



Monthly Weather Summary

The Weather of September 2010

Warmer, wetter than normal almost everywhere; sunshine totals near normal

September combined spells of relatively dry, settled conditions with periods of very wet weather, giving some record-breaking daily falls of rain at some stations. Temperatures were around two degrees higher than normal for most of the month, but cooler weather developed during the final week, bringing ground frost in some areas. Monthly rainfall totals were above normal except in parts of Munster, with around twice the September average recorded in places; Mullingar had its wettest September since 1962. The number of wetdays during the month (days with 1mm or more rainfall) was close to normal, however, with almost all stations falling within the normal range for September of between 12 and 18 wetdays. Heaviest falls were measured in the period 5th to 7th and on the 9th, 13th and 22nd. Widespread daily falls of between 20mm and 60mm on the 6th were the highest on record for September at some stations: Knock Airport's fall of 86.5mm on this day was the highest daily fall at the station for any month since rainfall measurements began there in 1988. Mean monthly air temperatures were around one degree higher than normal and it was a particularly warm month in western areas. The highest daily values were measured during the first four days of the month, when maxima of over 20°C were widely recorded. In contrast, temperatures fell well below normal at times during the final week, when some very low air and ground temperatures for September were measured in midland and eastern areas. Sunshine totals for the month were close to or a little higher than normal, with most stations recording their sunniest days in the period 1st to 4th.

1st to 3rd: A large area of high pressure over Ireland brought dry and mostly sunny conditions with light southeasterly winds. Daytime temperatures were well above normal, but nights were cool in eastern areas.

4th to 14th: Slow-moving depressions over Ireland brought spells of rain or showers each day, some of which were very heavy and accompanied by thunder. The heaviest falls were recorded early in the period: four-day falls of between 60mm and 100mm were measured in many places between the 4th and 7th. Most thunder was observed in southern and eastern areas, while a tornado was reported from Allenwood, Co. Kildare, on the 10th. This period was generally mild and cloudy, with south to southwesterly winds. There were widespread gale gusts on the 13th and 14th, when a deep depression passed to the north of the country.

15th to 30th: Falls of heavy rain were widespread on the 22nd and 28th, but rainfall amounts on most other days during this period were small, especially in eastern and southern areas. Little or no rain was recorded between the 24th and 27th. Temperatures were variable, with warm weather between the 19th and 22nd, before falling well below normal in a northerly airstream between the 23rd and 26th. Sunny spells were recorded each day, particularly in eastern areas.

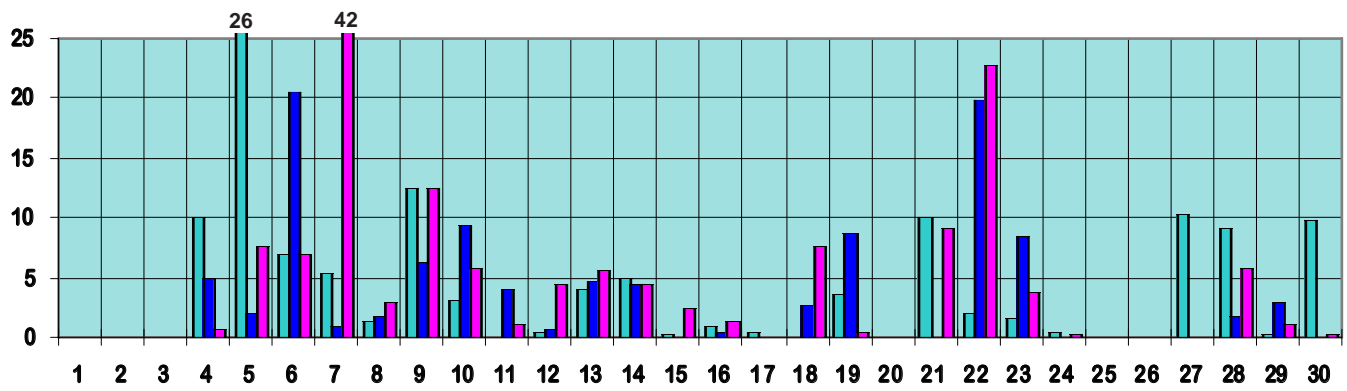
Wind and elements: Mean windspeeds for the month of between 6 and 15 knots (*11 and 28km/h*) were above normal everywhere, the highest September means for five or six years generally. The strongest winds of the month were on the 5th/6th and in the period 13th to 15th; Malin Head measured the highest gust of 49 knots (*91km/h*) on each of the 6th, 13th and 15th. Thunderstorms were widespread at times between the 3rd and 11th, and particularly on the 22nd, but there were no reports of hail.

Extreme values

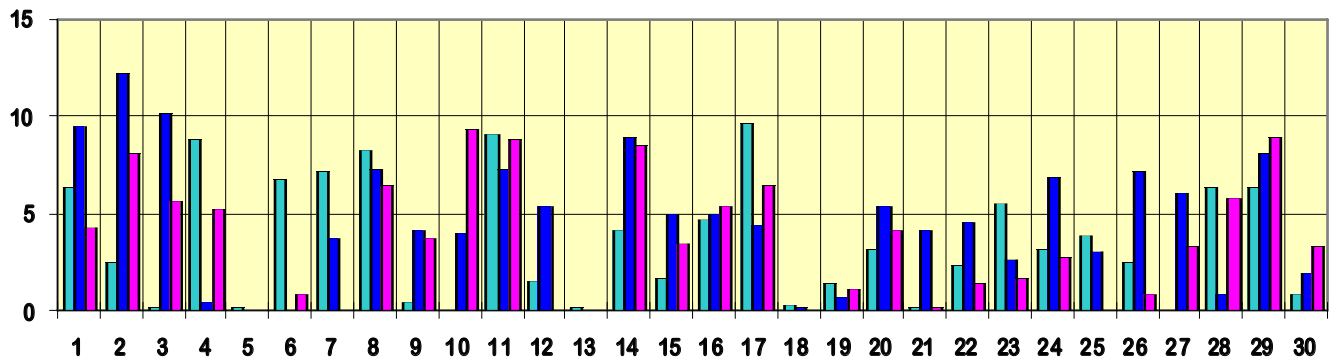
Rainfall	Highest total: 203mm at Knock Airport (<i>its wettest September since rainfall records began there in 1988</i>) Lowest total: 79mm at Cork Airport Highest daily rainfall: 86.5mm at Knock Airport on 6th (<i>its highest daily fall for any month on record</i>)
Temperature	Highest mean monthly temperature: 14.9°C at Valentia Observatory Lowest mean monthly temperature: 12.7°C at Knock Airport Highest temperature: 22.6°C at Claremorris on 3rd Lowest air temperature: 1.0°C at Ballyhaise on 27th Lowest grass minimum temperature: -3.1°C at Casement Aerodrome on 27th (<i>its lowest such value for September since 1986</i>)
Sunshine	Highest monthly total: 139 hours at Dublin Airport (<i>its sunniest September since 2004</i>) Lowest monthly total: 105 hours at Knock Airport Highest daily sunshine: 12.3 hours at Dublin Airport on 2nd (<i>its highest September value since 2000</i>)

September 2010 Daily values at selected synoptic stations

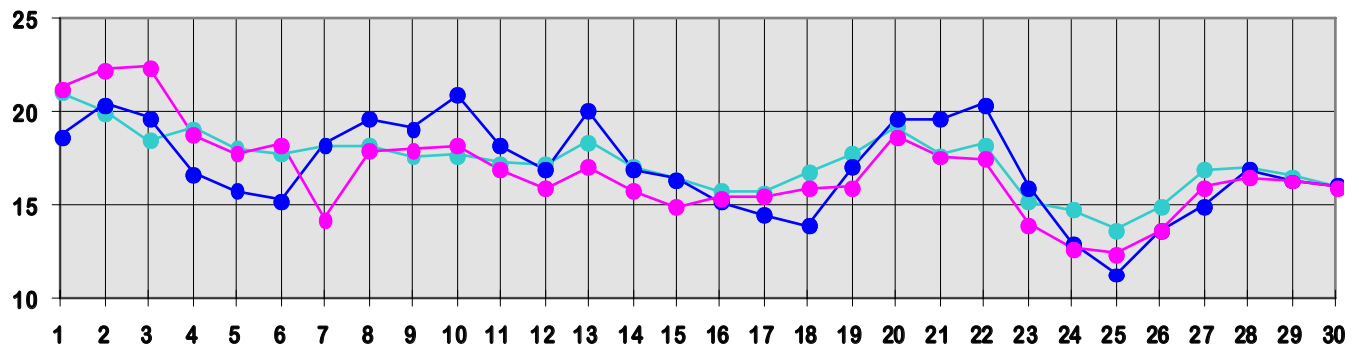
Rainfall (mm)



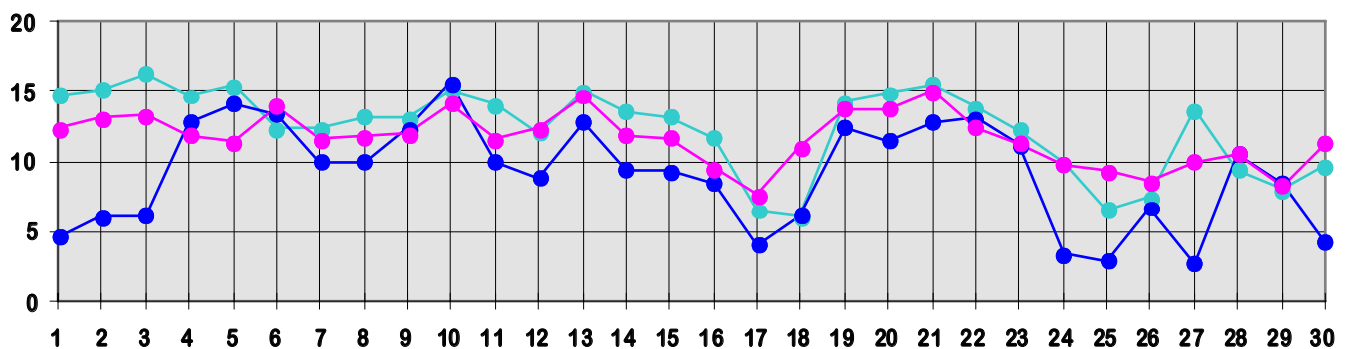
Sunshine (hours)



Maximum temperature (°C)



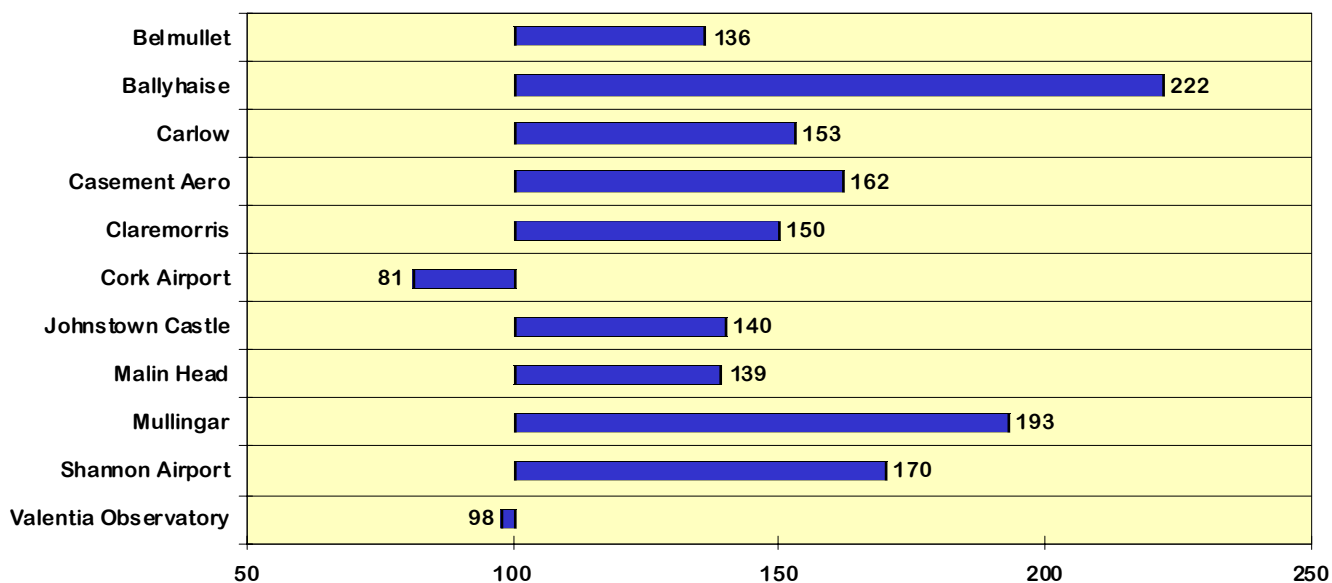
Minimum temperature (°C)



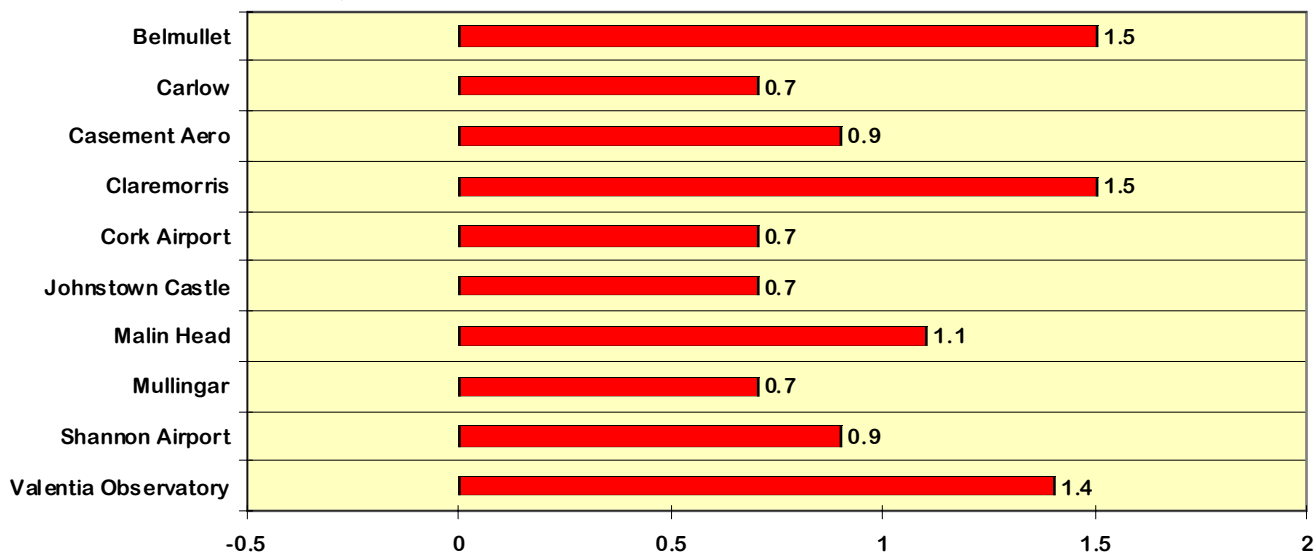
● Valentia Observatory
 ● Dublin Airport
 ● Belmullet

September 2010 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)

