

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 15 January to Tuesday 21 January 2024

1 Summary

It has been another very dry week across the whole of England. River flows decreased at nearly all our reporting sites with flows at nearly all sites classed as normal or lower for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been another very dry week across the whole of England, particularly in east and southeast England. Rainfall totals ranged from less than 1mm in east and south-east England to 7mm in north-west England (Table 1 and Figure 1). Rainfall totals for the month of January so far range from 48% of the long term average (LTA) in north-west England to 71% of the LTA in south-east England (Table1).

1.2 River flows

River flows decreased at almost all the sites we report on compared to the previous week. River flows at 96% of sites are now classed as normal or lower for the time of year. Thirty-five sites (64%) were classed as normal for the time of year, 15 sites (27%) were classed as below normal, 3 sites (5%) were classed as notably low for the time of year, mainly located in southwest and north England. One site (2%) was classed as above normal and one other site (2%) was classed as notably high for the time of year, both located in south-east England (Figure 2).

1.3 Outlook

On Thursday a band of wet and windy weather will move eastwards across most of England, followed by drier weather with some blustery showers later in the day. On Friday Storm Éowyn is expected to bring wet and very windy weather to all of England, especially across northern England. This is expected to continue across northern England on Saturday morning but will be brighter by the afternoon, with some showers. Wet and windy weather is expected again on Sunday. Monday and Tuesday are expected to continue to be unsettled.

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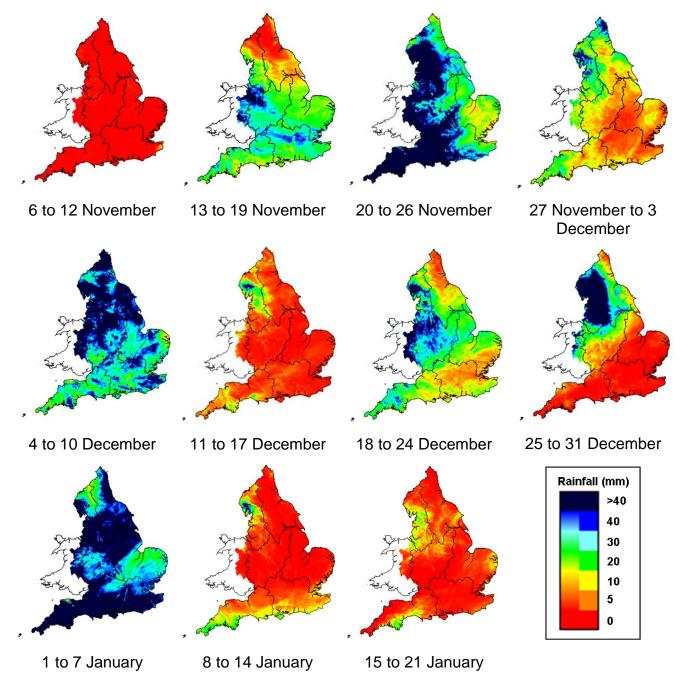
Geographic regions	15 to 21 Jan 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Jan 2025 to date total rainfall (mm)	Jan 2025 to date rainfall % of LTA	Dec 2024 total rainfall (mm)	Dec 2024 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Oct to Dec 2024 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Oct to Dec 2024 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Jul 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	7	56	48	171	139	382	102	742	109	1,495	125
north-east	2	42	53	100	123	234	98	459	102	954	114
central	1	45	67	81	112	237	119	487	129	940	130
east	<1	34	66	56	102	164	100	356	112	714	119
south-east	<1	52	71	52	69	218	99	487	125	959	131
south-west	4	72	63	68	58	328	102	632	116	1,298	127
England	2	49	61	82	98	249	103	507	115	1,019	124

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

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.

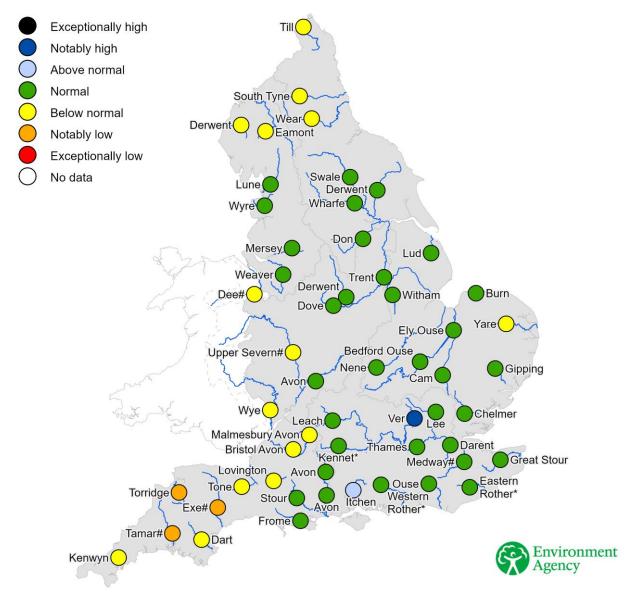


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3 River flows

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