Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 15 to Tuesday 21 June 2016

Summary: a second wet week across England means river flows are normal or higher for the time of year.

Rainfall

The past week has again been wet across England. Rainfall totals ranged from 17mm in north-east England to 54mm in south-west England (Table 1 and Figure 1). Cumulative rainfall totals for the month to date range from 74% of the June long term average (LTA) in north-east England to 156% in central England (Table 1).

River flow

River flows have increased at two-thirds of our indicator sites compared to last week. The latest daily mean flows are normal or higher for the time of year at all sites; with 7 sites being exceptionally high for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Torrential rain and heavy showers on Thursday are likely to affect the far south-east of England with some thunderstorms further west. The rain should clear on Friday morning, but further scattered and heavy thunderstorms are expected across the north and west on Friday and further east on Saturday. A dry start on Sunday may be followed by band of rain from the west. Monday and Tuesday will be mostly dry but with some outbreaks of rain.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 15 to 21 Jun 2016	Latest month to date: Jun 2016		Last month: May 2016		Last 3 months: Mar 2016 to May 2016		Last 6 months: Dec 2015 to May 2016		Last 12 months: Jun 2015 to May 2016	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	29	73	93	47	64	229	98	894	165	1,517	131
north-east	17	44	74	41	69	201	109	616	154	1,096	134
central	35	90	156	54	94	201	120	460	129	815	114
east	24	63	123	49	101	180	128	337	118	667	112
south-east	32	60	110	62	114	202	123	457	127	839	115
south-west	54	80	127	61	91	214	101	637	121	1,178	117
England	31	67	114	52	89	202	113	539	135	975	121

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.

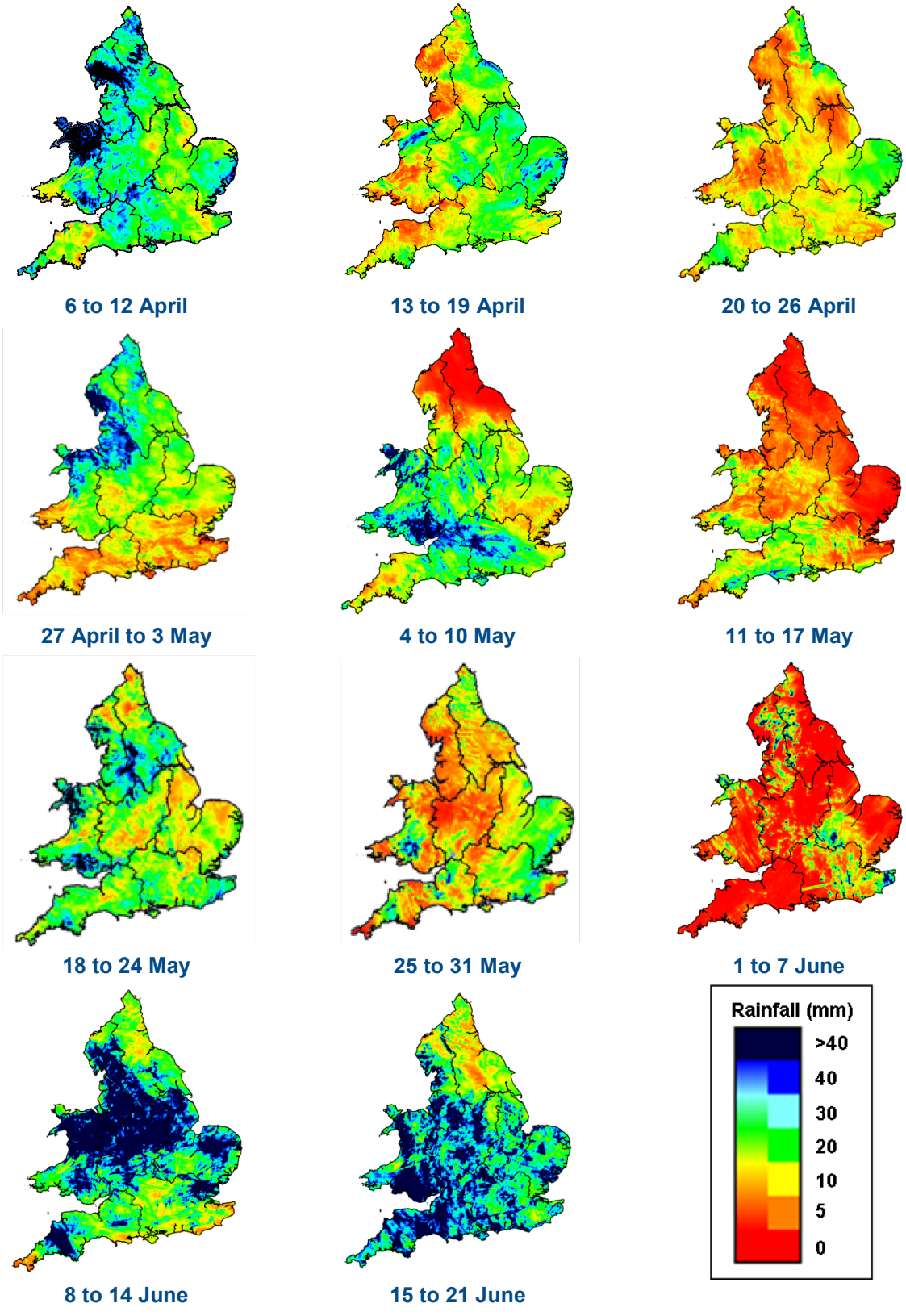
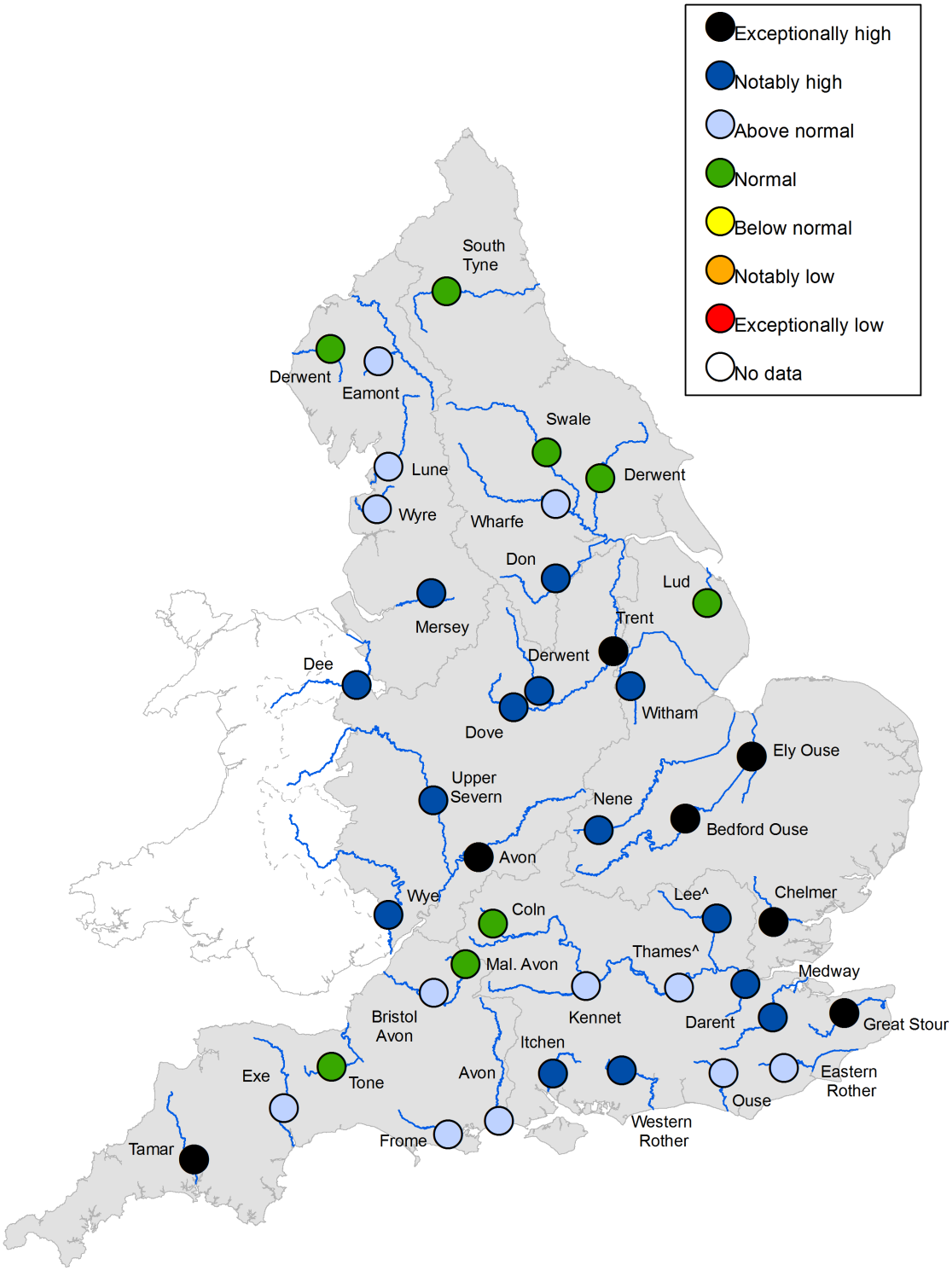


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2016). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2016.

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 year[2] (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2016.

[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. 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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