

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 30 September to Tuesday 6 October 2026

1 Summary

Although it has been another relatively dry week, rainfall totals across England have increased in comparison with last week. Subsequently, river flows increased at just over half of the sites that we report on when compared to the previous week but the majority of sites still remain classed as below normal or lower for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been wetter than the previous week everywhere across England with the exception of the south-west which received the same total amount of rainfall as last week. Rainfall totals ranged from 5mm in east England to 24mm in the north-west (Table 1, Figure 2). Rainfall totals for October to date, range from 6% of the long term average (LTA) in the east, south-east and south-west of England to 16% of the LTA in the north-west and north-east. For England as a whole, the rainfall total for October so far is just 10% of the LTA (Table 1).

1.2 River flows

River flows increased at just over half of the sites that we report on, compared to the previous week. Despite this, only 11 (20% of the total) of the sites that we report on were classed as normal for the time of year while the rest were lower than normal. Eighteen sites (33%) were classed as below normal for the time of year, 19 sites (35%) were classed as notably low and a further 7 sites (13%) were classed as exceptionally low (Figure 3.1).

1.3 Outlook

Thursday will begin mostly sunny but chilly, with cloud increasing in the western areas of England. Rain will move in across these areas by the afternoon while increasingly gusty winds are expected in the north of England. Friday will bring a mixture of sunshine and blustery showers, with slightly warmer temperatures to be expected. These temperatures will drop slightly moving into the weekend, with showers continuing on Saturday but drier conditions expected on Sunday. Conditions remain changeable on Monday and Tuesday with occasional bands of rain and strong winds expected in the north of England amongst some brighter and more showery conditions.

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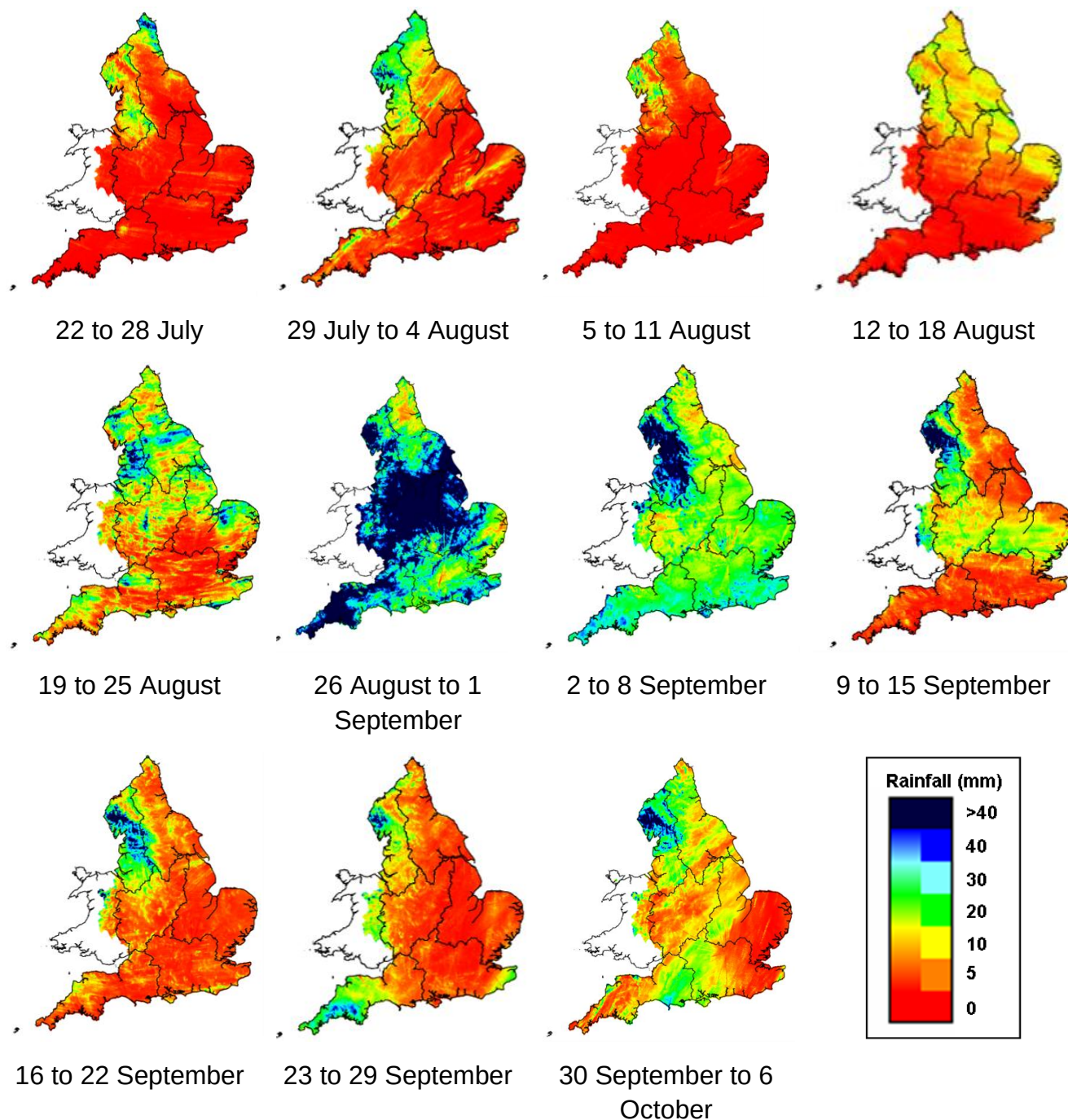
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2026)

Geographic regions	30 Sep to 6 Oct 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Oct 2026 to date total rainfall (mm)	Oct 2026 to date rainfall % of LTA	Sep 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Sep 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Jul to Sep 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Jul to Sep 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Apr to Sep 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Apr to Sep 2026 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months Oct 2025 to Sep 2026 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months Oct 2025 to Sep 2026 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	24	21	16	105	99	223	71	456	84	1,297	102
north-east	14	13	16	38	53	118	53	262	64	843	95
central	9	7	9	36	59	103	54	224	61	789	103
east	5	4	6	27	52	82	48	159	51	558	88
south-east	8	5	6	34	57	68	39	175	53	717	93
south-west	12	7	6	54	69	112	48	266	61	1,135	104
England	11	9	10	45	65	110	52	241	62	850	98

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.

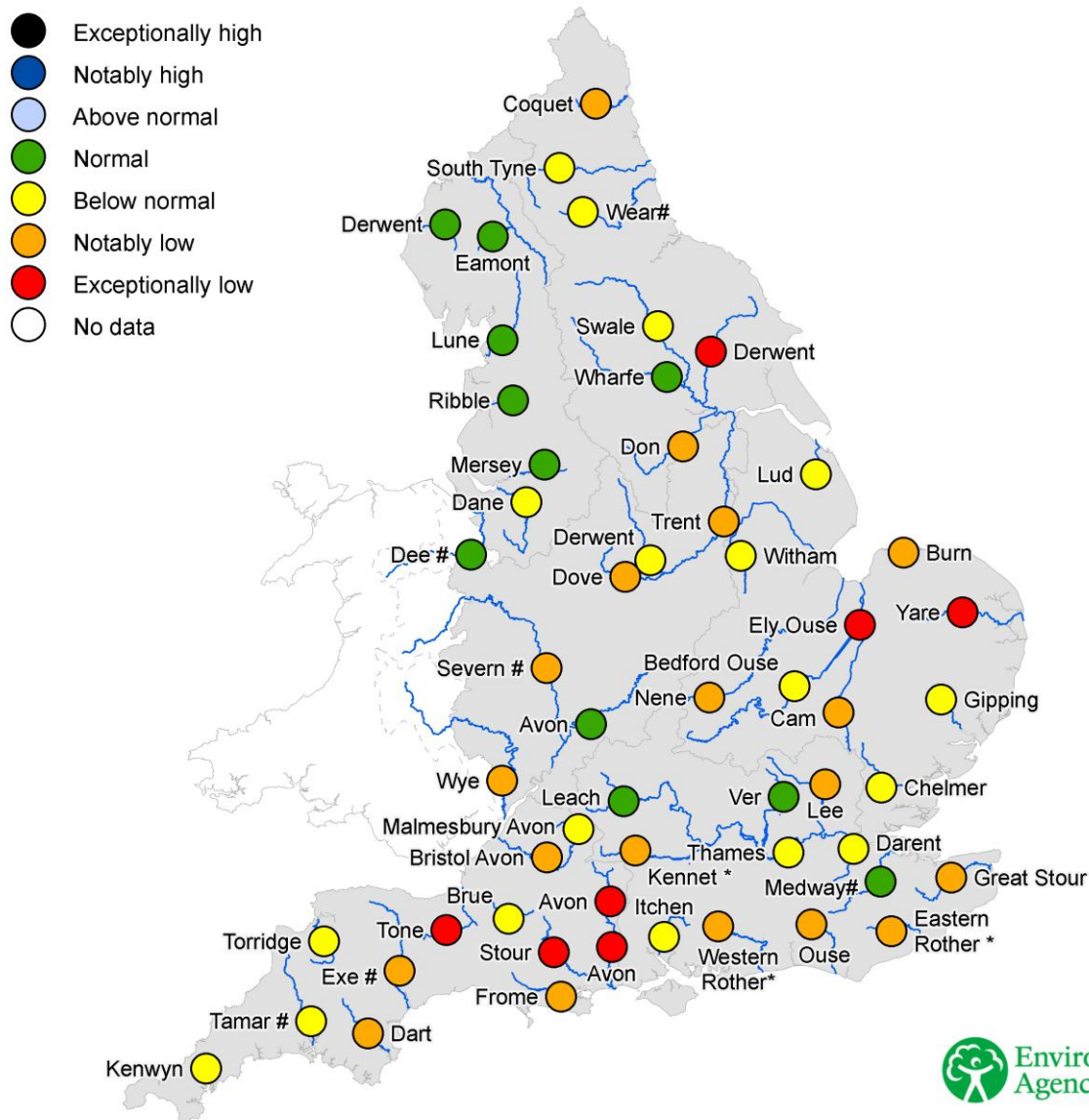


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3 River flows

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