

# Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 10 to Tuesday 16 September 2014

## Summary

It has been another dry week across England. River flows have decreased but remain **normal** for the time of year at the majority of the indicator sites. Flows are **above normal** or higher at 4 sites in some groundwater dominated catchments of the southeast.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from less than 1 mm in central, northwest, southwest and southeast England to 2 mm in the northeast (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- More than half way through the month, cumulative rainfall totals for September are less than 15% of the long term average (LTA) across England (Table 1).
- At a third of the indicator sites the latest daily mean river flows are **below normal** for the time of year. At one site, on the South Tyne in northeast England, flows are **notably low** for the time of year. All other sites are **normal** or higher (Figure 2).

## Outlook

The coming five days will see most areas remaining dry. However, there is a risk of heavy, thundery showers in southern and central areas over the weekend. Thereafter, settled weather is likely to continue, but with some rain in the northwest.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 10 - 16 Sep '14	Latest month to date: Sep '14		Last month: Aug '14		Last 3 months: Jun '14 - Aug '14		Last 6 months: Mar '14 - Aug '14		Last 12 months: Sep '13 - Aug '14	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
North West	0.6	4	4	142	137	261	99	500	100	1362	117
North East	2	8	12	112	148	212	108	425	112	991	121
Central	0.7	2	3	96	149	198	114	386	113	941	132
East	1	4	8	94	171	190	123	332	112	740	124
South East	0.6	2	3	102	176	181	113	363	112	1087	149
South West	0.5	2	3	124	165	231	117	484	118	1450	144
England	1	4	5	109	157	208	112	406	111	1064	132

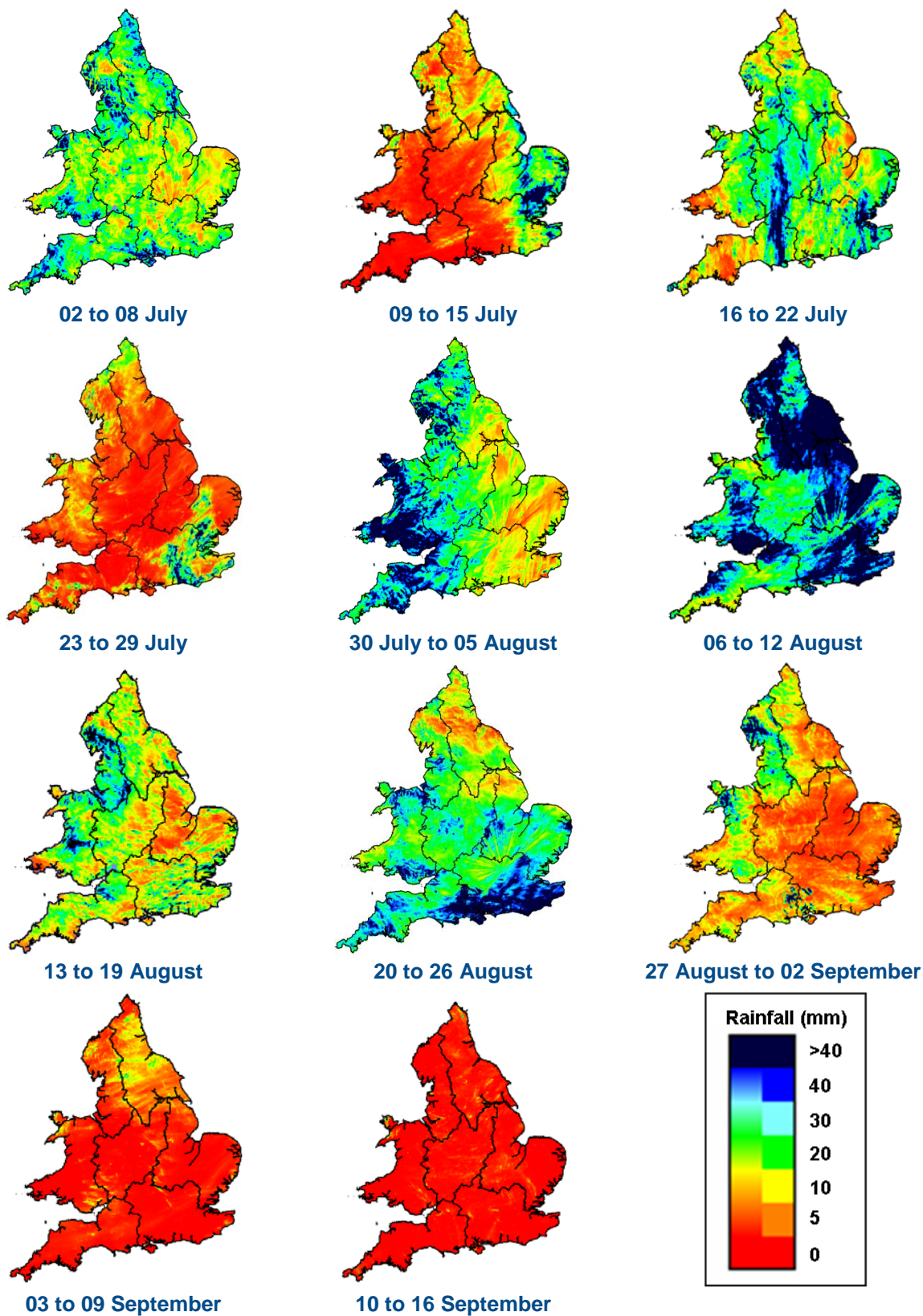
**Table 1:** Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Notes:

- LTA = long term average rainfall for 1961 – 1990
- 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.

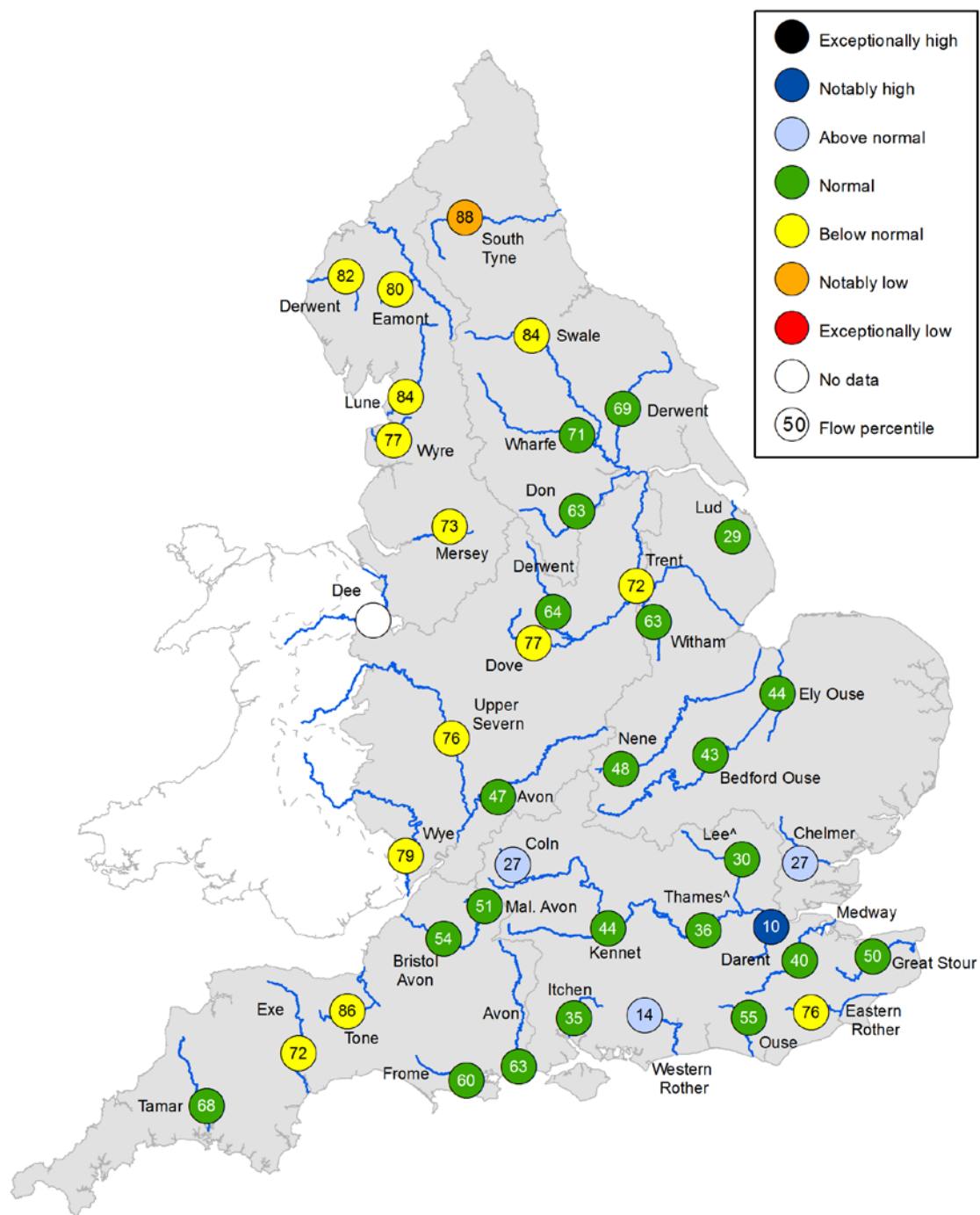
All data are provisional and may be subject to revision. The views expressed in this document are not necessarily those of the Environment Agency. Its officers, servants or agents accept no liability for any loss or damage arising from the interpretation or use of the information, or reliance upon views contained herein.





**Figure 1:** Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past eleven weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2014). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2014.

# River Flow



^ – ‘Naturalised’ flows are provided for the Thames at Kingston and the Lee at Feildes Weir.

**Figure 2:** Latest daily mean river flow expressed as a percentile<sup>2</sup> and classed relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows for the same time of year (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> 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. For example, a flow percentile of 5 indicates that the current flow has only been equalled or exceeded approximately 5% of the time within the historic record for that time of year – i.e. a very high flow. A flow percentile of 95 indicates that the current flow has been equalled or exceeded approximately 95% of the time – i.e. a low flow. Flow percentiles presented relate to an analysis for the time of year and not a whole year.