

Map guide: Hydrometric levels

The map, which shows the boundaries of the river basins, displays real-time data recorded by hydrometric stations installed on the watercourses in the region being monitored.

Water level: the level of the watercourse in the measurement section expressed in metres (m), relative to the hydrometric zero, which is a conventional elevation (different for each hydrometer) that does not correspond to the bottom of the riverbed.

The following is available for each station:

- data on the map for the previous two days
- a graph showing the trend in levels over time (in blue) for the previous two days and the current day
- station details (basin, watercourse, altitude above sea level)

Hydrometric threshold legend

Three reference thresholds have been identified for each hydrometric section. When these thresholds are exceeded, the station is coloured on the map as follows:

Below threshold 1 – green colour: no flooding. Regular hydrometric levels.

Above threshold 1 – yellow colour: insignificant flooding. Hydrometric levels corresponding to the filling of the low-water channel and generally below the natural level of the ground (countryside).

Above threshold 2 – orange colour: passage of a flood with widespread erosion and solid transport. Hydrometric levels corresponding to the occupation of floodplain areas or expansion of the watercourse, affecting the banks and levels that may exceed the natural ground level (countryside level).

Above threshold 3 – red colour: passage of an exceptional flood, with significant and extensive erosion and solid transport phenomena. Levels corresponding to the occupation of the entire river section, close to the maximum recorded levels, or at the safety margin from the top of the embankment (free embankment).

Note: In some river sections, there are only 1 or 2 hydrometric thresholds, due to specific characteristics of the section (e.g. the presence of hydraulic works that artificially affect the hydrometric level) or no thresholds because they are still being defined. The threshold values for river sections relating to recently installed hydrometers, or those that have undergone modifications, will be assigned in the future.

Disclaimer regarding threshold exceedances

It is possible that the observed hydrometric levels exceed the thresholds even in the absence of flooding, due to: shifts in material at the bottom of the riverbed following flooding; vegetation or other obstacles present at the bottom of the riverbed in spring or summer; artificial introduction of water into the riverbed or effects of manoeuvres, in the case of hydraulic systems near the section; incorrect measurement by the instrument.

Data updates

The stations in the regional hydrometeorological network have different data acquisition and update frequencies, so if the updated data for the indicated time is not available on the map, it is possible that:

the black-bordered numerical data will appear when a value is available within an hour and a half of the reference time of the map, or only the numerical data appears bordered in black when a value is available within the hour and a half prior to the reference time on the map, or only the grey-coloured station appears, without the numerical value, when no data is available for a period exceeding the hour and a half prior to the reference time on the map. The option to view the graph of the temporal trend of the available data remains active at all times.

General disclaimer

The data published on the page 'Observed data: pressure' and in the related graphs are acquired in real time from the regional hydrometeorological network and are not subject to validation. They are for informational purposes only, and Arpa Emilia-Romagna declines all responsibility for their improper use.

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