# Weekly rainfall and river flow summary 

## Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 15 May to Tuesday 21 May 2024

Summary: It has been a wet week across the eastern and central areas, with drier conditions in northern and central southern England. River flows across the country continue to be classed as normal or higher for the time of year.

## Rainfall

Rainfall throughout the week varied across the country with the eastern and central areas receiving the greatest amount. Rainfall totals for the week ranged from 10 mm in north-east England, to 33mm in east England and central England (Figure 1). Rainfall totals for the month to date ranged from $50 \%$ of the longterm average in north-east England, to $105 \%$ of the long-term average in south-west England (Table 1).

## River flow

Compared to last week, river flows decreased at $85 \%$ of reporting sites, and increased at the remaining $15 \%$. Flows at all of the reporting sites across England, were classed as normal or above for the time of year. 4 reporting sites (7\%) were classed as exceptionally high, 10 (18\%) as notably high, 16 (29\%) as above normal, and 25 (46\%) as normal for the time of year (Figure 2).

## Outlook

Thursday is expected to be drier than Wednesday but pretty wet across the northern half of the country; with some bright sunny skies developing in southern areas. Further rain is expected across the north on Friday with a drier and brighter conditions on Saturday across much of the country. Longer spells of rain are expected to develop on Sunday with more showers likely across eastern parts through the Bank Holiday Monday.

| Geographic regions | Latest <br> Week: <br> 15 to 21 <br> May 2024 | Latest month to date: <br> May 2024 |  | Last month: Apr 2024 |  | Last 3 months: Feb to Apr 2024 |  | Last 6 months: Nov 2023 to Apr 2024 |  | Last 12 months: <br> May 2023 to Apr 2024 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total (mm) | Total (mm) | \% LTA | Total (mm) | \% LTA | Total (mm) | \% LTA | Total (mm) | \% LTA | Total (mm) | \% LTA |
| north-west | 14 | 46 | 62 | 138 | 195 | 400 | 164 | 946 | 156 | 1,676 | 140 |
| north-east | 10 | 31 | 50 | 99 | 171 | 263 | 142 | 626 | 145 | 1,159 | 138 |
| central | 33 | 57 | 99 | 74 | 139 | 286 | 176 | 558 | 152 | 1,020 | 141 |
| east | 33 | 50 | 104 | 58 | 124 | 211 | 161 | 423 | 143 | 812 | 135 |
| south-east | 15 | 47 | 85 | 75 | 146 | 310 | 193 | 613 | 160 | 1,046 | 143 |
| south-west | 14 | 70 | 105 | 93 | 151 | 448 | 194 | 900 | 158 | 1,464 | 143 |
| England | 21 | 50 | 84 | 86 | 154 | 309 | 172 | 650 | 153 | 1,151 | 140 |

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

[^0]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.

${ }^{\wedge}$ '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.

[^1]
## River flow categories

Exceptionally high Value likely to fall within this band $5 \%$ of the time

Notably high
Above normal Normal
Below normal
Notably low
Exceptionally low

Value likely to fall within this band $8 \%$ of the time Value likely to fall within this band $15 \%$ of the time Value likely to fall within this band $44 \%$ of the time Value likely to fall within this band $15 \%$ of the time Value likely to fall within this band $8 \%$ of the time Value likely to fall within this band $5 \%$ of the time

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| customer service line | incident hotline | floodline |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 03708506506 | 0800807060 | 03459881188 |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ 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.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Flow 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.
    ${ }^{3}$ The flow sites in this report are indicator sites providing a National overview and a subset of a wider flow monitoring network.

