

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

		Difference from long period mean
Mean air temperature (°C)	6.7	<b>-1.7</b>
Absolute maximum air temperature (°C)	17.8 (20 <sup>th</sup> )	-2.2
Lowest maximum air temperature (°C)	7.0 (10 <sup>th</sup> )	
Mean maximum air temperature (°C)	12.5	-0.8
Absolute minimum air temperature (°C)	-2.5 (7 <sup>th</sup> )	-1.4
Mean minimum air temperature (°C)	1.6	<b>-2.8*</b>
Absolute minimum grass temperature (°C)	-8.8 (7 <sup>th</sup> )	<b>-3.5</b>
Mean minimum grass temperature (°C)	-2.9	<b>-4.5**</b>
Absolute minimum concrete temperature (°C)	-4.1 (7 <sup>th</sup> )	<b>-2.1</b>
Mean minimum concrete temperature (°C)	1.2	<b>-3.0*</b>
Mean soil temperature at 30 cm (°C)	9.1	-0.3
Mean soil temperature at 100 cm (°C)	9.1	
Highest daily rainfall (mm)	9.4 (27 <sup>th</sup> )	
Total rainfall (mm)	27.1	-16.4
Total bright sunshine (hours)	213.3	<b>58.9</b>
Mean daily bright sunshine (hours)	7.1	
Mean wind speed (knots)	8.2	-1.1
No. of rain days (0.2 mm or more rainfall)	4.0	<b>-9.5</b>
No. of wet days (1.0 mm or more rainfall)	4.0	
No. of days with minimum temperature less than 0°C	10.0	<b>7.3*</b>
No. of days with ground temperature less than 0°C	22.0	<b>11.6*</b>
No. of days with fog at 0900 GMT	0.0	-0.4
No. of days with snow lying at 0900 GMT	1.0	<b>0.9*</b>

**Bold** denotes anomalies in excess of **one** standard deviation above/below the long-term mean for April, bold with an asterisk (\*) denotes **two** standard deviations, and bold with a double asterisk (\*\*) denotes **three** standard deviations.

April 2021 was a significantly colder-than-average month at the RMS, with a mean air temperature of 6.7°C, which was 1.7°C below the long-term mean. In this month, a key feature was several nights of radiative cooling resulting from cloudless skies. The mean minimum air temperature for April was only 1.6°C, which was the coldest since April 1852. The mean minimum temperatures for grass and concrete were both record-breaking low values. This month had the second highest number of ground frosts and the third highest number of air frosts on record for April. High pressure brought below average rainfall and above average sunshine hours, although the wind speed did not deviate much from the long-term average. 1.2cm of snow was recorded on the 12<sup>th</sup>, which was the first incidence of snow in April in Oxford since 2008.

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