

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 13 May to Tuesday 19 May 2026

1 Summary

It has been much wetter across the whole of the country compared with last week. Subsequently, river flows have increased at most of the river flow sites that we report on compared with the previous week.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been a much wetter week across the whole of the country particularly in northern, central and south-west England. Rainfall totals ranged from 33mm in north-west England to 15mm in east England (Table 1, Figure 2). Rainfall totals for the month of May to date ranged from 80% of the long-term average (LTA) in north-east England to 45% of the LTA in east England. For England as a whole, rainfall for the month to date was 64% of LTA. (Table 1).

1.2 River flows

River flows increased at the vast majority of sites (85%) that we report on compared with the previous week, with 44 sites (80%) classed as normal or higher for the time of year. One site, Austin's Bridge, on the river Dart (2%), was classed as notably high, 8 sites (15%) were classed as above normal, 35 sites (64%) were classed as normal, 9 sites (16%) were classed as below normal and 2 sites (4%) were classed as notably low for the time of year. (Figure 3.1).

1.3 Outlook

Thursday will see sunny spells for much of the country although northern England will have some scattered showers. Friday will be sunny as temperatures are set to increase, feeling much warmer across the whole of the country. The sunny, dry conditions will continue over the weekend and into Monday and Tuesday feeling particularly warm in south-east England.

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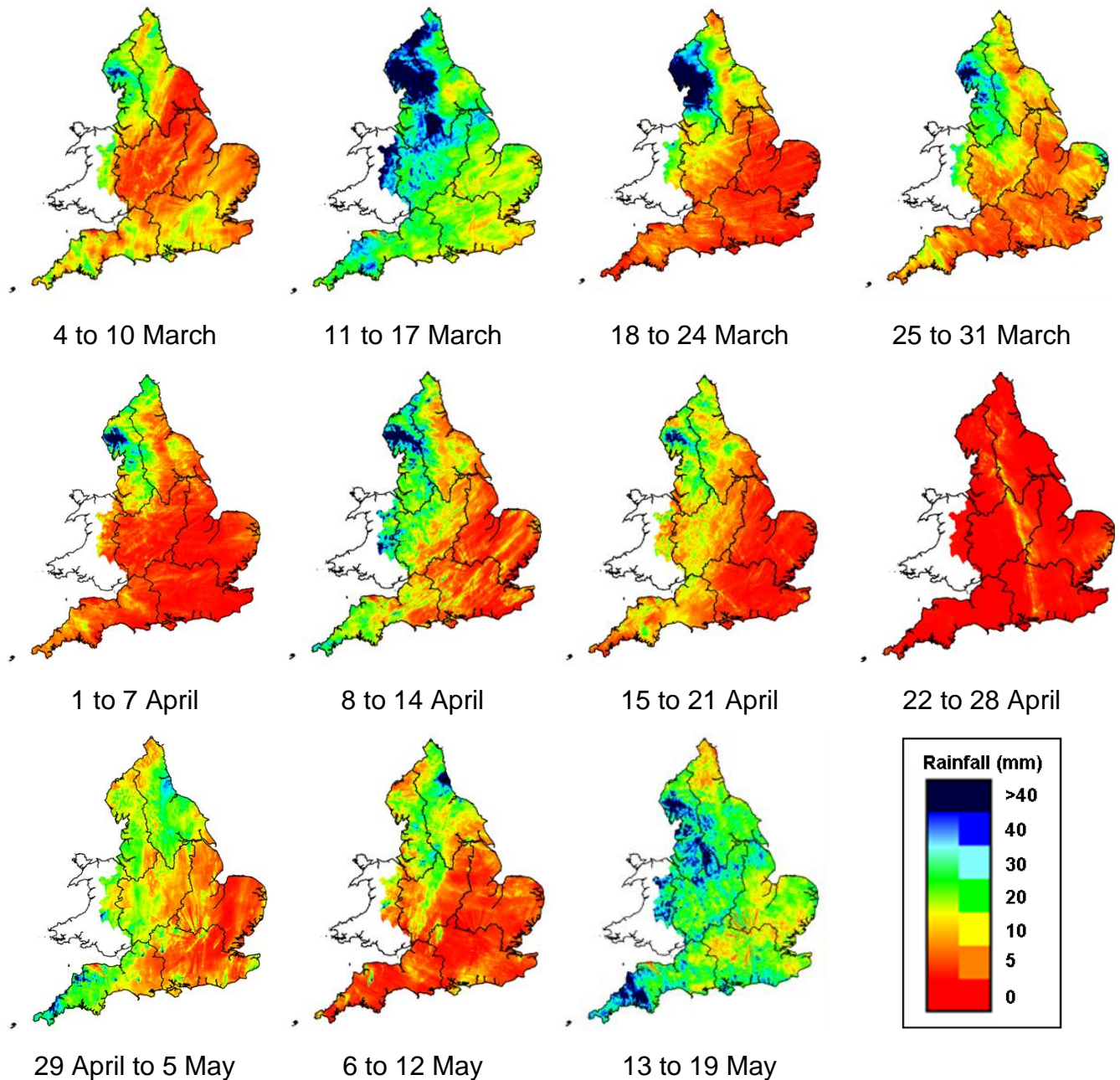
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2026)

Geographic regions	13 to 19 May 2026 total rainfall (mm)	May 2026 to date total rainfall (mm)	May 2026 to date rainfall % of LTA	Apr 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Apr 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Feb to Apr 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Feb to Apr 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Nov 2025 to Apr 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Nov 2025 to Apr 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months May 2025 to Apr 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months May 2025 to Apr 2026 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	33	56	76	55	78	292	110	774	116	1,462	115
north-east	23	44	80	28	47	184	98	532	118	909	103
central	25	39	68	20	38	181	115	521	140	803	105
east	15	21	45	5	12	107	87	351	118	580	92
south-east	18	27	52	8	16	146	92	465	114	766	99
south-west	24	41	63	27	39	243	103	792	131	1,204	110
England	22	36	64	21	38	182	101	549	123	907	104

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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