



Met Office 3-month Outlook

Period: August – October 2019 Issue date: 25.07.19

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 The forecast for August will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page (www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast), starting from 5 August 2019.

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

SUMMARY – TEMPERATURE:

For August and August-September-October as a whole, above-average temperatures are more likely than below-average temperatures.

Overall, the probability that the UK-average temperature for August-September-October will fall into the coldest of our five categories is around 5% and the probability that it will fall into the warmest of our five categories is around 50% (the 1981-2010 probability for each of these categories is 20%).

CONTEXT:

Sea surface temperatures in the Tropical Pacific Ocean remain close to El Niño thresholds. Long-range forecast systems show little chance of the emergence of a significant El Niño or La Niña in the coming months. Patterns of sea surface temperatures in the Tropical Pacific Ocean are therefore not expected to have an influence on UK weather patterns through the period of this outlook.

For August and August-September-October as a whole, long-range forecast systems from around the world, including the Met Office system, show mixed signals for pressure patterns across the UK. This implies that the chances of a generally more settled or more unsettled season are fairly well balanced. Despite this, climate warming leads to an increased likelihood of warmer-than-average

conditions compared to the 1981-2010 long-term average (see figure T2).

The relatively high probability of our warmest category does not imply hot weather throughout the 3-month period. The likelihood of a 3-month long heatwave is very small. Heatwaves are part of the day-to-day weather and the outlook does not identify weather for a particular day or week. The increased likelihood of warm conditions through this period could mean more days with temperatures that are above average to a more modest degree. As stated above, there is just as much chance of a generally unsettled 3-month period as of more settled conditions. Above-average temperatures can arise from a range of types of weather, not just sunny and dry conditions.

Fig T1

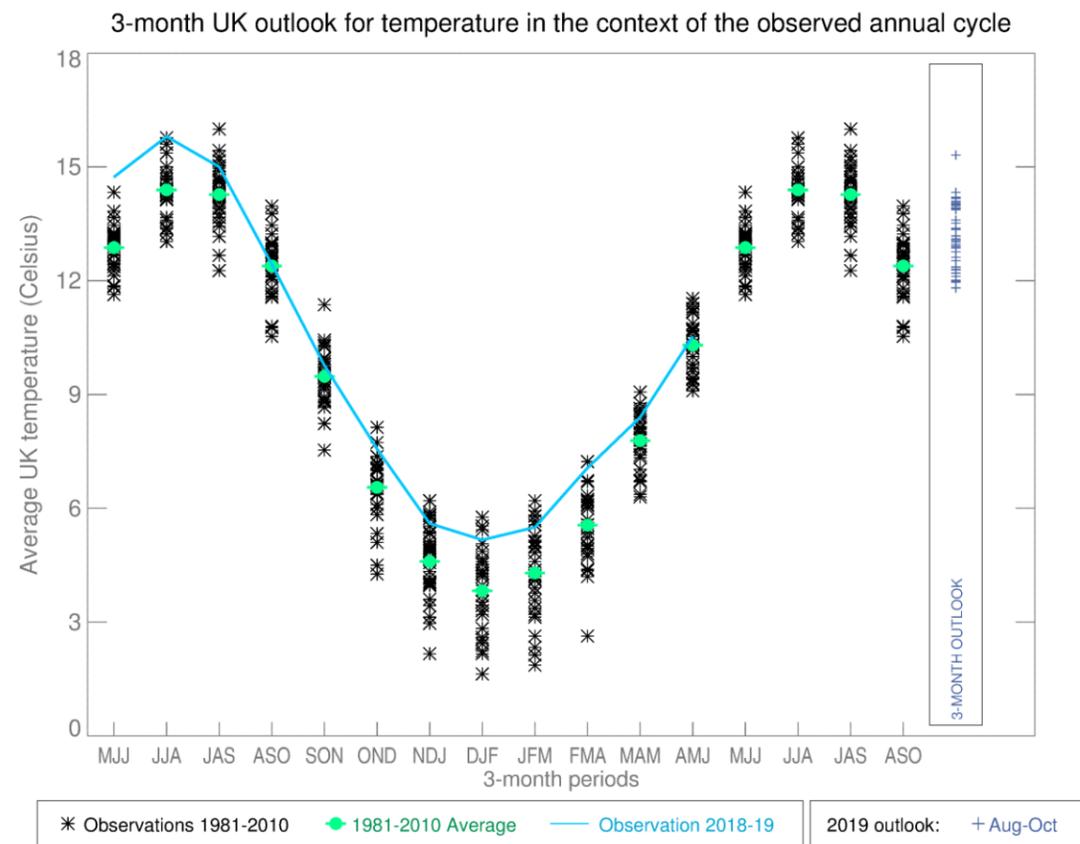


Fig T2

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

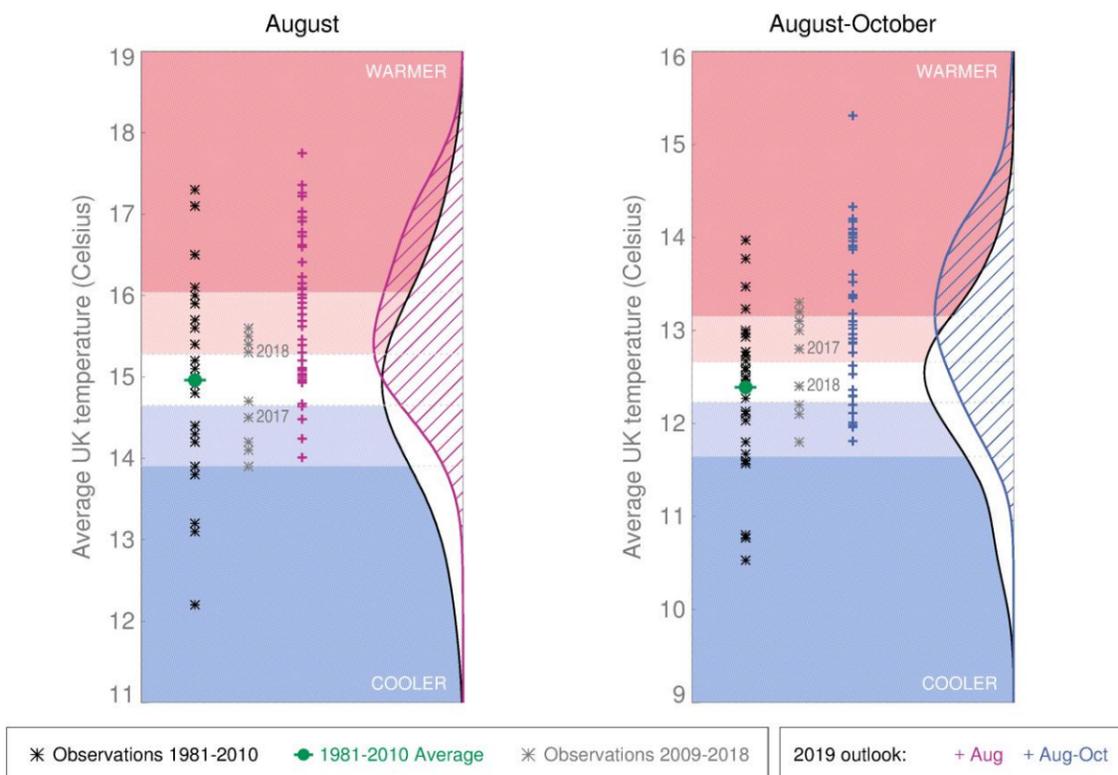
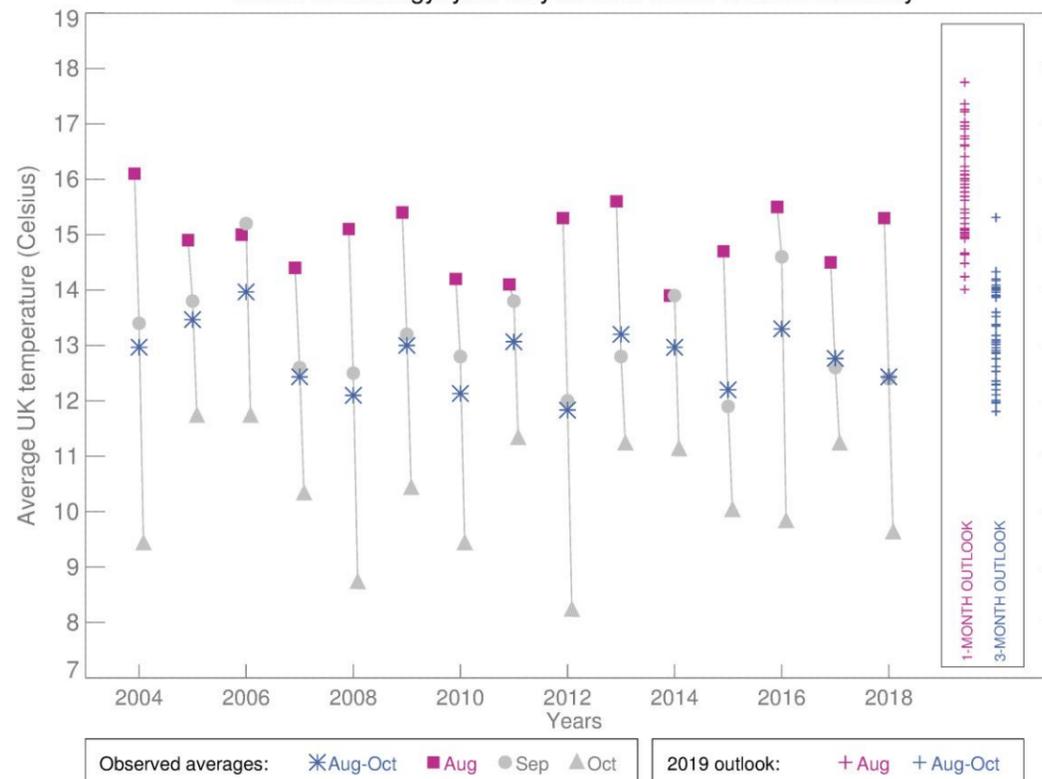


Fig T3

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.