

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 13 to Tuesday 19 April 2016

Summary: A drier week than last week across much of England. Flows are mostly normal for the time of year.

Rainfall

The past week has been drier than last week across much of England, especially in the west. Rainfall totals ranged from 8mm in north-west England to 19mm in east England (Table 1 and Figure 1). Cumulative rainfall totals for April to date range from 64% of the April long term average (LTA) in south-west England to 110% in north-west England (Table 1).

River flow

River flows have decreased at almost all sites compared to last week. The latest daily mean flows are [normal](#) or higher for the time of year at all but two sites, with nearly two thirds of the sites being [normal](#) for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Thursday and Friday will be largely dry, with some widespread rain across southern England on Friday. On Saturday and Sunday showers will affect mostly north and east England, and may be wintery in places. On Monday and Tuesday the showers are expected to continue in north and east of England but there will also be plenty of dry, sunny weather.

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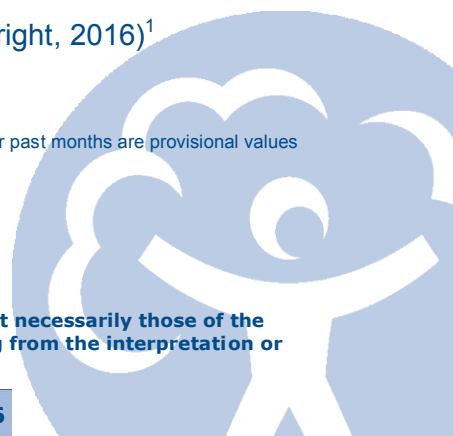
Geographic regions	Latest Week: 13 to 19 Apr 2016	Latest month to date: Apr 2016		Last month: Mar 2016		Last 3 months: Jan 2016 to Mar 2016		Last 6 months: Oct 2015 to Mar 2016		Last 12 months: Apr 2015 to Mar 2016	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	8	75	110	84	92	420	150	1093	170	1579	136
north-east	15	59	104	78	116	302	148	728	166	1103	135
central	15	49	94	81	142	240	138	478	129	793	111
east	19	43	93	72	154	174	129	344	115	635	106
south-east	16	44	86	84	142	261	145	475	119	803	110
south-west	11	39	64	102	121	392	139	714	119	1162	115
England	15	50	92	83	127	286	142	600	136	964	119

Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2016)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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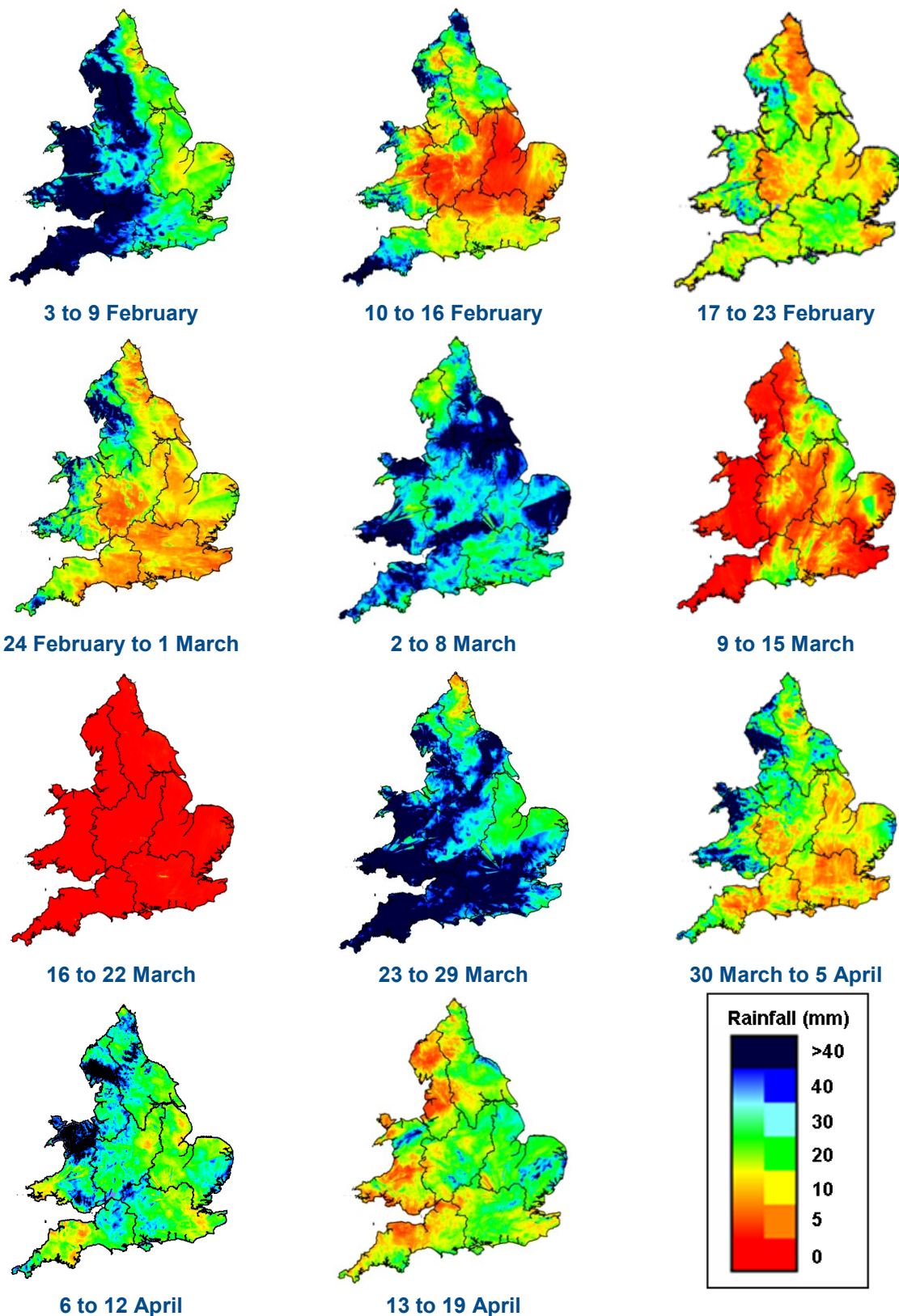
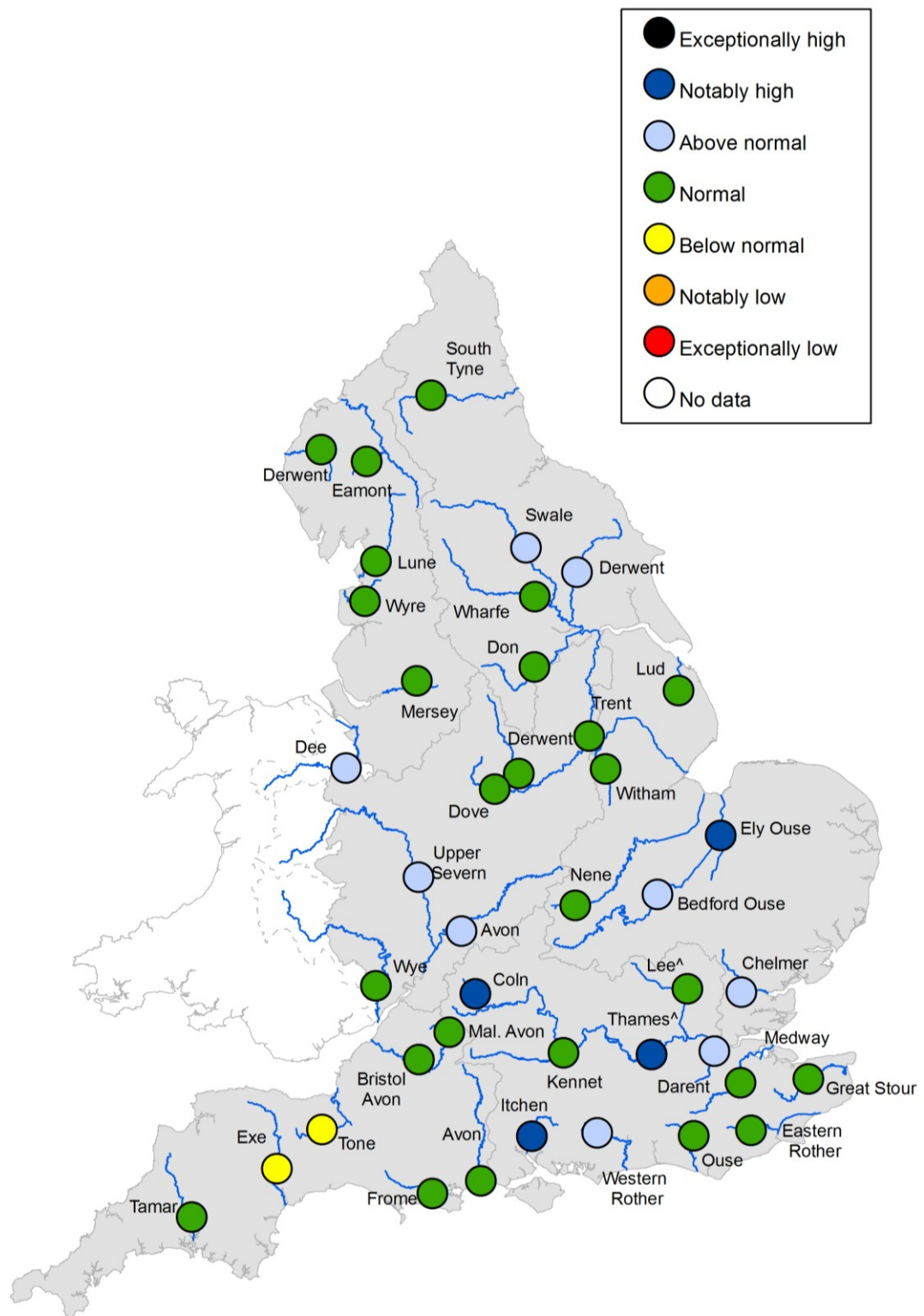


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2016). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2016.

River flow



[^] – ‘Naturalised’ flows are provided for the Thames at Kingston and the 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, 2016.

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

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