

# Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 25 February to Tuesday 03 March 2015

## Summary

Rainfall totals over the past week have been slightly lower than the previous week across England, with the highest weekly rainfall totals in the south-west. River flows fell at the majority of our indicator sites and almost all sites are **normal** or higher for the time of year.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 9 mm in the east of England to 34 mm in the north-west (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- The cumulative rainfall totals for the first 3 days of March range from 0% of the March long term average (LTA) in east England to 12% in north-west and south-west England (Table 1).
- River flows have decreased at three quarters of our indicator sites compared to the previous week. The latest daily mean river flows are **normal** or higher for the time of year at almost all of our indicator sites, with two fifths of sites being **notably high** for the time of year (Figure 2).

## Outlook

Southern and south-east England will be mostly dry from Thursday to Sunday, while rain is expected in north-west England, particularly over the hills. A low pressure system and associated fronts may affect parts of England on Monday, although rainfall amounts are not expected to be significant.

Author: [E&B Hydrology Team](#)

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 25 Feb - 03 Mar '15	Latest month to date: Mar '15		Last month: Feb '15		Last 3 months: Dec '14 - Feb '15		Last 6 months: Sep '14 - Feb '15		Last 12 months: Mar '14 - Feb '15	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	34	11	12	72	96	377	122	668	101	1178	101
north-east	18	7	11	39	68	196	90	400	91	817	100
central	12	6	11	38	75	166	88	351	94	739	103
east	9	0.1	0	38	102	138	96	313	104	653	109
south-east	13	3	5	57	117	202	103	451	112	810	111
south-west	24	10	12	81	97	291	92	584	97	1046	104
England	17	6	9	52	92	216	99	443	100	846	105

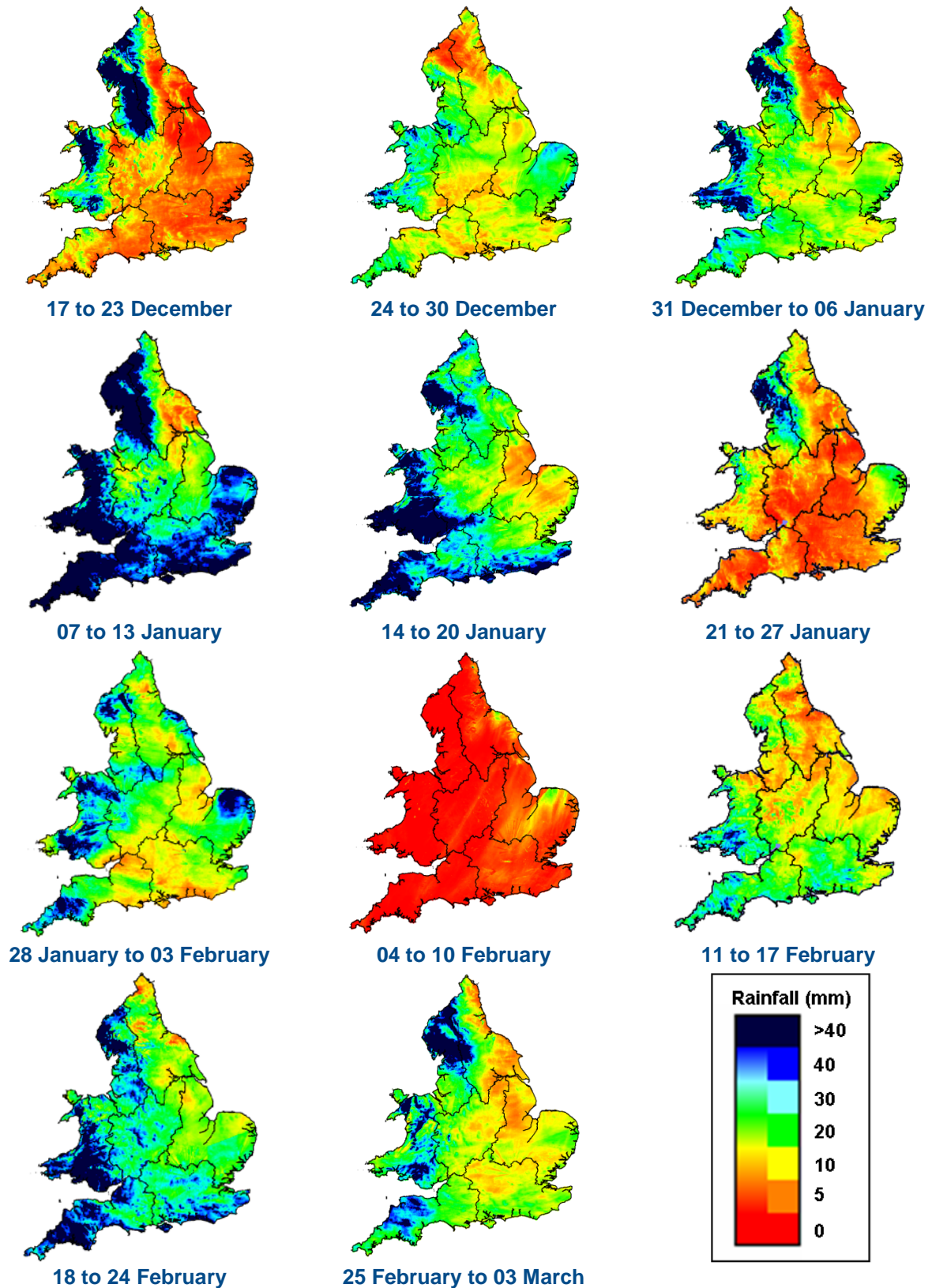
**Table 1:** Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 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.

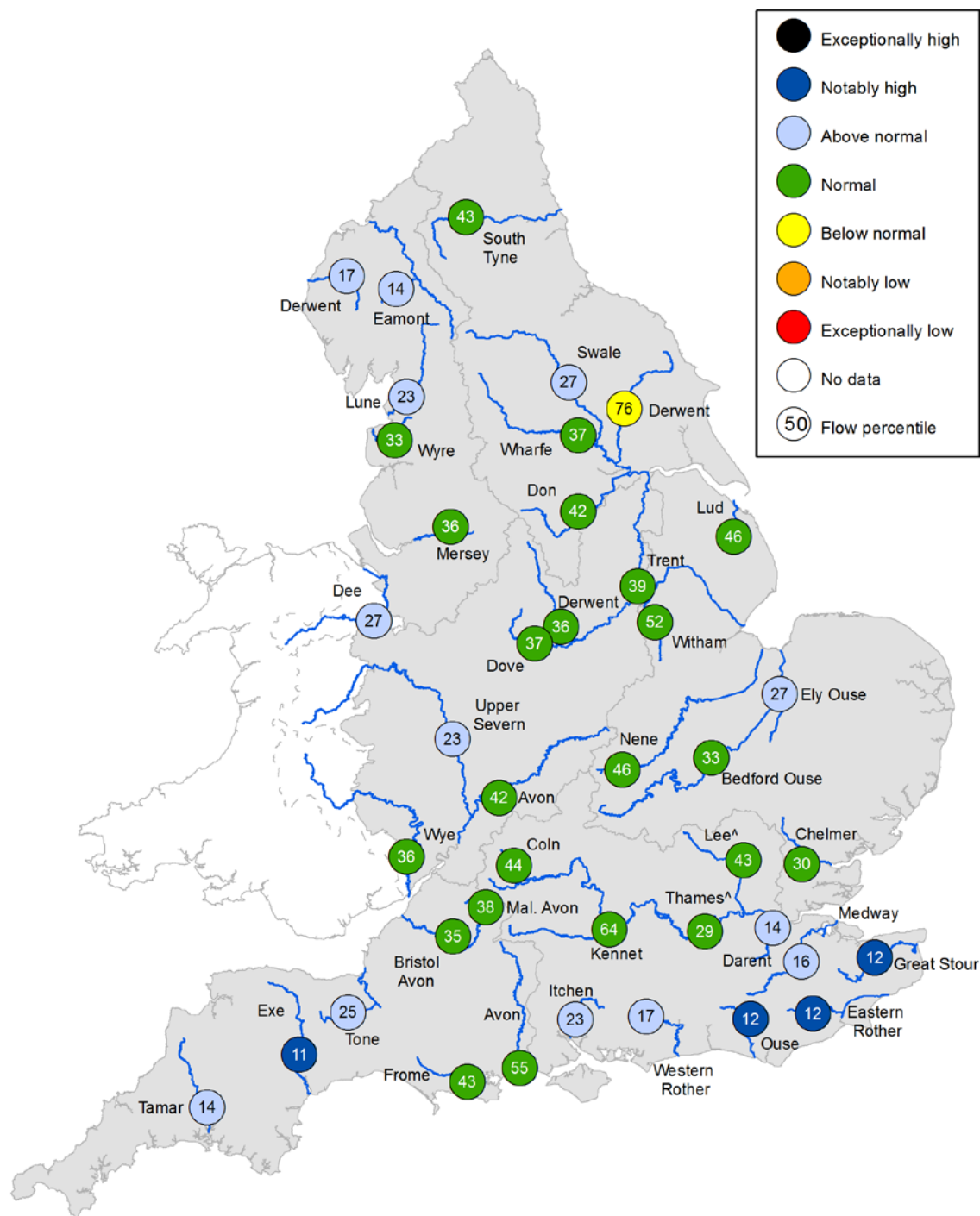
All data are provisional and may be subject to revision. The views expressed in this document are not necessarily those of the Environment Agency. Its officers, servants or agents accept no liability for any loss or damage arising from the interpretation or use of the information, or reliance upon views contained herein.





**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<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.