



JAN 2018

Wetter than normal. Near or slightly above average temperatures.

A predominantly zonal westerly airflow influenced Ireland's weather during January. The first week was very unsettled as several frontal systems brought wet and windy weather. A deep depression passed eastwards over the country on the 2nd bringing rain and some of the strongest winds of the month. Pressure rose at the beginning of the second week bringing a dry period, but at the expense of low temperatures and sharp night time frosts. The third week was characterised by cold changeable and blustery conditions. Northwest winds sometimes brought wintry showers. An active slow moving occlusion edged slowly northwards on the 21st, resulting in the wettest day of the month in most areas. While the final week remained unsettled, it was quite mild overall as southwest winds prevailed. The period 27th/28th indeed had some of the higher temperatures of the month. Fog was a significant feature throughout the month, particularly in the West and South.

Rainfall: Highest monthly total on record at Malin Head

All rainfall totals were above their Long-Term Average (LTA) for the month. Percentage of monthly rainfall values ranged from 106% (monthly rainfall total of 109.8 mm) at Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford to 193% (monthly rainfall total of 197.3 mm) at Shannon Airport, Co Clare. Monthly rainfall totals ranged from 85.1 mm (percentage of LTA 130%) at Dublin (Phoenix Park) to 274.7 mm (percentage of LTA 165%) at Newport, Co Mayo. Malin Head recorded its highest monthly total since 1885 with 203.7 mm. The highest daily rainfall total was 38.8 mm at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry on the 12th Jan. The number of wet days¹ ranged from 13 days at Dublin (Phoenix Park) to 28 days at Cork Airport. The number of very wet days³ ranged from 1 day at both Dunsany, Co Meath and Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford to 11 days at Newport, Co Mayo.

Temperature: Milder than normal at the majority of stations

The majority of mean air temperatures were above their Long-Term Average (LTA) for the month. Deviations from mean air temperature for the month ranged from -0.6 degree celsius (4.6 °C mean temperature) at Markree, Co Sligo to 0.7 °C at Sherkin Island, Co Cork, Dublin (Phoenix Park) and Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry. Mean temperatures for the month ranged from 4.1 °C (difference from LTA 0.1 °C) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo to 8.2 °C (difference from LTA 0.7 °C) at Sherkin Island, Co Cork. The month's lowest temperatures were recorded on the 8th Jan with the lowest air minimum reported at Athenry, Co Galway with a temperature of -6.8 °C and the lowest grass minimum reported at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon with -12.4 °C. The highest maximum was reported on the 27th Jan at Roche's Point, Co Cork with a temperature of 13.8 °C. All stations reported ground frost during the month. The number of days with ground frost ranged from 2 days at Sherkin Island, Co Cork to 22 days at Dublin (Phoenix Park). Almost all stations reported air frost. The number of days with air frost ranged from zero days at two stations to 9 days at Dublin Airport.

Sunshine: Above average almost everywhere

Apart from Knock Airport, all available sunshine totals were above their Long-Term Average (LTA). Percentage of monthly sunshine values ranged from 87% (the month's lowest monthly sunshine total of 42.1 hours) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo to 126 % at Cork Airport (monthly sunshine total of 72.4 hours). The month's highest monthly sunshine total was 78.9 hours at Johnstown Castle*, Co Wexford. The highest number of daily sunshine hours recorded this month was 6.8 hours at Johnstown Castle*, Co Wexford on the 11th Jan. The number of dull days² ranged from 8 days at Dublin Airport to 15 days at Knock Airport, Co Mayo.

Wind: Storm force winds in West

Monthly mean wind speeds ranged from 7.7 knots (14.3 km/h) at Moore Park, Co Cork to 20.3 knots (37.6 km/h) at Mace Head, Co Galway. Gales were reported on the numerous days with up to strong gales reported on the 3rd Jan, 4th Jan, 15th Jan, 17th Jan and 24th Jan. Storm force winds were reported on the 2nd Jan (due to Storm Eleanor) and 16th Jan (due to Storm Fionn). The number of days with gales ranged from zero days at a few stations to 13 days at Mace Head, Co Galway. The greatest number of days with strong gales was 5 days at Mace Head, Co Galway. Both the month's highest gust and 10-minute mean wind speed was reported at Knock Airport, Co Mayo on the 2nd Jan. The highest gust was 84 knots (155.6 km/h) while the month's highest 10-minute mean wind speed was 58 knots (107.4 km/h).

EXTREME VALUES AT SYNOPTIC STATIONS

Rainfall

Highest total: 274.7 mm (164% of LTA) at Newport, Co Mayo
Lowest total: 85.1 mm (130% of LTA) at Dublin (Phoenix Park).
Highest daily rainfall: 38.8 mm at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry on 12th (*its highest Jan daily fall since 2013*)

Temperature

Highest mean monthly temperature: 8.2°C (0.7°C from LTA) at Sherkin Island, Co Cork
Lowest mean monthly temperature: 4.1°C (0.1°C from LTA) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo
Highest air temperature: 13.8°C at Roches Point, Co Cork on 27th
Lowest air temperature: -6.8°C at Athenry, Co Galway on 8th
Lowest grass minimum: -12.4°C at Mount Dillon, Co Roscommon on 8th (*its lowest grass min for Jan since 2007*)

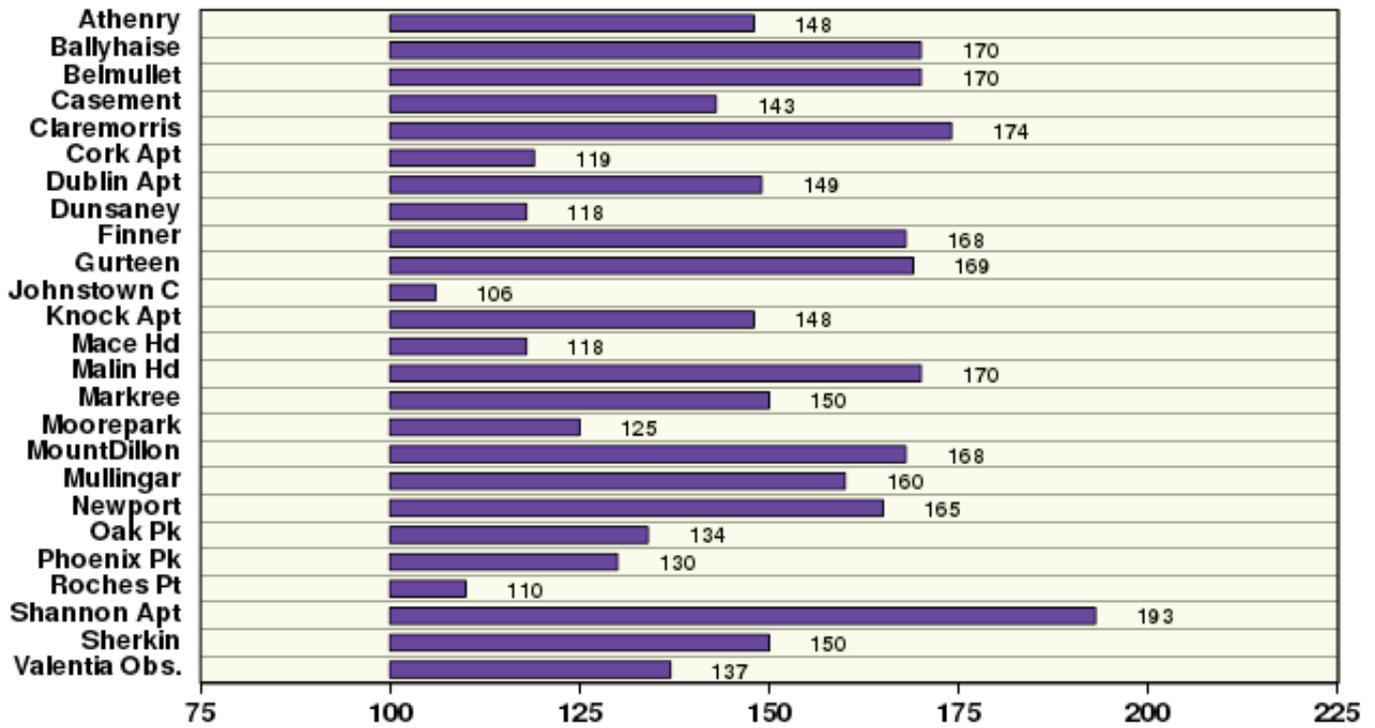
Sunshine

Highest monthly total: 78.9 hrs (daily mean 2.6 hrs/day) at Johnstown Castle*, Co Wexford
Lowest monthly total: 42.1 hrs (daily mean 1.4 hrs/day) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo
Highest daily sunshine: 6.8 hrs at Johnstown Castle*, Co Wexford on 11th

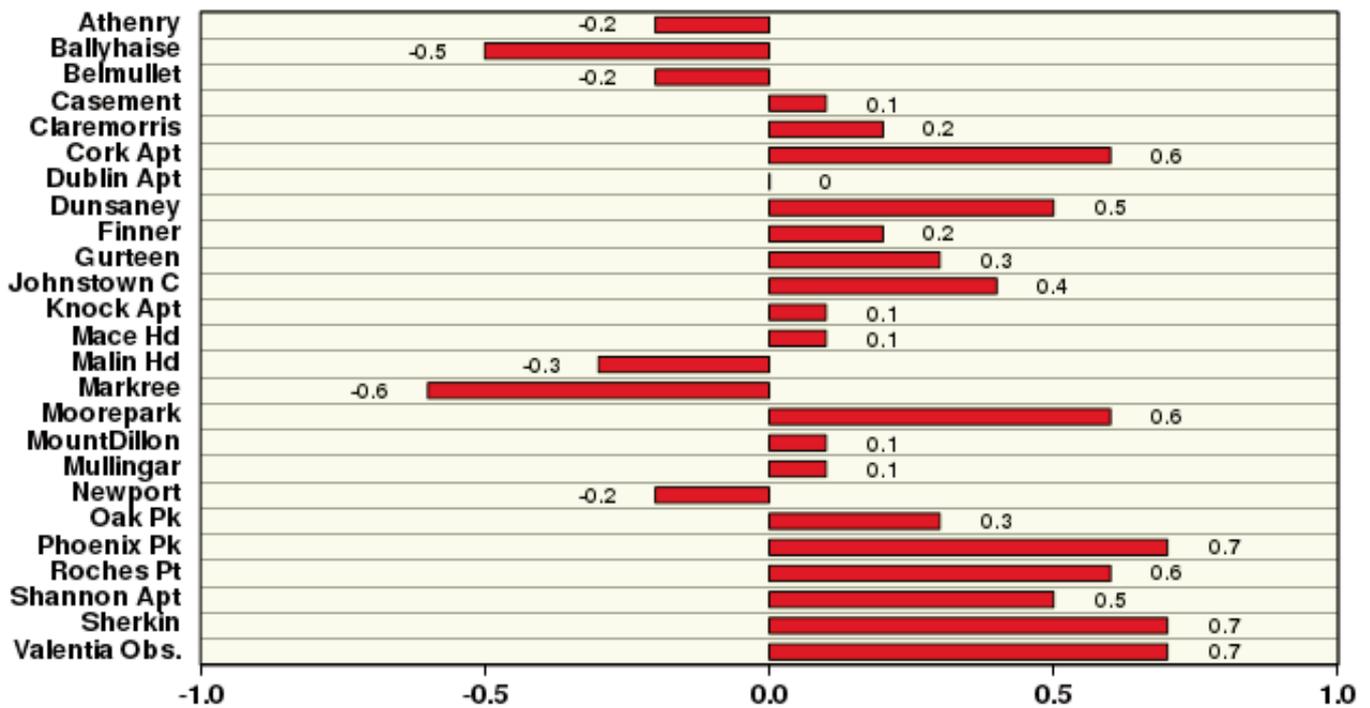
January 2018

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

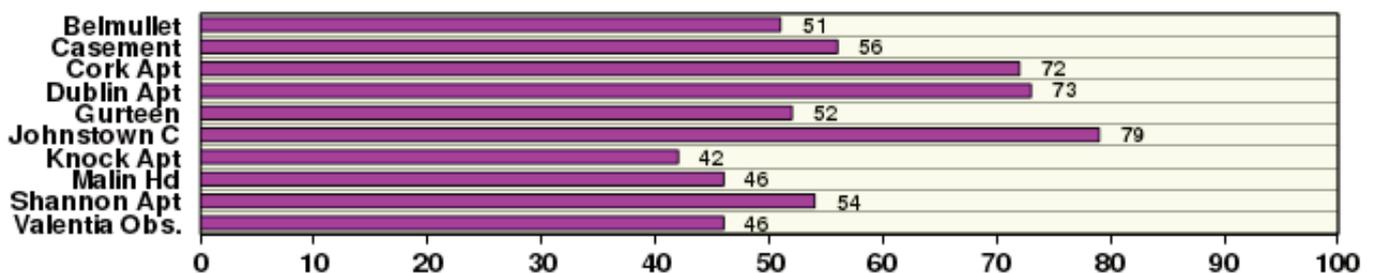
Rainfall (% of average for period 1981-2010) on whole month basis



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



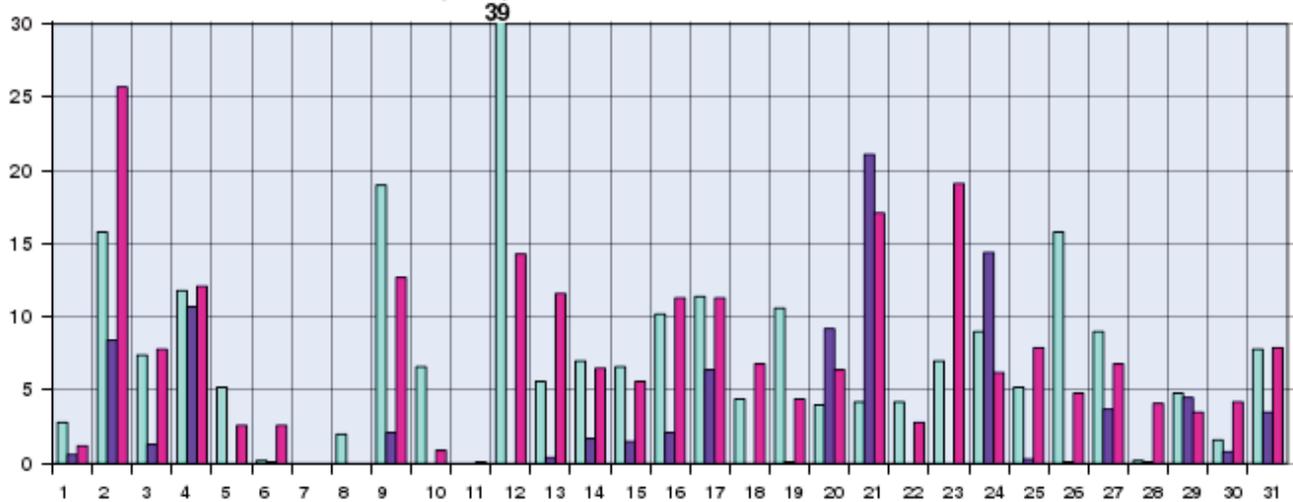
Sunshine (Number of monthly sunshine hours)



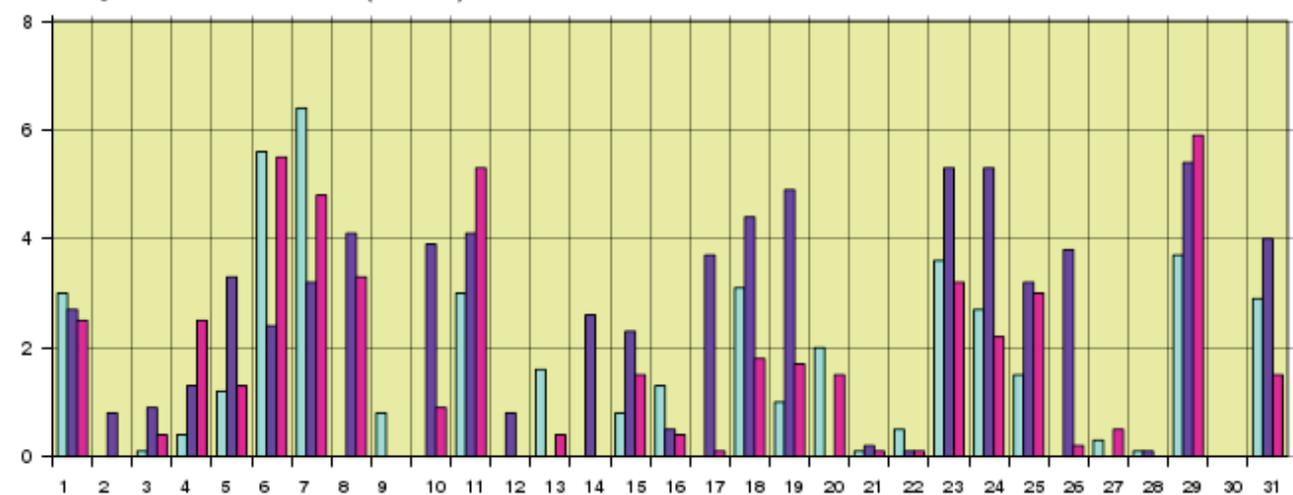
January 2018 Daily Values at selected synoptic stations

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

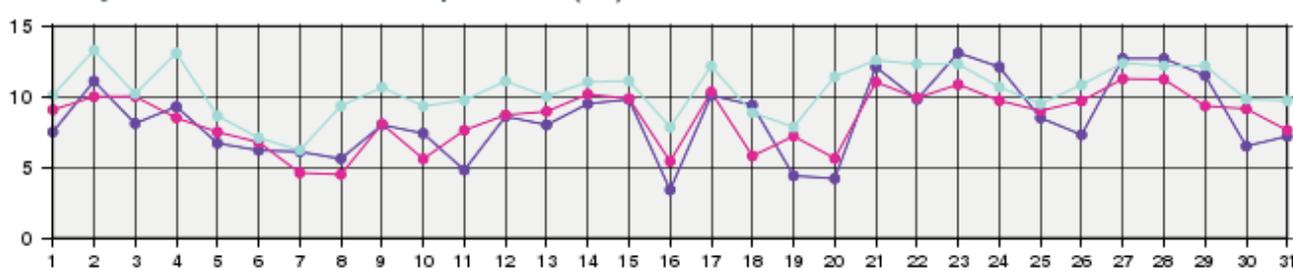
Daily 00-24h rainfall values(mm)



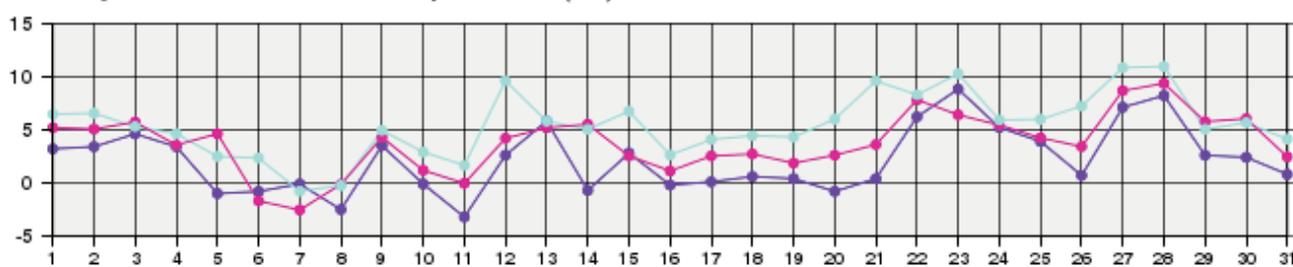
Daily sunshine values(hours)



Daily 00-24h maximum temperature (°C)



Daily 00-24h minimum temperature (°C)



- Valentia Observatory - Dublin Airport - Belmullet

Source: newR/WXBULL/CurrentMonthlyTemp.R Plotted Thu Feb 1 15:14:28 2018

Issued by the Climatology and Observations Division of Met Éireann on Friday February 2nd 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.

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