

**Radcliffe Meteorological Station**  
 School of Geography - University of Oxford  
 Monthly Summary of Weather at Oxford for *February 2021*

		Difference from long period mean
Mean air temperature (°C)	5.5	1.3
Absolute maximum air temperature (°C)	16.0 (24 <sup>th</sup> )	<b>3.2</b>
Lowest maximum air temperature (°C)	0.0 (8 <sup>th</sup> )	
Mean maximum air temperature (°C)	8.9	1.3
Absolute minimum air temperature (°C)	-4.5 (11 <sup>th</sup> )	-0.1
Mean minimum air temperature (°C)	2.6	1.1
Absolute minimum grass temperature (°C)	-9.1 (11 <sup>th</sup> )	-0.7
Mean minimum grass temperature (°C)	-0.6	0.4
Absolute minimum concrete temperature (°C)	-6.0 (11 <sup>th</sup> )	-1.0
Mean minimum concrete temperature (°C)	1.2	-0.2
Mean soil temperature at 30 cm (°C)	5.0	0.7
Mean soil temperature at 100 cm (°C)	6.2	
Highest daily rainfall (mm)	11.1 (4 <sup>th</sup> )	
Total rainfall (mm)	55.2	13.6
Total bright sunshine (hours)	73.7	2.1
Mean daily bright sunshine (hours)	2.6	0.0
Mean wind speed (knots)	9.0	-0.9
No. of rain days (0.2 mm or more rainfall)	15.0	1.3
No. of wet days (1.0 mm or more rainfall)	11.0	
No. of days with minimum temperature less than 0°C	8.0	-1.5
No. of days with ground temperature less than 0°C	16.0	-0.6
No. of days with fog at 0900 GMT	4.0	1.1
No. of days with snow lying at 0900 GMT	4.0	1.0

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**Bold** denotes anomalies in excess of **one** standard deviation above/below the long-term mean for February.

February 2021 was characterised by meteorologically average temperature metrics on the whole. However, these disguise a wide temperature range resulting from two predominant weather patterns. Easterly winds from Siberia led to a period of cold weather from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>. This gave way to warm weather from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> associated with south-westerly winds from the Canaries. A mean air temperature of 12.4°C was recorded on the 24<sup>th</sup>, which was the 11<sup>th</sup> warmest February day on record at the RMS, and the warmest February day since 2004. The 0900 air temperature on the 24<sup>th</sup> was 14.7°C, which was the highest February 0900 air temperature since at least 2007. This could be a new record for a February day, and further investigation is needed to verify this. Rainfall was a little higher than usual, while sunshine and wind speed metrics were standard for the time of year.

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David Crowhurst (04/03/2021)

**Radcliffe Meteorological Observer**