

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT OF METEOROLOGY
CY-1418 NICOSIA**

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

THE WEATHER IN MARCH 2024

General Weather Conditions: In March the weather was dry and warm. Unstable weather conditions prevailed during the periods 2-11, 14-22, στις 25 and 27 of the month, giving rain, local thunderstorms, hail and over Troodos snowfall. The mean air temperature was approximately 2.3°C above normal and the area average precipitation was 22.4mm or 36% of normal.

Severe Weather conditions: On the 3rd of the month, isolated thunderstorms affected mainly inland and mountainous areas. On the 8th of the month, hail and heavy rain occurred in Lymbia, Alambra and Kornos and affected traffic on the Larnaca-Nicosia and Limassol-Nicosia highways. On the 18th of the month, severe weather phenomena occurred in areas of Nicosia. Intense thunderstorms with heavy rain and prolonged hailstorms affected several areas of Nicosia as well as the Limassol-Nicosia highway. Due to the heavy hail, the areas of Aglantzia, Latsia, Dasoupoli, Strovolos, Tseri, Lakatamia were literally dressed in white. Within an hour, the fire department received 78 calls for incidents involving flooded houses, basements and other premises, as well as the opening of storm water drains and towing a small number of vehicles with occupants, mainly in the above-mentioned affected areas. Main roads in Nicosia turned into rivers, causing problems to the traffic for several hours. A hot weather with temperatures well above normal, accompanied by dust, affected the whole island during 29th-31st of the month. Maximum and minimum temperatures, inland, over the coastal and mountainous areas ranged from 6-10°C and 5-9°C above normal for the time of the year, respectively.

Precipitation (normal period: 1961-1990): According to preliminary estimates the average precipitation for March was 22.4mm or 36% of normal. Monthly precipitation was below or near normal in most areas and generally ranged between 11% (Gialia) and 147% (Athalassa) of normal.

Snowfall was recorded on the 15th (Troodos) of the month.

Hail was recorded during the periods 18 (Nicosia- Aglantzia, Latsia, Dasoupoli, Strovolos, Tseri, Lakatamia, Egomi, Ag. Omologites, Lykavitos, Engomi, Psimolofou, Tamasos area-, Farmakas, Frenaros) of the month.

The cumulative area average precipitation during the period October 2023 - March 2024 was approximately 304.2mm or 70% of normal. Generally, the cumulative precipitation was below normal to most areas, ranging from 51% (Meniko) and 104% (Athienou) of normal.

Temperature (normal period: 1981-2010): The mean air temperature for the month was 2.3°C above normal. The mean daily temperatures were above or near normal throughout the month except for the period 22nd-25th of the month, where they were 1-3 °C below normal inland and over the mountainous areas. The maximum temperatures in Athalassa, Larnaca and Paphos exceeded 19°C in 27, 30, 31 cases respectively, while in Prodromos they exceeded 10°C in 21 cases. Most stations recorded their highest maximum temperature on the 31st of the month and their lowest minimum temperature on the 1st and during the period 23rd -25th of the month.

Air frost occurred in 2 cases in the mountainous areas, while ground frost occurred in 4 cases in the mountains and in 1 case inland.

The 5-day averages of air temperature and their deviations from normal at various places are shown in Table 1 and the extreme temperatures are shown in Table 2.

MARCH 2024

**FIVE DAYS TEMPERATURES AND DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL (°C)
PRELIMINARY DATA**

Table 1

MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM									
STATION	ATHALASSA		LARNAKA AIRPORT		PAFOS AIRPORT		PRODROMOS		MEAN DEV.
DATES	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	
1--5	21	3	21	2	21	2	13	3	2
6--10	20	2	21	3	20	1	10	0	2
11--15	22	4	22	3	20	2	14	5	4
16--20	21	2	22	3	21	3	10	0	2
21--25	19	-1	21	1	20	1	9	-1	0
26--31	27	5	26	6	24	4	19	6	5
MONTH	22.0	2.7	22.2	2.9	20.9	2.3	12.7	2.3	2.6

MEAN DAILY MINIMUM									
STATION	ATHALASSA		LARNAKA AIRPORT		PAFOS AIRPORT		PRODROMOS		MEAN DEV.
DATES	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	
1--5	7	0	10	1	11	2	4	1	1
6--10	7	0	9	1	12	4	2	0	1
11--15	8	1	10	2	10	1	4	2	2
16--20	8	2	10	2	13	4	3	0	2
21--25	6	-1	9	0	11	2	1	-2	0
26--31	12	5	16	7	15	6	10	6	6
MONTH	8.1	1.1	11.0	2.4	12.1	3.2	4.1	1.3	2.0

Normal Period for Temperature = 1981 - 2010

Table 2

EXTREME TEMPERATURES								
STATION	ATHALASSA		LARNAKA AIRPORT		PAFOS AIRPORT		PRODROMOS	
TEMPERAT.	(°C)	DATE	(°C)	DATE	(°C)	DATE	(°C)	DATE
HIGHEST MAXIMUM	31.3	31	29.3	31	26.7	31	23.0	31
LOWEST MINIMUM	4.1	1	6.7	25	8.7	24	-0.8	23