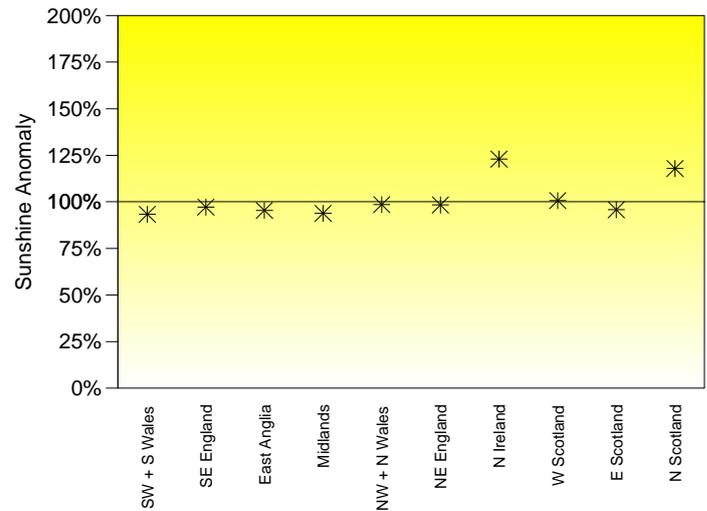
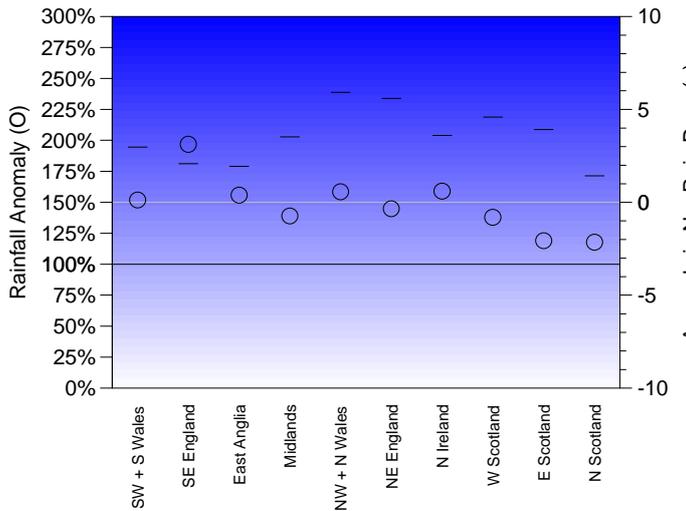


Extremes for July 2017		
Hottest:	32.2°C	Heathrow, Greater London, 6th
Coldest:	0.0°C	Kirkwall, Orkney, 2nd
Most Rain:	50.2mm	Carlisle SAWS, Cumbria, 22nd
Most Sun:	16.0hrs	Tiree, Strathclyde, 12th
Windiest:	59mph	Berry Head, Devon, 21st
Warmest:	19.4°C	Heathrow, Greater London
Coolest:	11.8°C	Dalwhinnie No 2, Tayside
Wettest:	210.0mm	Achnagart, Highland
Driest:	34.4mm	Drumnadrochit, Grampian
Sunniest:	221.6hrs	Shoeburyness B, Essex
Dullest:	109.2hrs	Aviemore, Highland



July is most usually the warmest month of the year. It is also the most likely (about 44% of the time) to contain the hottest day - with this typically occurring 10th-20th. Thunderstorms are at their most common during July - but a decline over recent decades has put July amongst the drier months everywhere except for Eastern Scotland. Westerlies can sometimes reassert - as they did this year - and with some vengeance.

The first half of July was generally dry and warm across England and Wales. Further north it was unsettled, cooler and wetter, especially in the west. Most places enjoyed a short fine and warm spell mid month, but this soon broke as thundery showers pushed north across the country on the 18th. In Coverack, Cornwall an estimated 160-170 mm rainfall turned roads into rivers and caused damage to 50 homes in a remarkable deluge that echoed the famous Boscastle event. Elsewhere the same evening, thunderstorms caused power disruption in Plymouth, lightning strikes sparked fires across the south east and 36mm of rainfall fell within a single hour at Reading, Berkshire. There were further incidents of flooding, torrential rain and lightning on the 19th - this time concentrated in East Anglia, Wales and northwest England.

From the 20th the weather took on a distinctly autumnal feel as it turned cool wet and windy. The National Air show near Edinburgh, Lothian was ruined as conditions forced most flying to be cancelled. Further south appalling driving conditions led to numerous road accidents on the M65 in Lancashire causing it to become closed for a time. There was a gust of 59mph at Berry Head, Devon on the 21st and 50.2 mm of rain fell at Carlisle, Cumbria on the 22nd. An unusually deep depression close to the northwest of Scotland dominated all the last week - and produced some strong west or southwesterly winds and spells of rain or heavy showers.

Mean temperatures for July for the UK as a whole were close to normal. It was slightly warmer than average in the south, and slightly cooler than average in the north. July was a wet month everywhere, but especially so in the southeast, where some places received double their normal rainfall. England and Wales had a slightly dull month, but Northern Ireland and northwest Scotland were sunny, and the extreme north remarkably so. Sunshine totals in Lerwick, Shetland were higher than anywhere in the southwest of England.

A torrential rainstorm struck Paris on the evening of the 9th. 49mm fell within a single hour making it the French capital's heaviest July deluge on record - and the resulting flooding closed 20 metro stations. On the 18th, torrential rain in Turkey's capital city of Istanbul flooded some districts and on the 27th a severe summer storm with violent rain, hail and squalls caused more extensive damage. High winds toppled a large crane onto oil barrels causing an explosion, and a small depot was razed after being struck by lightning. Floods stranded rush hour traffic - submerging cars and buses - and huge hail, the size of golf balls, peppered car windscreens and pitted aircraft - forcing flight diversions and several emergency landings. Scorching heat affected Iberia in mid July and on the 13th, Spain experienced it's hottest ever day with 47.3°C (117°F) at Montoro, Andalusia. A heat wave also astonished tourists in Fnjóskadalur, Northeast Iceland on the 25th where temperatures soared to 27.7°C (82°F)

In the USA, the aptly named Furnace Creek station in Death Valley, California set a new record for the worlds hottest ever month with temperatures averaging 41.9°C (107.4°F). On the 27th Typhoon "Nesat", packing maximum sustained winds of 90mph and gusts of 110 mph, struck the Philippines. The capital Manila was swamped by waist-deep floods and dramatic storm surges and elsewhere on the islands, falling trees and flying debris left 16 people dead. Two days later, "Nesat" made landfall on Taiwan where it whipped up 15m waves on the coast and brought much of the island to a standstill.

In the southern hemisphere, it is mid winter. Residents of Santiago, Chile awoke on the 15th to bitter winds and a layer of snow 5cm deep - the heaviest snowfall since 2007. Falling trees and branches downed power lines leaving 250,000 residents without power, heat and light and in sub freezing temperatures. A ferocious storm buffeted the South Island of New Zealand on the 22nd. In 24 hours, 220mm of rain fell on the hills north of Dunedin culminating in floods and landslips that left 120,000 residents cut off. Coastal communities on the Otago Peninsula were also left marooned and the Heathcote River in Christchurch burst its banks - forcing residents to flee their homes.