

Educator Factsheet: State of the UK Climate (2022)

The State of the UK Climate (2022) report written by the Met Office, in collaboration with National Oceanographic Centre (NOC) and Woodland Trust, examines the weather of 2022 in the context of long-term climate records, highlighting the changes in UK's climate.

What are the key points?

At the time of publication, the report shares the following points:

- The UK is experiencing the knock on effect of increasing global temperatures
- The UK climate continues to change with temperature extremes changing much faster than the average temperature (based on 1950 to 2022 UK daily average maximum and minimum temperatures)
- Between 1884 and 2022, 2022 was the warmest UK year on record and the first time 40oC was experienced in the UK
- Sea level around the UK has risen by 18.5cm since the 1990s (over 60% of this has occurred in the past 30 years)
- In 2022, UK rainfall was 6% below average, but a slight increase in heavy rainfall has been observed in recent decades
- Overall, in 2022, leaf-on season (when there are more leaves on tree and shrub species) was 7–16 days longer than average, due to extended spring and summer seasons.
- Extremes in 2022 included heatwaves and droughts

What are the key messages for learners?

This report provides a snapshot of how climate change is already having a significant impact on the climate in UK, which has knock on effects on both people and nature.



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