

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 18 March to Tuesday 24 March 2026

1 Summary

Most of the country had a dry week, except for north-west and north-east England. In response to this dry weather, river flows decreased at the majority of sites, however, almost three-quarters were classed as normal for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been a dry week for much of England with the wettest conditions in north-east and north-west England. Rainfall totals ranged from 2mm in east and south-east England to 33mm in the north-west (Table 1 and Figure 2). Rainfall totals for March so far range from just 45% of the long term average (LTA) in south-west England to 108% in the north-west. For England as a whole, rainfall for the month to date is 67% of LTA. (Table 1)

1.2 River flows

River flows decreased at almost all of the river flow sites we report on compared with the previous week. Just under three-quarters of sites were classed as normal for the time of year. Eight sites (15% of the total) were classed as above normal and one (2%) was notably high. In the north 3 (6%) were exceptionally high. Two sites (4%) were classed as below normal. (Figure 3.1)

1.3 Outlook

Thursday will be dry and bright for many, before rain moves in late on Thursday. This will bring wet weather to the south on Friday. Saturday will turn clearer although showers are likely and temperatures will be colder. Wet and windy weather is expected on Sunday. From Monday high pressure is expected to dominate, bringing more settled, drier conditions for many.

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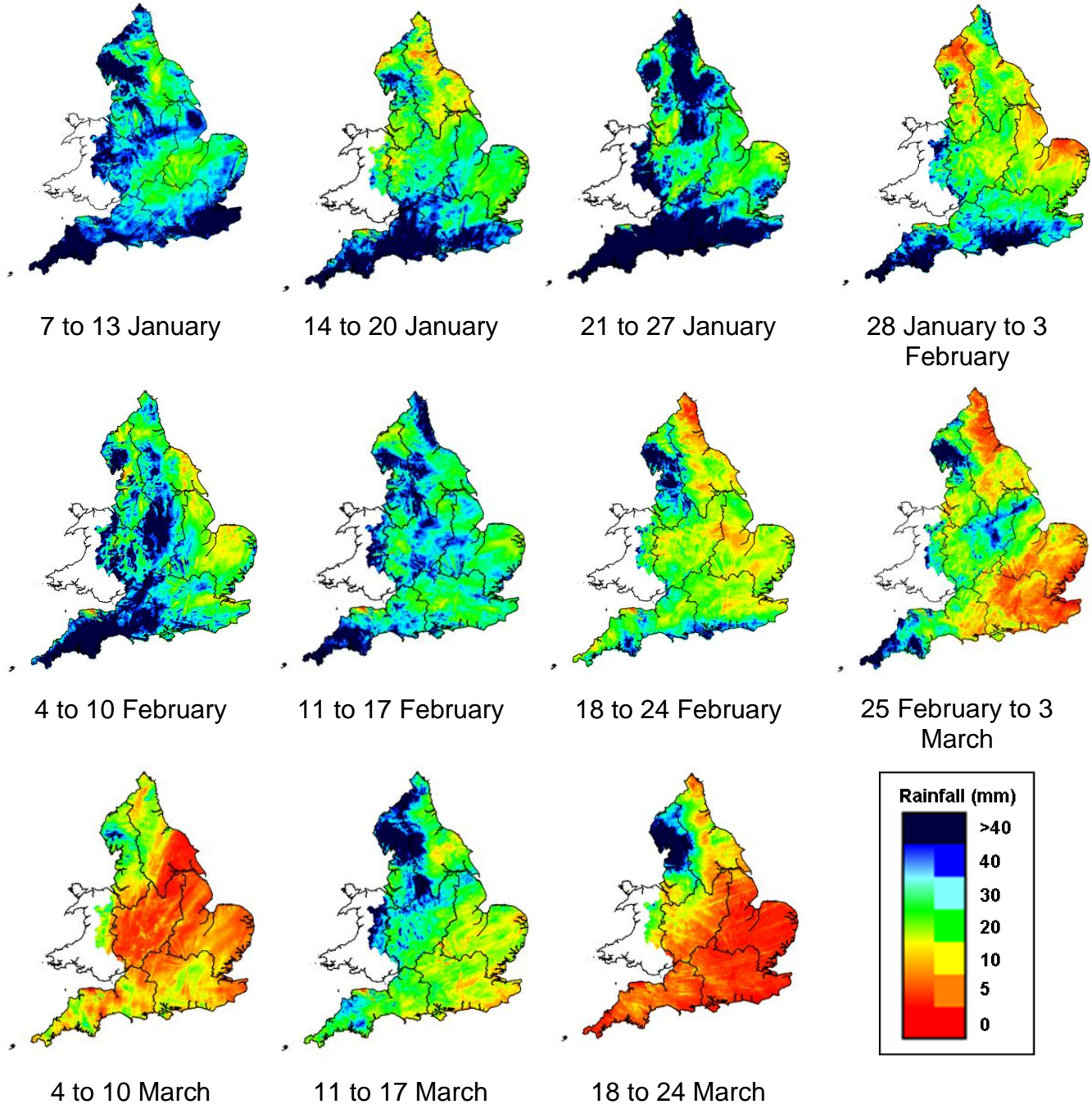
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2026)

Geographic regions	18 to 24 Mar 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Mar 2026 to date total rainfall (mm)	Mar 2026 to date rainfall % of LTA	Feb 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Feb 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Dec 2025 to Feb 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Dec 2025 to Feb 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Sep 2025 to Feb 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Sep 2025 to Feb 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months Mar 2025 to Feb 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months Mar 2025 to Feb 2026 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	33	97	108	115	111	386	104	922	124	1,340	105
north-east	15	52	85	97	139	288	120	644	132	858	97
central	5	31	62	122	229	323	165	614	151	778	102
east	2	21	53	77	183	214	140	427	129	577	91
south-east	2	25	51	109	189	340	155	588	130	761	98
south-west	3	35	45	167	189	558	167	940	143	1,214	111
England	9	39	67	112	170	342	142	662	135	880	101

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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