

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 1 January to Tuesday 7 January 2025

1 Summary

It has been another wet week across England, with precipitation totals for January so far already over 30% of the long term average in all regions. River flows increased at the majority of sites, and all sites were classed as having normal or higher flows for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been a wet week across much of England, with widespread snow falling, particularly across northern England. Rainfall totals ranged from 32mm in east England to 61mm in southwest England (Table 1 and Figure 1). For January so far, the north-west has received 35% of the long term average (LTA) rainfall for the time of year. Both central and south-east England have already received 64% of LTA rainfall in January. England as a whole has received just over half of LTA rainfall for the whole of January in the first week (Table 1).

1.2 River flows

River flows increased at the majority of the sites we report on compared to the previous week, with decreased flows found only in north-west and north-east England. River flows at all sites were classed as normal or higher for the time of year. Seven sites (13% of the total) were classed as normal for the time of year, the majority of which were in north-west and north-east England. Just over a quarter of sites (15 sites) were classed as above normal, and 31% (17 sites) were classed as notably high. The final 16 sites (29% of the total) were classed as exceptionally high for the time of year, including all 5 sites in central England. (Figure 2).

1.3 Outlook

Friday will be dry for many, with some sunshine, although cloudier conditions are likely in the west which may bring rain or snow. Temperatures are likely to turn milder over the weekend, with cloudy conditions for many. Some rain and hill snow remains likely. High pressure is expected to build on Monday and Tuesday, bringing generally settled conditions with average temperatures.

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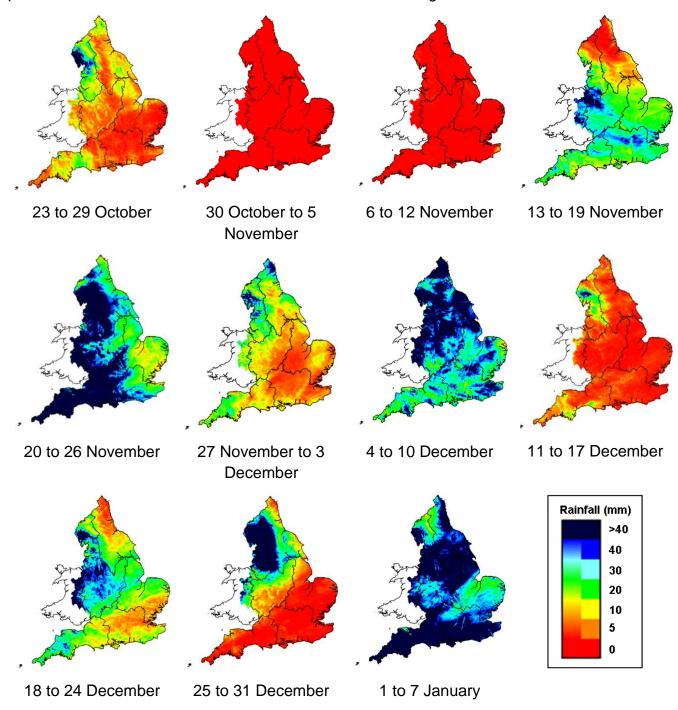
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2025)

Geographic regions	1 to 7 Jan 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Jan 2025 to date total rainfall (mm)	Jan 2025 to date rainfall % of LTA	Dec 2024 total rainfall (mm)	Dec 2024 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Oct to Dec 2024 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Oct to Dec 2024 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Jul to Dec 2024 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Jul to Dec 2024 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months Jan to Dec 2024 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months Jan to Dec 2024 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	41	41	35	171	139	382	102	742	109	1,495	125
north-east	35	35	43	100	123	234	98	459	102	954	114
central	43	43	64	81	112	237	119	487	129	940	130
east	32	32	62	56	102	164	100	356	112	714	119
south-east	46	46	64	52	69	218	99	487	125	959	131
south-west	61	61	53	68	58	328	102	632	116	1,298	127
England	43	43	53	82	98	249	103	507	115	1,019	124

Notes: Long term average (LTA) rainfall for 1961 to 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 are 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.

2 Rainfall

Figure 2: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar 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.

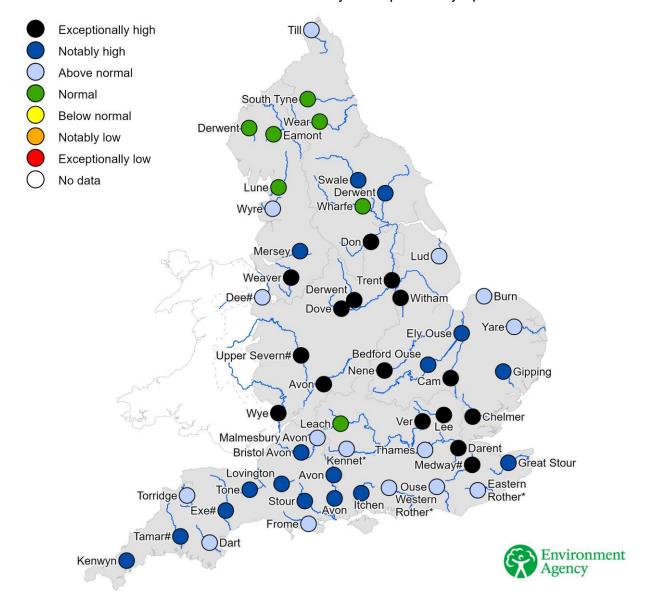


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3 River flows

3.1 River flows map

Figure 3.1: Latest daily mean river flow, relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows, classed by flow percentile for the same time of year. River flows for the River Thames at Kingston and the River Lee at Feildes Weir are naturalised. * Flows may be overestimated and data should be treated with caution. # Flows may be impacted by upstream reservoir releases.



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3.2 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