



Monthly Weather Summary March 2025

Very Dry - the driest yet at this site

Warmer than average, especially by day

General and Barometric Pressure

Apart from a little rain 6-7th, 21st-22nd and 27-29th, March saw many dry days and would finish as the driest yet recorded at this site.

Overall it was a rather quiet and uneventful month.

Locally it would be the driest since 1996, but further west in the county, only since 2013. However, at Grasmere it has finished as the driest March since 1969.

High pressure was to the fore during the month, although mean air pressure would only finish 3.1MB above average.

Temperatures during the month fell into three distinct phases; the first of these being the 1st to the 9th which was mild by night with day-time maxima trending slightly below average until an explosion of warmth 8-9th which saw the month's highest temperatures.

The second phase, 10-20th was much cooler with frosts most nights and day-time maxima again back to, or slightly below average, but with a rapid rise on the 20th to herald in the final phase.

This would last through to the end of the month with above average temperatures both by day and night.

The first five days of the month were dry, the 1st enjoying some sunshine, but the rest of the period was generally cloudy, but latterly a cool wind would develop.

The 6th was actually sunny, but clouded over in the afternoon ahead of rain in the evening (4.8 mm) and overnight into the 7th which was a misty day with bits of rain.

The 8-11th saw some hazy sunshine with both the 8th and 9th recording maximum temperatures above 17°C.

Apart from a few snow and sleet showers on the 12th (1.0 mm) the period through to the 20th was dry and did enjoy some spells of sunshine, but the days were on the cool side.

That 1.0 mm recorded on the 12th was the only precipitation to fall between the 8th and 20th.

The rain that fell on the 21st and 22nd actually did so during the hours of darkness, leaving the day-times cloudy.

Four dry and reasonably sunny days followed 23rd to 26th before a poor day 27th and two rather mixed days 28-29th.

The month ended with another two dry days, the 30th being sunny and windy, the 31st mainly cloudy.

Temperature

Due to the warmer and settled conditions, 18 days having above average maximum temperatures, the mean maximum temperature for the month would finish significantly above average by 2.13°C.

However, whilst the number of air frosts finished above average, this didn't quite manage to off-set the number of warm nights, the mean minimum finishing 0.25°C above average.

With a mean minimum of 2.16°C and a mean maximum of 11.36°C March 2025 saw the temperature finish 1.19°C above the sixteen year average for this site.

This saw it being the warmest March since 2022 and since the record commenced (2009), three have been warmer and thirteen have been colder.

The highest maximum during the month was 17.9°C (64.2°F / 9th) and the lowest minimum, -4.8°C (23.4°F / 19th).

At the Met' Office at **Shap**, a mean maximum of 10.4°C and a mean minimum of 0.9°C saw the temperature for the month 1.2°C above the average.

It was the warmest March since 2022 - since the record began in 1992, eight have been warmer, twenty-four colder and with no data in one year.

Precipitation

At Maulds Meaburn rainfall totalled 26.6 mm (1.047 In), this being 28.9% of the average for 2008-24, making it the driest March yet recorded at this site (record began 2008).

Locally rainfall at Maulds Meaburn North was 25.8 mm and at Castlehowe Scar 35.3 mm (24.7%).

At the Met' Office at **Shap**, rainfall 42.0 mm is 29.7% of the average and made it the driest March since 2012. Since the record began in 1989, two have been drier and thirty-four wetter.

Figures from a selection of Environment Agency's rainfall sites were, (figure in brackets being the monthly average for 1991-2020) *'Data kindly provided by the Hydrometry and Telemetry team of the Environment Agency:*

At **Appleby in Westmorland** rainfall of 20.9 mm (LTA of 61.2 mm) represents 34.2% of its average (1857-2023) and made it the driest since 1996.

Since the record commenced, 10 have been drier and 158 have been wetter.

Kirkby Thore 15.4 mm -- (50.5 mm)

Haresceugh Castle (Kirkoswald) 23.91 mm -- (71.5 mm)

Brothers Water 68.51 mm -- (213.2 mm)

Seathwaite Farm (Borrowdale) 110.4 mm -- (262.9 mm [average for 1845-2024]) represents 42.0% of its average, making it the driest since 2013.

Since the record commenced, 20 have been drier and 160 have been wetter.

The lowest totals in the county were to be found in and around Carlisle, where just 12.8 mm was recorded at Cumwhinton, 14.0 mm at Willowholme (in Carlisle) and 15.65 mm at Thursby.

OTHER:-

During the month the following '*days of*' were recorded: Snow fell on one day.

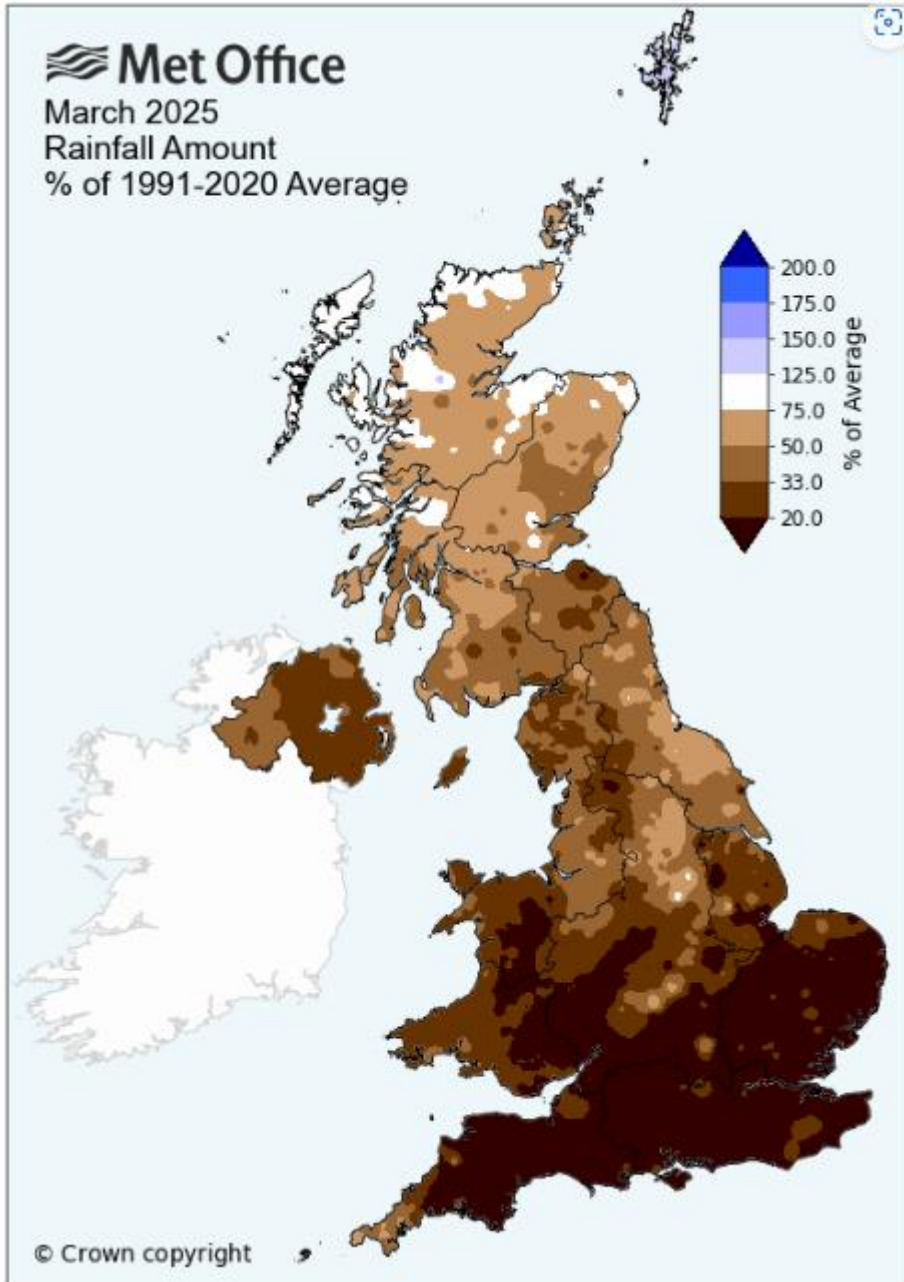
The wind speed averaged 5.90 mph, with a maximum gust of 44 Mph (5th and 29th).

We had 10 Air Frosts in the month (year 32) -- Grass Frosts totalled 17 (year 59).

One foot soil temp ranged from a low of 4.9°C (1st) to a high of 8.8°C (27-28th) with a mean of 6.7°C

One metre soil temp ranged from a low of 6.5°C (2nd – 5th) to a high of 7.9°C (29th – 31st) with a mean of 7.0°C

March's Rainfall Anomaly



March's Temp' Anomaly

