

**WARM AND DULL****WITH ABOVE AVERAGE RAINFALL IN PARTS**

Mean air temperatures were above average, with largest differences in the Western half of the country. Differences ranged from +0.8°C at Johnstown Castle and Dublin Airport to +1.9°C in the West at Elphin, Co. Roscommon, Oughterard, Co. Galway and Straide, Co. Mayo where the warmest Winters in at least 11 to 24 years were recorded. Nearly all stations recorded above average temperatures during the three months of the season, except a few stations in the Cork, Galway and Wexford areas in December which recorded slightly below average. Winter mean temperatures ranged from 5.2°C at Slieve Bloom Mts.

(Nealstown), Co. Laois to 9.0 °C at Sherkin Island. The highest mean temperatures were in parts of the West and Southwest with the lowest in the East and Midlands. Maximum temperatures were mainly recorded on December 25th, 26th and February 22nd, 23rd with the seasons highest maximum of 18.0°C recorded at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse.), Co. Wexford on February 23rd, its highest Winter maximum since the climate station opened in 1996 (16 years). The lowest temperature was -6.7°C recorded at both Thomastown (Mt. Juliet), Co. Kilkenny and Carrickmacross (Dunoge), Co. Monaghan at the beginning of February.

Rainfall totals were below normal for Winter in the Midlands, South, Southeast and East, with above average rainfall totals along Northwest and western coasts. Percentage of average values ranged from 47% at Ballyedmonduff House, Co. Dublin, its driest Winter in five years to 151% at Ardnawark Barnesmore, Co. Donegal, its wettest Winter since 1995 (17 years). The highest seasonal accumulations were in the western half of the country, with rainfall totals ranging from 111.1 mm at Malahide Castle, Co. Dublin its driest Winter in six years to 1021.7mm at Maam Valley, Co. Galway, its wettest Winter since 2006. The highest daily rainfall of the season was at Fintown (Kingarow), Co. Donegal with 78.6 mm on December 13th, its highest Winter daily rainfall since 1985 (27 years). The number of wetdays (*days with 1 mm or more*) ranged from 19 days at Malahide Castle to 59 at Roundstone, Co. Galway.

Percentage of average sunshine values were all below average, with lowest values recorded in the Southwest and highest values in the East. Below average totals were recorded everywhere in December and February, with January reporting an above average total at stations in the Dublin and Wicklow areas. Percentage values for Winter ranged from 48% at Valentia Observatory, recording 71 hours of sunshine and its dullest Winter since 1939 (73 years) to 97% at Dublin Airport, recording 183 hours of sunshine and its dullest Winter in six years. Highest daily values of sunshine were mainly recorded in February, with Galway (Univ. College) measuring the highest daily sunshine of Winter with 8.7 hours of sunshine on February 19th.

COUNTY/STATION	RAINFALL (mm)			TEMPERATURE (°C)				SUNSHINE (HOURS)			NO. OF DAYS WITH:					
	TOTAL	% OF AVERAGE	MOST IN A DAY AMOUNT DATE(S)	MEAN	DIFF. FROM AVERAGE	EXTREMES HIGHEST LOWEST	DAILY MEAN	% OF AVERAGE	MOST IN A DAY AMOUNT DATE(S)	RAIN	SNOW	AIR FROST	HAIL	THUNDER	FOG	GALE GUSTS
<b>CO. CARLOW</b>																
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	150.6	68	24.6 29 JAN	6.5	+0.9	14.8 -4.4						58	12			12
<b>CO. CAVAN</b>																
BALLYHAISE	263.0	96	21.0 29 JAN	6.0	+0.9	13.1 -5.4						70	13			12
<b>CO. CLARE</b>																
SHANNON AIRPORT	294.6	104	17.2 4 JAN	7.8	+1.6	13.5 -1.7	1.08	60	6.8 2 FEB	68	3	4	13	1	6	24
<b>CO. CORK</b>																
CORK AIRPORT	219.0	60	20.0 12 DEC	7.0	+1.2	13.7 -1.2	1.29	65	8.4 19 FEB	69	8	2	2	0	20	21
ROCHE'S POINT	157.0	57	19.6 12 DEC	8.0	+1.0	13.8 0.5				55		0				24
<b>CO. DONEGAL</b>																
MALIN HEAD	385.6	119	19.2 4 JAN	7.0	+0.9	13.5 -1.7						77	3			65
<b>CO. DUBLIN</b>																
DUBLIN AIRPORT	135.4	74	22.7 29 JAN	6.2	+0.8	14.1 -6.1	2.01	97	8.0 1 FEB	51	4	12	1	0	1	33
CASEMENT AERODROME	135.9	72	23.9 29 JAN	6.2	+1.0	14.3 -4.6	1.51	79	7.2 1 FEB	51	3	12	1	0	1	29
<b>CO. KERRY</b>																
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	412.9	89	23.0 12 DEC	8.8	+1.4	13.4 1.7	0.78	48	6.1 18 FEB	82	1	0	18	2	3	32
<b>CO. MAYO</b>																
BELMULLET	366.3	99	21.0 28 JAN	7.9	+1.4	13.2 -1.0	1.05	63	7.4 12 FEB	78	13	2	23	1	4	57
KNOCK AIRPORT	398.6	105	17.1 8 DEC	5.6	+1.4	11.9 -4.2	1.00	61	7.4 1 FEB	79	19	11				32
<b>CO. TIPPERARY</b>																
GURTEEN	228.0	89	16.2 29 JAN	6.6	+1.1	13.0 -3.6				69		10				13
MULLINGAR	227.5	88	24.6 29 JAN	5.9	+1.2	13.0 -6.3				66		15				6
<b>CO. WEXFORD</b>																
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	182.9	63	22.7 29 JAN	6.9	+0.8	13.4 -1.2				57		2				18