Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 13 to Tuesday 19 November 2019

Summary: It has been another wet week across England, especially in central England. All but 4 of the rivers that we report on are classed as normal or higher for flow for the time of year, with 7 remaining exceptionally high.

Rainfall
Rainfall totals for the past week ranged from 15mm in north-west England to 35mm in central England (Table 1 and Figure 1). Cumulative rainfall totals for November to date ranged from 74% of the monthly long term average (LTA) in north-west England to 148% in central England (Table 1).

River flow
River flows have decreased at almost three-quarters of the rivers we report on compared to last week. Nearly four-fifths of rivers that we report on are classed as normal for the time of year and half of rivers are above normal or higher. Flows at four sites are below normal or lower for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook
Thursday and Friday will see heavy rain in south-west England. Elsewhere rain will move north and east across England overnight on Thursday, becoming light and patchy during Friday. Rain will continue on Saturday, particularly in central England and eastern coastal areas. A further area of low pressure will arrive from the west on Sunday, bringing more rain. Monday and Tuesday will remain unsettled, with sunshine and some showers, particularly in south-west England.

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Table 1 Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2019)¹

Notes:
- Data for the current month are calculated using MORECS (Met Office Rainfall and Evaporation Calculation System); data for past months are provisional values from the National Climate Information Centre (NCIC).
- The data is rounded to the nearest millimetre or percent (except when values are less than 1).
- Recorded amounts of rainfall are likely to be underestimated during snow events.

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Rainfall

4 to 10 September
11 to 17 September
18 to 24 September

25 September to 1 October
2 to 8 October
9 to 15 October

16 to 22 October
23 to 29 October
30 October to 5 November

6 to 12 November
13 to 19 November

Figure 1 Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2019). Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation affecting its performance. This does not reflect actual conditions on the ground. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2019.
‘Naturalised’ flows are provided for the River Thames at Kingston and the River Lee at Feildes Weir.

**Figure 2** Latest daily mean river flow, relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows, classed by flow percentile for the same time of year\(^2\) (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2019\(^3\).

\(^2\)Flow percentiles describe the percentage of time that a particular flow has been equalled or exceeded compared to the historic flow record for that site for the time of year. Flow percentiles presented relate to an analysis for the time of year and not a whole year.

\(^3\)The flow sites in this report are indicator sites providing a National overview and a subset of a wider flow monitoring network.
River flow categories

- Exceptionally high: Value likely to fall within this band 5% of the time
- Notably high: Value likely to fall within this band 8% of the time
- Above normal: Value likely to fall within this band 15% of the time
- Normal: Value likely to fall within this band 44% of the time
- Below normal: Value likely to fall within this band 15% of the time
- Notably low: Value likely to fall within this band 8% of the time
- Exceptionally low: Value likely to fall within this band 5% of the time

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