



MAY 2018

Generally dry and sunny. Warm.

While a high pressure ridge lay to the south of Ireland, a mobile Atlantic regime produced changeable weather over Ireland during the first week. This situation persisted through the second week also with frontal systems bringing rain and showers on most days, while turning cold towards the end of that week as the airflow veered northwest. An anticyclone developed early on the third week bringing a drier and more settled spell. However the intrusion of a slow moving wave occlusion yielded the wetter spell of the month on the 20th and 21st. A blocking high over Scandinavia gave a largely fine and dry latter part of the month. A slack easterly continental type airflow prevailed giving warm sunny conditions, though high temperatures did cause thundery showers to break out in places.

Rainfall: Driest May at Casement Aerodrome since 1991

Nearly all rainfall totals were below their Long-Term Average (LTA) for the month. Percentage of monthly rainfall values ranged from 28% (the month's lowest monthly rainfall total of 16.8 mm) at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin to 126% (monthly rainfall total of 93.0 mm) at Sherkin Island, Co Cork. Monthly rainfall totals were as much as 114.5 mm (percentage of LTA 122%) at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry. The month's wettest day was also recorded at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry with 27.5 mm on the 20th. The number of rain days ranged from 9 days at Mullingar, Co Westmeath to 21 days at Sherkin Island, Co Cork. The number of wet days¹ ranged from 4 days at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin to 15 days at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry. The number of very wet days³ ranged from zero days at a few stations to 4 days at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry. Lightning was a significant feature in the South and Southeast on the 27th.

Temperature: All monthly mean temperatures were above average

All mean air temperatures across the country were above their Long-Term Average (LTA) for the month. Differences from the normal of the mean air temperature for the month ranged from 0.4 °C (12.1 °C mean temperature) at Sherkin Island, Co Cork to 1.7 °C (11.7 °C mean temperature) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo. Mean temperatures for the month ranged from 11.4 °C at Dublin Airport (0.7 °C above LTA) to 13.1 °C at Shannon Airport, Co Clare and Newport, Co Mayo (1.1 °C above LTA and 1.6 °C above LTA respectively). The month's highest temperature was reported at Shannon Airport, Co Clare on the 29th with a temperature of 26.3 °C. Both the month's lowest air and grass minimum temperature were recorded on the 12th at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon. The lowest air minimum was -1.2 °C while the lowest grass minimum was -5.1 °C. More than half of stations reported ground frost. The number of days with ground frost ranged from zero days at a few stations to 11 days at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon. Only two stations reported air frost. These occurred at Markree, Co Sligo and Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon on the 12th.

Sunshine: All stations had above average Sunshine

Percentage of monthly sunshine values ranged from 104% (monthly sunshine total of 201.1 hours) at Cork Airport to 118% at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin and Shannon Airport, Co Clare (monthly sunshine total of 220.3 hours and 213.0 respectively). Monthly sunshine totals ranged from 179.2 hours (No LTA comparison*) at Valentia Observatory*, Co Kerry to 224.0 hours (No LTA comparison*) at Dublin Airport*. The highest number of daily sunshine hours recorded this month was 16.0 hours at Malin Head, Co Donegal on the 29th. The number of dull days² ranged from 2 days at Knock Airport, Co Mayo to 6 days at a few stations.

Wind: Strongest in the West

Monthly mean wind speeds ranged from 5.5 knots (10.2 km/h) at Moore Park, Co Cork to 12.9 knots (23.9 km/h) at Belmullet, Co Mayo (its highest monthly mean wind speed for May since 2011). Gales were reported on the 1st, 9th and 11th. The number of days with gale force winds ranged from zero at most stations to 2 days at Belmullet, Co Mayo. There were no strong gales or storm force winds reported this month. The month's highest gust of 46 knots (85 km/h) was reported at three stations, all on the 11th - Sherkin Island, Malin Head and Casement Aerodrome. The highest 10-minute wind speed was 35 knots (64 km/h) reported at Roche's Point, Co Cork on the 11th.

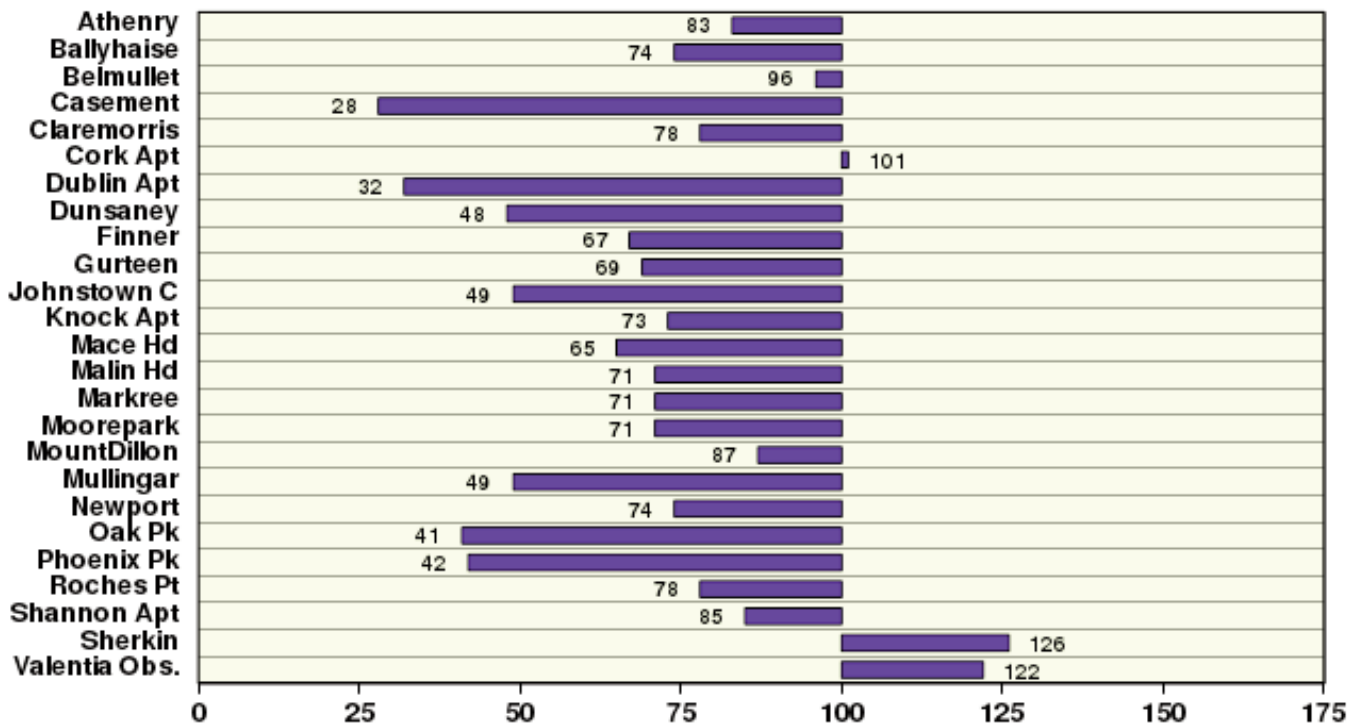
EXTREME VALUES AT SYNOPTIC STATIONS

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|--------------------|---|
| Rainfall | Highest total: 114.5 mm (122% of LTA) at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry Lowest total: 16.8 mm (28% of LTA) at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin. (<i>its driest May since 1991</i>) Highest daily rainfall: 27.5 mm at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry on 20th (<i>its highest May daily rainfall since 2012</i>) |
| Temperature | Highest mean monthly temperature: 13.1°C at Shannon Airport, Co Clare (<i>its warmest May since 2008</i>) and Newport, Co Mayo (1.1°C and 1.6°C above LTA respectively) Lowest mean monthly temperature: 11.4°C (0.7°C above LTA) at Dublin Airport Highest air temperature: 26.3°C at Shannon Airport, Co Clare on the 29th (<i>its highest May daily max temp since 2012</i>) Lowest air temperature: -1.2°C at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon on 12th (<i>its lowest May daily min temp since 2012</i>) Lowest grass minimum: -5.1°C at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon on 12th |
| Sunshine | Highest monthly total: 224.0 hrs (daily mean 7.2 hrs/day) at Dublin Airport* Lowest monthly total: 179.2 hrs (daily mean 5.8 hrs/day) at Valentia Observatory*, Co Kerry Highest daily sunshine: 16.0 hrs at Malin Head*, Co Donegal on 29th |

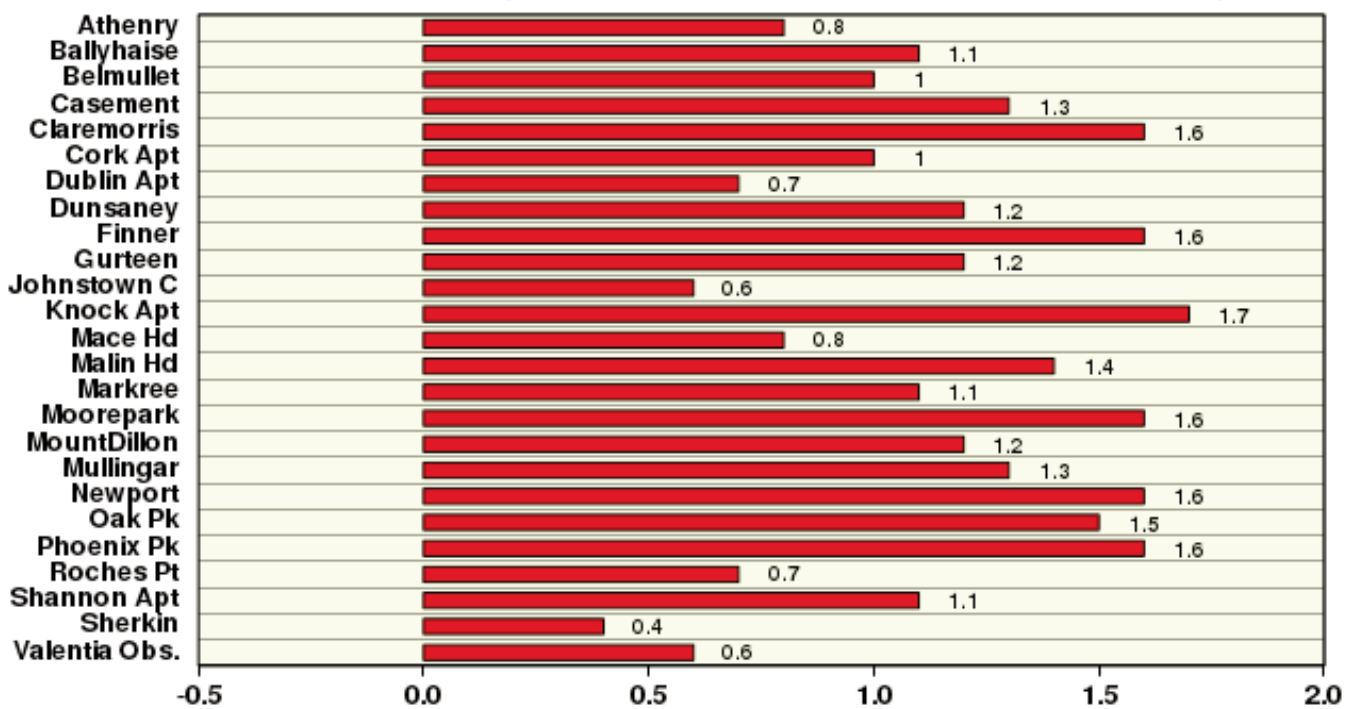
May 2018

Based on Data from 1-31 May 2018 on whole month basis

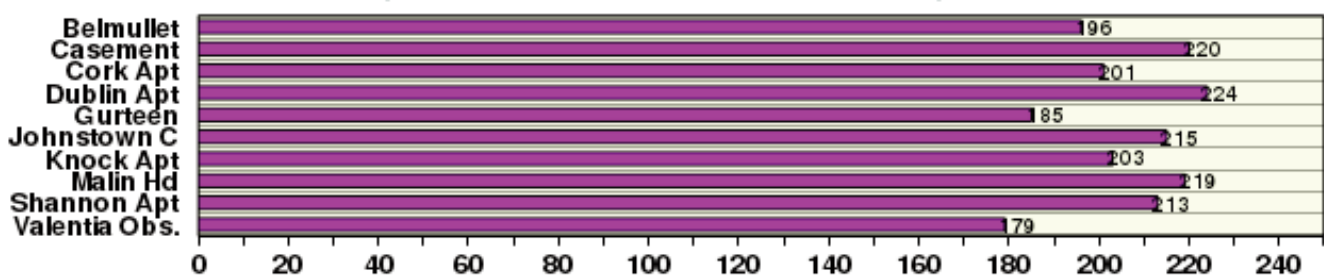
Rainfall (% of average for period 1981-2010) on whole month basis



Temperature (°C) (difference from average for period 1981-2010)



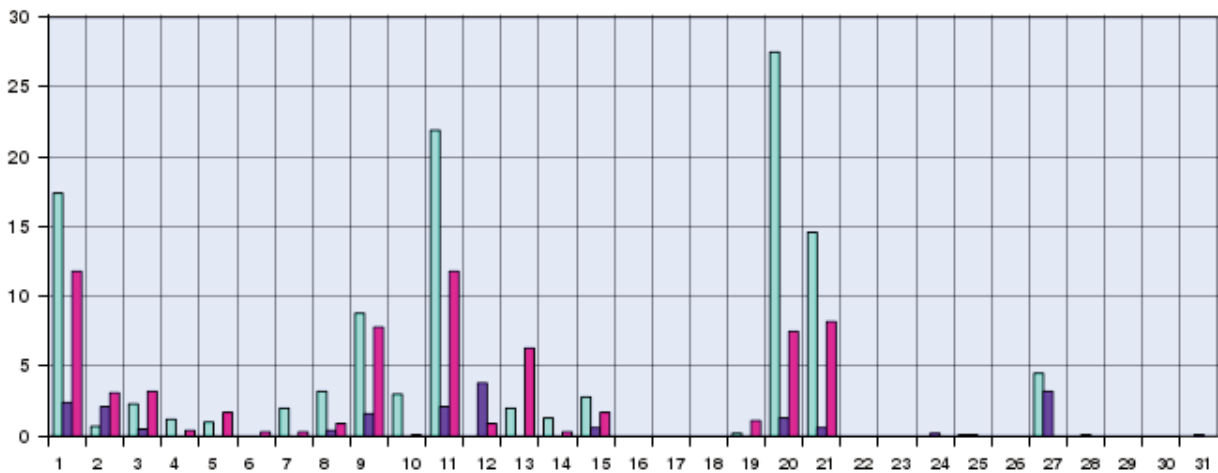
Sunshine (Number of monthly sunshine hours)



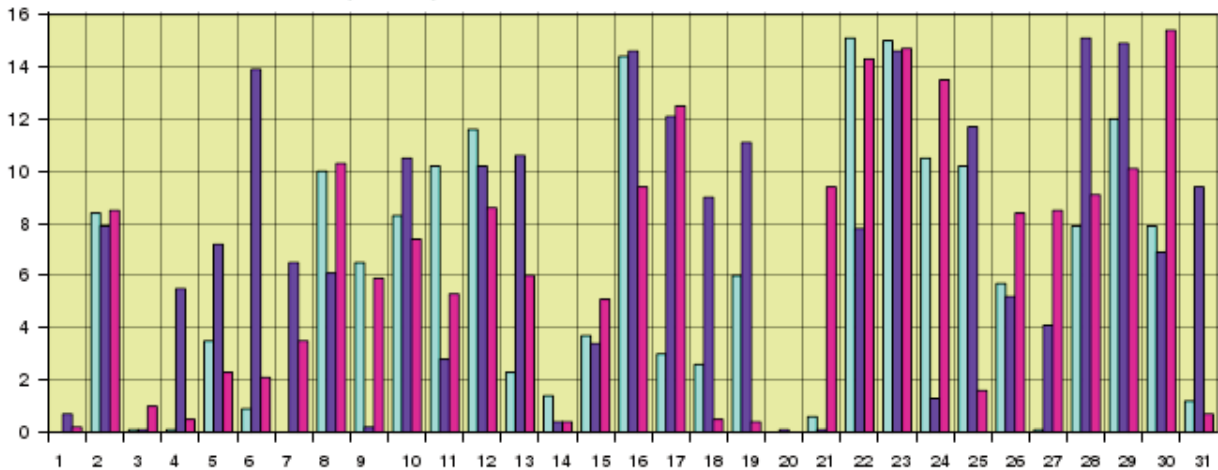
May 2018 Daily Values at selected synoptic stations

Based on data from 1-31 May 2018 on a pro rata basis

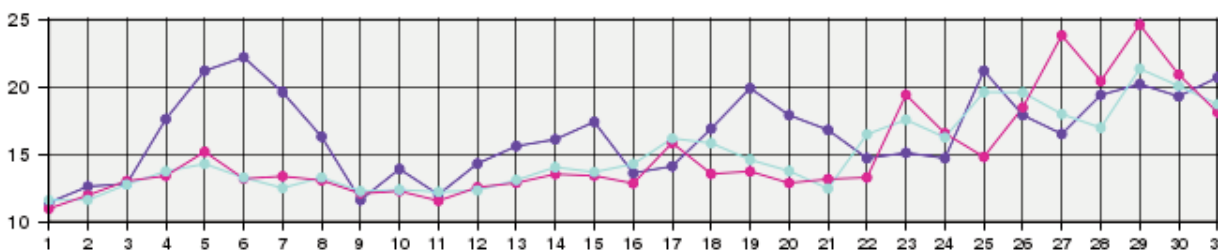
Daily 00-24h rainfall values(mm)



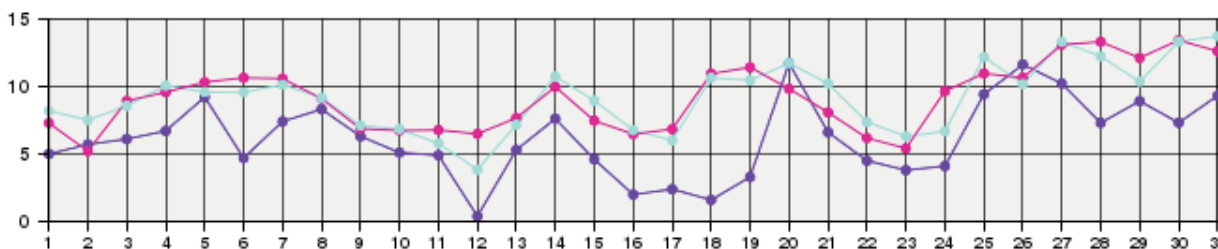
Daily sunshine values(hours)



Daily 00-24h maximum temperature (°C)



Daily 00-24h minimum temperature (°C)



- Valentia Observatory - Dublin Airport - Belmullet

Source: newR/WXBULL/CurrentMonthlyTemp.R Plotted Fri Jun 1 11:51:16 2018

Issued by the Climatology and Observations Division of Met Éireann on Tuesday June 5th 2018.

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

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

'Dry spell' is a period of 15 or more consecutive days to none of which is credited 1.0 mm or more of precipitation (i.e. daily tot < 1.0 mm).

1 A wet day is a day with 1.0 mm or more of rainfall. 2 A dull day is a day with less than 0.5 hours of sunshine.

3 A very wet day is a day with 10.0 mm or more of rainfall.

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

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