

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 30 March to Tuesday 5 April 2016

Summary: Drier this week in the south but wetter in north-west England. Flows are normal or higher for the time of year.

Rainfall

The past week has been wet in north-west England and parts of north-east England, but drier across the rest of England. Rainfall totals ranged from 8mm in south-east England to 36mm in north-west England (Table 1 and Figure 1). Cumulative rainfall totals for the first 5 days of April range from 16% of the long term average (LTA) in south-east England to 52% in north-west England (Table 1).

River flow

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

Outlook

Rain on Thursday will become showery during the day and into Friday. Later on Friday, a front will move north-eastwards, bringing rain that will continue on Saturday. Sunday and Monday will see unsettled conditions, with rain affecting the south and west. Tuesday will also see periods of rain and showers.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 30 Mar to 5 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	36	35	52	84	92	420	150	1098	171	1605	138
north-east	18	17	31	78	116	302	148	740	169	1129	138
central	12	12	23	81	142	240	138	482	130	796	111
east	10	9	20	72	154	174	129	345	115	637	107
south-east	8	8	16	84	142	261	145	476	119	813	112
south-west	11	11	19	102	121	392	139	704	117	1169	116
England	14	14	26	83	127	286	142	603	137	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.

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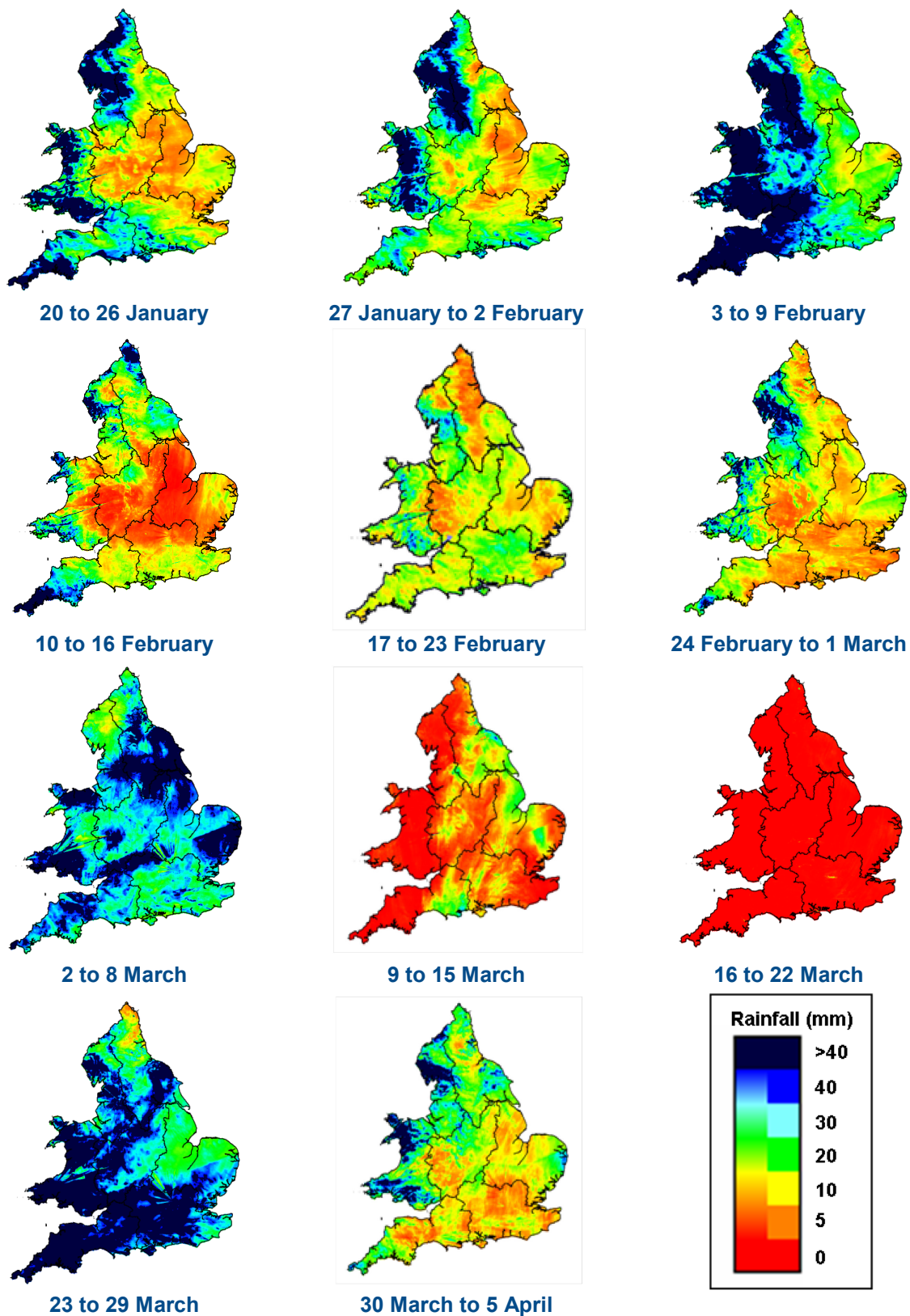
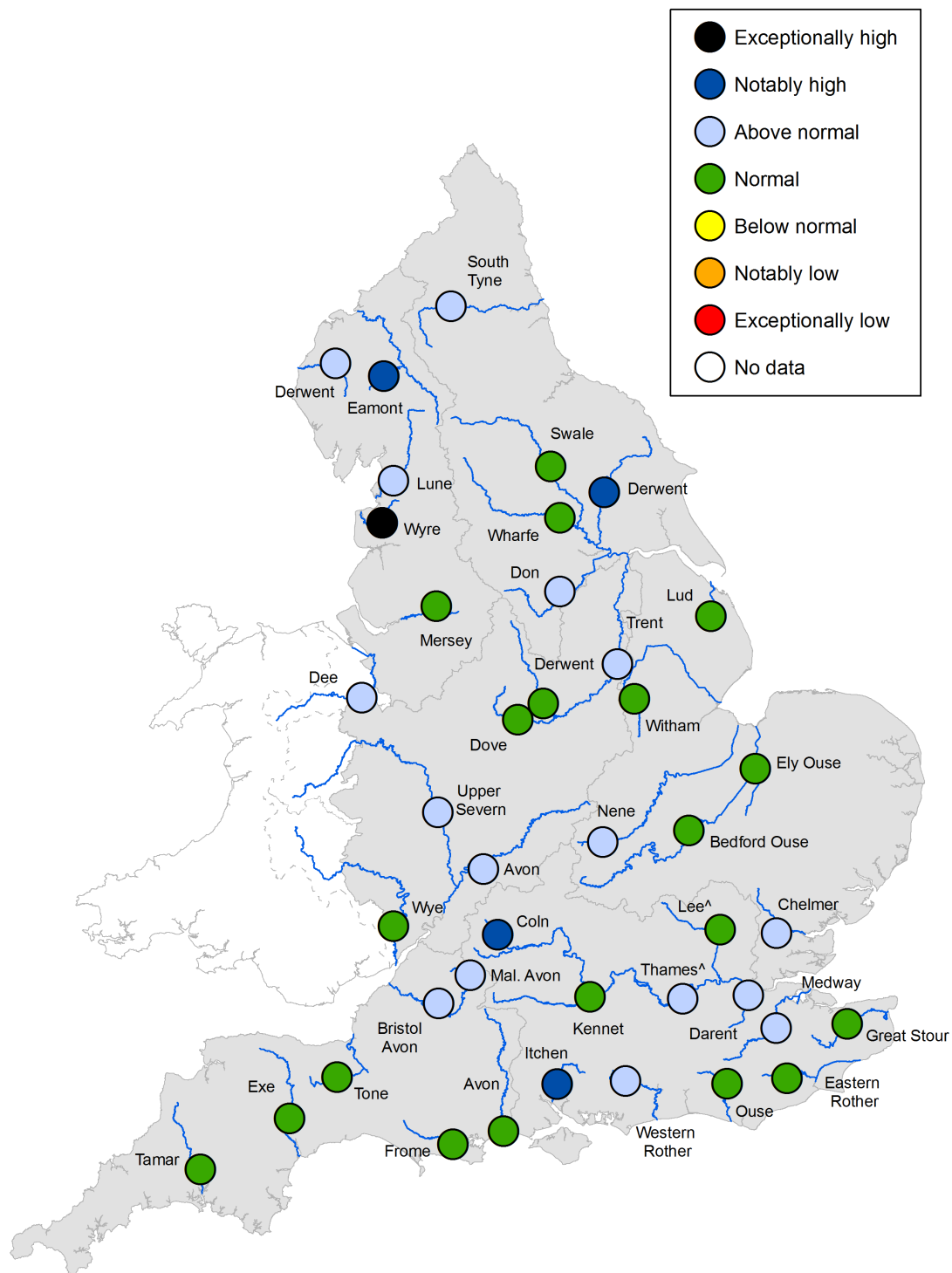


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2016). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2016.

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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