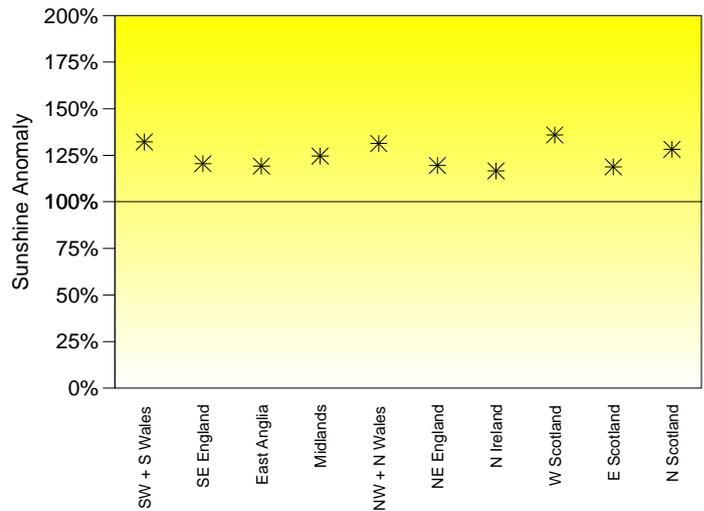
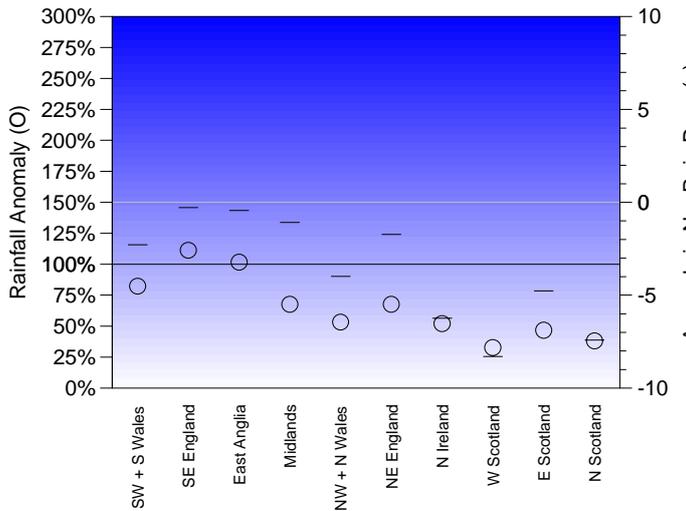


Extremes for September 2015	
Hottest:	23.2°C Aboyne, Grampian, 29th
Coldest:	-0.9°C Tyndrum No 3, Perthshire, 30th
Most Rain:	51.0mm Loftus, Cleveland, 15th
Most Sun:	12.7hrs Charterhall SAWS, Borders, 7th
Windiest:	66mph Pembrey Sands, Dyfed, 14th
Warmest:	14.8°C Scilly St. Mary's SAWS, Cornwall
Coolest:	10.2°C Kielder Castle, Northumberland
Wettest:	106.6mm Liscombe, Somerset
Driest:	16.8mm Hull East Park, Humberside
Sunniest:	203.0hrs St. Athan, South Glamorgan
Dullest:	75.2hrs Kirkwall, Orkney



September marks the beginning of meteorological autumn, and gales become increasingly likely after the autumnal equinox on the 22nd. The general character of the month however is typically more benign - with high pressure providing settled weather and warm days - although with an increasing risk of ground frost beneath clear night sky's.

September began cool in a showery northerly airflow and there were thunderstorms over north western England. On the 2nd, very heavy rain (e.g. 40mm within 24 hours at Hawarden, Clwyd) caused localised flooding in parts of North Wales and the Wirral. It remained cool until the 5th when high pressure from the west became established and gave a week of settled and frequently sunny weather. Much of the UK including the north basked in temperatures >20°C (68°F), and Braemar (Aberdeenshire) reported 22.2 °C (72°F) on the 7th. Nights however were chilly with ground frosts in Scottish glens and on high ground. Early morning mist and fog were also common, especially in the east - and notably on the 10th. Winds turned westerly on the 11th and unsettled weather then persisted - with the exception of a brief interlude of high pressure on the 19th / 20th - all the way through to the 24th. On the 13th, large waves inundated part of the railway line between Dawlish and Teignmouth disabling a train. The following day thunderstorms affected Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire and that night South Wales and Channel coasts were pounded by gales (the very exposed Needles lighthouse recorded a gust of 78mph). On the 15th, spells of heavy rain (e.g. Loftus, Cleveland recorded 52mm), led to localised flooding in places as far apart as Dorset and Teesside. Further flooding was reported from Hampshire and East Anglia on the 16th and Kent on the 18th - where it was triggered by thunderstorms. High pressure became established from the 25th and whilst mornings were frequently cool and misty, there were some spectacularly sunny days. Clear skies gave a good view for most of the "super-moon" lunar eclipse overnight 27th-28th. Remarkably, the 30th brought both the highest and lowest temperatures of the month in the UK - and both at Braemar (Aberdeenshire)! The temperature there rose from a low just before dawn of -1.3°C (30°F) to an early afternoon maximum of 24.0°C (75°F)!

Frequent clear skies made nighttimes during September rather cooler than normal for all of the UK - and 1.5°C cooler for most of England and Wales. Daytime temperatures were a little depressed compared to the average - everywhere except for Scotland. For many places in England it was the coolest September in 20 years. Rainfall was below average everywhere except for the extreme south east and East Anglia. Many places received just half their normal September rainfall and swathes of western Scotland - less than one third! Sunshine was in surplus nationwide - typically by 25% or more, making it sunnier than the preceding August.

Northwest Europe had a cool September and torrential rain hit western Ireland on the 11th. 79mm fell across Newport, County Mayo and homes were engulfed by flood waters in County Clare. Central and eastern Europe meanwhile basked in outstanding heat. Elefsina near Athens sweltered in 42°C (108°F) on the 6th - a record high for Greece for September. In Germany, Gottfrieding (Bavaria) reached 34.0°C (93°F) on the 17th while Moscow reported 27.6°C (82°F) on the 25th. Violent thunderstorms on the Aegean islands during the evening of the 22nd caused serious damage. On Skopelos, floodwaters trapped drivers in their vehicles and swept away cars. A large part of the island's port was also destroyed. On nearby Rhodes, the airport was shut down after torrential rain led to the formation of an 8m deep sinkhole on the main runway.

Much of Siberia was blanketed by early snowfalls in mid-September. In Khakassia drifts half a meter deep formed - unprecedented so soon after summer. In contrast, the USA experienced record heat with New York's Central Park reaching 36.1°C (97°F) on the 8th. In the Pacific, Tropical Storm Etou had a devastating impact in eastern and central Japan 6th-11th. Torrential rainfall caused floods and landslides that led to the evacuation of 200,000 people. The city of Ikari recorded 551mm of rain in 24 hours, while Nikko received 668mm from 6th-9th. There were at least 9 fatalities and more than 7,000 homes and buildings were damaged or destroyed as the floodwaters spread out across 37 km².

In Australia, Adelaide's streets turned white on the 16th as giant hail fell across the city and surrounding hills. In places the weight of the hail caused roofs to collapse while melt water and heavy rain triggered flash flooding in inner and eastern suburbs.