



# March 2025

## Mild, dry and sunny

March 2025 was very mild and dry. It was also sunny, especially in the East. High pressure dominated through most of the month with weak steering currents aloft. The first week was relatively dry but cloudy at times with high pressure over and to the south of Ireland. The high pressure gradually pulled away to the east during the second half of the week, allowing Atlantic weather fronts to push in from the west bringing outbreaks of mostly light rain. The second week saw low pressure stay to the south of Ireland with high pressure building to the northwest. This brought a period of easterly winds, which gradually backed northerly. A mild first half of the week gave way to a cooler second half, as a Polar maritime airmass pushed down from the north. It stayed mostly dry and became sunnier. The third week saw high pressure to the west gradually move over Ireland and then to the east, keeping it dry with plenty of sunshine for most of the week. It became milder again towards the end of the week as the winds became south-easterly and then southerly. The wettest period of the month was Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd when low pressure to the south pushed weather fronts north over the country, with some heavy rain in places, especially in the South and West. The rest of the month saw high pressure building to the south again with low pressure to the north. Some relatively weak weather fronts crossed the country from the west followed by showers at times but overall high pressure to the south dominated bringing a lot of dry and mild conditions with sunny spells.

## Rainfall: Very dry everywhere

All monthly rainfall totals across the country were below their 1991-2020 Long-Term Average (LTA). Percentage of monthly rainfall values ranged from 18% (11.2 mm) at Dunsany, Co Meath (*its driest March on record (length 61 years)*) to 64% (32.8 mm) at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin. Monthly rainfall totals ranged from 11.2 mm (18% of its LTA) at Dunsany, Co Meath to 59.3 mm (46% of its LTA) at Newport, Co Mayo (*its driest March since 2013*). The highest daily rainfall total was 25.4 mm at Cork Airport, Co Cork on Friday 21st. The number of rain days<sup>0</sup> ranged from 7 days at Oak Park, Co Carlow to 18 days at both Markree, Co Sligo and Knock Airport, Co Mayo. The number of wet days<sup>1</sup> ranged from 4 days at a few stations to 12 days at Belmullet, Co Mayo. The number of very wet days<sup>3</sup> ranged from zero days at 10 stations to 2 days at a few stations. Along with Dunsany, Co Meath, Mace Head, Co Galway also had its driest March on record with 26.4 mm (*length 20 years*). Ballyhaise, Co Cavan with 20.4 mm had its driest March since 1953. Gurteen, Co Tipperary with 28.2 mm had its driest March since 1961 and Dublin Airport with 13.5 mm had its driest March since 1990. Two stations had dry spells<sup>6</sup>. These were Ballyhaise, Co Cavan between 27th February and 20th March lasting 22 days and Finner, Co Donegal between 6th March and 20th March lasting 15 days.

## Temperature: Significantly above average everywhere

All mean air temperatures across the country were above their LTA for the month. Deviations from mean air temperature ranged from +1.1 °C (9.2 °C mean temperature) at Sherkin Island, Co Cork to +1.8 °C (7.5 °C mean temperature) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (*its warmest March since 2012*). Mean temperatures for the month ranged from 7.5°C at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (1.8°C above its LTA), Dunsany, Co Meath (1.2°C above its LTA) and Mullingar, Co Westmeath (1.3°C above its LTA) to 9.6 °C (1.5 °C above its LTA) at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry (*its warmest March since 2012*). All the month's highest and lowest temperatures were recorded at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon with both lowest air and grass minimum reported on Saturday 15th. The lowest air minimum temperature was -4.6 °C while the lowest grass minimum was -10.5 °C. The highest maximum was reported on Monday 31st with a temperature of 19.0 °C (*its highest maximum for March since 2012 and the highest March maximum at any stations since 2017*). All stations reported ground frost during the month. The number of days with ground frost ranged from 3 days at Sherkin Island, Co Cork to 19 days at Phoenix Park, Co Dublin. More than half of stations reported air frost. The number of days with air frost ranged from zero days at a few stations to 7 days at Dunsany, Co Meath. Thirteen stations had their warmest March since 2012 and twelve stations had their warmest March since 2017.

## Sunshine: Above average everywhere, sunniest in the East

All available sunshine totals were above their LTA. Percentage of monthly sunshine values ranged from 115% (128.4 hours) at Shannon Airport, Co Clare to 132% (141.3 hours) at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin. Monthly sunshine totals ranged from 115.8 hours (No LTA comparison\*) at Cork Airport, Co Cork to 154.4 hours (No LTA comparison\*) at Dublin Airport, Co Dublin. The highest number of daily sunshine hours recorded this month was 11.3 hours at Belmullet, Co Mayo on Wednesday 19th. The number of dull days<sup>2</sup> ranged from 4 days at Dublin Airport to 9 days at a few stations.

## Wind: Not significantly strong with gales reported at one station

Monthly mean wind speeds ranged from 5.7 knots (10.6 km/h) at Ballyhaise, Co Cavan to 13.7 knots (25.4 km/h) at Malin Head, Co Donegal. Gales were reported on Friday 28th at Mace Head, Co Galway. The number of days with gales ranged from zero days at most stations to 1 day at Mace Head, Co Galway. There were no strong gales or storm force winds reported. The month's highest 10-minute mean wind speed was reported at Mace Head, Co Galway on Friday 28th with 34 knots (63 km/h), while the month's highest gust was reported on Saturday 29th at Malin Head, Co Donegal with 46 knots (85 km/h).

## EXTREME VALUES AT SYNOPTIC STATIONS

### Rainfall

Highest monthly total: 59.3 mm at Newport, Co Mayo (46% of its LTA) (*its driest March since 2013*)  
Lowest monthly total: 11.2 mm at Dunsany, Co Meath (18% of its LTA) (*its driest March on record (length 61 years)*)  
Highest daily rainfall: 25.4 mm at Cork Airport, Co Cork (28% of its monthly LTA) on Fri 21st

### Temperature

Highest mean monthly temperature: 9.6°C at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry (1.5°C above its LTA) (*its warmest March since 2012*)  
Lowest mean monthly temperature: 7.5°C at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (1.8°C above its LTA) (*its warmest March since 2012*),  
Dunsany Co Meath (1.2°C above its LTA) and Mullingar, Co Westmeath (1.3°C above its LTA)  
Highest air temperature: 19.0°C at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon (8.6°C above its LTA) on Mon 31st (*its highest max for March since 2012*)  
Lowest air temperature: -4.6°C at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon (6.8°C below its LTA) on Sat 15th  
Lowest grass minimum: -10.5°C at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon on Sat 15th

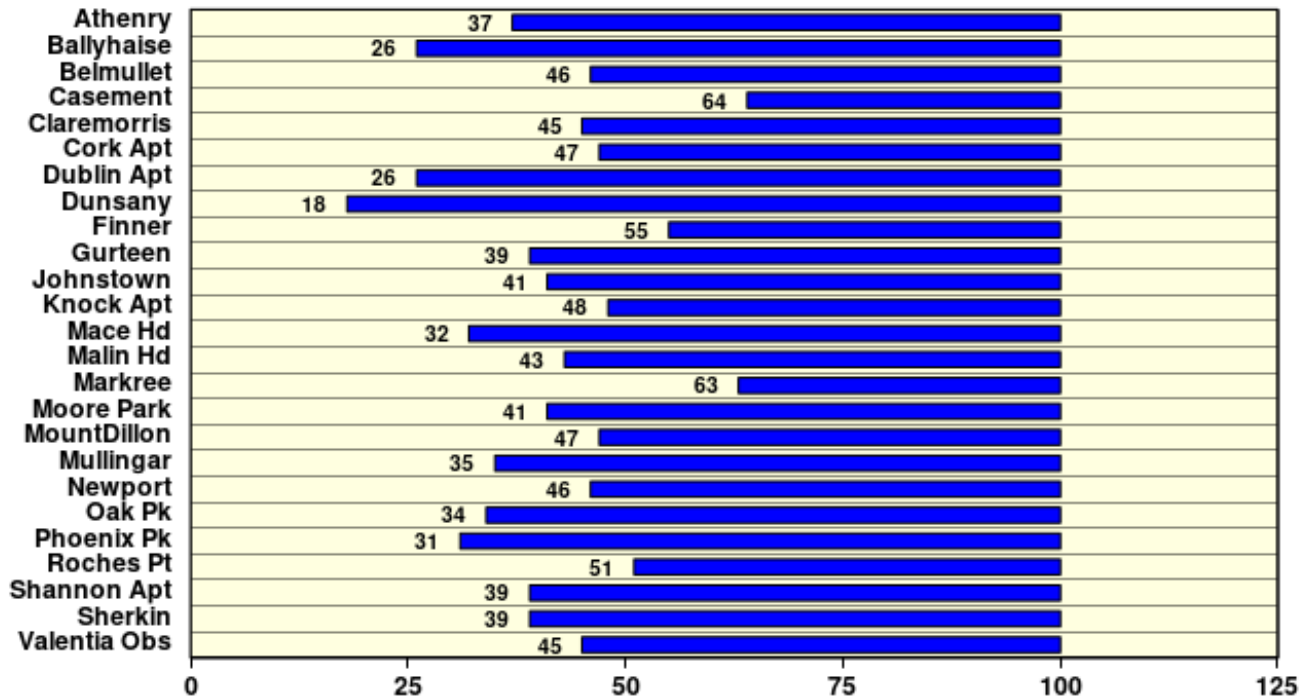
### Sunshine

Highest monthly total: 154.4 hrs (daily mean 4.98 hrs/day) at Dublin Airport, Co Dublin  
Lowest monthly total: 115.8 hrs (daily mean 3.74 hrs/day) at Cork Airport, Co Cork  
Highest daily sunshine: 11.3 hours at Belmullet, Co Mayo on Wed 19th

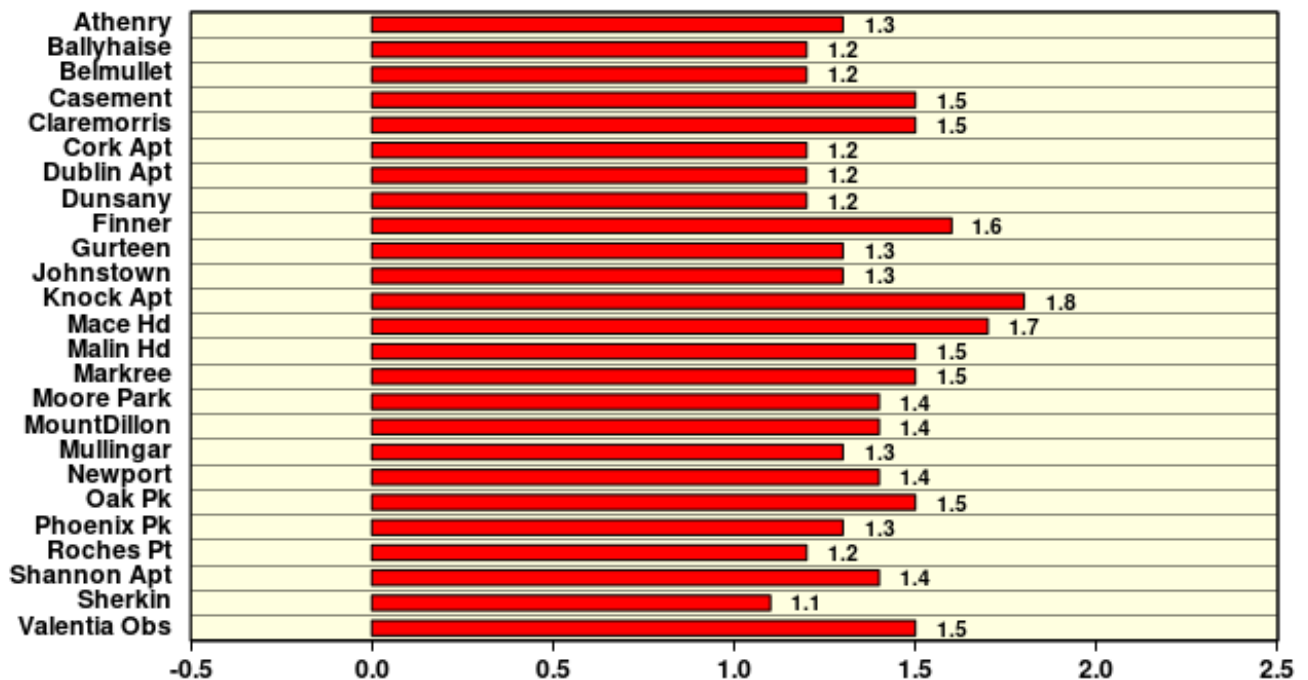
# March 2025

Based on Data from 1- 31 March 2025 on whole month basis

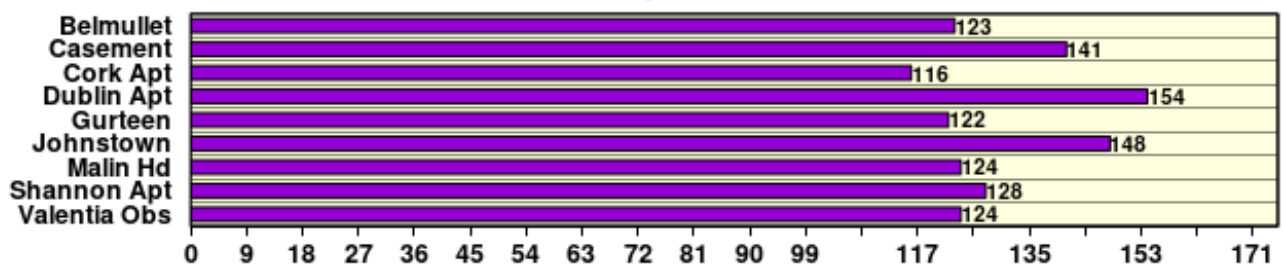
## Rainfall (% of average for period 1991-2020) on whole month basis



## Temperature (°C)(difference from average for period 1991-2020)



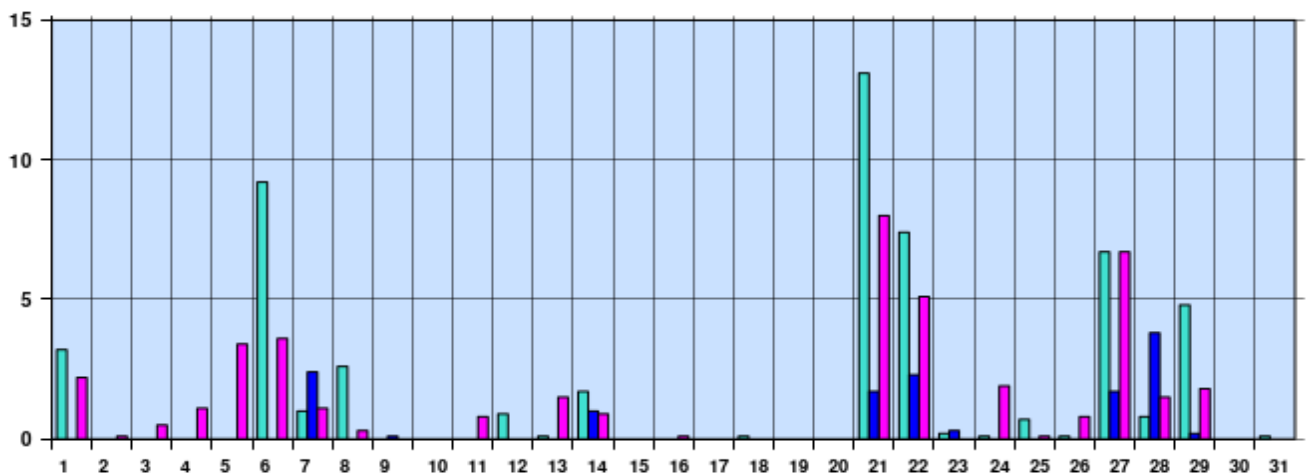
## Sunshine (Number of monthly sunshine hours)



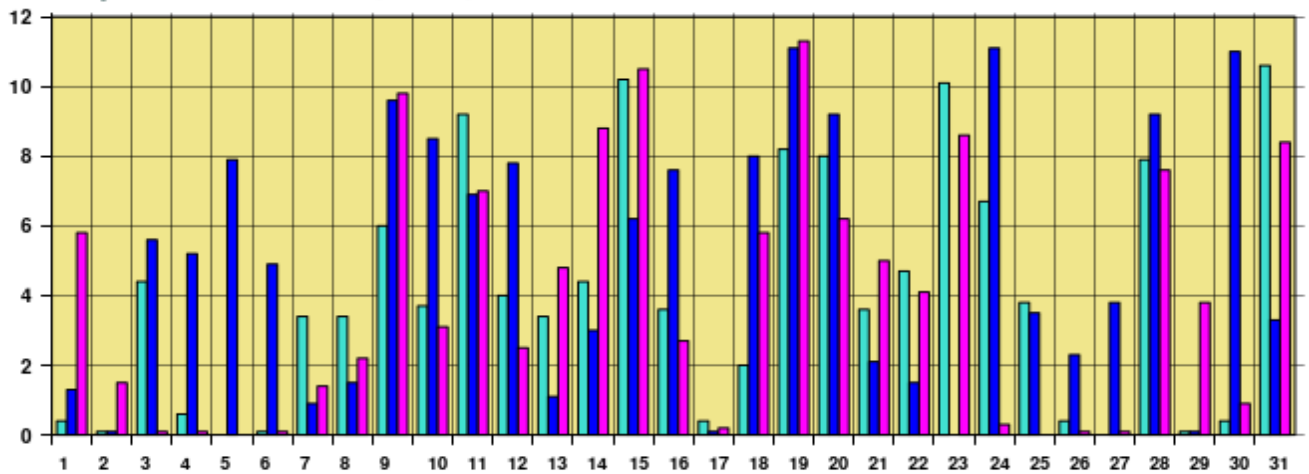
## March 2025 Daily Values at Selected Synoptic Stations

Based on data from 1-31 March 2025 on a pro rata basis

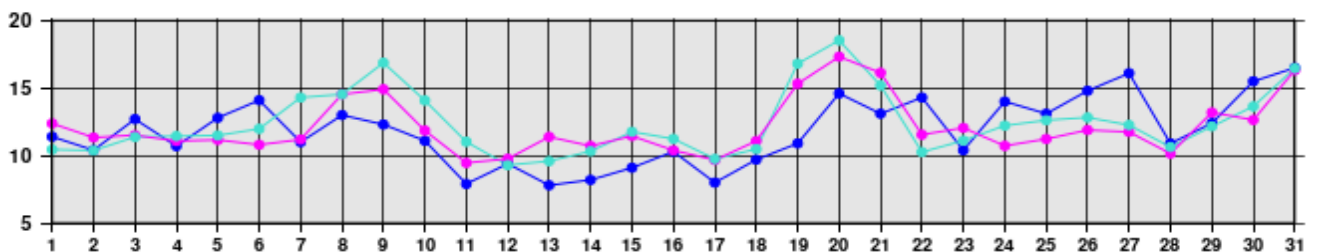
### Daily 00-24h rainfall values (mm)



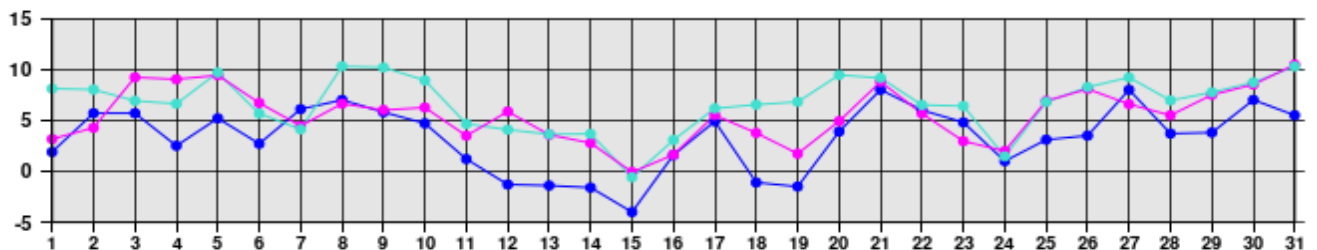
### Daily sunshine values (hours)



### Daily 00-24h maximum temperature (°C)



### Daily 00-24h minimum temperature (°C)



- Valentia Observatory - Dublin Airport - Belmullet

Issued by Met Éireann on Wednesday 2nd April 2025. This report is based on available preliminary data from 25 principal weather stations operated by Met Éireann. Synoptic station data is daily, which is midnight to midnight UTC. Long-Term Averages (LTAs) and "average" refer to the period 1991-2020. <sup>1</sup> A rain day is a day with 0.2 mm or more of rainfall. <sup>2</sup> A wet day is a day with 1.0 mm or more of rainfall. <sup>3</sup> A dull day is a day with less than 0.5 hours of sunshine. <sup>4</sup> A very wet day is a day with 10.0 mm or more of rainfall. <sup>5</sup> An absolute drought is a period of 15 or more consecutive days to none of which is credited 0.2 mm or more of precipitation. <sup>6</sup> A partial drought is a period of at least 29 consecutive days, the mean daily rainfall of which does not exceed 0.2 mm. <sup>7</sup> A 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). <sup>8</sup> A heatwave occurs where there are 5 consecutive days or more with maximum temperature over 25°C (that is, a daily maximum screen air temperature > 25° C). <sup>9</sup> An icing day is when the daily maximum air temperature stays below 0 °C (measured from 09-09 UTC or 00-00 UTC)

\*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](mailto:enq@met.ie)