



Met Office 3-month Outlook

Period: July – September 2017 Issue date: 22.06.17

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 The forecast for July will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page (www.metoffice.gov.uk/public-weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast), starting from 2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

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

SUMMARY – TEMPERATURE:

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

Overall, the probability that the UK-average temperature for July-August-September will fall into the coldest of our five categories is around 10% and the probability that it will fall into the warmest of our five categories is 30% (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 we approach the annual minimum extent in September. On balance, low Arctic sea ice is considered to slightly increase the chance of cooler- and wetter-than-average conditions in northern Europe at this time of year.

In the North Atlantic Ocean, sea surface temperatures around and to the west of the UK remain 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 that for both periods the chances of the UK experiencing lower- or higher-than-average pressure on average are fairly balanced. Nevertheless, there is a shift in likelihood towards warmer-than-average conditions (see figure T2), 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.

Fig T2

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

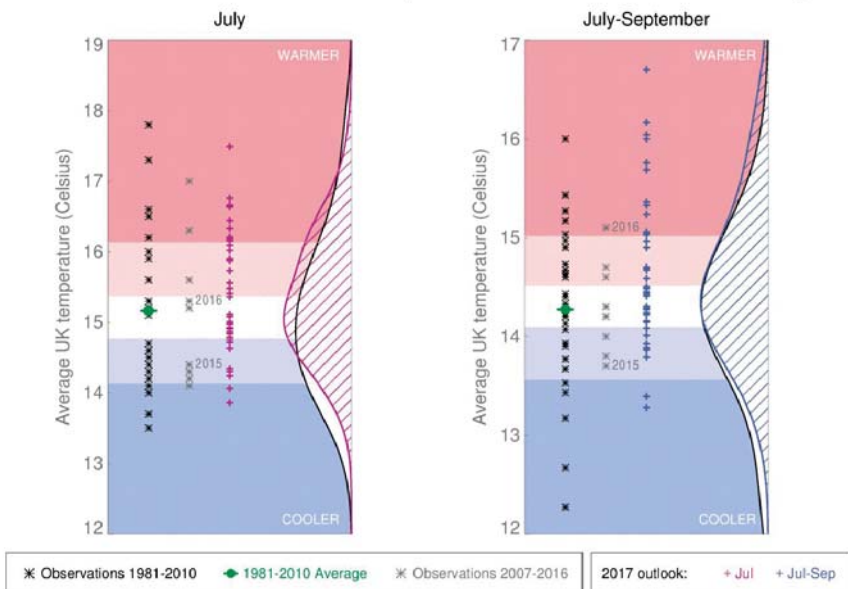


Fig T1

3-month UK outlook for temperature in the context of the observed annual cycle

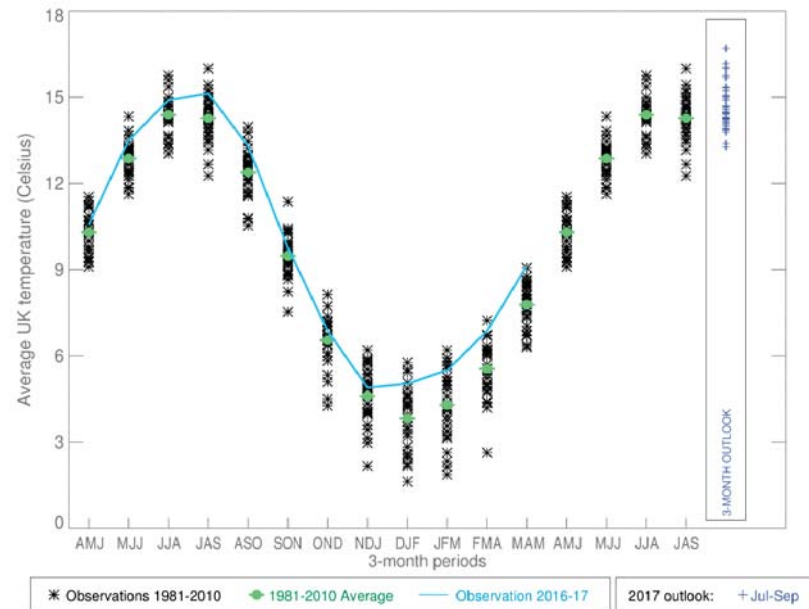
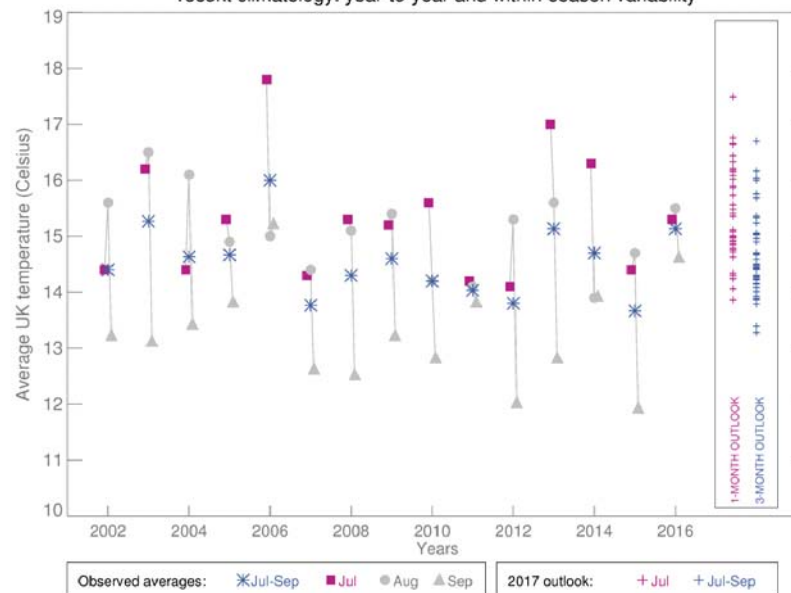


Fig T3

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.