

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 1 to Tuesday 7 June 2016

Summary: a generally dry week with some locally intense showers on Tuesday. River flows are mostly normal or higher flows for the time of year.

Rainfall

The past week has been generally dry across England, except for some locally high rainfall totals in some areas, particularly on Tuesday. Rainfall totals ranged from less than 1mm in south-west England to 11mm in south-east England (Table 1 and Figure 1). Cumulative rainfall totals for the first week of June range from 1% of the June long term average (LTA) in south-west England to 21% in south-east England (Table 1).

River flow

River flows have decreased at almost all of our indicator sites compared to last week. The latest daily mean flows are normal or higher for the time of year at four-fifths of the sites; and below normal or lower for the time of year at the remaining fifth (Figure 2).

Outlook

Mainly dry and settled conditions on Thursday will be followed by bands of rain coming from the west on Friday. Showers are expected to continue over the weekend and the outlook for Monday and Tuesday is for heavy showers, some of which may be thundery, and longer periods of rain.

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

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 1 to 7 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	5	5	6	47	64	229	98	894	165	1,517	131
north-east	4	4	6	41	69	201	109	616	154	1,096	134
central	2	2	4	54	94	201	120	460	129	815	114
east	6	6	11	49	101	180	128	337	118	667	112
south-east	11	11	21	62	114	202	123	457	127	839	115
south-west	0.8	0.8	1	61	91	214	101	637	121	1,178	117
England	5	5	8	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.

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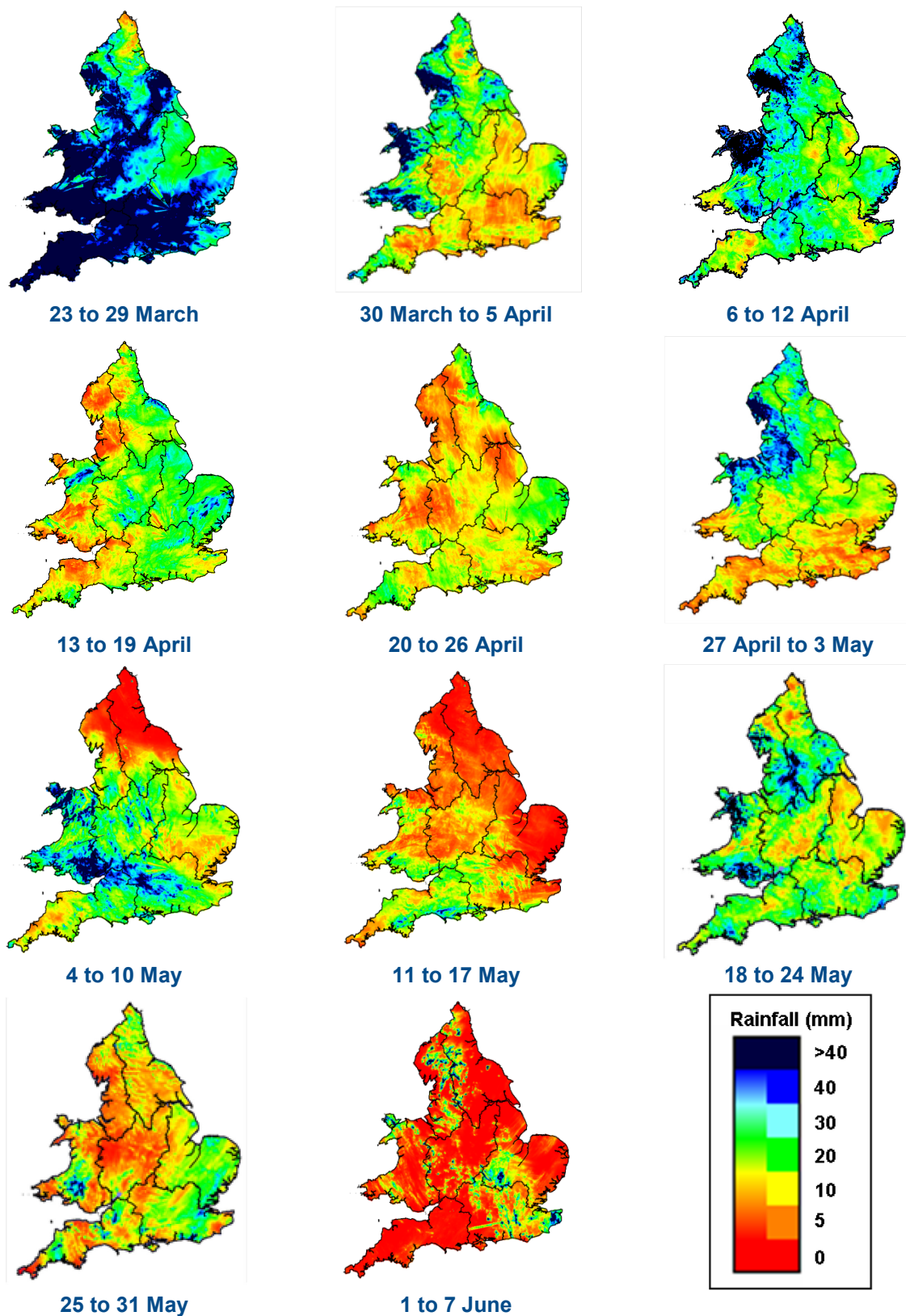
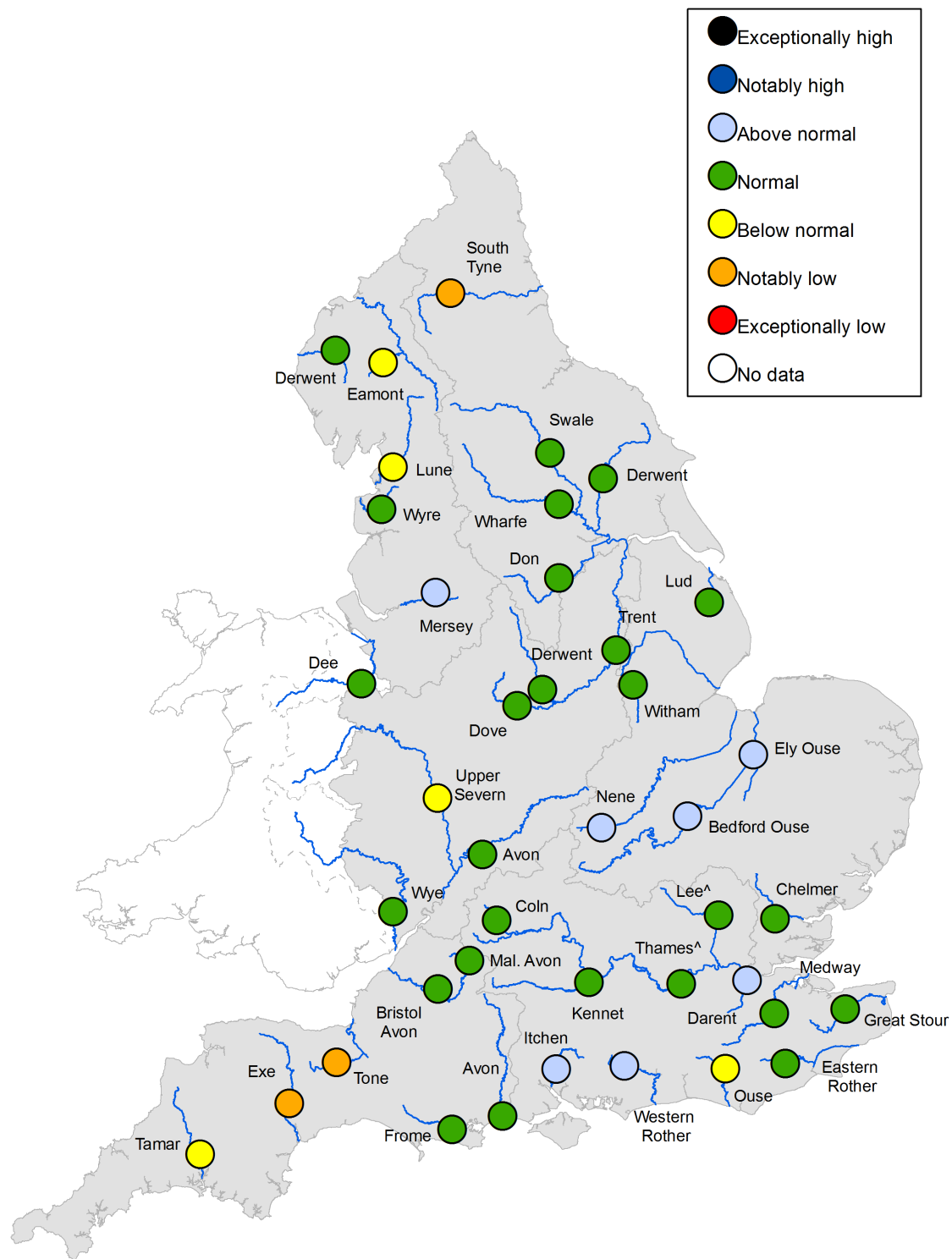


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2016). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2016.

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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