

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 14 February to Tuesday 20 February 2024

Summary: It has been a wet week across the whole of England, especially in the south-west. River flows increased at nearly three quarters of the sites we report on.

Rainfall

It has been another wet week across England, with the wettest conditions in the south-west and north-west. Rainfall total for the week ranged from 23mm in the north-east to 60mm in the south-west (Table 1, Figure 1). Rainfall totals for February to date are already over the long term average (LTA) for the month across the country, ranging from 114% of the LTA in north-west England, to 226% of the LTA in east England (Table 1).

River flow

River flows increased at nearly three-quarters of our reporting sites, with 74% reporting an increase in daily mean flow compared to the previous week. 85% of sites are now classed as [above normal](#) or higher for the time of year. 22% of sites were classed as being [exceptionally high](#), 33% were classed as [notably high](#) and 30% were classed as [above normal](#). The remaining 15% were classed as [normal](#) for the time of year, these were all located in northern England. (Figure 2).

Outlook

On Thursday, a band of rain will continue to move southeastwards, this will be followed by sunny spells and blustery showers. Overnight there will be scattered showers for west and north England, with the risk of snow in the north-west. Friday will be drier with some sunny spells and showers, these could be heavy at times. Most of the showers will be in the west and along the south coast. The sunny spells and showers are expected to continue into Saturday, possibly turning wetter and windier across southern parts on Sunday. Monday and Tuesday are expected to be settled and dry.

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 14 to 20 Feb 2024	Latest month to date: Feb 2024		Last month: Jan 2024		Last 3 months: Nov 2023 to Jan 2024		Last 6 months: Aug 2023 to Jan 2024		Last 12 months: Feb 2023 to Jan 2024	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	45	89	114	161	137	546	150	964	135	1,522	127
north-east	23	70	119	99	124	362	148	688	147	1,067	127
central	36	99	193	60	90	273	134	543	139	912	126
east	28	85	226	50	99	212	129	449	140	752	125
south-east	29	81	164	74	102	303	137	579	140	939	128
south-west	60	128	152	100	87	452	133	785	131	1,289	126
England	36	91	158	85	106	341	139	642	138	1,040	127

Table 1 Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2024)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 are 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.

All data are provisional and may be subject to revision. The views expressed in this document are not necessarily those of the Environment Agency. Its officers, servants or agents accept no liability for any loss or damage arising from the interpretation or use of the information, or reliance upon views contained herein.

Rainfall

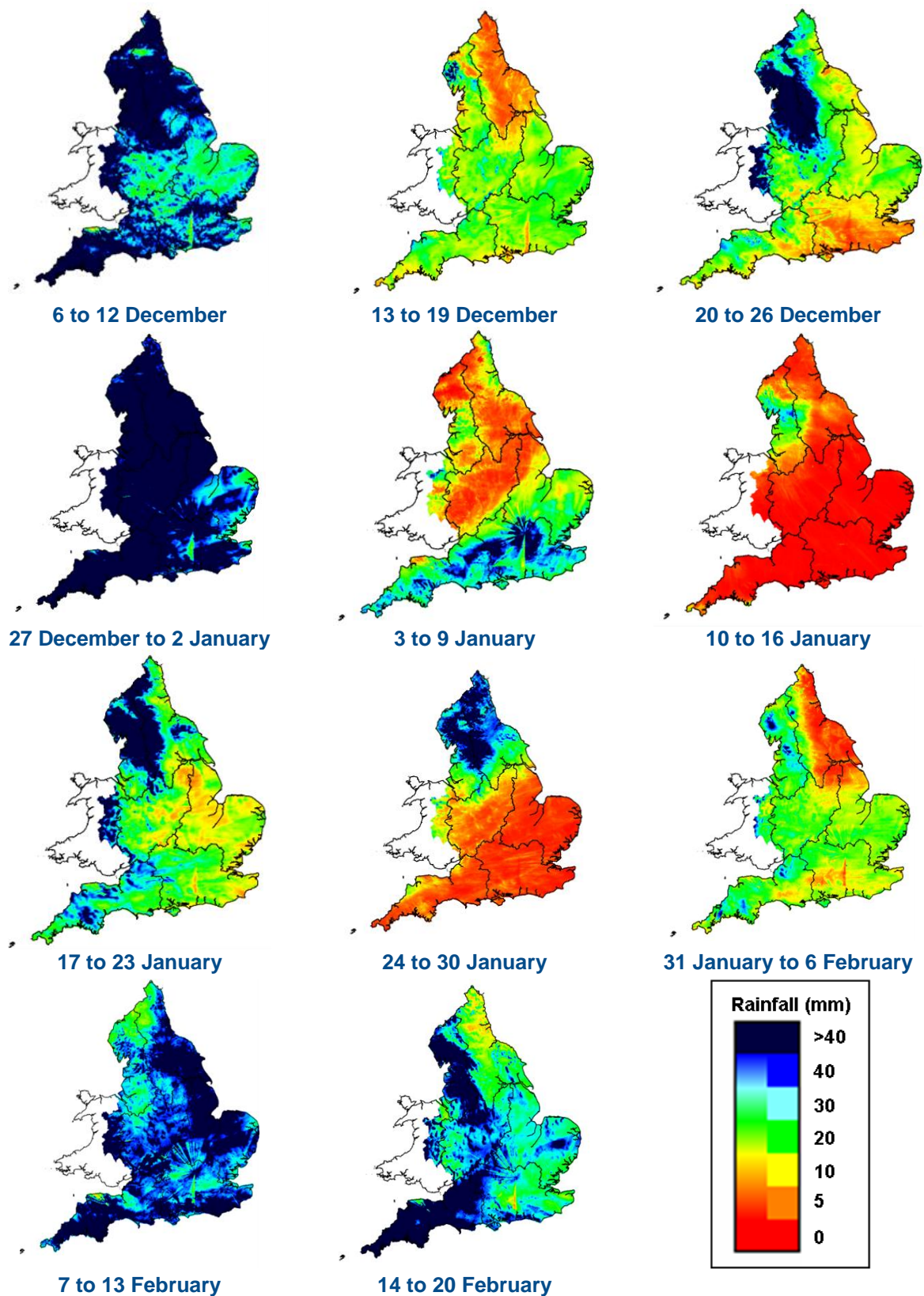
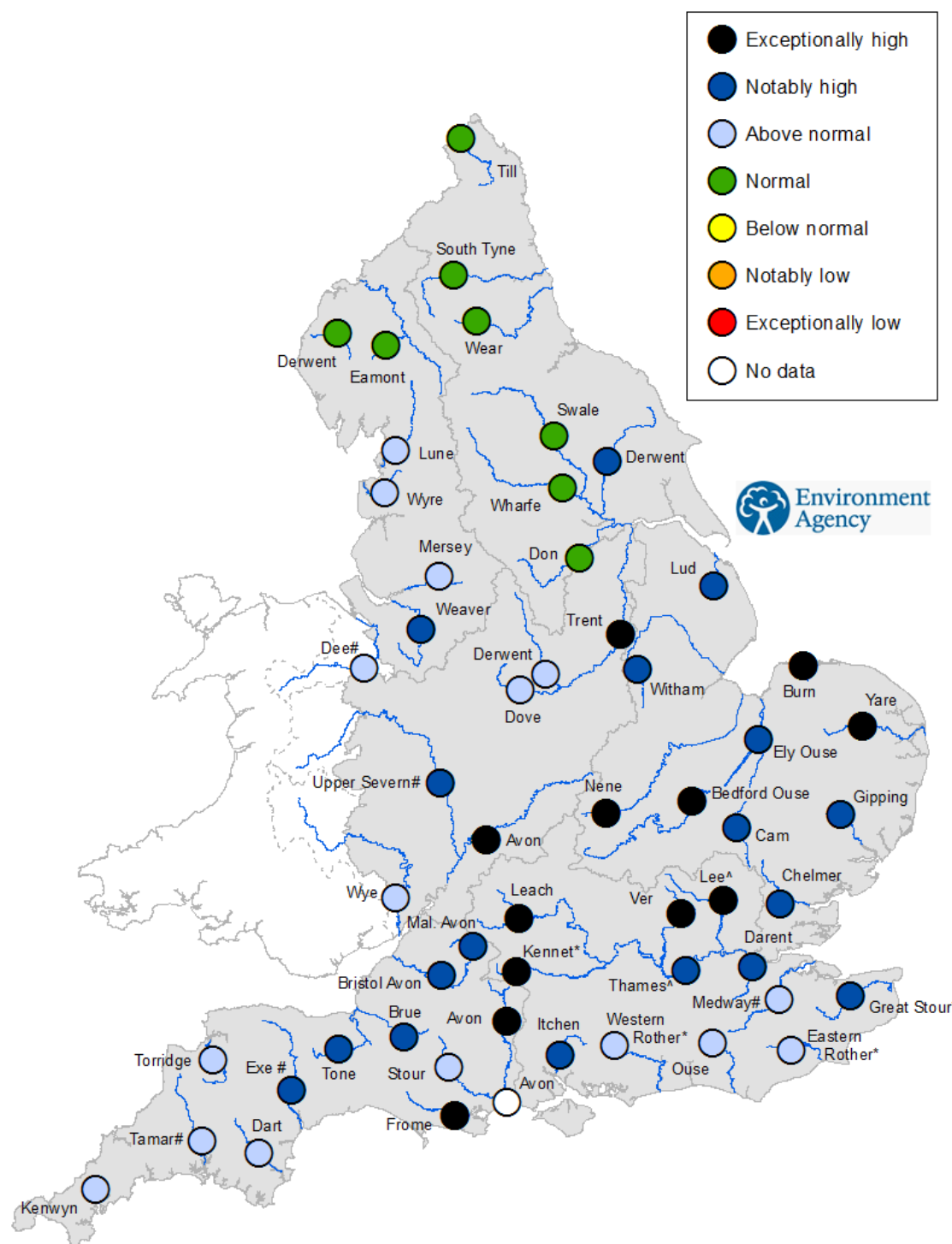


Figure 1 Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2024). Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation affecting its performance. This does not reflect actual conditions on the ground. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100024198, 2024.

River flow



[^]'Naturalised' flows are provided for the River Thames at Kingston and the River Lee at Feildes Weir.

* Flows may be currently overestimated at these sites so the data should be treated with caution

Flows may be impacted at these sites by water releases from upstream reservoirs.

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, 100024198, 2024³.

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.

³The flow sites in this report are indicator sites providing a National overview and a subset of a wider flow monitoring network.

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

[Return to summary page](#)