

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 18 February to Tuesday 24 February 2026

1 Summary

It has been a drier week for parts of England, although everywhere received some rainfall. All regions have now received at least the long term average (LTA) rainfall for February. With a drier week river flows decreased at the majority of sites we report on, but more than three-quarters were still classed as above normal or higher for the time of year after earlier very wet weather.

1.1 Rainfall

It was a drier week for parts of England, although everywhere received rainfall. Rainfall totals ranged from 13mm in east England to 28mm in the north-west (Table 1 and Figure 2). Rainfall totals for February so far are now all at or above the LTA for the month. In north-west England, 100% of the LTA rainfall has been received, while central England has received 185% of LTA rainfall. England as whole has received 147% of February LTA rainfall. (Table 1)

1.2 River flows

River flows decreased at the majority of the river flow sites we report on compared with the previous week. More than three-quarters of sites were classed as above normal or higher for the time of year as the impacts of earlier wet weather continue. Ten sites (19% of the total) were classed as normal for the time of year. Thirty-three sites (61%) were classed as above normal and 9 (17%) were notably high. The River Avon and River Itchen on the south coast were both classed as exceptionally high for the time of year. (Figure 3.1)

1.3 Outlook

Thursday will begin with a bright start in the east, with cloudy conditions and outbreaks of rain elsewhere which may turn heavier and more persistent in the west. Friday will be unsettled with rain for many. Saturday is expected to bring brighter conditions with some showers, before rain and cloud returns for many on Sunday. Monday will start with cloud and rain in the north and west, before these conditions begin to clear to the south-east on Tuesday as high pressure builds in the west which is likely to bring drier conditions for many.

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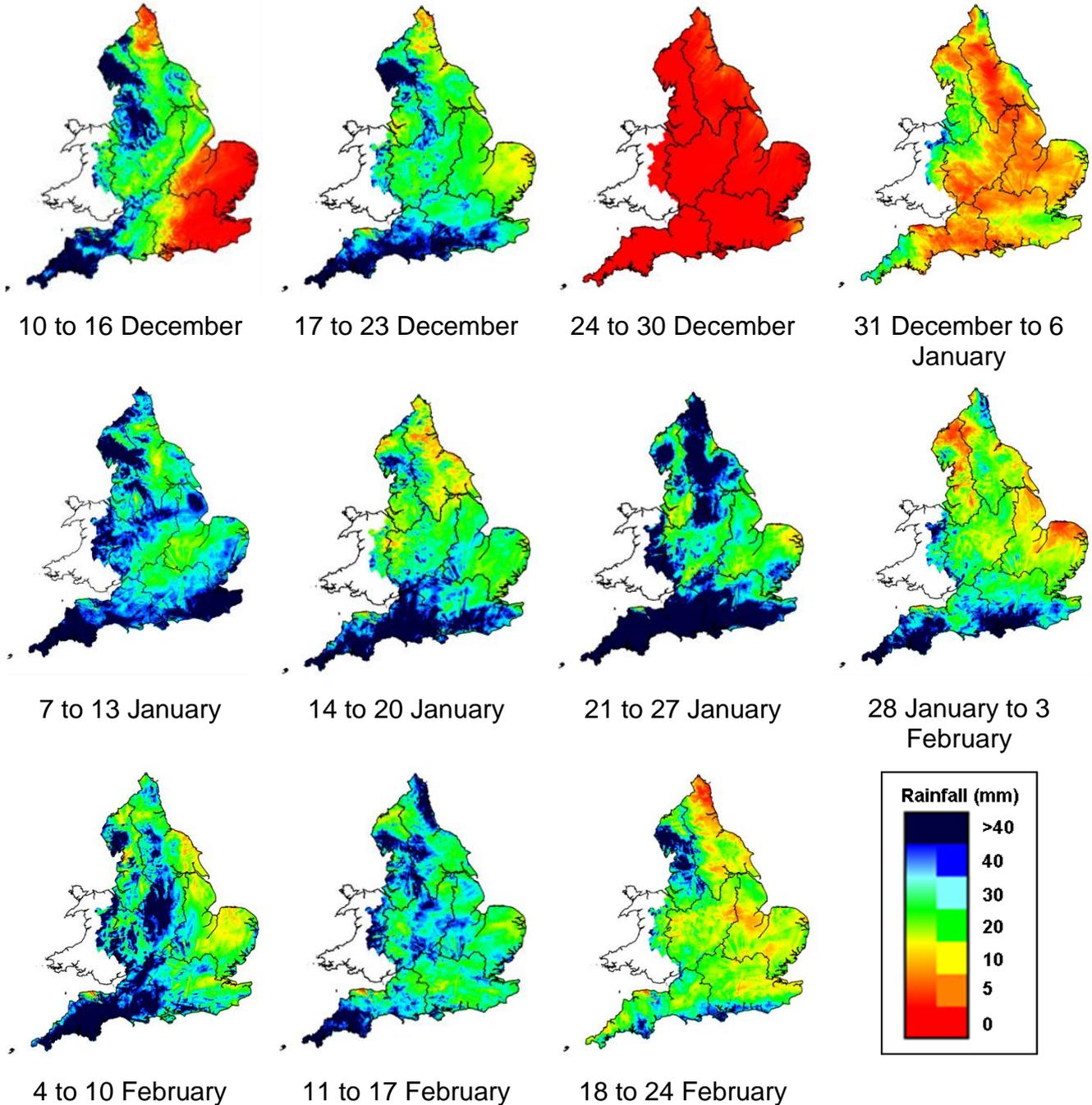
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2026)

Geographic regions	18 to 24 Feb 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Feb 2026 to date total rainfall (mm)	Feb 2026 to date rainfall % of LTA	Jan 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Jan 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Nov 2025 to Jan 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Nov 2025 to Jan 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Aug 2025 to Jan 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Aug 2025 to Jan 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months Feb 2025 to Jan 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months Feb 2025 to Jan 2026 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	28	104	100	100	80	482	120	867	116	1,285	101
north-east	14	83	119	101	126	348	132	571	114	799	90
central	16	99	185	109	163	340	157	511	121	693	91
east	13	70	166	82	156	244	141	368	105	535	85
south-east	23	103	179	142	180	319	127	510	112	712	92
south-west	26	135	153	216	184	549	148	822	126	1,139	104
England	19	97	147	124	150	367	137	581	116	820	94

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.



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