

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 10 to Tuesday 16 February 2016

Summary: A drier week especially for east, south-east and central England.

Rainfall

The past week has been drier than the previous week, especially in east, south-east and central England. Rainfall totals ranged from 3mm in east England to 24mm in north-west England (table 1 and figure 1). Cumulative rainfall totals for February to date range from 52% of the long term average (LTA) in east England to 116% in north-west England (table 1).

River flow

River flows have decreased at all but one site compared to last week. The latest daily mean flows are [normal](#) for the time of year at the majority of sites, with only 4 sites remaining [above normal](#) or higher for the time of year (figure 2).

Outlook

Thursday will be generally dry across all of England. On Friday, a band of light and patchy rain will move rapidly eastwards. A frontal system is expected to arrive from the west early on Saturday morning and will persist over the weekend, this will bring some heavy rain for northern England. On Monday scattered wintery showers are expected, especially for western England. Tuesday is expected to remain unsettled.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 10 to 16 Feb 2016	Latest month to date: Feb 2016		Last month: Jan 2016		Last 3 months: Nov 2015 to Jan 2016		Last 6 months: Aug 2015 to Jan 2016		Last 12 months: Feb 2015 to Jan 2016	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	24	87	116	196	172	799	227	1036	150	1557	134
north-east	16	50	87	154	196	513	213	728	159	1085	132
central	4	48	94	93	141	283	140	455	117	735	103
east	3	20	52	69	135	193	118	355	111	596	100
south-east	8	40	81	124	172	283	128	505	123	760	104
south-west	20	88	106	176	154	417	124	704	119	1080	107
England	12	52	92	129	163	384	158	597	131	920	114

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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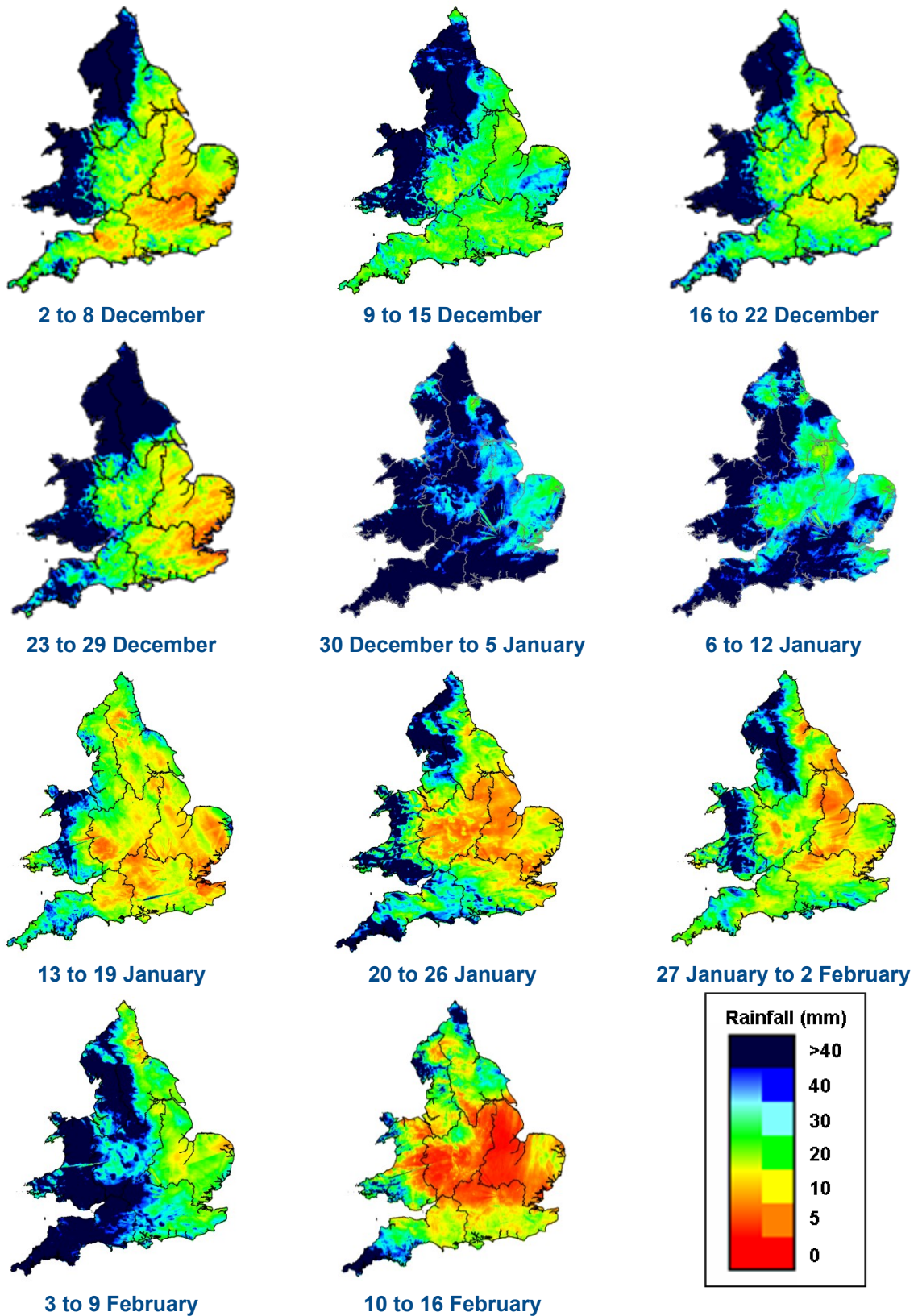
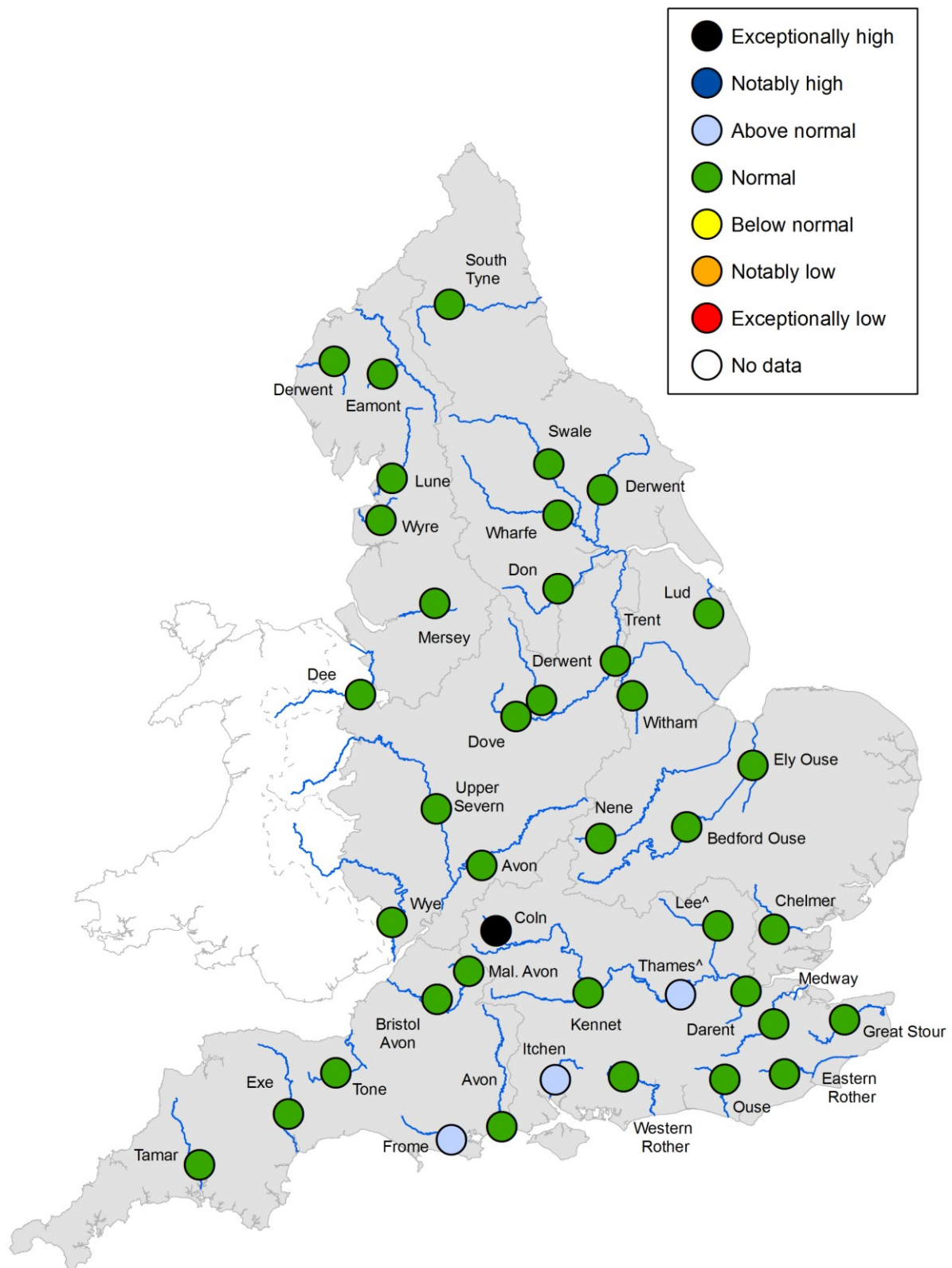


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2016). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2016.

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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