



April 2019

Above average temperatures and rainfall for most

Atlantic weather fronts broke through at the beginning of April, ending the settled weather from the end of March. Low pressure moved over Ireland from the northwest introducing a cold and unstable air mass for most of the first week. This brought spells of rain or showers, some wintry, with hail and thunder mixed in. By the start of the second week, temperatures had recovered. High pressure developed over Scandinavia as an easterly airflow took hold, giving a mostly dry, settled second week. However between the 13th and 15th, as the airflow veered to the south, slow moving active Atlantic weather fronts pushed in over Ireland from the west giving heavy falls of rain, especially in the South. It became mostly dry again from the 16th, with the high pressure over Scandinavia intensifying again and pushing the weather fronts away from Ireland for the third and beginning of the fourth week. This brought a warm and settled Easter weekend. It became unsettled again from the 24th up to the end of the month. Storm Hannah, an active Atlantic low pressure system, tracked right over the country on the 26th and 27th, giving the windiest spell of the month.

Rainfall: Near normal, wettest in the South

The majority of monthly rainfall totals were above their Long-Term Average (LTA). Percentage of monthly rainfall values ranged from 57% (the month's lowest monthly rainfall total of 43.6 mm) at Finner, Co Donegal to 205% (monthly rainfall total of 121.4 mm) at Sherkin Island, Co Cork. The highest monthly rainfall total was recorded at Cork Airport with 135.8 mm (percentage of LTA 177%). The month's wettest day was also recorded at Cork Airport with 54.6 mm on the 15th. The number of rain days ranged from 12 days at Finner, Co Donegal to 21 at both Sherkin Island, Co Cork and Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry. The number of wet days ranged from 10 days at Ballyhaise, Co Cavan to 15 at a few stations. The number of very wet days ranged from one days at a few stations to 5 at Newport, Co Mayo.

Temperature: Nearly all monthly mean temperatures were above average

Nearly all mean air temperatures were above their Long-Term Average (LTA) for the month. Deviations from mean air temperature for the month ranged from -0.1 °C (8.0 °C mean temperature) at Dublin Airport to 1.3 °C (10.2 °C mean temperature) at Belmullet, Co Mayo. Mean temperatures for the month ranged from 8.0 °C (difference from LTA of -0.1 °C) at Dublin Airport to 10.4 °C (difference from LTA of 1.1 °C) at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry. The month's lowest temperatures were recorded on the 5th with the lowest air minimum reported at Fermoy (Moore Park), Co Cork with a temperature of -3.4 °C and the lowest grass minimum reported at Cork Airport with -8.6 °C (*lowest grass min for April on record (length 57 years)*). The highest maximum was reported on the 20th at Carlow (Oak Park) with a temperature of 22.9 °C (*highest max for April in 44 years*). All stations reported ground frost during the month. The number of days with ground frost ranged from 1 day at a few stations to 16 days at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon. More than half of stations reported air frost. The number of days with air frost ranged from zero days at Dublin (Phoenix Park) to 4 at both Dublin Airport and Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon.

Sunshine: Below average everywhere

Percentage of monthly sunshine values ranged from 73% (monthly sunshine total of 104.8 hours) at Knock Airport to 97% (the month's highest monthly sunshine total of 155.5 hours) at Cork Airport. Monthly sunshine totals were lowest at Knock Airport, Co Mayo with 104.8 hours (Percentage of LTA 73%). The highest number of daily sunshine hours recorded this month was 12.9 hours at Belmullet, Co Mayo on the 22nd. The number of dull days ranged from 4 at Shannon Airport, Co Clare to 10 at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin.

Wind: Storm Hannah brought storm force winds on the 26th

Monthly mean wind speeds ranged from 6.8 knots (12.6 km/h) at Ballyhaise, Co Cavan to 15.6 knots (28.9 km/h) at Malin Head, Co Donegal. Gales were reported on the 5 days or more during the month with strong gales reported on the 27th. The number of days with gales ranged from zero days at a few stations to 6 days at Mace Head, Co Galway. The number of days with up to strong gales ranged from zero at a number of stations to 2 days at Mace Head, Co Galway. There was 1 day with storm force winds at both Mace Head, Co Galway and Sherkin Island, Co Cork. Both the month's highest gust and 10-minute mean wind speed was reported at Mace Head, Co Galway on the 26th. The highest gust was 66 knots (122 km/h) while the month's highest 10-minute mean wind speed was 52 knots (96 km/h).

EXTREME VALUES AT SYNOPTIC STATIONS

Rainfall Highest total: 135.8 mm (177% of its LTA) at Cork Airport
Lowest total: 43.6 mm (57% of its LTA) at Finner, Co Donegal
Highest daily rainfall: 54.6 mm at Cork Airport on the 15th (*highest daily fall for April on record length 57 years*)

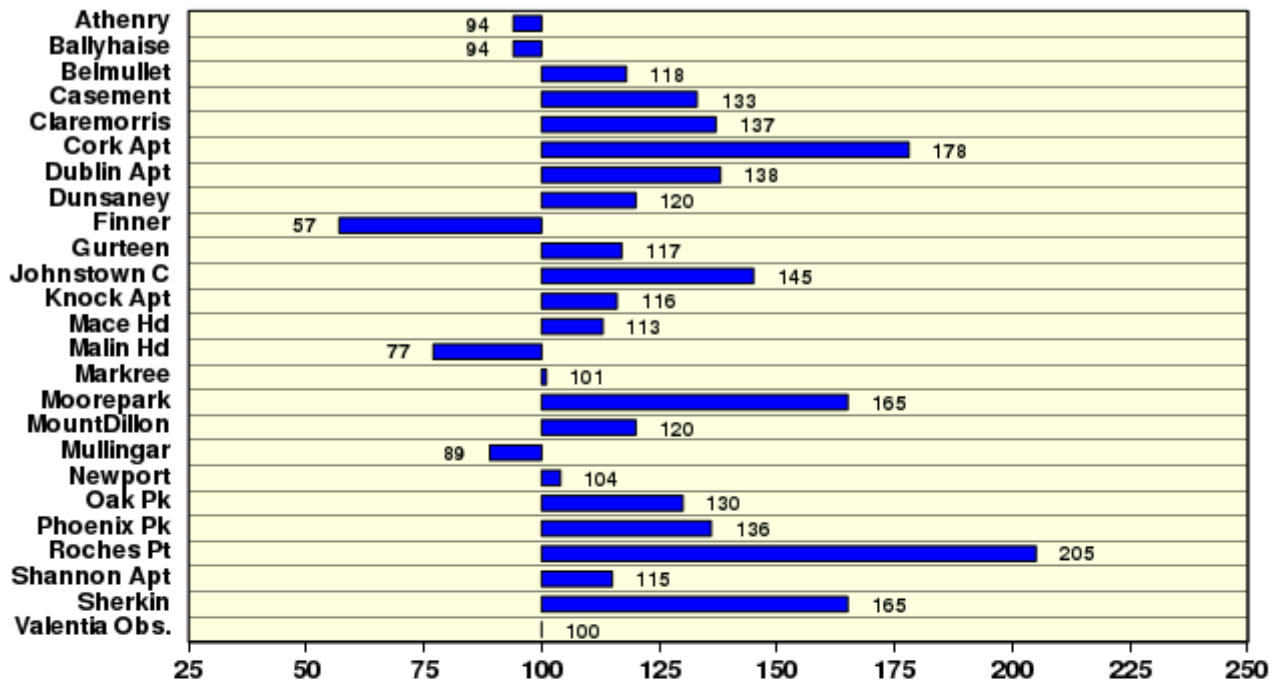
Temperature Highest mean monthly temperature: 10.4°C at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry (1.1°C above its LTA)
Lowest mean monthly temperature: 8.3°C at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (1.0°C above its LTA)
Highest Air temperature: 22.9°C at Oak Park, Co Carlow on the 20th
Lowest air temperature: -3.4°C at Moore Park, Co Cork on the 5th
Lowest grass minimum: -8.6°C at Cork Airport on the 5th

Sunshine Highest monthly total: 155.5 hrs (daily mean 5.18 hrs/day) at Cork Airport, Co Cork
Lowest monthly total: 104.8 hrs (daily mean 3.49 hrs/day) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo
Highest daily sunshine: 12.9 hrs at Belmullet, Co Mayo on the 22nd

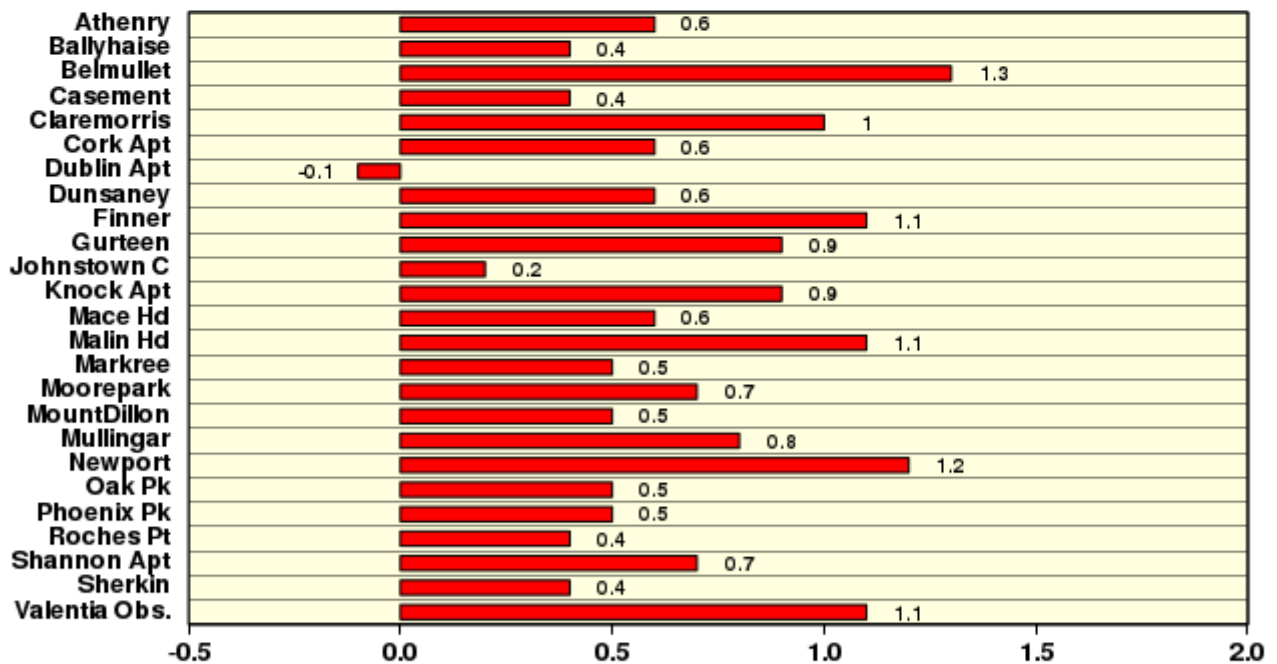
April 2019

Based on Data from 1-30 April 2019 on whole month basis

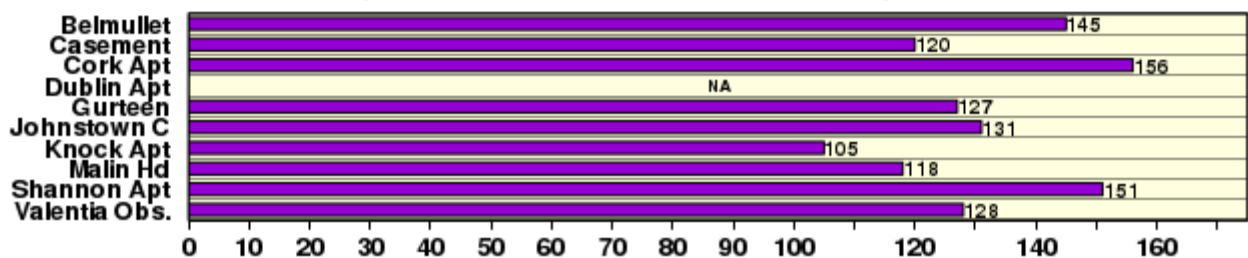
Rainfall (% of average for period 1981-2010) on whole month basis



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



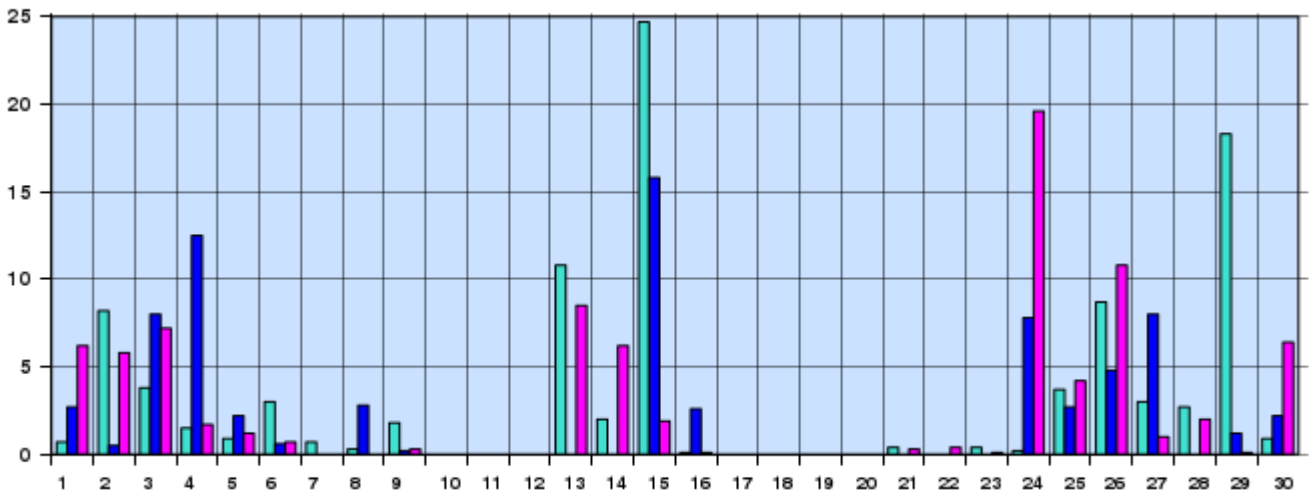
Sunshine (Number of monthly sunshine hours)



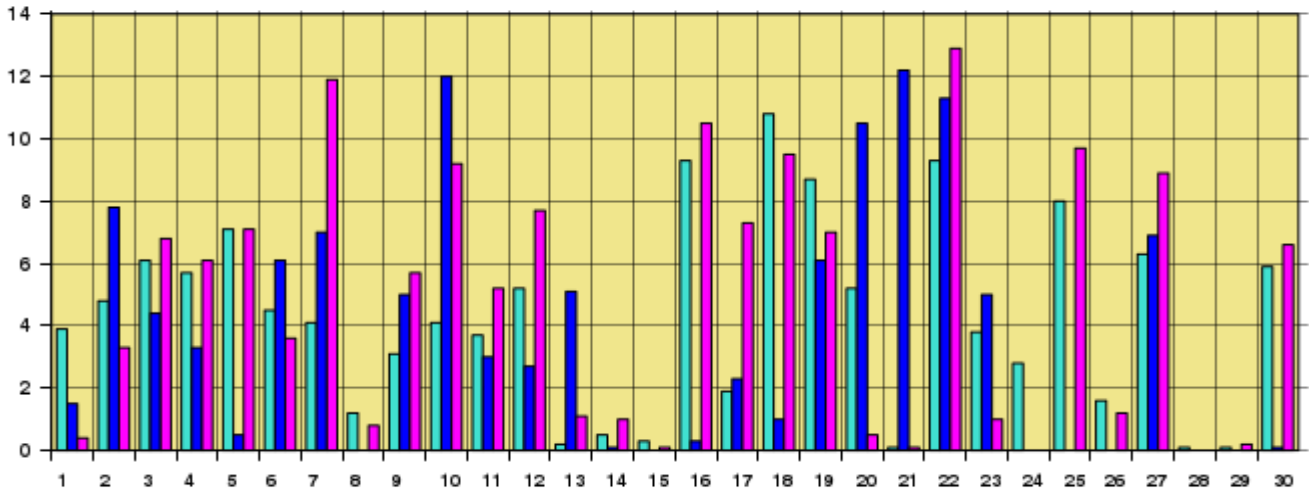
April 2019 Daily Values at selected synoptic stations

Based on data from 1-30 April 2019 on a pro rata basis

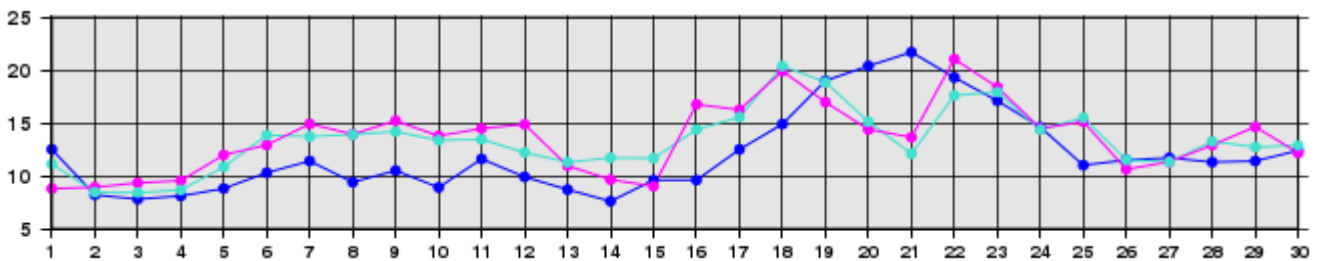
Daily 00-24h rainfall values(mm)



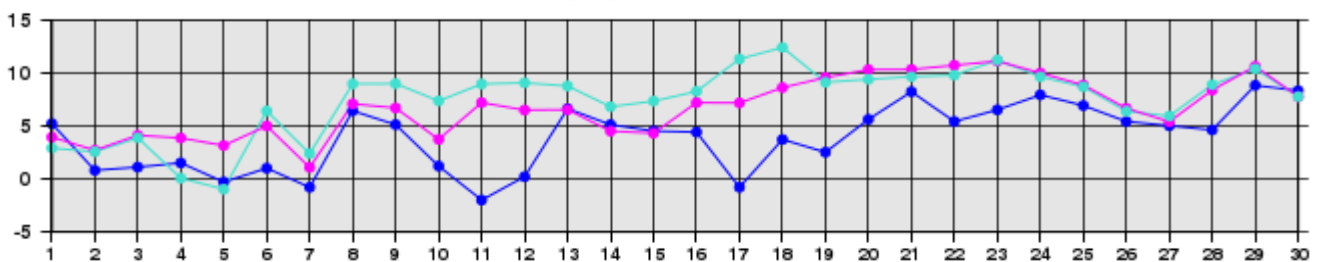
Daily sunshine values(hours)



Daily 00-24h maximum temperature (°C)



Daily 00-24h minimum temperature (°C)



- Valentia Observatory - Dublin Airport - Belmullet

Source: newR/WXBULL/Current Monthly Temp.R Plotted Wed May 1 10:23:05 2019

Issued by the Climatology and Observations Division of Met Éireann on Tuesday April 2nd 2019. 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. ¹ '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). ² A wet day is a day with 1.0 mm or more of rainfall. ³ A dull day is a day with less than 0.5 hours of sunshine. ⁴ 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