Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 20 August to Tuesday 26 August 2025

1 Summary

It was another very dry week across the whole of England. River flows decreased at the majority of the sites we report on with just over four-fifths being classed as below normal or lower for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

It was another very dry week across England with rainfall totals ranging from 3mm in north-west and south-west England to less than 1mm across the rest of the country. (Table 1 and Figure 2). Rainfall totals for the month of August to date remain varied but continue to be dry and range from 28% of the long-term average (LTA) in north-west England to 4% of the LTA in south-east England. (Table1)

1.2 River flows

River flows have decreased at the vast majority of the river flow sites we report on compared to the previous week. One site, the groundwater fed River Ver in south-east England was again classed as above normal for the time of year whilst the remaining sites were all classed as normal or lower. 8 sites (15% of the total) were classed as normal for the time of year, 11 sites (20%) were classed as below normal, 26 sites (47%) were classed as notably low and 9 sites (16%) were classed as exceptionally low for the time of year. (Figure 3.1)

1.3 Outlook

Thursday will start bright before turning mostly cloudy with scattered, heavy and thundery showers for much of the country. Friday will again see lighter showers for most with some localised thunderstorms. The weekend will see further rain, particularly in southern and western parts of the country along with blustery conditions. Drier weather is expected across central and eastern England. There will be a more widespread mix of light showers and sunshine on Monday and Tuesday.

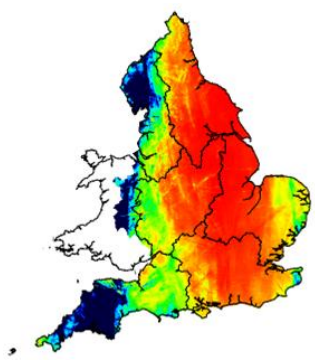
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2025)

Geographic regions	20 to 26 Aug 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Aug 2025 to date total rainfall (mm)	Aug 2025 to date rainfall % of LTA	Jul 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Jul 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months May to Jul 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months May to Jul 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Feb to Jul 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Feb to Jul 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months Aug 2024 to Jul 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months Aug 2024 to Jul 2025 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	3	30	28	94	97	303	118	418	80	1,170	92
north-east	<1	15	19	71	101	154	78	228	59	679	77
central	<1	9	13	48	75	110	60	182	53	682	89
east	<1	7	12	55	99	105	66	167	59	508	80
south-east	<1	2	4	58	110	111	70	203	64	719	93
south-west	3	11	14	37	52	140	68	317	72	1,010	92
England	1	11	15	59	89	144	76	239	65	760	87

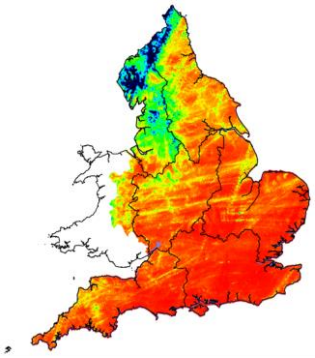
Notes: Long term average (LTA) rainfall for 1991 to 2020. Data for the current month are calculated using MORECS (Met Office Rainfall and Evaporation Calculation System); data for past months are provisional values from the National Climate Information Centre (NCIC). The data are rounded to the nearest millimetre or percent except when values are less than 1. Recorded amounts of rainfall are likely to be underestimated during snow events.

2 Rainfall

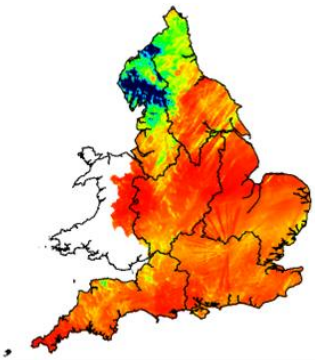
Figure 2: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar. Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation affecting its performance. This does not reflect actual conditions on the ground.



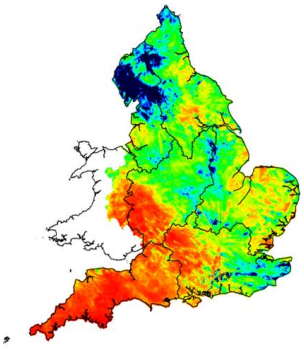
11 to 17 June



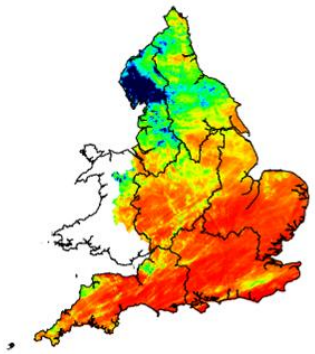
18 to 24 June



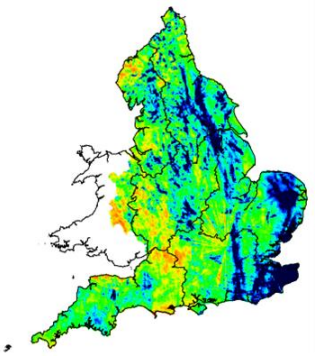
25 June to 1 July



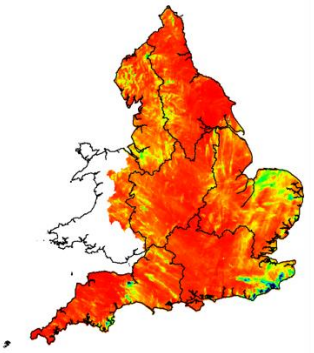
2 to 8 July



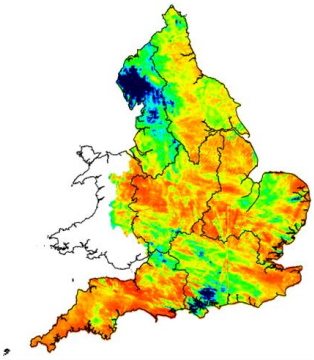
9 to 15 July



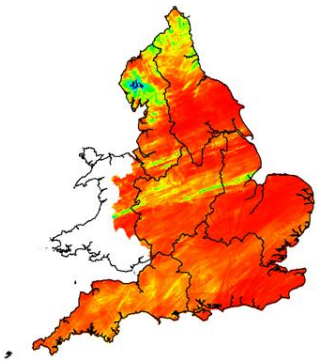
16 to 22 July



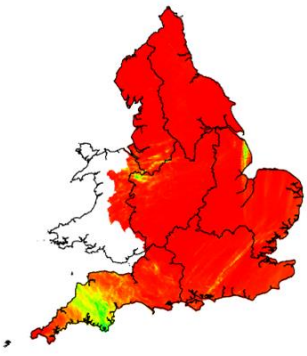
23 to 29 July



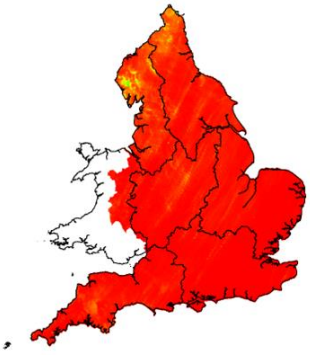
30 July to 5 August



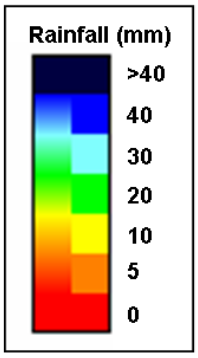
6 to 12 August



13 to 19 August



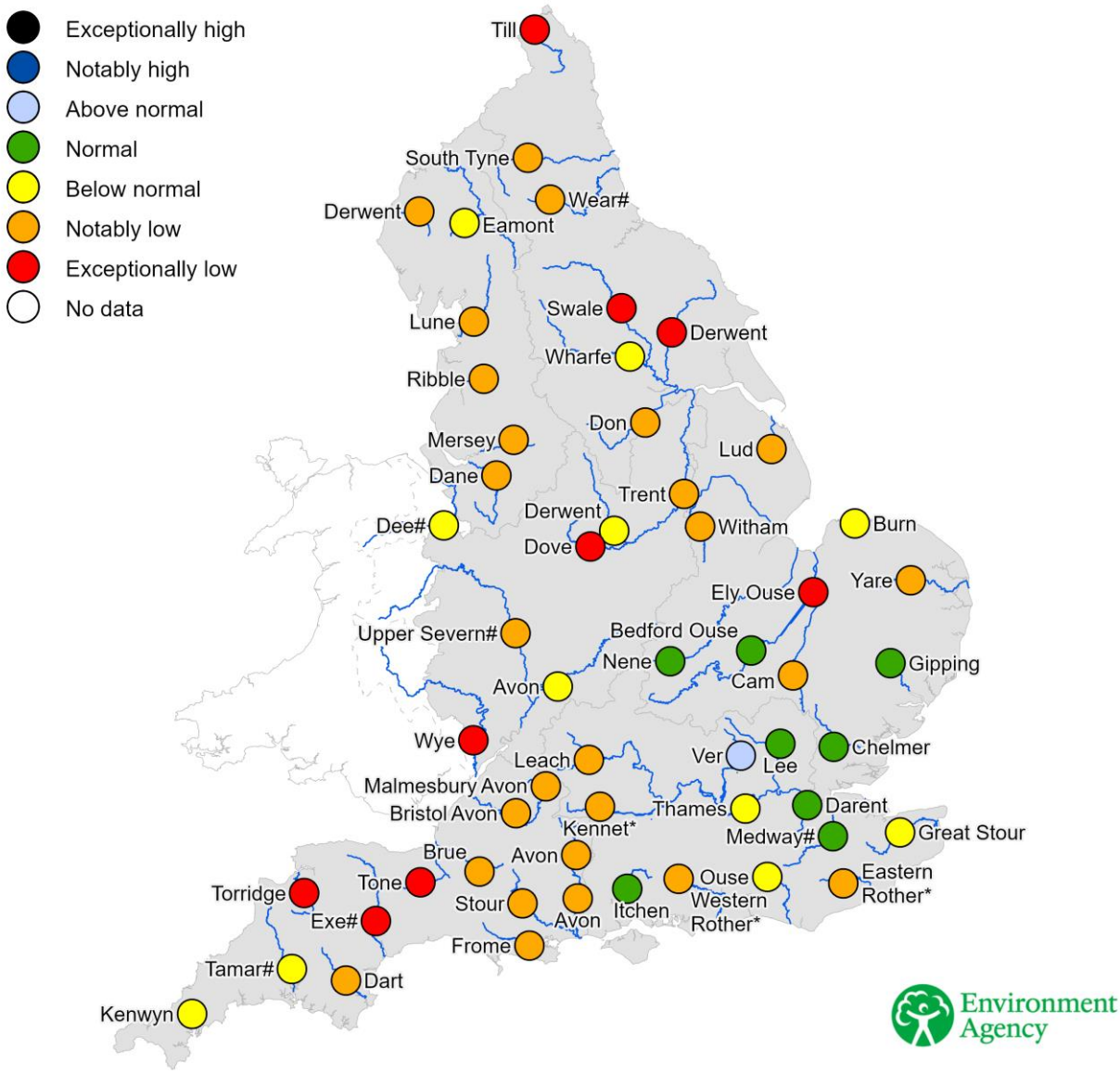
20 to 26 August



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.



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