

Period: March 2017 – May 2017

Issued on 09.03.2017 using data to the end of February

SUMMARY: It is likely that March river flows will be in the *Normal range* or above for most of Britain. **Over the next 3 months** it is likely that river flows in England will be in the *Normal range* or above. In Scotland it is likely that river flows will be in the *Normal range* or below.

These forecasts are produced by using five members of the Met Office rainfall forecast ensemble as input to a water balance hydrological model to provide the five estimates of river flows shown on the left for one month and three months ahead.

Regional forecast monthly-mean river flows are derived from the average of 1km river flow estimates within each region and ranked in terms of 49 years of historical flow estimates (1962 – 2010).

The five maps illustrate the wide range of possible flows and while there is a 50% chance of flows between the 1st and 3rd quartiles, actual flows may be more extreme than the flows derived using the highest or lowest rainfall forecasts.

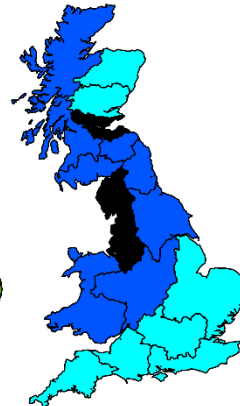
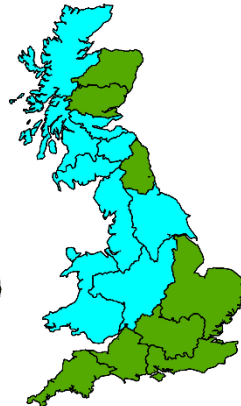
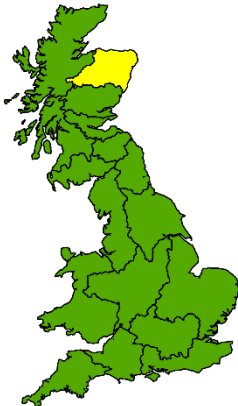
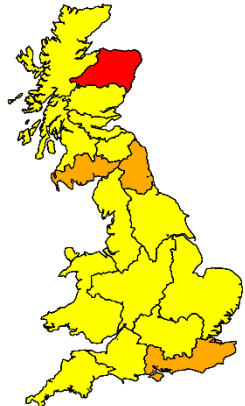
Lowest rainfall forecast

1st quartile

Median

3rd quartile

Highest rainfall forecast



1-month flow outlook

Key

- Exceptionally high flow
- Notably high flow
- Above normal
- Normal range
- Below normal
- Notably low flow
- Exceptionally low flow

Percentile range of historic values for relevant month

- > 95
- 87-95
- 72-87
- 28-72
- 13-28
- 5-13
- < 5

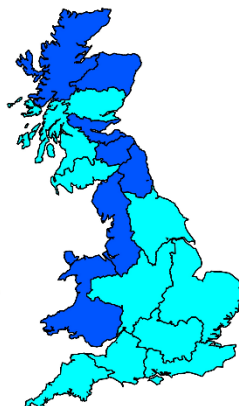
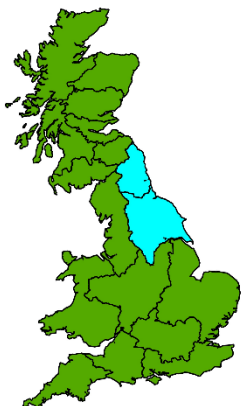
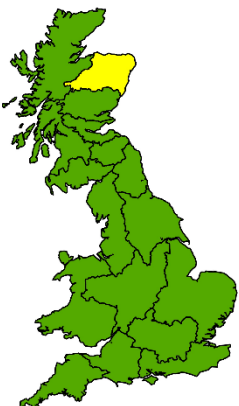
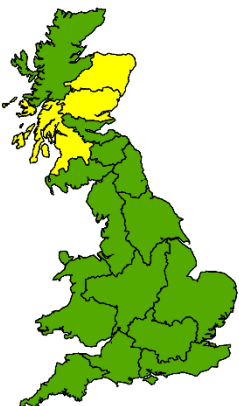
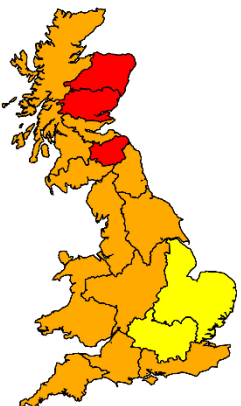
Lowest rainfall forecast

1st quartile

Median

3rd quartile

Highest rainfall forecast



3-month flow outlook

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