

The Weather of Summer 2010

(June, July and August summary)

Warm and dry for most of season; sunnier than normal everywhere

Mean air temperatures for the season were over half a degree higher than normal; both June and July were warmer than normal everywhere, but August was relatively cool. The season's highest temperatures at most stations were recorded during the second half of June, but there were few very warm days overall. Highest maxima for the 3-month period were only 20°C to 23°C in most western and southwestern areas, the lowest summer maxima for between eight and 16 years in these areas. There were only five days at Valentia Observatory when daily maximum temperature rose above 20°C compared with its average for summer of 12 days, but Dublin Airport's total of 24 such days was a little higher than normal. The season's lowest temperatures were measured during late August, when ground frost was recorded at some midland and eastern stations.

Rainfall totals were near normal everywhere, but it was unevenly distributed throughout the season. Both June and August were relatively dry, but totals for July were well above normal, especially in western areas. This latter month also brought the highest daily falls, particularly in the period July 7th to 10th. Claremorris's fall of 55.5mm on July 10th was its highest daily value for summer since June 1964. There were between 25 and 38 wetdays during the 3-month period over most of the country, close to the normal number for summer, but more than 40 wetdays were observed in many western and northern areas.

Sunshine totals for the season were above normal everywhere, continuing the trend of sunny conditions so far during 2010. Both June and August were very sunny, but July was a dull month everywhere, especially in the southwest. Daily values of around 16 hours of sunshine were recorded in many places in the period June 19th to 21st; Valentia Observatory's daily value of 15.9 hours on June 20th was the highest at the station for at least 60 years.

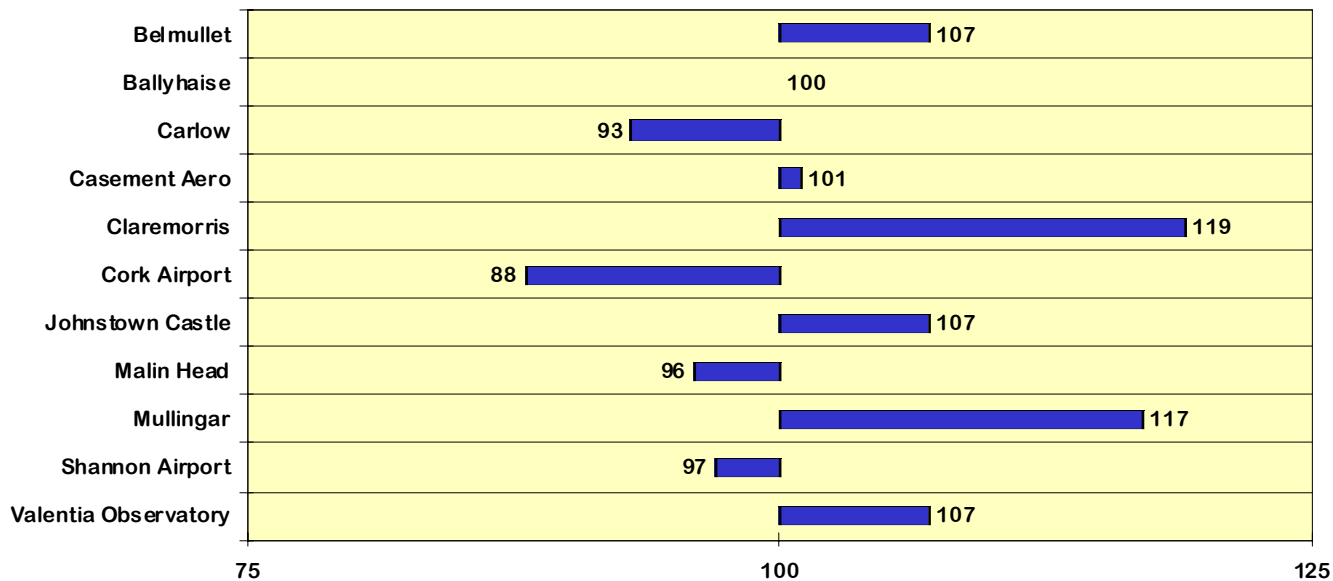
The Poulter index is a method of rating the summer weather (June to August), using a formula based on mean temperature, rainfall and sunshine for each station, i.e. the higher the index, the 'better' the summer weather. This summer, the index was slightly higher than average at each of the long-term stations of Dublin (Phoenix Park), Valentia Observatory and Malin Head.

Extreme seasonal values at synoptic stations

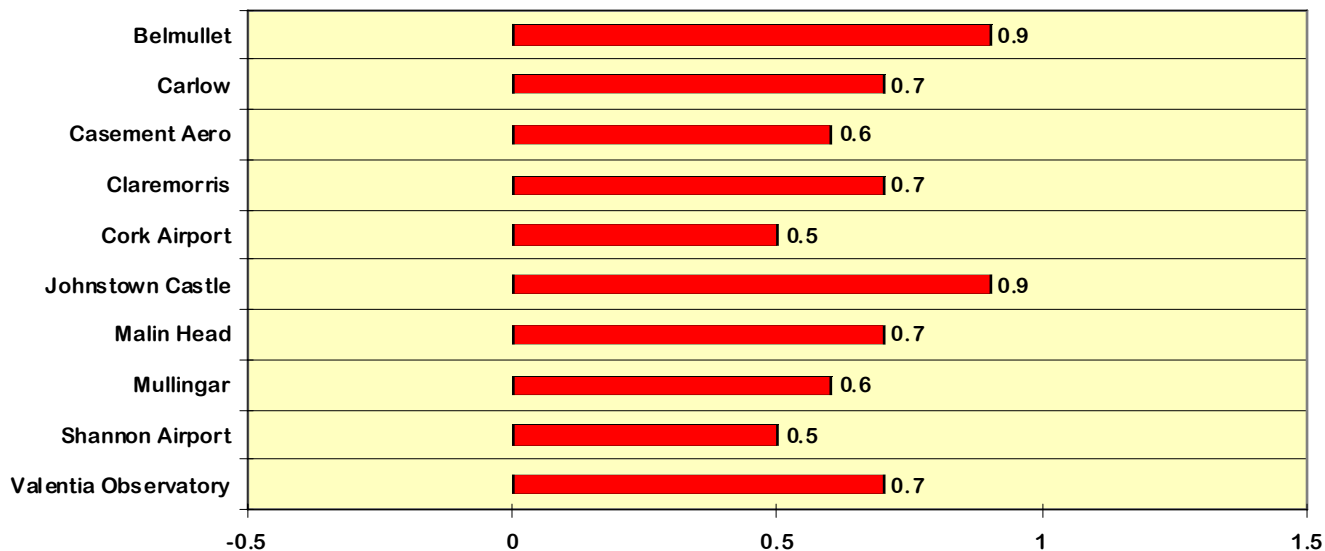
Rainfall	Highest seasonal total: 302mm at Knock Airport Lowest seasonal total: 157mm at Carlow (Oak Park) Highest daily rainfall: 55.5mm at Claremorris on July 10th (<i>its highest daily value for summer since 1964</i>)
Temperature	Highest mean seasonal temperature: 15.6°C at Shannon Airport Lowest mean seasonal temperature: 13.6°C at Knock Airport Highest temperature: 24.9°C at Ballyhaise on June 21st Lowest air temperature: 0.6°C at Gurteen on August 30th Lowest grass minimum temperature: -1.9°C at Casement Aerodrome on August 30th (<i>its lowest such value for summer since 1986</i>)
Sunshine	Highest seasonal total: 563 hours at Dublin Airport Lowest seasonal total: 451 hours at Knock Airport Highest daily sunshine: 16.0 hours at Casement Aerodrome on June 20th

Summer 2010 Percentage / Difference from 1961-90 monthly normals

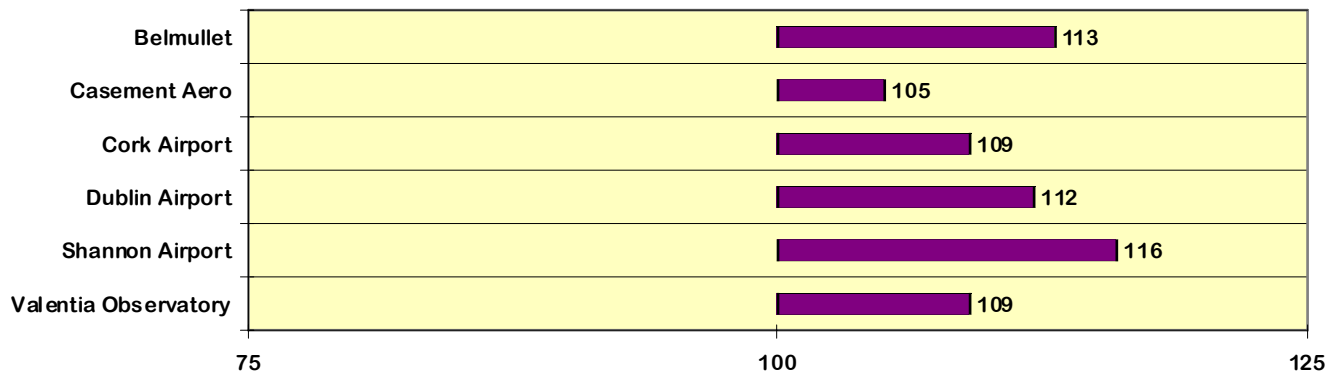
Rainfall (% of normal for period 1961-1990)



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



Sunshine (% of normal for period 1961-1990)



Issued by the Climatology and Observations Division of Met Éireann on 1st September 2010
 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