

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 11 February to Tuesday 17 February 2015

Summary

The past week has been wetter than the previous week across much of England, and as such, river flows have increased at most of our reported sites.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from less than 5 mm in north-east England to 22 mm in the south-west (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- The cumulative rainfall totals for the first 17 days of February range from 16% of the February long term average (LTA) in north-west England to 43% in the east (Table 1).
- River flows have increased at four fifths 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 the majority of our indicator sites, and more than a quarter of sites are **above normal** or higher for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Thursday will see heavy rain moving south-eastwards across England throughout the day. Friday will be colder, with scattered wintry showers. The weekend is likely to begin with the odd scattered shower on Saturday before turning wet and windy on Sunday. Monday will remain cold with a mix of sunshine and showers.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 11 - 17 Feb '15	Latest month to date: Feb '15		Last month: Jan '15		Last 3 months: Nov '14 - Jan '15		Last 6 months: Aug '14 - Jan '15		Last 12 months: Feb '14 - Jan '15	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	12	12	16	156	137	405	115	741	107	1275	110
north-east	5	12	20	82	104	252	105	468	102	883	108
central	11	12	24	65	99	220	108	408	105	802	112
east	10	16	43	49	97	179	109	369	116	679	114
south-east	18	19	39	91	127	273	124	494	120	890	122
south-west	22	24	29	134	117	359	107	623	105	1160	115
England	13	16	28	91	115	270	111	498	109	917	113

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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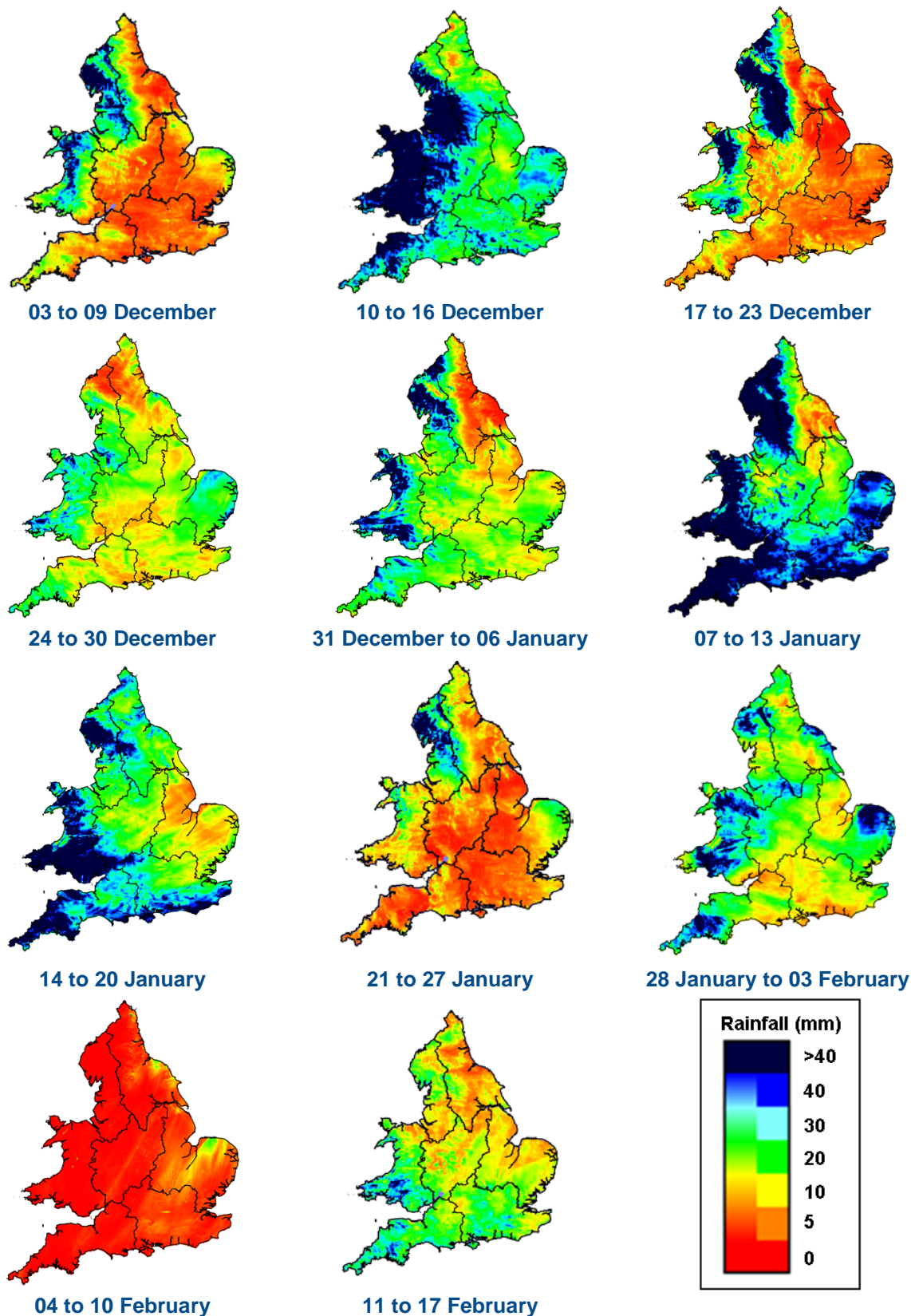
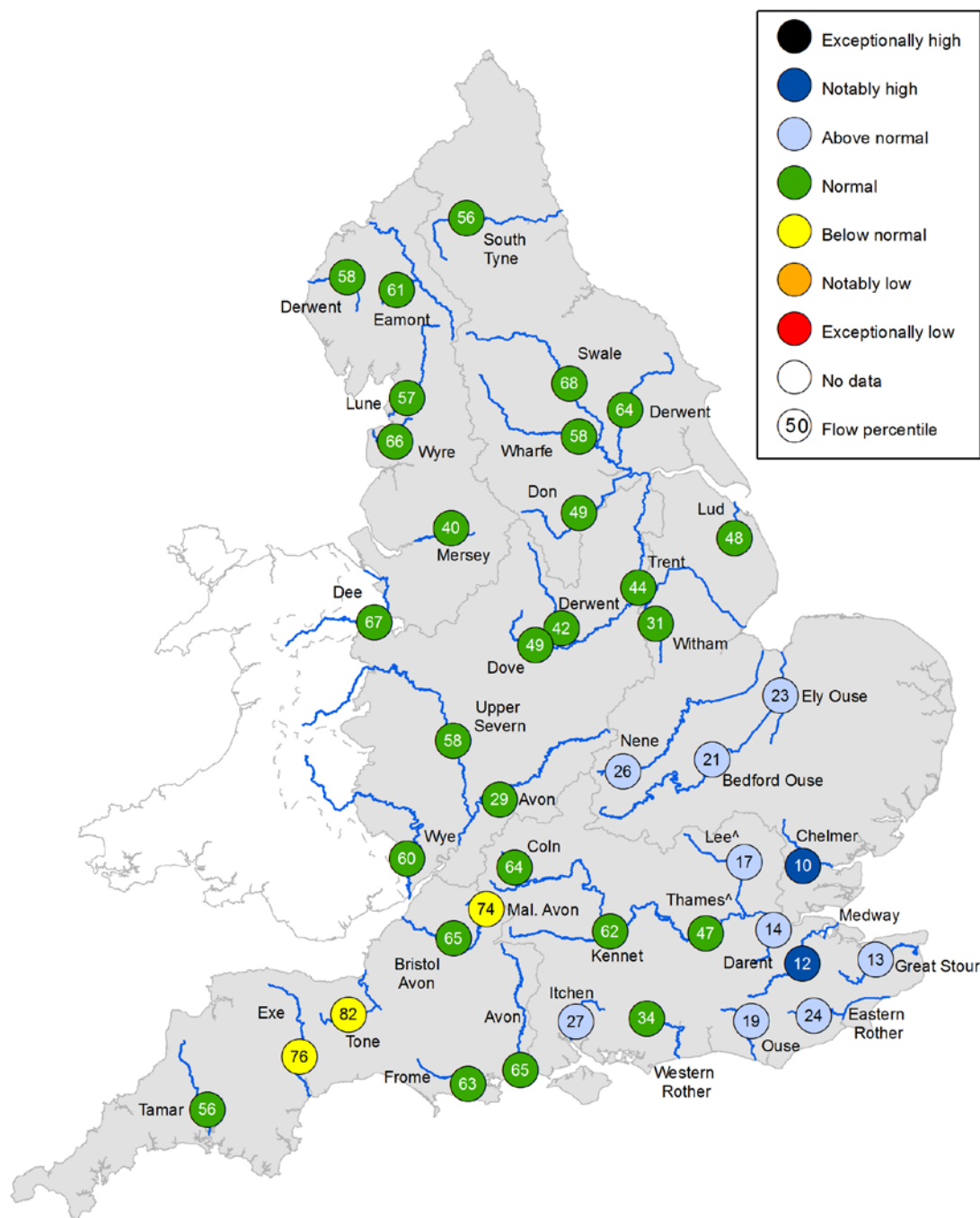


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

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.