

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 27 March to Tuesday 02 April 2024

Summary: It has been a wetter week than the last across England, particularly in the west and south of the country. River flows increased at nearly three-quarters of reporting sites, and all sites were classed as normal or higher for the time of year.

Rainfall

It has been a wetter week than the last across most of England, particularly in the west and south of the country. Rainfall totals for the week ranged from 16mm in east England, to 62mm in south-west England (Table 1, Figure 1). Rainfall totals for March ranged from 100% of the long term average in east England, to 151% of the long term average in south-west England. So far in April to date, all regions have received around a quarter of the LTA for the month. (Table 1).

River flow

River flows increased at almost three quarters of reporting sites when compared to the previous week. At all sites across England, river flows were classed as [normal](#) or higher for the time of year. Seven sites (13% of the total) were classed as [normal](#), while 29% (16 sites) were [above normal](#). 31% (17 sites) were [notably high](#), and the remaining fifteen sites (27% of the total) were [exceptionally high](#) for the time of year. (Figure 2).

Outlook

On Thursday, thundery showers are expected across south-west and south-east England, with lighter rain and cloud across the rest of England. From Friday, and through the weekend into Monday and Tuesday, unsettled conditions are likely to continue, with widespread rain and increasingly windy conditions. It is expected to be mild in the south, with temperatures in the north starting chilly and becoming milder.

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 27 Mar to 02 Apr 2024	Latest month to date: Apr 2024		Last month: Mar 2024		Last 3 months: Jan to Mar 2024		Last 6 months: Oct 2023 to Mar 2024		Last 12 months: Apr 2023 to Mar 2024	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	32	18	26	125	132	423	146	959	145	1,600	134
north-east	26	14	25	79	114	263	127	684	153	1,115	133
central	32	12	23	96	166	271	155	635	170	1,003	139
east	16	13	27	47	100	203	150	493	165	809	135
south-east	39	12	24	93	157	308	170	686	171	1,043	142
south-west	62	15	24	151	176	455	160	960	158	1,456	143
England	34	14	24	94	142	309	151	712	160	1,129	138

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

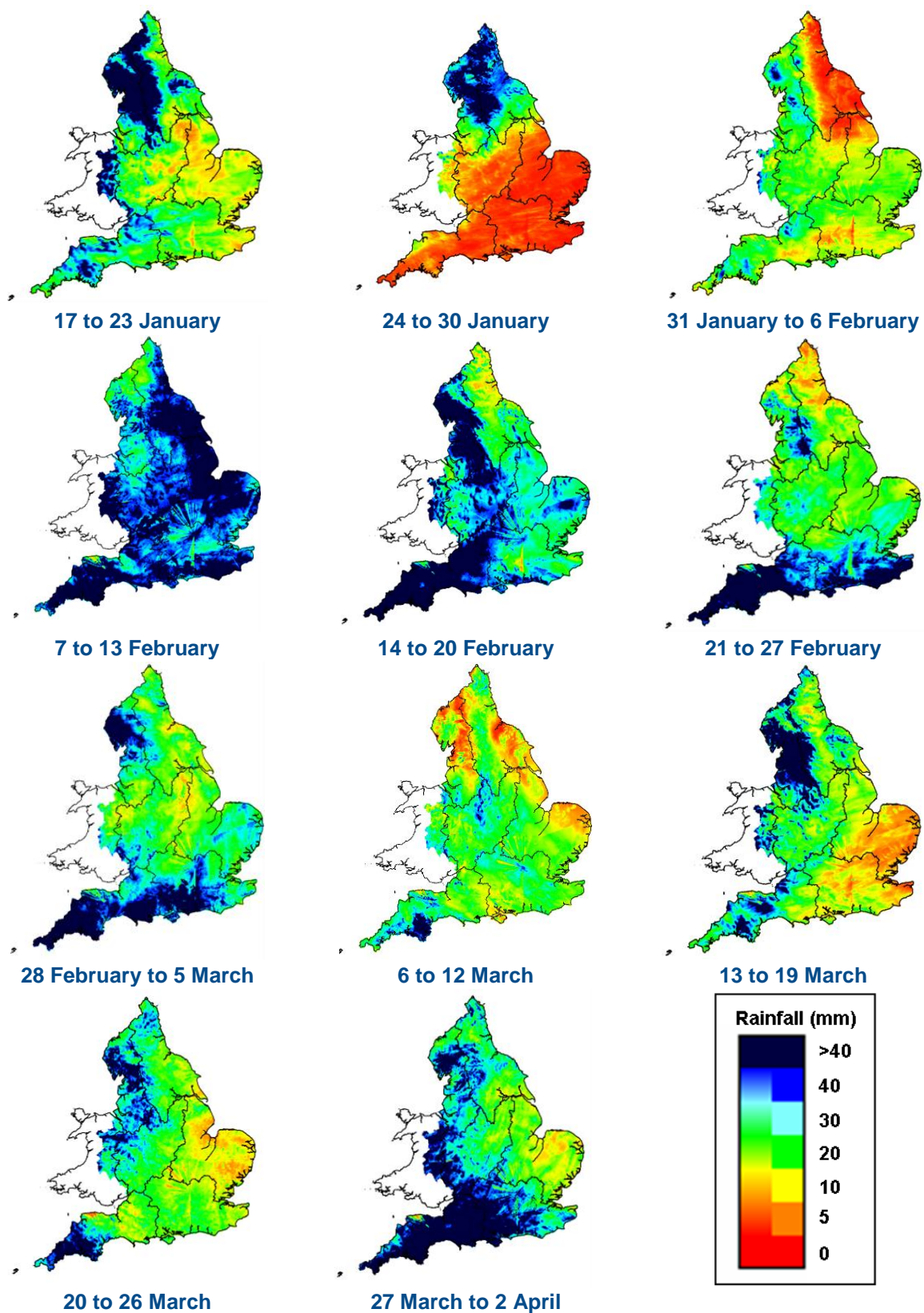
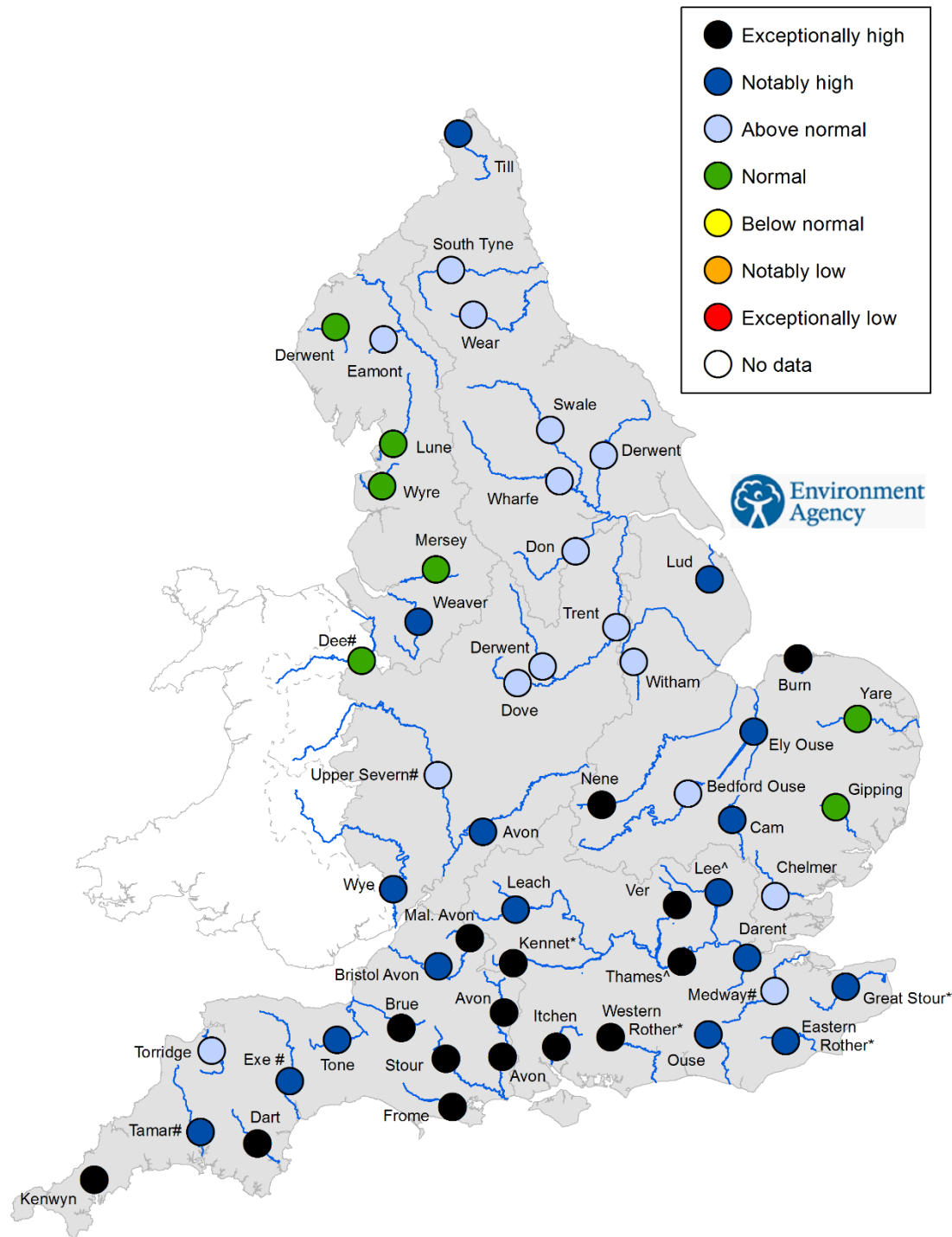


Figure 1 Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2024). Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation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