



Met Office

# Met Office 3-month Outlook

Period: April – June 2019 Issue date: 21.03.19

The forecast presented here is for April and the average of the April-May-June period for the United Kingdom as a whole. The forecast for April will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page ([www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast)), starting from 29 March 2019.

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

## SUMMARY – PRECIPITATION:

For April and April-May-June as a whole, below-average precipitation is slightly more likely than above-average precipitation.

The probability that UK-average precipitation for April-May-June will fall into the driest of our five categories is between 20% and 25% and the probability that it will fall into the wettest of our five categories is between 15% and 20% (the 1981-2010 probability for each of these categories is 20%).

## CONTEXT:

There are fewer global drivers of UK weather patterns at this time of year compared to the winter season, so predictability of precipitation amounts is lower. This means that there are typically only small shifts in the likelihood of above- and below-average precipitation. As discussed in the outlook for temperature, for both April and April-May-June there is a small increase in the chances of high pressure near the UK and therefore of drier-than-average conditions.

Uncertainty in the outlook is related to uncertainty in the average position of weather patterns in the outlook period. Outcomes in which the UK is subject to more Atlantic weather systems, and thereby above-normal precipitation, remain possible. Overall, however, the likelihood of below-average precipitation is slightly greater than above-average precipitation (see figure P2).

Fig P1

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

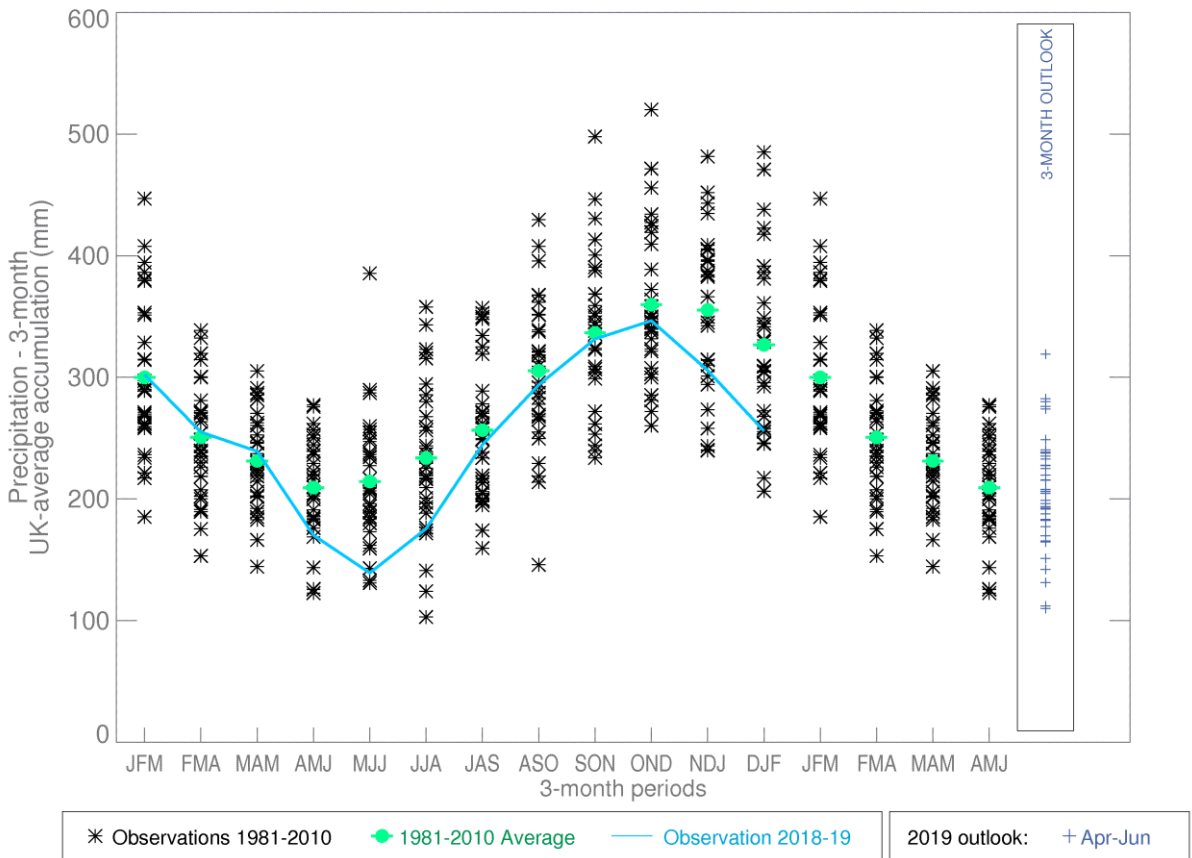


Fig P2

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

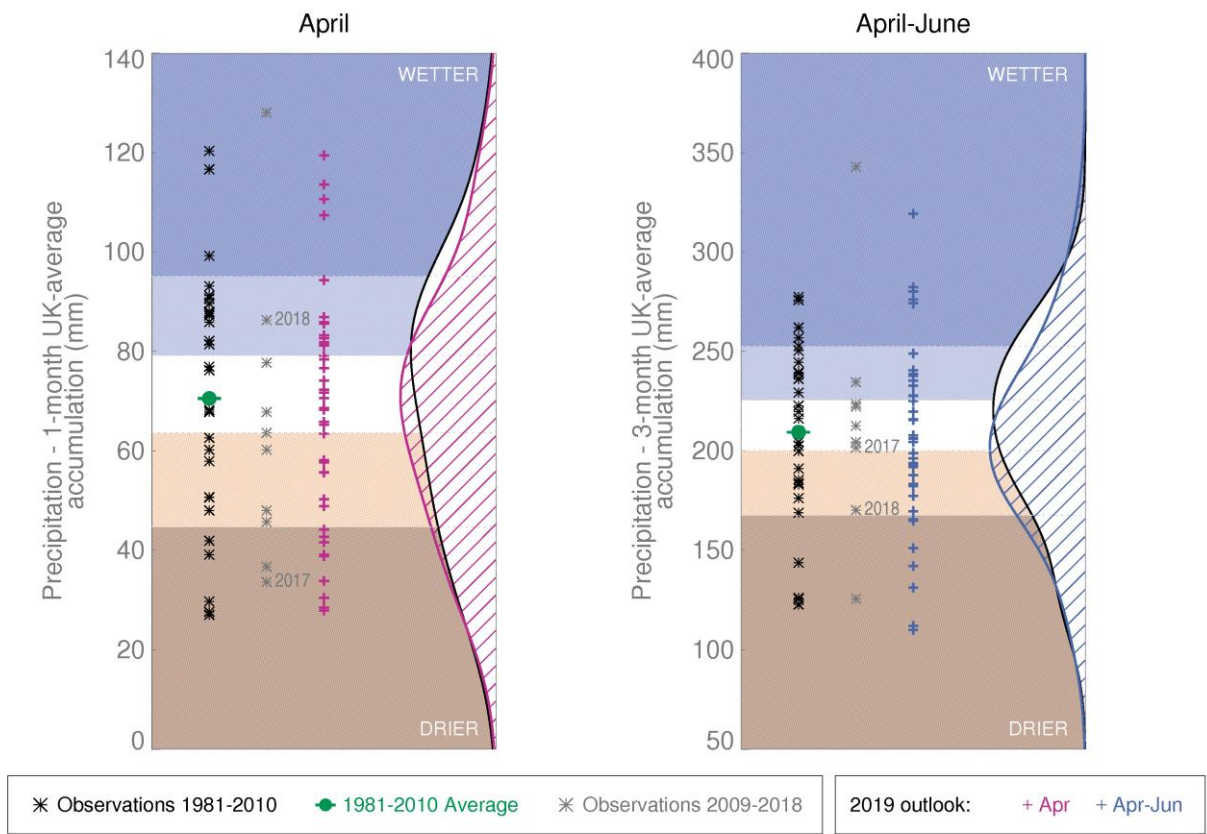
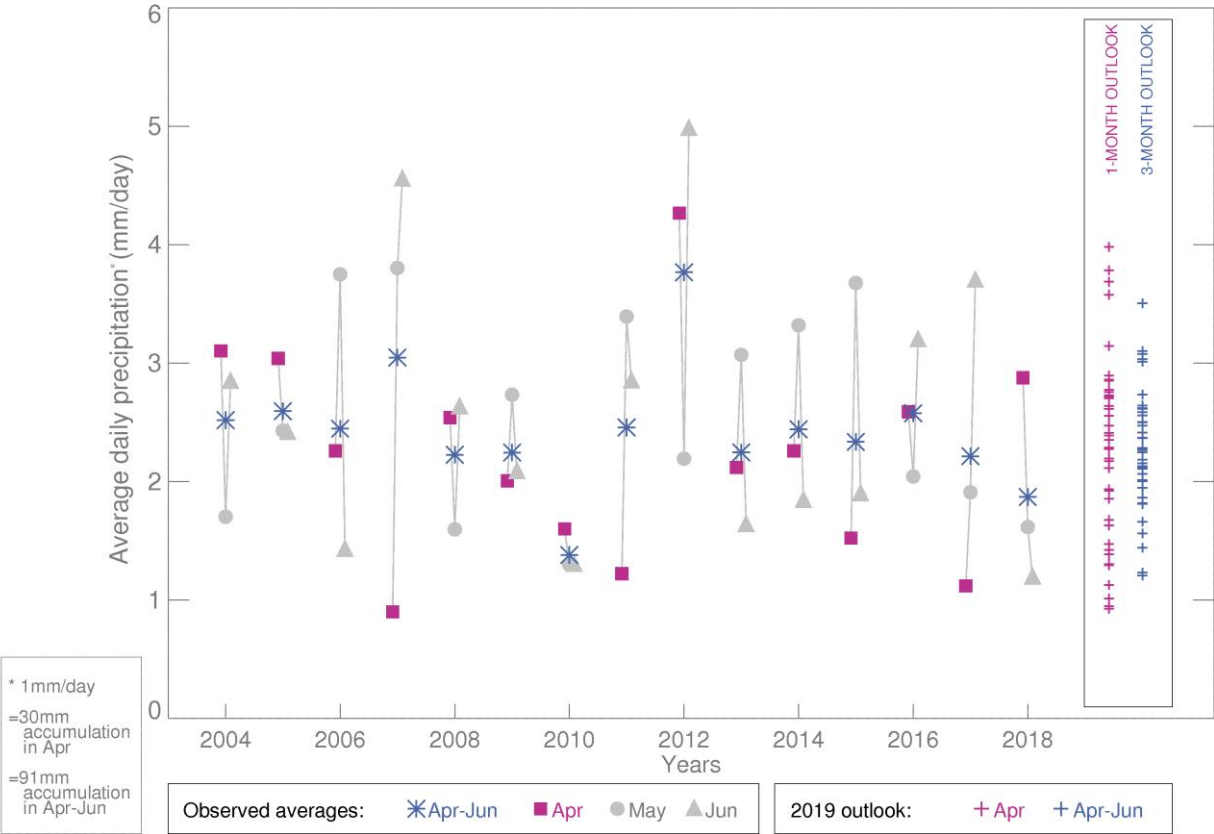


Fig P3

1-month and 3-month UK outlook for precipitation 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-7-day) forecasts and warnings available to the contingency planning community from the Met Office.