

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 6 March to Tuesday 12 March 2024

Summary: It has been another wet week across England. Rainfall totals for the week ranged from 16mm in east England, to 25mm in the south-west. River flows increased at more than half of all the sites we report on, with the majority of sites across the country reporting above normal or higher flows for the time of year.

Rainfall

It has been another wet week across the whole of England with a continuation of the unsettled theme since the second half of January. Rainfall totals for the week ranged from 16mm in east England, to 25mm in the south-west (Table 1, Figure 1). Rainfall totals for March, to date, range from 41% in north-east and north-west England, to 65% of the LTA in south-east England. (Table 1).

River flow

River flows increased at just over half of reporting sites. All sites across south-east, south-west, central and east England are reporting flows of [above normal](#) or higher for the time of year. 38% of sites were classed as being [exceptionally high](#); being twice the number compared to last week. Additionally, 24% of sites were reporting [notably high](#) flow with 20% classed as [above normal](#). The remaining sites, located, almost exclusively across northern England, were classed as [normal](#) for the time of year. (Figure 2).

Outlook

On Thursday many parts of England are expected to experience showers, as a band of cloud sweeps northwards across the country. Changeable conditions are predicted throughout the majority of England over the weekend, with north areas likely to be the wettest. The unsettled conditions are expected to improve by Sunday afternoon. However, heavy showers are forecast to return on Monday, with heavy rainfall expected in the north and western parts of the country.

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 6 to 12 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	21	39	41	137	175	525	165	989	145	1,623	136
north-east	11	28	41	85	145	343	155	688	153	1,128	135
central	21	32	56	116	226	313	165	607	161	1,019	141
east	16	27	57	106	283	248	173	503	166	850	142
south-east	20	39	65	141	286	326	165	655	162	1,074	147
south-west	25	51	60	204	243	491	155	905	149	1,476	145
England	19	35	53	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.

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

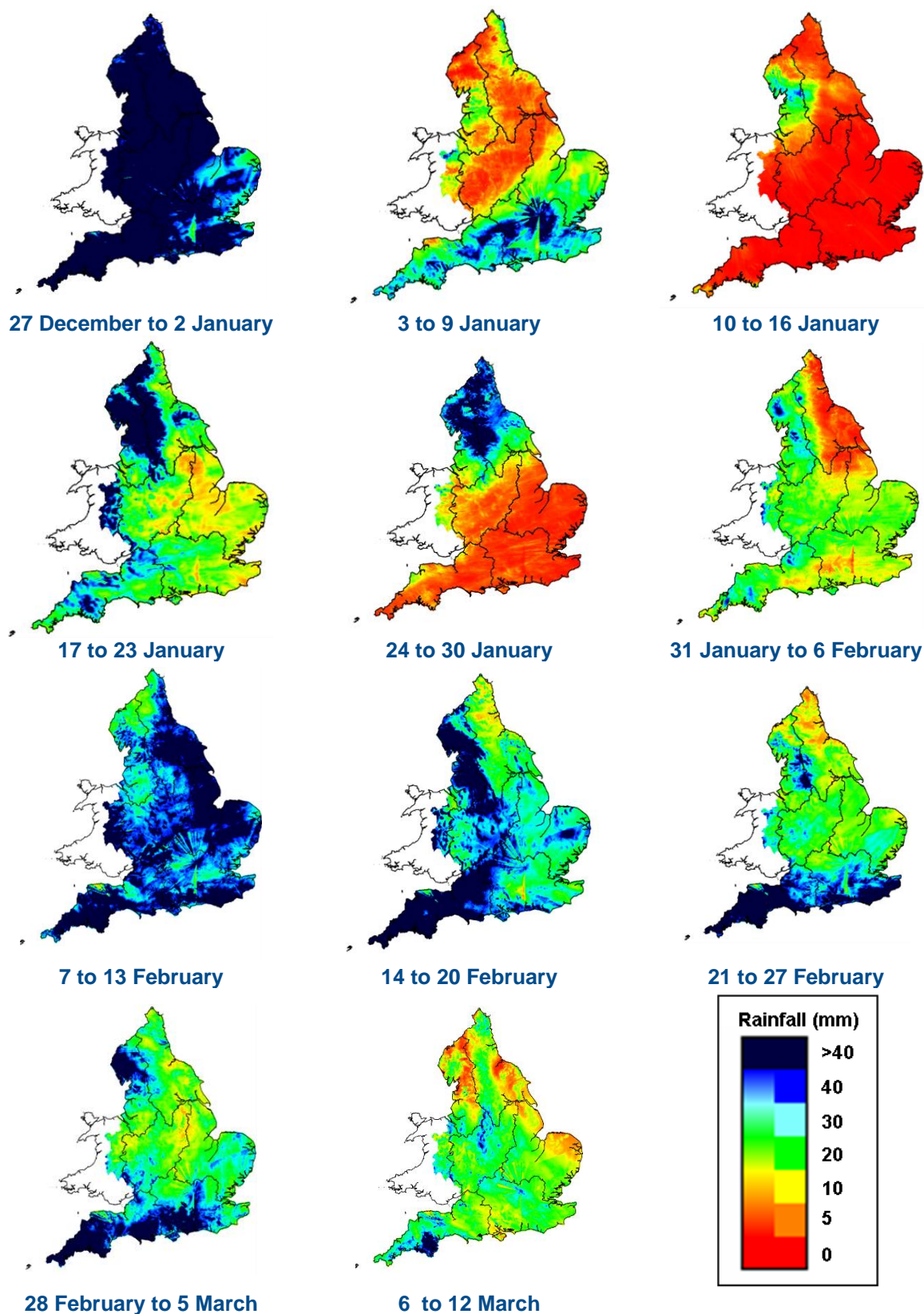
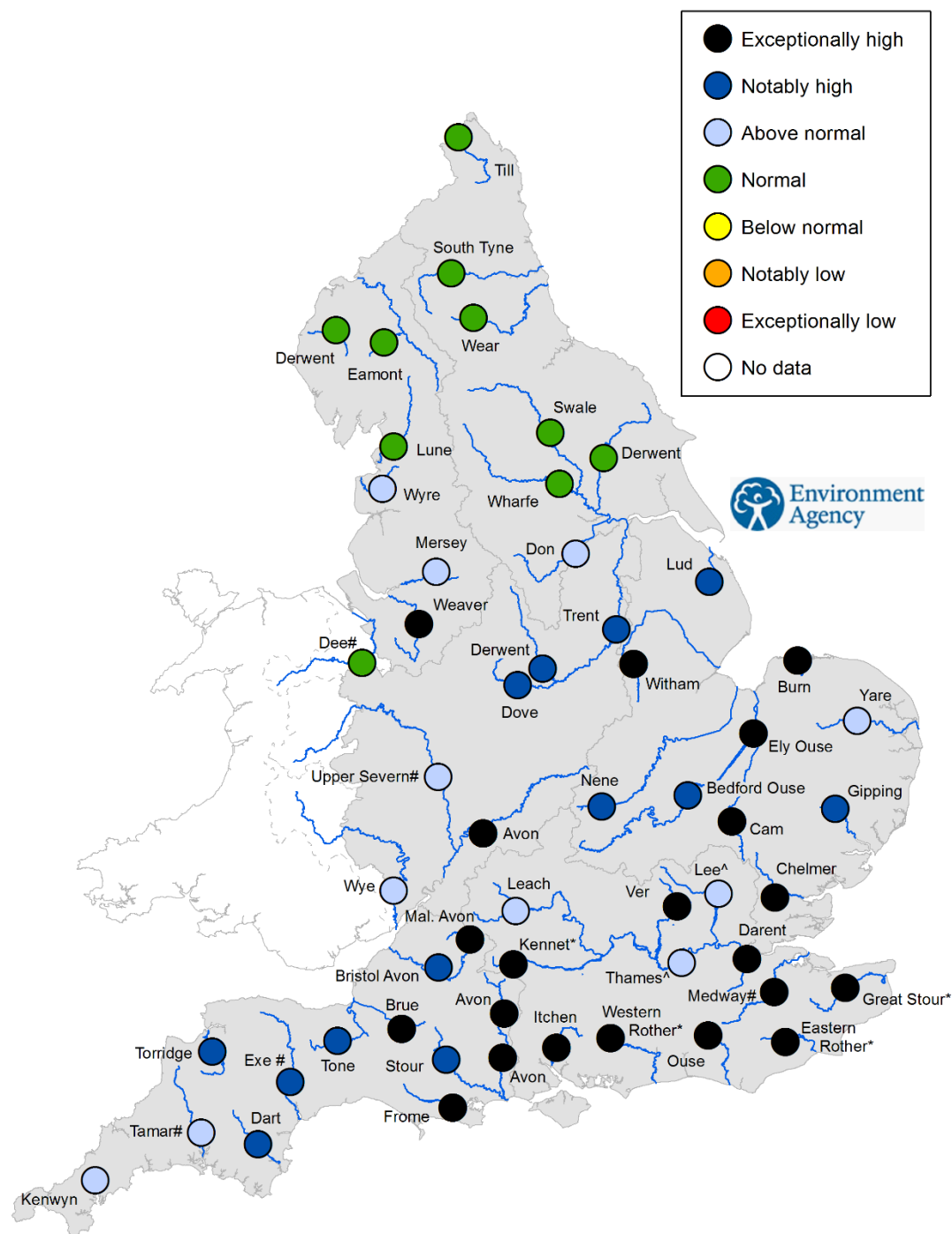


Figure 1 Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2024). Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation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

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