# UK records hottest spring as climate experts warn of urgent crisis



Climate scientists have issued urgent warnings following the announcement that the UK has recorded its hottest spring on record, raising serious concerns about the ongoing impacts of climate change. The Met Office, which has been tracking temperature data since 1884, confirmed that spring 2025 marked an unprecedented season of warmth and sunshine, with average temperatures reaching a staggering 9.51°C (49.1°F). This climatic anomaly surpassed the previous record of 9.37°C (48.8°F) set just the year before, illustrating a disturbing trend: eight of the ten warmest springs have occurred since the year 2000, with the last decade seeing the three hottest springs recorded.

Alec Hutchings, chief climate advisor at the WWF, underscored the urgency of the situation, stating that this data serves as a "stark warning" that the impacts of climate change are no longer a distant prospect. He emphasised the need for immediate and concerted climate action from the UK government to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Hutchings described the potential for "a low-carbon future" as both a necessity and an economic opportunity that can support communities and businesses alike.

Moreover, the implications of this record-breaking spring extend beyond mere statistics: the UK experienced its driest spring in over half a century, with rainfall about 40% below average. Such a combination of high temperatures and low rainfall raises critical challenges for agriculture and water resources, particularly in England, as noted by Met Office scientist Emily Carlisle. This interrelationship between warmth and dryness may signify changes in weather patterns where prolonged dry spells become increasingly frequent.

Notably, the effects of rising temperatures have been most pronounced in specific regions, such as the Scottish mountains, where traditional winter snowfall has virtually vanished by early spring—a concerning sign of the changing climate. Stephan Harrison, a professor specialising in climate and environmental change at the University of Exeter, affirmed that these trends align with a rapid rise in global temperatures witnessed over recent decades.

Adding another layer of concern, ocean temperatures off the UK also displayed alarming increases, with some areas recording sea surface temperatures as much as 4°C above seasonal norms. This marine heatwave further complicates the already precarious environmental landscape and indicates that the climate crisis transcends terrestrial conditions alone.

As summer 2025 approaches, predictions indicate that this year could potentially surpass 2018 to become the hottest summer on record, replete with heatwaves and acute drought conditions. Professor Richard Allan from the University of Reading echoed the collective sentiment, stating that the UK's warming trend is part of a broader global phenomenon that brings increased severity in weather extremes and heightens the risks posed by rising sea levels.

In light of the overwhelming evidence presented by the Met Office and corroborated by climate experts, the call for robust, immediate action on climate policy has never been more urgent. The intersection of economic opportunity and environmental responsibility presents a compelling case for transformative action as the UK grapples with a reality that is, as Hutchings aptly put it, "here now."

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-14774903/climate-change-immediate-action-hottest-spring.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/jun/03/may-spring-warmest-record-uk-met-office)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-14774903/climate-change-immediate-action-hottest-spring.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[3]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2025/mar/20/uk-weather-spring-equinox-temperatures-hottest-day-of-year)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/jan/10/world-temperature-in-2024-exceeded-15c-for-first-time), [[5]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/jun/03/may-spring-warmest-record-uk-met-office)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-14774903/climate-change-immediate-action-hottest-spring.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[6]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2025/mar/20/uk-weather-spring-equinox-temperatures-hottest-day-of-year)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-14774903/climate-change-immediate-action-hottest-spring.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[7]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2025/mar/20/uk-weather-spring-equinox-temperatures-hottest-day-of-year)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-14774903/climate-change-immediate-action-hottest-spring.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/jan/10/world-temperature-in-2024-exceeded-15c-for-first-time)
* Paragraph 7 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-14774903/climate-change-immediate-action-hottest-spring.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[6]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2025/mar/20/uk-weather-spring-equinox-temperatures-hottest-day-of-year)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-14774903/climate-change-immediate-action-hottest-spring.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/jun/03/may-spring-warmest-record-uk-met-office> - The UK experienced its warmest May and spring on record, with the Met Office reporting an average mean temperature of 9.37°C for the meteorological spring (March-May). This surpassed the previous record of 9.12°C set in 2017. The warm conditions were influenced by high overnight temperatures, and eight of the ten warmest springs have occurred this century, including all of the top five. The Met Office attributes these trends to climate change, noting that recent decades have been warmer, wetter, and sunnier than the 20th century.
3. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2025/mar/20/uk-weather-spring-equinox-temperatures-hottest-day-of-year> - On the spring equinox, the UK recorded its warmest day of the year so far, with temperatures topping 21°C. Northolt, west London, and Chertsey, Surrey, both reached 21.3°C, surpassing the previous high of 19.7°C in Crosby, Merseyside, on 9 March. Wales also recorded its warmest day of 2025, with temperatures at Gogerddan reaching 20.4°C. The Met Office attributed the warm weather to sunshine, particularly in the south, and noted that temperatures are expected to return to average levels in the coming days.
4. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/jan/10/world-temperature-in-2024-exceeded-15c-for-first-time> - In 2024, the world experienced its hottest year on record, with global temperatures exceeding 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels for the first time. This trend is primarily driven by the burning of fossil fuels, leading to escalating climate impacts worldwide. The Paris Agreement targets of limiting warming to well below 2°C, ideally to 1.5°C, are based on long-term averages, so a single year above this threshold does not mean the target has been missed. However, it underscores the intensifying climate emergency.
5. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/jun/03/may-spring-warmest-record-uk-met-office> - The UK experienced its warmest May and spring on record, with the Met Office reporting an average mean temperature of 9.37°C for the meteorological spring (March-May). This surpassed the previous record of 9.12°C set in 2017. The warm conditions were influenced by high overnight temperatures, and eight of the ten warmest springs have occurred this century, including all of the top five. The Met Office attributes these trends to climate change, noting that recent decades have been warmer, wetter, and sunnier than the 20th century.
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