Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 17 to Tuesday 23 June 2015

Summary

The past week has been relatively settled across much of England, but with most parts receiving some rainfall. River flows have decreased at over half of the indicator sites compared to the previous week, and two thirds are **normal** for the time of year.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 7mm in north-east and central England to 11mm in south-east England (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- Cumulative rainfall totals for the month range from 47% of the June long term average (LTA) in south-east to 71% in the central England (Table 1).
- River flows have decreased at more than half of our indicator sites. The latest daily mean flows remain **normal** for the time of year at two thirds of our indicator sites with a third of sites now **below normal** or lower for the time of year. Six sites are now **notably low** for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

On Thursday, southern areas will be warm and dry, with some patchy rain further north. Friday will see rain spread east across most of England. Saturday will be drier for most areas, before rain moves in from the west on Saturday night through to Sunday. This will be followed by largely dry weather on Monday and Tuesday.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 17 - 23 Jun '15	Latest month to date: Jun '15		Last month: May '15		Last 3 months: Mar '15 - May '15		Last 6 months: Dec '14 - May '15		Last 12 months: Jun '14 - May '15	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	9	38	48	130	178	293	126	679	125	1216	105
north-east	7	31	52	96	160	189	103	387	97	789	96
central	7	41	71	75	130	144	86	310	87	700	98
east	9	26	51	55	114	101	71	240	84	607	102
south-east	11	26	47	60	110	107	65	308	85	734	101
south-west	8	37	59	81	122	151	71	446	85	948	94
England	9	32	54	79	135	154	86	372	94	800	99

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.

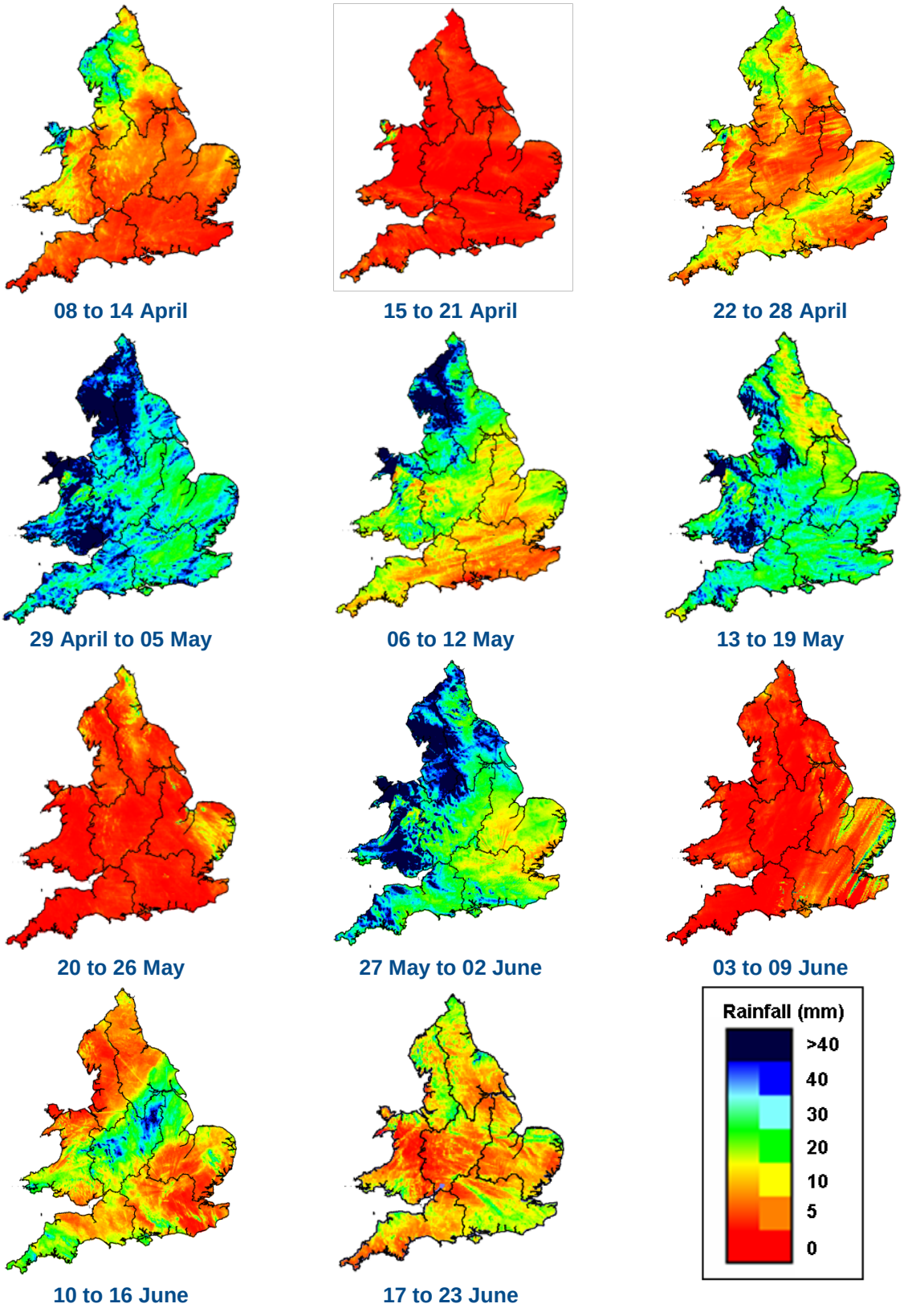
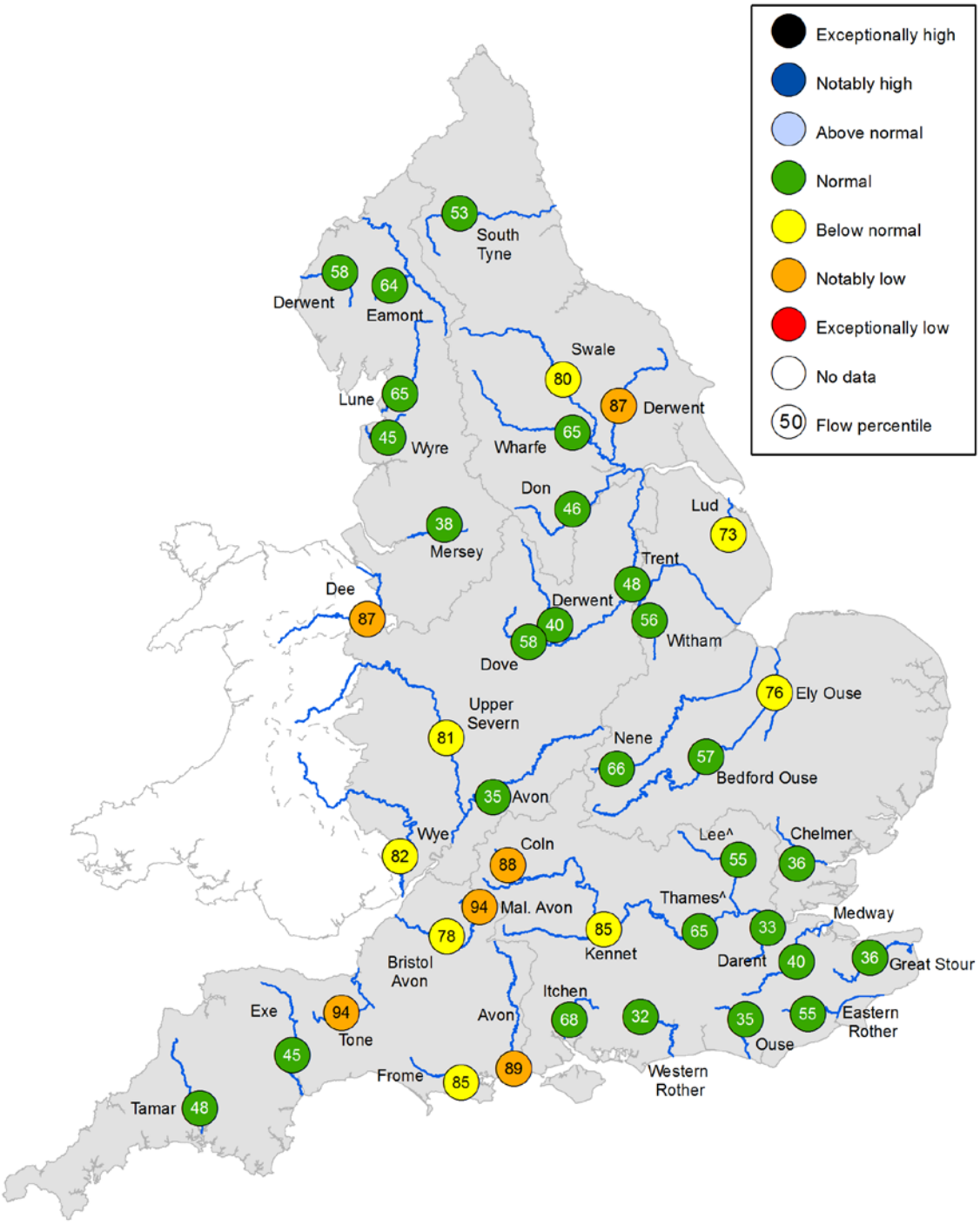


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

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 percentile[2] 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.