



Met Office

Met Office 3-month Outlook

Period: July – September 2018 Issue date: 21.06.18

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 The forecast for July will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page (www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast), starting from 2nd July 2018.

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

SUMMARY – TEMPERATURE:

For July, and for July-August-September as a whole, above-average temperatures are more likely 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 between 10% and 15%, and the probability that it will fall into the warmest of our five categories is 40% (the 1981-2010 probability for each of these categories is 20%).

CONTEXT:

The El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently in a neutral phase (neither El Niño nor La Niña), and this is expected to continue during the outlook period. As a result, it will have very little influence on conditions over the UK in the coming months.

Sea surface temperatures in the Northern North Atlantic Ocean continue to be below average; this pattern moderately increases the probability of high pressure over Northern Europe. In summer, high pressure is associated with above-average temperatures. Sea surface temperatures close to the UK have warmed as a result of recent warm and sunny weather. This also increases the chances of above-average temperatures, particularly in the early part of the forecast period.

For July, the Met Office long-range prediction system, along with systems from other centres around the world, shows that high pressure is moderately more likely than low pressure on average across the UK. Above-average temperatures are more likely than below-average temperatures (see left-hand graph of figure T2). For July-August-September, the Met Office long-range prediction system, in agreement with systems from other prediction centres, shows an increased chance of high-pressure patterns across the UK. This would result in more settled UK weather conditions overall. There is an increased likelihood of higher-than-average temperatures (see right-hand graph of figure T2), although below-average temperatures remain a possibility.

Fig T1

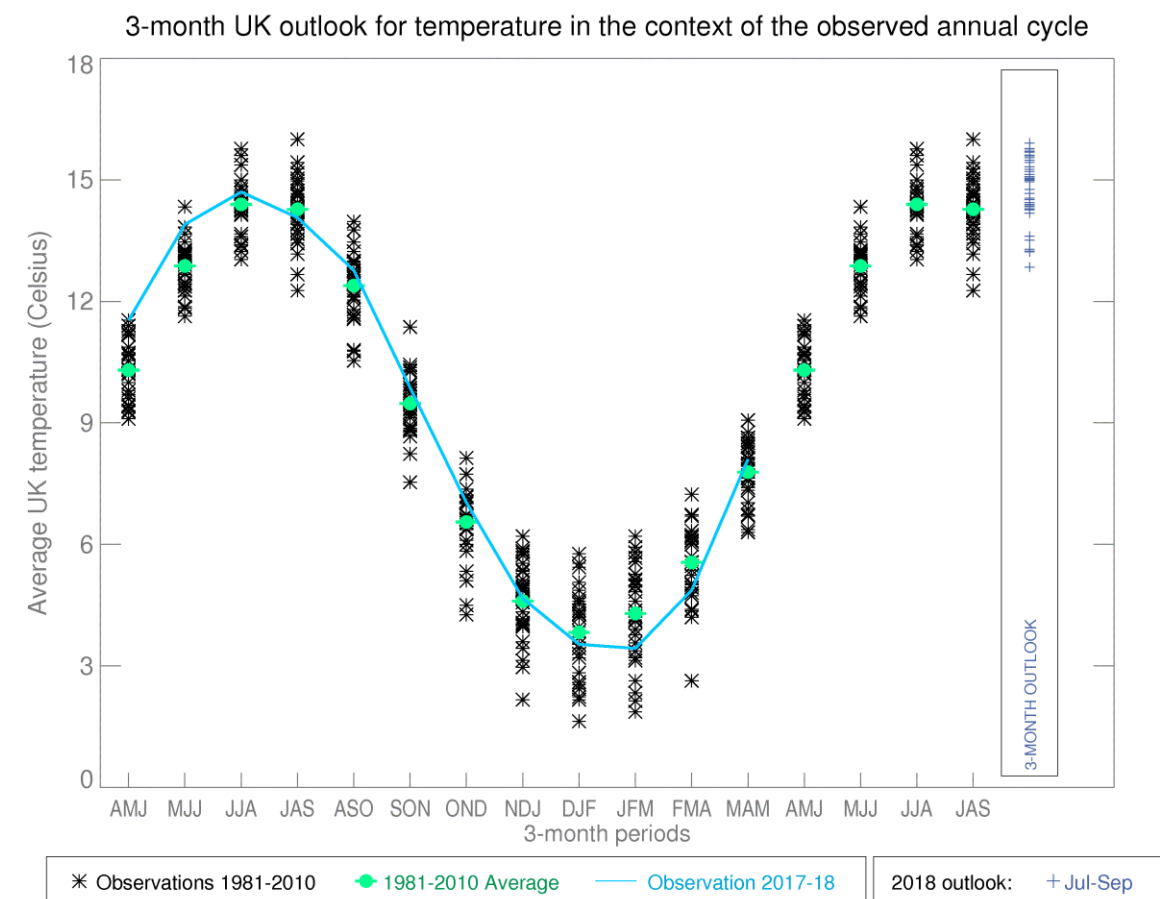


Fig T2

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

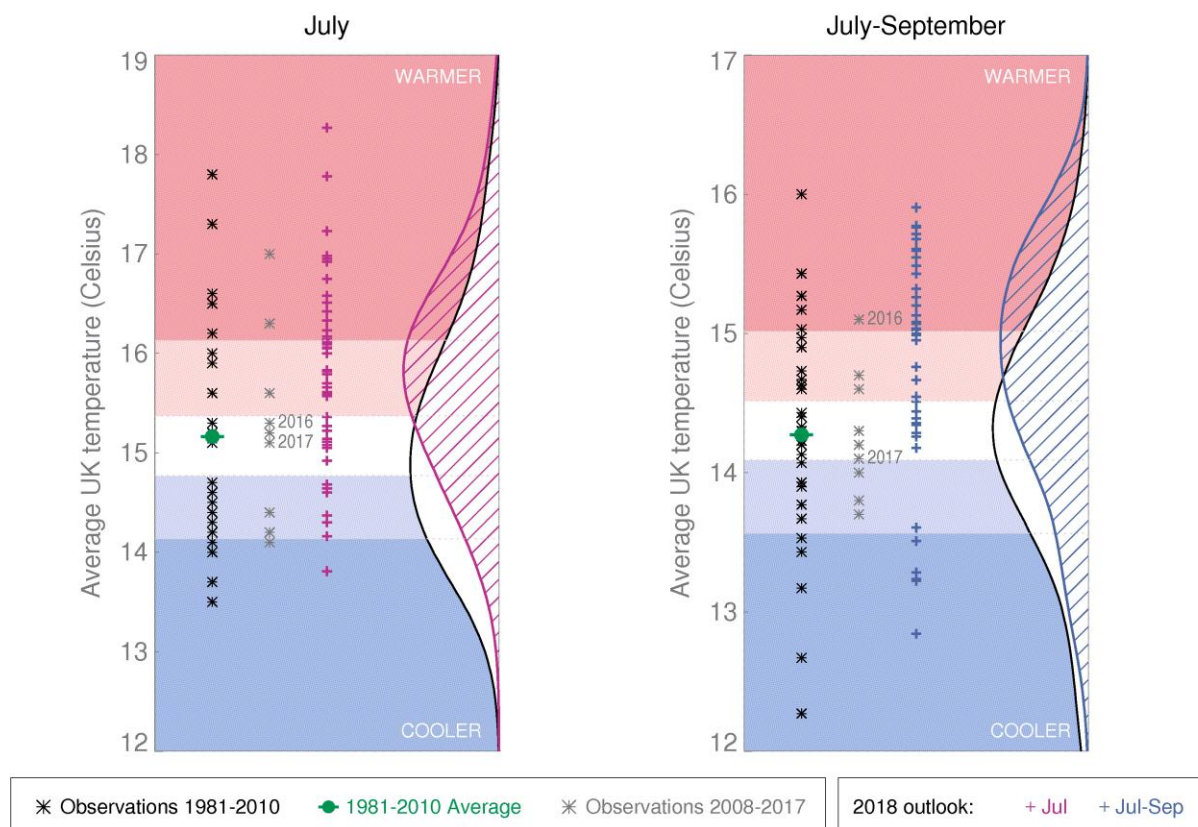
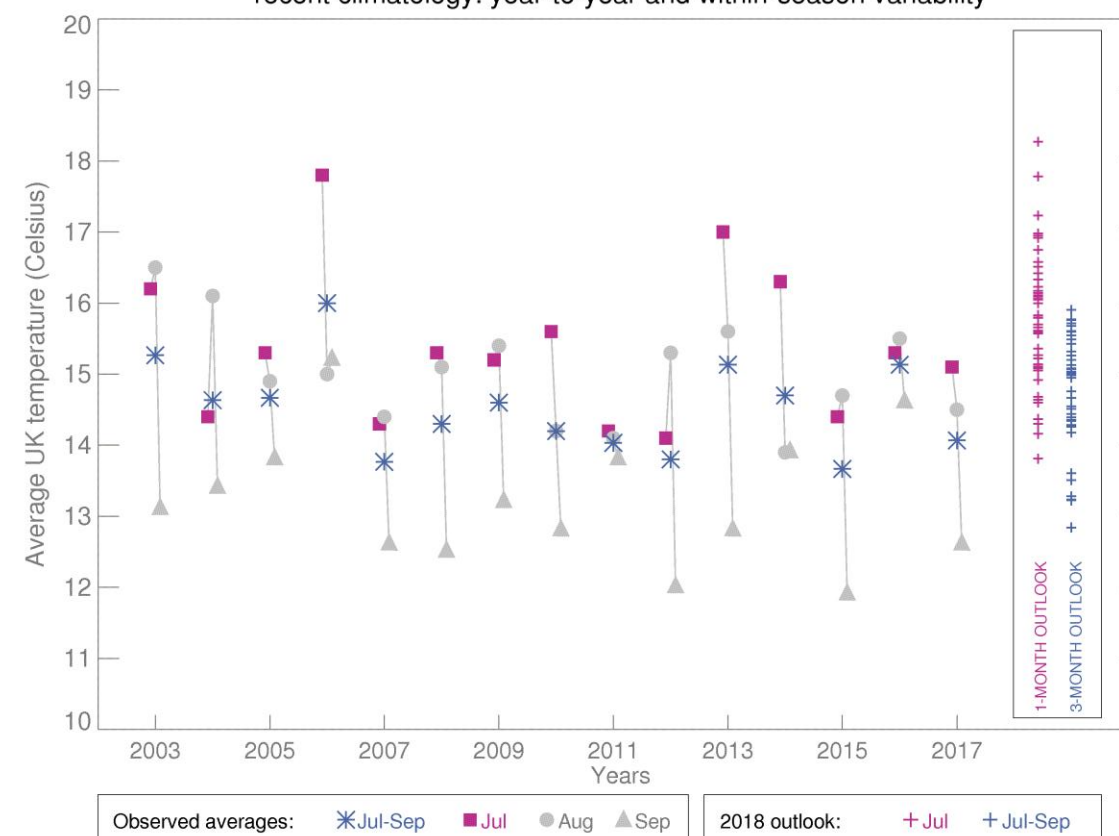


Fig T3

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.