

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 23 January to Tuesday 29 January 2019

Summary: It has been a wetter week across England, particularly in the north-west. Flows increased in three fifths of the rivers we monitor but most remain below normal or lower for the time of year.

Rainfall

Precipitation totals over the past week ranged from 10 mm in east England to 30 mm in north-west England (Table 1 and Figure 1) with both rain and snow falling in many areas. The cumulative totals for January, to date, range from 35% of the monthly long term average (LTA) in north-east England to 51% in north-west England (Table 1).

River flow

Flows have increased at around three fifths of indicator sites this week though the same number of sites as last week remain classed as [below normal](#) or lower for this time of year. The remaining two fifths of indicator sites are classed as [normal](#), or above, for the time of year.

Outlook

A band of rain, turning to snow, is forecast to move in across southern England during Thursday and into Friday. Saturday should be dry apart from the risk of showers in the north east. Another wintery front is forecast to cross the whole country on Sunday and into Monday. Accumulations of snow are possible across England throughout this period.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 23 to 29 Jan 2019	Latest month to date: Jan 2019		Last month: Dec 2018		Last 3 months: Oct to Dec 2018		Last 6 months: Jul to Dec 2018		Last 12 months: Jan to Dec 2018	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	30	57	51	140	117	356	98	646	98	1,104	95
north-east	14	28	35	81	101	232	99	414	94	806	98
central	14	30	45	87	122	197	100	340	91	706	99
east	10	23	44	67	121	170	104	282	89	570	95
south-east	13	28	39	92	122	250	114	383	99	734	101
south-west	19	49	43	157	134	392	123	568	106	1,046	104
England	16	34	42	100	118	256	105	420	94	800	97

Table 1 Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2019)¹

¹ Notes:

- LTA = long term average rainfall for 1961 – 1990.
- 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 is 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.

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Rainfall

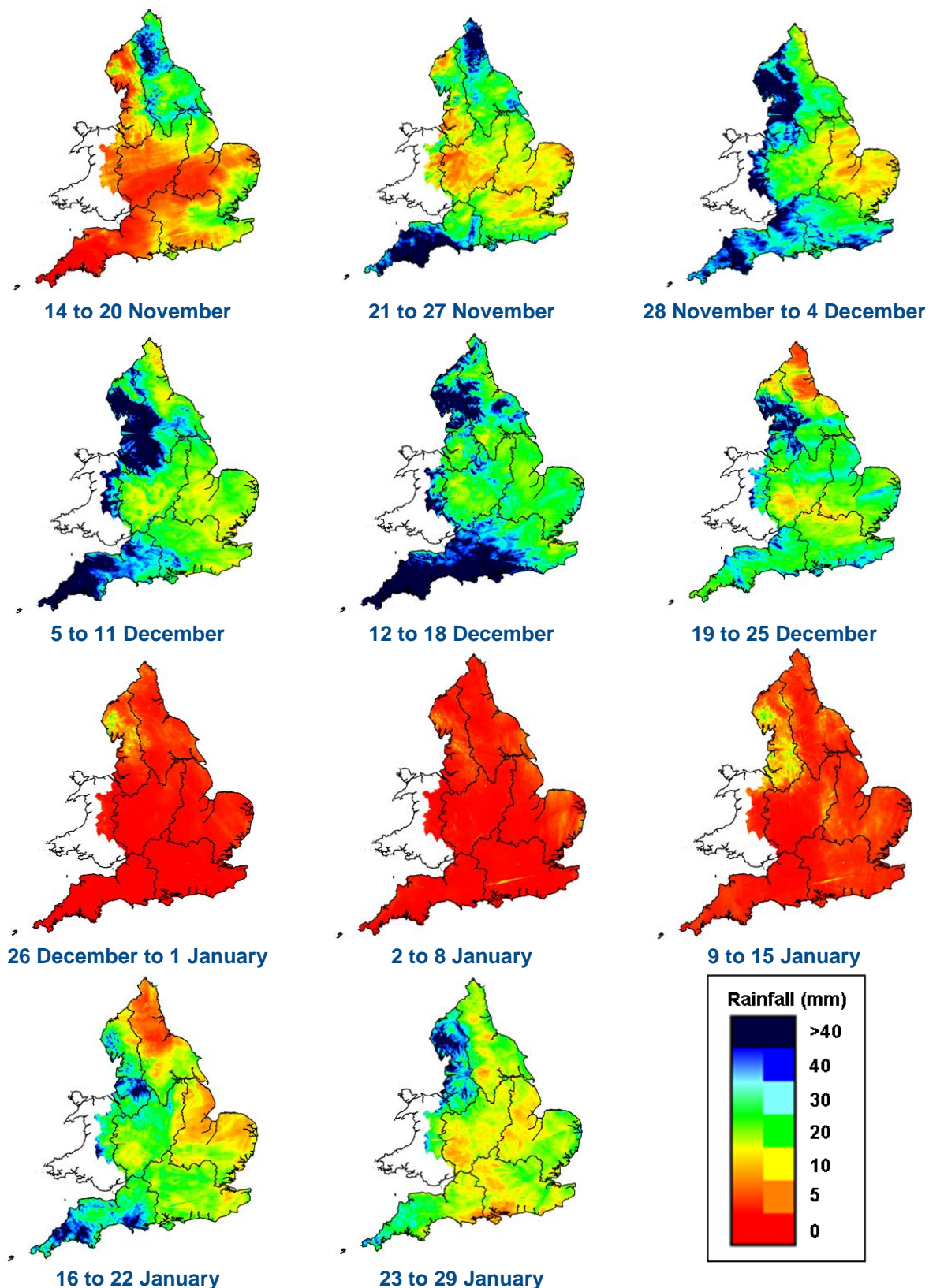
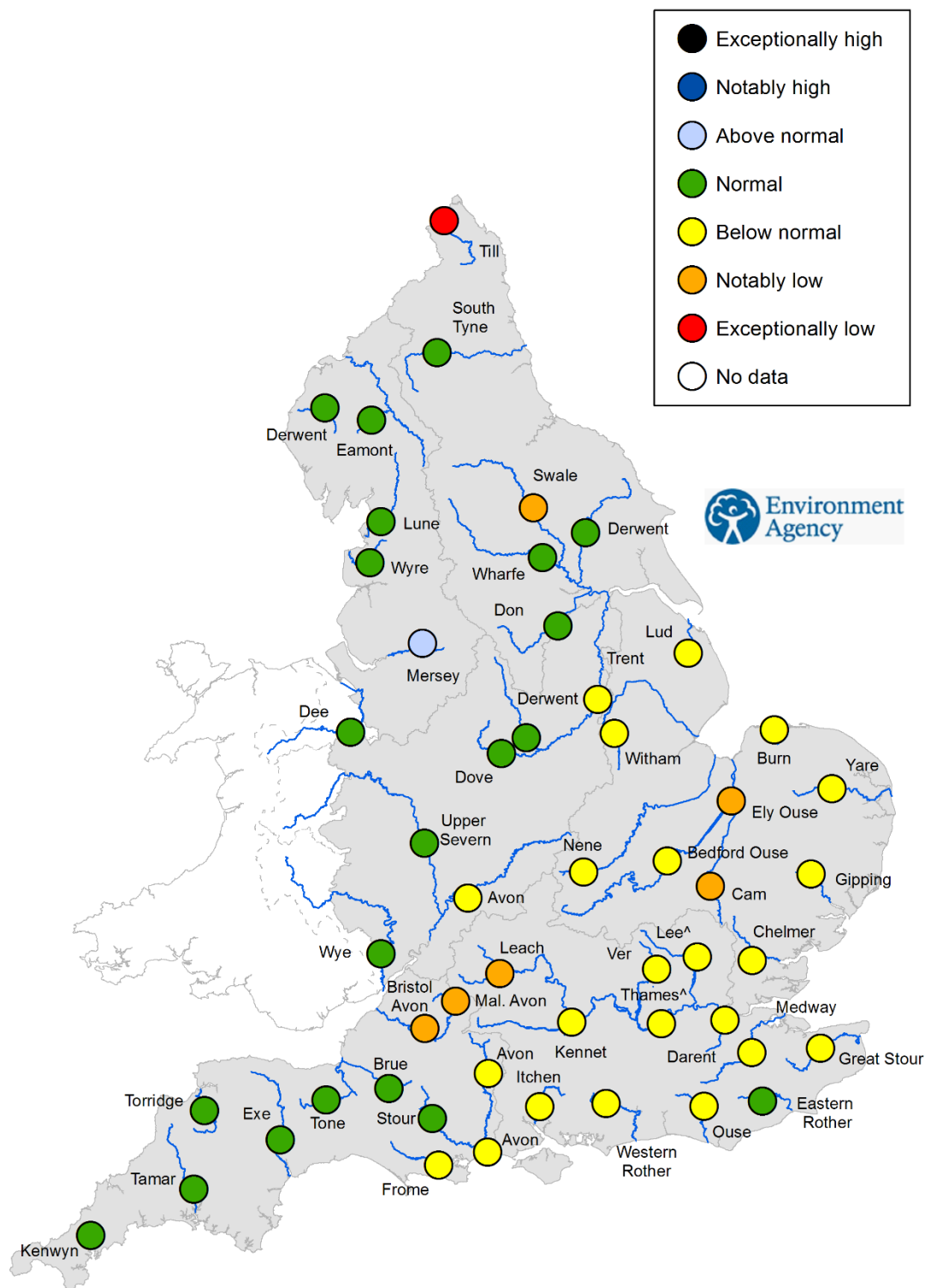


Figure 1 Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2019). Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation affecting its performance. This does not reflect actual conditions on the ground. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2019.

River flow



¹'Naturalised' flows are provided for the River Thames at Kingston and the River Lee at Feildes Weir.

Figure 2 Latest daily mean river flow, relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows, classed by flow percentile for the same time of year² (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2019.

²Flow percentiles describe the percentage of time that a particular flow has been equalled or exceeded compared to the historic flow record for that site for the time of year. Flow percentiles presented relate to an analysis for the time of year and not a whole year.

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

[Return to summary page](#)