

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 03 to Tuesday 09 June 2015

Summary

The past week has been dry across all of England, with all areas receiving less than 3mm of rainfall. River flows have decreased at all of indicator sites compared to the previous week, with just over half sites being **normal** for the time of year.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from less than 1mm in north-west, central and south-west England to 3mm in east England (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- Cumulative rainfall totals for the month range from 11% of the June long term average (LTA) in east England to 28% in the north-west (Table 1).
- River flows have decreased at all of our indicator sites. The latest daily mean flows are **normal** for the time of year at just over half of our indicator sites with just over a third of sites now **below normal** or **notably low** for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Conditions will be fine and dry for much of England during Thursday and into Friday. However some isolated showers will move into the south-west during Thursday evening. On Friday afternoon there is the potential for isolated but severe thunderstorms in southern England. This will be followed by a band of rain moving northwards across southern and central England later on Friday and into Saturday. The band of rain will continue to move north slowly during Saturday, leaving drier conditions in southern England, before moving back southwards on Sunday, with drier conditions following from the north. Monday and Tuesday are expected to return to dry and settled conditions.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 03 - 09 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	0.9	22	28	130	178	293	126	679	125	1216	105
north-east	1	14	24	96	160	189	103	387	97	789	96
central	0.4	9	16	75	130	144	86	310	87	700	98
east	3	5	11	55	114	101	71	240	84	607	102
south-east	2	8	14	60	110	107	65	308	85	734	101
south-west	0.3	17	26	81	122	151	71	446	85	948	94
England	1	12	20	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.

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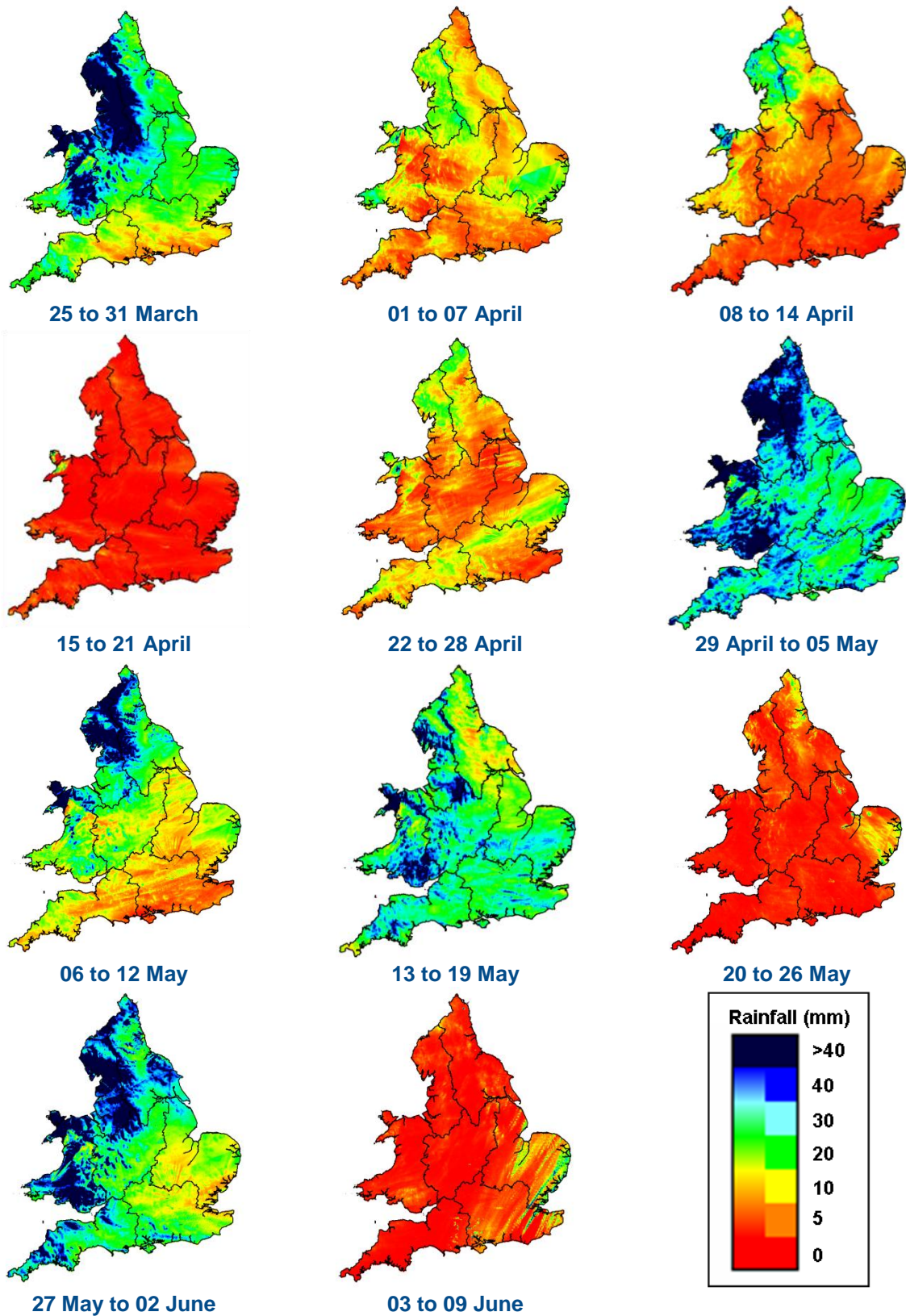
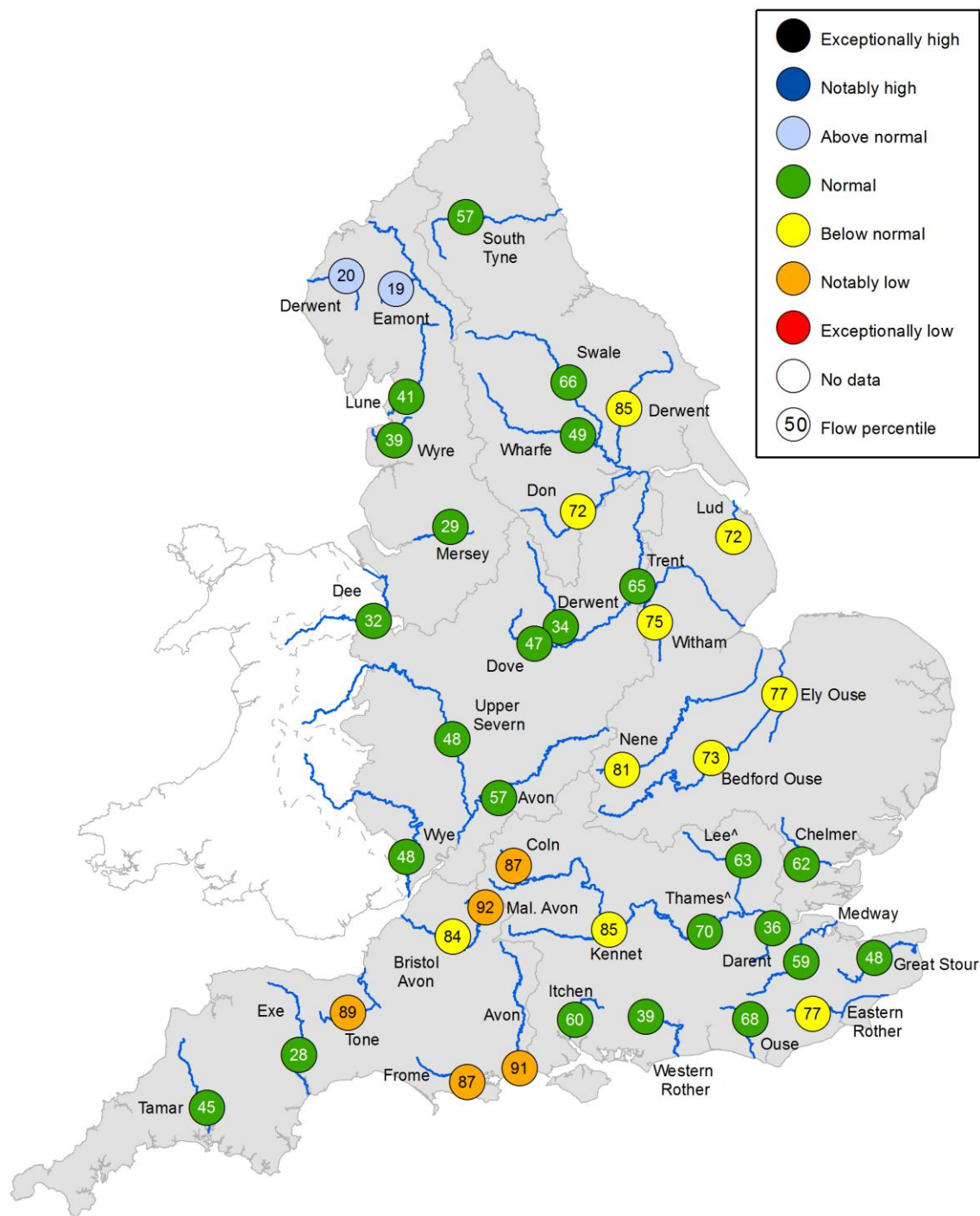


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

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 percentile² 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.