ASEAN Food Security Information System

Prolonged Heavy Rainfall Caused Severe Floods in Thailand

Flooding in Thailand during September to October 2026

The strong monsoon affected the northern and central regions of Thailand, in combination with the prevailing southwest monsoon over the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand. These weather conditions caused significant impacts in several areas, with 22 provinces, including Bangkok, reporting adverse effects as of 26 September 2026. A strong low-pressure area, together with the monsoon, increased the risk of heavy to very heavy rainfall in several areas, resulting in flash floods, landslides, mudslides, and river overflows, particularly in mountainous, low-lying, and flood-prone areas. Accumulated rainfall recorded from 150 to 300 mm in the western region, while some areas in the eastern region received 300-500 mm.

According to the Thai Meteorological Department, rainfall was forecast to decrease during 28-29 September 2026, although isolated heavy rainfall was still expected, particularly in the western parts of the northern, central, and eastern regions. These conditions were influenced by a low-pressure area over the Gulf of Martaban and a moderate southwest monsoon prevailing over the Andaman Sea, Thailand, and the Gulf of Thailand. From 30 September to 4 October 2026, scattered thunderstorms were expected across upper Thailand under the influence of the southwest monsoon and southeasterly winds affecting several regions.

Damage and losses

Impact on the affected area

During 16-30 September 2026, Thailand experienced widespread flooding across 49 provinces, affecting 283 districts, 1,863 subdistricts, and 13,975 villages, as well as 38 districts and 118 subdistricts in Bangkok. A total of 2,134,197 households, or 6,608,277 people, were affected, and 79 fatalities were reported. The affected areas covered the northern, northeastern, eastern, and central regions, Bangkok and its vicinity, as well as some areas in the south.

According to the reports, the main causes were heavy rainfall, flash floods, and overflowing rivers. In the Chao Phraya River Basin, increased water discharge from the Chao Phraya Dam raised water levels in the Noi River and its tributary canals, resulting in flooding in residential areas of Ayutthaya province. At the time of reporting, flooding persisted in 11 provinces, covering 32 districts, 317 subdistricts, and 2,369 villages, as well as 2 districts and 7 subdistricts in Bangkok. A total of 147,744 households, or 430,870 people, remained affected, although water levels had begun to recede in many areas.

From 1-28 October 2026, the reported flooding affected 20 provinces, 73 districts, 336 subdistricts, and 2,280 villages, impacting 58,454 households, or 154,850 people, and resulting in six fatalities. As of 28 October, flooding persisted in Kanchanaburi, Ratchaburi, and Satun provinces, which affecting 10 districts, 22 subdistricts, and 86 villages, with 3,128

households, or 6,870 people, still affected. The report indicated that water levels in the monitored areas were trending downward.

Agricultural devastation

Agricultural land: Several flood-affected areas in Thailand are located along the Chao Phraya River Basin, including Ayutthaya, Phitsanulok, Suphan Buri, Chai Nat, Nakhon Sawan, Phichit, and Uthai Thani. Meanwhile, areas along the Bang Pakong and Mae Klong River Basins include Rayong, Chachoengsao, and Kanchanaburi. These areas are important rice-growing regions, where the affected rice crops were at various stages of harvesting.

Affected crops: According to a report by the Kasikorn Research Center, the flooding between 25 September and 14 October 2026 could cause an estimated 12 billion Thai baht in damage to the wet-season rice crop. The affected area was estimated at approximately 1.5 million rai, accounting for 2.5% of the country's total wet-season rice cultivation area.

Government responses and countermeasures

The Prime Minister has instructed relevant agencies to coordinate with at-risk provinces on early warnings, evacuations, and the preparation of emergency personnel, equipment, boats, water pumps, and shelters under 24-hour monitoring. Cell Broadcast alerts have been issued in Bo Rai and Khao Saming districts due to rising water levels, while the Thai Meteorological Department continues to monitor weather conditions and issue warnings.

Sources:

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