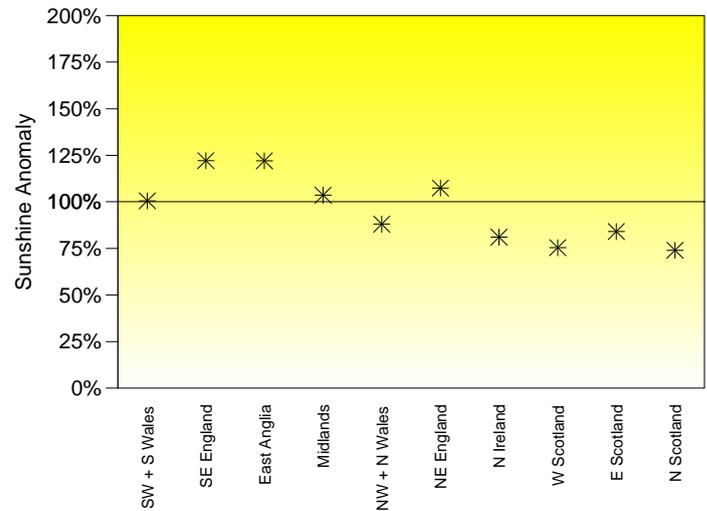
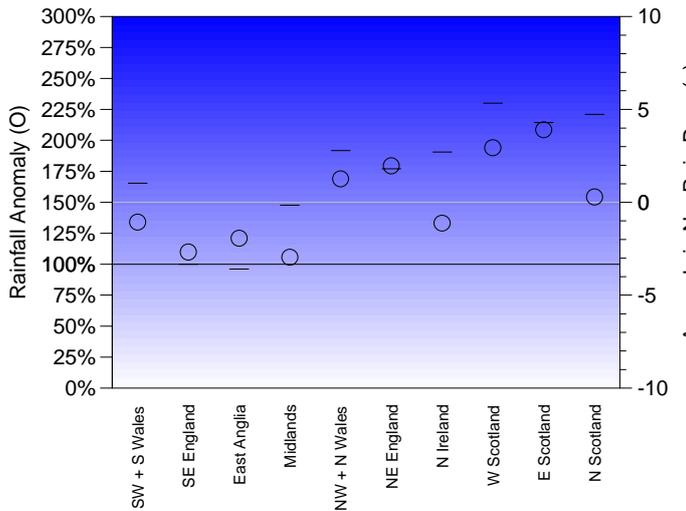


Extremes for June 2017	
Hottest:	34.5°C Heathrow, Greater London, 21st
Coldest:	-2.3°C Altnaharra SAWS, Highland, 8th
Most Rain:	79.1mm Capel Curig SAWS, Gwynedd, 5th
Most Sun:	16.2hrs Morecambe, Lancashire, 18th
Windiest:	69mph Inverbervie SAWS, Grampian, 7th
Warmest:	18.9°C Heathrow, Greater London
Coolest:	10.9°C Dalwhinnie No 2, Tayside
Wettest:	247.2mm Cluanie Inn No 3, Ross & Cromarty
Driest:	26.4mm Cambridge, Niab, Cambridgeshire
Sunniest:	263.0hrs Jersey Airport, Channel Islands
Dullest:	65.6hrs Magilligan No 2, County Londonderry



June is the only month that has proved immune to the warming of recent centuries. Indeed June's have arguably become cooler - and undoubtedly duller and wetter. Despite this - and the fact that July or August are almost always warmer - the high sun and long days help June register the hottest day about one year in four.

This year June began and ended unsettled, although between England and Wales experienced a remarkable heat wave. On the 2nd spells of occasionally thundery rain caused some minor flooding in the southeast and around Stansted Airport. A deep low (named "Ingraban" by the Berlin Meteorological Institute) brought heavy rain and strong winds as it tracked northeast across the UK 5th/6th. In the English Channel, a westerly gale (Force 8 or 9 and briefly Storm Force 10) blew for much of the day. Inland, a van blew over near Plymouth killing its three occupants and two more fatalities arose where cars were crushed by falling trees in Hampshire and Perthshire. There were widespread power failures especially in the south west and torrential rain triggered flooding in Porsyoy, Aberdeenshire, forcing homes to be evacuated. As "Ingraban" moved off into Scandinavia a cold night followed - with a sharp air frost for the Scottish Highlands and a dusting of fresh snow across Cairngorm summits. Pressure steadily built from the south after that, and although lows continued to inundate Scotland, it became increasingly settled further south. By the 17th high pressure was well established and as warm air was drawn up from the near-continent temperatures began to rise. For each of the next five days somewhere in the UK exceeded 30°C (86°F) culminating in a high of 34.5°C (94°F) at Heathrow, Greater London on the 21st. This made it the warmest Summer Solstice ever - and the hottest June day since the famous long summer of 1976. The heat brought widespread delays to rail services amidst fears of tracks buckling, and roads in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk reportedly started to melt. Three people died on the water in separate incidents while attempting to cool off and at Royal Ascot, men were permitted to remove their jackets for the first time in the event's history. Northern England and Scotland were cooler and cloudier and the 21st saw widespread thunderstorms and localised flooding in northeast England. The heat wave ended abruptly in the south on the 22nd with thunderstorms across East Anglia and the south east - where lightning strikes caused numerous power outages. June ended wet, unsettled and cool. For many places in Eastern England and Scotland the 28th was cooler than was last Christmas Day - a profound contrast to the recent heat.

June was a warm month nationwide - but especially for the south and east. Temperatures across England averaged nearly 2°C above normal, making it the warmest June since 1976 and the (joint) 2nd warmest since 1910. Sunshine was close to average for the UK as a whole - but this disguised significant regional contrast. The north and west was relatively dull whilst the south and east was sunny. Scotland received twice its usual rain making it the wettest June there since 1910, and dramatically ending the drought around Edinburgh. Further south, whilst many places were wet there were some surprising anomalies e.g. Central England was remarkably dry.

Western Europe experienced a notable heatwave from the 17th e.g. Le Mans (northern France) recorded 36.8°C (98.2°F) on the 21st. The heat broke in spectacular fashion on the 22nd and in Germany, violent thunderstorms, gale-force winds, torrential rain and large hail led to widespread damage and disruption. Fallen trees caused at least two fatalities, flights at Berlin's airports were grounded and Hamburg in the north and Magdeburg in the east suffered extensive power failures. Further south and west lightning is suspected to have triggered Portugal's worst-ever forest fires on the 22nd. These ravaged 30,000 hectares of parched forest in the centre of the country, leaving 64 dead and more than 250 injured.

Western USA also saw some very hot temperatures during June. Tucson, Arizona, reached 40.5°C (104.9°F) 16th-18th, and Phoenix 48.5°C (119.3°F) on the 21st - its fourth hottest day ever. In neighbouring California, Palm Springs, hit 49.5°C (121.1°F) and Death Valley 51.7°C (125.1°F) Further north and east on the 28th, a barrage of storms accompanied by tennis ball sized hail and tornadoes wrought destruction to towns across Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

In northern Taiwan, at the start of the month, torrential rain in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Mora led to major flooding. Taipei, the capital received 120mm within 2 hours on the 2nd - causing delays to over 300 flights at the main airport. The deluge continued further south and west, and Nantianchi in Taoyuan District recorded a 48 hour rainfall total of nearly 1200mm. Thousands of homes were inundated and two people were drowned.

In the southern hemisphere it is mid winter - and nowhere in the world was colder than the Concordia research station (3,233m up on the Antarctic plateau), which recorded -80.1°C (-112°F) on the morning of the Winter Solstice. Further north, it was rather warmer, but far from clement... In central and southern Chile, blizzards left 3,000 homeless and 4 dead 15th-19th and on the 7th torrential rain and fires ignited by lightning devastated hundreds of homes and killed eight people along the southern coast of South Africa.