Met Office
Hadley Centre

HadCET Annual Release Cycle

March 2024

Overview

Following recent improvements to the HadCET process codebase, it is now possible to release a new version of the CET dataset each year. Each incremental release will include a full refresh of the previous year's CET values derived from quality-controlled station observations as well as provisional values for the current year.

Although it is expected that each annual release will contain only minor changes, some daily values from the previous year may change. This is because the CET series is updated daily using station observations from the previous day. These observations may not have been through the full quality control process at the time the CET series values are initially calculated and so a refresh is required to ensure that the most accurate station observations are used to derive the series values.

Any major changes to the dataset will be made in line with this annual release cycle, with the new dataset version number indicating the magnitude of the changes made.

An incremental release of the CET dataset through the new annual release cycle will be made available at the beginning of each year.

1. Incremental version release

The CET dataset employs the following version control protocol.

Version Vx.y.z.a:
- x – major changes – e.g. change in scientific methodology
- y – minor changes – e.g. small bug fixes or updates to diagnostics pages
- z – incremental changes
- a – reserved for use internally

The standard annual release cycle of CET will constitute an incremental release. However, if more substantial changes have been made to the codebase, scientific methodology or source data values, then this may warrant a minor or major version release.

This new version of the dataset will supersede the previous version of the dataset, which will cease to update on the Data Download page. The "Current version" links in the data table will always reference the latest version of the dataset, with a new column added for the previous incremental version.

Diagnostics pages and time series plots on the hadcet webpage will continue to update using the latest CET series values.

2. Release Notes

After each new release of the CET dataset, a new set of release notes will be added to the HadCET releases page. For incremental releases, this will just be a summary of daily or monthly series values from the previous year that have changed.

For major and minor releases, a more substantial report will be produced detailing the changes that were made and the individual impact of each on the dataset values.