

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. 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 then ranked in terms of 49 years of historical regional flow estimates (1962 – 2010).

SUMMARY

In many regions the highest percentage of river flow forecasts are in the “normal” range, however, a large number of flow forecasts lie in the “above normal” or “notably high” range, particularly in western regions and central England at a lead time of 1-month. The apparent lower flow forecasts in North East Scotland compared to surrounding regions follow a drier October than normal in this region.

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

1-month ahead	A	NW	N	ST	SW	S	T	Welsh	W	Y	CR	FR	HR	NER	SR	TR	TWR
Exceptionally low flow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	2	0
Notably Low flow	0	5	7	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	7	2	5	5	7	5	0
Below normal	2	2	0	7	5	2	2	2	7	5	0	5	2	5	0	2	7
Normal range	52	40	48	29	31	52	45	31	50	40	43	48	38	64	50	45	40
Above normal	17	17	31	29	38	45	50	36	36	26	17	17	10	19	17	38	40
Notably high flow	29	21	14	33	24	0	2	14	7	26	31	29	19	2	26	7	12
Exceptionally high flow	0	14	0	2	0	0	0	12	0	0	2	0	26	0	0	0	0

3-months ahead	A	NW	N	ST	SW	S	T	Welsh	W	Y	CR	FR	HR	NER	SR	TR	TWR
Exceptionally low flow	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	3	3	0
Notably Low flow	0	0	10	3	0	3	0	0	3	3	0	3	3	25	0	8	3
Below normal	13	10	10	8	10	8	10	10	10	18	10	10	10	8	10	5	10
Normal range	58	52	52	35	35	48	63	43	58	45	45	58	55	48	52	60	68
Above normal	13	15	10	35	38	35	20	28	23	28	30	18	5	18	28	25	13
Notably high flow	18	20	18	20	15	8	8	18	8	8	13	13	25	0	8	0	8
Exceptionally high flow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0