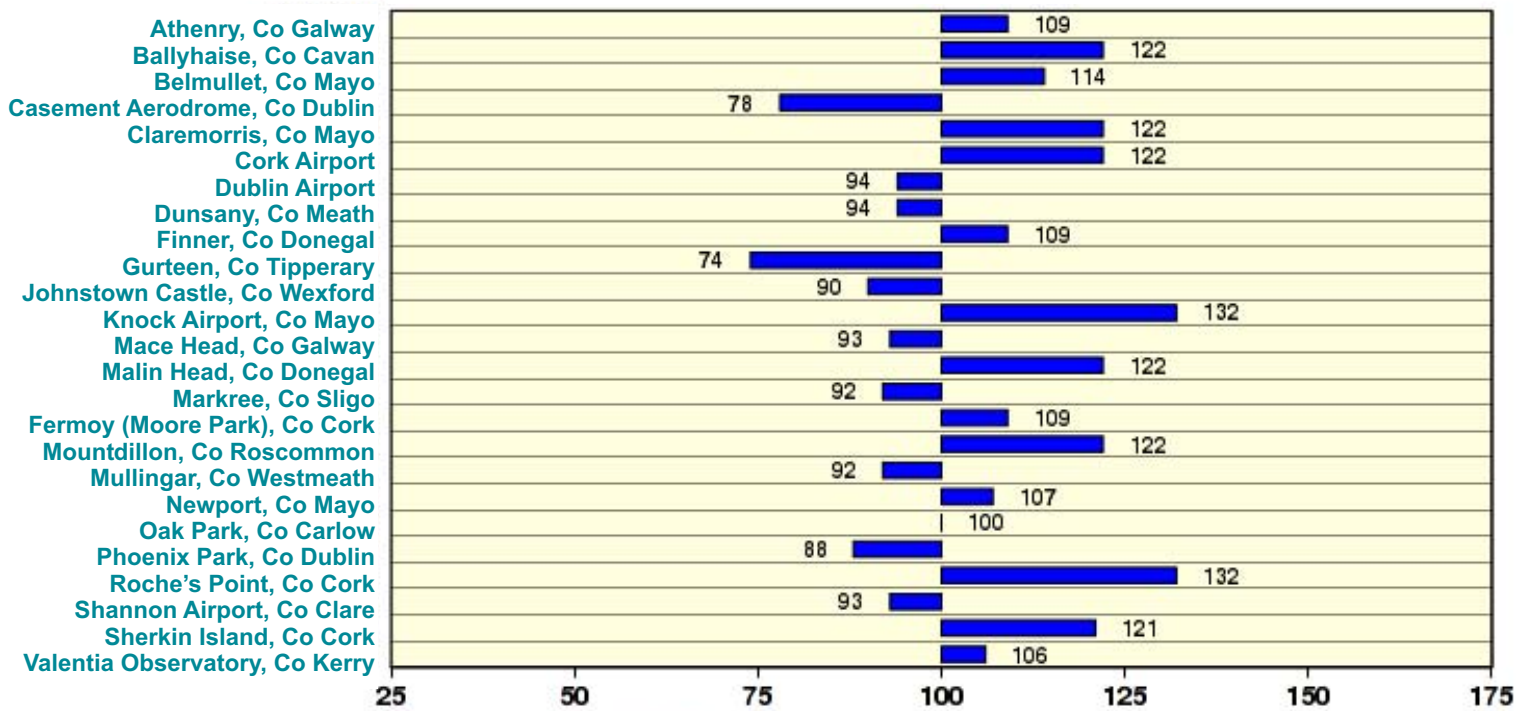
Temperature

Highest seasonal mean temperature: 14.3°C (-1.3°C from LTA) at Shannon Airport, Co Clare
Lowest seasonal mean temperature: 12.3°C (-1.0°C from LTA) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo
Highest air temperature: 25.6°C at Dublin (Phoenix Park) on June 30th
Lowest air temperature: 0.7°C at Dublin Airport on June 9th (*its lowest summer air minimum since the station opened in 1942*)
Lowest grass minimum temperature: -3.4°C at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin on June 9th (*its lowest summer grass minimum since 1965*)

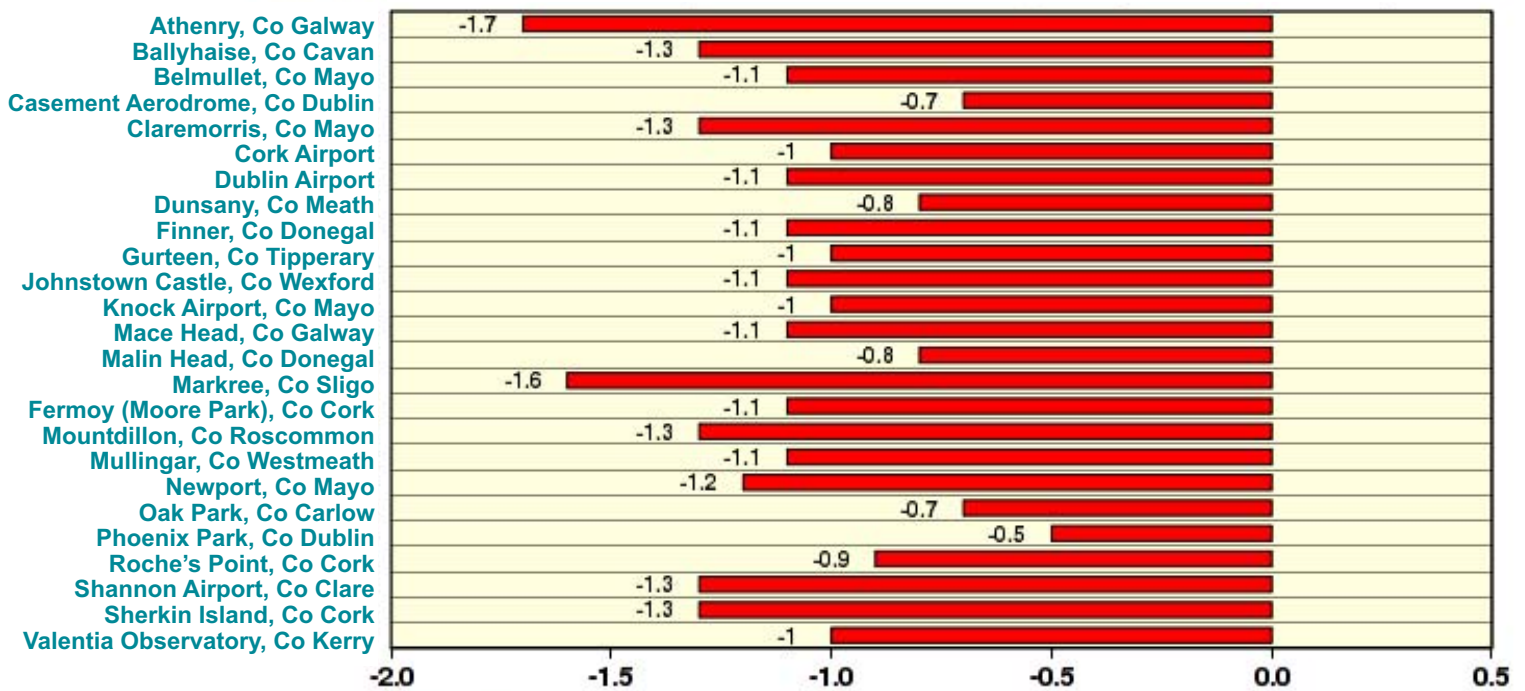
Sunshine

Highest seasonal total: 496.9 hrs (100% of LTA) at Dublin Airport
Lowest seasonal total: 291.2 hrs (73% of LTA) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (*its dullest summer since the station opened in 1996*)
Highest daily sunshine: 15.7 hrs at Dublin Airport and Casement Aerodrome on June 10th

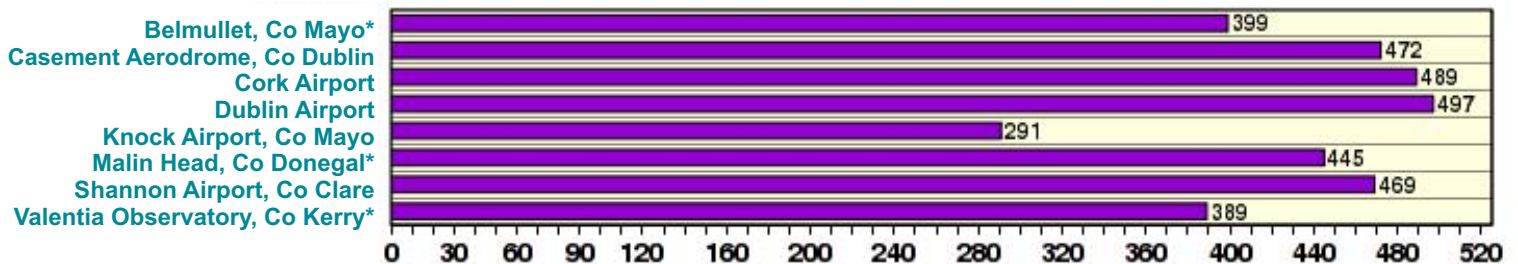
SUMMER RAINFALL (% OF LTA)



SUMMER MEAN TEMPERATURE (°C) (DIFFERENCE FROM LTA)



SUMMER SUNSHINE (NUMBER OF SEASONAL SUNSHINE HOURS)



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This report is based on available preliminary data from 25 principal weather stations operated by Met Éireann.

Long-Term Averages (LTAs) and "average" refer to the period 1981-2010. Synoptic station data is midnight to midnight UTC.

*Sunshine data is from the Autosol Network. LTAs for these sites are currently not used for comparison purposes.

¹ A dry spell is a period of 15 or more days to none of which is credited 1.0 mm or more of rain. ² A wet day is a day with 1.0 mm or more of rain.

³ A dull day is a day with less than 0.5 hours of sunshine

For more information, contact Met Éireann at 01-8064200 or e-mail: climate.enquiries@met.ie