

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 9 September to Tuesday 15 September 2026

1 Summary

Overall, this has been a drier week across the whole country in comparison to the previous week, with the north-west receiving the highest rainfall totals. As a consequence of this, river flows decreased at the majority of sites we report on and almost all are classed as normal or lower for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been a drier week with lower rainfall totals everywhere across England, in comparison to last week. Rainfall totals ranged from 23mm in north-west England to 6mm in south-east and south-west England (Table 1, Figure 2). Rainfall totals for September to date, range from 63% of the long-term average (LTA) in north-west England to 40% of the LTA in north-east England. For England as a whole, the rainfall total for September so far is 48% of the LTA (Table 1).

1.2 River flows

River flows decreased at 70% of the sites we report on when compared to the previous week. Despite this, nearly half (46% of the total) of the sites that we report on remain classed as normal for the time of year and 3 sites (6%) were classed as above normal. Seventeen sites (31%) were classed as below normal for the time of year while a further 9 sites (17%) were classed as notably low (Figure 3.1).

1.3 Outlook

Overnight patchy rain in the south-east is expected to clear by Thursday afternoon while the rest of England can expect sunny spells and showers. Friday will begin breezy with the sunny spells and showers persisting and the most rain expected in the north before it spreads east later in the day. Saturday will remain breezy with some rain to be expected in the south. Sunday is likely to be a dry and settled day. Conditions are set to develop from Monday with increasingly warm and perhaps humid weather; the south is likely to see the warmest and driest weather with occasional rain in the north-west.

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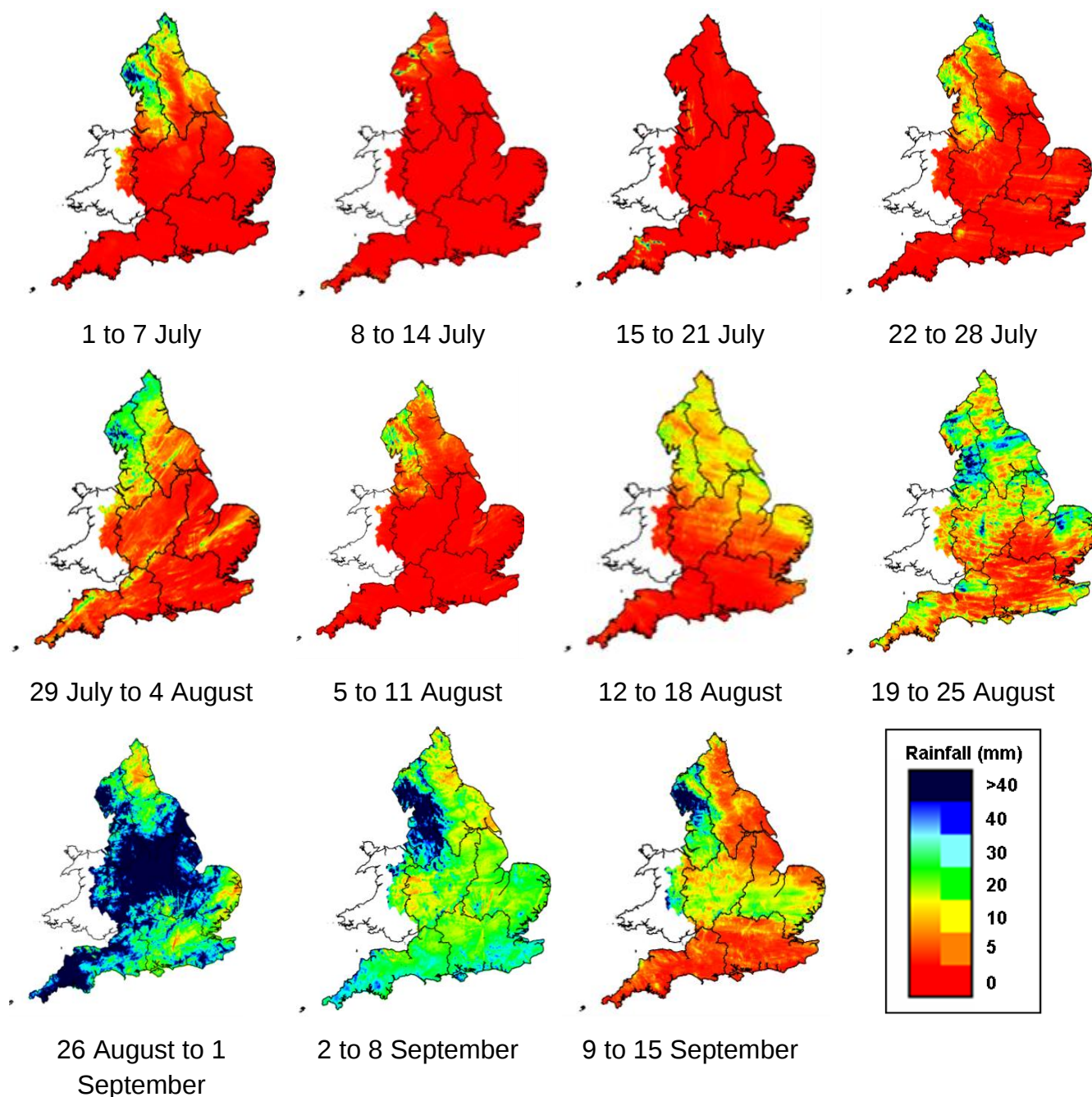
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2026)

Geographic regions	9 to 15 Sep 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Sep 2026 to date total rainfall (mm)	Sep 2026 to date rainfall % of LTA	Aug 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Aug 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Jun to Aug 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Jun to Aug 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Mar to Aug 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Mar to Aug 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months Sep 2025 to Aug 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months Sep 2025 to Aug 2026 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	23	67	63	92	84	225	77	472	89	1,394	110
north-east	8	29	40	67	84	136	61	284	71	928	105
central	11	31	52	65	98	124	63	227	64	841	110
east	8	24	46	53	87	106	62	156	52	583	92
south-east	6	27	46	34	54	105	62	170	53	758	98
south-west	6	36	46	55	65	141	63	260	60	1,200	110
England	10	33	48	59	78	133	64	245	65	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.

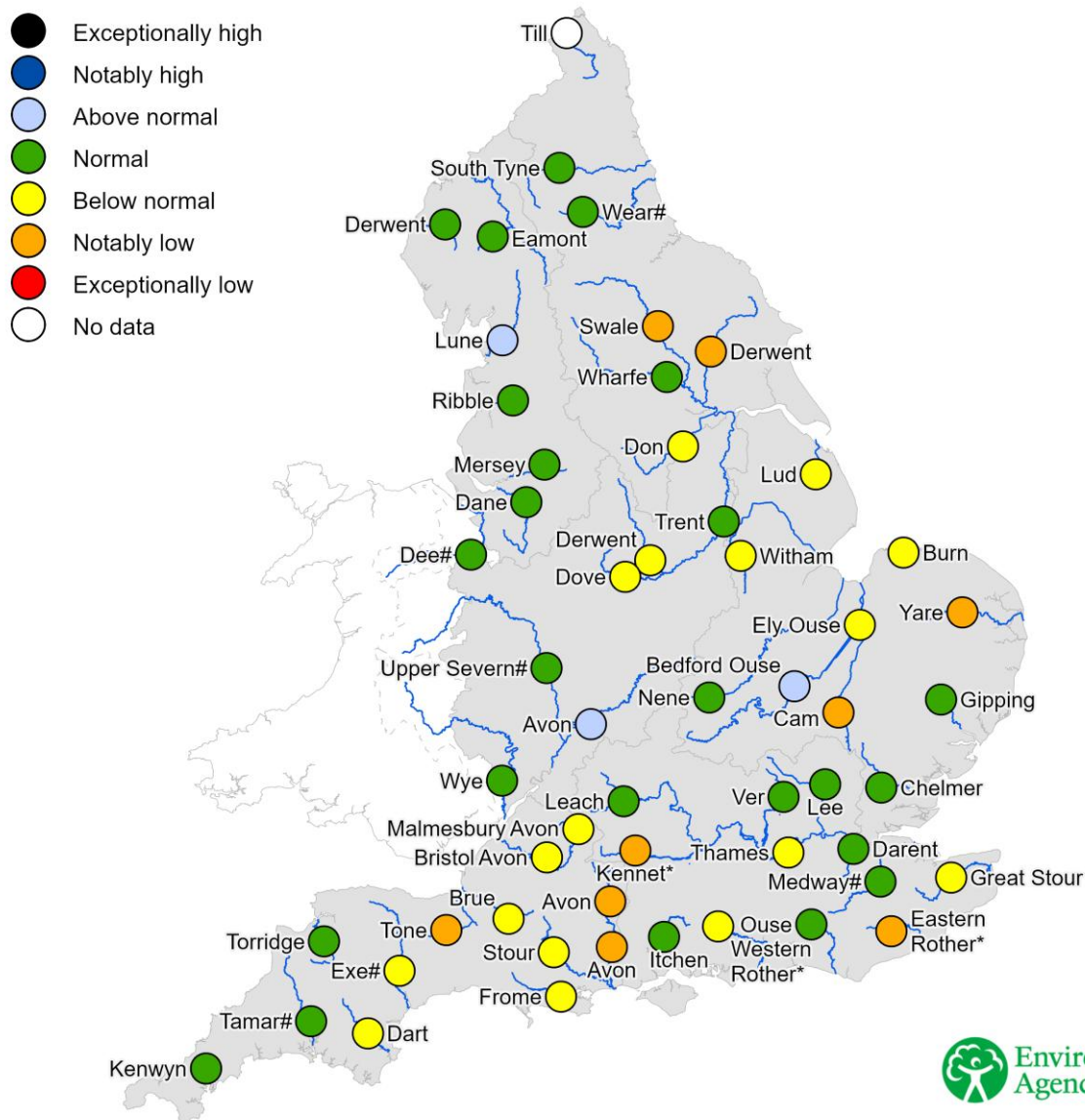


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3 River flows

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