



Weather Front

April 2025/1925

April 2025

Observers Notes.

Ely: A predominantly dry month with 84% of the monthly total falling between the 14th and 15th. The cumulative total for the year, 115.2 mm, is the lowest total at this stage since 2019.

Lowdham: The lowest maximum temperature is the highest for April on the station record (1991). The March-April mean maximum temperature of 15.6 C is equal highest, with 2012, on the station record, and the highest in the Nottingham area since 1868. There were 258.6 hours of sunshine (173% of the 1991-2020 average) recorded at Radcliffe-on-Trentⁱ, and the highest in the Nottingham area for April since 1914 (Nottingham Castle).

Bablake: This has been the warmest April since 2020. Only five Aprils have been warmer than 2025; 1892, 1893, 1989, 2007, 2011, and 2020. Only six Aprils have been drier than 2025 since the Millenium, and eight since 1980; 1984, 1995, 2007, 2011, 2013, 2015, and 2022. After the sunniest March in over 130 years, April 2025 has been the sunniest April in records dating back to 1895.

Middleton: The third warmest April on record, with the mean maximum the second highest after 2011. The driest April since 2021, and the sixth driest since records began in 1977. The sunniest April on record (since 2000) and the 9th sunniest of any month over the same period.

Coton-in-the-Elms: A very warm April, at least by day. Mean daily maxima were as much as 3.6 C higher than average. However, there were a lot of cold nights, and the mean daily minima were below average by 1.3 C, but the overall mean was still above average. Rain was scarce, but the month was not as dry as Aprils 2021 and 2022, both of which had totals less than 10 mm.

Mickleover: April 2025 was the 5th driest since 1984. It was also the warmest since 2011 and the third warmest on the station record (1981). The lowest maximum temperature, on the 16th, was the highest on the April record. The diurnal temperature range of 19.0 C, on the 11th, was also the highest on the April record.

Derby: The maximum temperature of 15 C was reached, or exceeded, on 24 occasions, the normal is 11; it was also the most since 2011 (25 days).

Mountsorrel: April 2025 was the sunniest April ever recorded in the 25 years of observations. High pressure dominated the first fortnight, and the last week, with just a short period of unsettled conditions in between. The mean maximum temperature was 3 C above average, but the long clear nights ensured the mean temperature was about average.

Saltfleetby: An incredibly dry month with only 3 rain days. February to April, 64 days with no rain.

10 Day Mean Temperatures				
Date	Max	Min	Mean	
1-10	12.3	3.6	7.9	
11-20	15.1	5.2	10.1	
1-20	13.7	4.4	9.0	
21-30	17.4	6.3	11.9	
Wind Direction				
N	NE	E	SE	S
0	5	2	9	1
SW	W	NW	Calm	
9	2	1	0	

Cloud Cover at 0900. (Oktas)				
0	1	2	3	4
6	1	1	2	6
5	6	7	8	
2	2	5	5	

Wind Speed, (Beaufort Force).				
1	2	3	4	5
2	16	6	3	1
6	7	8	9	
2	0	0	0	

UK overviewⁱⁱ

April started in a similar vein to March, with high pressure bringing settled conditions to the UK. The first two weeks saw very little rain over the UK, with some showers in the southwest on the 3rd but otherwise dry conditions. Temperatures were above average for the first week, before cooler air from the east moved in from the 6th to the 10th, leading to temperatures

slightly below average for much of the UK, particularly in the southeast. The 12th saw the high pressure shift, and low pressure move in, bringing frontal rain across the UK, with heavy rain on the 14th and 15th. Unsettled weather persisted, with rain across Scotland on the 16th and western parts of the UK, especially Northern Ireland, on the 18th. Further frontal systems brought heavy rain to Northern Ireland, southwest England and Wales on the 22nd, before more settled conditions returned. Some frontal systems brought rain on the 26th, but the last week of the month saw high pressure bring continued settled weather and above average temperatures. April was warmer than average across the UK, with a mean temperature of 9.6°C, 1.7°C above the long-term average. Maximum temperatures in particular were above average (for the UK, 2.8°C above average), but minimum temperatures were overall closer to average. It was the UK's third warmest April on record, and the third warmest for all four nations as well. It was also a very dry month, although not record breaking, with the UK recording just over half of the normal April rainfall. Northern Ireland was the only nation to see above average rainfall, with 84.8 mm of rain (114% of the average). County Durham, Banffshire and Tyne and Wear all recorded their second driest April on record. This was the sunniest April on record for the UK with 228.9 hours of sunshine recorded, 147% of the long-term average. England also saw its sunniest April, while Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland all recorded their second sunniest April, after 2021. Reference climatology used for calculating anomalies is the period 1991-2020 unless otherwise stated.

Weather impacts

- Extensive wildfires in the forests of Galloway, southwest Scotland between the 3rd and 7th led to the precautionary evacuation of people from local properties.
- Northern Ireland fire and rescue service also experienced reports of numerous wildfires mid-month.

The extended spell of dry weather raised the wildfire risk and outbreaks were reported from a range of locations across the UK during this period, the main focus being across Northern Ireland, southwest Scotland and Wales. One of the most extensive wildfires broke out in the forests of Galloway, southwest Scotland between the 3rd and 7th, with reports of a fire front some two to three miles long at one stage. This led to the precautionary evacuation of people from local properties. In terms of the sheer numbers of fires, the fire and rescue service of Northern Ireland reported on the 9th that as many as 214 calls had been received relating to wildfires within a five-day period, with up to 146 gorse fires reported from within the Mourne Mountains area in just three days. One of the most notable fires in Wales was reported from the Bryngawr Country Park in Bridgend on the 5th/6th, the burn scar from the fire terminating just short of local housing. The mid and west Wales Fire and Rescue Service reportedly logged 192 wildfire-related calls in the week to the 11th. The weather pattern changed on the 13th as Atlantic weather fronts displaced the high pressure away to the east, ushering in a more changeable period of weather. Heavy rain and thunderstorms affected parts of southwest England and south Wales on the 15th and overnight into the 16th with several roads in Devon

closed by a mixture of excess surface water, fallen trees and downed power cables. Further heavy rain affected southwest England, south Wales and parts of Northern Ireland on the 18th but with very little in the way of impacts.

From The Press

Thunderstorms occurred in the Aegean Sea on the 31st of March and the 1st of April, bringing torrential rain and hail to tourist destinations. The most severe storms were concentrated across the Cyclades Islands on the 31st with Paros and Mykonos receiving a month's rainfall, much of which occurred within 3 hours. Flash floods swept vehicles and debris through the streets, and boats were washed away. On the 1st the storms continued, although less intense, and brought heavy rain close to mainland Turkey, and across Crete. Seven people were rescued from vehicles in flood water in Crete.ⁱⁱⁱ

The chilly weather, which affected north-eastern Europe, was notable in Poland and Lithuania, which had maxima of 11 C and 6 C respectively, on the 5th, compared to maxima of 21 C and 18 C on the 4th.^{iv}

Northern India was faced with high temperatures during the week ending 12th April, maxima reaching 40 C including Delhi. The hot weather reached its highest on the 8th with a temperature of 46.4 C at Barmer, in Rajasthan, which was over 6 C above the average for April. Further south, at Jaipur, the temperature exceeded 40 C for five consecutive days from the 6th, with a maximum of 43 C on the 9th, almost 5 C above the average for April. The extreme heat triggered thunderstorms across Bihar and caused the deaths of at least 19 people from frequent lightning, hail, and strong winds. There was extensive damage to the crops, including wheat, mangoes, and lychees weeks before the harvest.^v

On the 15th north-west Italy was expecting heavy rain, and thunderstorms across the southern side of the Alps, particularly in Piedmont and Liguria, with Turin and Genoa expected to take the brunt; snow was also likely on high ground.^{vi}

A huge dust cloud, which originated in Saudi Arabia, affected Kuwait and much of Iraq. Visibility fell to less than 800 m, causing much travel disruption and halting flights from two major airports. The dust also sent thousands to hospital with breathing problems. In Kuwait winds in excess of 50 mph [43 kt] helped to reduce visibility in some places to zero.

In New Zealand the ex-tropical cyclone Tam caused widespread damage in North Island. Power outages, fallen trees, flooded roads, and flight delays at Auckland, were among the problems caused by the cyclone. The storm hit North Island on the evening of the 16th bringing winds in excess of 80 mph [70 kt] to Cape Reinga, on the northern tip of North Island, the strongest recorded there since 2017.

In the Alps storm Hans, the largest of the season, affected the Alps on the 17th, causing widespread damage and disruption across northern Italy, southern Switzerland, and south-eastern France.^{vii}

There was a burst of mid-spring warmth around the middle of the week ending the 19th. Temperatures climbed to the high 20's in eastern Germany and Poland. By the 18th the town of Leba, in northern Poland, recorded a maximum of 29.6 C, nearly 20 C above the April average. By the 19th the heat had spread to the Baltic states and western Russia. In Lithuania for stations had exceeded 29 C on the 18th, destroying the old maximum temperature record for April, 23.1 C set in 1959. Latvia and Estonia also set new records, with maxima of 28.4 C and 28.8 C respectively.^{viii}

Severe weather continued to affect Italy in the wake of storm Hans. The conditions had triggered heavy showers and thunderstorms, with severe weather warnings being issued. The most severe storms had been towards the Adriatic. During torrential rain on the 22nd, in the Marche region, several stations recorded 10-20 mm of rain within half an hour, while further south, in Abruzzo and Molise, there were reports of hail the size of chickpeas.^{ix}

April 1925

Observers Notes.

Copdock (Suffolk): An unpleasant month with sunshine below normal and the number of wet days, though not the rainfall, above normal.

Berwick-on-Tweed: A wet April, with high average of sunshine. Fairly calm, prevailing winds easterly.

Newport (IOW): A showery month with variable winds and moderate temperature.

Sidmouth: A great deal of cold wind.

Southport: A sunny westerly month but otherwise very normal except for the whole gale on the 16th, which greatly blackened exposed trees and bushes.

Torquay: Generally unsettled; sunshine, temperature and rainfall showed little departure from the normal.

Walton-on-Naze: A bad month for vegetation. Everything backward on account of cold nights and generally low temperatures.

Paisley: The wettest April for at least 40 years.

Greenock: The only wetter April on record was that of 1904.

Dublin: A cool and showery month. The nights were often clear and cold, the following days showing rapid cloud formation of the cumulus type with showers of rain and hail in the afternoon hours on many occasions.

Skegness: Total Rainfall 1.91 in, 48.5 mm, 143%

Louth (Westgate): Total Rainfall 2.29 in, 58.2 mm, 137%.

Belvoir Castle: Total Rainfall 1.36 in, 35.5 mm, 89%.

Worksop (Hodsock): 1.84 in, 46.7 mm, 125%.

Buxton (Devon Hospital): Total Rainfall 3.78 in, 94.7 mm, 129%.

Mickleover, Clyde House: Total Rainfall 1.82 in, 46.2 mm, 105%.

Belper (Quarry Bank): Total Rainfall 1.91 in, 48.5 mm, 104%.

Cambridge, Botanic Gardens: Total Rainfall 1.72 in, 43.7 mm, 126%.

Brocklesby:^x

10 Day Mean Temperatures.

Date	Max	Min	Mean
1-10	51	37	44
11-20	53	39	46
1-20	52	38	45
21-30	55	36	45

Derby/Burton-on-Trent: A fairly normal month for rainfall, with all stations receiving 38-49 mm of rain. A significant number of days had high maxima but low minima. The highest value in Burton was 19 C on the 12th, and the lowest minimum was -2 C on the 4th. The overall mean temperature was 7.6 C. There were four air frosts.

UK Overview, April 1925

It was generally changeable with showers, sunny periods, and above average rainfall throughout the country. Some parts of Scotland had falls of snow during the first few days, which lay to a depth more than 6 in [15.25 cm] in Edinburgh on the first. On the 3rd, a ridge of high pressure moved across England producing a sharp frost on the morning of the 4th, and numerous ground frosts, a minimum temperature of 11 F [-12 C] being recorded at Oundle in Northamptonshire. With pressure eventually remaining low near Ireland for many days, southerly winds, moderate rain, and milder weather ensued; 38 mm of rain was recorded at Calmonell, Ayr, on the 4th. Maximum temperatures of 66 F [19 C] were noted at Reading and South Farnborough on the 8th, and at Worksop on the 12th. Local thunderstorms were also

recorded during this period, as well as fog or mist in eastern and southern parts of the country on several mornings.

On the 13th the wind veered westerly as a depression passed across Scotland, giving high winds and gales in many places from the 15th to the 18th; there were also reports of thunder on the 15th. Gusts of over 60 mph [53 kt] were reported from several sites, and on the 16th, gusts of 80 mph [70 kt] (at Fleetwood 83 mph [72 kt]) were recorded along the north-west coast of England, the airship R33 was torn from its moorings at Pulham. The highest gusts of the month occurred on the 16th over much of England and, on the 17th, a daily rainfall total of 39 mm was recorded at Rothesay, Bute. A ridge of high pressure passed across the country, between the 19th and 21st, giving fair or fine weather, over 13 hours of bright sunshine being reported in parts of Ireland on the 19th and 20th. Screen minima below freezing were also recorded in many places. Strong north-east winds and gales were noted in the Straits of Dover early on the 21st. As the ridge moved south a depression developed near the Hebrides on the 22nd, producing strong south-easterlies in exposed parts of the north and west, accompanied by heavy rain in northern England; Dungeon Ghyll and Hawkeshead, in the Lake District, reported 55 mm and 44 mm respectively on the 22nd. The weather continued unsettled through the last week of the month, although there were many bright periods. Local thunderstorms were frequent, especially in the south-east, and were accompanied by hail in several instances. Snow showers were reported locally, more particularly in Scotland.

The mean temperature for the month was 44.6 F [7 C]. The second and third week were the warmest, and the coldest was the week ending 2nd of May. At most places the absolute maxima for the month were recorded on the 8th or 12th, with the minima being recorded on the 3rd or 4th. In Scotland the highest temperatures were about the 20th with, again, the lowest being during the first few days of the month.

Precipitation was above average in most areas. However, in parts of western England and Wales, a small area near the Thames estuary, and parts of the extreme north and north-east of Scotland, rainfall was below average. Over much of southern central Scotland, small areas of southern England, central Ireland, and western Scotland, the precipitation was in excess of 200%. The beginning and end of the month were the driest, and the third week the wettest. In Scotland the heavy rainfall of the 17th/18th caused destructive flooding. A few stations in England and Wales reported snow on two or three days while, in Scotland, snow occurred in some places on the 15th and 29th.

Sunshine was above average in Scotland and Ireland, and also in western parts of England and Wales. The largest mean daily excess was 0.92 hours in northern Ireland, and the largest deficiency was 1.05 hours in eastern England.

Fog was reported on a few occasions, mainly during the week ending the 11th.

In summary, the weather for April 1925 was mainly cool and wet.^{xi}

April 1925 Around the World

Pressure was below average over the North Atlantic and western Europe, apart from The Iberian Peninsula, but over central and southern parts of the North Atlantic and Iberia the pressure was slightly above average. This allowed south-westerlies over western Europe and temperatures, in Scandinavia and Spitzbergen, to rise several degrees above normal, as well as rainfall to show a slight excess. In Sweden the temperature was about +4 F [+2 C] above average, but in the central mountains it was -3 F [-1.5 C] below. Heavy rain was noted between the 14th and 17th, but the total for the month was below average. In Norway a landslide occurred near the mouth of the River Glommen on the 17th and 18th, which destroyed considerable farming land, and formed a significant barrier in the river so that many ships at Sannesund were forced to leave with little or no cargo. Three tourists were killed and twenty-three were injured by lightning at Konigstein, near Dresden, early in the month.

At Assiniboine, Canada, the river was flooded at the start of the month, dynamite had to be used to break up ice jams. A tornado was reported to have passed near Miami, Florida, on the 5th. Three people were killed and significant damage done. On the 23rd heavy snowstorms were reported in Montana, the depth being 17 inches [43.2 cm] at Battle however, high temperatures for the time of year were being reported to the east, a maximum of 93 F [33.9 C] was noted at Washington DC, and 92 F [33.3 C] at Chattanooga, Tennessee. On the same day rain fell in northern Texas which broke the local drought.

Rainfall in Australia was well below average, except in the extreme north where 15.25 in [387.3 mm], or 274% of average, fell in the north of Cape York Peninsula, while in the more southerly parts of Queensland there was no rain at all.

In Brazil there was plenty of rain in the north, which amounted to 54 mm above average however, rain was below average in central and southern regions being 58 mm and 20 mm below respectively. It was noted that numerous abticyclones 2of medium intensity2 passed across the country. It was also noted that the condition of the crops was generally good.^{xii}

Central England Data.^{xiii} April 1925 (Averaging period is 1891 to 1920.)

Mean Maximum Temperature: 11.4 C. Average: 12.0 C.

Mean Minimum Temperature: 3.6 C. Average: 3.7 C.

Mean Temperature: 7.5 C. Average: 7.9 C.

England and Wales Rainfall: 74.2 mm. Average: 55.8 mm, 133%.

Midlands Data. (Averaging period is 1911 to 1920).

Midlands Mean Maximum Temperature: 11.2 C. Average: 11.7 C.

Midlands Mean Minimum Temperature: 2.6 C. Average: 2.8 C.

Midlands Mean Temperature: 6.9 C. Average: 7.3 C.

Midlands Rainfall: 56.9 mm. Average: 50.1 mm, 113%.

Central England Data April 2025 (Provisional) (Averaging period is 1991-2020).

Mean Maximum Temperature: 16.5 C. Average: 13.3 C.

Mean Minimum Temperature: 5.2 C. Average: 4.6 C.

Mean Temperature: 10.9 C. Average: 9.0 C.

England and Wales Rainfall: 37.4 mm. Average: 63.2 mm, 59%.

Midlands Data.

Mean Maximum Temperature: 16.2 C. Average: 13.1 C.

Mean Minimum Temperature: 4.4 C. Average: 4.1 C.

Mean Temperature: 10.3 C. Average: 8.6 C.

Midlands Rainfall: 19.8 mm. Average: 55.0 mm, 36%.

Sunshine: 246.3 hours. Average: 155.9 hours, 158%.

ⁱ Courtesy of T Scholey.

ⁱⁱ Weather Summary, April 2025, Meteorological Office, HMSO, May 2025.

ⁱⁱⁱ The Guardian, 5 April 2025.

^{iv} The Guardian, 8 April 2025.

^v The Guardian, 12 April 2025.

^{vi} The Guardian, 15 April 2025.

^{vii} The Guardian, 19 April 2025.

^{viii} The Guardian, 22 April 2025.

^{ix} The Guardian, 26 April 2025.

^x Lincoln Archive Office, YARB 14/3

^{xi} Monthly Weather Report, April 1925, Meteorological Office, HMSO, May 1925, p.43.

^{xii} Meteorological Magazine, 'The Weather in April 1925', Meteorological Office, HMSO, May 1925, pp. 100 and 101.

^{xiii} Hadley Centre, Central England and Midlands, Meteorological Office.