

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 23 September to Tuesday 29 September 2026

1 Summary

It has been another dry week across England, although conditions were slightly wetter in the south-west and north-west. River flows decreased at nearly two-thirds of sites we report on when compared to the previous week, with most sites classed as below normal or lower for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been another dry week across England, although conditions were slightly wetter in the south-west and north-west. Rainfall totals ranged from 1mm in east England to 12mm in north-west and south-west England (Table 1, Figure 2). Rainfall totals for September to date, range from 51% of the long-term average (LTA) in east England to 96% of the LTA in north-west England. For England as a whole, the rainfall total for September to date is 66% of the LTA (Table 1).

1.2 River flows

River flows decreased at nearly two-thirds of sites we report on when compared to the previous week, with most sites classed as below normal or lower for the time of year. Twenty-five (45%) were classed as below normal and 16 sites (29%) were classed as notably low. Seven sites (13%) were classed as exceptionally low. A further 7 sites (13% of the total), were classed as normal. (Figure 3.1).

1.3 Outlook

Showers across parts of north-west England will gradually fade on Thursday, leaving many areas drier and brighter. On Friday showers will affect northern and western areas of England at times, staying drier further south. There is chance of showers on Saturday morning in north-west England however this will be followed by warm, dry, weather across all parts of England on Saturday afternoon and through Sunday. England will likely remain under the influence of high pressure during Monday and Tuesday leading to further dry and warm weather.

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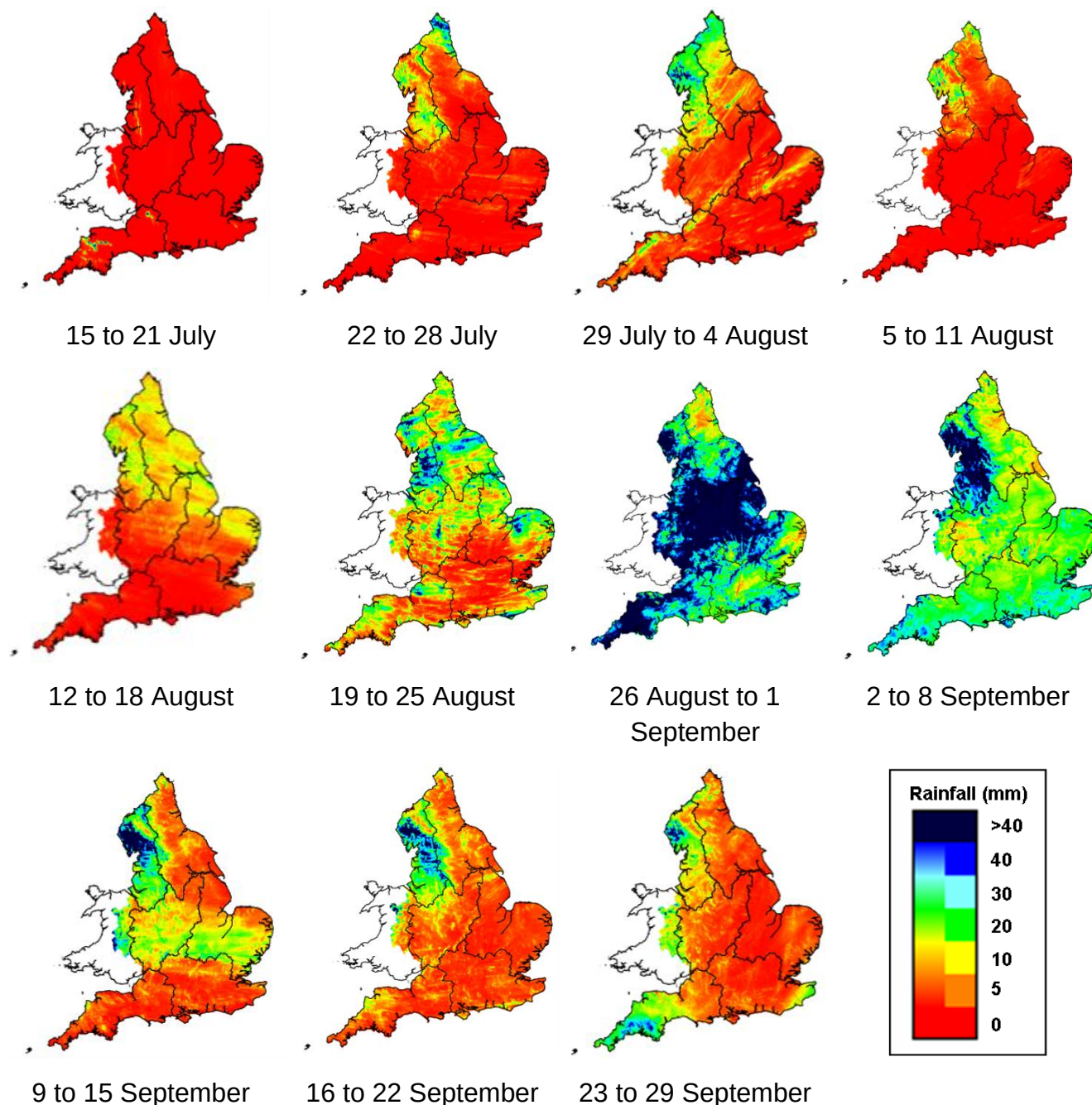
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2026)

Geographic regions	23 to 29 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	12	102	96	92	84	225	77	472	89	1,394	110
north-east	4	41	58	67	84	136	61	284	71	928	105
central	5	40	65	65	98	124	63	227	64	841	110
east	1	27	51	53	87	106	62	156	52	583	92
south-east	2	32	54	34	54	105	62	170	53	758	98
south-west	12	55	71	55	65	141	63	260	60	1,200	110
England	6	45	66	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.

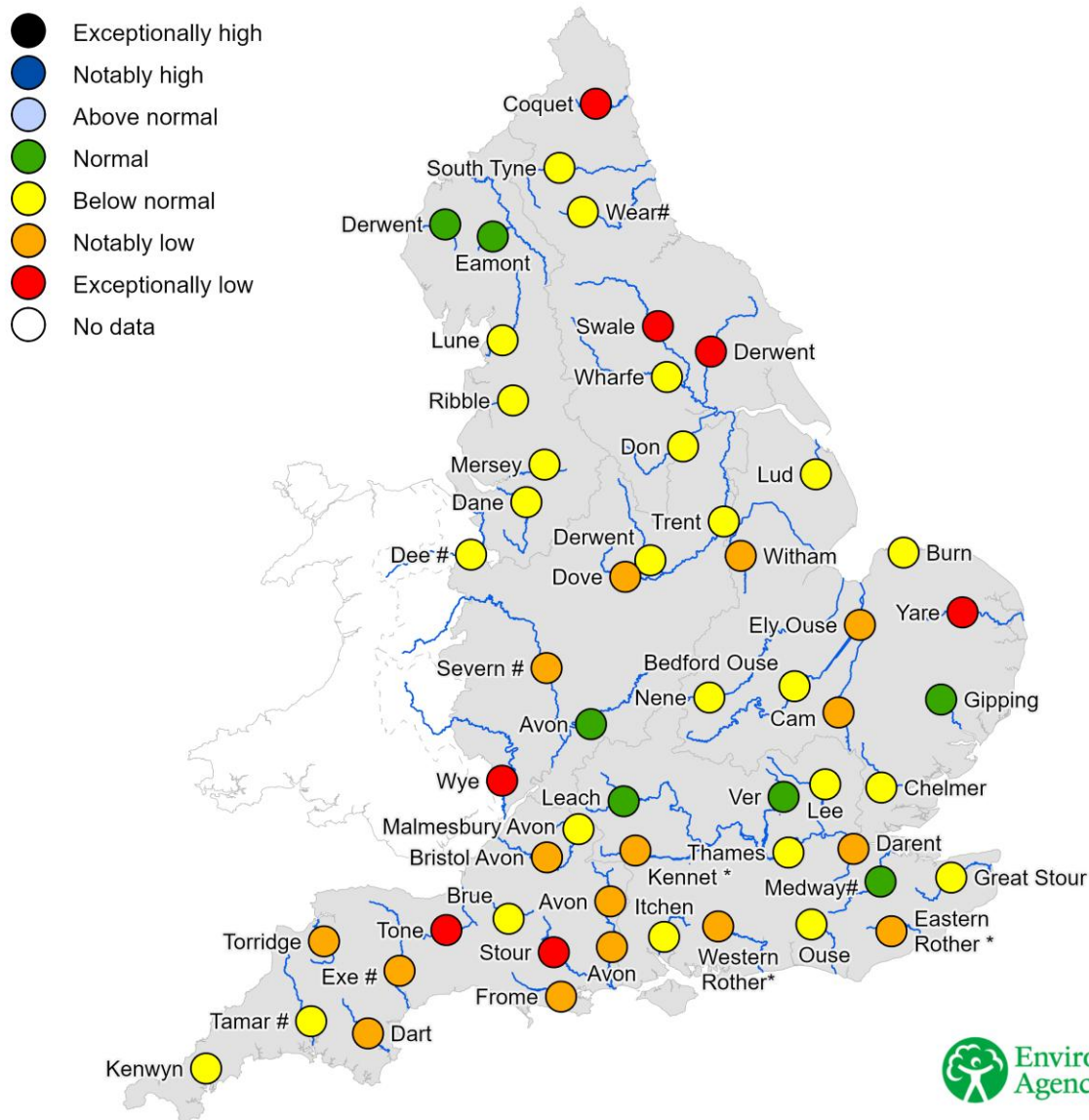


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3 River flows

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