

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 21 October to Tuesday 27 October 2026

1 Summary

With two named storms, Austen and Boelo bringing rainfall to all regions, it has been wettest reporting week across England since October 2024. Rainfall for England as a whole, so far this month, is 111% of the long-term average. River flows increased at all but two of reporting sites when compared to the previous week.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been a very wet week across much of England compared to last week. Rainfall totals ranged from 38mm in central England to 87mm in the south-west. Rainfall totals for October to date range from 99% of the long-term average (LTA) in central England to 120% in the north-west. For England as a whole, the rainfall total for October so far is 100mm, equivalent to 111% of the LTA (Table 1)

1.2 River flows

River flows increased at 96% of sites we report on when compared to the previous week. Five sites (9% of the total) were classed as notably high, 14 sites (25%) were classed as above normal, 29 sites (53%) were classed as normal, and only 6 sites (105%) were classed as below normal or notably low. The River Dart at Austins Bridge (near Buckfastleigh) in south-west England was classed as exceptionally high. (Figure 3.1).

1.3 Outlook

Over the next week, with high pressure dominating, the weather is forecast to be fine and dry and settled, with the possibility of overnight fog developing at times.

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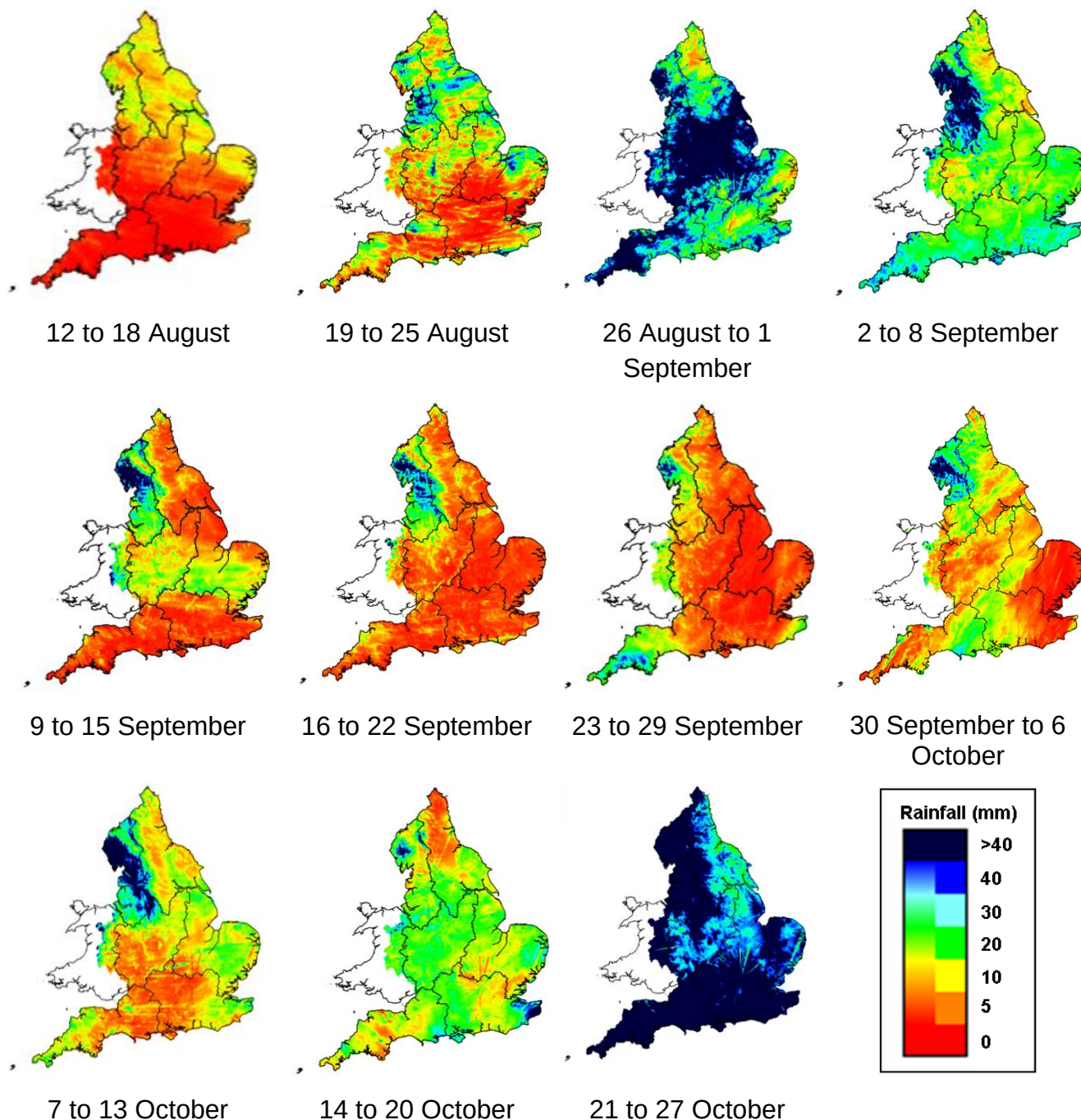
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2026)

Geographic regions	21 to 27 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	76	159	120	105	99	223	71	456	84	1,297	102
north-east	42	87	102	38	53	118	53	262	64	843	95
central	38	77	99	36	59	103	54	224	61	789	103
east	39	73	113	27	52	82	48	159	51	558	88
south-east	61	100	117	34	57	68	39	175	53	717	93
south-west	87	132	112	54	69	112	48	266	61	1,135	104
England	55	100	111	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.

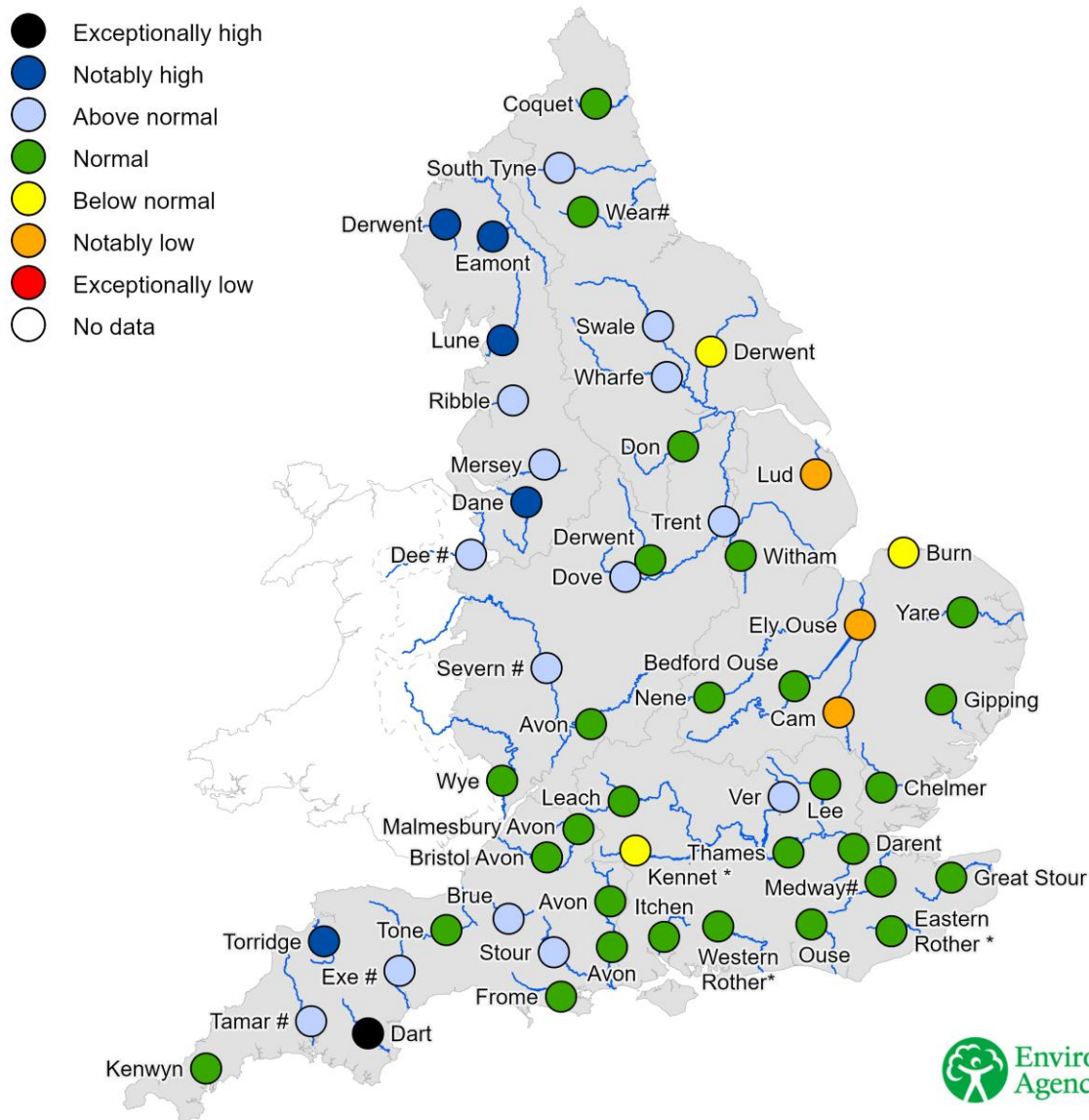


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3 River flows

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