

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 20 to Tuesday 26 May 2015

Summary

The past week has been relatively dry across all of England, with the driest weather in the south-east. River flows have decreased at the majority of indicator sites compared to the previous week, with nearly all sites **normal** for the time of year.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 3 mm in north-west and east England to less than 1 mm in the south-east (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- River flows have decreased at nearly all of indicator sites. The latest daily mean flows are **normal** for the time of year at most indicator sites, with only 7 sites remaining **below normal** and 5 **notably low** for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Thursday will be mainly dry in the south of England, while showery conditions are expected in the north. On Friday a front will move south eastwards, with some heavy showers possible. Saturday is expected to be mainly dry before more widespread rain moves in on Sunday, with the heaviest rain expected in the west. Monday and Tuesday are expected to remain unsettled.

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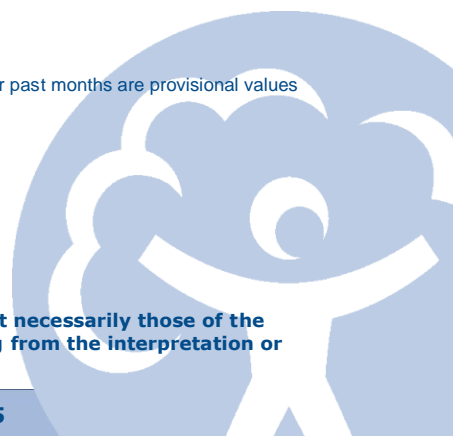
Geographic regions	Latest Week: 20 - 26 May '15	Latest month to date: May '15		Last month: Apr '15		Last 3 months: Feb '15 - Apr '15		Last 6 months: Nov '14 - Apr '15		Last 12 months: May '14 - Apr '15	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	3	111	152	53	77	236	100	647	110	1188	102
north-east	2	78	131	31	54	133	73	380	90	799	97
central	1	61	105	19	36	107	67	330	91	724	101
east	3	50	103	20	44	84	64	266	90	654	109
south-east	0.9	51	93	21	42	104	66	372	98	750	103
south-west	2	70	105	24	39	151	66	511	90	960	95
England	2	67	114	26	48	128	72	398	95	817	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.

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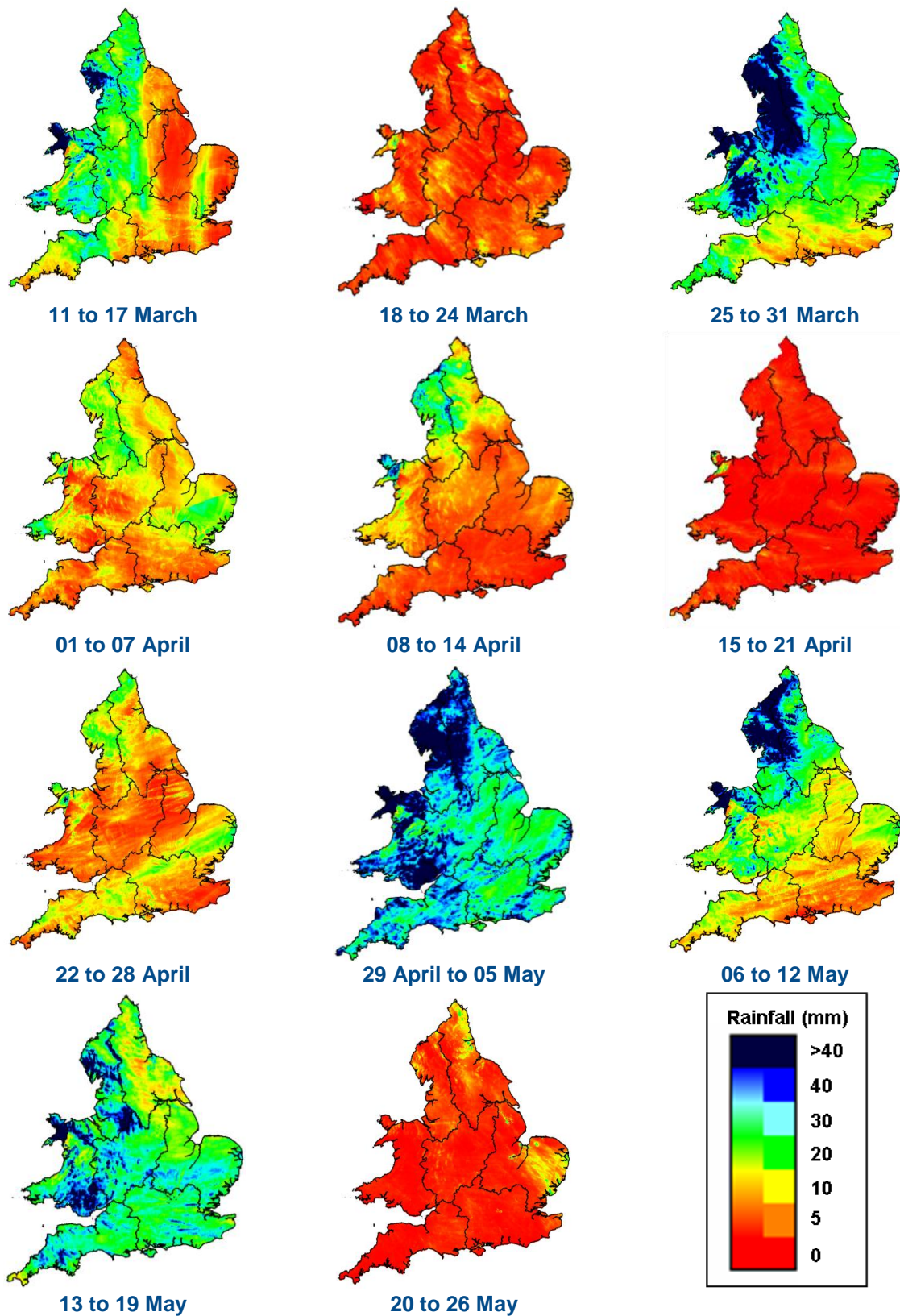
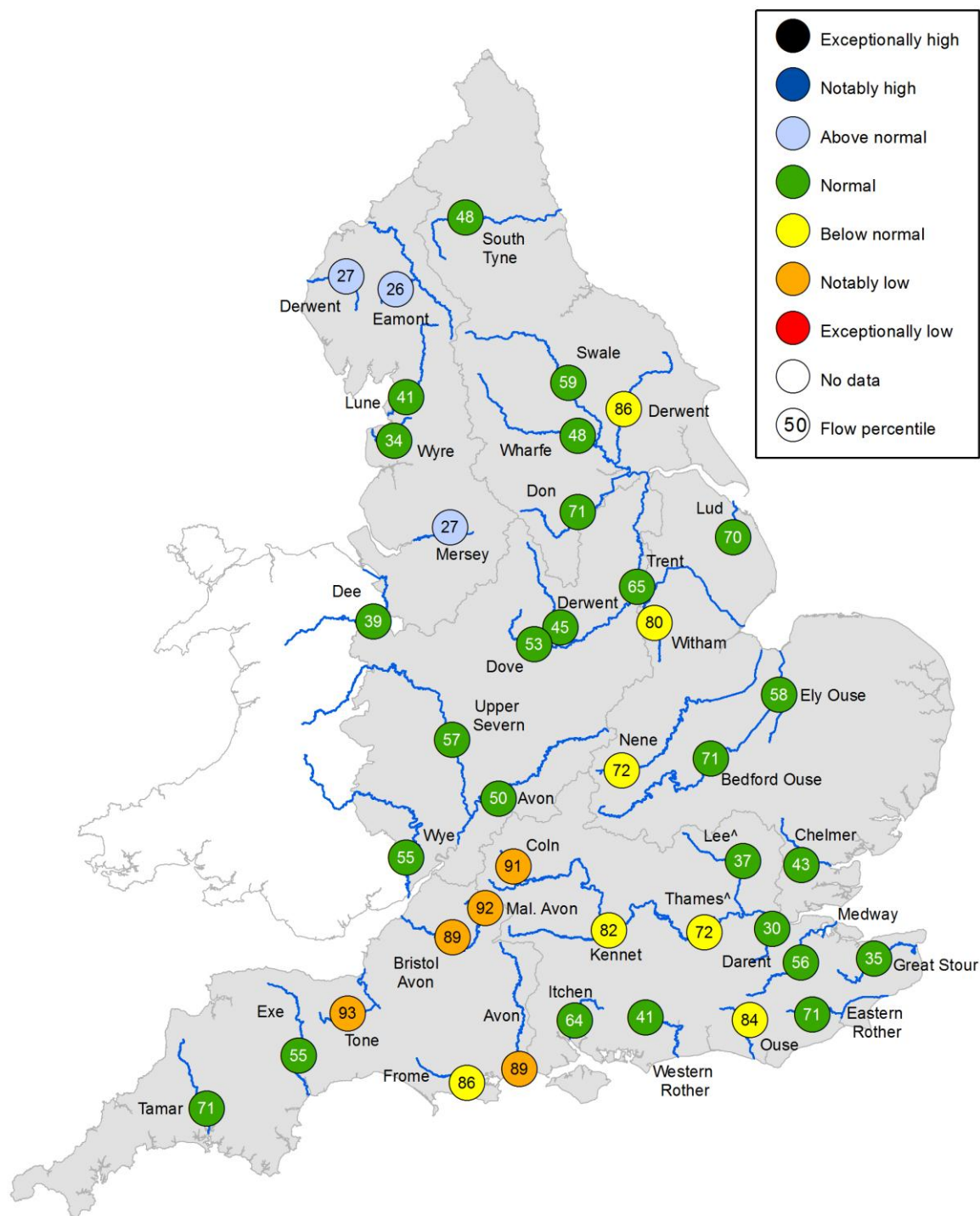


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

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.