Monthly water situation report: England

1 Summary - August 2026

August brought much needed rainfall to many parts of England, although all regions received rainfall below the August long term average (LTA). Rainfall in almost all hydrological areas was classed as normal or lower for the time of year. Soil moisture deficits (SMD) reduced modestly following the wet end to August, although all regions still have soils that are much drier than average for the time of year. Monthly mean river flows decreased at all sites, and all sites were classed as normal or lower for the time of year. Groundwater levels decreased as the expected seasonal decline continued, and most sites were classed as normal or lower at the end of August. Reservoir storage declined across all sites, and was 19.3% below average for the time of year for England as a whole at 58%.

1.1 Rainfall

During August, England received 58.5mm of rainfall, which represents 78% of the 1991 to 2020 LTA. Almost all hydrological areas received below average rainfall during August, with 23 in south-east and east England receiving less than 50% of the LTA. Above average totals were found in a band across the country between Liverpool and Hull. The wettest hydrological area by percentage of LTA was the Hull and Humber in north-east England, which received 143% of the LTA (96mm). The driest was in south-east England, where North London received just 26% of the LTA (14.9mm). Following an exceptionally dry July for many, 13 hydrological areas in east and south-east England recorded the driest July and August 2-month period since records began in 1871. (Figure 2.1 and 2.2)

Rainfall was classed as normal or lower in all except 4 hydrological areas in August, with these 4 classed as above normal. Sixty-three (45% of the total) were classed as normal for the time of year. Fifty-eight (42%) in southern and north-east England, and along the Welsh border were classed as below normal, and 11 (8%) were classed as notably low, all of which were in south-east England. Near London, The Cut, Lower Wey, and North London were all classed as exceptionally low for the time of year. (Figure 2.2)

The 3-month cumulative period was classed as below normal or lower for much of England, with just a handful of hydrological areas classed as normal for the period. Parts of east, central, south-west and north-east England had notably and exceptionally low totals in this period. Over the 6-month cumulative period, much of central, east and southern England was classed as exceptionally low. Elsewhere the period mainly saw below normal or notably low totals, although in north-west England rainfall was classed as normal or above normal. The 12-month cumulative period was mostly normal or higher in England, with just a handful of below normal or lower totals in east England. In the north-west and south-west, some hydrological areas had exceptionally high rainfall over the past 12 months. (Figure 2.2)

At a regional scale, rainfall totals for August were classed as normal across most of England, with below normal rainfall in south-east and south-west England. South-east England received

just 54% of LTA rainfall in August, meaning the July to August 2-month period was the driest on record since 1871 for the region. East England has now had below LTA rainfall every month since March, and within this it was the driest 5-month period for April to August since 1995. For England as a whole, rainfall was classed as normal for the time of year in August. (Figure 2.3)

Standardised precipitation index (SPI) results for August were near normal for most of England, with moderately or severely dry conditions around London where rainfall totals were lowest. Over the last 3 and 6-month periods, moderately to extremely dry conditions are more widespread, reflecting the extended periods of low rainfall across much of England. (Figure 2.4)

Standardised precipitation evapotranspiration index (SPEI) results for August were also near normal in much of northern and central England, and parts of east and south-west England. For much of southern England, SPEI results were moderately or severely dry, with some extremely dry conditions around London and the Home Counties. Following a summer of hot and extended periods of dry weather for many, the last 3 and 6-month periods were largely severely dry for England, with widespread extremely dry conditions across southern England over the 6-month period. (Figure 2.5)

1.2 Soil moisture deficit

Rainfall in the last week of the month allowed SMD to decrease quickly across England at the end of August. SMD remains high across England, with the driest soils in south-east England. (Figure 3.1)

At the end of August, soils were much drier than average across much of England, with particularly dry soils in south-west England and along the Welsh border. In east England, some areas have deficits close to average for the time of year. Around the Humber estuary soils are now slightly wetter than would be expected following above average rainfall in August. (Figure 3.2)

1.3 River flows

Monthly mean river flows decreased at three-quarters of indicator sites that we report on in August. All sites were classed as normal or lower for the time of year, with more than half classed as notably or exceptionally low. Seven sites were classed as normal for the time of year, many of which were in central England. Seventeen sites across England were classed as below normal and 12 were classed as notably low. Nineteen sites were classed as exceptionally low for the time of year, with all regions having sites in this class. The River Wye at Redbrook in south Wales recorded the lowest August monthly mean flow since records began in 1969. (Figure 4.1)

All regional sites had monthly mean river flows classed as below normal or lower for the time of year. The Bedford Ouse in east England and the River Dove in central England were both classed as below normal in August. The South Tyne in the north-east was the only regional site to see an increase in monthly mean river flows in August, however it was classed as

notably low despite this increase. The River Exe in south-west England and the Great Stour in the south-east were also classed as notably low for the time of year. The River Lune in north-west England was classed as exceptionally low for the time of year, as were the naturalised flows of the River Thames in south-east England. (Figure 4.2)

1.4 Groundwater levels

At the end of August, groundwater levels had decreased at almost all of the indicator sites we report on as the expected seasonal decline in groundwater resources continues. The majority of sites were classed as normal or lower for the time of year. Eleven sites (42% of the total) were classed as normal for the time of year and 7 (27%) were classed as below normal. One site (4%) was notably low, and two (8%) were classed as exceptionally low for the time of year, including Tilshead in the Upper Hampshire Avon Chalk in south-west England. In central and north-west England, a handful of sites were at the other end of the scale with 2 sites (8%) classed as above normal and 2 (8%) classed as notably high for the time of year. Coxmoor in central England recorded the highest end of August level since records began in 1990 and was classed as exceptionally high, as the impact of a wet winter continues to be felt in the slow responding Idle Torne Sandstone aquifer. (Figure 5.1)

All major aquifer index sites recorded a decrease in groundwater levels at the end of August. Weir Farm in the Bridgnorth Sandstone in central England was classed as above normal for the time of year. In the Carlisle Basin and Eden Valley Sandstone in the north-west, Skirwith was classed as below normal for the time of year. Jackaments Bottom in the Burford Jurassic Limestone in south-east England was classed as exceptionally low for the time of year. Chalk aquifer sites were mixed at the end of August. In east and south-east England, Redlands Hall (Cam and Ely Ouse Chalk), Little Bucket (East Kent Stour Chalk) and Stonor Park (South West Chilterns Chalk) were all classed as normal. Dalton Estate in the Hull and East Riding Chalk in north-east England was below normal for the time of year. Chilgrove in the Chichester Chalk of south-east England was classed as notably low for August. (Figure 5.2)

1.5 Reservoir storage

At the end of August, reservoir storage had decreased at all of the reservoirs or reservoir groups that we report on, with all except 4 recording a decrease of 10% or more. The largest decrease was recorded at Ardingly in south-east England where storage fell by 28%. Eleven reservoirs or reservoir groups have storage at or below 50%. Vyrnwy in Wales was the only reservoir to be classed as normal for the time of year, with all others classed as below normal or lower. Seven reservoirs were classed as below normal, and 14 were classed as notably low. Nine reservoirs were classed as exceptionally low, from Haweswater and Thirlmere in north-west England, to Wimbleball in the south-west. (Figure 6.1)

Regional reservoir stocks decreased across England, with storage in central England falling by 15% to the end of August. Storage is below average for the time of year in all regions, and in east England it was near the historic minimum for the time of year. For England as a whole, storage was 58%, which is 19.3% below the LTA for the time of year, although it remains slightly higher than the same time in 2025. (Figure 6.2)

1.6 Forward look

September has had a relatively wet start, with England receiving a third of the average rainfall for September in the first 8 days of the month. Conditions are expected to remain changeable through the middle of the month, with rain and showers moving in from the Atlantic. Rainfall will be most frequent in the north-west, with the south and east remaining drier. Later in September, high pressure is expected to dominate, bringing more settled conditions across England. High pressure and settled conditions are likely to remain to the end of the month.

For the 3-month period from September to November, conditions are more likely to be wet for the UK, with the latter part most likely to be wet. The chance of a warm autumn is higher than normal for the UK. Later in the period, the chance of rain and wind related impacts becomes slightly higher than normal.

1.7 Projections for river flows at key sites

By the end of September 2026, river flows have the highest chance of being below normal or lower across almost all of England, except in the south-east where river flows have a higher than average chance of being normal for the time of year.

By the end of March 2027, river flows in most regions of England have the highest chance of being below normal or lower, especially in east, central and north-west England. The exception is south-east England, where normal flows are more likely.

For scenario based projections of cumulative river flows at key sites by September 2026 see Figure 7.1.

For scenario based projections of cumulative river flows at key sites by March 2027 see Figure 7.2.

For probabilistic ensemble projections of cumulative river flows at key sites by September 2026 see Figure 7.3.

For probabilistic ensemble projections of cumulative river flows at key sites by March 2027 see Figure 7.4

1.8 Projections for groundwater levels in key aquifers

By the end of September 2026, groundwater levels in central England have a higher than average chance of being above normal or higher. In south-east, north-east, and east England, groundwater levels are projected to have the highest chance of being normal for the time of year. In south-west and north-west England, groundwater levels have the highest chance of being below normal or lower.

By the end of March 2027, groundwater levels in central and south-west England have the highest chance of being normal but in the north-east, levels are projected to be above normal or higher. In the north-west groundwater levels have the highest chance of being below normal or lower and in south-east and east England this chance of low levels is higher than average.

For scenario based projections of groundwater levels in key aquifers in September 2026 see Figure 7.5.

For scenario based projections of groundwater levels in key aquifers in March 2027 see Figure 7.6.

For probabilistic ensemble projections of groundwater levels in key aquifers in September 2026 see Figure 7.7.

For probabilistic ensemble projections of groundwater levels in key aquifers in March 2027 see Figure 7.8.

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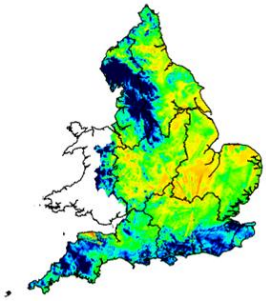
2 Rainfall

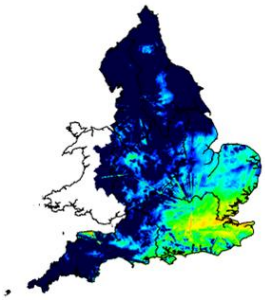
2.1 Rainfall map

Figure 2.1: Monthly rainfall across England and Wales for the past 11 months. UKPP radar data Note: Radar beam blockages in some regions may give anomalous totals in some areas.

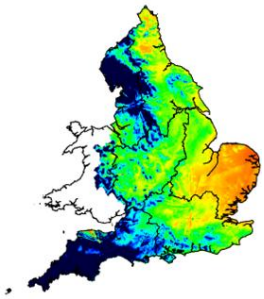
October 2025



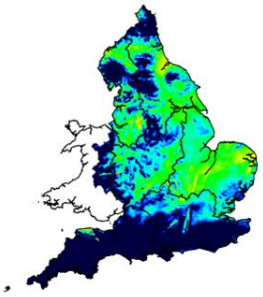
November 2025



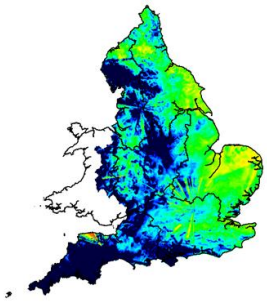
December 2025



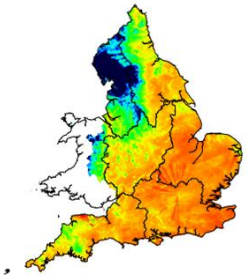
January 2026



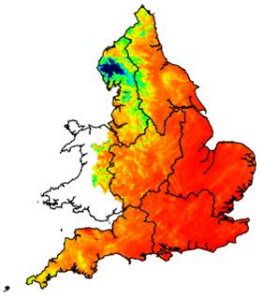
February 2026



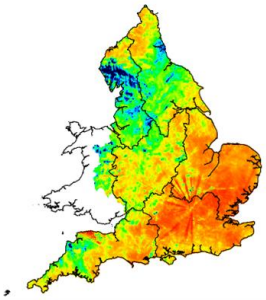
March 2026



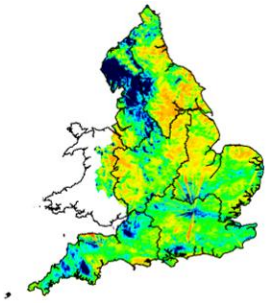
April 2026



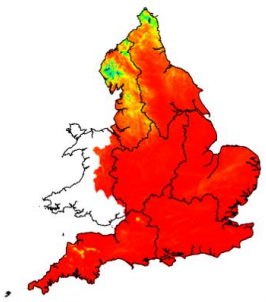
May 2026



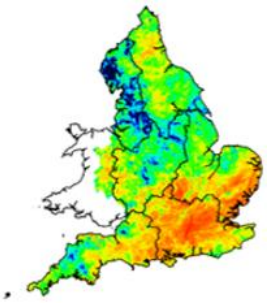
June 2026



July 2026



August 2026



Map Legend

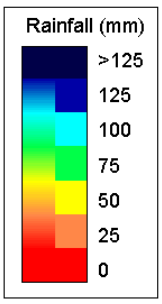
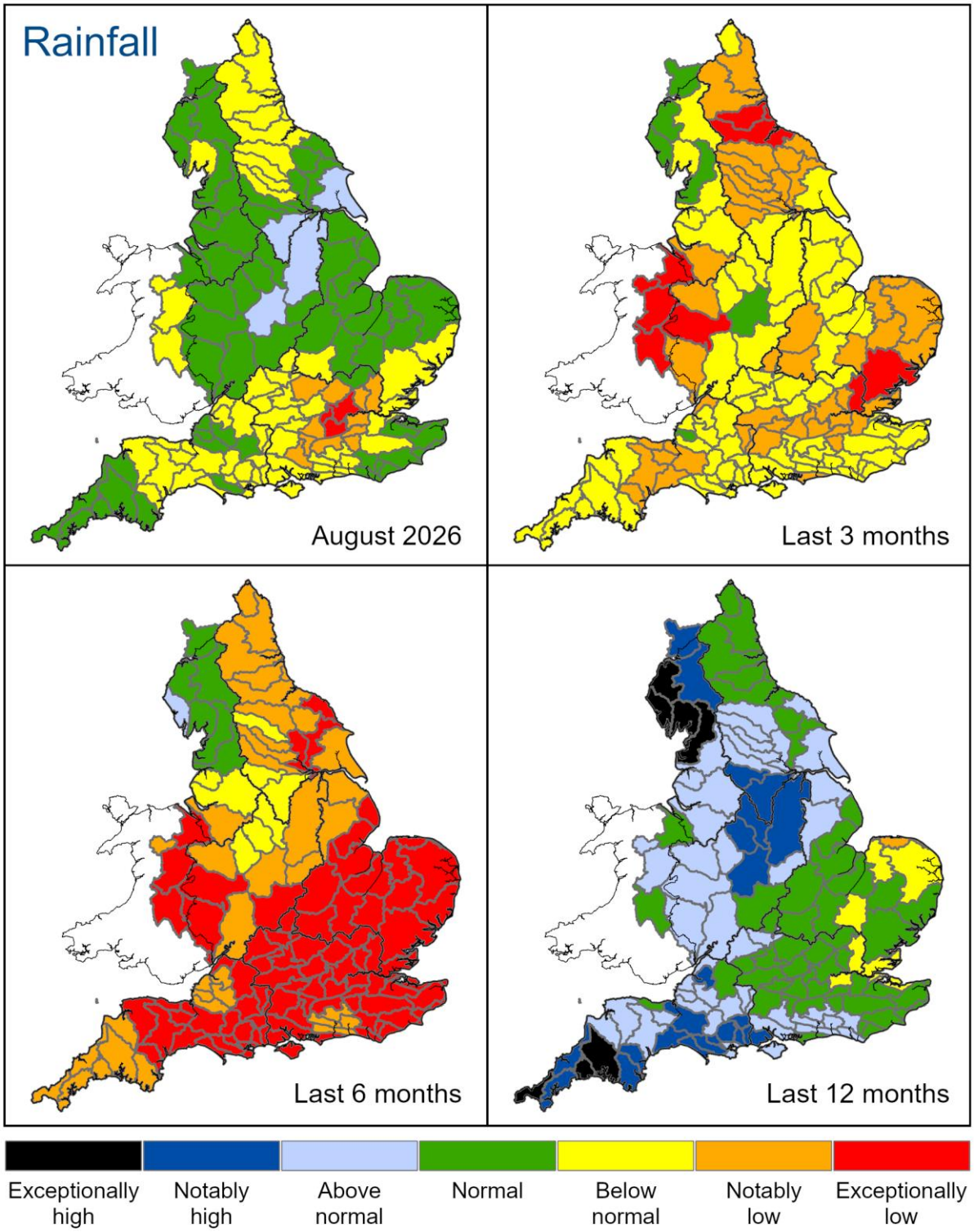


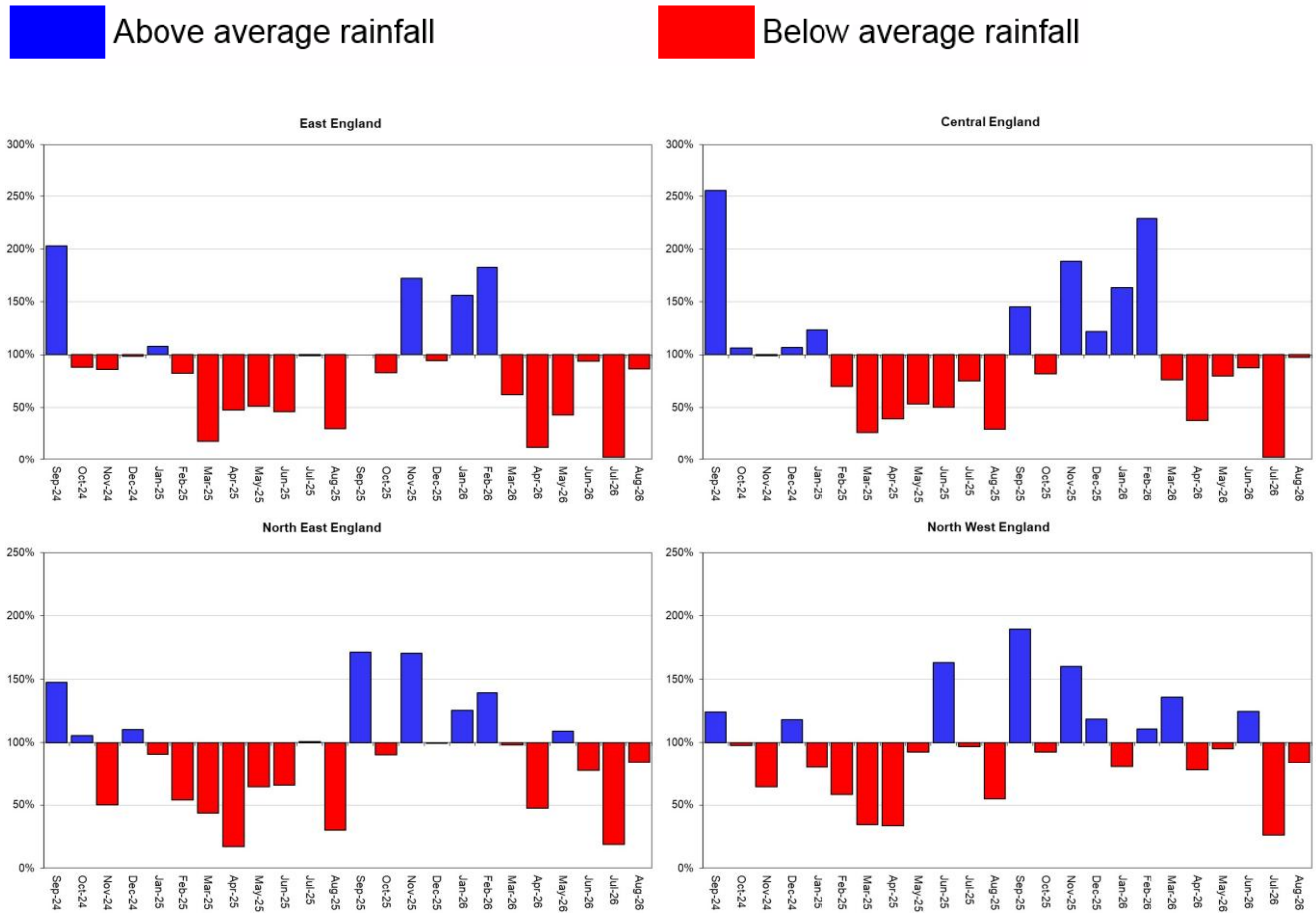
Figure 2.2: Total rainfall for hydrological areas across England for the current month (up to 31 August 2026), the last 3 months, the last 6 months, and the last 12 months, classed relative to an analysis of respective historic totals.

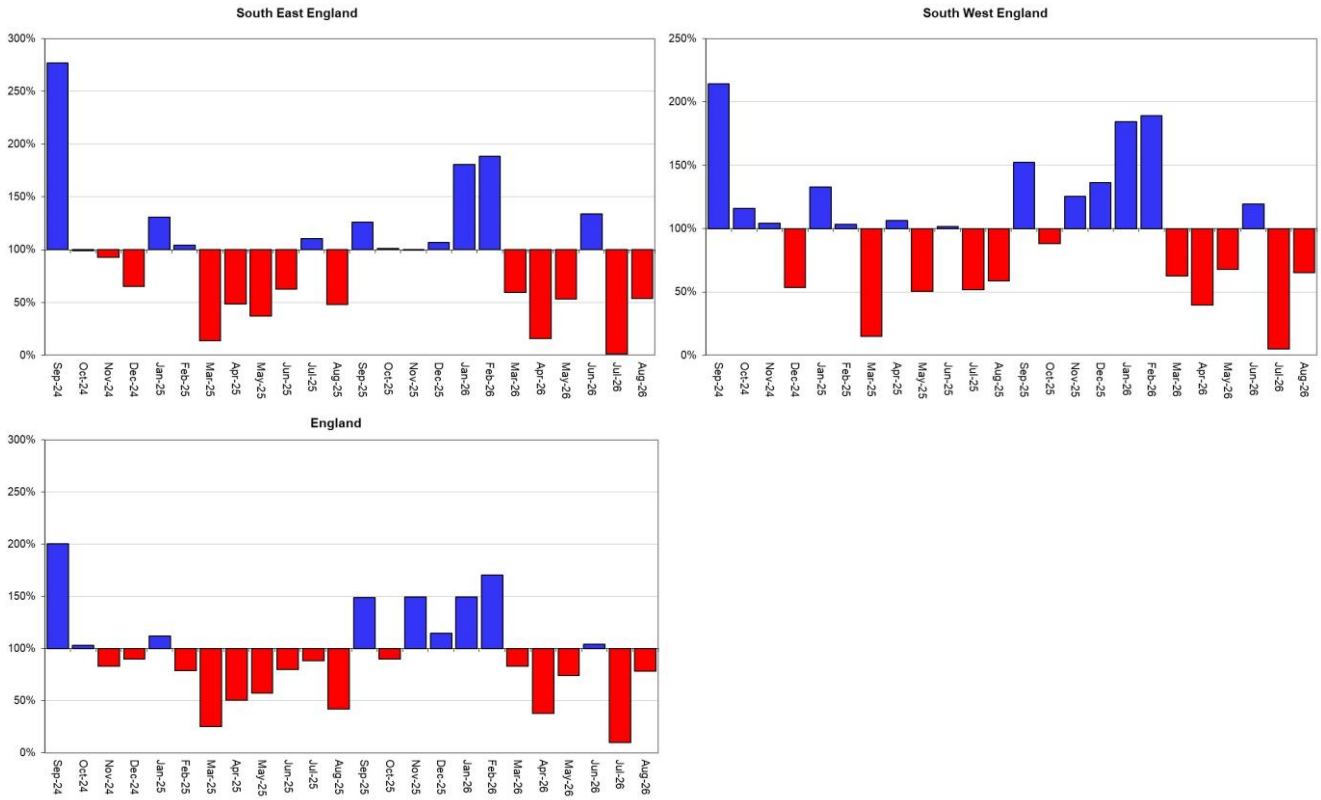


Rainfall data for Jan 2025 onwards, extracted from Environment Agency 1km gridded rainfall dataset derived from Environment Agency intensity rain gauges. (Source: Environment Agency. Crown Copyright, AC0000807064, 2026). Rainfall data prior to Jan 2025, extracted from Met Office HadUK 1km gridded rainfall dataset derived from registered rain gauges (Source: Met Office. Crown copyright, 2026).

2.2 Rainfall charts

Figure 2.3: Monthly rainfall totals for the past 24 months as a percentage of the 1991 to 2020 long term average for each region and for England.





Rainfall data for Jan 2025 onwards, extracted from Environment Agency 1km gridded rainfall dataset derived from Environment Agency intensity rain gauges. (Source: Environment Agency. Crown Copyright, 2026). Rainfall data prior to Jan 2025, extracted from Met Office HadUK 1km gridded rainfall dataset derived from registered rain gauges (Source: Met Office. Crown copyright, 2026).

2.3 Standardised drought indices

Figure 2.4: Standardised precipitation index (SPI) for hydrological areas across England for the current month (up to 31 August 2026), the last 3 months, the last 6 months, and the last 12 months, classed relative to an analysis of respective historic totals since 1871. Negative values indicate rainfall is lower than normal, while positive values are higher than normal. Extreme conditions are indicated by values greater than plus or minus 2.

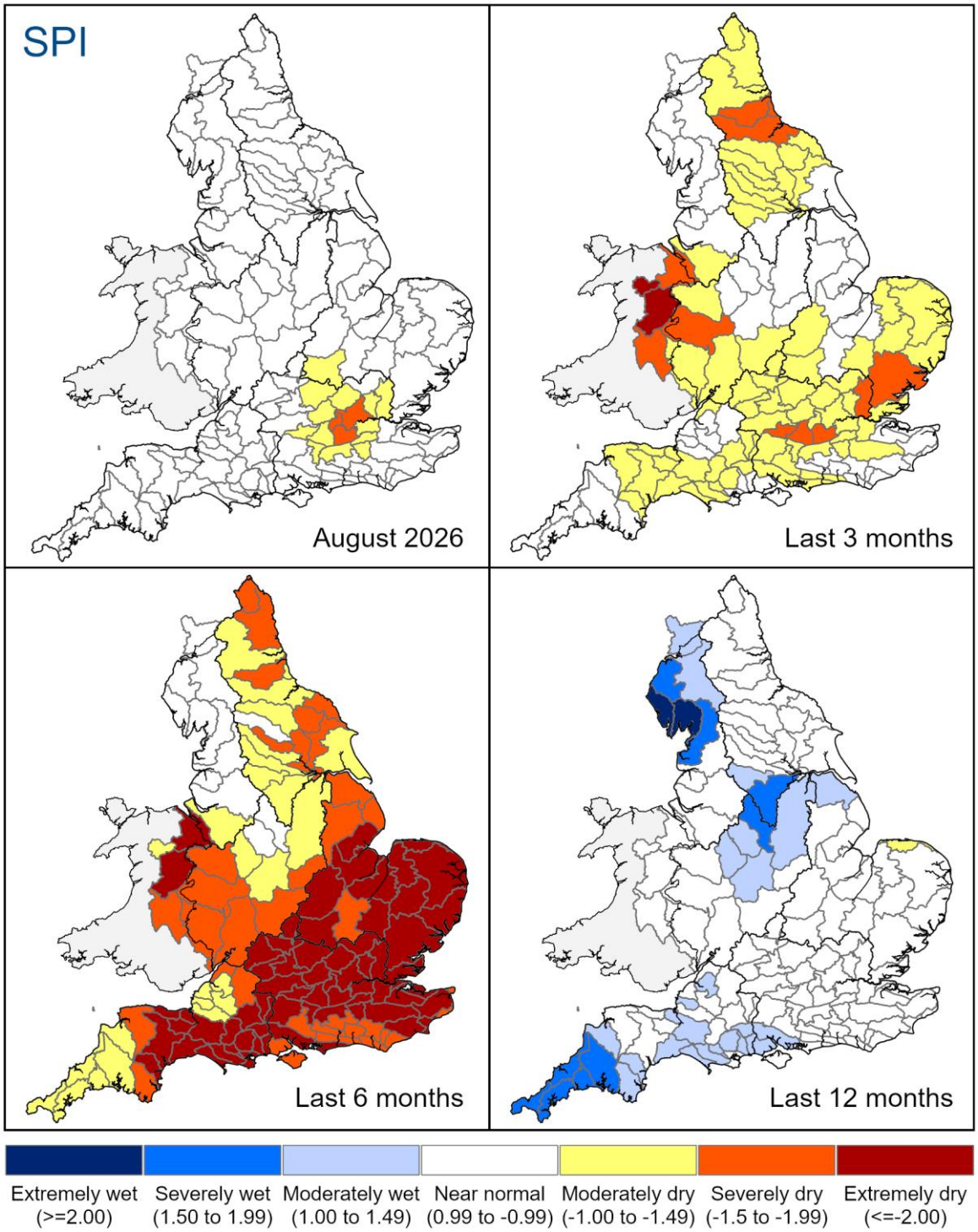
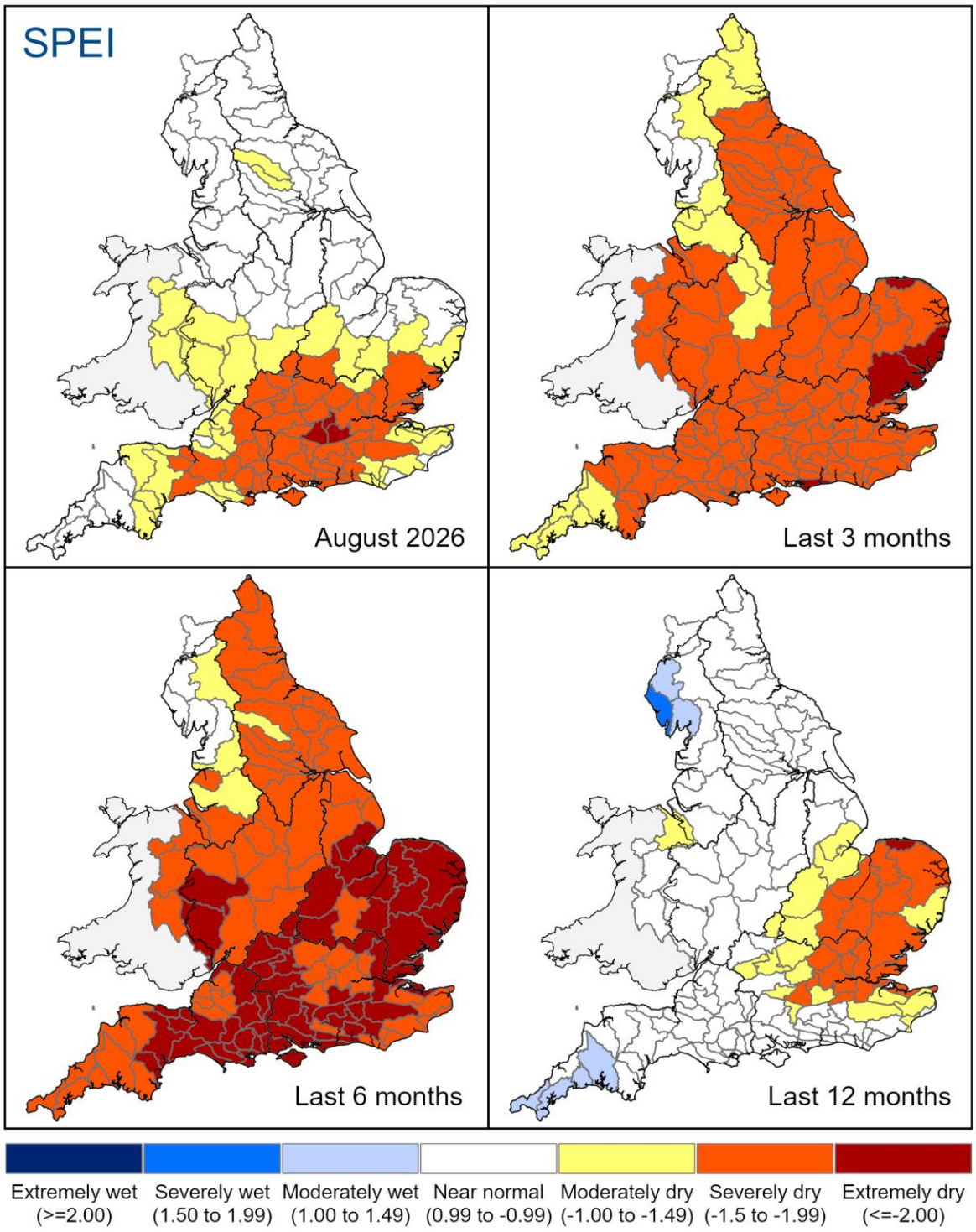


Figure 2.5: Standardised precipitation evapotranspiration index (SPEI) for hydrological areas across England for the current month (up to 31 August 2026), the last 3 months, the last 6 months, and the last 12 months, classed relative to an analysis of respective historic totals since 1961. Negative values indicate rainfall is lower than normal, while positive values are higher than normal. Extreme conditions are indicated by values greater than plus or minus 2.



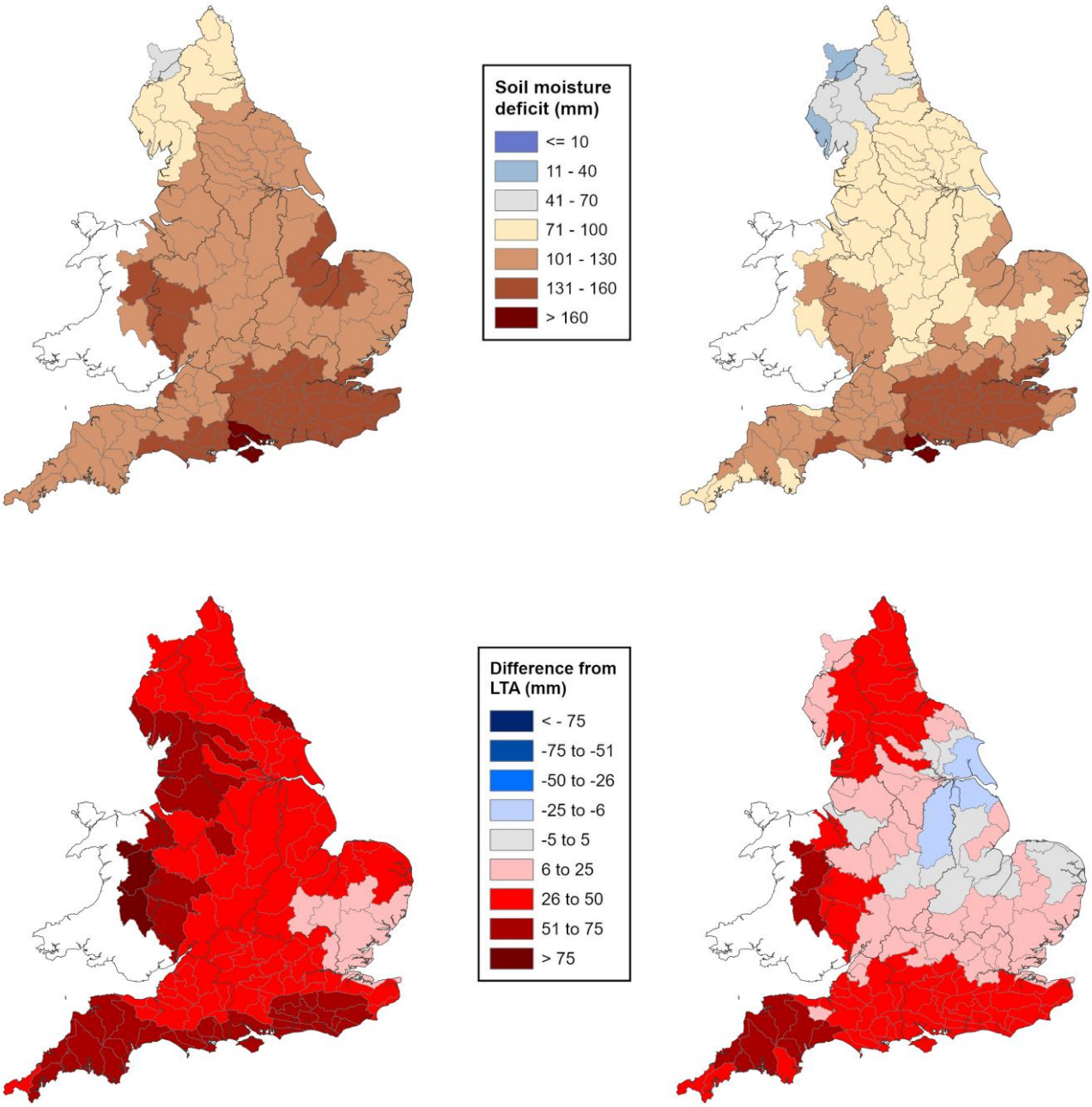
3 Soil moisture deficit

3.1 Soil moisture deficit map

Figure 3.1: Soil moisture deficits for weeks ending, 29 July 2026 (left panel) and 02 September 2026 (right panel). Top row shows actual soil moisture deficits (mm) and bottom row shows the difference (mm) of the actual from the 1991 to 2020 long term average soil moisture deficits. Calculated from MORECS data for real land use.

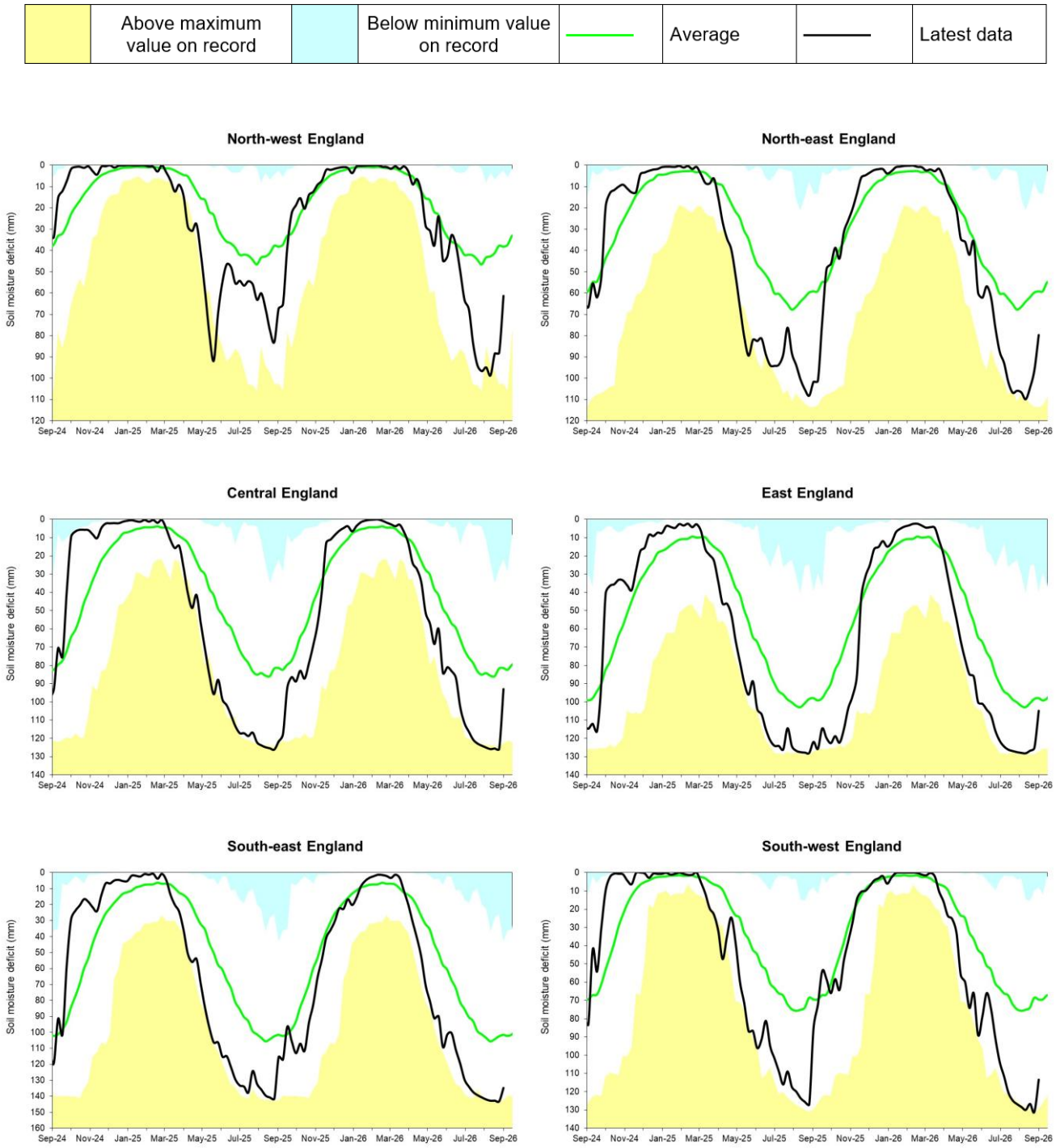
End of July 2026

End of August 2026



3.2 Soil moisture deficit charts

Figure 3.2: Latest soil moisture deficits for all geographic regions compared to 1991 to 2020 long term average, and historic maximums and minimums (1961 to 2022). Weekly MORECS data for real land use.



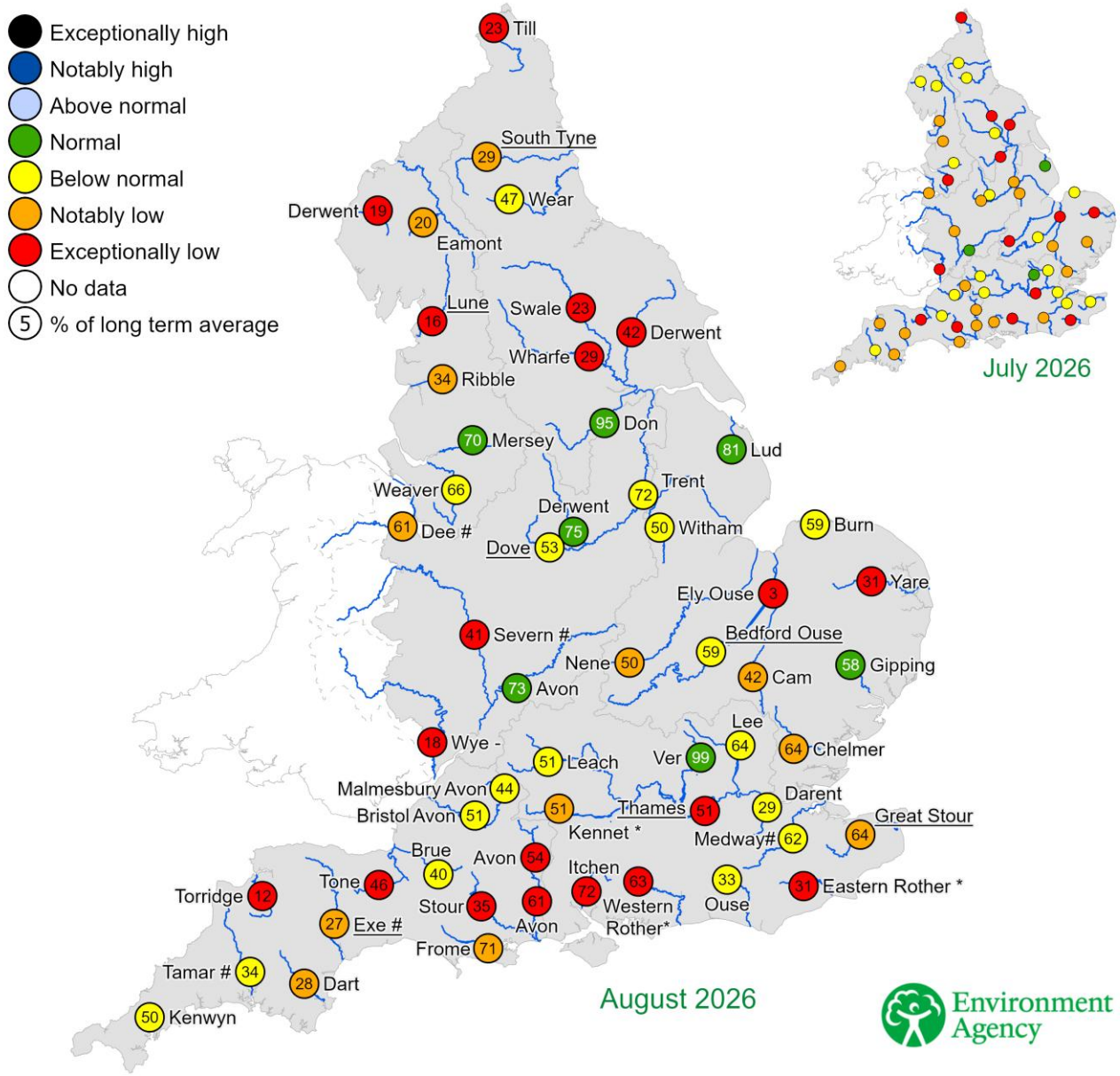
(Source: Met Office. Crown copyright, 2026).

4 River flows

4.1 River flow map

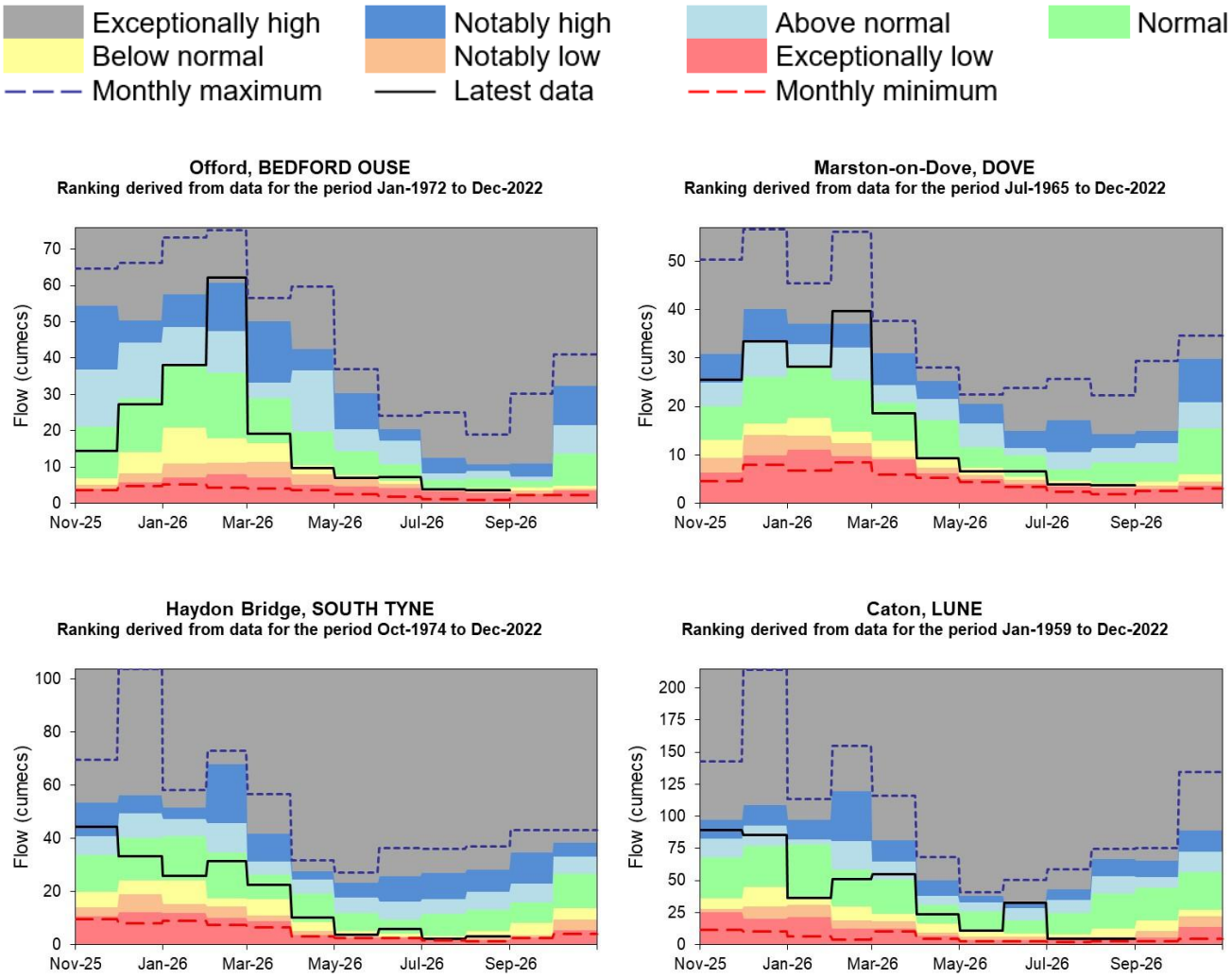
Figure 4.1: Monthly mean river flow for indicator sites for July 2026 and August 2026, expressed as a percentage of the respective long term average and classed relative to an analysis of historic July and August monthly means. Table available in the appendices with detailed information. Regional index sites are underlined and shown in the hydrographs in Figure 4.2.

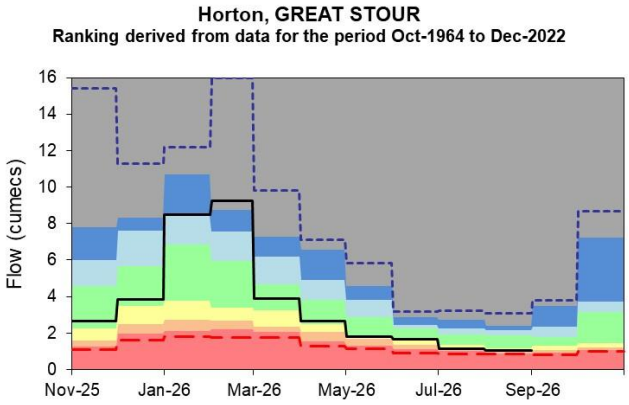
Naturalised flows are provided for the River Thames and the River Lee. +/- Monthly mean flow is the highest/lowest on record for the current month (note that record length varies between sites). *Flows may be overestimated at these sites – data should be treated with caution.
Flows may be impacted at these sites by water releases from upstream reservoirs.

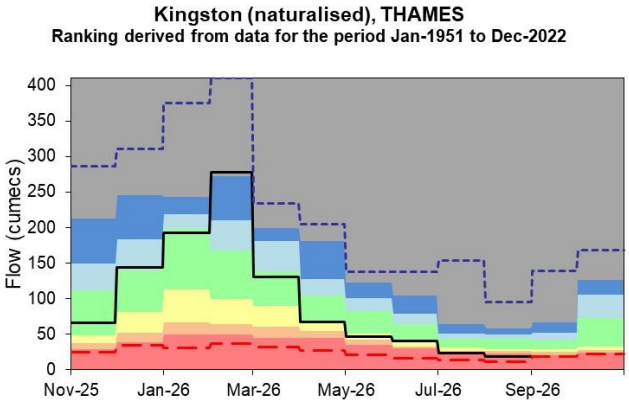


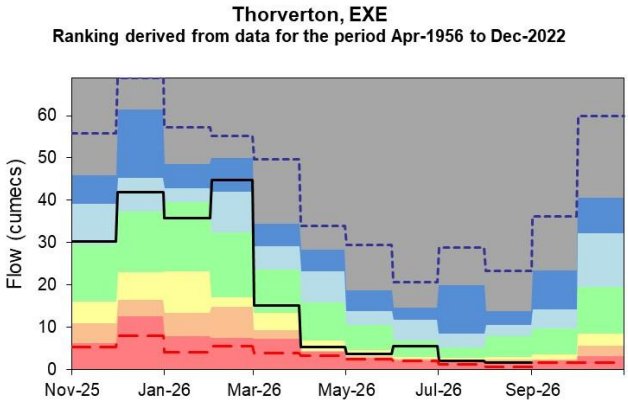
4.2 River flow charts

Figure 4.2: Monthly mean river flow for index sites over the past year for each geographic region, compared to an analysis of historic monthly mean flows, and long term maximum and minimum flows.









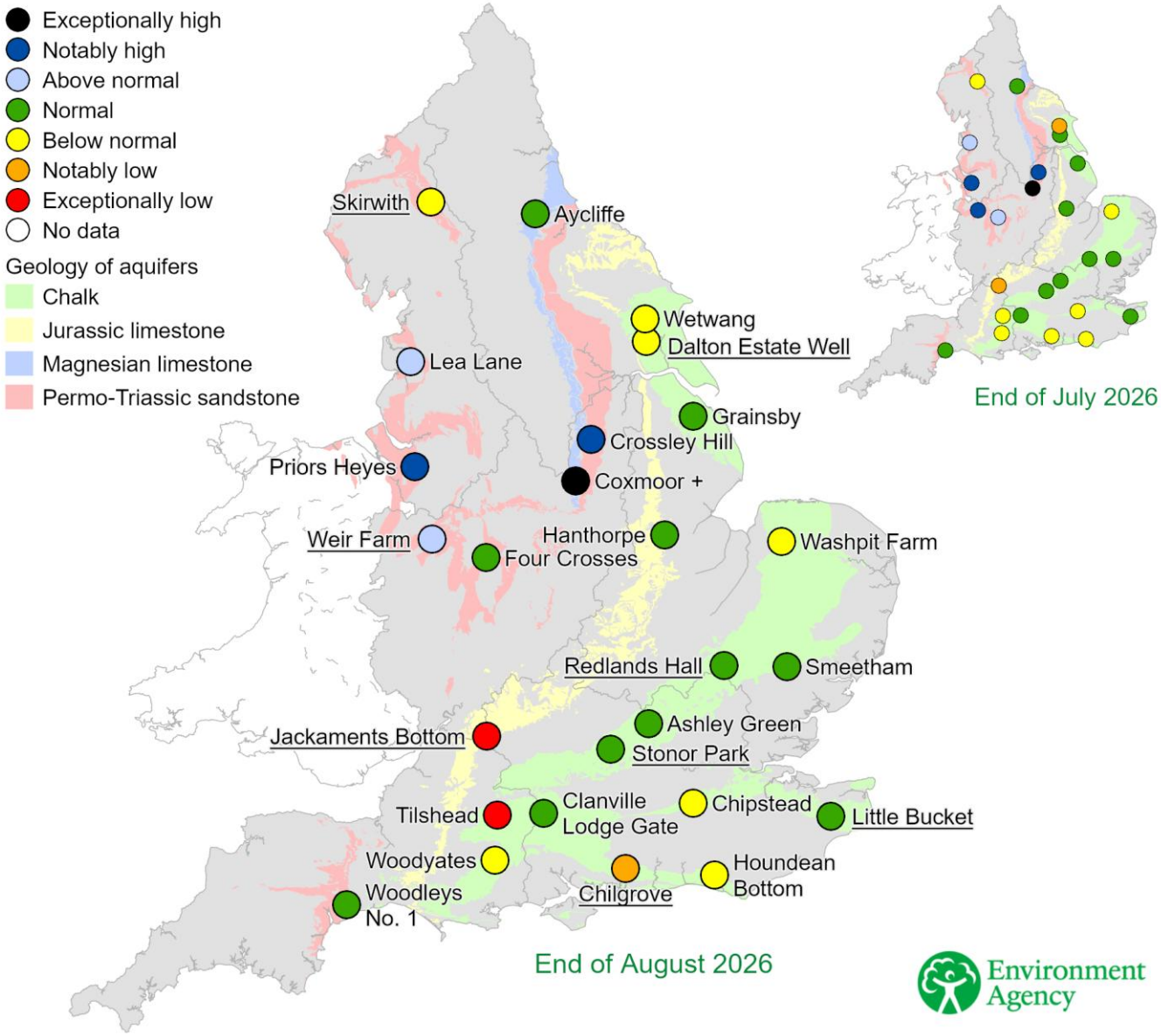
(Source: Environment Agency).

5 Groundwater levels

5.1 Groundwater levels map

Figure 5.1: Groundwater levels for indicator sites at the end of July 2026 and August 2026, classed relative to an analysis of respective historic July and August levels. Major aquifer index sites are underlined and shown in groundwater level charts in Figure 5.2.

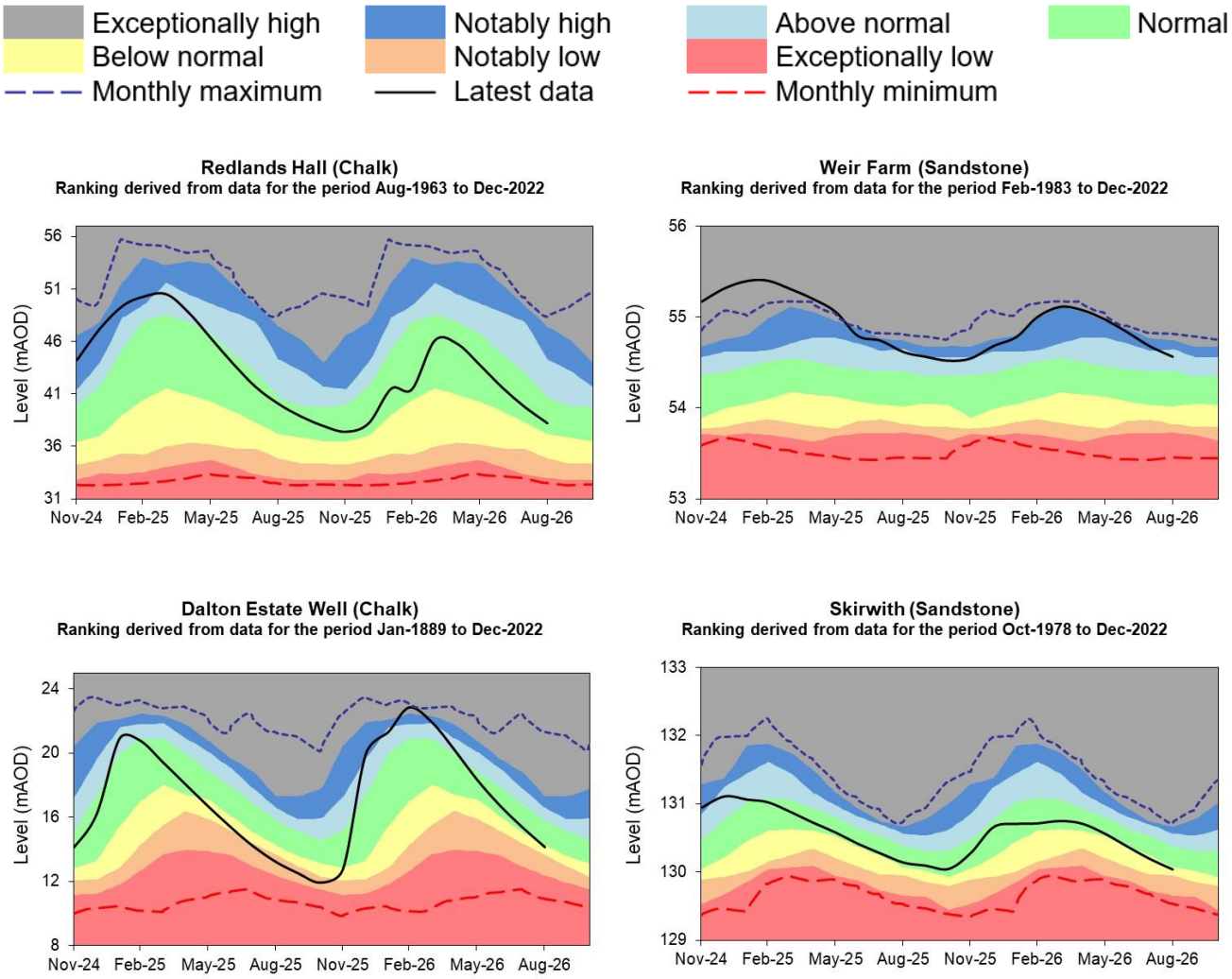
Levels at Priors Heyes remain high compared to historic levels because the aquifer is recovering from the effects of historic abstraction. +/- End of month groundwater level is the highest/lowest on record for the current month (note that record length varies between sites).

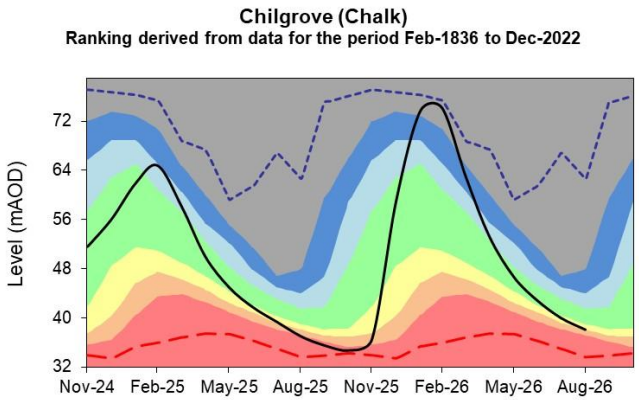


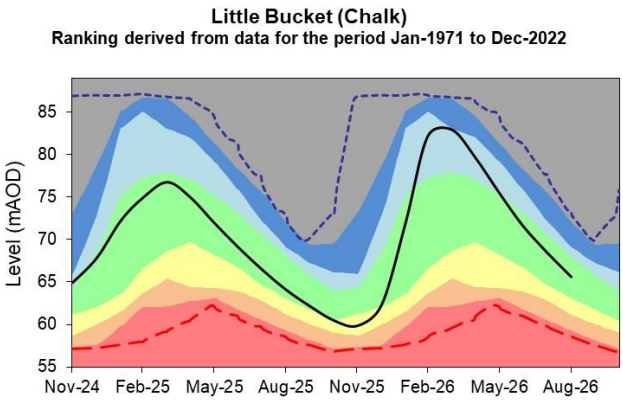
(Source: Environment Agency). Geological map reproduced with kind permission from UK Groundwater Forum, BGS copyright NERC. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, AC0000807064, 2026.

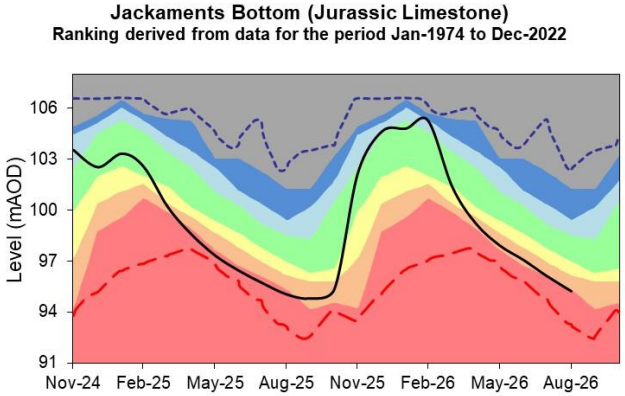
5.2 Groundwater level charts

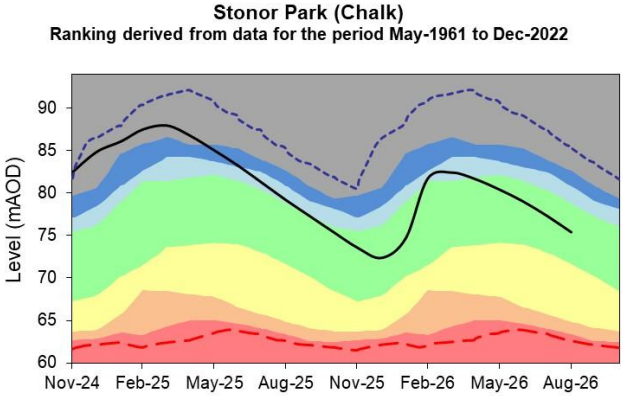
Figure 5.2: End of month groundwater levels at index groundwater level sites for major aquifers. Past 22 months compared to an analysis of historic end of month levels and long term maximum and minimum levels.









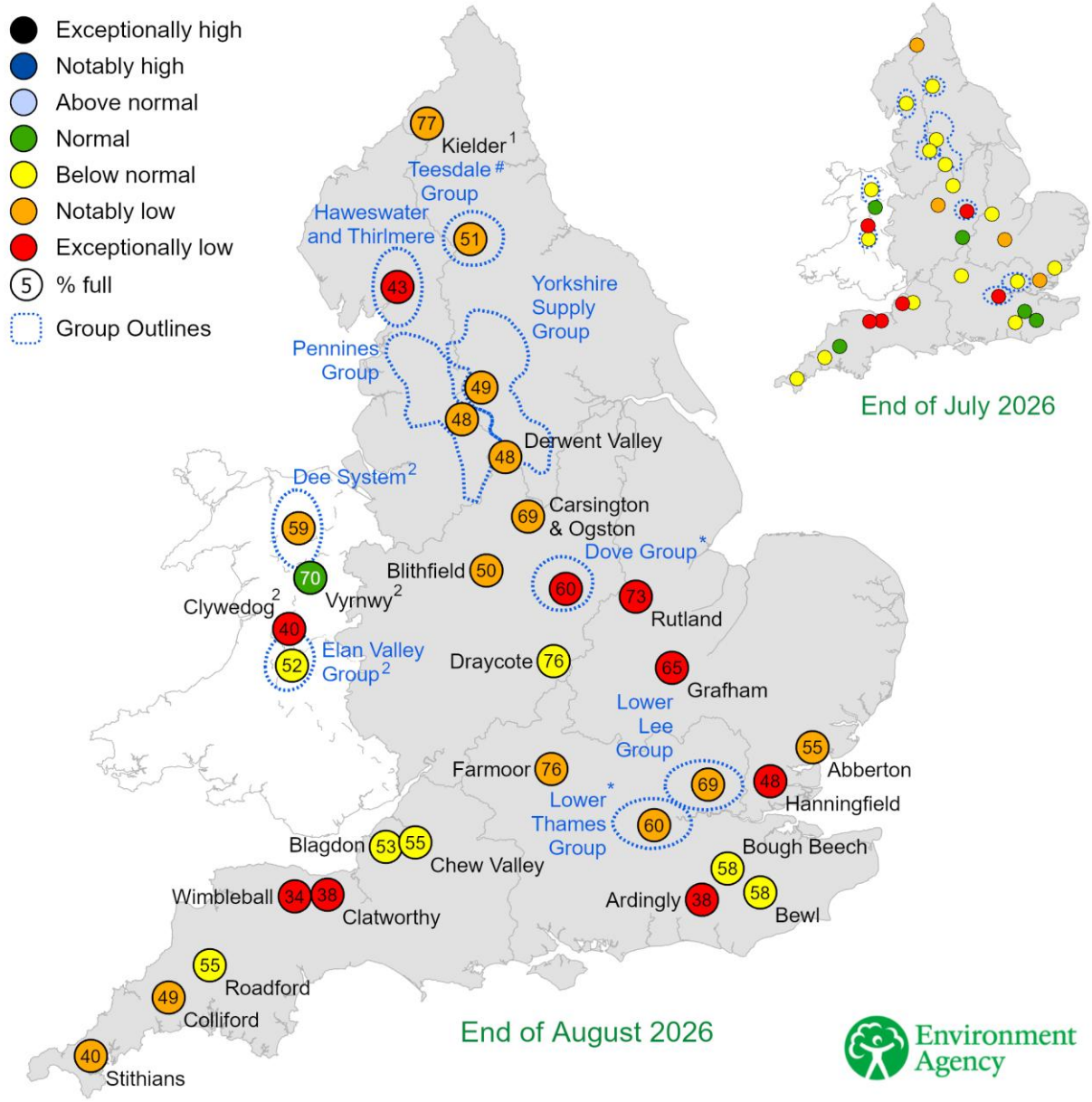


(Source: Environment Agency, 2026)

6 Reservoir storage

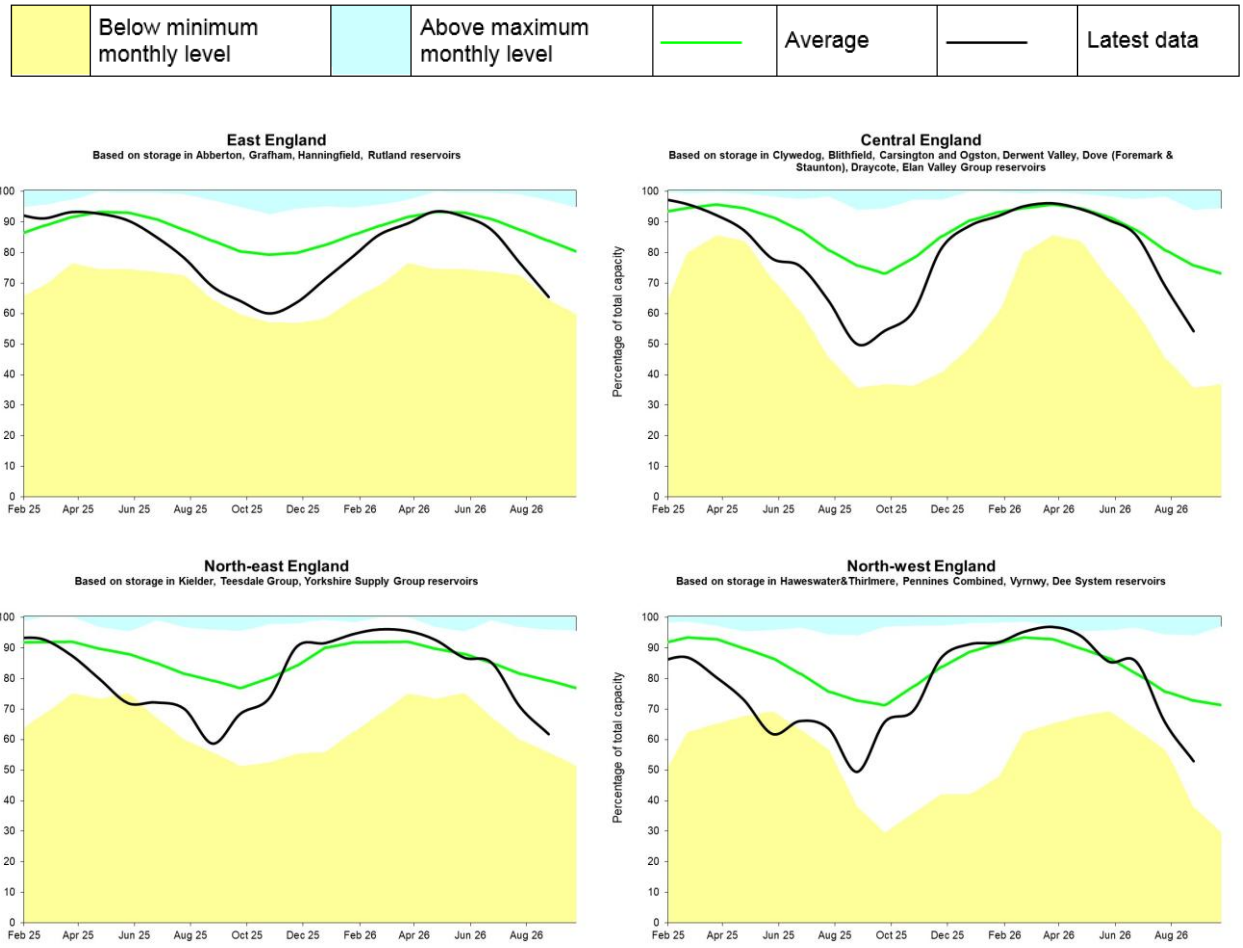
6.1 Reservoir storage map

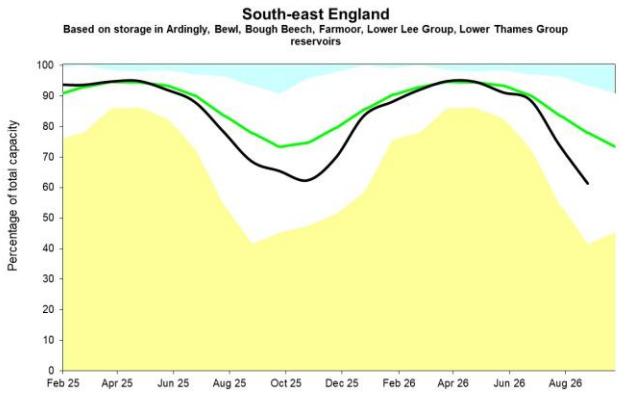
Figure 6.1: Reservoir stocks at key individual and groups of reservoirs at the end of July 2026 and August 2026 as a percentage of total capacity and classed relative to an analysis of historic July and August values respectively. Note: Classes shown may not necessarily relate to control curves or triggers for drought actions. As well as for public water supply, some reservoirs are drawn down to provide flood storage, river compensation flows or for reservoir safety inspections. In some cases, current reservoir operating rules may differ from historic ones. Kielder levels are lower than historical levels due to a new flood alleviation control curve. Welsh reservoirs marked with a 2 provide water resources to north-west and central England. #Refill impacted by operational or water quality issues. *Impacted by previous planned outage.

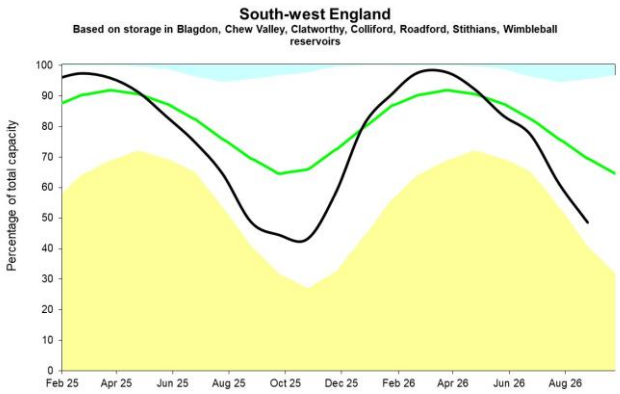


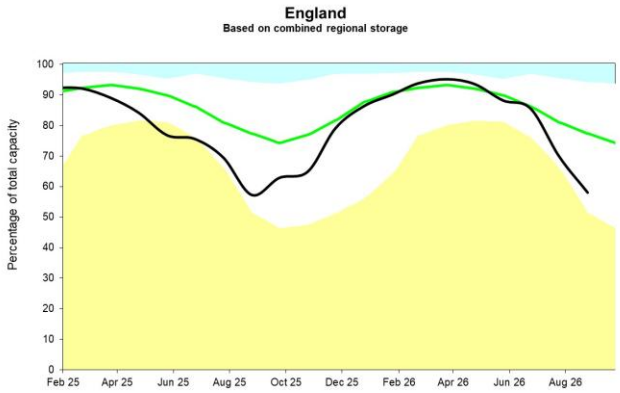
6.2 Reservoir storage charts

Figure 6.2: Regional reservoir stocks. End of month reservoir stocks compared to long term maximum, minimum and average stocks. Note: Historic records of individual reservoirs/reservoir groups making up the regional values vary in length.







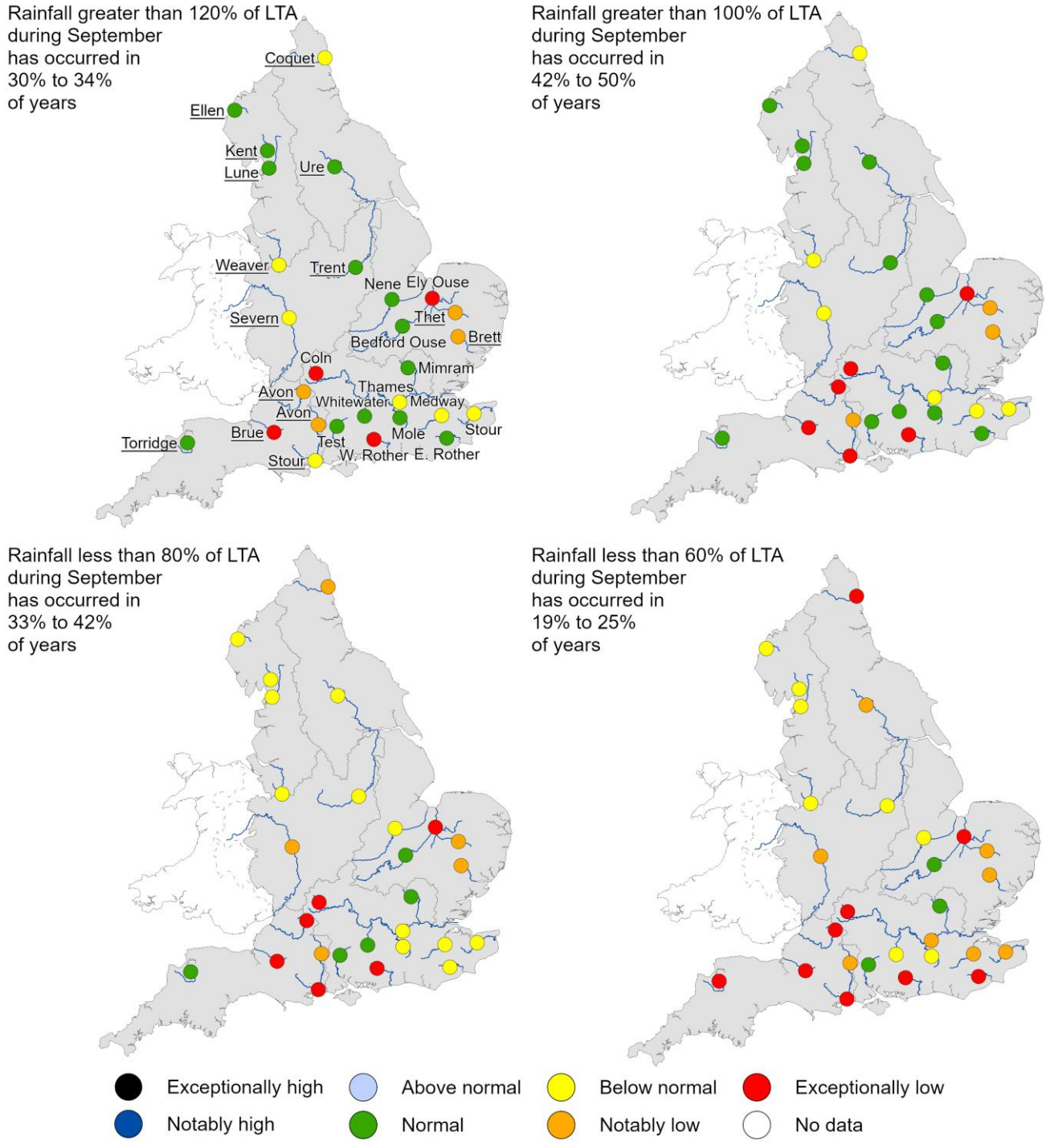


(Source: Water Companies).

7 Forward look

7.1 River flow

Figure 7.1: Projected river flows at key indicator sites up until the end of September 2026. Projections based on four scenarios: 120%, 100%, 80% and 60% of long term average rainfall during September 2026. Rainfall statistics based on occurrence in the historic record since 1871. Projections for underlined sites produced by CEH.



(Source: UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, AC0000807064, 2026.

Figure 7.2: Projected river flows at key indicator sites up until the end of March 2027. Projections based on four scenarios: 120%, 100%, 80% and 60% of long term average rainfall between September 2026 and March 2027. Rainfall statistics based on occurrence in the historic record since 1871. Projections for underlined sites produced by CEH.

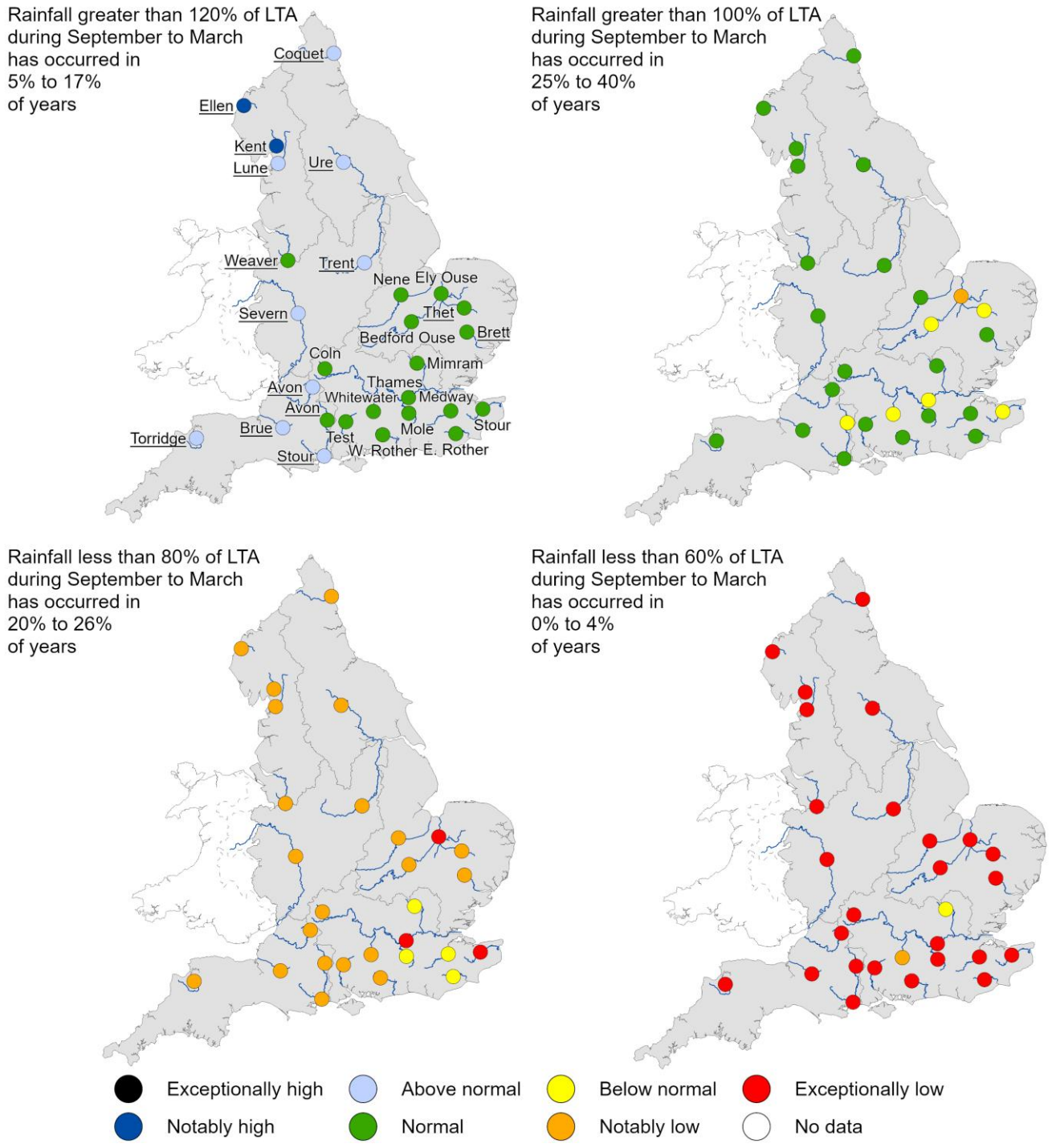


Figure 7.3: Probabilistic ensemble projections of river flows at key indicator sites up until the end of September 2026. Pie charts indicate probability, based on climatology, of the surface water flow at each site being e.g. exceptionally low for the time of year. Projections for underlined sites produced by CEH.

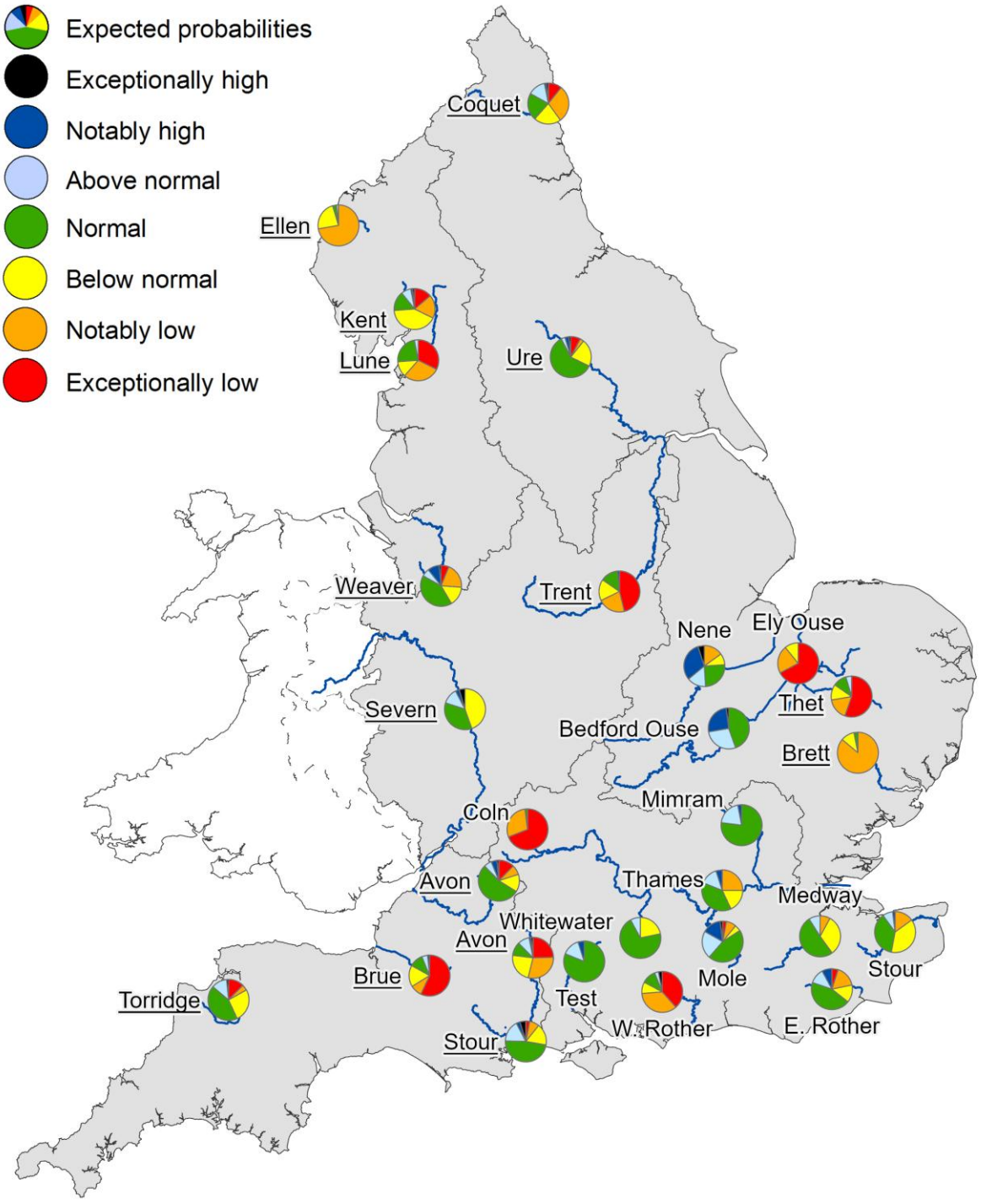


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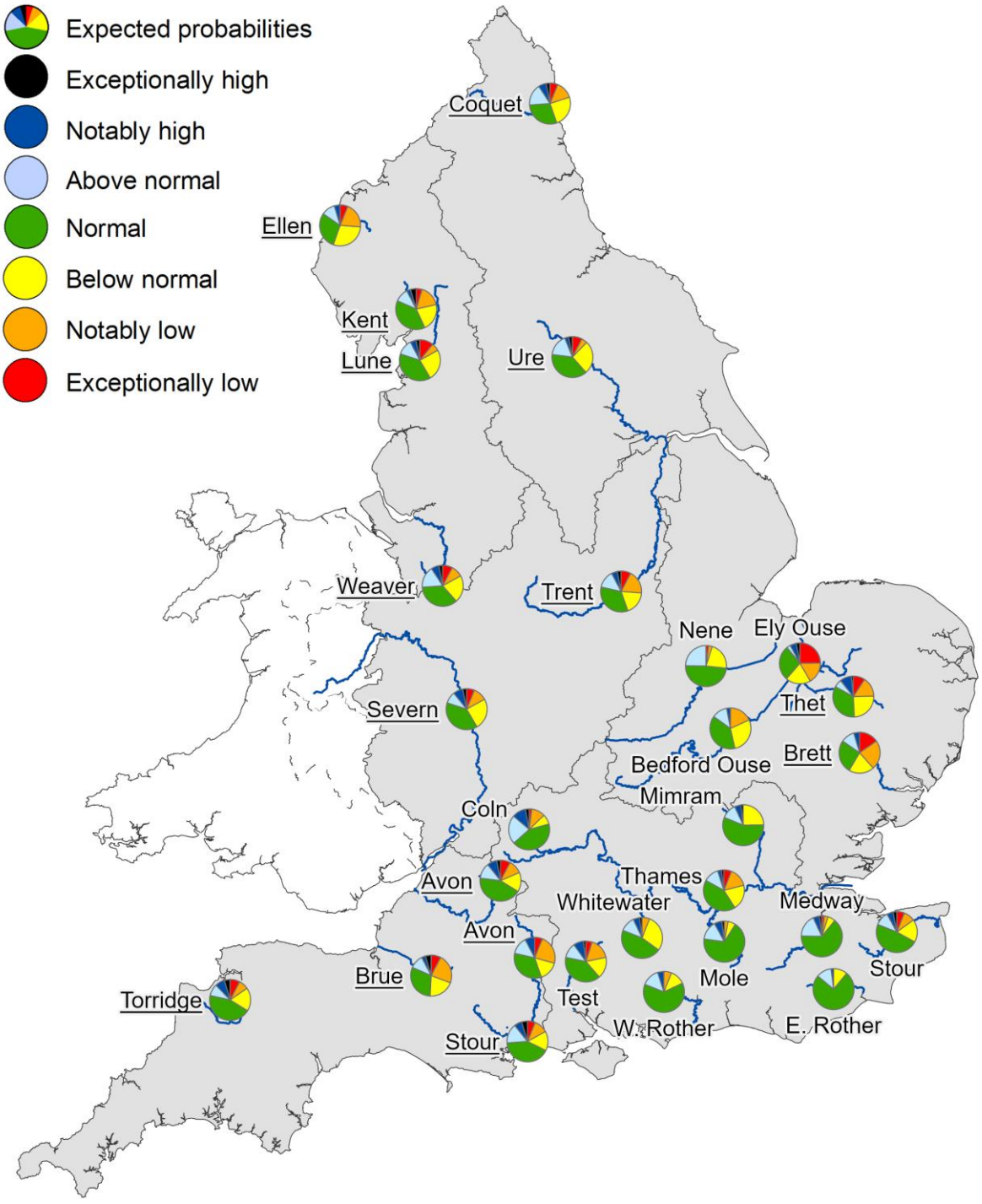
Figure 7.4: Probabilistic ensemble projections of river flows at key indicator sites up until the end of March 2027. Pie charts indicate probability, based on climatology, of the surface water flow at each site being e.g. exceptionally low for the time of year. Projections for underlined sites produced by CEH.



7.2 Groundwater

Figure 7.5: Projected groundwater levels at key indicator sites at the end of September 2026. Projections based on four scenarios: 120%, 100%, 80% and 60% of long term average during September 2026. Rainfall statistics based on occurrence in the historic record since 1871. Projections for underlined sites produced by BGS.

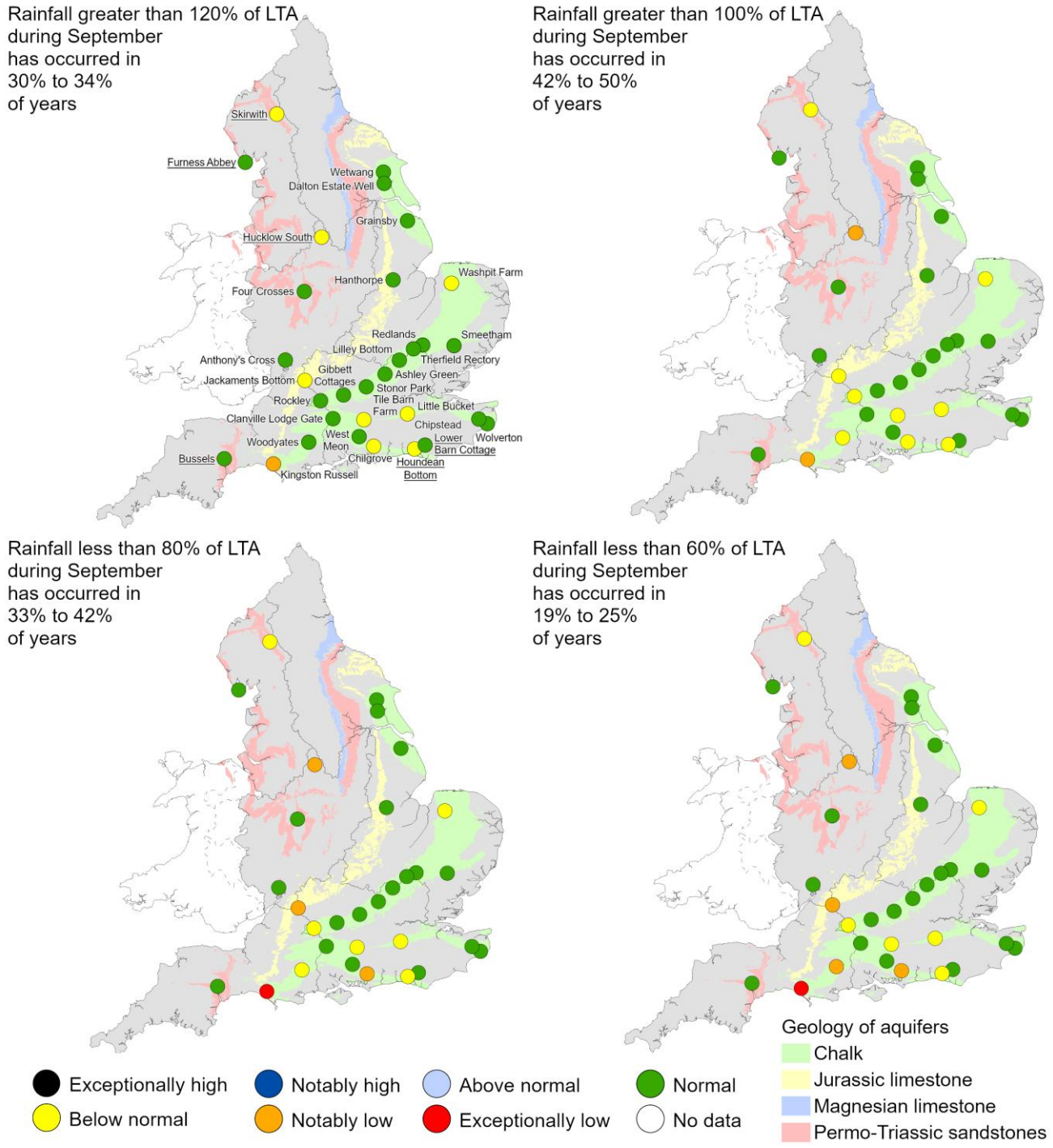


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Figure 7.6: Projected groundwater levels at key indicator sites at the end of March 2027. Projections based on four scenarios: 120%, 100%, 80% and 60% of long term average rainfall between September 2026 and March 2027. Rainfall statistics based on occurrence in the historic record since 1871. Projections for underlined sites produced by BGS.

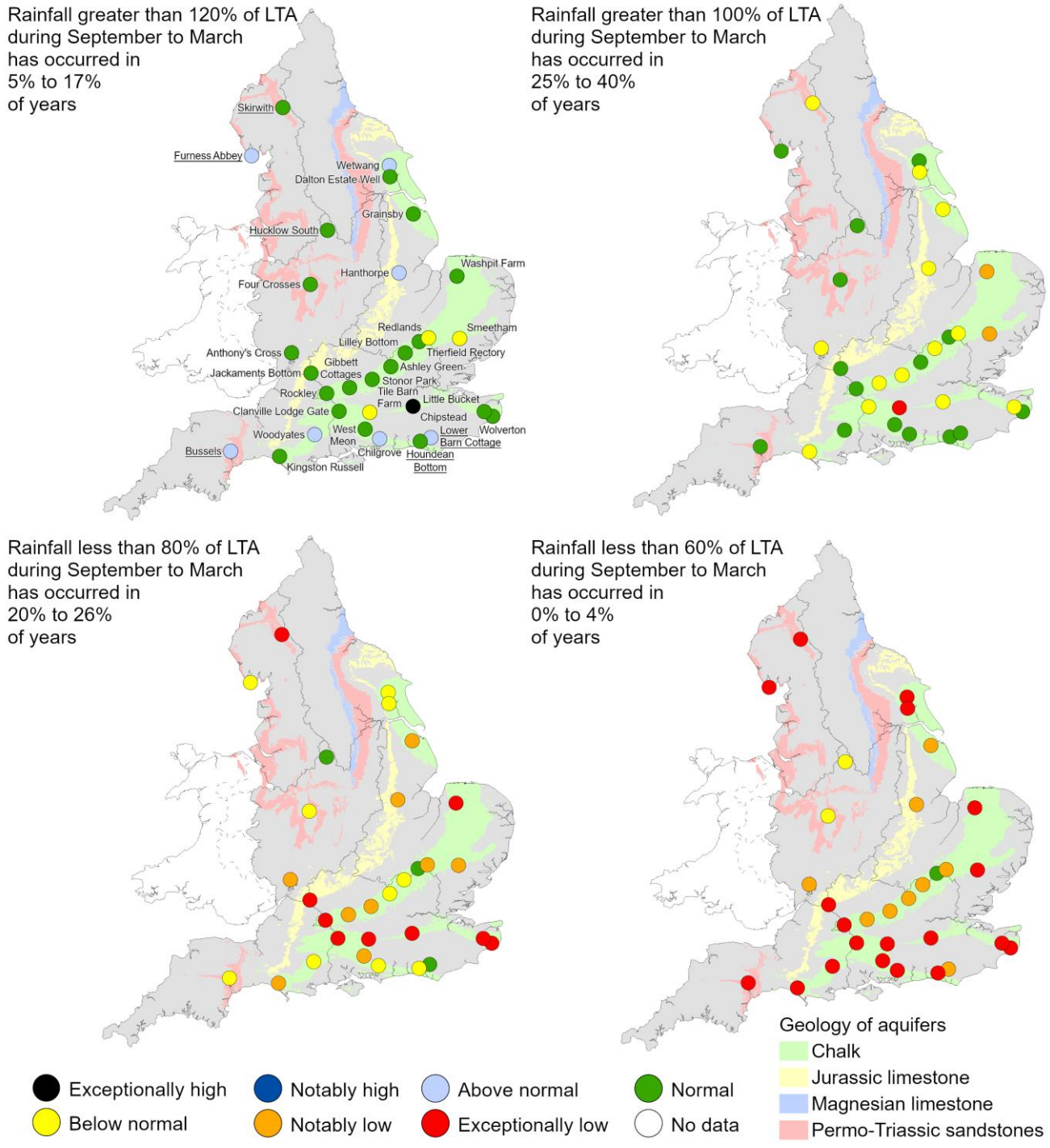

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Figure 7.7: Probabilistic ensemble projections of groundwater levels at key indicator sites at the end of September 2026. Pie charts indicate probability, based on climatology, of the groundwater level at each site being e.g. exceptionally low for the time of year. Projections for underlined sites produced by BGS.

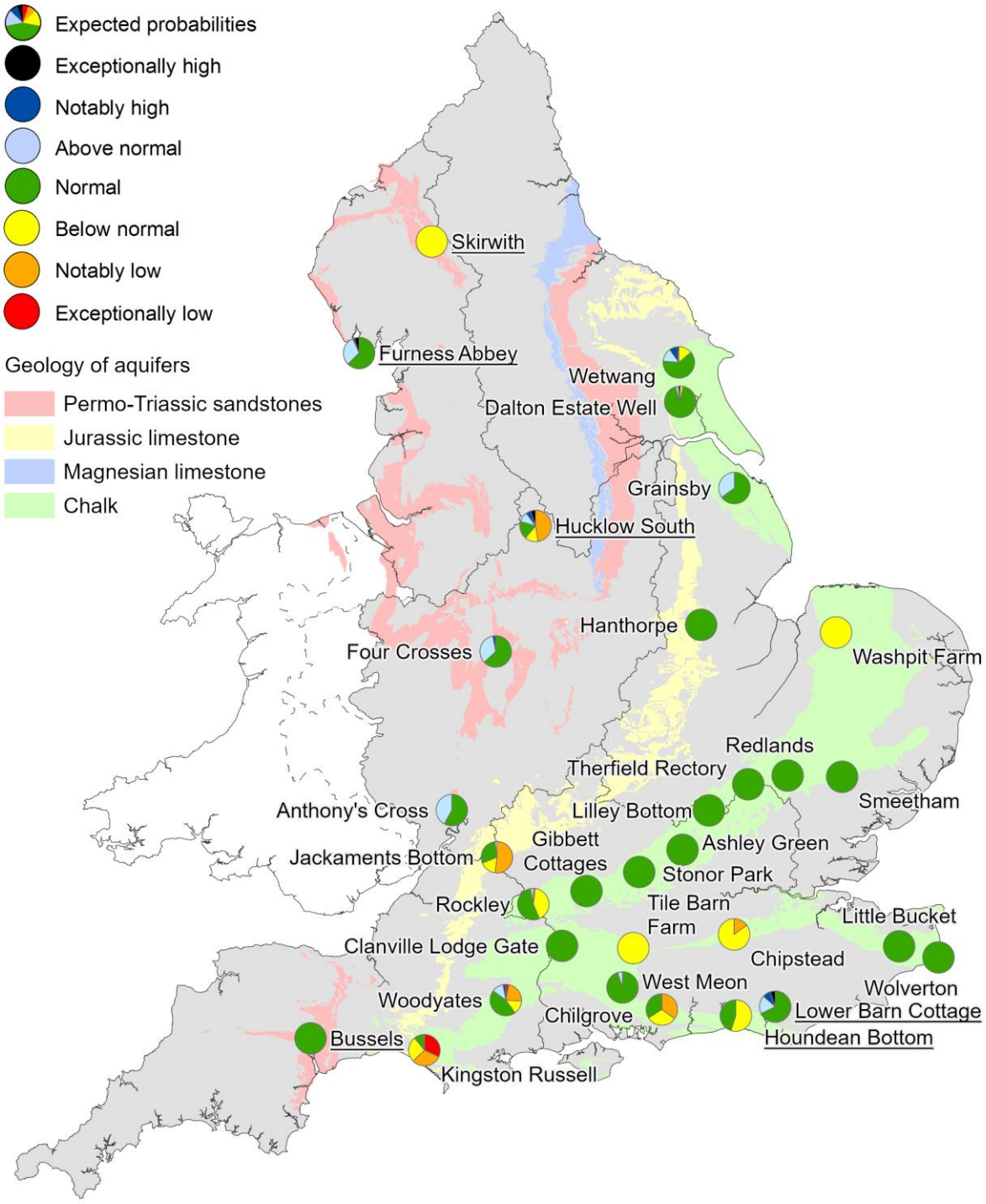

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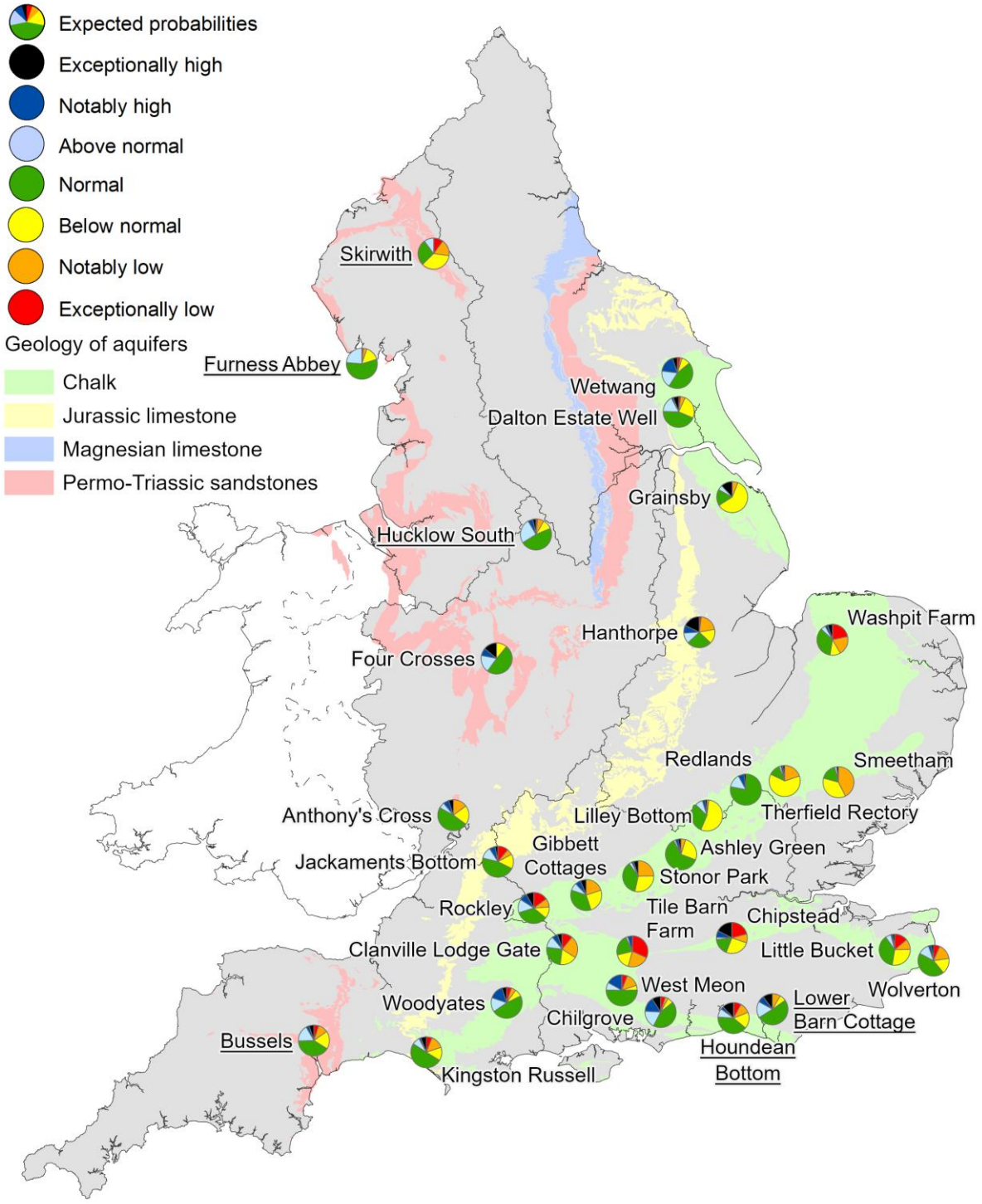
Figure 7.8: Probabilistic ensemble projections of groundwater levels at key indicator sites at the end of March 2027. Pie charts indicate probability, based on climatology, of the groundwater level at each site being e.g. exceptionally low for the time of year. Projections for underlined sites produced by BGS.



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8 Glossary

8.1 Terminology

Aquifer

A geological formation able to store and transmit water.

Areal average rainfall

The estimated average depth of rainfall over a defined area. Expressed in depth of water (mm).

Artesian

The condition where the groundwater level is above ground surface but is prevented from rising to this level by an overlying continuous low permeability layer, such as clay.

Artesian borehole

Borehole where the level of groundwater is above the top of the borehole and groundwater flows out of the borehole when unsealed.

Cumecs

Cubic metres per second (m^3s^{-1} or m^3/s).

Effective rainfall

The rainfall available to percolate into the soil or produce river flow. Expressed in depth of water (mm).

Flood alert and flood warning

Three levels of warnings may be issued by the Environment Agency. Flood Alerts indicate flooding is possible. Flood Warnings indicate flooding is expected. Severe Flood Warnings indicate severe flooding.

Groundwater

The water found in an aquifer.

Long term average (LTA)

The arithmetic mean calculated from the historic record, usually based on the period 1991-2020. However, the period used may vary by parameter being reported on (see figure captions for details).

mAOD

Metres above ordnance datum (mean sea level at Newlyn Cornwall).

MORECS

Met Office Rainfall and Evaporation Calculation System. Met Office service providing real time calculation of evapotranspiration, soil moisture deficit and effective rainfall on a 40 x 40 km grid.

Naturalised flow

River flow with the impacts of artificial influences removed. Artificial influences may include abstractions, discharges, transfers, augmentation and impoundments.

NCIC

National Climate Information Centre. NCIC area monthly rainfall totals are derived using the Met Office 5 km gridded dataset, which uses rain gauge observations.

Recharge

The process of increasing the water stored in the saturated zone of an aquifer. Expressed in depth of water (mm).

Reservoir gross capacity

The total capacity of a reservoir.

Reservoir live capacity

The capacity of the reservoir that is normally usable for storage to meet established reservoir operating requirements. This excludes any capacity not available for use (e.g. storage held back for emergency services, operating agreements or physical restrictions). May also be referred to as ‘net’ or ‘deployable’ capacity.

Soil moisture deficit (SMD)

The difference between the amount of water actually in the soil and the amount of water the soil can hold. Expressed in depth of water (mm).

Standardised precipitation index (SPI)

A drought index internationally recognised by the World Meteorological Organisation that allows for comparisons between different rainfall regimes. It is a dimensionless index that calculates how much a cumulative rainfall total for a particular location and period differs from the norm. Negative values indicate rainfall is lower than normal, while positive values are higher than normal. Extreme conditions are indicated by values greater than plus or minus 2.

Standardised precipitation evapotranspiration index (SPEI)

SPEI uses a similar methodology to the SPI, but it integrates potential evapotranspiration into the index. This allows SPEI to account for the impact of increased temperatures on water availability in the environment alongside rainfall deficits.

8.2 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.

8.3 Geographic regions

Throughout this report regions of England are used to group Environment Agency areas together. Below the areas in each region are listed, and Figure 8.1 shows the geographical extent of these regions.

East includes: Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, and Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk areas.

South east includes: Solent and South Downs, Hertfordshire and North London, Thames, and Kent, South London and east Sussex areas.

South west includes: Devon and Cornwall, and Wessex areas.

Central includes: Shropshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Midlands, and Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire areas.

North west includes: Cumbria and Lancashire, and Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Cheshire areas.

North east includes: Yorkshire, and Northumberland Durham and Tees areas.

Figure 8.1: Geographic regions

9 Appendices

9.1 Rainfall table

Region	Aug 2026 rainfall % of long term average 1991 to 2020	Aug 2026 band	Jun 2026 to August 2026 cumulative band	Mar 2026 to August 2026 cumulative band	Sep 2025 to August 2026 cumulative band
East England	87	Normal	Notably low	Exceptionally low	Normal
Central England	98	Normal	Notably low	Notably low	Above normal
North East England	84	Normal	Notably low	Notably low	Above normal
North West England	84	Normal	Below normal	Normal	Notably high
South East England	54	Below Normal	Notably low	Exceptionally low	Normal
South West England	65	Below Normal	Notably low	Exceptionally low	Above normal
England	78	Normal	Notably low	Exceptionally low	Normal

9.2 River flows table

Geographic area	Site name	River	Aug 2026 band	Jul 2026 band
East	Burnham	Burn	Below normal	Below normal
East	Claypole	Upper Witham	Below normal	Notably low
East	Colney	Yare	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low
East	Denver	Ely Ouse	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low
East	Dernford	Cam	Notably low	Notably low
East	Louth Weir	Lud	Normal	Normal
East	Offord	Bedford Ouse	Below normal	Below normal
East	Springfield	Chelmer	Notably low	Notably low
East	Stowmarket	Gipping	Normal	Notably low
East	Upton Mill	Nene	Notably low	Exceptionally low
Central	Bewdley	Severn	Exceptionally low	Notably low
Central	Derby St. Marys	Derwent	Normal	Below normal
Central	Evesham	Avon	Normal	Normal
Central	Marston-on-dove	Dove	Below normal	Notably low
Central	North Muskham	Trent	Below normal	Notably low
North East	Buttercrambe	Derwent	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low

Geographic area	Site name	River	Aug 2026 band	Jul 2026 band
North East	Crakehill Topcliffe	Swale	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low
North East	Heaton Mill	Till	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low
North East	Doncaster	Don	Normal	Exceptionally low
North East	Haydon Bridge	South Tyne	Notably low	Below normal
North East	Tadcaster	Wharfe	Exceptionally low	Below normal
North East	Witton Park	Wear	Below normal	Below normal
North West	Ashton Weir	Mersey	Normal	Below normal
North West	Caton	Lune	Exceptionally low	Notably low
North West	Ouse Bridge	Derwent	Exceptionally low	Below normal
North West	Pooley Bridge	Eamont	Notably low	Below normal
North West	Samlesbury	Ribble	Notably low	Notably low
North West	Ashbrook	Weaver	Below normal	Exceptionally low
South East	Allbrook & Highbridge	Itchen	Exceptionally low	Notably low
South East	Ardingley	Ouse	Below normal	Notably low
South East	Feildes Weir	Lee	Below normal	Below normal

Geographic area	Site name	River	Aug 2026 band	Jul 2026 band
South East	Hansteads	Ver	Normal	Normal
South East	Hawley	Darent	Below normal	Below normal
South East	Horton	Great Stour	Notably low	Below normal
South East	Kingston (naturalised)	Thames	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low
South East	Lechlade	Leach	Below normal	Below normal
South East	Marlborough	Kennet	Notably low	Below normal
South East	Princes Marsh	Rother	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low
South East	Teston & Farleigh	Medway	Below normal	Below normal
South East	Udiam	Rother	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low
South West	Amesbury	Upper Avon	Exceptionally low	Notably low
South West	Austins Bridge	Dart	Notably low	Notably low
South West	Bathford	Avon	Below normal	Below normal
South West	Bishops Hull	Tone	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low
South West	East Stoke	Frome	Notably low	Notably low
South West	Great Somerford	Avon	Below normal	Notably low
South West	Gunnislake	Tamar	Below normal	Below normal

Geographic area	Site name	River	Aug 2026 band	Jul 2026 band
South West	Hammoon	Middle Stour	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low
South West	East Mills	Middle Avon	Exceptionally low	Notably low
South West	Lovington	Upper Brue	Below normal	Below normal
South West	Thorverton	Exe	Notably low	Notably low
South West	Torrington	Torridge	Exceptionally low	Notably low
South West	Truro	Kenwyn	Below normal	Notably low
EA Wales	Manley Hall	Dee	Notably low	Notably low
EA Wales	Redbrook	Wye	Exceptionally low	Exceptionally low

9.3 Groundwater table

Geographic area	Site name	Aquifer	End of Aug 2026 band	End of Jul 2026 band
East	Grainsby	Grimsby Ancholme Louth Chalk	Normal	Normal
East	Redlands Hall	Cam Chalk	Normal	Normal
East	Hanthorpe	Limestone (Cornbrash Formation)	Normal	Normal
East	Smeetham Hall Cott.	North Essex Chalk	Normal	Normal
East	Washpit Farm Rougham	North West Norfolk Chalk	Below normal	Below normal
Central	Four Crosses	Grimsby Ancholme Louth Limestone	Normal	Above normal
Central	Weir Farm	Bridgnorth Sandstone Formation	Above normal	Notably high
Central	Coxmoor	Permo Triassic Sandstone	Exceptionally high	Exceptionally high
Central	Crossley Hill	Permo Triassic Sandstone	Notably high	Notably high
North East	Dalton Estate Well	Hull and East Riding Chalk	Below normal	Normal
North East	Aycliffe Nra2	Skerne Magnesian Limestone	Normal	Normal
North East	Wetwang	Hull and East Riding Chalk	Below normal	Notably low
North West	Priors Heyes	West Cheshire Permo-Triassic Sandstone	Notably high	Notably high

Geographic area	Site name	Aquifer	End of Aug 2026 band	End of Jul 2026 band
North West	Skirwith	Eden Valley and Carlisle Basin Permo-Triassic Sandstone	Below normal	Below normal
North West	Lea Lane	Fylde Permo-Triassic Sandstone	Above normal	Above normal
South East	Chilgrove	Chichester-Worthing-Portsdown Chalk	Notably low	Below normal
South East	Clanville Gate Gwl	River Test Chalk	Normal	Normal
South East	Houndean Bottom Gwl	Brighton Chalk Block	Below normal	Below normal
South East	Little Bucket	East Kent Chalk - Stour	Normal	Normal
South East	Jackaments Bottom	Burford Oolitic Limestone (Inferior)	Exceptionally low	Notably low
South East	Ashley Green Stw Obh	Mid-Chilterns Chalk	Normal	Normal
South East	Stonor Park	South-West Chilterns Chalk	Normal	Normal
South East	Chipstead Gwl	Epsom North Downs Chalk	Below normal	Below normal
South West	Tilshead	Upper Hampshire Avon Chalk	Exceptionally low	Below normal
South West	Woodleys No1	Otterton Sandstone Formation	Normal	Normal
South West	Woodyates	Dorset Stour Chalk	Below normal	Below normal

9.4 Reservoir table

Geographic region	% Full	Average comparison
East	65	Below average
Central	54	Below average
North-east	62	Below average
North-west	53	Below average
South-east	61	Below average
South-west	49	Below average
England	58	Below average