

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 14 to Tuesday 20 January 2015

Summary

Rainfall totals over the past week have been lower than the previous week across England, with the highest rainfall totals affecting north-west and south-west England. River flows have decreased at the majority of our indicator sites although the latest daily mean flows remain **normal** or higher for the time of year at all but one of our indicator sites.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 6 mm in east England to 34 mm in the south-west (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- At two thirds of the way through the month, cumulative rainfall totals for January to date, range from 70% of the January long term average (LTA) in east and north-east England to 108% in the south-east (Table 1).
- River flows have fallen at the majority of our indicator sites compared to the previous week. The latest daily mean river flows are **normal** or higher for the time of year at almost all of our indicator sites, with 6 sites being **above normal** for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Following a dry Thursday, a band of patchy rain, sleet and snow will move across England from the west on Friday. As this clears from the east, Saturday will be dry. The south and east are likely to stay dry on Sunday, although rain will move in across the north-west during the day. Monday and Tuesday will be more unsettled, with bands of rain and showers being interspersed with drier conditions.

Author: [E&B Hydrology Team](#)

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 14 - 20 Jan '15	Latest month to date: Jan '15		Last month: Dec '14		Last 3 months: Oct '14 - Dec '14		Last 6 months: Jul '14 - Dec '14		Last 12 months: Jan '14 - Dec '14	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	31	113	99	150	125	425	117	657	100	1300	112
north-east	21	55	70	75	93	260	111	442	100	932	114
central	17	47	72	63	88	236	120	392	105	881	123
east	6	36	70	50	91	210	128	375	118	732	122
south-east	24	78	108	54	71	289	132	448	115	991	136
south-west	34	110	96	75	64	354	111	529	98	1255	124
England	21	69	87	73	87	285	119	459	106	986	122

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

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.



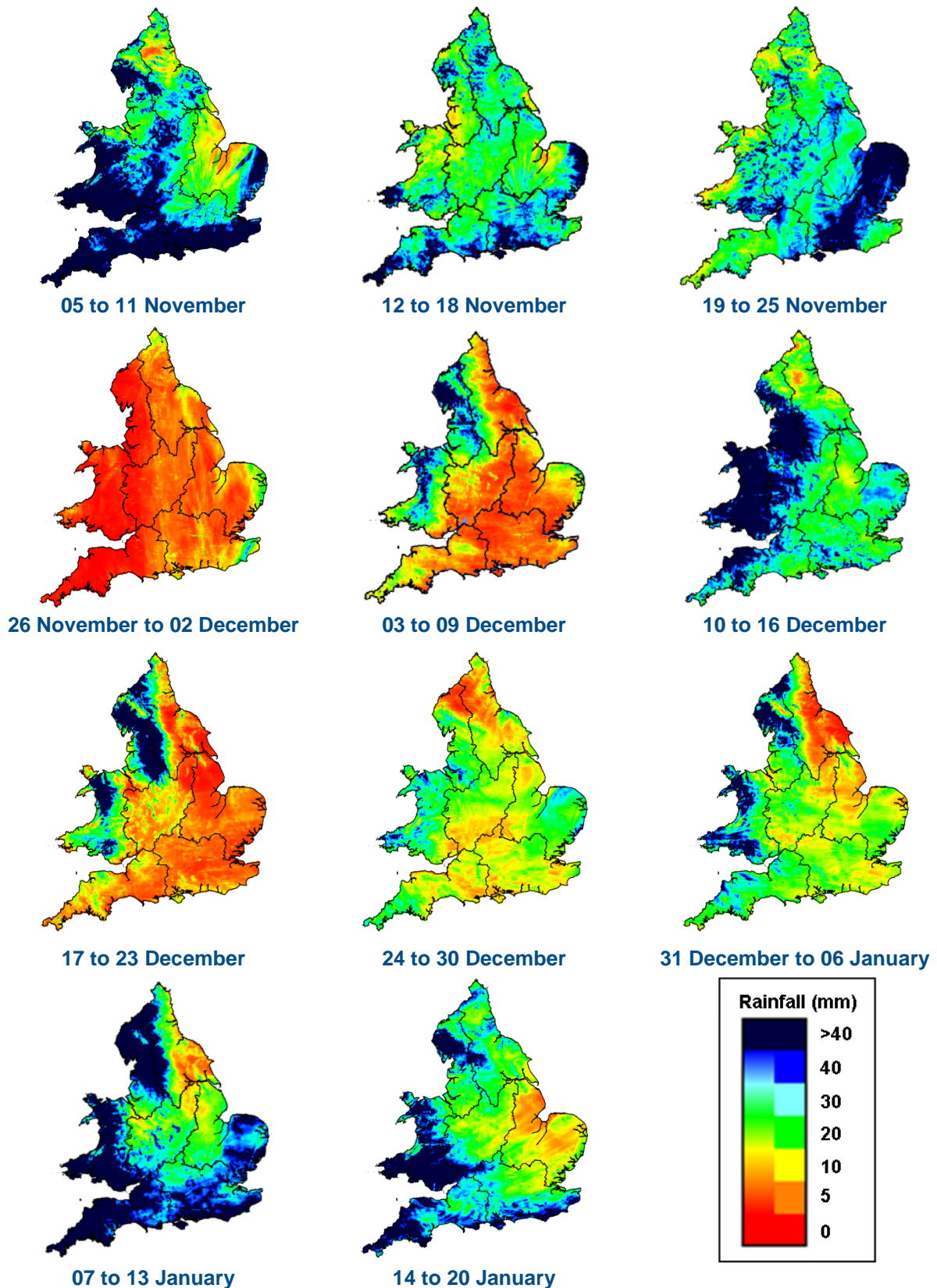
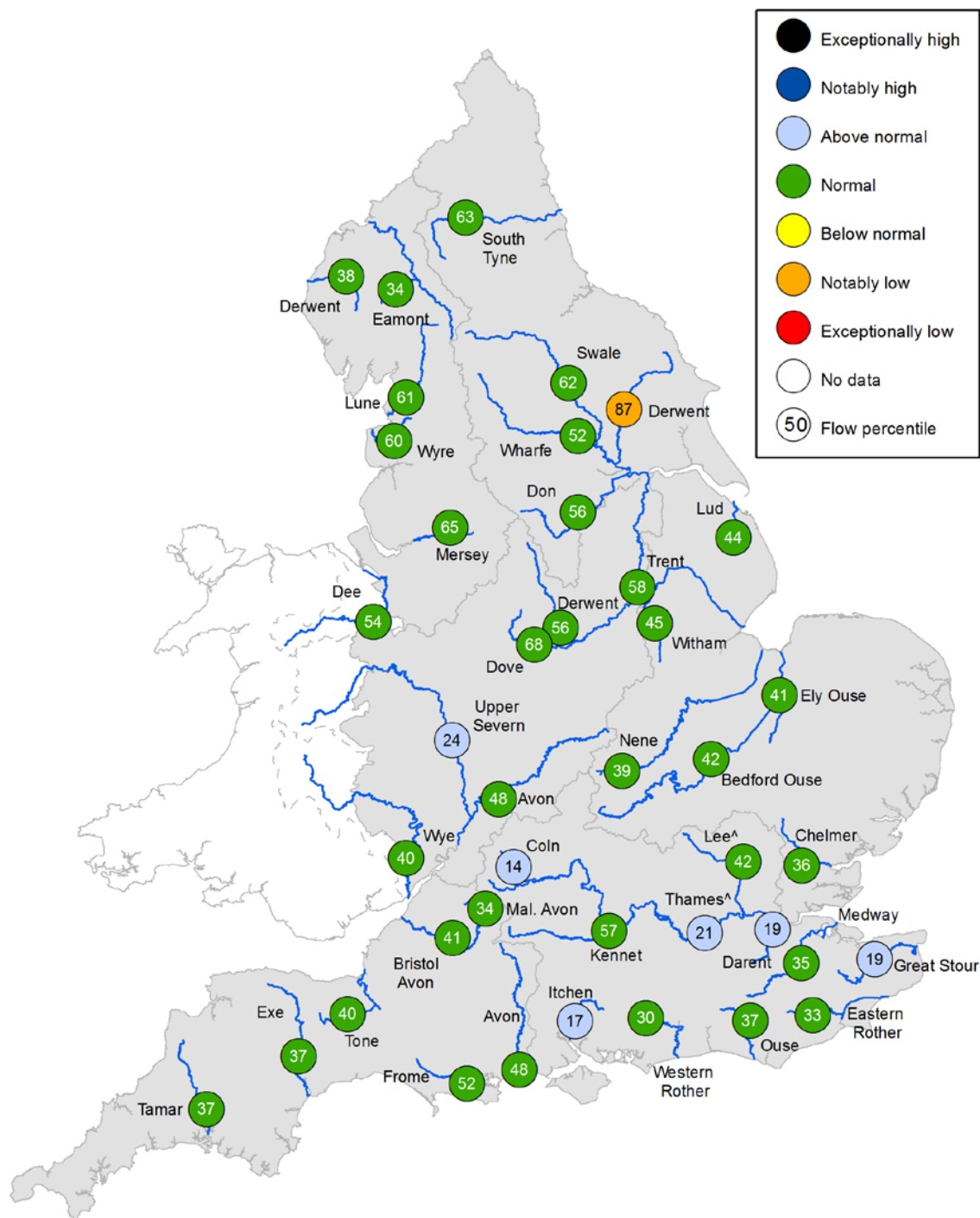


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

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 percentile² 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, 2015.

² 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.