

# Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 16 to Tuesday 22 July 2014

## Summary

The past week has been wet across the majority of England, due to heavy rainfall at the weekend, particularly in parts of central and southern England. Much of this rainfall has been convective and therefore localised in nature with some areas, particularly in south west England, experiencing relatively little rainfall. As a result of the rainfall across England river flows are **normal** or higher for the time of year at the majority of our indicator sites.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 14 millimetres (mm) in east England to 28 mm in central England (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- Cumulative rainfall totals for July to date range from 67% of the July long term average (LTA) in south west England to 101% in east England (Table 1).
- The latest daily mean river flows are **normal** or higher for the time of year at the majority of our indicator sites. River flows at 13 of our indicator sites across southern and central England are **above normal** or **notably high** for the time of year, with only 5 sites across England being **below normal** or lower for the time of year, located in areas that received less rainfall this week (Figure 2).

## Outlook

Most of England will remain dry on Thursday and Friday but some heavy showers are expected in parts of the south and south west during Thursday afternoon and evening, with further lighter showers expected on Friday afternoon. On Saturday, an area of showery rain is expected to move into north west England, slowly spreading south and east on Sunday, with showers expected to be slow moving and heavy at times, especially in south and east England. Once these showers move away during Monday, conditions are expected to become drier again.

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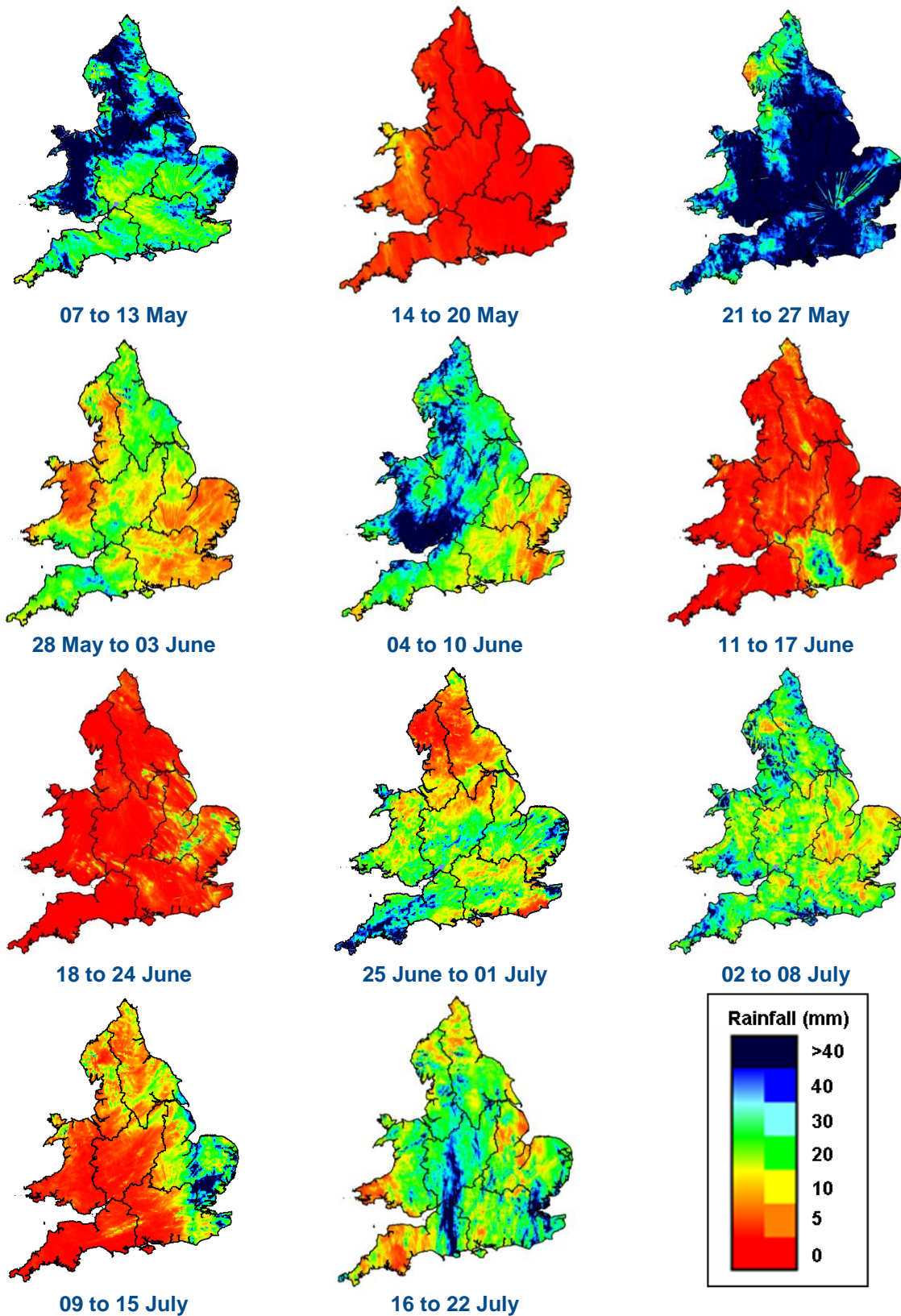
Geographic regions	Latest Week: 16 - 22 Jul '14	Latest month to date: Jul '14		Last month: Jun '14		Last 3 months: Apr '14 - Jun '14		Last 6 months: Jan '14 - Jun '14		Last 12 months: Jul '13 - Jun '14	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
North West	20	58	70	44	56	192	87	632	126	1352	116
North East	17	45	74	46	77	201	114	495	130	961	117
Central	28	48	92	53	93	197	118	487	143	916	128
East	14	50	101	37	73	155	106	346	123	671	112
South East	18	41	84	36	67	182	114	548	161	1016	140
South West	15	41	67	64	102	252	133	741	157	1384	137
England	18	46	81	46	78	195	113	527	141	1015	126

**Table 1:** Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Notes:

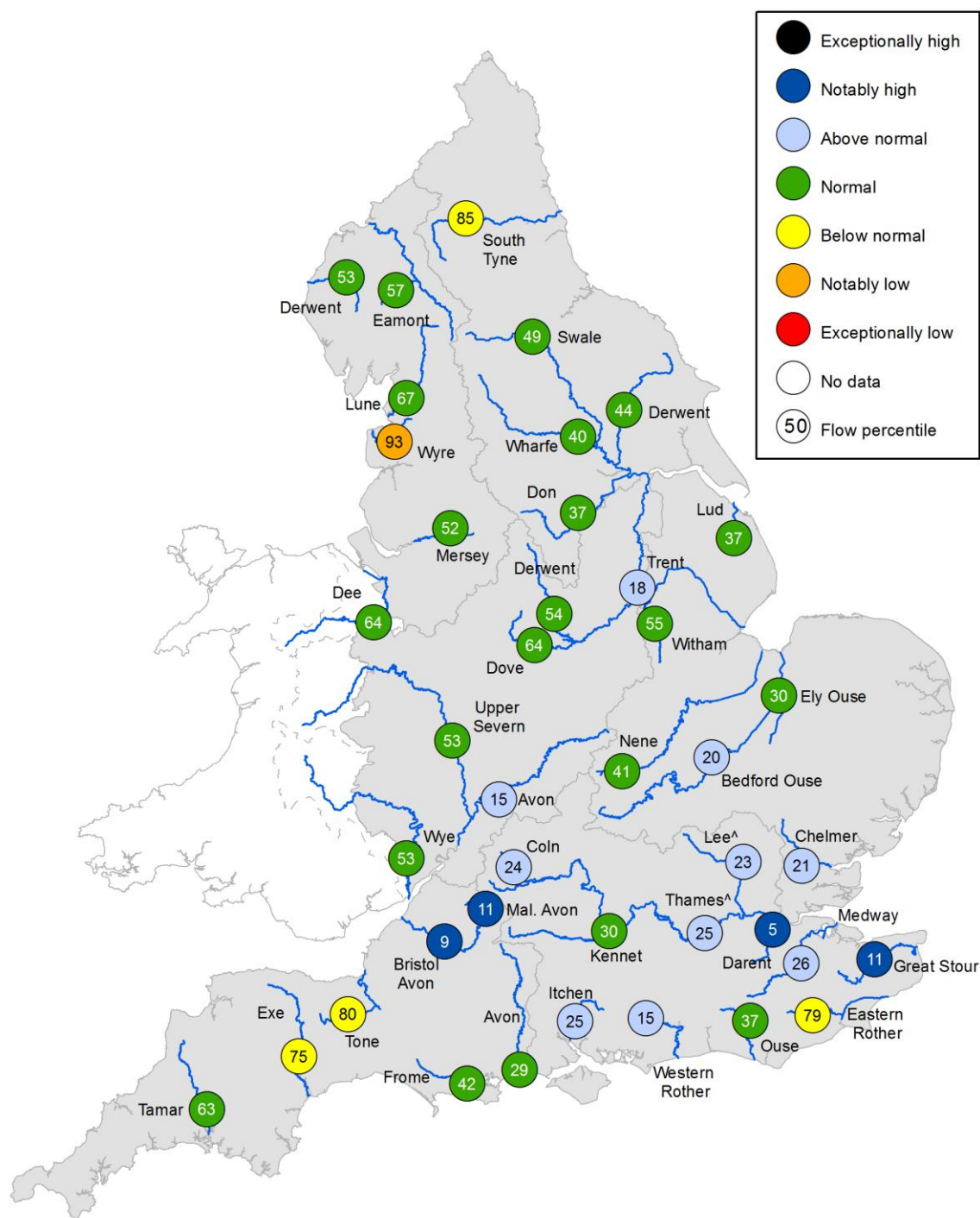
- LTA = long term average rainfall for 1961 – 1990
- Data for the current month are calculated using MORECS (Met Office Rainfall and Evaporation Calculation System); data for past months are provisional values from the National Climate Information Centre (NCIC).
- The data is rounded to the nearest millimetre or percent (except when values are less than 1).
- Recorded amounts of rainfall are likely to be underestimated during snow events.

**All data are provisional and may be subject to revision. The views expressed in this document are not necessarily those of the Environment Agency. Its officers, servants or agents accept no liability for any loss or damage arising from the interpretation or use of the information, or reliance upon views contained herein.**



**Figure 1:** Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past eleven weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2014). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2014.

# River Flow



^ – 'Naturalised' flows are provided for the Thames at Kingston and the Lee at Feildes Weir.

**Figure 2:** Latest daily mean river flow expressed as a percentile<sup>2</sup> and classed relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows for the same time of year (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Flow 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. For example, a flow percentile of 5 indicates that the current flow has only been equalled or exceeded approximately 5% of the time within the historic record for that time of year – i.e. a very high flow. A flow percentile of 95 indicates that the current flow has been equalled or exceeded approximately 95% of the time – i.e. a low flow. Flow percentiles presented relate to an analysis for the time of year and not a whole year.