Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 26 February to Tuesday 4 March 2025

1 Summary

It has been a dry week across England, with east England the wettest region having received 8mm of rainfall. River flows decreased at all except one of the sites we report on, with two-thirds of sites classed as normal for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been a dry week across England, with rainfall totals ranging from 8mm in east England to just 2mm in central England (Table 1 and Figure 1). For February, as a whole, rainfall totals ranged from 64% of the long term average (LTA) in north-east England, to 122% of the LTA in the south-east. March so far has been very dry, with all regions seeing less than 1mm of rainfall in the first 4 days of the month.

1.2 River flows

River flows decreased at all except one of the sites we report on compared to the previous week. Lechlade on the River Leach in the south-east was the only site that saw increased flows. Two thirds of sites were classed as normal for the time of year. Nine sites (16% of the total) were above normal or higher, all of which were in the south-east and south-west of England. This includes the River Itchen which was notably high, and the River Ver which was exceptionally high for the time of year. In contrast, 11 sites (20% of the total) in northern England were below normal or notably low for the time of year, including all sites in north-east England.

1.3 Outlook

Sunshine is expected to continue for many on Thursday and into the weekend, although cloudier conditions will begin to move in from the west. Showery rain will develop more widely on Saturday, with some bright spells. Sunday is likely to be dry, although more showery rain will arrive from the south-west later in the day. There will be cloudy conditions with outbreaks of rain on Monday, before clearer conditions return on Tuesday and remain in place as high pressure builds from the north-west.

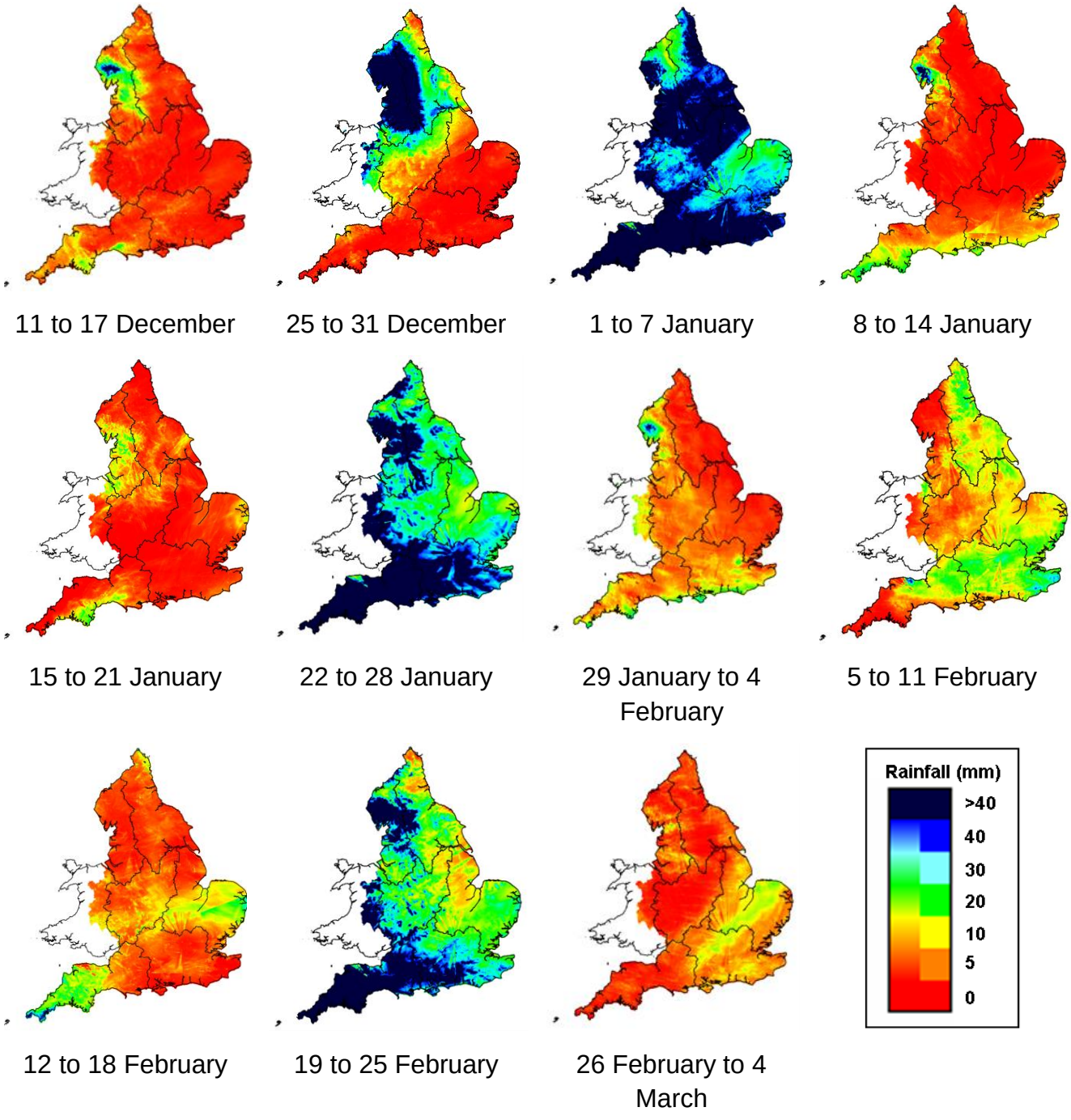
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2025)

Geographic regions	26 Feb to 4 Mar 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Mar 2025 to date total rainfall (mm)	Mar 2025 to date rainfall % of LTA	Feb 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Feb 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Dec 2024 to Feb 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Dec 2024 to Feb 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Sep 2024 to Feb 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Sep 2024 to Feb 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months Mar 2024 to Feb 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months Mar 2024 to Feb 2025 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	3	<1	0	60	78	331	104	672	98	1,358	113
north-east	4	<1	0	37	64	211	96	449	100	880	105
central	2	<1	0	37	73	201	106	511	136	885	123
east	8	<1	0	35	93	148	103	357	118	650	108
south-east	6	<1	0	60	122	216	109	538	133	908	124
south-west	3	<1	0	92	109	316	100	734	121	1,242	122
England	5	<1	0	52	91	227	103	527	117	950	116

Notes: Long term average (LTA) rainfall for 1961 to 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.

2 Rainfall

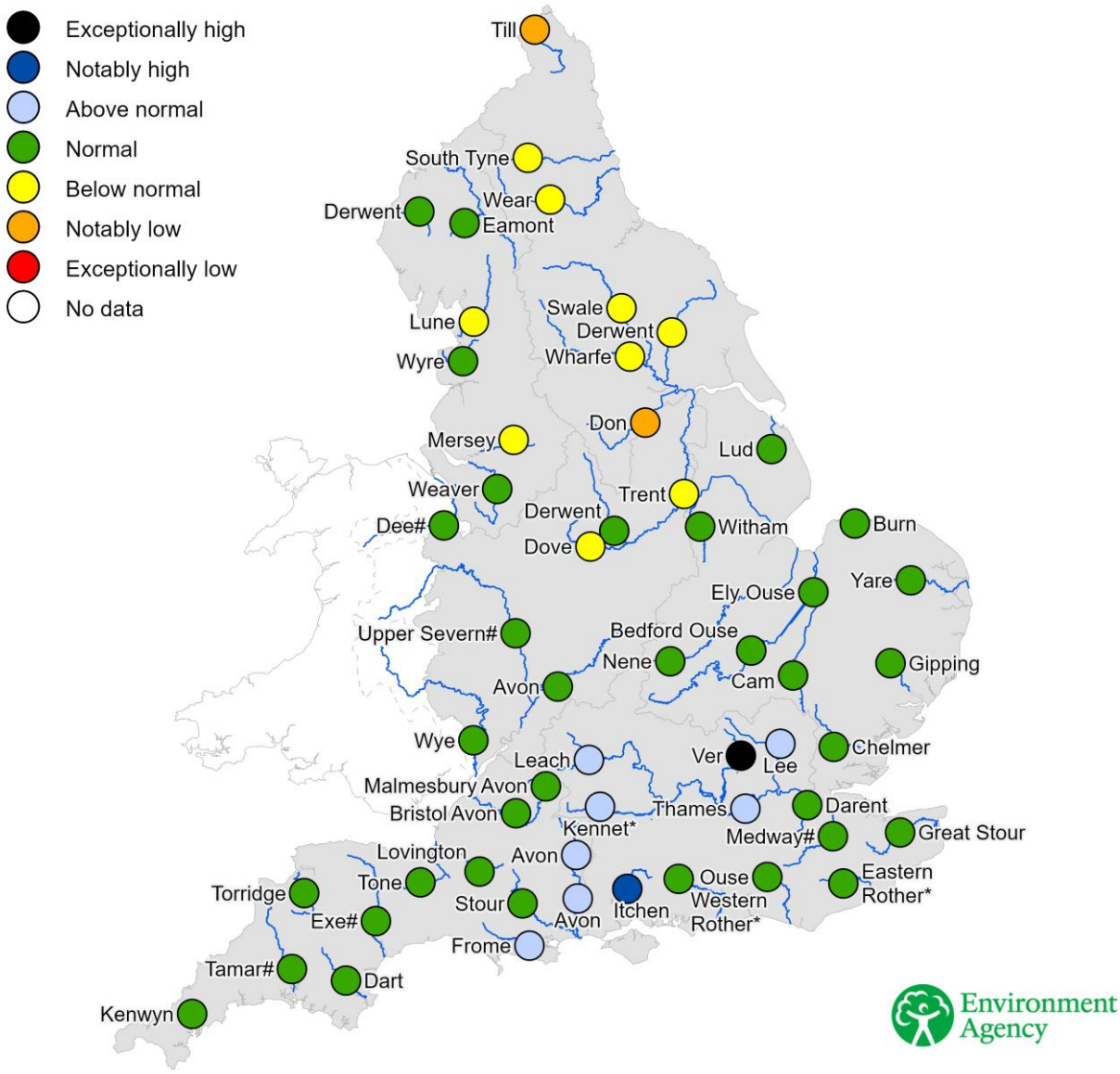
Figure 2: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation affecting its performance. This does not reflect actual conditions on the ground.



3 River flows

3.1 River flows map

Figure 3.1: Latest daily mean river flow, relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows, classed by flow percentile for the same time of year. River flows for the River Thames at Kingston and the River Lee at Feildes Weir are naturalised. * Flows may be overestimated and data should be treated with caution. # Flows may be impacted by upstream reservoir releases.



3.2 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