

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 28 February to Tuesday 5 March 2024

Summary: It has been a slightly wetter week across the north-west, north-east, and south-east England. Rainfall totals for the week ranged from 18mm in central England to 45mm in the south-west. River flows increased at more than three-quarters of all the sites we report on and are normal or higher for the time of year.

Rainfall

It has been a slightly wetter week across the north-west, north-east, and south-east England. Rainfall totals for the week ranged from 18mm in central England to 45mm in the south-west (Table 1, Figure 1). Rainfall totals for March, to date, range from 19% in central and north-west England, to 30% of the LTA in south-east and south-west England (Table 1).

River flow

River flows increased at more than three-quarters of all the sites we report on, and they are [normal](#) or higher for the time of year. 25% of sites were classed as being [exceptionally high](#), 18% were classed as [notably high](#) and 33% were classed as [above normal](#), primarily in the east, south-east and south-west of England. The remaining 24%, predominantly in northern and central England, were classed as [normal](#) for the time of year. (Figure 2).

Outlook

On Thursday, the north-east England will continue to see low cloud with some showers. Elsewhere, there will be fog and sunny spells, with chance of showers developing later. Friday will be mostly dry and bright. The weather will turn more unsettled over the weekend with outbreaks of rain, and winds. Further showers are expected on Monday before drier brighter weather is expected.

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 28 Feb to 05 Mar 2024	Latest month to date: Mar 2024		Last month: Feb 2024		Last 3 months: Dec 2023 to Feb 2024		Last 6 months: Sep 2023 to Feb 2024		Last 12 months: Mar 2023 to Feb 2024	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	33	18	19	137	175	525	165	989	145	1,623	136
north-east	21	17	24	85	145	343	155	688	153	1,128	135
central	18	11	19	116	226	313	165	607	161	1,019	141
east	19	11	23	106	283	248	173	503	166	850	142
south-east	34	18	30	141	286	326	165	655	162	1,074	147
south-west	45	26	30	204	243	491	155	905	149	1,476	145
England	27	16	24	130	225	359	162	699	155	1,154	141

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.

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Rainfall

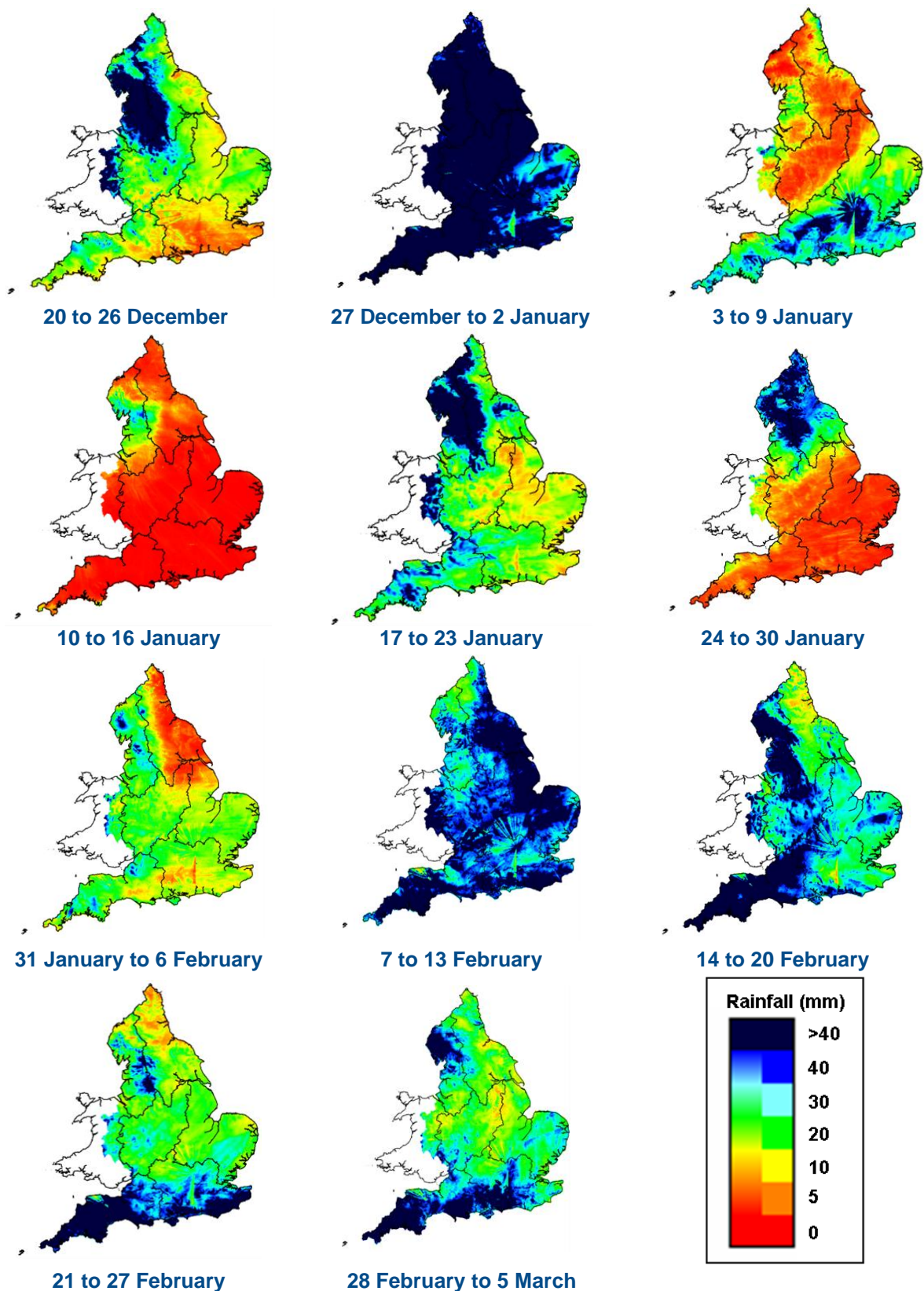
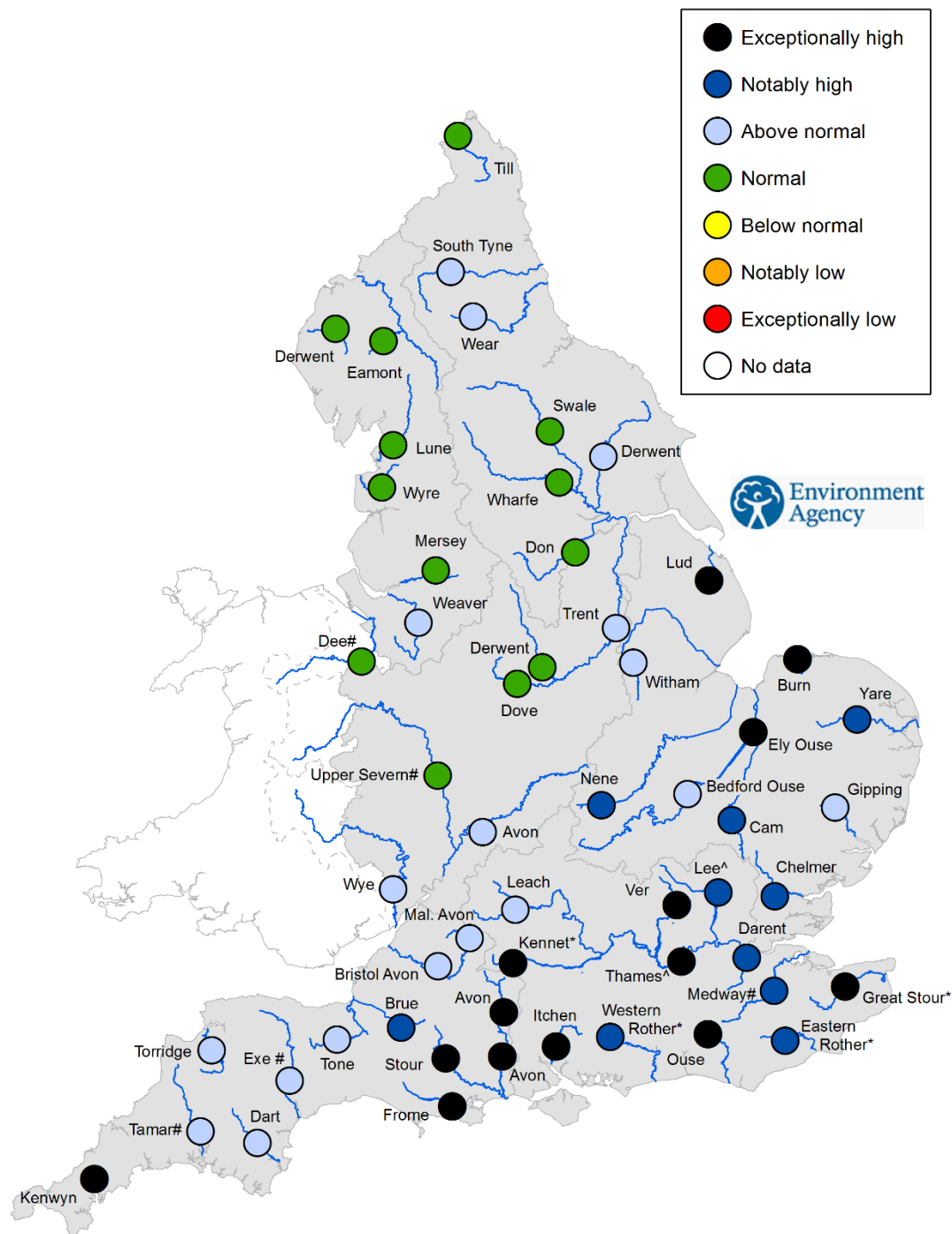


Figure 1 Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2024). Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation 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

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