SEPTEMBER 2026 CLIMATE SUMMARY

Warm, wet, and cloudy, with persistent southwesterly winds, becoming the joint 3rd warmest September on record

The mean 24-hour temperature was 15.3°C, which is 1.4°C above the climatological average*. This makes September 2026 the joint 3rd warmest September on record**, alongside 2021, and just 0.2°C below the all-time September record set in 2023. The warmth was particularly evident in the overnight periods, with the mean minimum temperature of 13.1°C being 1.8°C above the climatological average, and the 2nd warmest on record. Meanwhile the highest temperature of 20.3°C was relatively modest.

89.0mm of rainfall was recorded at Ronaldsway, approximately 27% above the climatological average of 69.9 mm. There were 20 rain days and 16 wet days, compared with climatological averages of 14.9 and 10.8 respectively. The month was therefore characterised not by one exceptional rainfall event, but by frequent rain and several significant spells.

There were 121.4 hours of sunshine, approximately 15% below the climatological average of 142.6 hours, making it a notably dull September. The average wind speed was 13.1 knots, 1.8 knots above the climatological average, with 9 days of strong wind and no gales. The highest hourly mean wind speed was 29 knots, while the highest gust reached 44 knots.

58% of hourly observations recorded 7 or 8 oktas of cloud cover and 84% had winds from the south, southwest or west. Fog occurred on 3 days, above the climatological average of 1.8 days and the monthly mean relative humidity was 83.7%. Therefore, September 2026 had a cloudy and humid character as a result of a dominant Atlantic airflow.

The combination of mild temperatures, below-average sunshine, frequent high cloud cover, above-average rainfall, and persistent southwesterly winds produced a month that was warm without being dominated by hot settled weather.

**A climatological average is calculated over a 30-year period (1991-2020), the international standard in climate research and is updated every decade.*

*** Most Isle of Man meteorological records date from 1947, when observations began at Ronaldsway.*