

3-month summary	1-month summary	Guide to the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A
-----------------	-----------------	----------------------	----------------------	------------------	-----

3-month summary

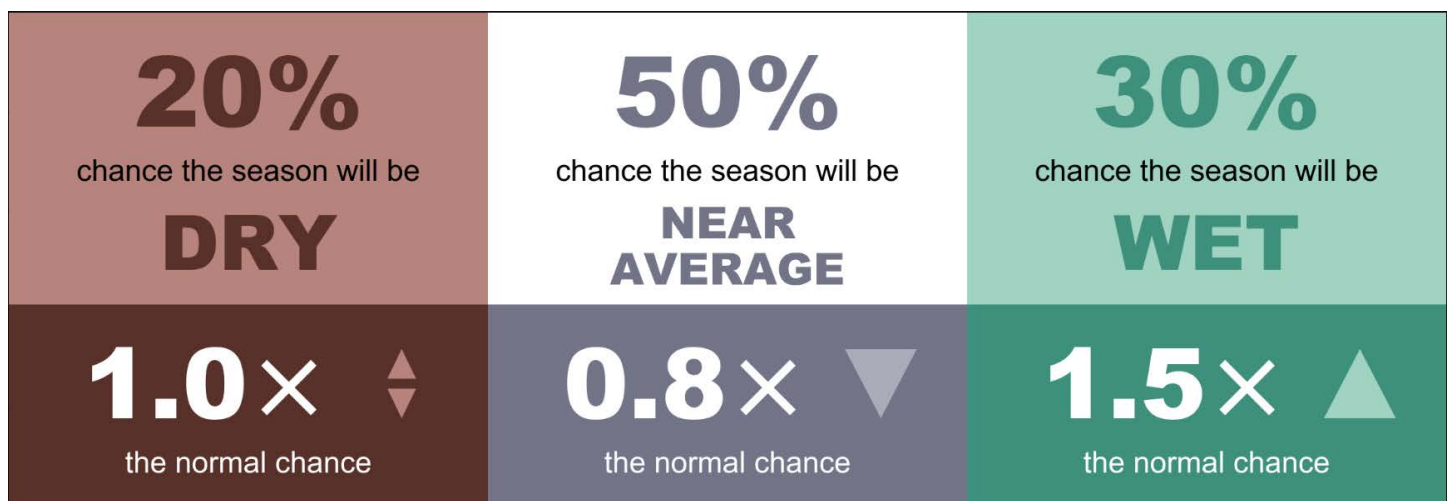
- Southern and eastern areas of the country have an increased risk of dry weather continuing
- For the UK overall, however, the chance of a wet autumn is one and a half times normal
- Heaviest and most widespread rain will likely be across western and northern areas
- A probable decrease in storminess as compared to a typical autumn
- Temperatures near average are most likely through the autumn

3-month likelihood of impact

Temperature



Precipitation



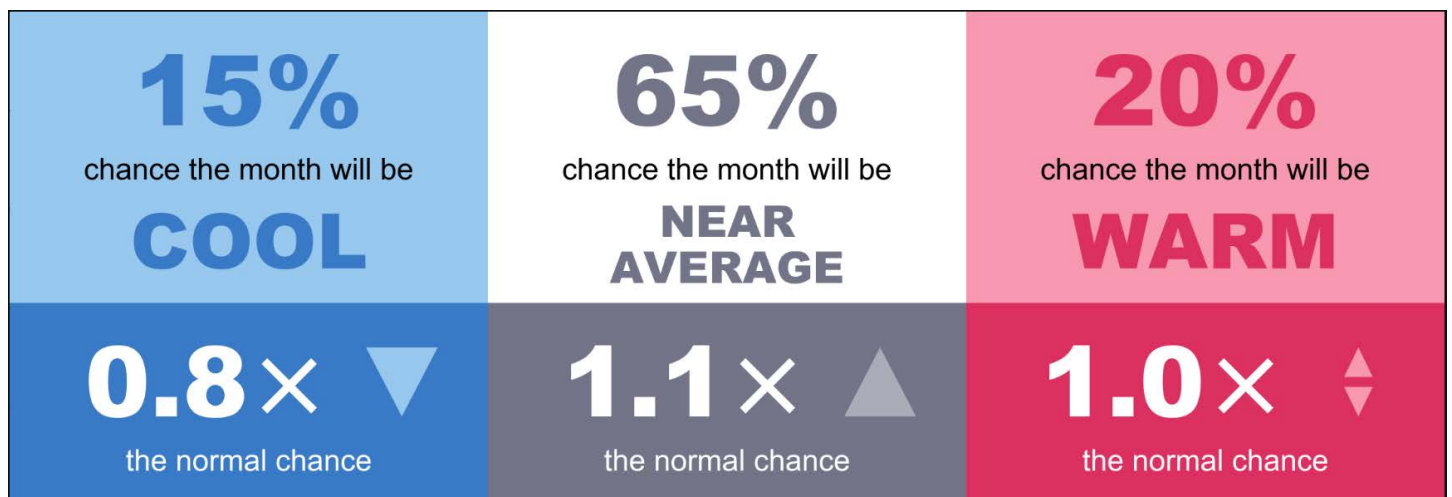
[3-month summary](#)
[1-month summary](#)
[Guide to the Outlook](#)
[Shifts in likelihood](#)
[What is average?](#)
[Q&A](#)

1-month summary

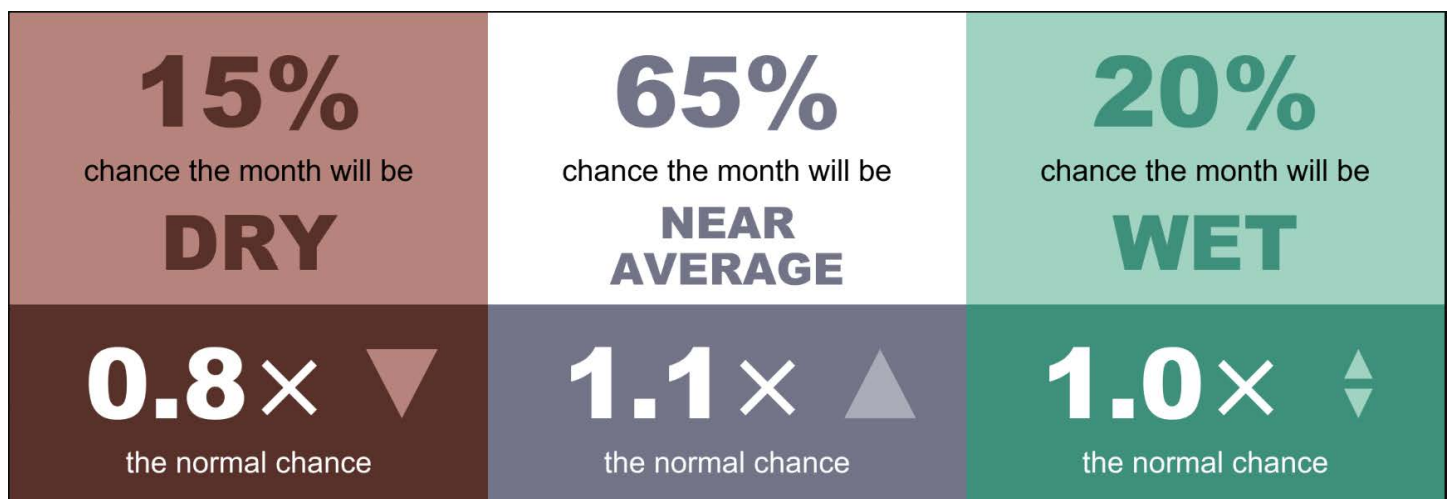
- Chances of September being warm or cool are around normal
- Near average rainfall more likely than wet or dry

1-month likelihood of impact

Temperature



Precipitation



3-month summary	1-month summary	Guide to the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A
-----------------	-----------------	----------------------	----------------------	------------------	-----

Understanding the Outlook

The Outlook uses 3 categories for possible UK temperature and precipitation in the next 1 and 3 months:

COOL, NEAR AVERAGE and WARM for temperature
 WET, NEAR AVERAGE and DRY for precipitation

These are linked to observed UK conditions in past years. The NEAR AVERAGE category represents typical conditions for the period and has a normal likelihood of 60%. The higher and lower categories represent more unusual conditions that are more likely to produce impacts. Each has a normal likelihood of 20%.

The Outlook shows how the chances of occurrence of the categories differ from normal, based on knowledge of expected global meteorological patterns. It does not identify which category will actually occur.

Same 3-month period over the last 10 years

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
COOL	NEAR AVERAGE	WARM	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	WARM
NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	DRY	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	WET	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE

Same 1-month period over the last 10 years

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
COOL	NEAR AVERAGE	WARM	COOL	WARM	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	WARM
NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	DRY	DRY	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	WET	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE

Outlook in context

Drivers of UK weather for September to November

The impact of global weather patterns on the UK increases through this period, particularly late autumn. Drivers relevant to the current Outlook are:

- Sea-surface temperatures around the UK are above average, favouring above average land temperatures.
- La Nina influencing global weather patterns, which can bring higher pressure regimes to parts of western Europe later in the autumn
- Atlantic Tropical Cyclones – the season usually peaks in September, and is forecast to have above average activity (partly in response to prevailing La Nina conditions); this acting to reduce confidence in the forecast.

Long-range weather predictions

The Met Office and other prediction centres around the world routinely produce long-range predictions of conditions in the months ahead. Whilst there are some typical variations in predictions for the season, most centres suggest an increased likelihood of high pressure to the south or southwest of the UK. Such a pattern would favour winds from a general westerly direction, bringing rain-bearing weather systems into the north and west of the UK but would also favour drier conditions in southern and eastern areas.

Impact

The outlook shows a risk of dry conditions continuing in the south and east of the UK, with little sign of the levels of rainfall needed to end current drought conditions. In contrast, impacts from heavy rain are more likely than usual for western and northwestern parts of the country. For the whole country, the likelihood of impacts from strong winds is decreased as compared to a typical autumn. Whilst a warm autumn is twice as likely as a cool one, temperatures near average are most likely. However, within this, some colder spells are possible at times, bringing a risk of wintry hazards later in the season.

3-month summary	1-month summary	Guide to the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A
-----------------	-----------------	----------------------	----------------------	------------------	-----

Outlook compared to normal likelihood

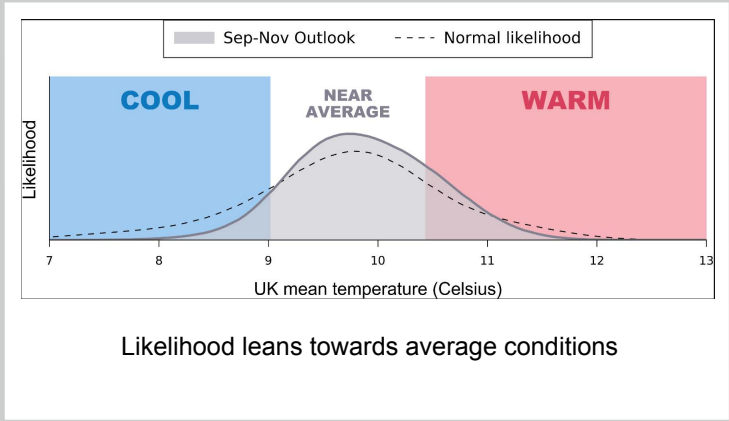
The curves below show the likelihood of the 1- and 3-month average temperature and precipitation taking specific values. In each case:

- The dashed curve shows the normal likelihood based on how often each value has been recorded in past years
- The solid curve shows the current likelihood based on the Outlook for this year

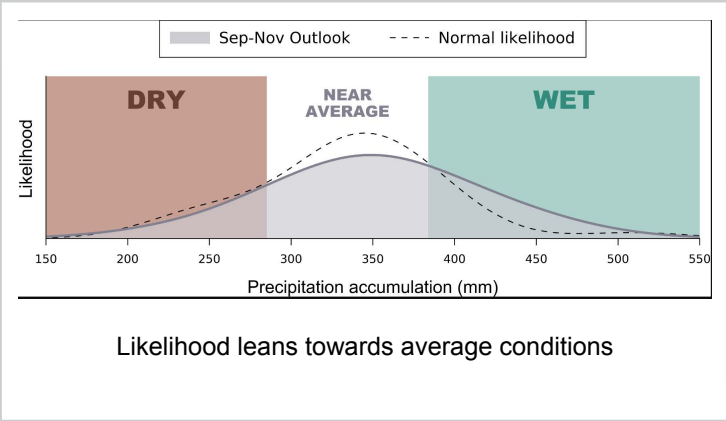
The differences in these curves show how the probabilities for the coming periods differ compared to past years. Where the solid curve (corresponding to this year's Outlook) lies above the dashed curve (normal likelihood), the temperature or precipitation at that point has a greater-than-normal likelihood of occurring. Likewise, wherever it is below the dashed curve, the likelihood of those values is less than normal.

A shift of the solid curve to the left of the dashed curve indicates an increase in the chance of below-average temperature or precipitation. A shift to the right, meanwhile, indicates increased chances of above-average values.

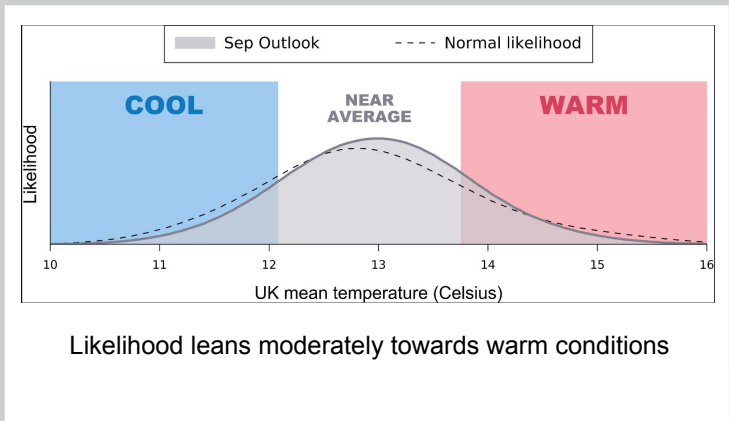
3-month temperature Outlook compared to normal



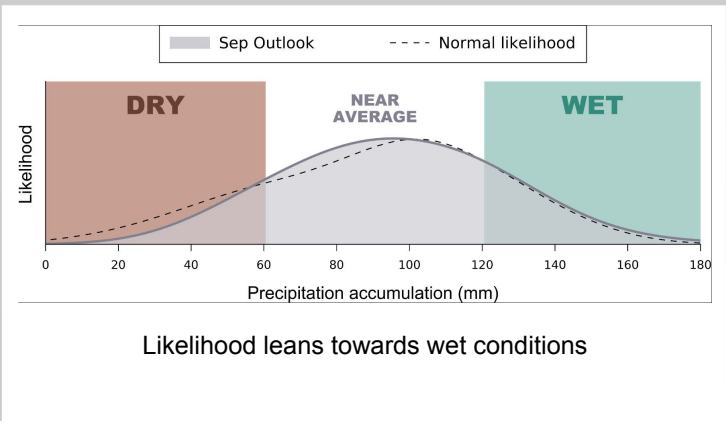
3-month precipitation Outlook compared to normal



1-month temperature Outlook compared to normal



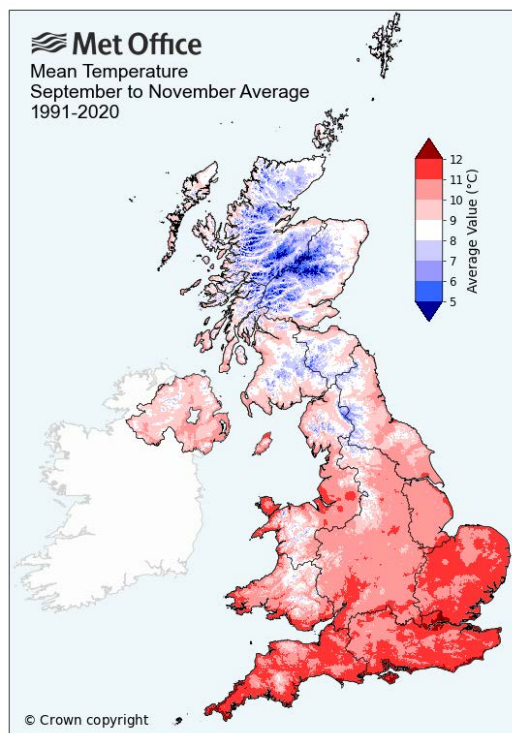
1-month precipitation Outlook compared to normal



3-month summary	1-month summary	Guide to the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A
-----------------	-----------------	----------------------	----------------------	------------------	-----

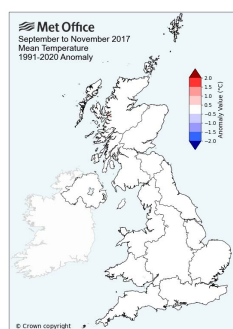
Long-term average temperatures (3-month)

This page shows the long-term average temperatures across the UK for the 3-month Outlook period. Long-term average temperatures for the 1-month period are on page 6. Long-term precipitation averages are shown on pages 7 (3-month) and 8 (1-month).

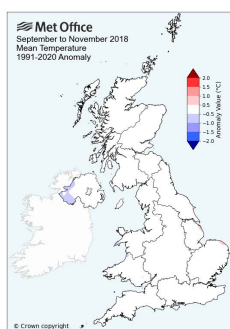


Average temperatures for September - November based on observations from past years.

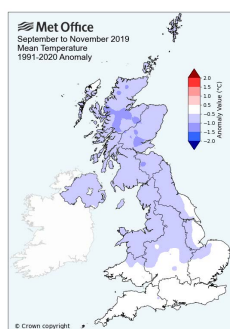
Last 5 years' temperatures, difference from average (3-month)



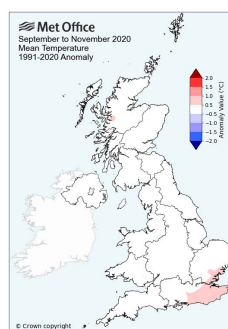
Sep-Nov 2017



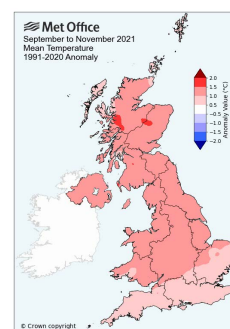
Sep-Nov 2018



Sep-Nov 2019

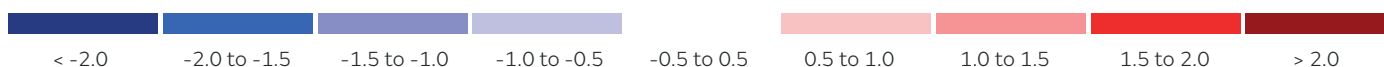


Sep-Nov 2020



Sep-Nov 2021

Anomaly (°C)

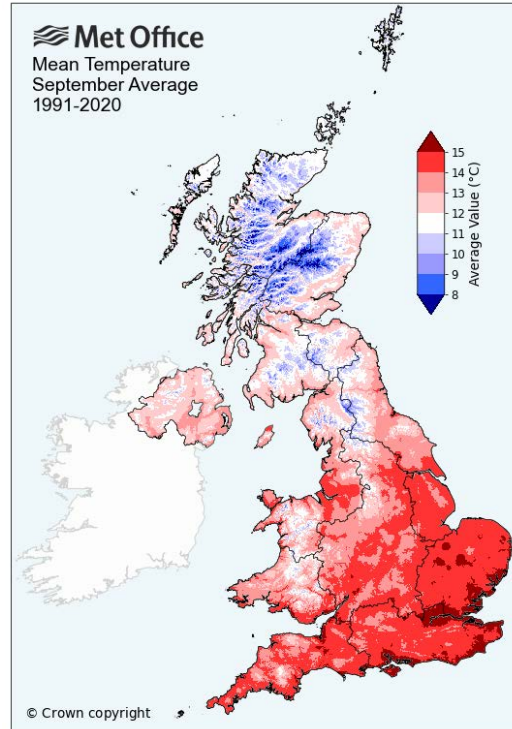


These maps show how September - November temperatures in the last five years differed from the long-term average temperatures shown in the upper panel. Pink and red colours indicate warmer-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate cooler-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

3-month summary	1-month summary	Guide to the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A
-----------------	-----------------	----------------------	----------------------	------------------	-----

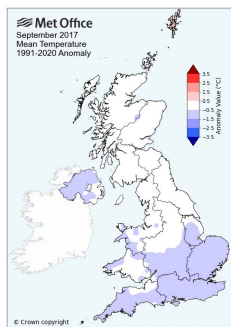
Long-term average temperatures (1-month)

This page shows the long-term average temperatures across the UK for the 1-month Outlook period.

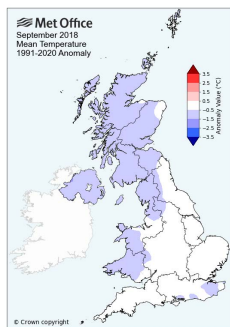


Average temperatures for September based on observations from past years.

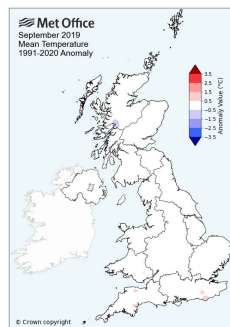
Last 5 years' temperatures, difference from average (1-month)



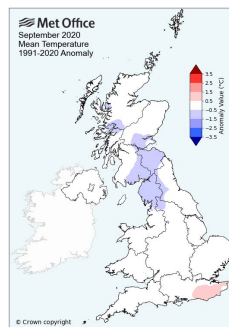
Sep 2017



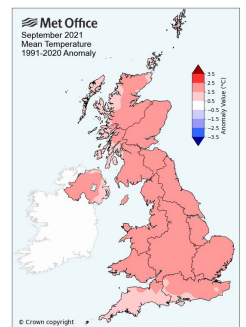
Sep 2018



Sep 2019

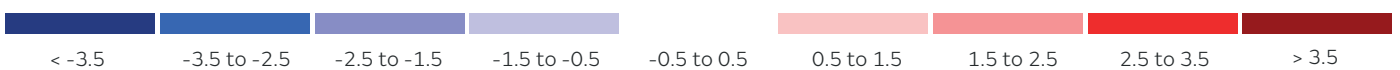


Sep 2020



Sep 2021

Anomaly (°C)

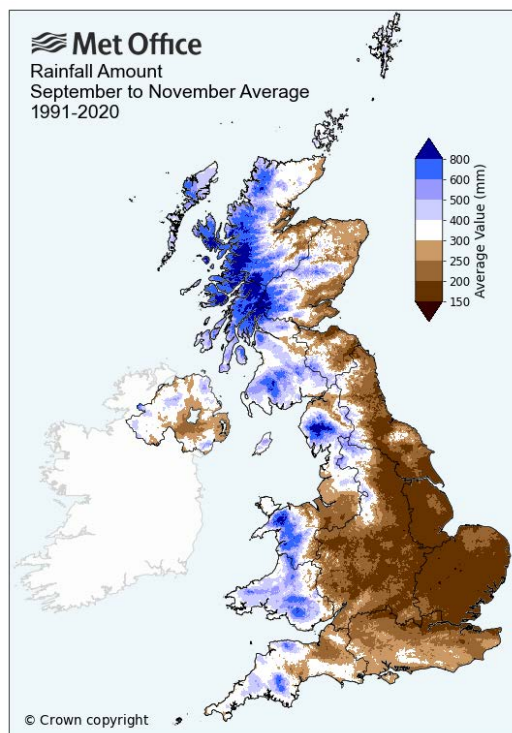


These maps show how September temperatures in the last five years differed from the long-term average temperatures shown in the upper panel. Pink and red colours indicate warmer-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate cooler-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

3-month summary	1-month summary	Guide to the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A
-----------------	-----------------	----------------------	----------------------	------------------	-----

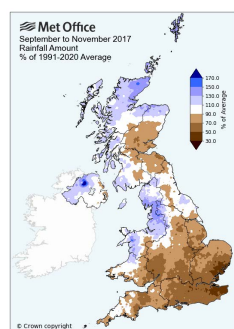
Long-term average precipitation (3-month)

This page shows the long-term average precipitation across the UK for the 3-month Outlook period.

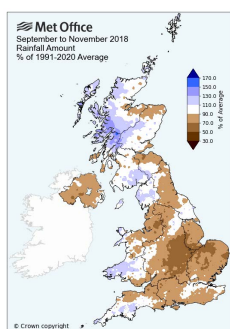


Average precipitation for September - November based on observations from past years.

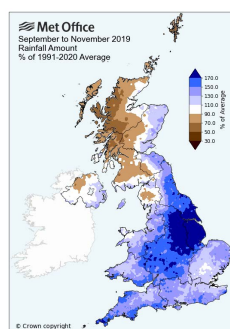
Last 5 years' precipitation, difference from average (3-month)



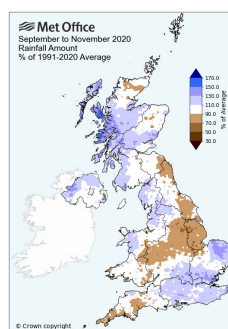
Sep-Nov 2017



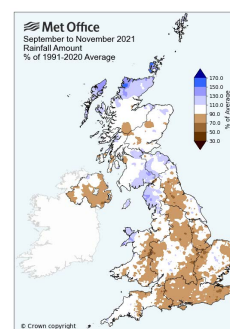
Sep-Nov 2018



Sep-Nov 2019

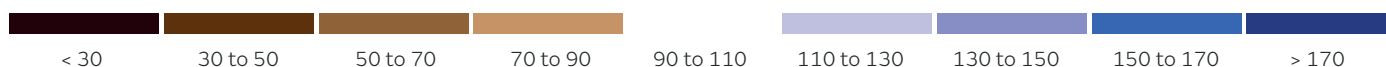


Sep-Nov 2020



Sep-Nov 2021

% of average

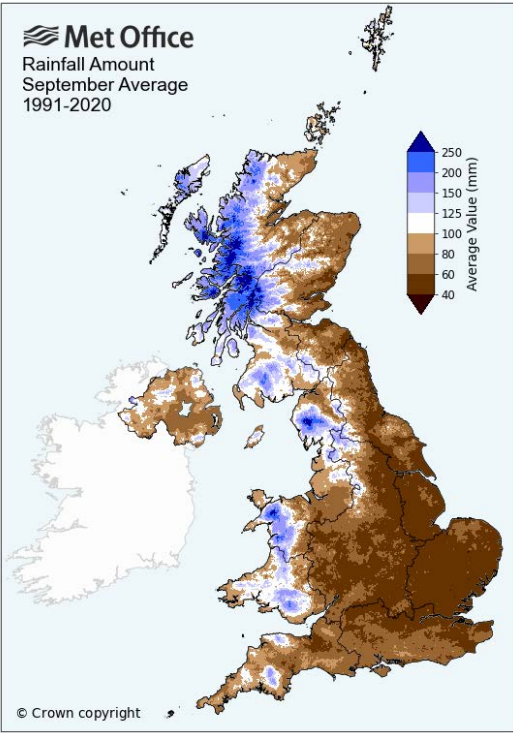


These maps show how September - November precipitation in the last five years differed from the long-term average precipitation shown in the upper panel. Brown colours indicate drier-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate wetter-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

3-month summary	1-month summary	Guide to the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A
-----------------	-----------------	----------------------	----------------------	------------------	-----

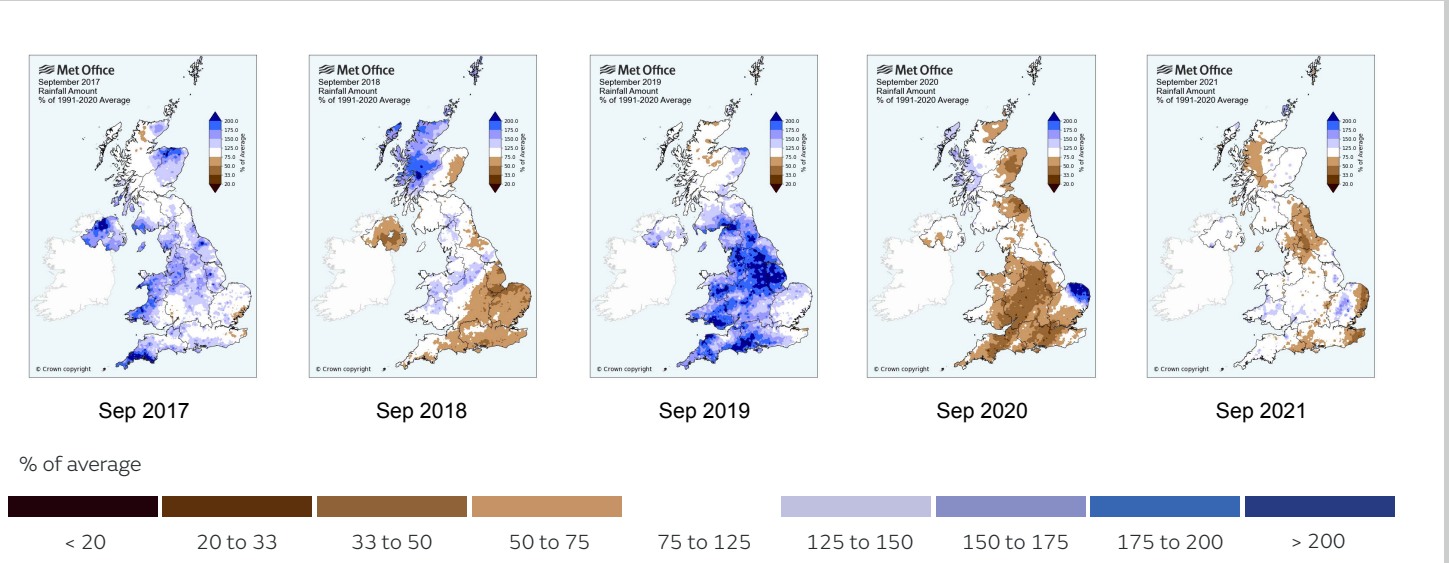
Long-term average precipitation (1-month)

This page shows the long-term average precipitation across the UK for the 1-month Outlook period.



Average precipitation for September based on observations from past years.

Last 5 years' precipitation, difference from average (1-month)



These maps show how September precipitation in the last five years differed from the long-term average precipitation shown in the upper panel. Brown colours indicate drier-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate wetter-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

3-month summary	1-month summary	Guide to the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A
---------------------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------

Q&A

Q. What is the point of the Outlook, who is it meant for?

A. This Outlook is produced for planners in government and business who make risk-based decisions. These users are aware of the complexities of this type of outlook and will include those factors in their decision-making process.

Q. How did you decide on the Outlook? What are the main factors affecting it?

A. It is based on information from observations, several numerical prediction systems and expert judgement. See the 'Outlook in Context' section of the Outlook for more details.

Q. Is the Outlook for the whole country?

A. The Outlook is for the average of conditions over the UK as a whole. Regional deviations from the UK average can occur. For example, average UK precipitation can result from below-average rainfall for the northwest and above-average for the southeast.

Q. How confident are you in this Outlook?

A. The percentages in the 'Likelihood of Impact' sections of the Outlook give the level of confidence.

Q. Autumn is often stormy – is this Autumn going to be wet and windy?

A. Autumn is normally one of the wettest and stormiest periods of the year. For this Outlook, the majority of rainfall is likely to be focused across northern and western areas, leading to Autumn being one and a half times as wet as normal. The Outlook shows a consistent signal for high pressure to the south or southwest of the UK which would support a general continuation of drier conditions across southern and eastern areas. Furthermore, a general decrease in storminess as compared to a typical Autumn, is also expected.

Q. Will the rain mentioned in the Outlook affect drought conditions?

A. The Environment Agency, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Natural Resources Wales, and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, are responsible for monitoring drought risk across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland respectively. Drought risk is determined by more than just precipitation so questions around drought should be directed to the relevant agency. Although the Outlook shows Autumn for the UK as a whole is more likely to be wet than dry, this overall percentage is likely to mask a regional split, with northwest areas more likely to see higher rainfall totals than the southeast.

About the Outlook

The Outlook presented here is for the United Kingdom as a whole and is based on information from observations, several numerical prediction systems and expert judgement. It is updated monthly to reflect the latest information on global weather patterns and their effect on the UK. The Outlook is designed to be used in conjunction with shorter-range forecasts – detailed weather forecast information is available on the Met Office website (<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk>).

Information for September will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page, starting from 29th August 2022.

In this product, temperature refers to the average of daytime maxima and night-time minima. All numerical values relate to averages (temperature) or totals (precipitation – rain, sleet, snow and hail) over 1 or 3 months, which are further averaged over the UK land area as a whole. Normal likelihood and long-term averages are established using the period 1991-2020.