



Met Office

Met Office 3-month Outlook

Period: July – September 2020 Issue date: 25.06.20

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 The forecast for July will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page (www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast), starting from 3rd July 2020.

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

SUMMARY – TEMPERATURE:

For July and 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 around 10%, and the probability that it will fall into the warmest of our five categories is around 45% (the 1981-2010 probability for each of these categories is 20%).

CONTEXT:

Global drivers of UK weather, such as the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), have a smaller influence at this time of year. This means that seasonal predictability tends to be lower than in winter. Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) have continued to decline in the central and eastern tropical Pacific and are close to La Niña thresholds. While long-range forecast systems predict an increased likelihood of La Niña developing later this year, little influence on UK weather patterns is expected in this Outlook period. For July and July-August-September as whole, the Met Office seasonal prediction system and other systems from prediction centres around the world show that the chances of settled weather being more prevalent are about the same as the chances of

unsettled weather. In spite of this, changes in UK climate increase the likelihood of warmer-than-average conditions (see graphs of figure T2), and lead to an increased chance of impacts from heatwaves in settled spells. While the relatively high probability of our warmest forecast category does suggest that the chance of spells of very hot weather is increased compared to usual, it does not imply extreme weather throughout the whole 3-month period. The increased likelihood of this category could mean more days with temperatures that are above average to a more modest degree. Above-average temperatures can also arise from a range of types of weather, not just sunny and dry conditions.

Fig T1

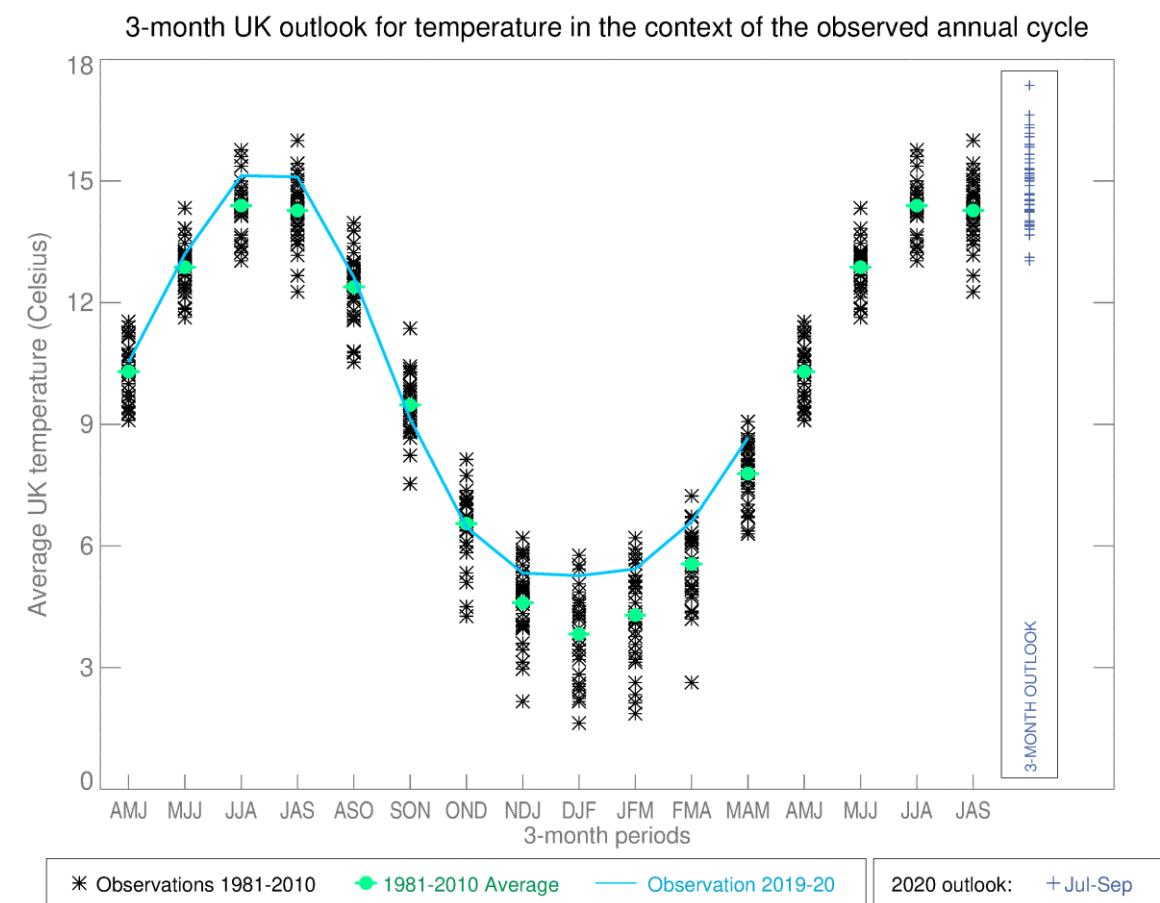


Fig T2

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

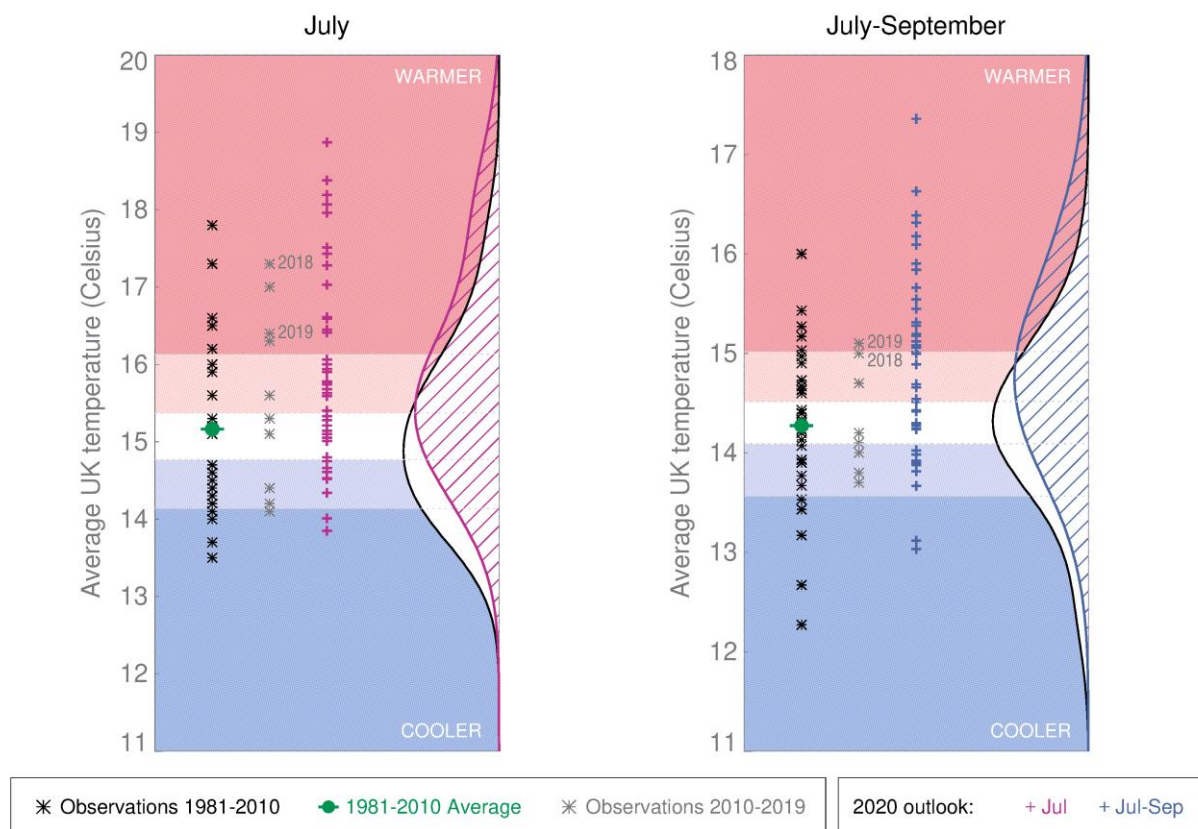
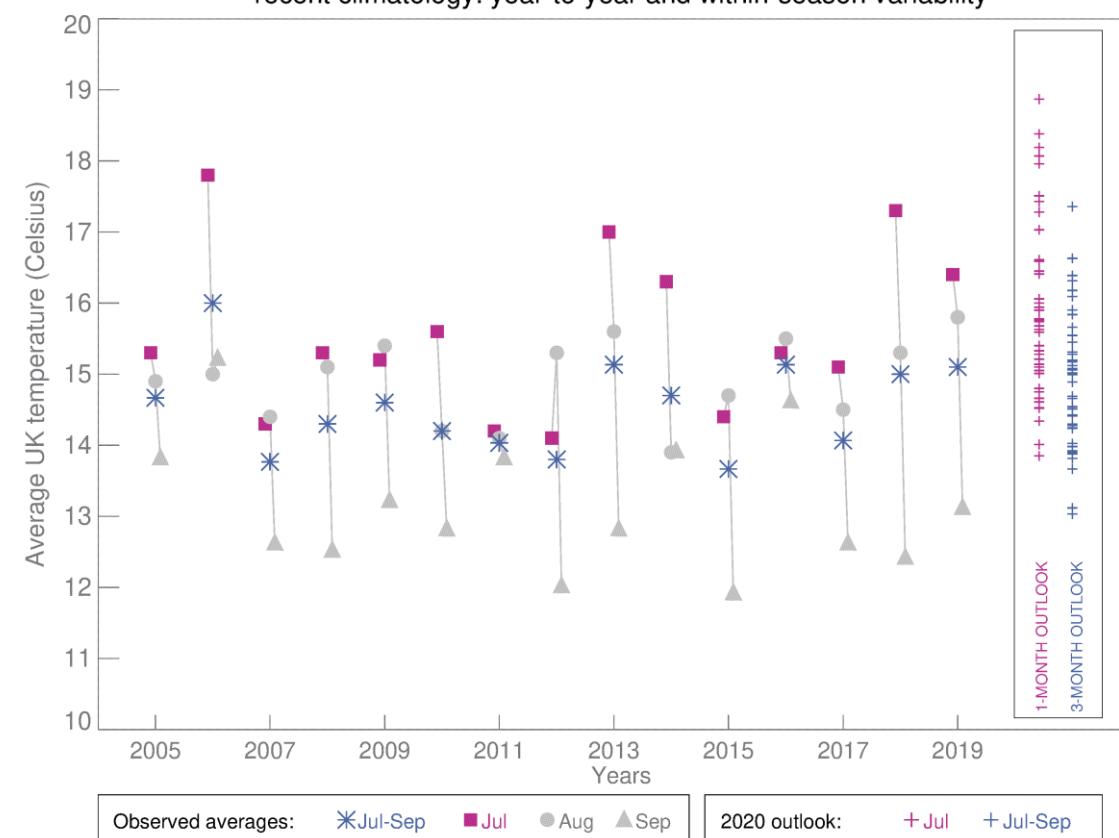


Fig T3

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-7-day) forecasts and warnings available to the contingency planning community from the Met Office.