



Met Office 3-month Outlook

Period: June – August 2017 Issue date: 25.05.17

The forecast presented here is for June and the average of the June-July-August period for the United Kingdom as a whole. The forecast for June will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page (www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast), starting from 2 June 2017.

This forecast is based on information from observations, several numerical forecast systems and expert judgement.

SUMMARY – TEMPERATURE:

For June and June-July-August above-average temperatures are more probable than below-average temperatures.

Overall, the probability that the UK-average temperature for June-July-August will fall into the coldest of our five categories is 10% and the probability that it will fall into the warmest of our five categories is 35% (the 1981-2010 probability for each of these categories is 20%).

CONTEXT:

In the tropical Pacific Ocean, the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral. ENSO is expected to remain in the neutral range in the next 3 months, so is not expected to influence UK weather significantly.

Arctic sea ice extent remains below average for the time of year and is expected to decline rapidly as the summer season goes on. On balance, low sea ice is considered to increase the chances of cooler- and wetter-than-average conditions in northern Europe at this time of year.

In the North Atlantic Ocean, sea surface temperatures close to the UK are above normal, increasing the chances of higher-than-average temperatures through the period. The northwestern part of the North Atlantic Ocean has temperatures that are below normal,

which moderately increases the probability of high pressure and above-average temperatures over northern Europe in summer.

The Met Office long-range prediction system, along with systems from other centres around the world, shows a clear shift in probability towards warmer-than-average conditions for both periods (see figure T2). This is consistent with the very high current level of warmth globally. Figure T2 also shows that despite this there remains a chance of the UK experiencing below-average temperatures, depending on the exact weather patterns. The chances of a very hot summer, while increased compared to normal, are still relatively low overall. A summer in which temperatures are more frequently a moderate amount above average remains a more likely scenario at this stage.

Fig T1

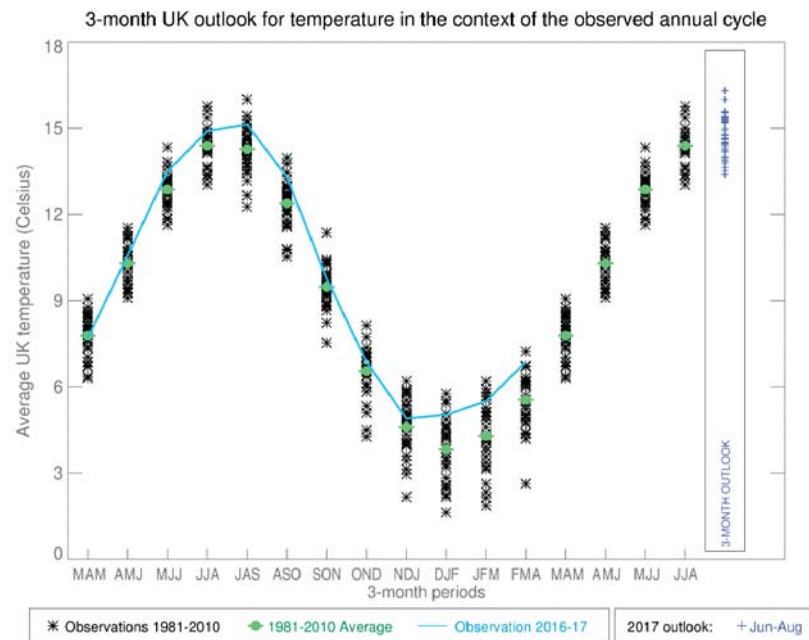


Fig T2

1-month and 3-month UK outlook for temperature in the context of observed climatology

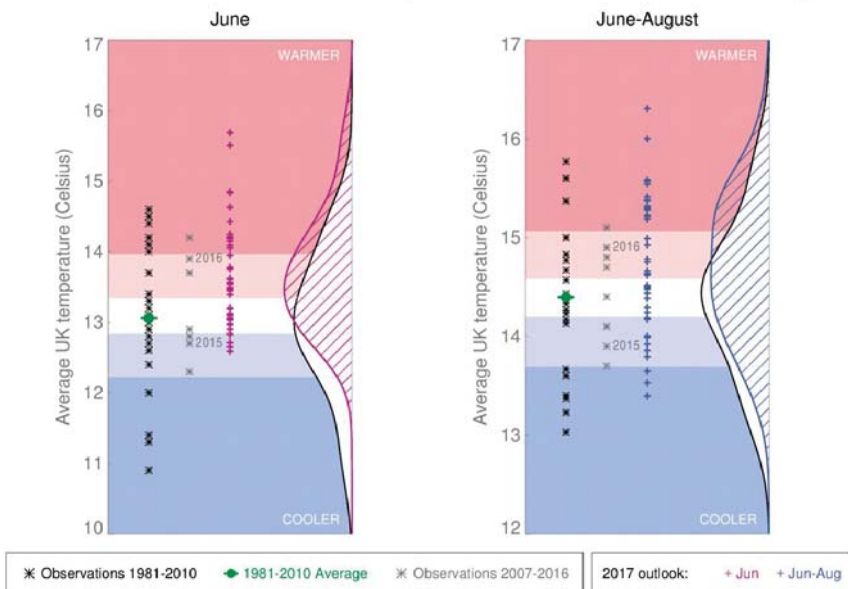
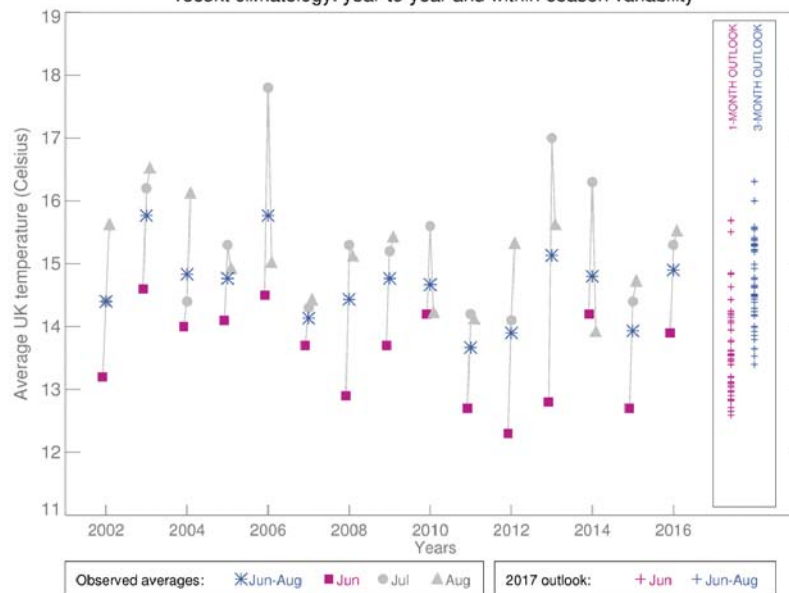


Fig T3

1-month and 3-month UK outlook for temperature in the context of recent climatology: year-to-year and within-season variability



This Outlook provides an indication of possible temperature and rainfall conditions over the next 3 months. It is part of a suite of forecasts designed for contingency planners.

The Outlook should not be used in isolation but should be used with shorter-range and more detailed (30-day, 15-day and 1-to-5-day) forecasts and warnings available to the contingency planning community from the Met Office.