



Monthly Weather Summary

The Weather of July 2011

Dull and cool with below average rainfall in parts

Majority of stations recorded average or slightly below average rainfall in July with the exception of some stations along Atlantic coasts which recorded about only half of their long-term average rainfall for the month. For some of these stations it was the driest July since 2005, while in the south, Cork Airport recorded its driest July in 12 years. Almost all of the highest daily falls were recorded during the unsettled period between the 4th and 8th, with the highest daily fall of 34.9mm recorded at Knock Airport during this period. The majority of mean air temperatures for the month were lower than normal, with most temperatures across the country being between 0.5°C and 1°C below average. Dublin Airport reported its coolest July in 46 years with a mean air temperature of 13.8°C, while some stations in the south and southwest recorded their coolest July since 1988. Almost all maximum temperatures for July were recorded during the periods of high pressure in the latter part of the month, while the majority of minimum air temperatures were recorded on 6th, 22nd and 23rd. The lowest minimum air temperature during July of 4.7°C at Casement Aerodrome was the lowest for the station in 27 years, while Cork Airport's minimum air temperature of 6.2°C was the lowest measured at that site since 1965. Grass minimum temperatures recorded in the south were unusually low for July, with Valentia Observatory and Cork Airport recording grass minimums of 1.6°C and 1.5°C, their lowest grass minimum temperatures since 1940 and 1980, respectively. Sunshine was below average for the month in most parts of the country except in the west, while mean wind speeds for July were below normal everywhere, with the monthly mean wind speed of 8.9 knots (17km/h) at Belmullet being the lowest measured at the station in over 40 years.

1st to 3rd: The high pressure system that moved in across Ireland at the end of June remained, bringing dry weather to the majority of the country with light to gentle, south to southwesterly winds.

4th to 9th: A deep Atlantic depression brought unsettled weather as associated frontal systems moved across the country. Fronts brought a band of heavy rain on the 5th and later showers to parts, some with thunder, especially in the west and northwest on the 6th and 7th. Winds were gentle to moderate, variable in direction, with some gale gusts along Atlantic coasts.

10th to 14th: A high pressure system moved southwards over Ireland, bringing warm, dry, sunny weather. A few light showers were recorded during this period and winds were light, predominantly north northwest in direction.

15th to 24th: A large Atlantic depression brought more unsettled weather as it moved close to Ireland and across northern Scotland. Almost everywhere recorded rain and showers, heavy in places, with strong north to northwest winds, recording gale gusts in some locations. In the latter part of the period, pressure rose leading to warmer, drier and sunnier weather with predominantly northeasterly light winds with showers in places.

25th to 31st: Frontal activity brought a period of unsettled weather with light rain and drizzle and temperatures dropped slightly. Winds were light to gentle and variable in direction. Fog was reported in some coastal locations.

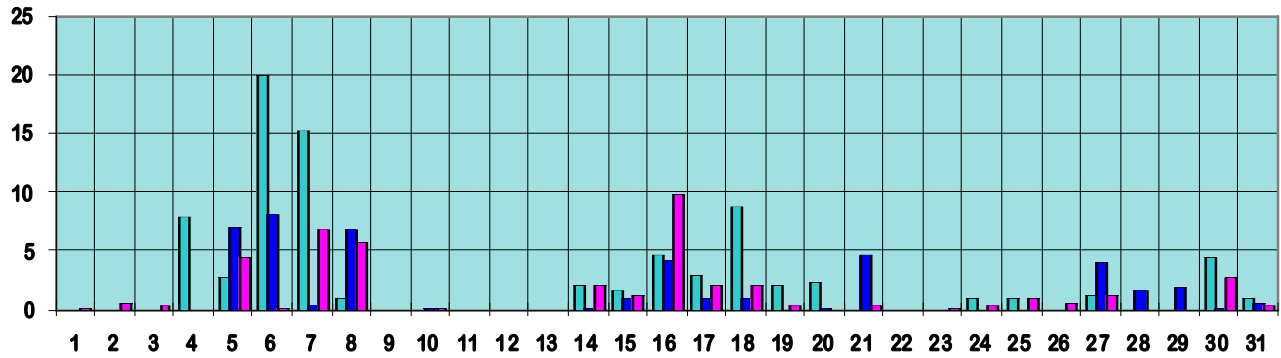
Wind and elements: Mean windspeeds for the month of between five and 11 knots (9 and 20km/h) were below normal for the time of year. Stations in the south and along Atlantic coasts recorded gale gusts at times during the month, mostly during the period 16th and 18th. The highest gust of the month was 43 knots (80km/h) recorded at Belmullet on the 17th. Thunderstorms were reported on the 6th especially in the west and northwest while no hail or frost were recorded. Fog was reported in the west during the period between the 4th and 9th and along southern and western coasts at the end of the month.

Extreme values

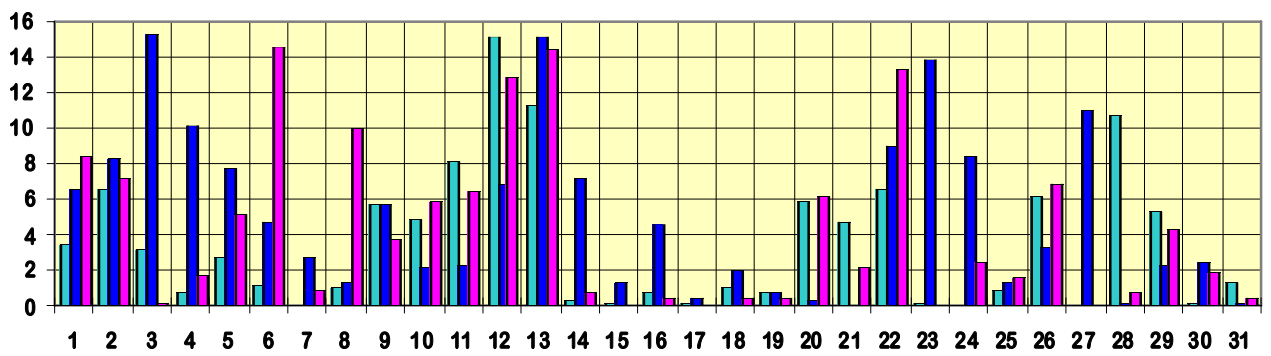
Rainfall	Highest total: 114mm at Knock Airport Lowest total: 31mm at Roche's Point Highest daily rainfall: 34.9mm at Knock Airport on 6th
Temperature	Highest mean monthly temperature: 14.8°C at Shannon Airport and Carlow(Oak Park) (lowest July mean monthly temperature for Shannon Airport since 2004) Lowest mean monthly temperature: 13.1°C at Knock Airport (its lowest July mean monthly temperature since 2004) Highest temperature: 24.4°C at Carlow(Oak Park) on 27th Lowest air temperature: 4.7°C at Casement Aerodrome on 22nd (its lowest minimum temperature for July since 1984) Lowest grass minimum temperature: 1.1°C at Casement Aerodrome on 22nd
Sunshine	Highest monthly total: 157 hours at Dublin Airport Lowest monthly total: 75 hours at Knock Airport (its dullest July since 1997) Highest daily sunshine: 15.3 hours at Dublin Airport on 3rd (its highest in July since 2006)

Daily values at selected synoptic stations

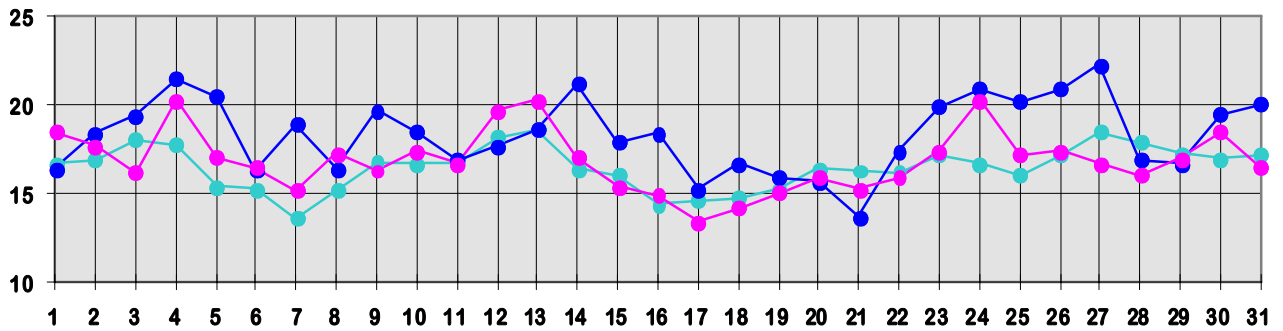
Rainfall (mm)



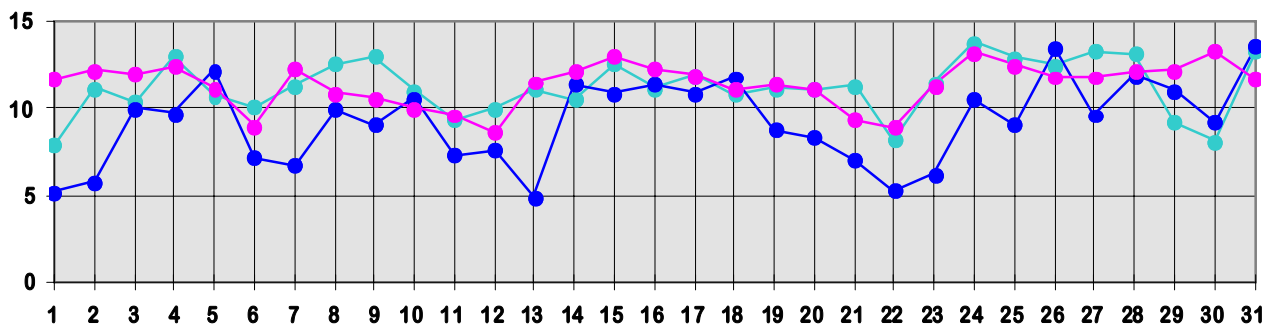
Sunshine (hours)



Maximum temperature (°C)



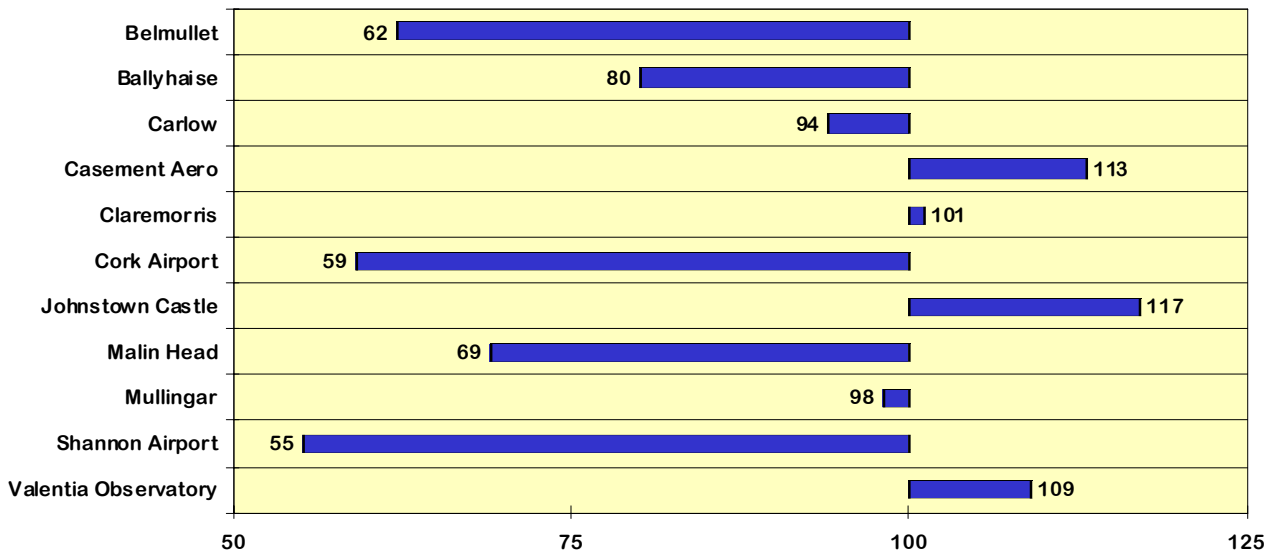
Minimum temperature (°C)



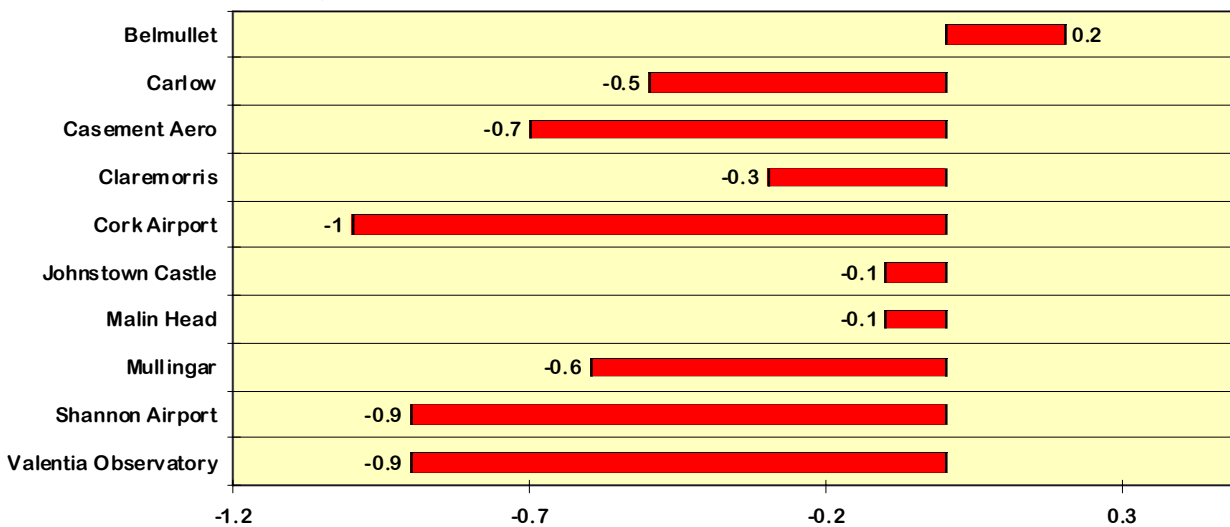
● Valentia Observatory ● Dublin Airport ● Belmullet

July 2011 Percentage / Difference from 1961-90 monthly normals

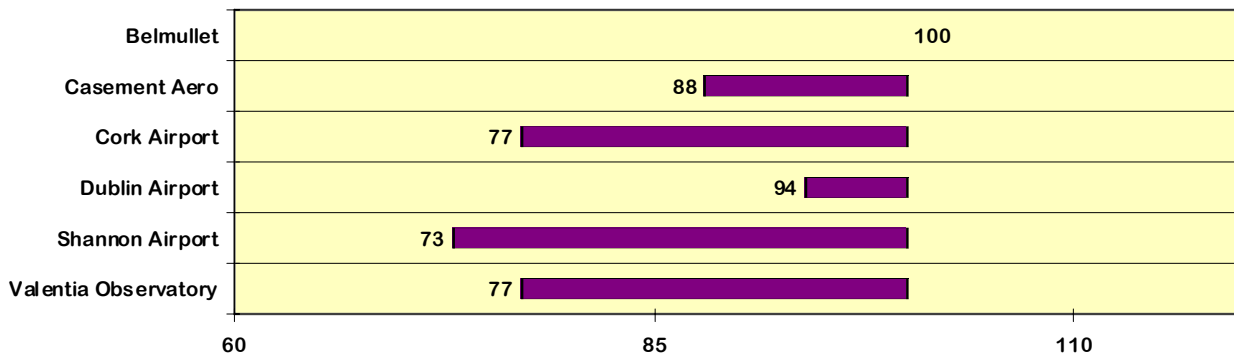
Rainfall (% of normal for period 1961-1990)



Temperature (°C difference from normal for period 1961-1990)



Sunshine (% of normal for period 1961-1990)



Issued by the Climatology and Observations Division of Met Éireann on 2nd August 2011

This report is based on preliminary data from the synoptic weather stations operated by Met Éireann

A detailed summary is available in the **Monthly Weather Bulletin**

For more information, contact Met Éireann at 01-8064200 or e-mail: climate.enquiries@met.ie website: www.met.ie/climate