

Period: February 2017 – April 2017

Issued on 03.02.2017 using data to the end of January

**SUMMARY:** It is likely that February river flows will be in the *Normal range* or below for eastern Britain and in the *Normal range* or above for western Britain.

**Over the next 3 months** it is likely that this pattern persists.

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quartiles, actual flows may be more extreme than the flows derived using the highest or lowest rainfall forecasts.

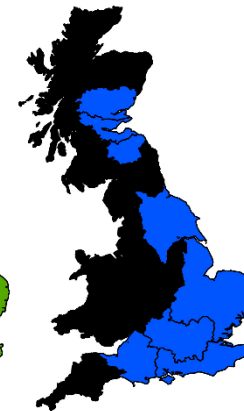
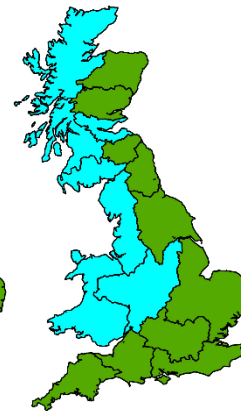
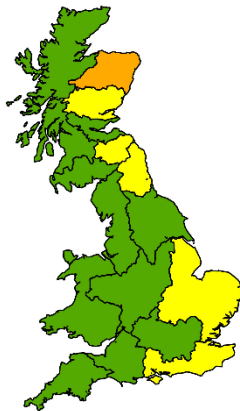
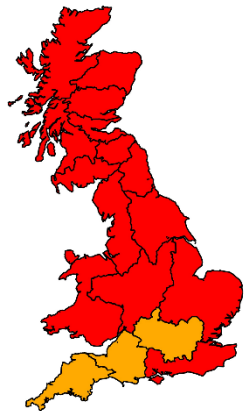
Lowest rainfall forecast

1<sup>st</sup> quartile

Median

3<sup>rd</sup> 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

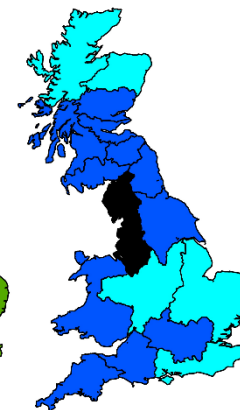
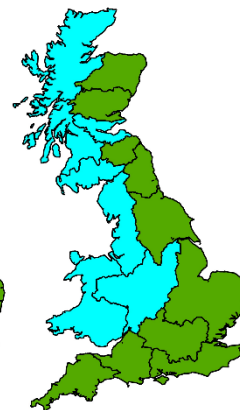
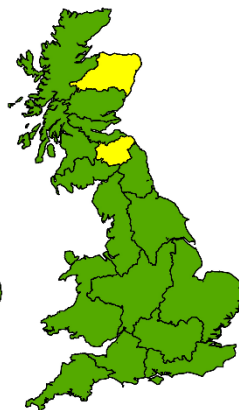
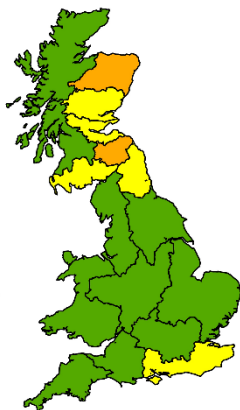
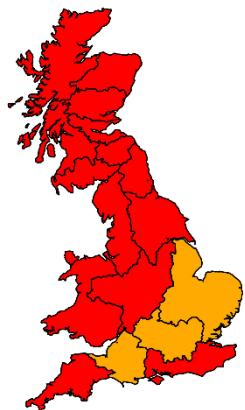
Lowest rainfall forecast

1<sup>st</sup> quartile

Median

3<sup>rd</sup> 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