



May 2025

Warm, dry, calm and very sunny

May 2025 was warm, dry and very sunny overall. Blocking high pressure, positioned mostly to the north of Ireland, dominated for the first three weeks of the month with Atlantic low pressure breaking through in the final week. The month began warm, especially in the South, before a weak cold front moved south, introducing a slightly cooler airmass. High pressure soon re-established just to the north of the country and brought a dry and mostly sunny first week and a half, as it gradually warmed up again. A slack area of low pressure tried to push up from the south between Sunday 11th and Wednesday 14th, introducing instability and activating some scattered showers and thunderstorms in places. Rainfall amounts stayed low in most places. Blocking high pressure again re-established to the north between Thursday 15th and Thursday 22nd, bringing a lot of dry and sunny conditions, while always warmest in the Midlands, South and West due to the easterly airflow. The abundant sunshine and slack easterly airflow intensified the marine heatwave off the south and west coasts that had been building through April. A cold pool aloft introduced instability on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th, which resulted in scattered, intense thunderstorm activity. Some places saw heavy downpours while other places had little or no rain. Atlantic weather fronts finally broke through on Friday 23rd, introducing a slightly cooler westerly airflow. The final week of the month saw westerly winds return with low pressure to the north steering several frontal rainbands across the country, interspersed with sunshine and showers.

Rainfall: Dry, especially in the South

Nearly all rainfall totals were below their 1991-2020 Long-Term Average (LTA). Percentage of monthly rainfall values ranged from 31% (the month's lowest monthly rainfall total of 19.9 mm) at Roches Point, Co Cork (*its driest May on record, length 18 years*) to 104% (monthly rainfall total of 79.2 mm) at Finner, Co Donegal. Monthly rainfall totals were as much as 88.2 mm (89% of its LTA) at Newport, Co Mayo. The highest daily rainfall total was 19.3 mm at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin on Tuesday 20th. The number of rain days⁰ ranged from 8 days at a few stations to 13 days at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin. The number of wet days¹ ranged from 5 days at both Roches Point, Co Cork and Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford to 11 days at Phoenix Park, Co Dublin. The number of very wet days³ ranged from zero days at a few stations to 4 days at Newport, Co Mayo. There were numerous climatological dry periods ending in May. Twenty stations had dry spells⁶, between 26th April and 22nd May, lasting between 15 and 27 days. Eleven stations had absolute droughts⁴, between April 26th and May 22nd, lasting between 15 and 25. Two stations observed partial droughts⁵, from April 26th to May 25th, lasting 30 days (Moore Park, Co Cork and Roches Point, Co Cork). Four stations had consecutive zero rainfall days: 22 consecutive days at Moore Park, Co Cork, 23 consecutive days at Mullingar, Co Westmeath and both Athenry, Co Galway and Markree, Co Sligo had 24 consecutive days, all ended by May 22nd.

Temperature: Above average everywhere, warmest on record in parts of the South and West

All mean air temperatures across the country were above their LTA for the month. Deviations from mean air temperature ranged from +0.5 °C (11.2 °C, the month's lowest mean temperature) at Dublin Airport, Co Dublin to +2.3 °C (12.5 °C mean temperature) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo. Mean temperatures were as much as 14.2 °C (2.0 °C above its LTA) at Shannon Airport, Co Clare (*its warmest May on record (length 79 years)*). The month's highest temperature was reported at Newport, Co Mayo on Tuesday 13th, with a temperature of 24.8 °C. The month's lowest air and grass minimum were recorded at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon, with the lowest air temperature reported on Tuesday 6th with -0.9 °C, and the lowest grass minimum was -6.9 °C reported on Monday 5th. More than half of stations reported ground frost. The number of days with ground frost ranged from zero days at a few stations to 21 days at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon. Less than half of stations reported air frost. The number of days with air frost ranged from zero days at Phoenix Park, Co Dublin to 2 days at both Dunsany, Co Meath and Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon. Along with Shannon Airport, four other stations had their warmest May on record (*record lengths between 15 and 68 years*). These were Roches Point, Co Cork (13.3 °C), Athenry, Co Galway (12.8 °C), Cork Airport, Co Cork (13.2 °C) and Knock Airport, Co Mayo (12.5 °C). Six other stations in the Southwest and West had their warmest May since 2008. Sherkin Island, Co Cork had its highest daily maximum temperature for May on record with 22.6 °C on Thursday 1st (*length 43 years*). Fourteen stations had their highest mean maximum for May on record.

Sunshine: Very sunny everywhere, record sunshine in places

Shannon Airport, Co Clare (288.9 hours, *record length 79 years*), Cork Airport, Co Cork (290.4 hours, *63 years*) and Belmullet, Co Mayo (295.4 hours, *68 years*) had their sunniest calendar month and May on record. Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford (298.8 hours, *record length 9 years*) and Gurteen, Co Tipperary (267.2 hours, *record length 9 years*) had their sunniest May on record. Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry had its sunniest May since May 1961. Casement Aerodrome, with 286.2 hours, had its second sunniest month on record behind May 2020 and Dublin Airport had its second sunniest May behind 2020.

All available sunshine totals were above their LTA. Percentage of monthly sunshine values ranged from 150% (monthly sunshine total of 286.2 hours) at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin to 158% (monthly sunshine total of 288.9 hours) at Shannon Airport, Co Clare (*its sunniest May on record (length 79 years)*). Monthly sunshine totals ranged from 267.2 hours (no LTA comparison*) at Gurteen, Co Tipperary to 298.8 hours (no LTA comparison*) at Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford. The highest number of daily sunshine hours recorded this month was 15.2 hours at Malin Head, Co Donegal on Sunday 18th; on Thursday 22nd at both Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford and Shannon Airport, Co Clare. The number of dull days² ranged from 1 day at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin to 5 days at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry.

Wind: Gales reported at one station on one day

Monthly mean wind speeds ranged from 4.8 knots (8.9 km/h) at Ballyhaise, Co Cavan to 10.8 knots (20.0 km/h) at Mace Head, Co Galway. Gales were reported on Sunday 25th at one station, Mace Head, Co Galway. There were no strong gales or storms reported. The highest 10-minute wind speed was 34 knots (63 km/h) reported at Mace Head, Co Galway on Sunday 25th. The month's highest gust was reported at both Roches Point, Co Cork and Malin Head, Co Donegal on Sunday 25th and Thursday 29th respectively, with 43 knots (80 km/h).

EXTREME VALUES AT SYNOPTIC STATIONS

Rainfall

Highest monthly total: 88.2 mm at Newport, Co Mayo (89% of its LTA)
Lowest monthly total: 19.9 mm at Roches Point, Co Cork (31% of its LTA) (*its driest May on record (length 18 years)*)
Highest daily rainfall: 19.3 mm at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin (33% of its monthly LTA) on Tue 20th

Temperature

Highest mean monthly temperature: 14.2°C at Shannon Airport, Co Clare (2.0°C above its LTA) (*its warmest May on record (length 79 years)*)
Lowest mean monthly temperature: 11.2°C at Dublin Airport, Co Dublin (0.5°C above its LTA)
Highest air temperature: 24.8°C at Newport, Co Mayo (9.0°C above its LTA) on Tue 13th
Lowest air temperature: -0.9°C at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon (6.5°C below its LTA) on Tue 6th
Lowest grass minimum: -6.9°C at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon on Mon 5th

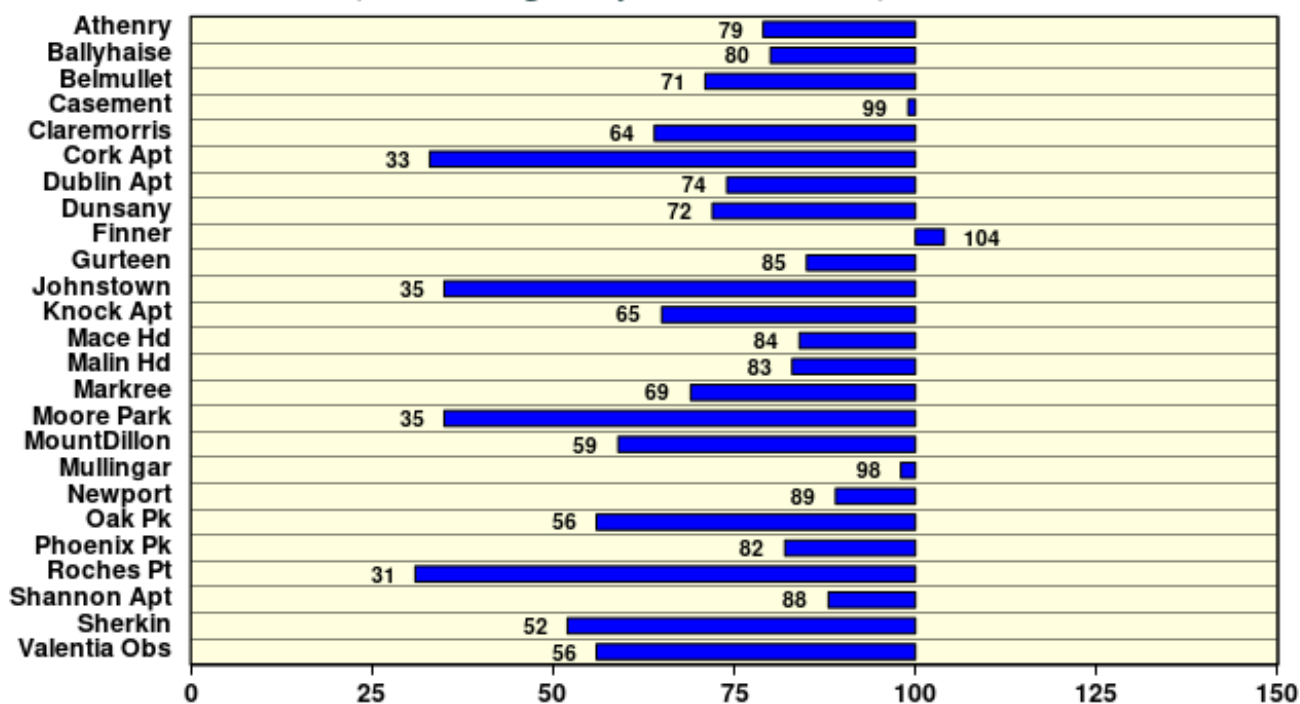
Sunshine

Highest monthly total: 298.8 hours (daily mean 9.64 hrs/day) at Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford (*its sunniest May record (length 9 years)*)
Lowest monthly total: 267.2 hours (daily mean 8.62 hrs/day) at Gurteen, Co Tipperary (*its sunniest May record (length 9 years)*)
Highest daily sunshine: 15.2 hours at Valentia Obs., Co Kerry on Sun 18th, Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford on Thu 22nd and Shannon Airport, Co Clare also on Thu 22nd

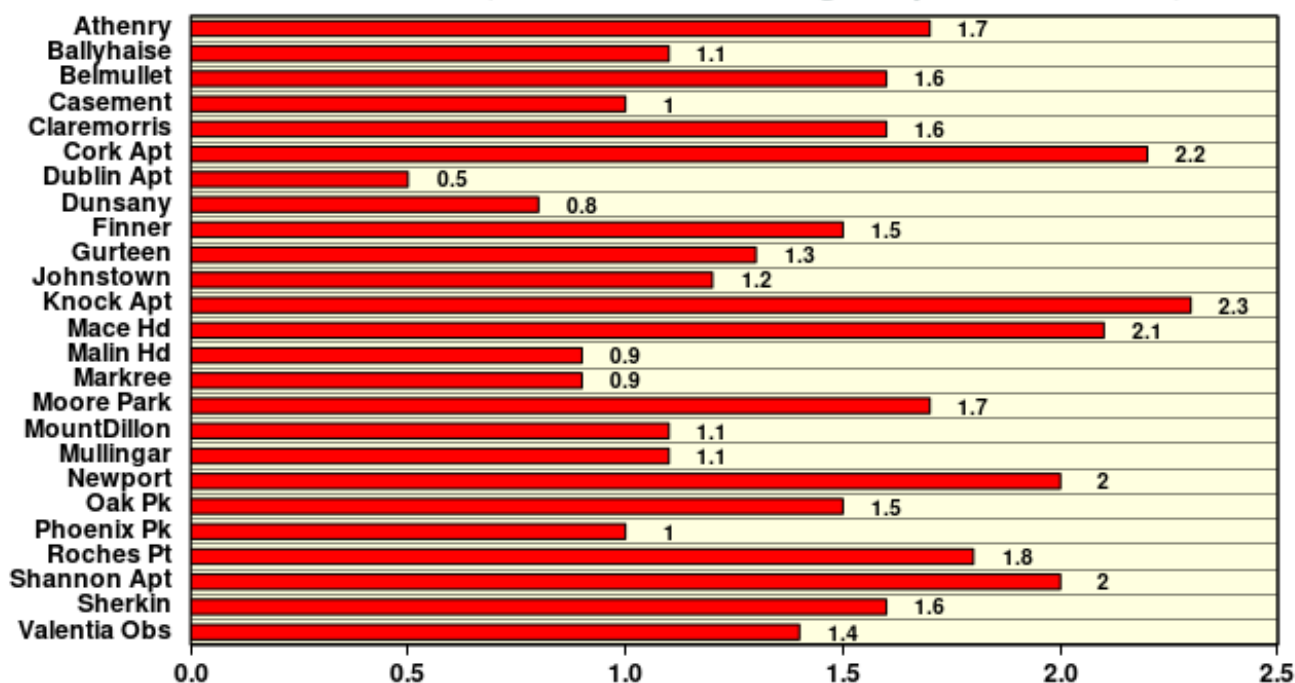
May 2025

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

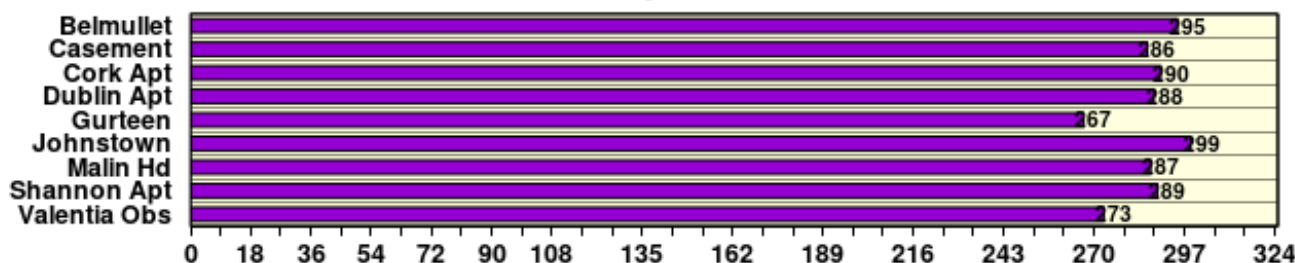
Rainfall (% of average for period 1991-2020) on whole month basis



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



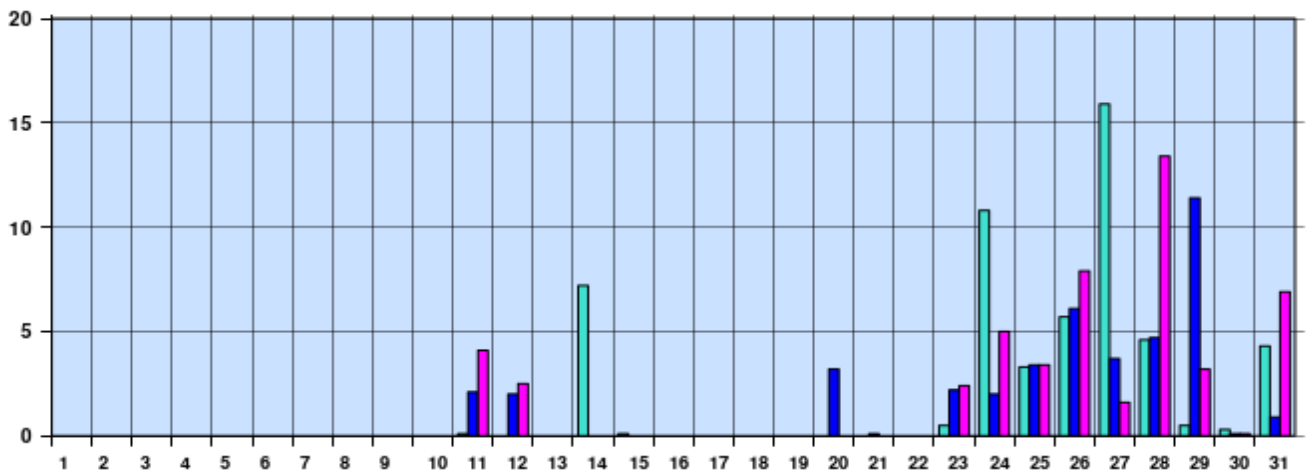
Sunshine (Number of monthly sunshine hours)



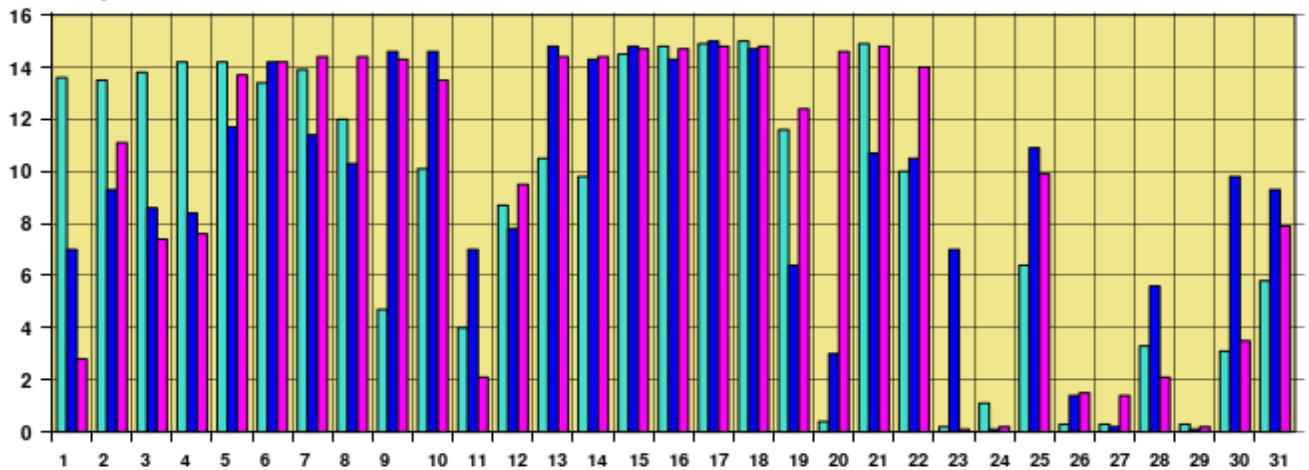
May 2025 Daily Values at Selected Synoptic Stations

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

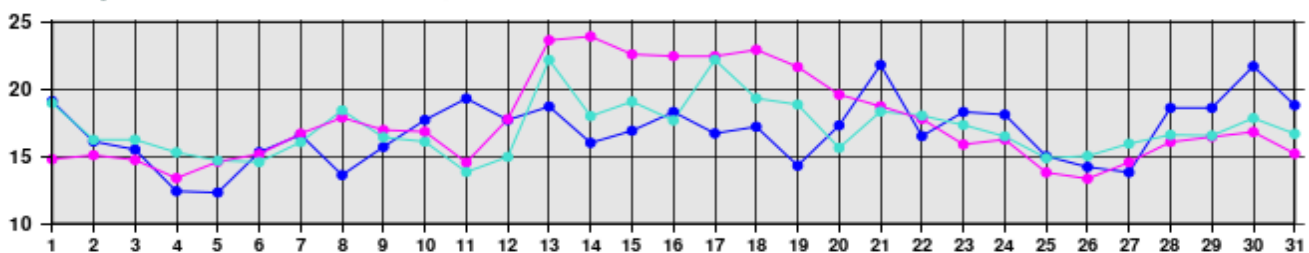
Daily 00-24h rainfall values (mm)



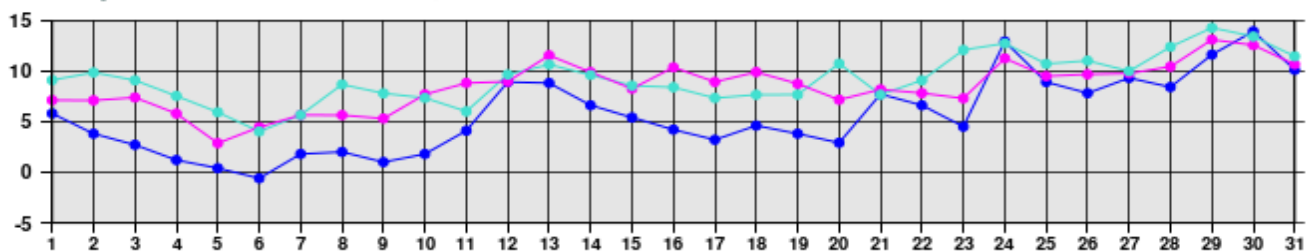
Daily sunshine values (hours)



Daily 00-24h maximum temperature (°C)



Daily 00-24h minimum temperature (°C)



- Valentia Observatory - Dublin Airport - Belmullet

Issued by Met Éireann on Wednesday 4th June 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. ¹ A rain day is a day with 0.2 mm or more of rainfall. ^{1A} 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ A partial drought is a period of at least 29 consecutive days, the mean daily rainfall of which does not exceed 0.2 mm. ⁶ 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). ⁷ 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). ⁸ 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