

The forecast presented here is for August and the average of the August-September-October period for the United Kingdom as a whole. The forecast for August will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page (www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast), starting from 1 August 2014.

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

SUMMARY - TEMPERATURE:

For August-September-October as a whole above-average UK-mean temperatures are much more likely than below-average. The forecasts also indicate that August temperatures are likely to be above the climatological average.

Overall, the probability that the UK-mean temperature for August-September-October will fall into the warmest of our five categories is around 30% and the probability of falling into the coldest of our five categories is 5% (the 1981-2010 probability for each of these categories is 20%).

CONTEXT:

After several months of warming, sea surface temperatures in the equatorial eastern Pacific, associated with El Niño, have cooled a little. Sea surface temperatures in the western Pacific remain above normal and the atmospheric conditions associated with El Niño, such as weaker trade winds, are still not responding robustly. Although computer models still suggest a likelihood of El Niño in the autumn, the signal has declined a little recently and a strong event is not considered likely now. This factor is not expected to exert an influence on weather patterns in Europe during the next three months.

At this time of year, atmospheric large-scale drivers tend to have less influence over weather patterns in northwestern Europe, and predictability for this region is generally lower than in the winter months. Sea surface temperatures are currently above average on

the western side of the North Atlantic and also around the United Kingdom, and may modulate the temperature of the air masses affecting the country.

Although there is a lack of consistency in the atmospheric circulation patterns, computer models are in good agreement in favouring above-average seasonal temperatures over below-average. This is reflected in the curves in figure T2, which indicate an increase in the probability of above-average temperatures.

It is worth noting that above-average temperatures can come about in a number of different ways, including arising from a combination of mild nights and reasonably warm days and not just through high temperatures during the day.

Fig T1 3-month UK outlook for temperature in the context of the observed annual cycle

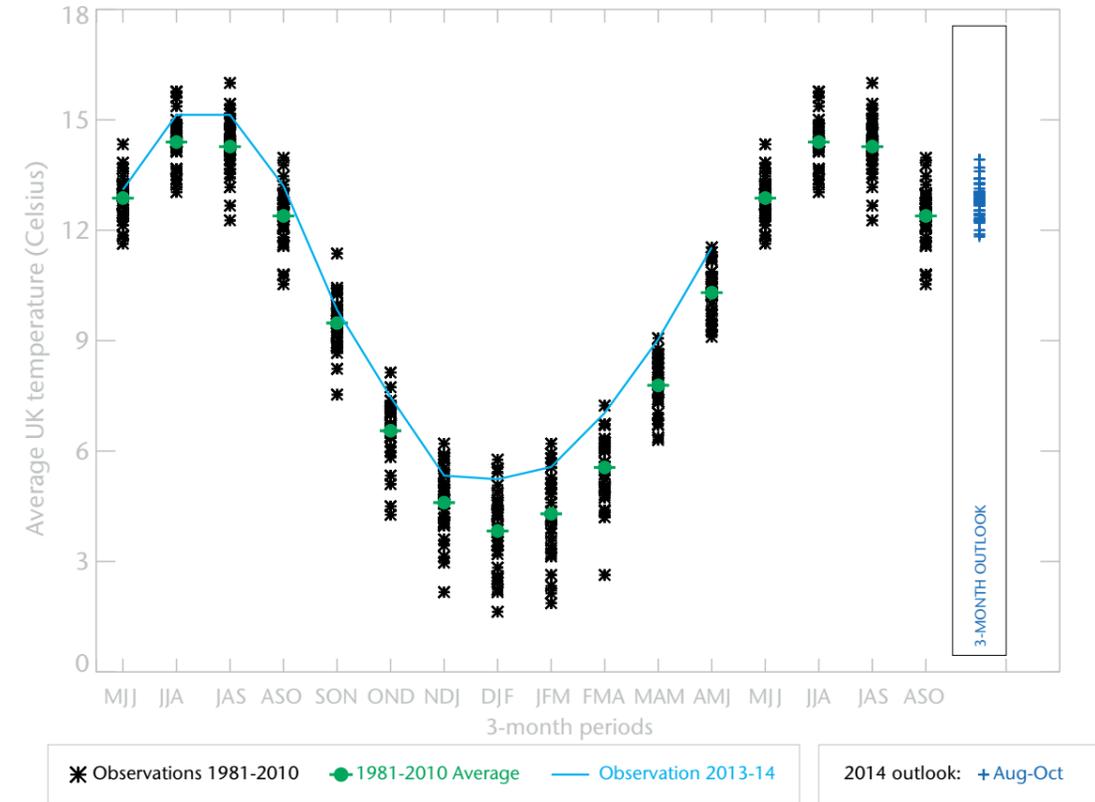


Fig T2

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

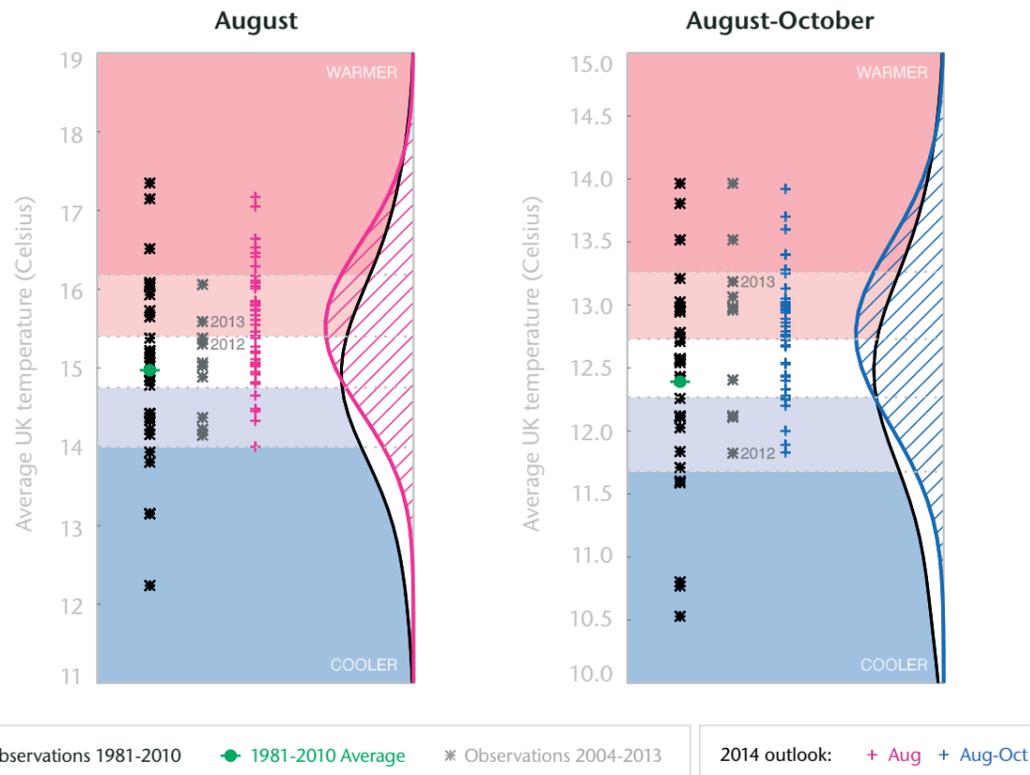
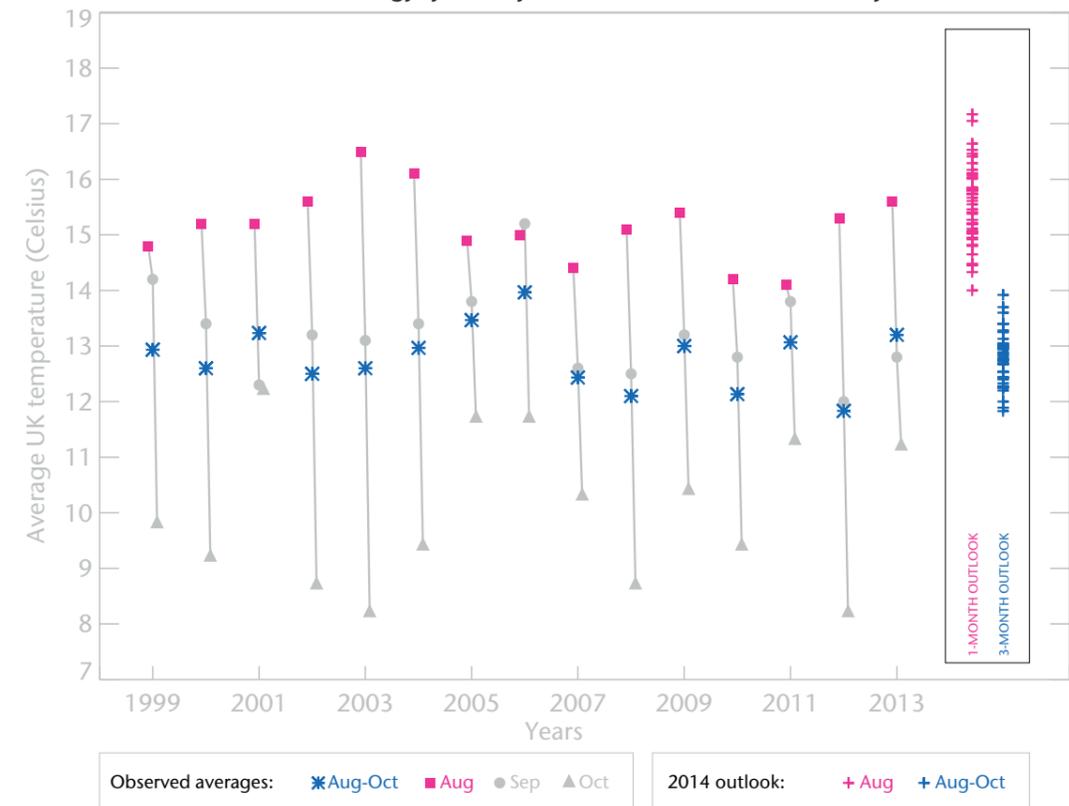


Fig T3

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.