

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 12 to Tuesday 18 August 2015

Summary

Most of England was relatively wet over the past week compared to the week before. River flows have increased at half of the indicator sites and are currently **normal** or higher for the time of year at two-thirds of sites.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 20mm in south-east England to 36mm in north-east England (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- Cumulative rainfall totals for August to date range from 43% of the August long term average (LTA) in east England to 67% in south-west England (Table 1).
- River flows have increased at half of our indicator sites over the past week. The latest daily mean flows are currently **normal** or higher for the time of year at over two-thirds of our indicator sites, with most of the remaining sites being **below normal** for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Thursday will see generally dry weather, with some outbreaks of rain possible in the west. Friday through to Sunday is likely to be unsettled at times and generally cloudy, with some outbreaks of rain. South-east England is more likely to see sunny weather in this period. Wet and windy weather is likely on Monday for most.

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

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 12 - 18 Aug '15	Latest month to date: Aug '15		Last month: Jul '15		Last 3 months: May '15 - Jul '15		Last 6 months: Feb '15 - Jul '15		Last 12 months: Aug '14 - Jul '15	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	31	48	46	111	134	286	122	521	111	1256	108
north-east	36	45	59	95	156	224	125	357	99	816	100
central	25	31	48	59	114	173	103	280	85	693	97
east	22	24	43	77	158	158	106	241	87	614	103
south-east	20	28	49	64	132	151	96	255	81	742	102
south-west	29	50	67	100	165	224	118	375	90	996	99
England	27	37	53	82	144	196	112	323	92	819	101

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.

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.



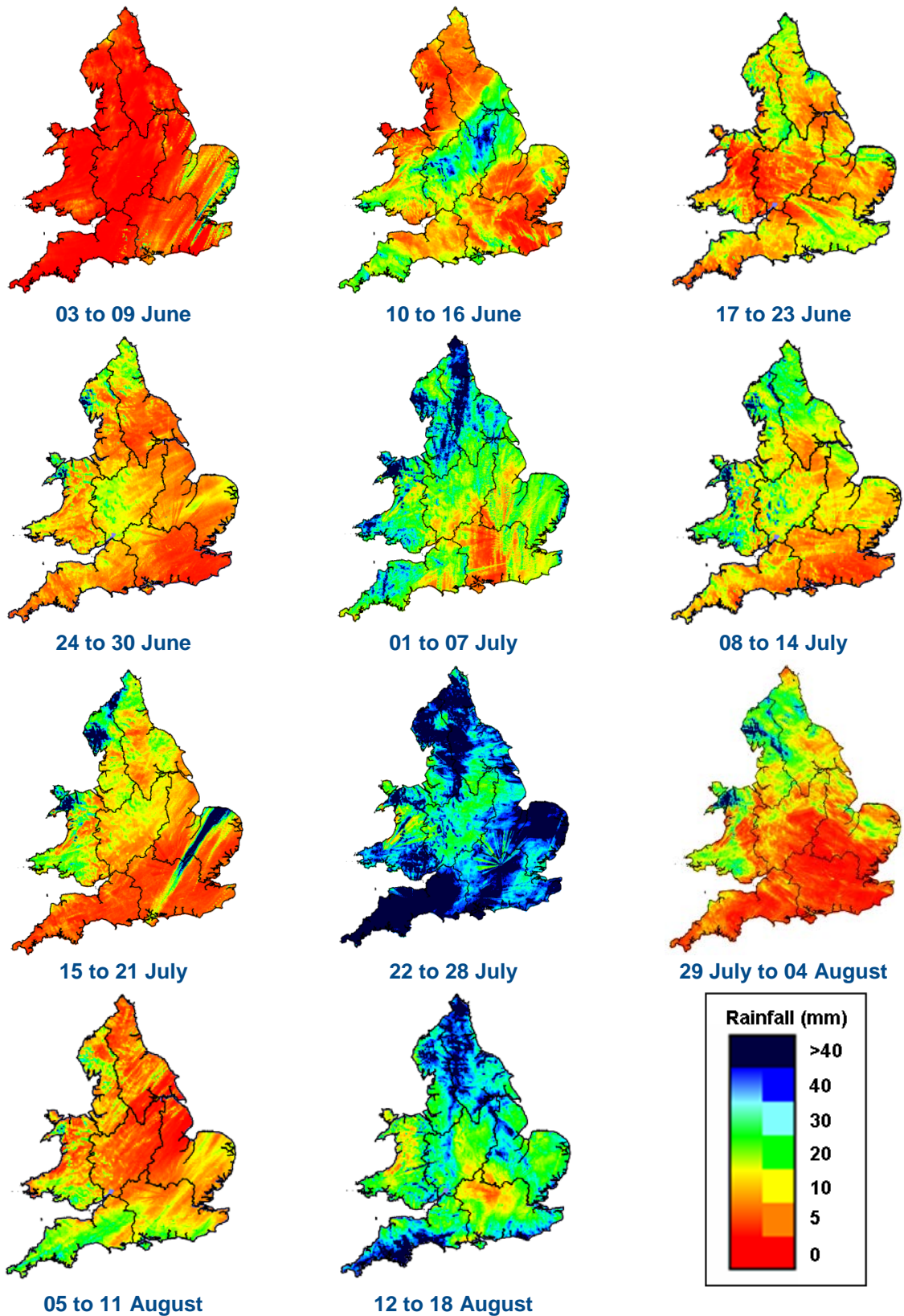
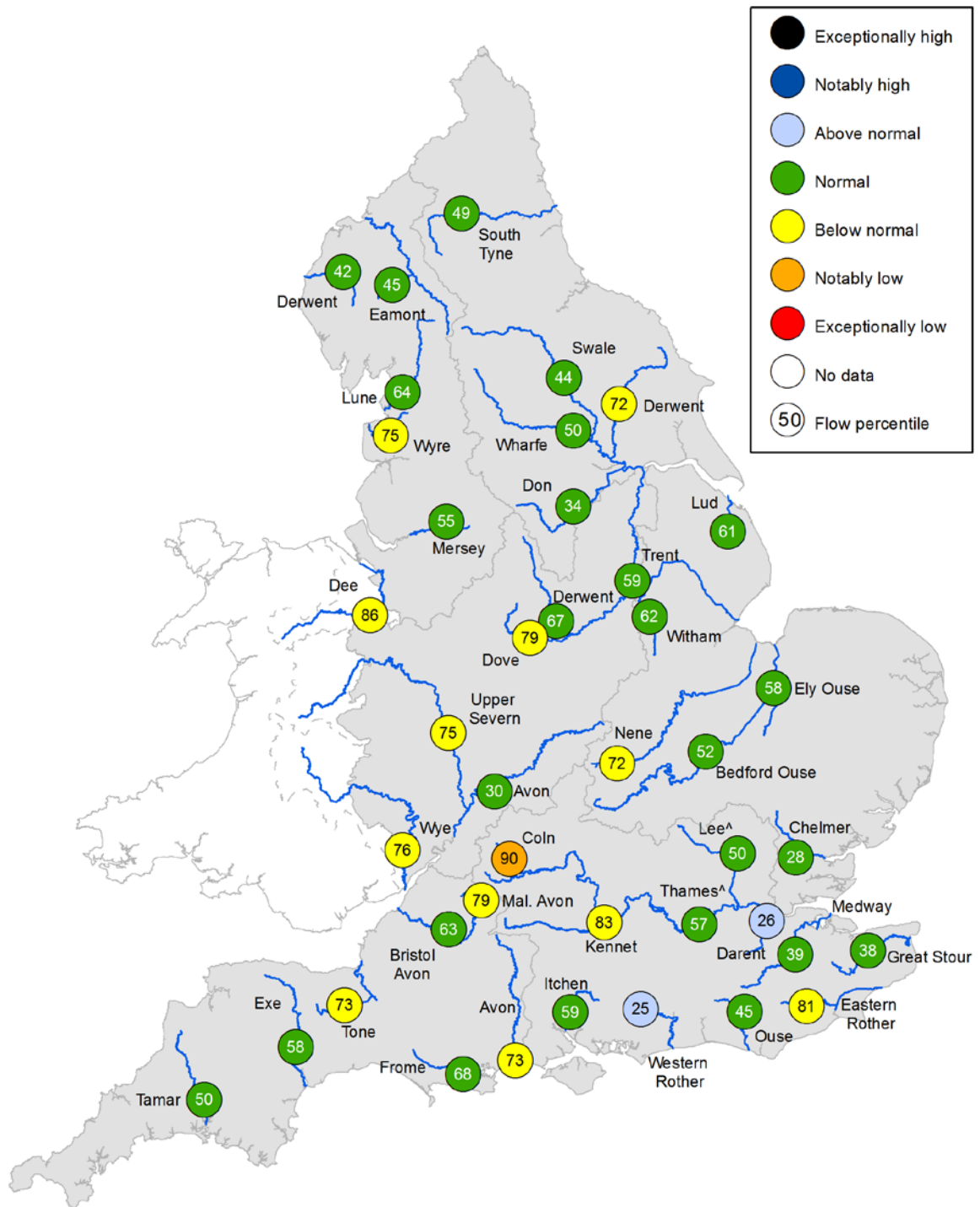


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

River Flow



^ – ‘Naturalised’ flows are provided for the Thames at Kingston and the Lee at Feildes Weir.

Figure 2: Latest daily mean river flow, relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows for the same time of year, expressed as a percentile² (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.