

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 8 May to Tuesday 14 May 2024

Summary: It has been a slightly drier week across most of the country, with wetter conditions in northern parts of England. River flows across the country continue to be classed as normal or higher for the time of year at most reporting sites.

Rainfall

Rainfall throughout the week varied across the country. Rainfall totals for the week ranged from 5mm in east England, to 23mm in south-west England (Figure 1). Rainfall totals for the month to date ranged from 34% of the long-term average in north-east England, to 83% of the long-term average in south-west England (Table 1).

River flow

River flow decreased at 67% of reporting sites, and increased at 33% of sites, when compared to the previous week. Flows at all of the reporting sites across England, were classed as [normal](#) or above for the time of year. Seven reporting sites (13%) were classed as [exceptionally high](#), 12 (22%) as [notably high](#), 25 (45%) as [above normal](#), and 11 (20%) as [normal](#) for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

Thursday will remain cloudy with patchy rain across northern and eastern England. Elsewhere, warm sunny spells but showers developing by the afternoon, with a risk of thunder. Warm sunny spells and heavy and thundery showers continue on Friday and Saturday, particularly in the south. Fewer showers in the north on Sunday. Feeling warm in any sunshine.

Geographic regions	Latest Week: 08 to 14 May 2024	Latest month to date: May 2024		Last month: Apr 2024		Last 3 months: Feb to Apr 2024		Last 6 months: Nov 2023 to Apr 2024		Last 12 months: May 2023 to Apr 2024	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	22	32	43	138	195	400	164	946	156	1,676	140
north-east	12	21	34	99	171	263	142	626	145	1,159	138
central	11	24	41	74	139	286	176	558	152	1,020	141
east	5	17	35	58	124	211	161	423	143	812	135
south-east	8	32	58	75	146	310	193	613	160	1,046	143
south-west	23	56	83	93	151	448	194	900	158	1,464	143
England	13	29	50	86	154	309	172	650	153	1,151	140

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.

Rainfall

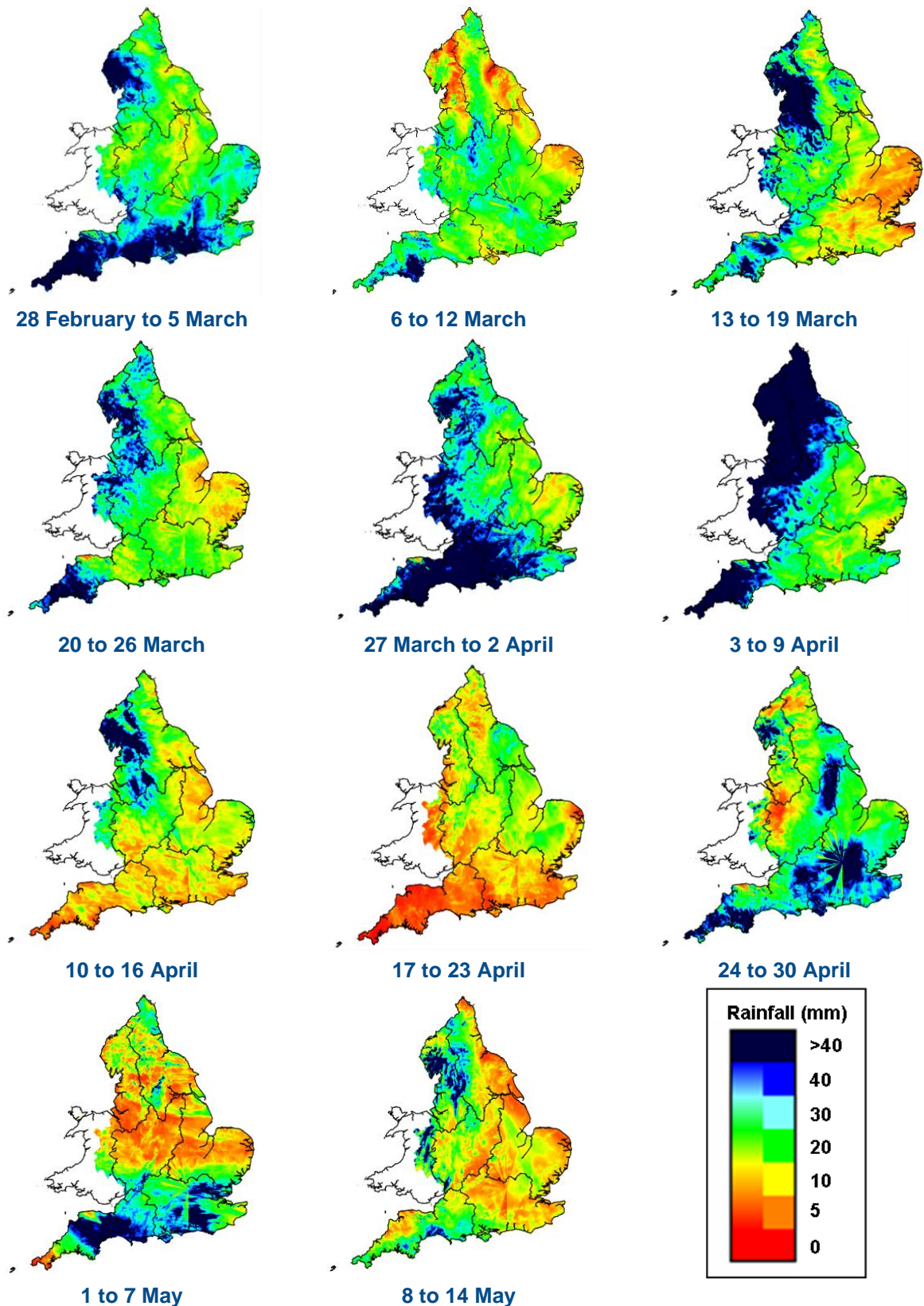
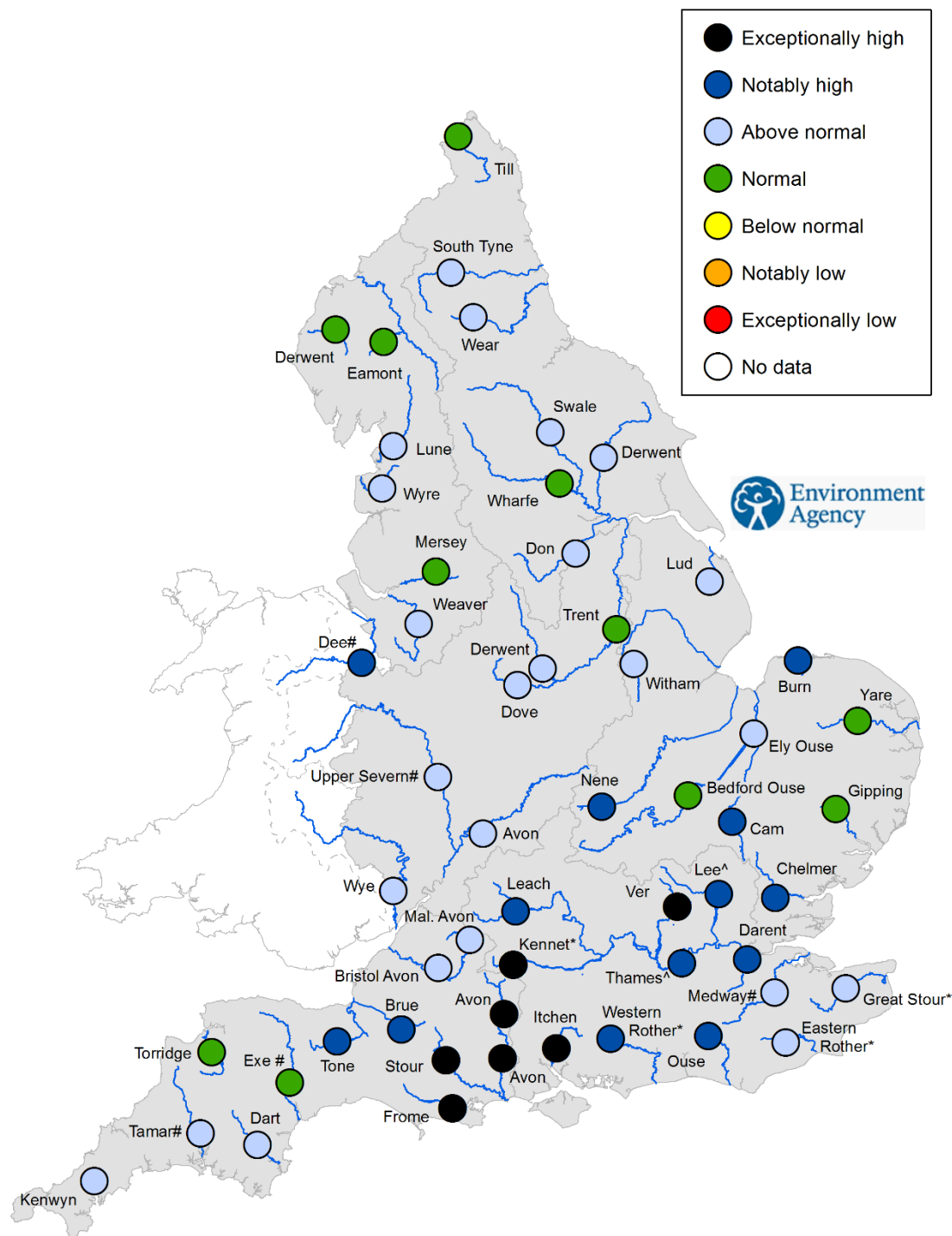


Figure 1 Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2024). Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation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