

**SUMMARY** The outlook for August indicates normal to below normal flows across eastern Scotland and north-east England, and below normal to low flows for south Wales and central and southern England. In northwestern areas, flows are likely to be normal to above normal. The August-October outlook suggests a similar geographical pattern with the continuation of below normal to low flows in central and southern England, and normal to above normal flows elsewhere. Normal to below normal groundwater levels are likely to persist through both August and the August-October period.

### Rainfall:

July rainfall for the UK was below average. Some areas of Wales and southwest England recorded less than half the July average. In western Scotland, northwest England and parts of southeast England (Kent), rainfall was above average. The forecast for August (issued by the Met Office on 28.07.2025) indicates an increased chance of dry conditions in August, particularly across southern areas. The August-October forecast suggests an increased likelihood of low pressure conditions associated with unsettled weather, especially in September and October. The overall chances of either dry or wet conditions over August-October as a whole are evenly balanced.

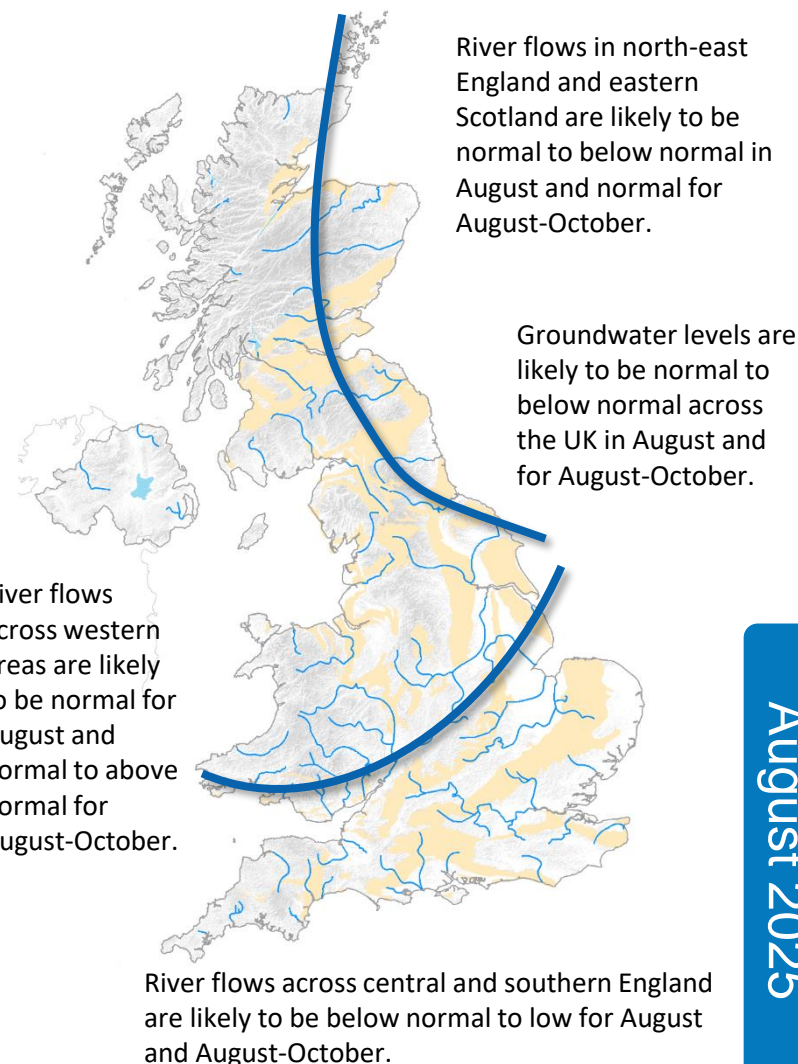
### River flows:

River flows in July were widely in the below normal to notably low range across eastern Scotland, Wales and north-east, central and southern England. Exceptionally low flows were observed in parts of south Wales and southern England. In contrast, flows in northwestern areas were above normal, with notably high flows recorded in north-west England. The outlook for August suggest normal flows is most likely across northern and western areas with below normal to low flows persisting for catchments across eastern Scotland, Wales and north-east, central and southern England. The August-October outlook suggests a similar geographical pattern, with the continuation of below normal to low river flows across central and southern England. Elsewhere, normal flows is most likely for eastern Scotland and north-east England while normal to above normal flows are more likely for northwestern areas.

### Groundwater:

Groundwater levels in July were generally in the normal to below normal range across the UK, with exceptionally low levels in south Wales and southern England. The outlook for August is for normal to below normal levels, with notably to exceptionally low levels for the southern Chalk and Carboniferous Limestones in central southern England, south Wales and the South Downs. Over August-October, normal to below normal levels are the most likely outcome, with levels trending towards the normal range.

The UK Hydrological Outlook provides an outlook for the water situation for the United Kingdom over the next three months and beyond. For guidance on how to interpret the outlook, a wider range of information, and a full description of underpinning methods, please visit the website: [www.hydoutuk.net](http://www.hydoutuk.net)



Shaded areas show principal aquifers

## About the UK Hydrological Outlook:

This document presents an outlook for the UK water situation for the next 1-3 months and beyond, using observational datasets, meteorological forecasts and a suite of hydrological modelling tools. The outlook is produced in a collaboration between the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH), British Geological Survey (BGS), the Met Office, the Environment Agency (EA), Natural Resources Wales (NRW), the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), and for Northern Ireland, the Department for Infrastructure – Rivers (DfIR).

## Data and Models:

The UK Hydrological Outlook depends on the active cooperation of many data suppliers. This cooperation is gratefully acknowledged. Historic river flow and groundwater data are sourced from the [UK National River Flow Archive](#) and the [National Groundwater Level Archive](#). Contemporary data are provided by the EA, SEPA, NRW and DfIR. These data are used to initialise hydrological models, and to provide outlook information based on statistical analysis of historical analogues.

Climate forecasts are produced by the Met Office. Hydrological modelling is undertaken by UKCEH using the Grid-to-Grid and GR6J hydrological models. Hydrogeological modelling uses the AquMod model run by BGS. Supporting documentation is available from the Outlooks website: <https://hydoutuk.net/about/methods>

## Presentation:

The language used in the summary presented overleaf generally places flows and groundwater levels into just three classes, i.e. below normal, normal, and above normal. However, the underpinning methods use as many as seven classes as defined in the graphic to the right, i.e. the summary uses a simpler classification than some of the methods. On those occasions when it is appropriate to provide greater discrimination at the extremes the terminology and definitions of the seven class scheme will be adopted.

Percentile range of historic values for relevant month

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Exceptionally high flow | > 95  |
| Notably high flow       | 87-95 |
| Above normal            | 72-87 |
| Normal range            | 28-72 |
| Below normal            | 13-28 |
| Notably low flow        | 5-13  |
| Exceptionally low flow  | < 5   |

## Disclaimer and liability:

The UK Hydrological Outlook partnership aims to ensure that all Content provided is accurate and consistent with its current scientific understanding. However, the science which underlies hydrological and hydrogeological forecasts and climate projections is constantly evolving. Therefore any element of the Content which involves a forecast or a prediction should not be relied upon as though it were a statement of fact. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the UK Hydrological Outlook Partnership excludes all warranties or representations (express or implied) in respect of the Content.

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## Further information:

For more detailed information about the UK Hydrological Outlook, and the derivation of the maps, plots and interpretation provided in this outlook, please visit the UK Hydrological Outlook website. The website features a host of other background information, including a wider range of sources of information which are used in the preparation of this Outlook. Dynamic access to many of the outputs of the UK Hydrological Portal are available on the [UK Hydrological Outlooks Portal](#).

## Contact:

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## Reference for the UK Hydrological Outlook:

UK Hydrological Outlook, 10 August 2025, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Oxfordshire UK, Online, <https://www.hydoutuk.net/latest-outlook/>

## Other Sources of Information:

The UK Hydrological Outlook should be used alongside other sources of up-to-date information on the current water resources status and flood risk.

Environment Agency Water Situation Reports: provides summary of water resources status on a monthly and weekly basis for England: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/water-situation-reports-for-england>

Flood warnings are continually updated, and should be consulted for an up-to-date and localised assessment of flood risk:

- Environment Agency: <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/map>
- Natural Resources Wales: <https://flood-warning.naturalresources.wales/>
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency: <https://www.sepa.org.uk/flooding.aspx>

Hydrological Summary for the UK: provides summary of current water resources status for the UK: <https://nrfa.ceh.ac.uk/monthly-hydrological-summary-uk>

UK Met Office forecasts for the UK: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/>

UK Water Resources Portal: monitor the UK hydrological situation in near real-time including rainfall, river flow, groundwater and soil moisture from COSMOS-UK: <https://eip.ceh.ac.uk/hydrology/water-resources/>