

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 23 to Tuesday 29 July 2014

Summary

The past week has been dry across the majority of England, although localised rainfall and thunderstorms affected parts of eastern and southern England and the far north. River flows are **normal** or higher for the time of year at three quarters of our indicator sites.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 1 millimetre (mm) in central England to 12 mm in south east England (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- Cumulative rainfall totals for July to date range from 71% of the July long term average (LTA) in south west England to 110% in east England (Table 1).
- The latest daily mean river flows are **normal** or higher for the time of year at three quarters of our indicator sites. River flows at 10 of our indicator sites across southern England are **above normal** or **notably high** for the time of year and 10 sites across England are **below normal** or lower for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Thursday and Friday will be fine and dry across most of England although showers, some of which may be locally heavy, may affect parts of the country. Saturday will be increasingly unsettled with showers and rain affecting most parts. The rain will clear from the south on Sunday and the fine weather will continue on Monday. Rain will gradually spread from the west late on Monday and reach the east of England on Tuesday.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 23 - 29 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	5	63	76	44	56	192	87	632	126	1352	116
North East	5	50	83	46	77	201	114	495	130	961	117
Central	1	49	94	53	93	197	118	487	143	916	128
East	5	54	110	37	73	155	106	346	123	671	112
South East	12	53	109	36	67	182	114	548	161	1016	140
South West	2	43	71	64	102	252	133	741	157	1384	137
England	5	52	90	46	78	195	113	527	141	1015	126

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.

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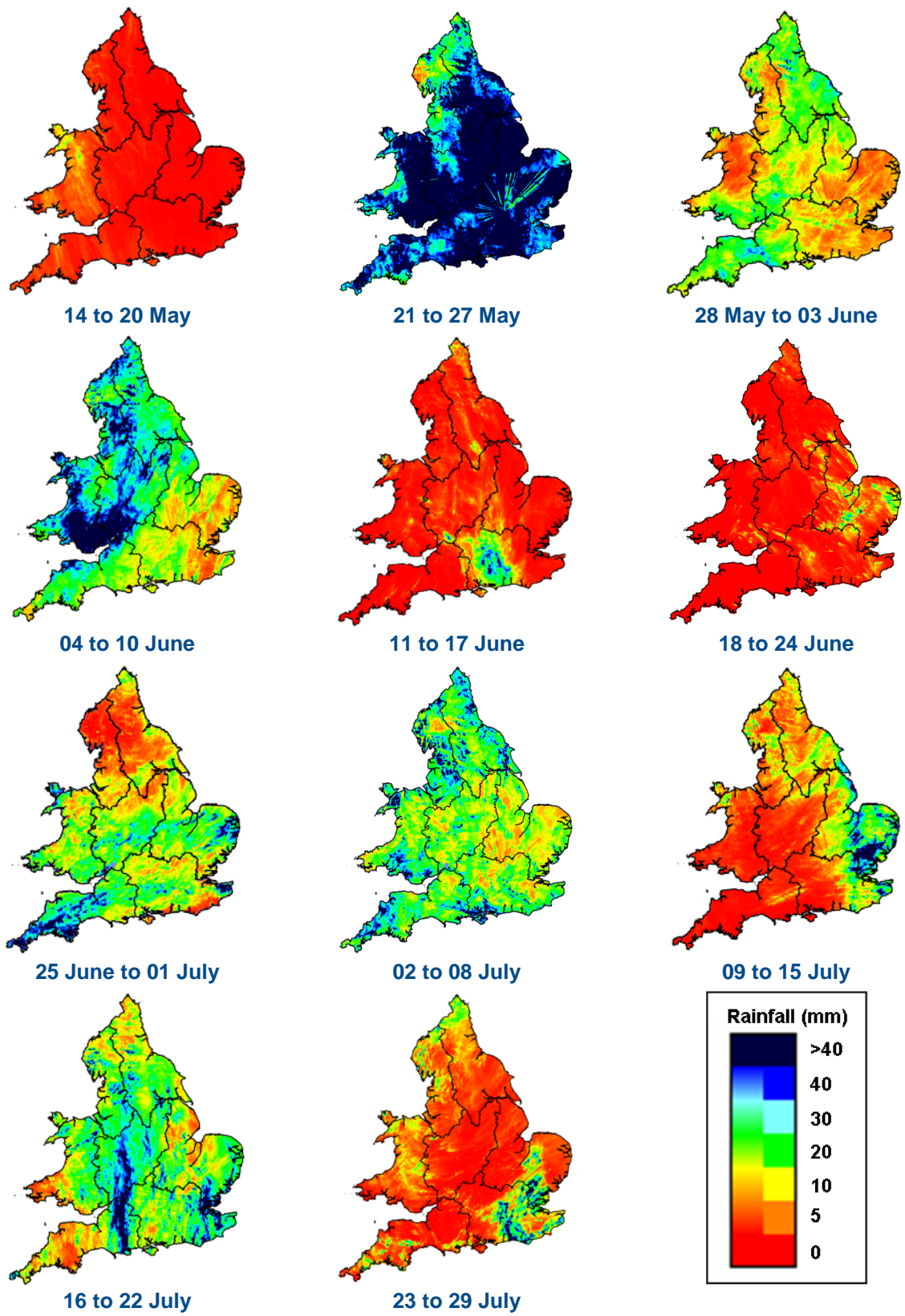
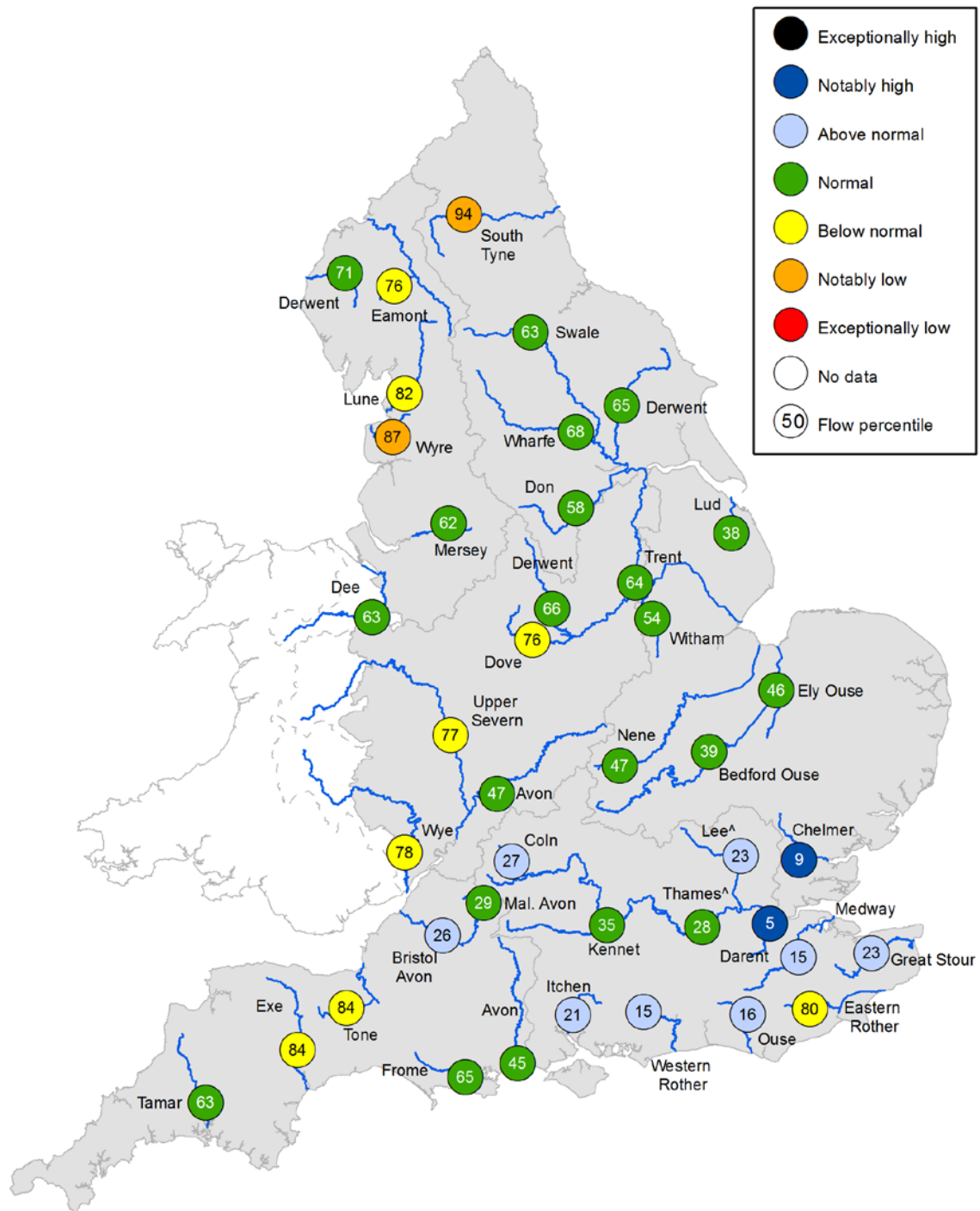


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past eleven weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2014). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2014.

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 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, 2014.

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.