

The maps illustrating the regional river flows for five members of the Met Office ensemble of rainfall forecasts give some indication of the range of possible river flows in the coming months. As noted previously, the actual flows could be more extreme than the flows generated by either the lowest or highest members of the rainfall ensemble.

The tables below give further insight into the range of river flow forecasts by considering all members of the forecast rainfall ensemble. In most months the ensemble contains 42 members, but results are presented as percentages to remove variation in the actual number of members.

The numbers in the tables are the percentage of ensemble forecasts falling in each of the flow categories as generated by the monthly-resolution water-balance model. As before results are averaged by region and expressed as a % of the 1971-2000 average.

Summary

In all regions the highest percentage of river flow forecasts is in the normal range. This is not unusual as the normal band is very wide as a consequence of the variability of river flows.

However, whereas 63% of flow forecasts for September are in the "Normal range" in Yorkshire this figure rises to 85% in the Tweed Region.

In both Thames and North West 68% of flows are in the "Normal range", yet in Thames the other 32% of flows are all "Below normal", yet in North West 17% of the forecast flows are above normal, and 7% of forecasts are for very high flows.

SCOTLAND

- HR Highlands Region
- NER North East Region
- TR Tay Region
- FR Forth Region
- CR Clyde Region
- TWR Tweed Region
- SR Solway Region

ENGLAND

- N Northumbria
- NW North West
- Y Yorkshire
- ST Severn Trent
- A Anglian
- T Thames
- S Southern
- W Wessex
- SW South West

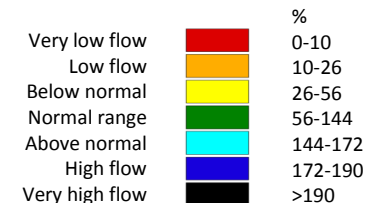
WALES

- WEL Welsh



NORTHERN IRELAND

This method cannot currently be used in Northern Ireland



England & Wales	A	NW	N	ST	SW	S	T	Welsh	W	Y
Very low flow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Low flow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Below normal	37	15	15	24	10	27	32	20	34	22
Normal range	63	68	68	68	83	73	68	68	66	63
Above normal	0	5	5	7	7	0	0	7	0	10
High flow	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Very high flow	0	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Scotland	CR	FR	HR	NER	SR	TR	TWR
Very low flow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Low flow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Below normal	10	10	10	15	20	15	10
Normal range	71	76	73	80	66	80	85
Above normal	5	10	2	5	7	5	5
High flow	7	5	7	0	2	0	0
Very high flow	7	0	7	0	5	0	0