

SUMMARY The outlook for March is for above normal flows to persist in central, southern and eastern England, and these areas are likely to see normal to above normal flows over the March-May period. In the north and west, normal flows are most likely in March and for March – May. For Groundwater levels, above normal levels are likely to persist for most of the UK through March, and for the March – May period in many aquifer areas.

Rainfall:

February was a very wet month for England and Wales, and exceptionally wet across southern and central England, with many regions seeing the wettest February on record. Scotland, Northern Ireland and the far north of England saw near-average rainfall.

The forecast (issued by the Met Office on 26.02.2024) for March favours near-average conditions but indicates that the chance of a wet month is higher than a dry one. The March – May forecast favours near-average conditions but with a slightly higher chance of the season being dry rather than wet.

River flows:

River flows in February were above normal across most of England and Wales, with widespread exceptionally high flows (and some new February maxima). For northern Britain, flows were in the normal range, with some above normal flows in northern Scotland.

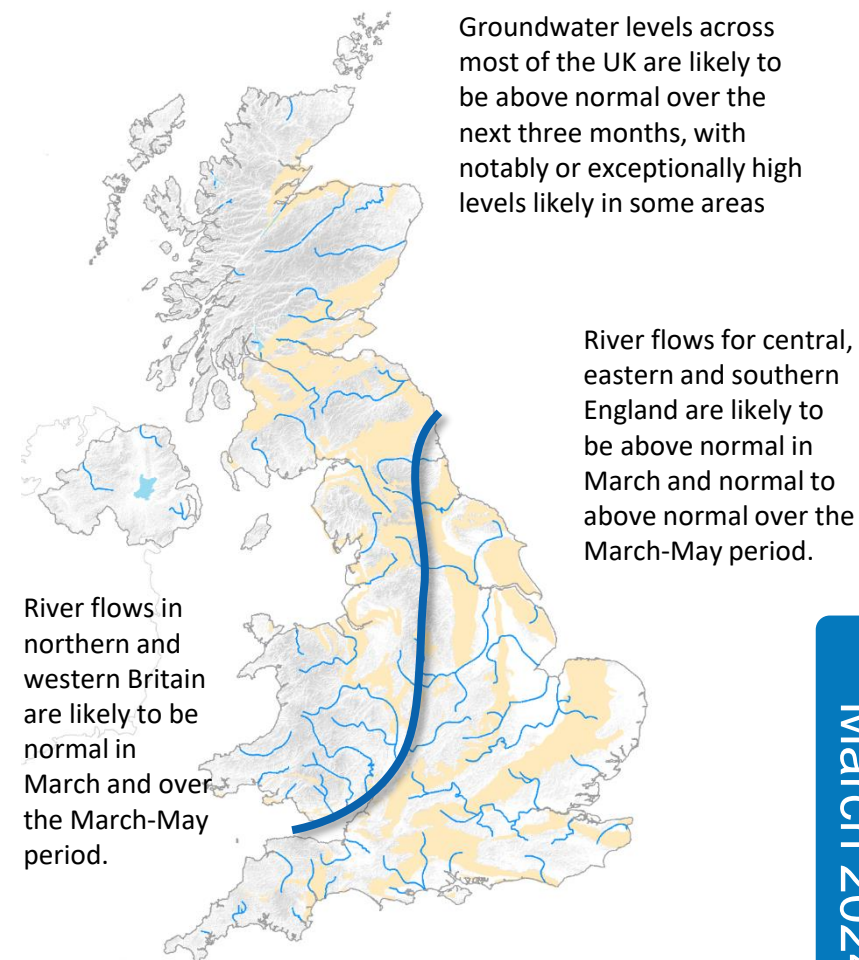
The forecast for March is for above normal flows in central, southern and eastern England, with a likelihood of notably or exceptionally high flows persisting in some catchments. For the north and west, normal flows are the most likely outcome. The March – May outlook is for a similar geographical contrast, but with normal to above normal flows in the south and east, and a lower likelihood of exceptional flows. There is a slightly higher likelihood of below normal flows in the north and west, although normal flows remain the most likely outcome in these areas.

Groundwater:

Groundwater levels in February were mostly above normal, with the exception of a few boreholes in northern Britain. Exceptionally high levels were widespread across aquifers in England and Wales, with a number of new February maxima.

The outlook for March is for a continuation of above normal levels across most of the UK, with widespread notably or exceptionally high levels, particularly in the Chalk aquifer. The three-month outlook indicates above normal levels will persist through the spring in many areas, but an increasing number of boreholes will see levels entering the normal range.

The UK Hydrological Outlook provides an outlook for the water situation for the United Kingdom over the next three months and beyond. For guidance on how to interpret the outlook, a wider range of information, and a full description of underpinning methods, please visit the website: www.hydoutuk.net



Shaded areas show principal aquifers

About the UK Hydrological Outlook:

This document presents an outlook for the UK water situation for the next 1-3 months and beyond, using observational datasets, meteorological forecasts and a suite of hydrological modelling tools. The outlook is produced in a collaboration between the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH), British Geological Survey (BGS), the Met Office, the Environment Agency (EA), Natural Resources Wales (NRW), the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), and for Northern Ireland, the Department for Infrastructure – Rivers (DfIR).

Data and Models:

The UK Hydrological Outlook depends on the active cooperation of many data suppliers. This cooperation is gratefully acknowledged. Historic river flow and groundwater data are sourced from the [UK National River Flow Archive](#) and the [National Groundwater Level Archive](#). Contemporary data are provided by the EA, SEPA, NRW and DfIR. These data are used to initialise hydrological models, and to provide outlook information based on statistical analysis of historical analogues.

Climate forecasts are produced by the Met Office. Hydrological modelling is undertaken by UKCEH using the Grid-to-Grid and GR6J hydrological models. Hydrogeological modelling uses the AquMod model run by BGS.

Supporting documentation is available from the Outlooks website:

<https://hydoutuk.net/about/methods>

Presentation:

The language used in the summary presented overleaf generally places flows and groundwater levels into just three classes, i.e. below normal, normal, and above normal. However, the underpinning methods use as many as seven classes as defined in the graphic to the right, i.e. the summary uses a simpler classification than some of the methods. On those occasions when it is appropriate to provide greater discrimination at the extremes the terminology and definitions of the seven class scheme will be adopted.

Percentile range of historic values for relevant month

Exceptionally high flow	> 95
Notably high flow	87-95
Above normal	72-87
Normal range	28-72
Below normal	13-28
Notably low flow	5-13
Exceptionally low flow	< 5

Disclaimer and liability:

The UK Hydrological Outlook partnership aims to ensure that all Content provided is accurate and consistent with its current scientific understanding. However, the science which underlies hydrological and hydrogeological forecasts and climate projections is constantly evolving. Therefore any element of the Content which involves a forecast or a prediction should not be relied upon as though it were a statement of fact. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the UK Hydrological Outlook Partnership excludes all warranties or representations (express or implied) in respect of the Content.

Your use of the Content is entirely at your own risk. We make no warranty, representation or guarantee that the Content is error free or fit for your intended use.

From April 2018 the UK Hydrological Outlook is supported by the Natural Environment Research Council funded [UK-SCAPE](#) and [Hydro-JULES](#) Programmes.

Copyright:

Some of the features displayed on the maps contained in this report are based on the following data with permission of the controller of HMSO.

- Ordnance Survey data. © Crown copyright and/or database right 2005. Licence no. 100017897.
- Land and Property Services data. © Crown copyright and database right, S&LA 145.
- Met Office rainfall data. © Crown copyright.
- The three month outlook contained in the hydrological outlook is licensed under the terms of the [Open Government Licence](#)

All rights reserved. Unauthorised reproduction infringes crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.

Further information:

For more detailed information about the UK Hydrological Outlook, and the derivation of the maps, plots and interpretation provided in this outlook, please visit the UK Hydrological Outlook website. The website features a host of other background information, including a wider range of sources of information which are used in the preparation of this Outlook. Dynamic access to many of the outputs of the UK Hydrological Portal are available on the [UK Hydrological Outlooks Portal](#).

Contact:

UK Hydrological Outlooks, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8BB
t: 01491 838800 e: <https://hydoutuk.net/contact>

Reference for the UK Hydrological Outlook:

UK Hydrological Outlook, 08 March 2024, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Oxfordshire UK, Online, <https://www.hydoutuk.net/latest-outlook/>

Other Sources of Information:

The UK Hydrological Outlook should be used alongside other sources of up-to-date information on the current water resources status and flood risk.

Environment Agency Water Situation Reports: provides summary of water resources status on a monthly and weekly basis for England: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/water-situation-reports-for-england>

Flood warnings are continually updated, and should be consulted for an up-to-date and localised assessment of flood risk:

- Environment Agency: <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/map>
- Natural Resources Wales: <https://flood-warning.naturalresources.wales/>
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency: <https://www.sepa.org.uk/flooding.aspx>

Hydrological Summary for the UK: provides summary of current water resources status for the UK: <https://nrfa.ceh.ac.uk/monthly-hydrological-summary-uk>

UK Met Office forecasts for the UK: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/>

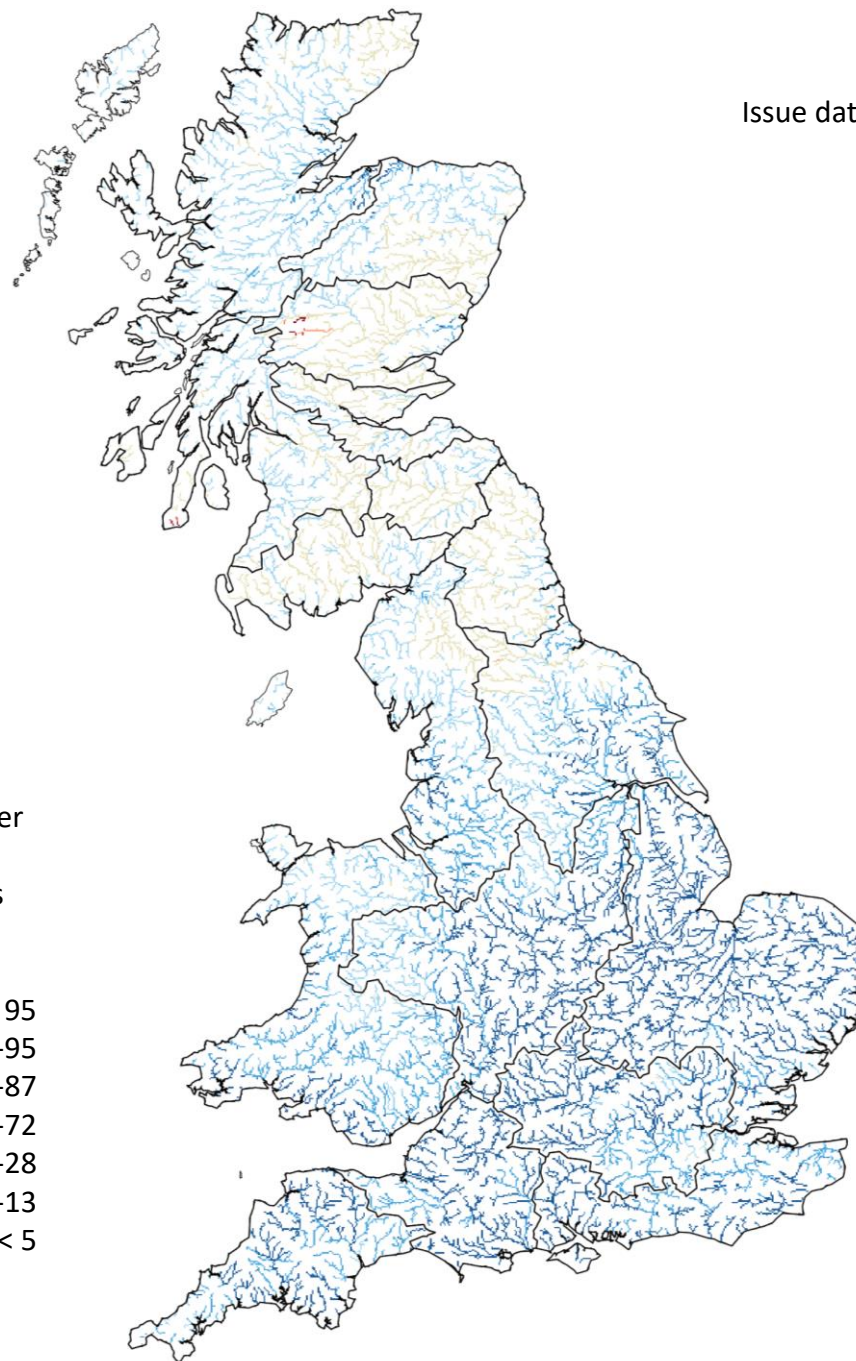
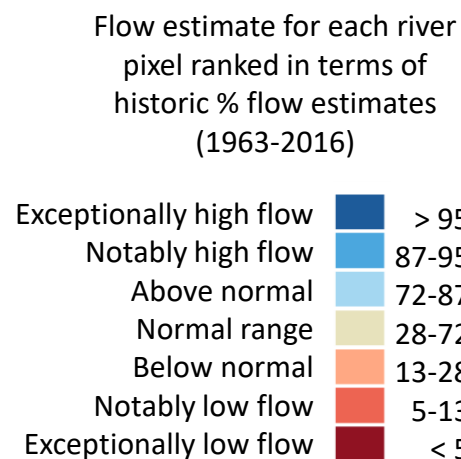
UK Water Resources Portal: monitor the UK hydrological situation in near real-time including rainfall, river flow, groundwater and soil moisture from COSMOS-UK: <https://eip.ceh.ac.uk/hydrology/water-resources/>

Issue date: 05.03.2024

This map shows the simulated monthly mean flow across Great Britain for last month, ranked in terms of 54 years of historical flow estimates (1963 – 2016).

These flows are produced by the 1km resolution Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model, which is run up to the end of each calendar month using observed rainfall and MORECS potential evaporation as input.

Note that the G2G model provides estimates of natural flows.



Current Daily Simulated Subsurface Water Storage Conditions

Based on subsurface water storage estimated for 29 February 2024

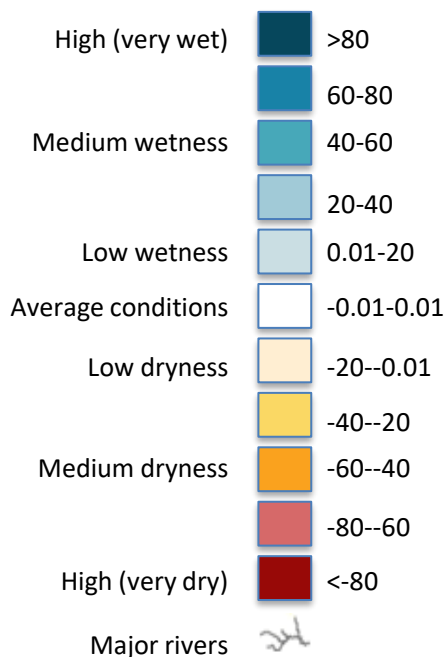
Issue date: 05.03.2024

These maps are based on Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model simulated subsurface water storage (water in the soil and groundwater), expressed as an anomaly from the historical monthly mean. To highlight areas that are particularly wet or dry, the storage anomaly is presented relative to historical extremes. Rainfall in WET areas with high positive relative wetness could result in flooding in the coming days/weeks. Areas of negative relative wetness indicate locations which are particularly DRY, and little or no rain in these areas could potentially lead to (or prolong) a drought. Maps of soil moisture only are available on the next page.

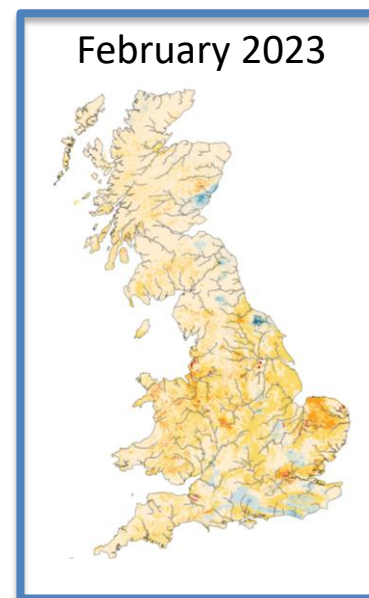
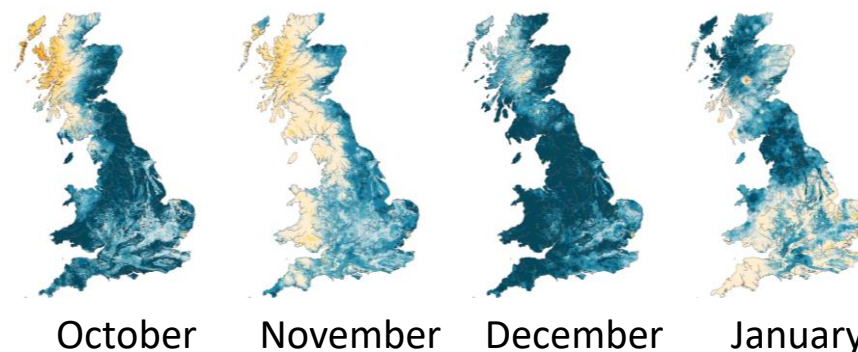
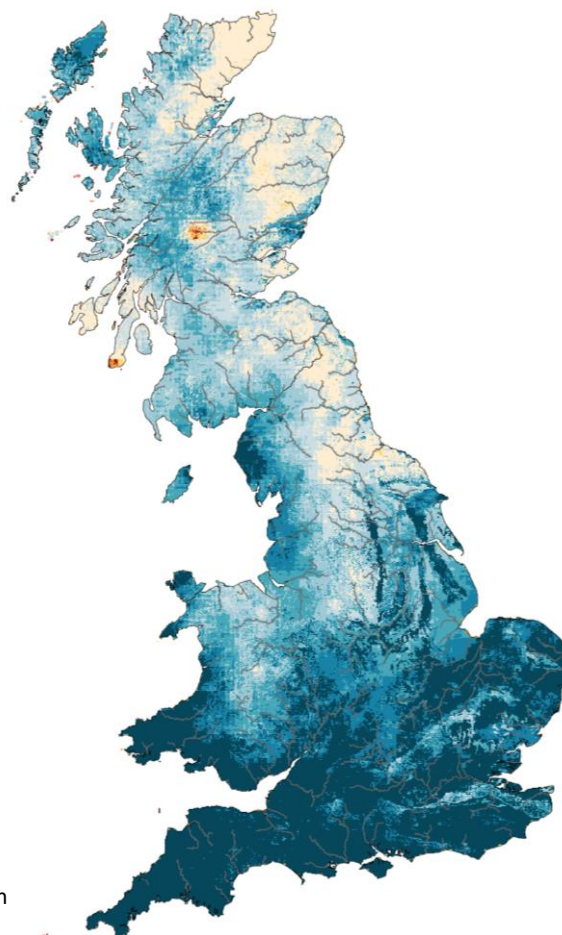
SUMMARY: Subsurface water stores are high (very wet) in the south of England, most of Wales and the Midlands. Elsewhere conditions are generally typical or slightly wetter than usual for the time of year.

Relative wetness

Water storage anomaly as a % of maximum (positive wetness) or minimum (negative wetness) storage anomaly (zero indicates average value)



Labels refer to estimated storage on final day of named month



*Example month displaying extreme positive wetness

March 2024

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Current Daily Simulated Soil Moisture Conditions

Based on soil moisture estimated for 29 February 2024

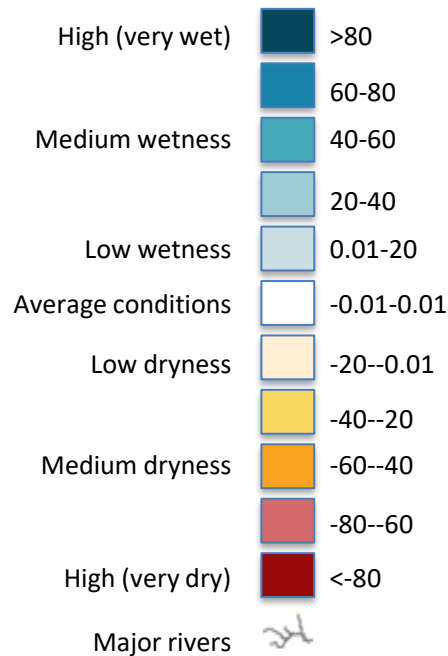
Issue date: 05.03.2024

These maps are based on Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model simulated soil moisture, expressed as an anomaly from the historical monthly mean. To highlight areas that are particularly wet or dry, the soil moisture anomaly is presented relative to historical extremes. These maps are not a forecast; rather an indication of current conditions. Soil moisture will often look similar to total storage (shown on the previous slide), since total storage comprises both soil moisture and storage in the saturated zone.

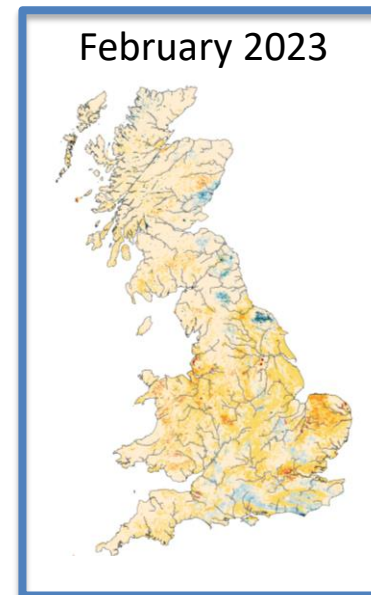
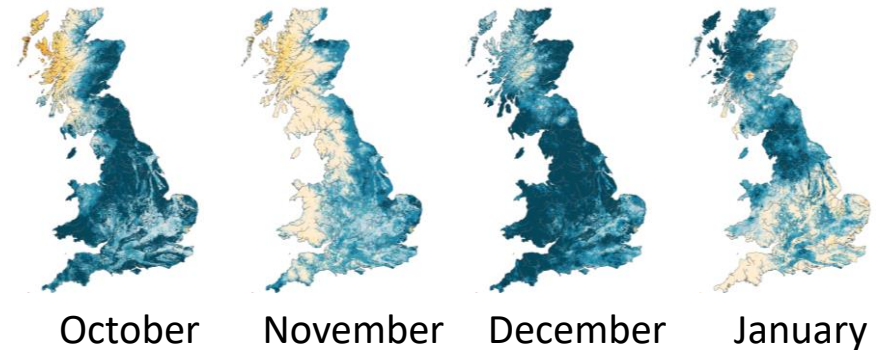
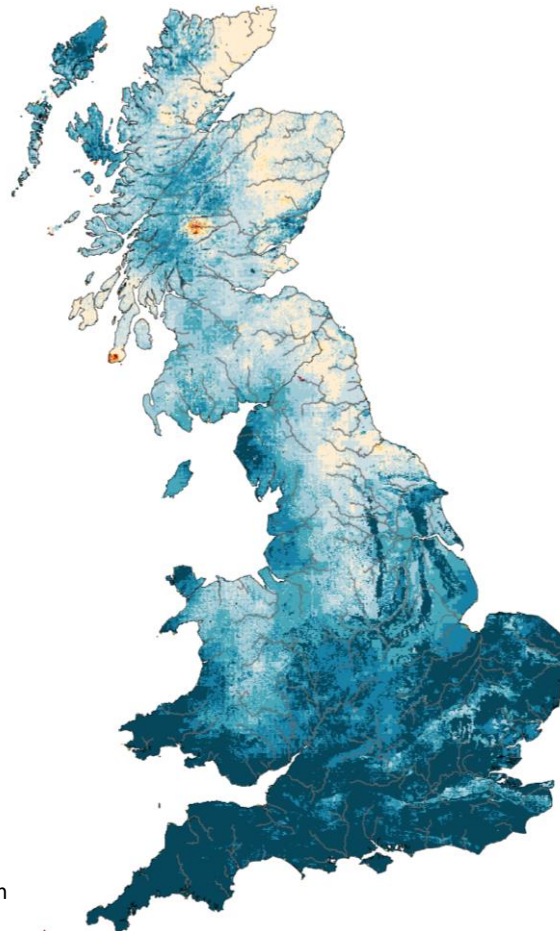
SUMMARY: Soil moisture stores are high (very wet) in the south of England, most of Wales and the Midlands. Elsewhere conditions are generally typical or slightly wetter than usual for the time of year.

Relative wetness

Soil moisture anomaly as a % of maximum (positive wetness) or minimum (negative wetness) storage anomaly (zero indicates average value)



Labels refer to estimated storage on final day of named month



*Example month displaying extreme positive wetness

March 2024

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Estimate of Additional Rainfall Required to Overcome Dry Conditions

Based on subsurface water storage estimated for 29 February 2024

Issue date: 05.03.2024

These maps show the Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model simulated subsurface water storage, expressed as an anomaly from the historical monthly mean (1981-2010), presented on a 1km grid and as regional means. Subsurface storage deficits, i.e. where the subsurface water storage anomaly is less than zero, are highlighted in red/pink.

The subsurface storage deficit (mm) can be interpreted as an estimate of additional rainfall that would be required in future months to overcome dry conditions (i.e. rainfall in addition to what is expected on average). Regional mean values of additional rainfall required are provided in the table below.

Regional estimate of additional rainfall required (mm)

SCOTLAND

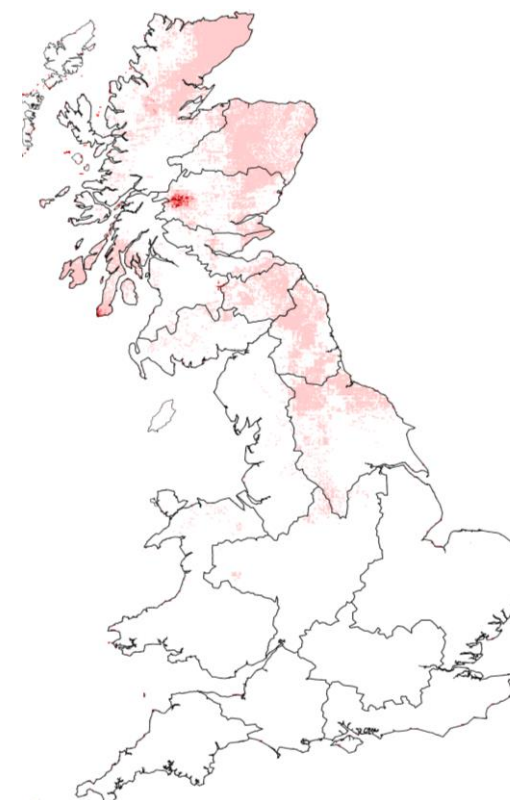
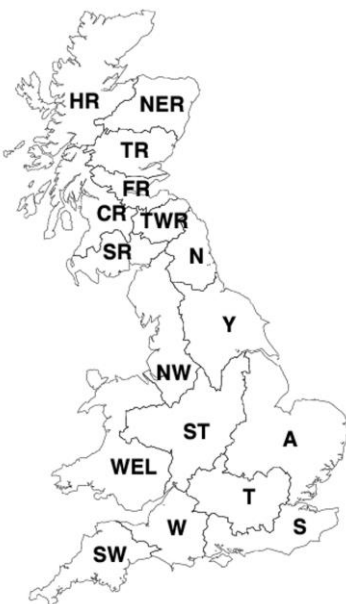
- 0 HR Highlands Region
- 0 NER North East Region
- 0 TR Tay Region
- 0 FR Forth Region
- 0 CR Clyde Region
- 0 TWR Tweed Region
- 0 SR Solway Region

ENGLAND

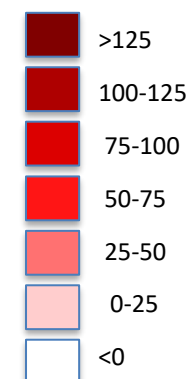
- 0 N Northumbria
- 0 NW North West
- 0 Y Yorkshire
- 0 ST Severn Trent
- 0 A Anglian
- 0 T Thames
- 0 W Wessex
- 0 S Southern
- 0 SW South West

WALES

- 0 WEL Welsh



Water storage deficit
(anomaly; mm)



Return Period of Rainfall Required to Overcome Dry Conditions

Period: March 2024 - August 2024

Issue date: 05.03.2024

These maps show the return period of the rainfall required to overcome dry conditions simulated using the Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model. The maps are coloured according to the return period of accumulated rainfall required to overcome the estimated current subsurface water storage deficit over the next one to six months (areas with no storage deficit will always be white). These maps do not provide a drought forecast; instead they indicate whether particularly heavy rainfall would be required to return to normal conditions for the time of year.

SUMMARY: There are no regions of Great Britain with water storage deficits at the start of March.



Jun

Jul

Aug



Rainfall amount (Probability)

Low (Likely) >20%

<20%

<10%

< 4%

High (Less likely) < 2%

< 1%

Extreme (Unlikely) <0.5%



Return period (years)

<5

5-10

10-25

25-50

50-100

100-200

>200

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

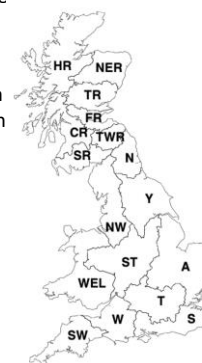
S Southern

W Wessex

SW South West

WALES

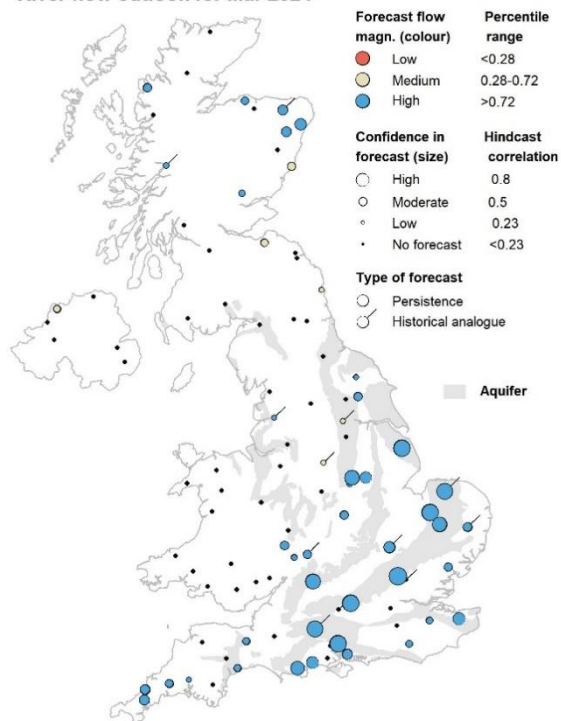
WEL Welsh



SUMMARY:

The March and March - May outlook indicate river flows across the country are most likely to be above normal, with a few catchments more likely to be within the normal range. Note that the confidence of the forecasts in north-western areas is low.

River flow outlook for Mar 2024



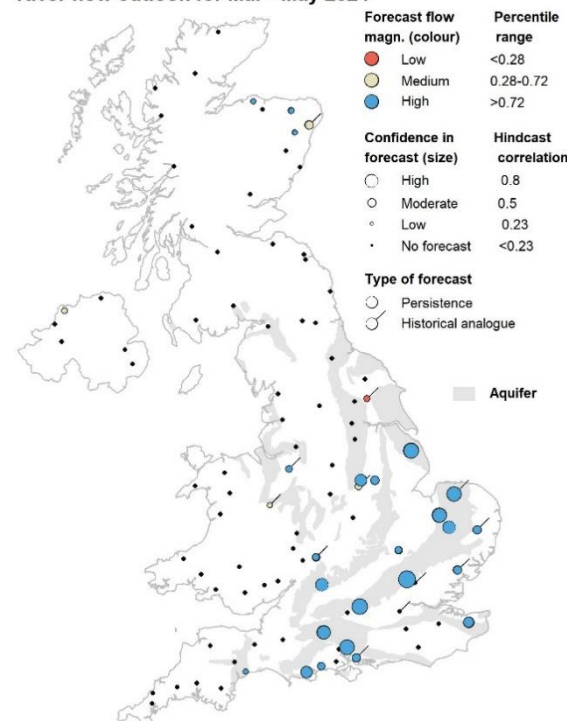
1-month flow outlook

Outlooks from hydrological analogues are based on a comparison of river flow during recent months with flows during the same months in previous years at a set of approximately 90 sites from across the UK. These sites are depicted on the two maps. Years with observed flows that most closely resemble current conditions are identified as the best analogues and the outlook is based on extrapolating from current conditions based on these analogues.

It is, however, often the case that a simpler forecast based on the persistence of river flow provides a better forecast than provided by analogy. This is particularly true for slowly responding catchments associated with aquifer outcrops.

Both methods are considered at each site and the forecast from the method with the higher confidence is presented. A simple classification of flows is used (high, medium and low) as indicated by the colours of the dots, with the confidence

River flow outlook for Mar - May 2024



3-month flow outlook

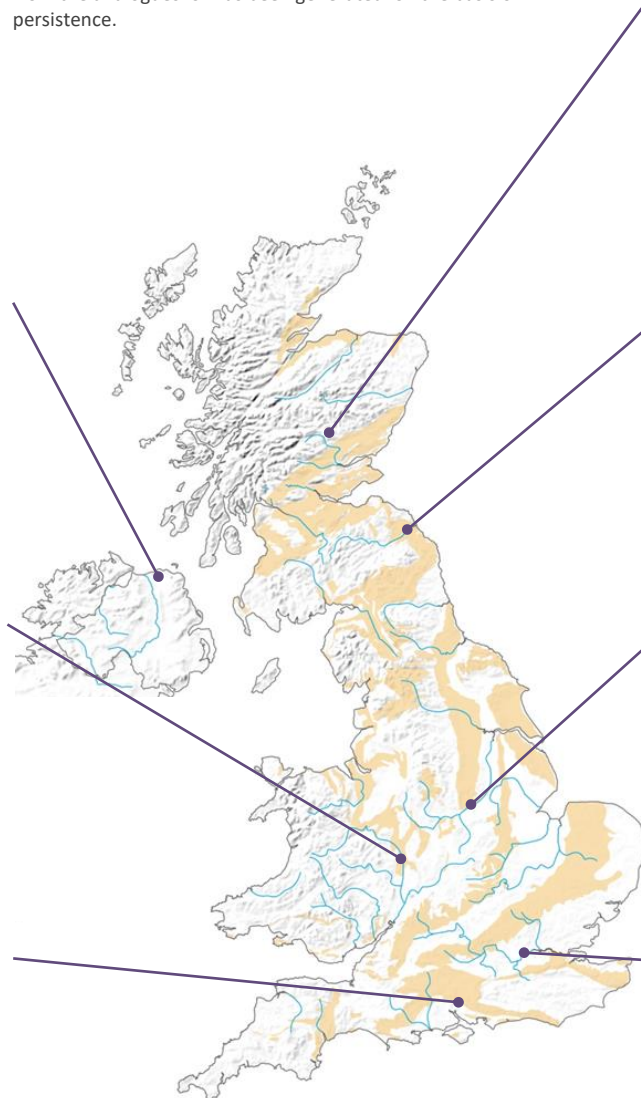
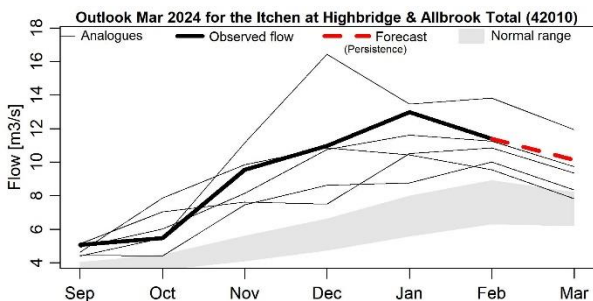
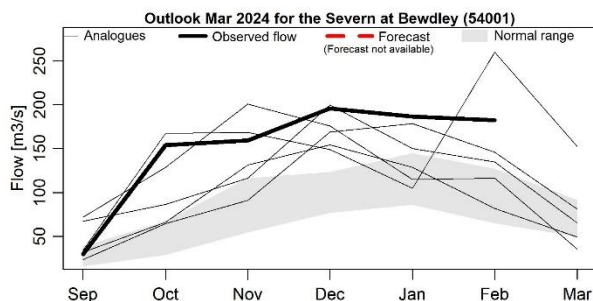
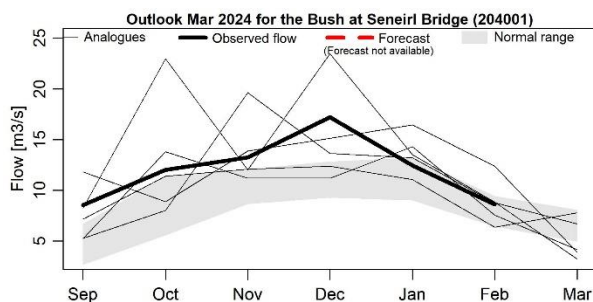
of the forecast being represented by the size of the dot. A tag on the dot indicates which method has been used in each instance.

Period: March 2024

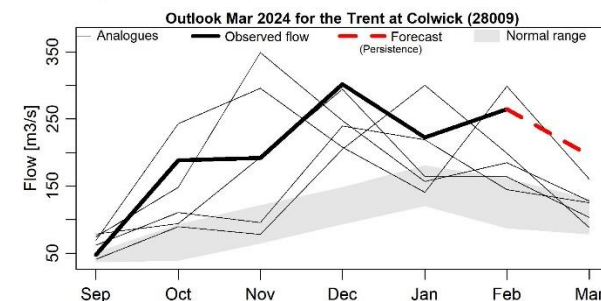
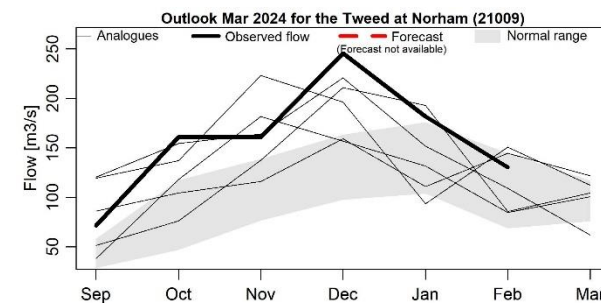
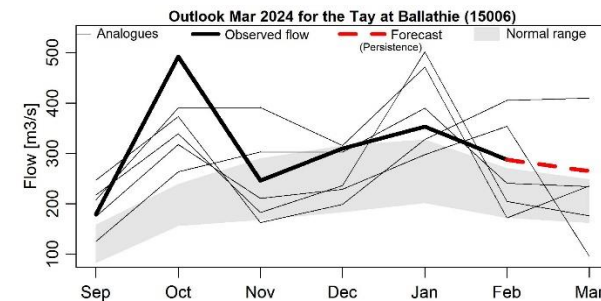
These figures provide insight into the hydrological analogue methodology for a set of sites from across the UK.

In each of the time series graphs the bold black line represents the observed flow during the past six months. The grey band indicates the normal flow range (the normal band includes 44%

of observed flows in each month). The selected analogues are shown as thin lines and the trajectories that flows took in the following month are also shown. The forecast is shown as the dashed red line, and in each plot it states whether this has come from the analogues or has been generated on the basis of persistence.



Issued on 06.03.2024 using data to the end of March 2024



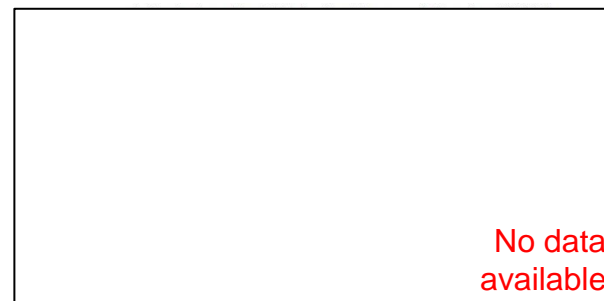
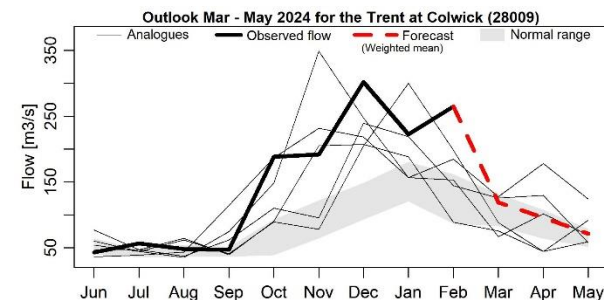
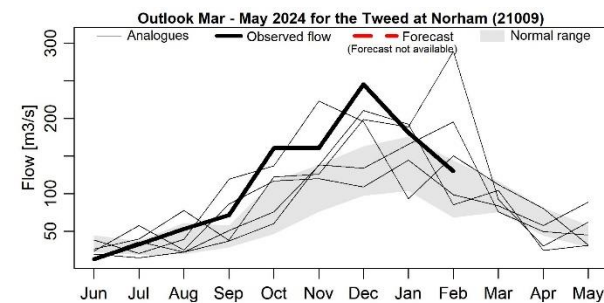
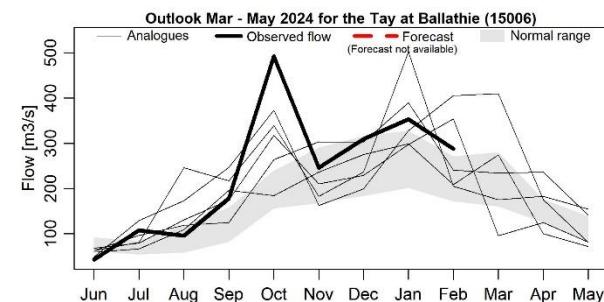
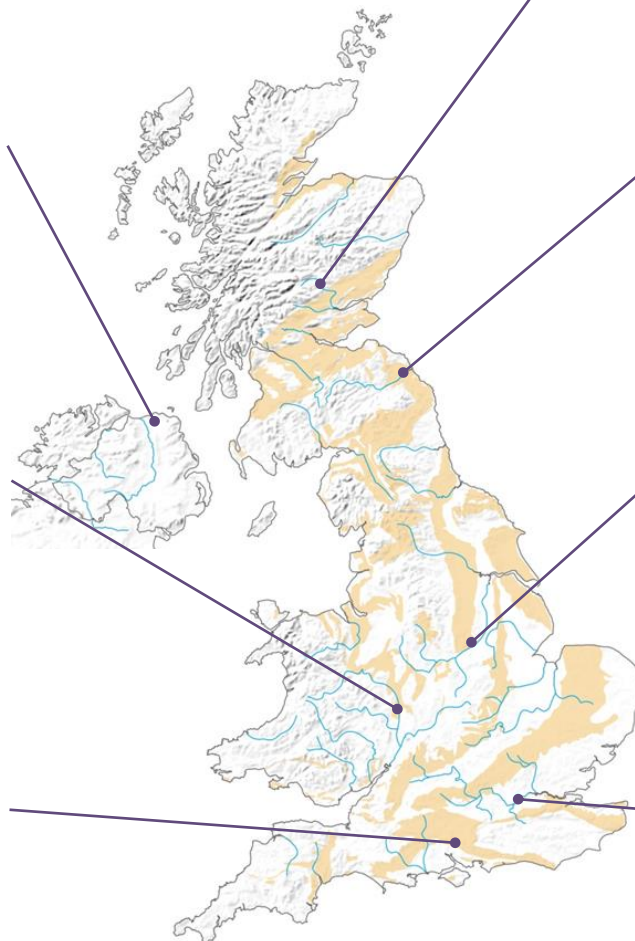
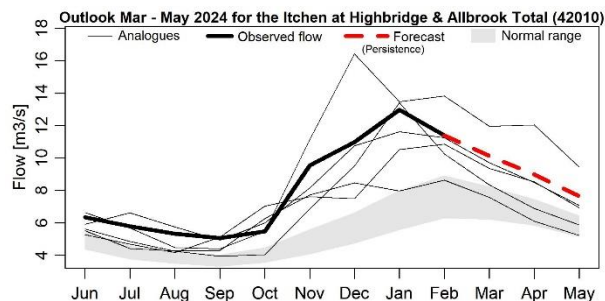
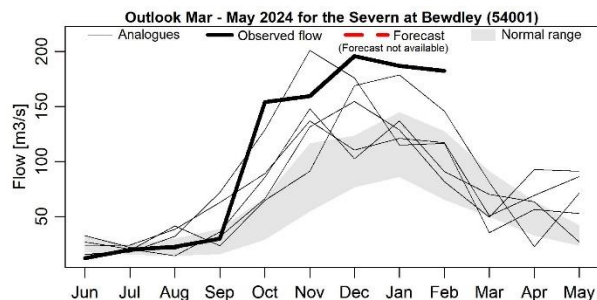
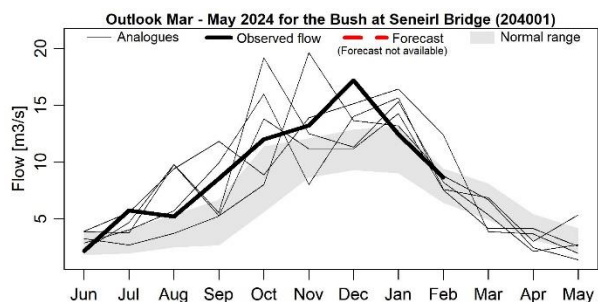
Period: March 2024 – May 2024

Issued on 06.03.2024 using data to the end of March 2024

These figures provide insight into the hydrological analogue methodology for a set of sites from across the UK.

In each of the time series graphs the bold black line represents the observed flow during the past nine months. The grey band indicates the normal flow range (the normal band includes 44%

of observed flows in each month). The selected analogues are shown as thin lines and the trajectories that flows took in the following three months are also shown. The forecast is shown as the dashed red line, and in each plot it states whether this has come from the analogues or has been generated on the basis of persistence.

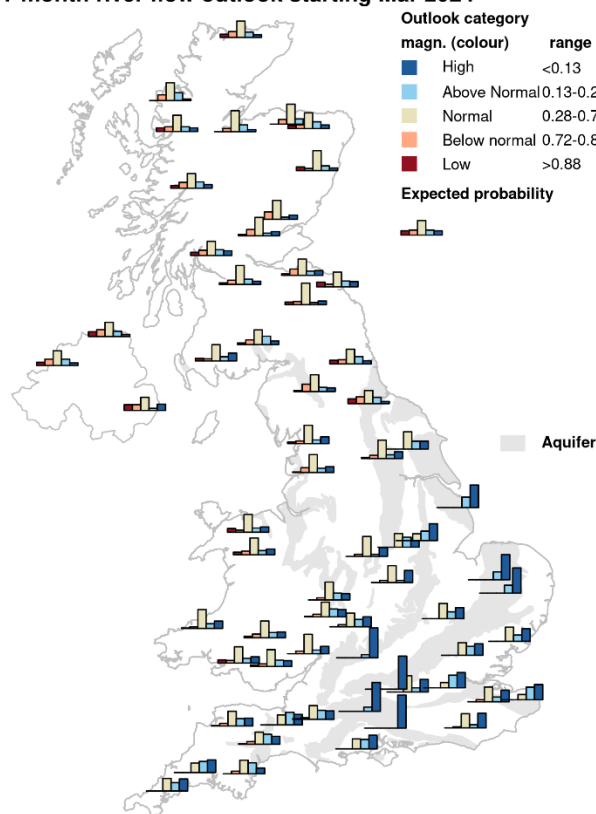


Period: March 2024 – August 2024

Issued on 05.03.2024 using data to the end of February 2024

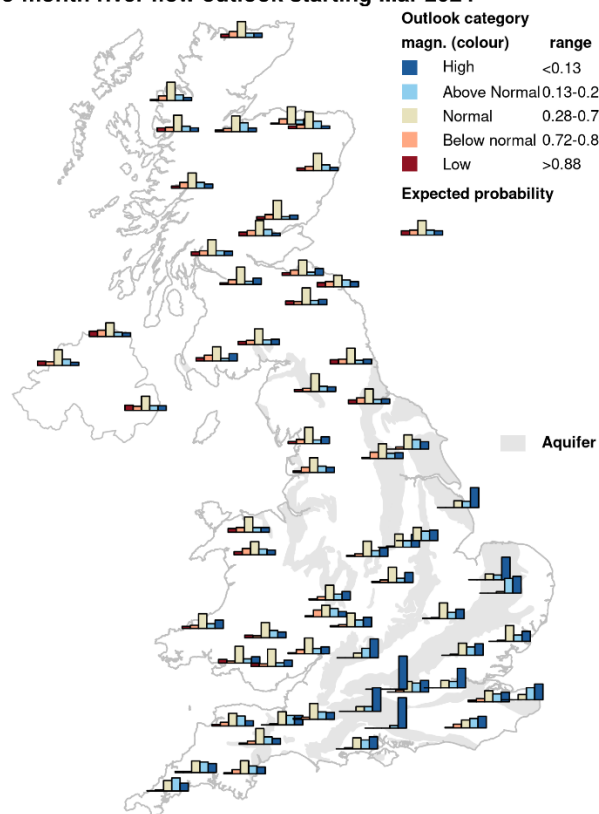
The outlook for March indicates that flows are likely to be above normal across the south of the UK, with some catchments likely to have high flows. Elsewhere in the UK flows are likely to be within the normal range. The March-May outlook shows that this pattern is likely to persist over the coming few months, with flows remaining high in some catchments in the south.

1-month river flow outlook starting Mar 2024



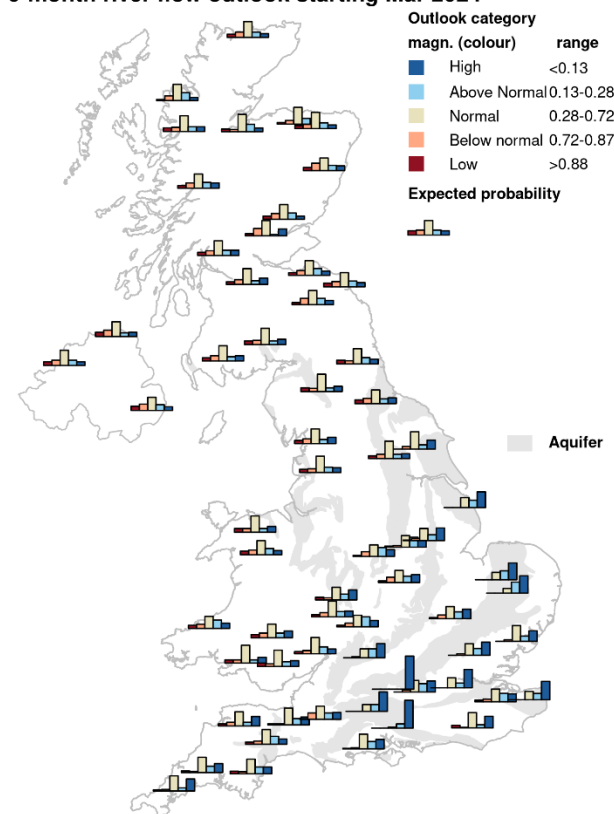
This outlook is based on monthly ensembles of historical sequences of observed climate (rainfall and potential evapotranspiration) that form input to a hydrological model. The outputs are probabilistic simulations of the average river flow over the forecast period (1 to 12 months ahead), at each location. The simulations are generated by the GR6J conceptual rainfall-runoff model from INRAE (France) calibrated on observed or naturalised flows.

3-month river flow outlook starting Mar 2024



The bar plot maps show the outlook distribution for 1, 3 and 6-month period for 64 catchments across England and Wales. Each bar plot represents the probabilistic distribution of the simulated river flow compared to the historical river flow, for the same n-month period. The probabilities fall within five categories, classified as: low, below normal, normal, above normal and high.

6-month river flow outlook starting Mar 2024



This outlook is based entirely on historical sequences and therefore does not contain any knowledge of the state of the atmosphere and ocean. It is hence possible that some of the historical sequences used might be inconsistent with current large-scale atmospheric conditions and would therefore be unlikely to occur in the next few months.

Please note that *Outlooks based on modelled flow from historical climate* from October 2023 onwards were generated using GR6J model, whereas until September 2023, they were produced using GR4J model. For more details, please see the section on River flow from historical climate at this link: <https://hydoutuk.net/about/methods/river-flows>



This outlook is based on monthly ensembles of historical sequences of observed climate (rainfall and potential evapotranspiration) that form input to a hydrological model. The outputs are probabilistic simulations of the average river flow over the forecast period (1 to 12 months ahead), at each location. The simulations are generated by the GR6J conceptual rainfall-runoff model from INRAE (France) calibrated on observed or naturalised flows.

The stack diagrams show the variation over time of the outlook distribution for a number of individual catchments. Each graph represents variation over time of the number of simulated river flows, in each month ensemble, that fall within each of seven categories: exceptionally low, notably low, below normal, normal, above normal, notably high and exceptionally high. The categories represent cumulative flow conditions, e.g. For 3-month, the simulated total 3-month flow compared to the historical 3-month flow distribution. The monthly variations can be compared to the long-term average distribution of river flows (shown as columns on

the right of each timeline graph).

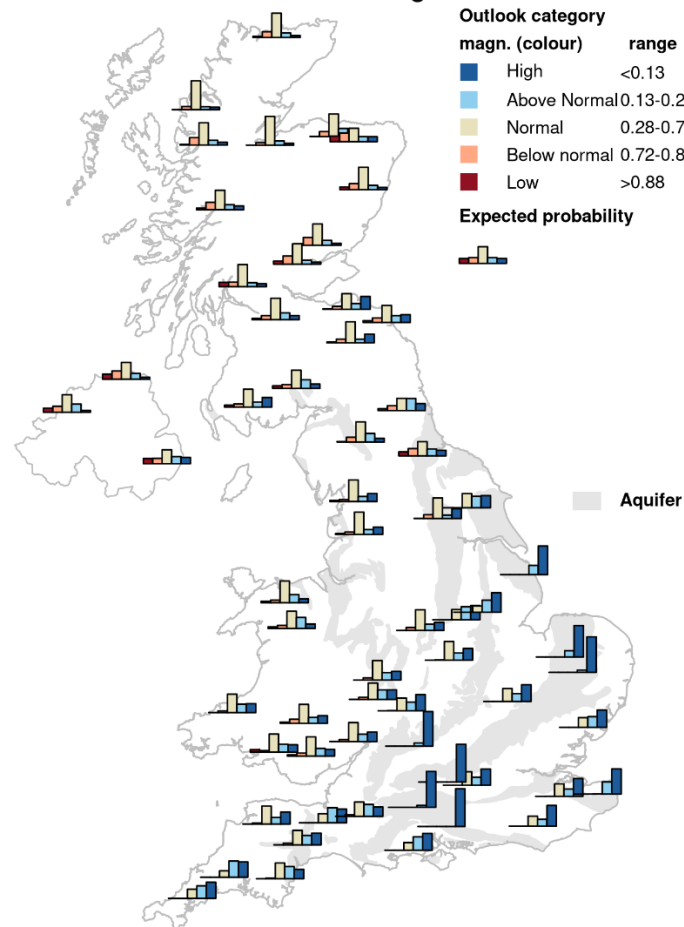
This outlook is based entirely on historical sequences and therefore does not contain any knowledge of the state of the atmosphere and ocean. It is hence possible that some of the historical sequences used might be inconsistent with current large-scale atmospheric conditions and would therefore be unlikely to occur in the next few months.

The outlook for March indicates that flows are likely to be above normal for southern and eastern parts of the UK, in some catchments flows are likely to be high. Throughout the rest of the UK flows are likely to be in the normal range. The March-May outlook indicates a slight shift towards more normal flows, particularly in southern Wales. Flows for some catchments in the south of England are likely to remain high.

The historical weather analogues method uses Met Office predictions of average weather 1 and 3 months ahead to provide inputs to a hydrological model. Like the ESP method, observed rainfall and temperature data from past years are used to drive the predictions, however, the analogue method constrains the selection of past rainfall using the weather conditions in the meteorological forecasts (which are summarised for this forecast in the Met Office likelihood of impacts blocks underneath the maps). For each member of the Met Office forecast ensemble, the 10 analogues that best match the predicted average weather pattern (surface pressure map) over the forecast period are selected. Precipitation and temperature sequences constructed from the selected analogue scenarios are corrected to account for historic trends and used as inputs to hydrological models. Here, the GR6J model is run using these inputs, creating an ensemble of hydrological forecasts.

The outputs shown in the maps are the likelihoods of different outcomes for the average river flow over the one-month and three-month forecast periods at each location. The outlooks maps show the distribution for 64 catchments across the United Kingdom. Each bar plot represents the likelihood of the simulated river flow compared to the historical river flow, for the same n-month period. The probabilities fall within five categories, classified as: low, below normal, normal, above normal and high. The expected climatological probability of ensemble members in each of these categories is shown under the legend.

1-month river flow outlook starting Mar 2024

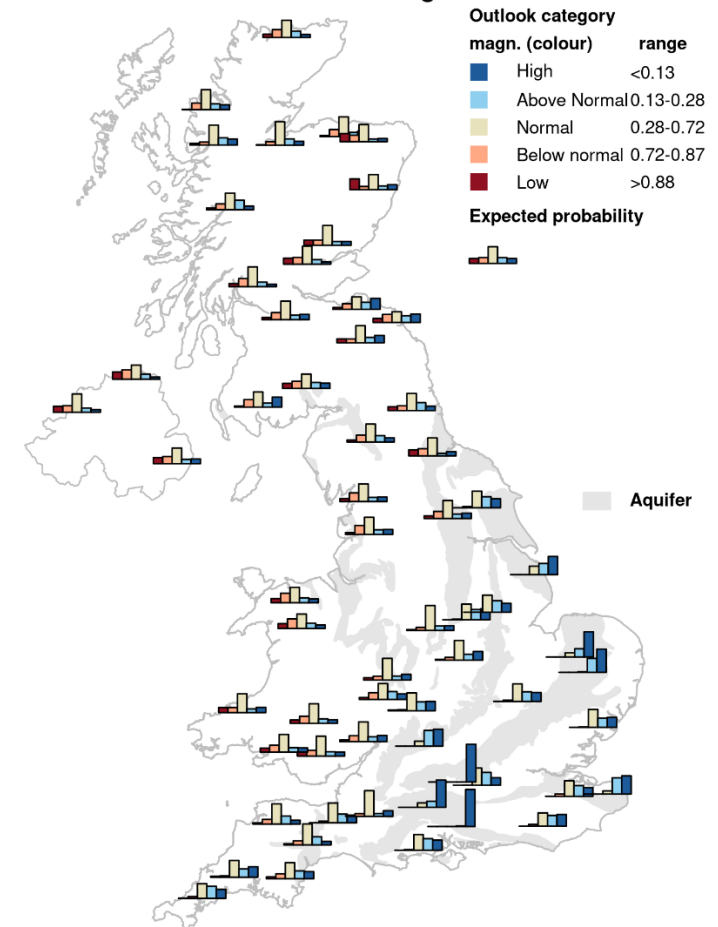


Met Office 1-month likelihood of precipitation impact



© Crown copyright, Met Office

3-month river flow outlook starting Mar 2024



Met Office 3-month likelihood of precipitation impact



© Crown copyright, Met Office

- These (yellow edged) pages summarise river flow forecasts produced by the UKCEH Water Balance Model.
- This model uses an ensemble of rainfall forecasts provided by the Met Office and a hydrological model to forecast river flows for the next one- and three-months ahead.
- A detailed description of these forecast products can be found on the final page, and a full technical description is given in the documentation available via the Hydrological Outlook website.
- Additional forecast products are available on the Hydrological Outlook Portal, via the website.

UK Climate Resilience & Adaptation

Probability of extreme river flows in Scotland over September
based on 01.09.2021 using data to the end of August 2021

- the page shows the probability of extreme conditions in England and Wales over the next three months.
- the bar chart indicates the likelihood of extremely high or low flows in a given number of regions.
- Maps show which regions are most likely to experience these flows at several conditions, get more extreme.

How likely are we to experience extremely high or low flows?

Probability of low and high flows in multiple regions simultaneously

0.0%

Number of regions with extremely low flows or high flows

Which regions are most likely to experience extremely high or low flows?

LOW FLOWS

0.0% (low) 0.0% (low) 0.0% (low) 0.0% (low) 0.0% (low) 0.0% (low) 0.0% (low)

High and low flows simultaneously 0.0%

HIGH FLOWS

0.0% (high) 0.0% (high) 0.0% (high) 0.0% (high) 0.0% (high) 0.0% (high) 0.0% (high)

UK Climate Resilience & Adaptation

Summary
Scotland - one month

There is a low probability of extreme flow conditions in Scotland over the next month.

UK Climate Resilience & Adaptation

UKCIC enquiries

This page has been created by the UKCIC team. It is not a formal report and should not be used for official purposes. It is for information only. The data is based on the UKCIC model and is subject to change. The data is not a forecast and should not be used for official purposes. It is for information only. The data is based on the UKCIC model and is subject to change.

- **Use these pages if you are interested in extreme conditions across multiple regions.**
- These pages summarise the risk of extremely high or low flows being observed across GB.
- The four pages show the risk for **Scotland** and for **England & Wales** over the next one and three months.
- The slides indicate the **probability of widespread extreme conditions** and which regions are most likely to experience extremely high or low flows.

UK Climate for Learning & Teaching

Statistics of regional mean river flow distributions

10th September 2013

This page shows the ensemble distribution for each region over the next one and three month periods.

The 1st flow forecasts are averaged within each region, then categorised according to the historical flows.

The histograms in each region indicate the proportion of ensemble members in each flow category.

Legend:

Region:

- North East
- North West
- Yorkshire
- East of England
- East Midlands
- West Midlands
- South East
- South West
- London
- Wales

Flow rate:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36
- 37
- 38
- 39
- 40
- 41
- 42
- 43
- 44
- 45
- 46
- 47
- 48
- 49
- 50
- 51
- 52
- 53
- 54
- 55
- 56
- 57
- 58
- 59
- 60
- 61
- 62
- 63
- 64
- 65
- 66
- 67
- 68
- 69
- 70
- 71
- 72
- 73
- 74
- 75
- 76
- 77
- 78
- 79
- 80
- 81
- 82
- 83
- 84
- 85
- 86
- 87
- 88
- 89
- 90
- 91
- 92
- 93
- 94
- 95
- 96
- 97
- 98
- 99
- 100

Flow rate:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36
- 37
- 38
- 39
- 40
- 41
- 42
- 43
- 44
- 45
- 46
- 47
- 48
- 49
- 50
- 51
- 52
- 53
- 54
- 55
- 56
- 57
- 58
- 59
- 60
- 61
- 62
- 63
- 64
- 65
- 66
- 67
- 68
- 69
- 70
- 71
- 72
- 73
- 74
- 75
- 76
- 77
- 78
- 79
- 80
- 81
- 82
- 83
- 84
- 85
- 86
- 87
- 88
- 89
- 90
- 91
- 92
- 93
- 94
- 95
- 96
- 97
- 98
- 99
- 100

Flow rate:

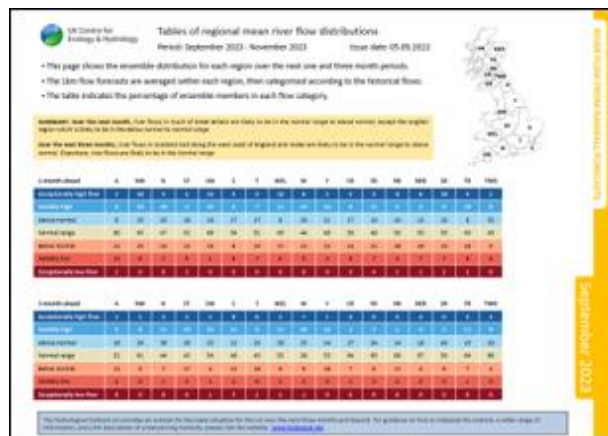
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36
- 37
- 38
- 39
- 40
- 41
- 42
- 43
- 44
- 45
- 46
- 47
- 48
- 49
- 50
- 51
- 52
- 53
- 54
- 55
- 56
- 57
- 58
- 59
- 60
- 61
- 62
- 63
- 64
- 65
- 66
- 67
- 68
- 69
- 70
- 71
- 72
- 73
- 74
- 75
- 76
- 77
- 78
- 79
- 80
- 81
- 82
- 83
- 84
- 85
- 86
- 87
- 88
- 89
- 90
- 91
- 92
- 93
- 94
- 95
- 96
- 97
- 98
- 99
- 100

Flow rate:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36
- 37
- 38
- 39
- 40
- 41
- 42
- 43
- 44
- 45
- 46
- 47
- 48
- 49
- 50
- 51
- 52
- 53
- 54
- 55
- 56
- 57
- 58
- 59
- 60
- 61
- 62
- 63
- 64
- 65
- 66
- 67
- 68
- 69
- 70
- 71
- 72
- 73
- 74
- 75
- 76
- 77
- 78
- 79
- 80
- 81
- 82
- 83
- 84
- 85
- 86
- 87
- 88
- 89
- 90
- 91
- 92
- 93
- 94
- 95
- 96
- 97
- 98
- 99
- 100

Flow rate:

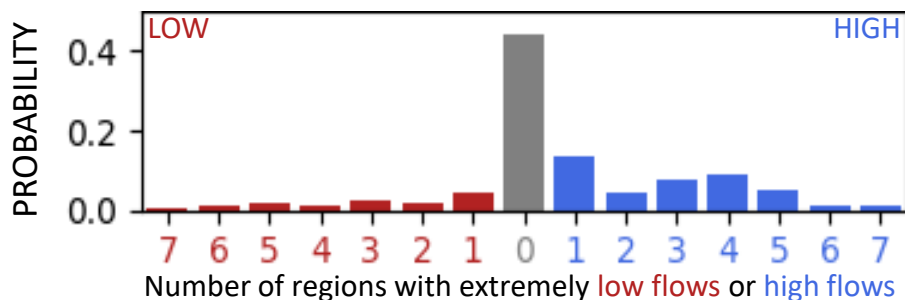
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36
- 37
- 38
- 39
- 40
- 41
- 42
- 43
- 44
- 45
- 46
- 47
- 48
- 49
- 50
- 51
- 52
- 53
- 54
- 55
- 56
- 57
- 58
- 59
- 60
- 61
- 62
- 63
- 64
- 65



- Use these pages if you are interested in the ensemble distribution in a single region.
- The first page shows the ensemble distribution as a histogram for each region.
- The second page shows the percentage of ensemble members in each band for each region.

This page shows the **probability of extreme conditions in Scotland** over the next month. The bar chart indicates the likelihood of extremely high or low flows in a given number of regions. Maps show which regions are most likely to experience these flows as overall conditions get more extreme.

How likely are we to experience extremely **low** or **high** flows?



Probability of low and high flows in multiple regions simultaneously

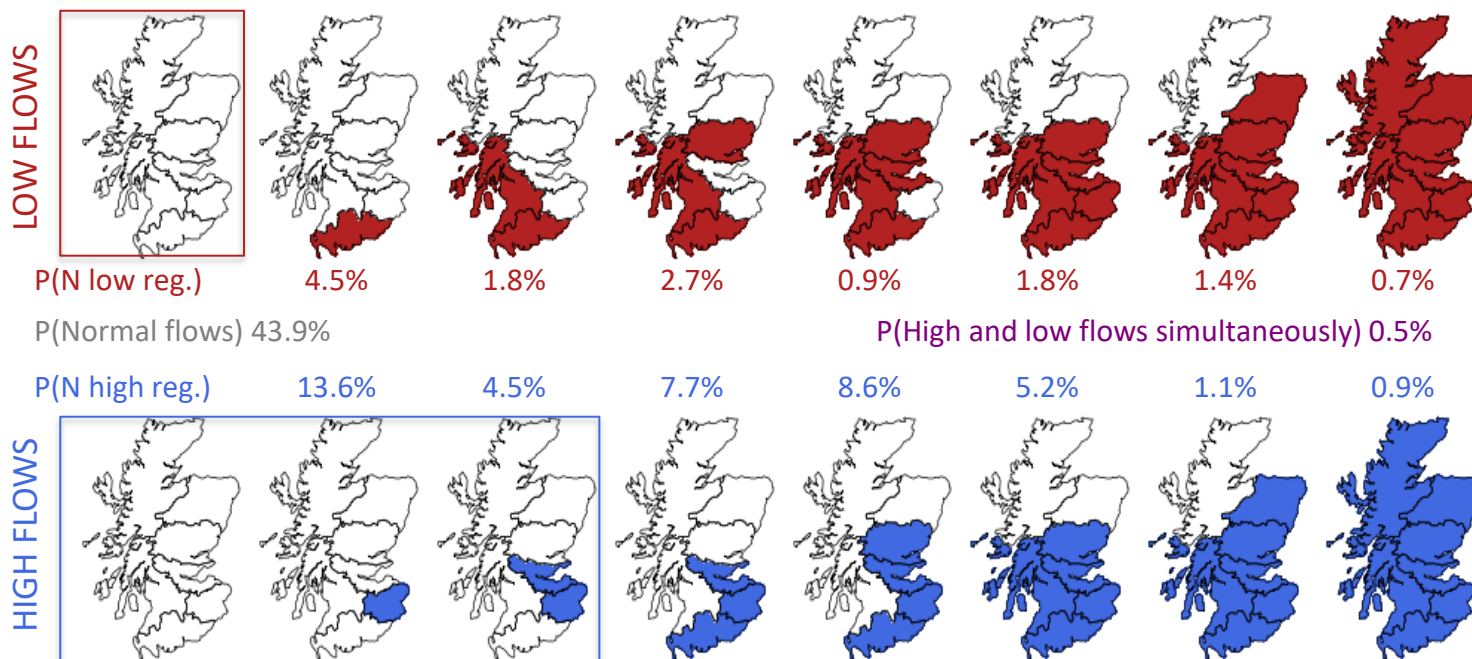
0.5%

Summary

Scotland – one month

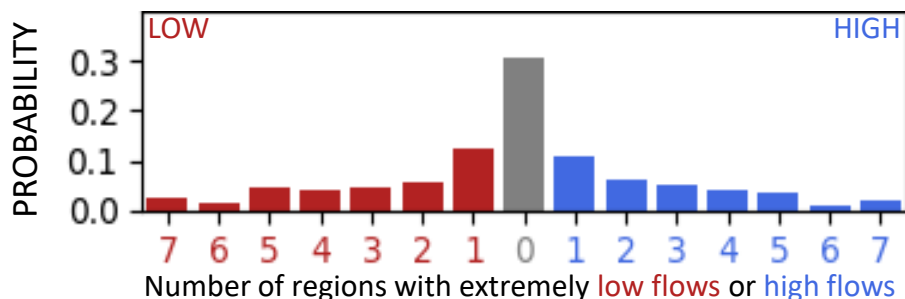
Extremely high and low flows are not likely to be experienced in Scotland over the next month. Extremely high flows are more probable than low flows.

Which regions are most likely to experience extremely **low** or **high** flows?



This page shows the **probability of extreme conditions in Scotland** over the next three months. The bar chart indicates the likelihood of extremely high or low flows in a given number of regions. Maps show which regions are most likely to experience these flows as overall conditions get more extreme.

How likely are we to experience extremely low or high flows?



Probability of low and high flows in multiple regions simultaneously

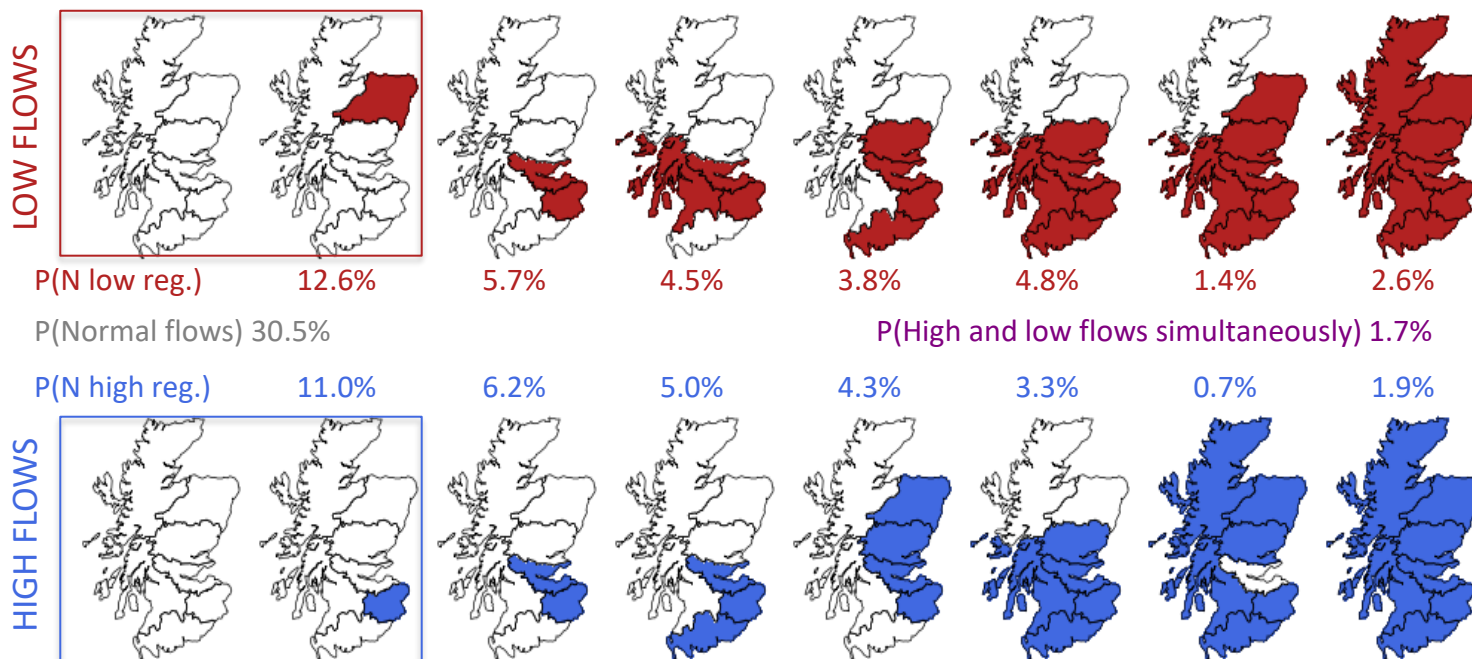
1.7%

Summary

Scotland – three months

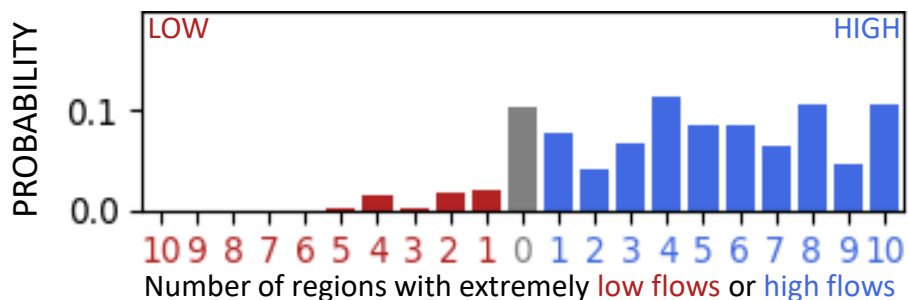
Extremely high or low flows are not likely to be experienced in Scotland over the next three months.

Which regions are most likely to experience extremely low or high flows?



This page shows the **probability of extreme conditions in England and Wales** over the next month. The bar chart indicates the likelihood of extremely high or low flows in a given number of regions. Maps show which regions are most likely to experience these flows as overall conditions get more extreme.

How likely are we to experience extremely **low** or **high** flows?



Probability of low and high flows in multiple regions simultaneously

4.5%

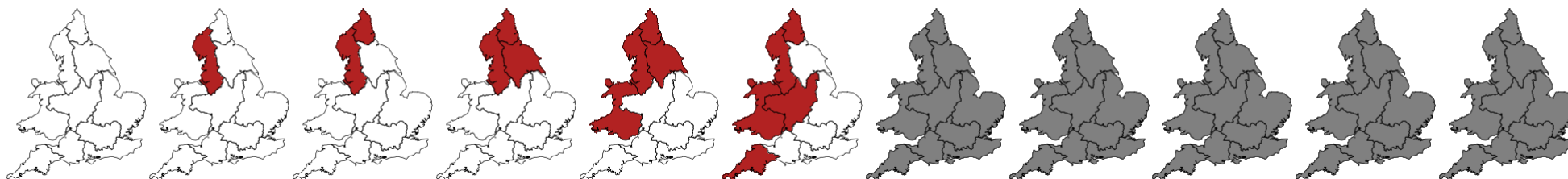
Summary

England and Wales – one month

Extremely high flows are likely to be widespread this month, particularly in the south and east of England.

Which regions are most likely to experience extremely **low** or **high** flows?

LOW FLOWS



P(N low reg.)

2.0%

1.8%

0.2%

1.4%

0.2%

0.0%

0.0%

0.0%

0.0%

0.0%

P(Normal flows) 10.5%

P(High and low flows simultaneously) 4.5%

P(N high reg.)

7.7%

4.1%

6.6%

11.4%

8.6%

8.6%

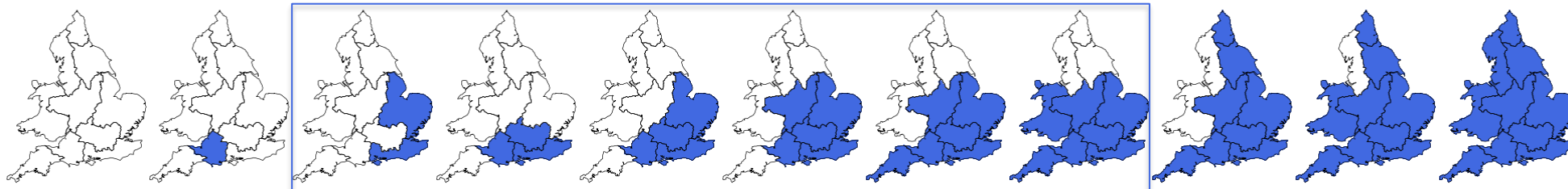
6.4%

10.7%

4.5%

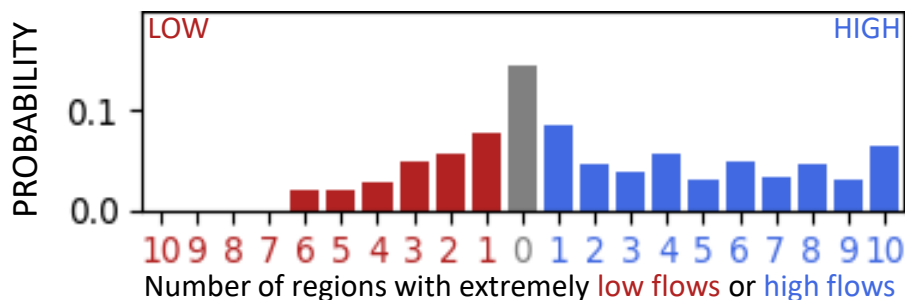
10.7%

HIGH FLOWS



This page shows the **probability of extreme conditions in England and Wales** over the next three months. The bar chart indicates the likelihood of extremely high or low flows in a given number of regions. Maps show which regions are most likely to experience these flows as overall conditions get more extreme.

How likely are we to experience extremely **low** or **high** flows?



Probability of low and high flows in multiple regions simultaneously

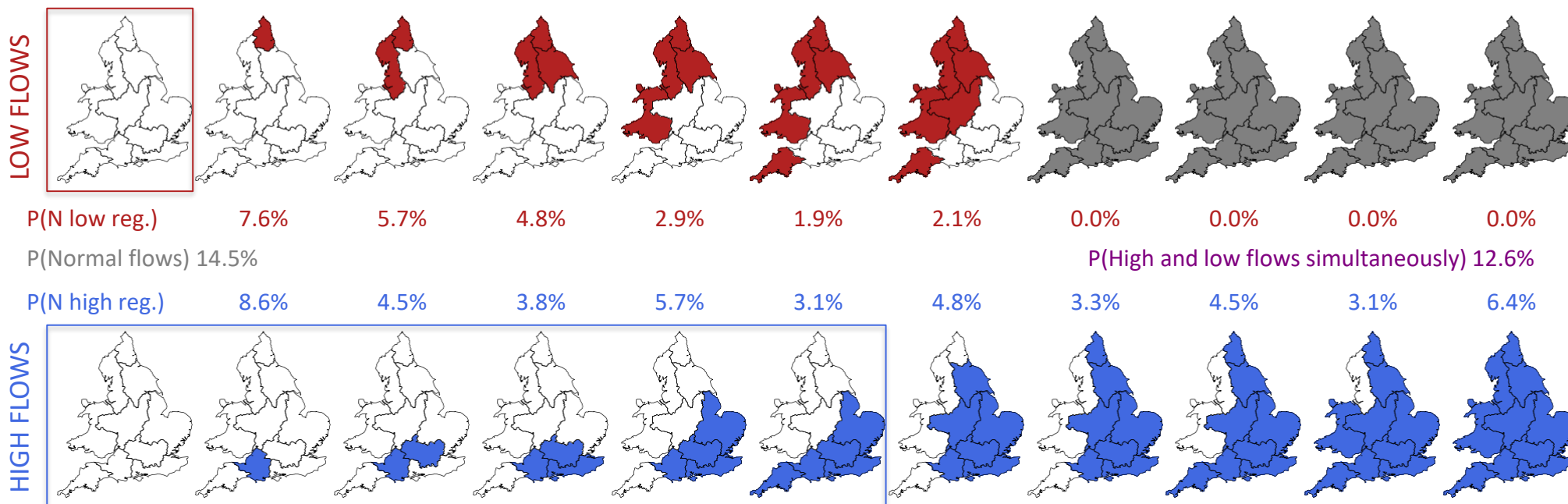
12.6%

Summary

England and Wales – three months

Extremely high or low flows are not likely to be experienced in England and Wales over the next three months. If they occur, high flows are more likely in the south, and low flows in the north.

Which regions are most likely to experience extremely **low** or **high** flows?



Histograms of GB regional mean river flow distributions

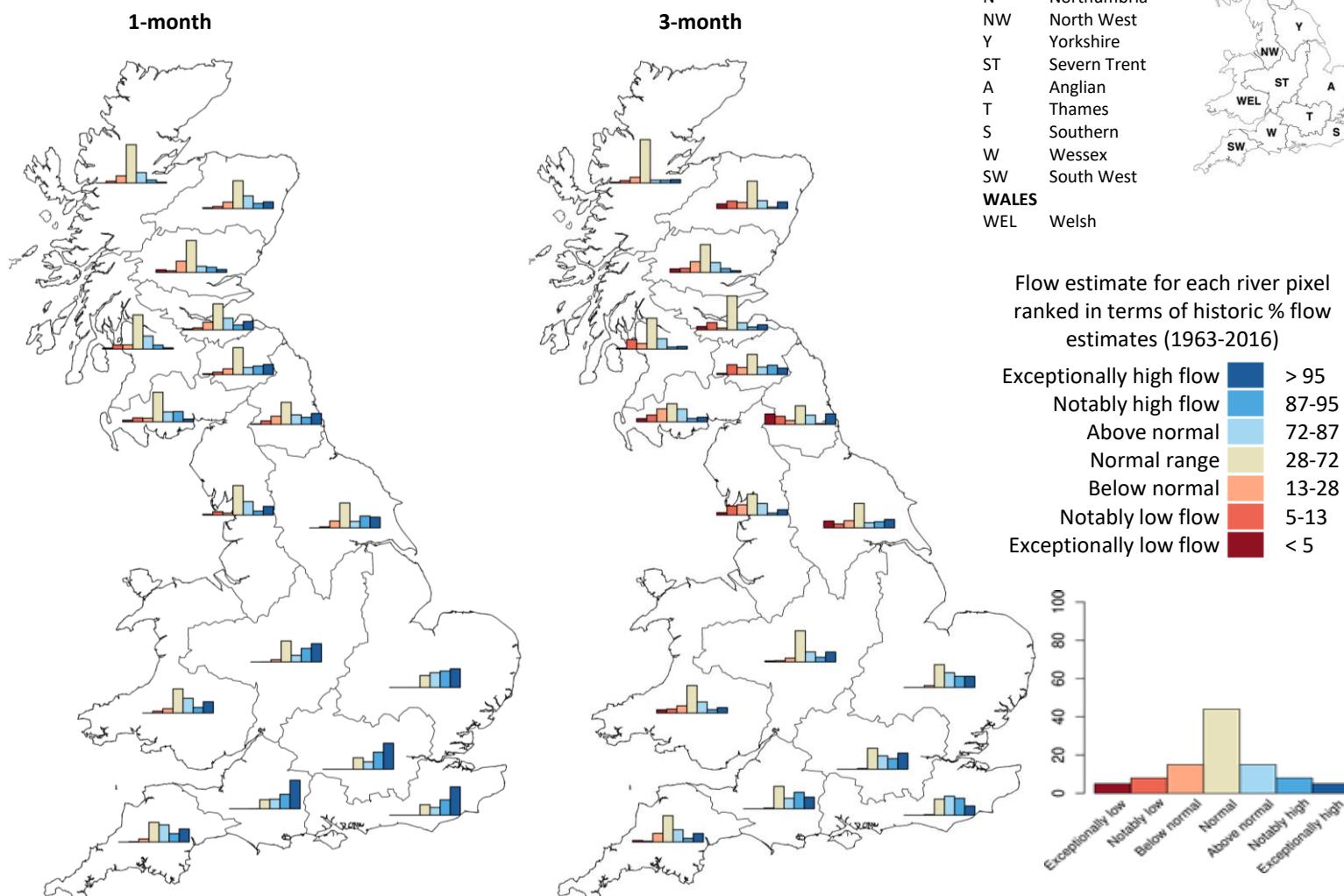
Period: March 2024 - May 2024

Issue date: 05.03.2024

- This page shows **the ensemble flow distribution for each region** over the next 1- and 3-month periods.
- The 1km flow forecasts are averaged within each region, then categorised according to the historical flows.
- The histogram in each region indicates the proportion of ensemble members in each flow category.

SUMMARY: Over the next month, river flows across southern England and the midlands are likely to be in the *above normal to exceptionally high* range. Wales and northern England are likely to be in the *normal to above normal* range, while Scotland is likely to experience flows in the *normal* range.

Over the next three months, river flows are likely to be in the *normal to above normal* range for southern England, elsewhere flows are likely to be in the *normal* range.



Tables of GB regional mean river flow distributions

Period: March 2024 - May 2024

Issue date: 05.03.2024

- This page shows **the ensemble flow distribution for each region** over the next 1- and 3-month periods.
- The 1km flow forecasts are averaged within each region, then categorised according to the historical flows.
- The table indicates the percentage of ensemble members in each flow category.

SUMMARY: Over the next month, river flows across southern England and the midlands are likely to be in the *above normal* to *exceptionally high* range. Wales and northern England are likely to be in the *normal* to *above normal* range, while Scotland is likely to experience flows in the *normal* range.

Over the next three months river flows are likely to be in the *normal* to *above normal* range for southern England, elsewhere flows are likely to be in the *normal* range.



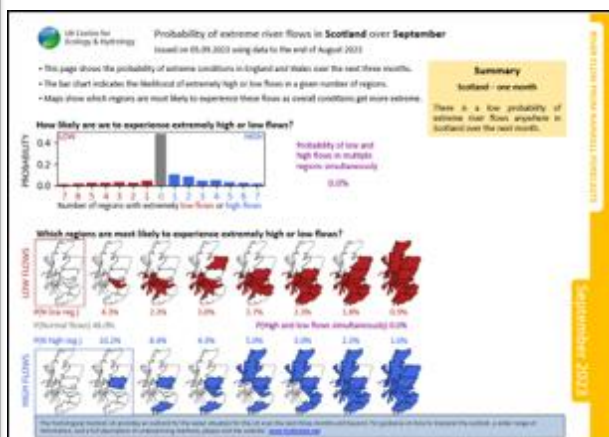
1-month ahead	A	NW	N	ST	SW	S	T	WEL	W	Y	CR	FR	HR	NER	SR	TR	TWR
Exceptionally high flow	30	14	18	30	21	46	42	18	46	17	2	14	1	11	4	5	16
Notably high	27	6	11	22	14	25	28	9	23	19	6	8	5	8	17	8	14
Above normal	24	22	16	11	28	12	12	24	16	10	21	19	17	20	16	10	11
Normal range	19	48	36	34	32	17	18	39	15	40	55	42	62	45	48	52	44
Below normal	0	3	13	4	5	0	0	7	0	11	7	12	12	10	6	18	9
Notably low	0	6	6	0	1	0	0	3	0	2	7	3	3	3	6	3	4
Exceptionally low flow	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	3	4	1

3-month ahead	A	NW	N	ST	SW	S	T	WEL	W	Y	CR	FR	HR	NER	SR	TR	TWR
Exceptionally high flow	18	9	17	16	14	15	26	9	19	14	4	8	6	11	7	3	10
Notably high	18	3	1	8	6	27	17	6	27	10	3	5	5	2	6	6	15
Above normal	24	19	15	16	20	31	22	18	17	8	17	12	5	13	21	16	12
Normal range	37	34	30	50	42	26	34	44	36	40	50	55	70	44	29	45	33
Below normal	3	17	6	6	14	1	1	12	1	12	9	3	9	10	21	17	11
Notably low	0	15	13	2	1	0	0	6	0	6	15	12	4	12	11	7	16
Exceptionally low flow	0	4	17	2	3	0	0	5	0	11	2	6	1	8	5	6	2

Forecasts of river flows using Met Office rainfall forecasts

- The data on these (yellow-bordered) pages are based on approximately 400 rainfall scenarios provided by the Met Office, which are used as inputs to a water balance hydrological model.
- River flow forecasts for every 1km grid cell are ranked according to the historical flow estimates and aggregated within each region.
- A full description of this method and these summary products is given in the technical documentation available via the Hydrological Outlook website.

Probability of extreme river flows



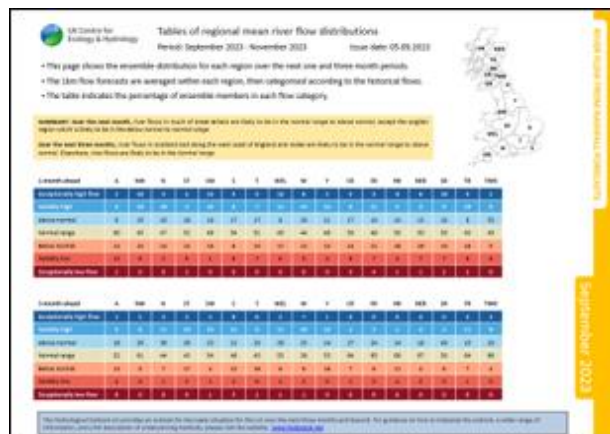
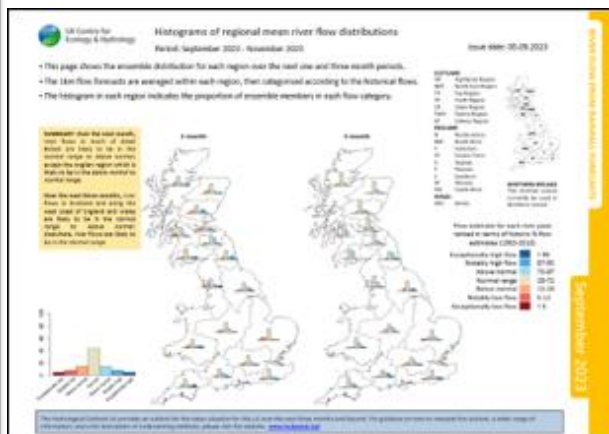
Extreme river flows are defined as those which rank in the lowest or highest 13% of historical flow estimates (1963 - 2016). This definition encompasses the 'Notably' and 'Exceptionally' high/low flow bands used elsewhere in the Outlook.

The bar chart shows the probability of a given number of regions experiencing extremely high/low flows, where scenarios showing both extremely high and extremely low flows in different regions simultaneously excluded. These probabilities are also shown beneath the maps.

Shaded regions on each map are those most likely to experience extreme flows from the set of scenarios with at least a given number of regions experiencing such flows. If shown, grey maps indicate scenarios not observed in the ensemble.

The box drawn around some maps spans the central 50% probability interval, excluding scenarios where extremely high/low flows are observed simultaneously. If these excluded cases constitute a significant probability, details are given in the yellow summary box.

Regional mean river flow distributions



The maps illustrate the ensemble distribution of regional mean river flows. The historical distribution is shown at bottom-left, and allows deviations from the normal distribution to be determined by comparing the forecast distribution to the historical distribution. A summary is given in the yellow box.

The table gives access to the data shown in the histograms. The numbers in the tables are the percentage of ensemble forecasts falling in each of the flow categories. As before results are averaged by region then ranked in terms of 54 years of historical regional flow estimates (1963–2016).

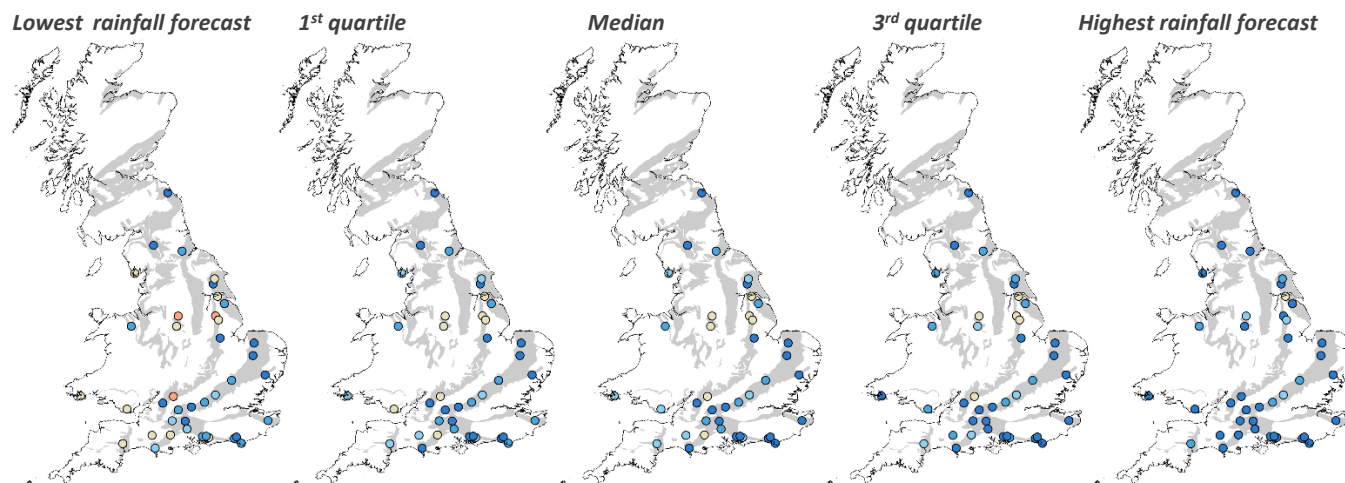
Period: March 2024 – May 2024

Issued on 06.03.2024 using data to the end of February

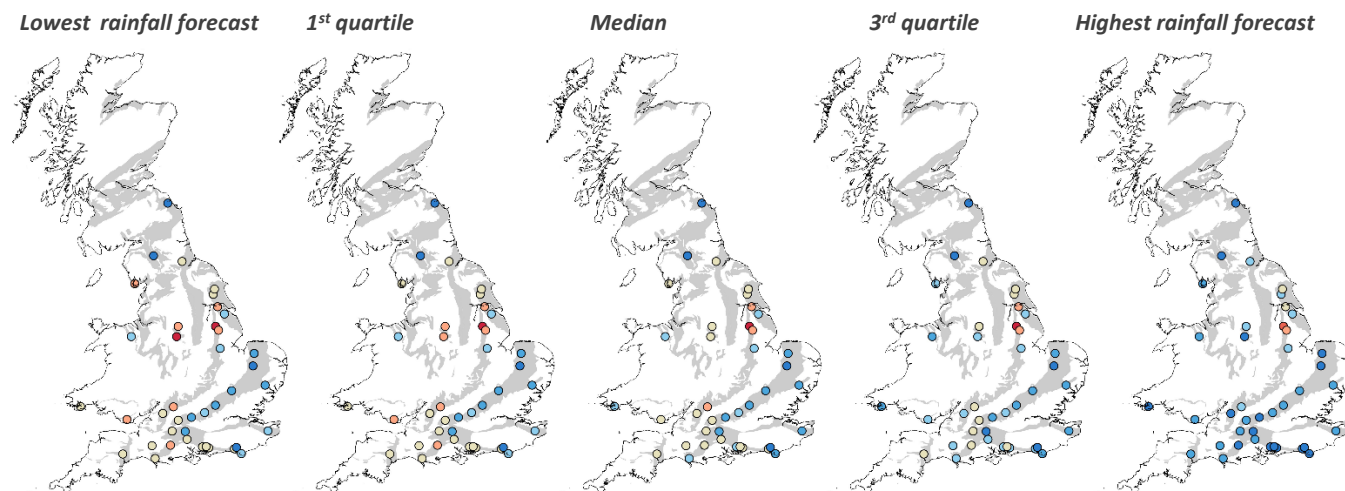
Under median rainfall conditions, groundwater levels are forecast to range from above normal to exceptionally high across much of the UK over the next month, although in parts of the Jurassic limestones and Chalk aquifers, normal levels are expected. The 3-month outlook forecasts a decline in groundwater categories across the UK, and while levels in much of the Chalk will remain above normal, in some fast-responding regions of the Chalk and Jurassic limestone aquifers, normal to below normal levels are forecast. Groundwater levels in the Permo-Triassic Sandstones and slower responding regions of the Chalk aquifers are expected to remain similar to that of the one-month forecast.

These forecasts are produced by running five members of the Met Office ensemble climate forecast through groundwater models of observation borehole hydrographs at 42 sites across the country. The sites are distributed across the principal aquifers.

Based on the distribution of observed historical groundwater levels in a given month, seven categories have been derived for each site: very low, low, below normal, normal, above normal, high, and very high. The forecast groundwater level is assigned to one of these seven categories depending on where it falls within the distribution of the historically observed values.

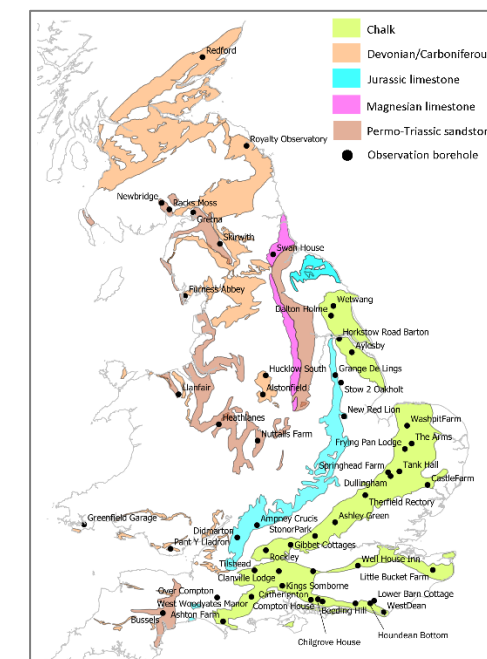


1-month outlook



3-month outlook

Key	Percentile range of historic observed values for relevant month
Exceptionally high levels	> 95
Notably high levels	87-95
Above normal	72-87
Normal	28-72
Below normal	12-28
Notably low levels	5-13
Exceptionally low levels	< 5

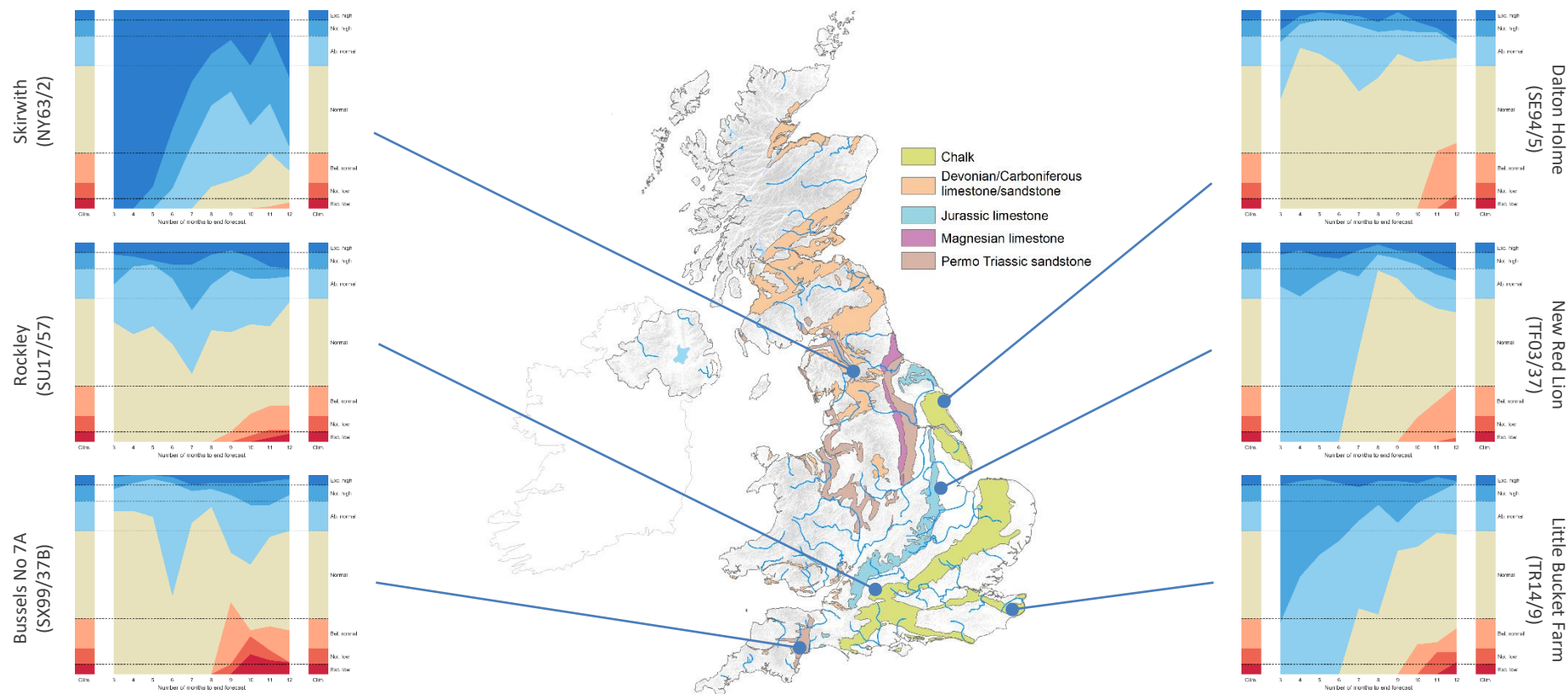


Outlook based on modelled groundwater from historical climate

Period: March 2024 – February 2025

Issued on 06.03.2024 using data to the end of February

Groundwater levels at Skirwith in the Permo-Triassic Sandstones are forecast to be exceptionally high over the next 6 months, before returning towards notably high and above normal conditions throughout the following 6 months. In the Chalk at Rockley and the Permo-Triassic Sandstones at Bussels No 7A, normal conditions are likely to continue for much of the next 12 months. At New Red Lion and Little Bucket Farm, above normal conditions are likely to persist for the next 6 months, before giving way to more normal conditions. At Dalton Holme normal conditions are expected to persist for the next 12 months.



This outlook is based on monthly ensembles of historical sequences of observed climate (rainfall and potential evapotranspiration) that form input to hydrological models. The outputs are probabilistic simulations of the average groundwater level over the forecast horizon (3 to 12 months ahead), at each location.

The graphs show variation over time of the number of simulated groundwater levels in each monthly ensemble,

that fall within each the seven categories: exceptionally low, notably low, below normal, normal, above normal, notably high and exceptionally high. The monthly variations can be compared to the long-term average distribution of levels, which are shown as columns on the left and right of each graph.

This outlook is based entirely on historical sequences and therefore does not contain any knowledge of the state of

the atmosphere and ocean. It is hence possible that some of the historical sequences used might be inconsistent with current large-scale atmospheric conditions and would therefore be unlikely to occur in the next few months.