

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 19 August to Tuesday 25 August 2026

1 Summary

For much of England there has been some rainfall this week, but it still remains very dry in south-east England. River flows decreased at over half of sites we report on, and most sites are classed as below normal or lower for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

For much of England there has been some rainfall this week, but it still remains very dry in south-east England. (Table 1 and Figure 2). Rainfall totals range from 6mm in south-east and south-west England, to 23mm in the north-east. Rainfall totals for August to date, range from 15% of the long term average (LTA) for south-east England to 59% in north-west England. For England as a whole, the rainfall total for August to date is 34% of the LTA (Table 1).

1.2 River flows

River flows decreased at 58% of the sites we report on when compared to the previous week. Four sites (7% of the total) were classed as normal. Nineteen sites (35%) were classed as below normal and a further 21 sites (39%) were notably low. Ten sites (19%) were classed as exceptionally low for the time of year (Figure 3.1).

1.3 Outlook

On Thursday bands of heavy rain and thunderstorms will slowly move northwards across England, with sunnier skies following from the south-east. From Friday to Sunday low pressure systems will continue to bring rain and heavy showers across many areas. Temperatures trending nearer to average, but feeling warm in the sunnier moments.

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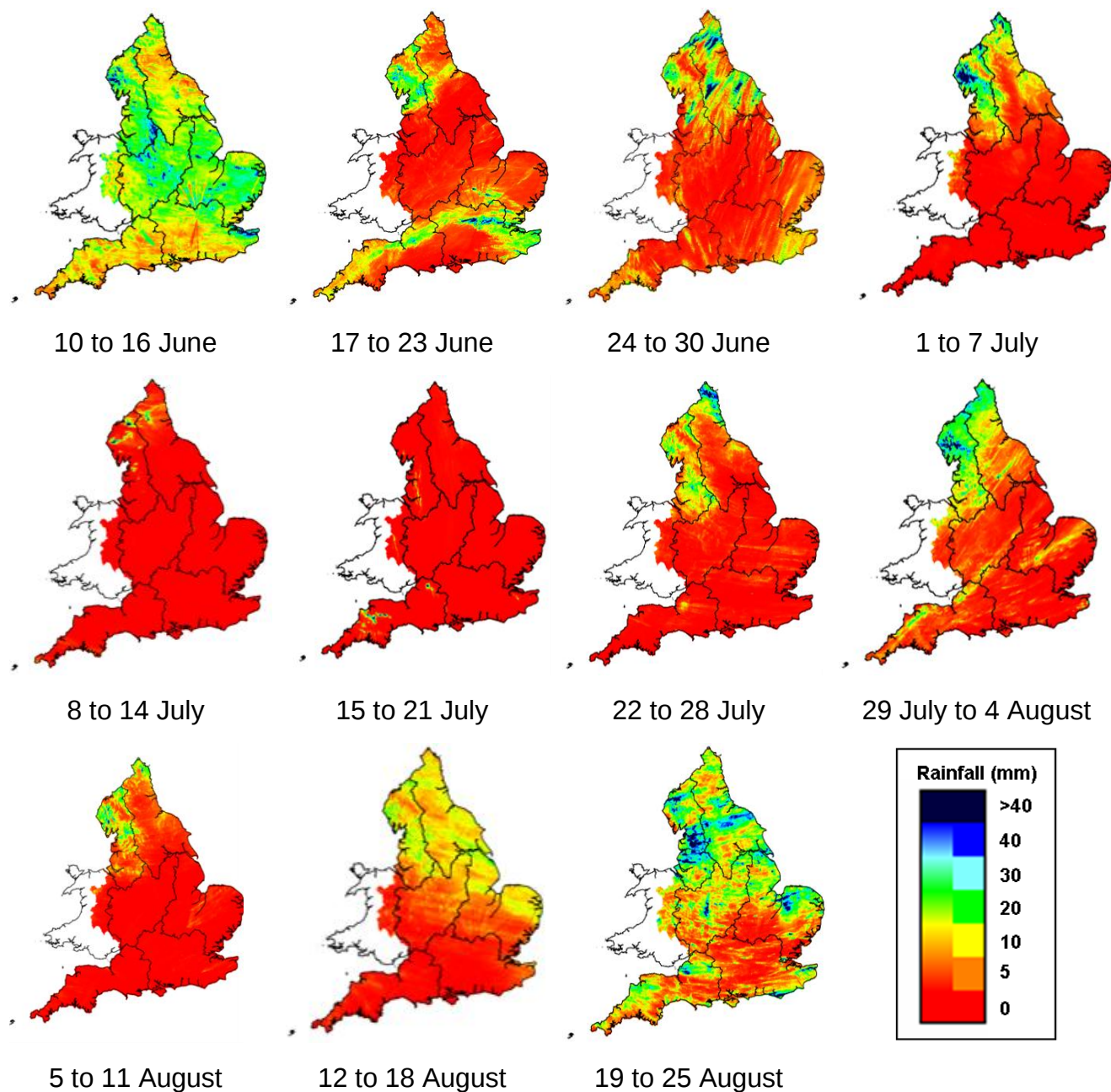
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2026)

Geographic regions	19 to 25 Aug 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Aug 2026 to date total rainfall (mm)	Aug 2026 to date rainfall % of LTA	Jul 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Jul 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months May to Jul 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months May to Jul 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Feb to Jul 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Feb to Jul 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months Aug 2025 to Jul 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months Aug 2025 to Jul 2026 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	17	54	49	26	26	203	79	495	95	1,362	107
north-east	23	47	59	13	19	130	65	314	81	885	100
central	8	13	20	2	3	103	56	284	83	796	104
east	14	21	34	2	3	74	47	181	64	549	87
south-east	6	9	15	1	1	99	63	245	77	755	98
south-west	6	17	20	4	5	130	63	373	85	1,194	109
England	12	25	34	7	10	117	62	299	81	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.

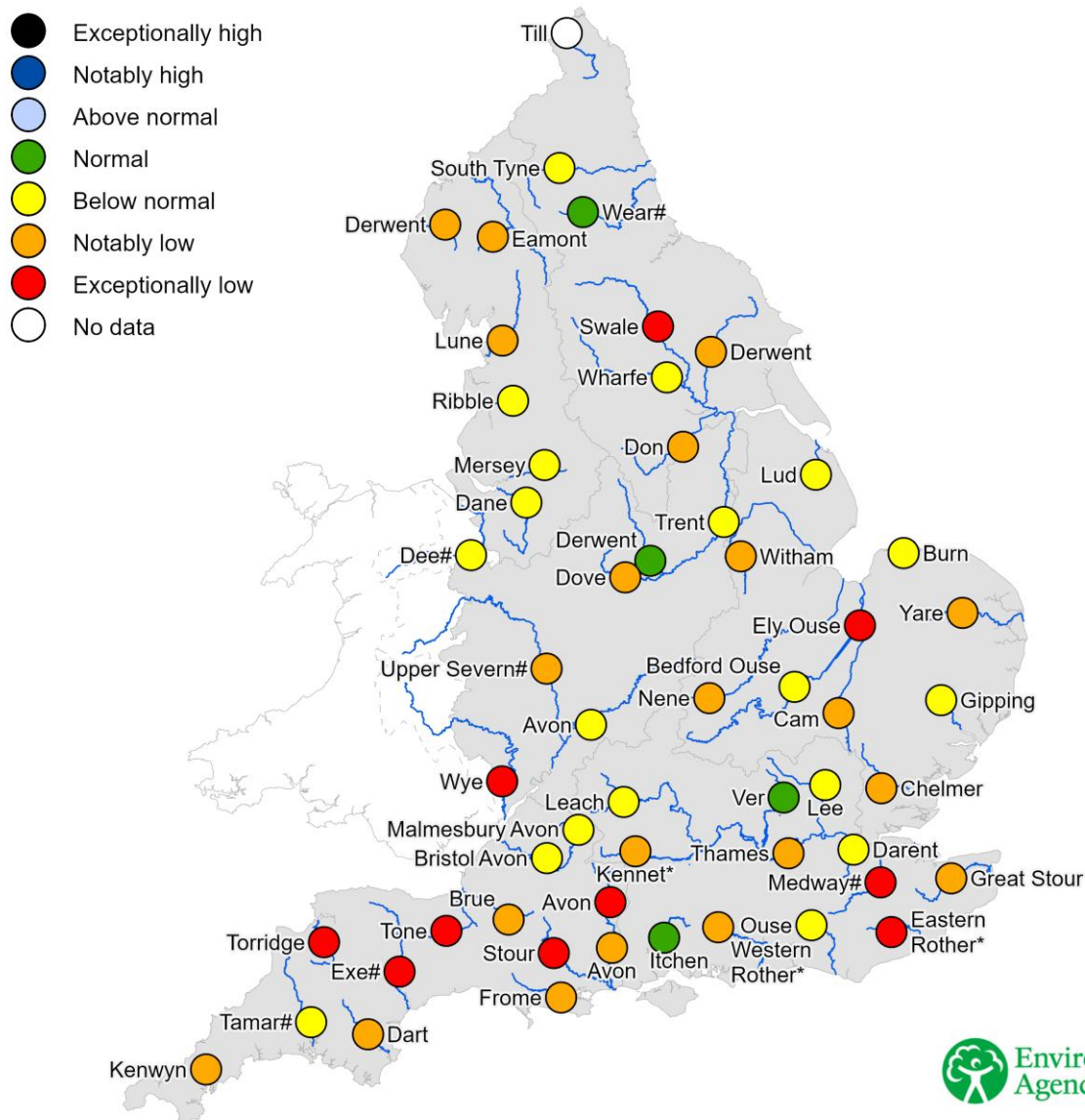


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3 River flows

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