Weekly rainfall and river flow summary



Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 16 to Tuesday 22 September 2015

Summary

The past week has been significantly wetter across south-east England and parts of east and south-west England compared to north-west, north-east and central England. River flows have increased at the majority of our indicator sites. Flows at most indicator sites are **normal** or higher for the time of year.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 7mm in north-east England to 37mm in south-east England (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- Cumulative rainfall totals for the month to date range from 44% of the September long term average (LTA) in north-west England to 97% in south-east England (Table 1).
- River flows have increased at almost two-thirds of our indicator sites over the past week. The latest
 daily mean flows are currently **normal** or higher for the time of year at the majority of our indicator
 sites, although 5 sites are **below normal** for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Heavy rain will move across south-east England on Thursday. Scattered showers from the west will affect northern areas overnight on Thursday and into Friday, but elsewhere will be dry. Fine and dry weather will continue over the weekend and into Monday and Tuesday, although some rain may be possible in the far north-west.

Author: **E&B Hydrology Team**

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 16 - 22 Sep '15	Latest month to date: Sep '15		Last month: Aug '15		Last 3 months: Jun '15 - Aug '15		Last 6 months: Mar '15 - Aug '15		Last 12 months: Sep '14 - Aug '15	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	13	49	44	112	108	268	101	562	113	1224	105
north-east	7	40	58	92	122	221	113	411	108	803	98
central	12	40	66	80	124	178	103	322	94	678	95
east	30	47	96	66	120	168	108	269	91	585	98
south-east	37	61	97	101	176	192	120	299	92	742	102
south-west	28	67	81	144	191	287	145	438	107	1020	101
England	22	51	73	97	140	214	115	368	101	808	100

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

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¹ 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

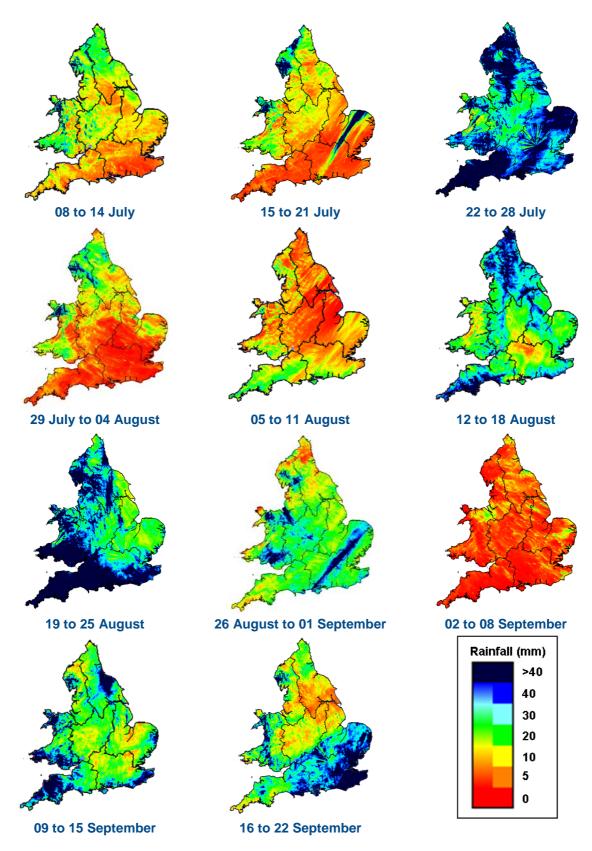
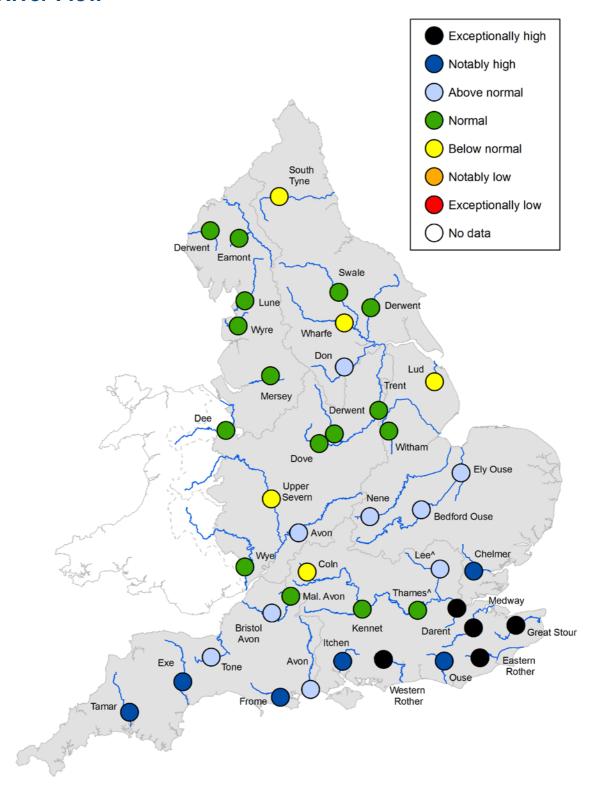


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

River Flow



^ - 'Naturalised' flows are provided for the Thames at Kingston and the 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 year². (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

²Flow 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.