Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 12 March to Tuesday 18 March 2025

1 Summary

It has been another especially dry week across the country, particularly the south-west. River flows have decreased at almost all of the sites we report on compared with the previous week.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been another very dry week across the majority of the country. Rainfall totals ranged from less than 1mm in south-west England to 7mm in north-east England (Table 1 and Figure 1). At over half the way through March, rainfall totals for the month to date range from just 4% of the long-term average (LTA) in south-east and south-west England to 16% of the LTA in north-east England (Table 1).

1.2 River flows

River flows have decreased at almost all of the sites we report on compared with the previous week, with all sites classed as notably high or lower for the time of year. Two sites (4%) were classed as notably high, 3 sites (5%) were classed as above normal, 18 sites (33%) were classed as normal, 12 sites (22%) were classed as below normal, 15 sites (27%) were classed as notably low, whilst 5 sites (9%), all in northern England, were classed as exceptionally low for the time of year (Figure 2).

1.3 Outlook

Thursday will be mostly dry, with some isolated showers possible across central areas this afternoon. Overnight into Friday some locally heavy showers will arrive in the south-west, these will continue during Friday but most of the rest of England is expected to remain dry. Saturday and Sunday are expected to turn more unsettled with showers or longer spells of rain possible. It is expected to become drier on Monday and Tuesday.

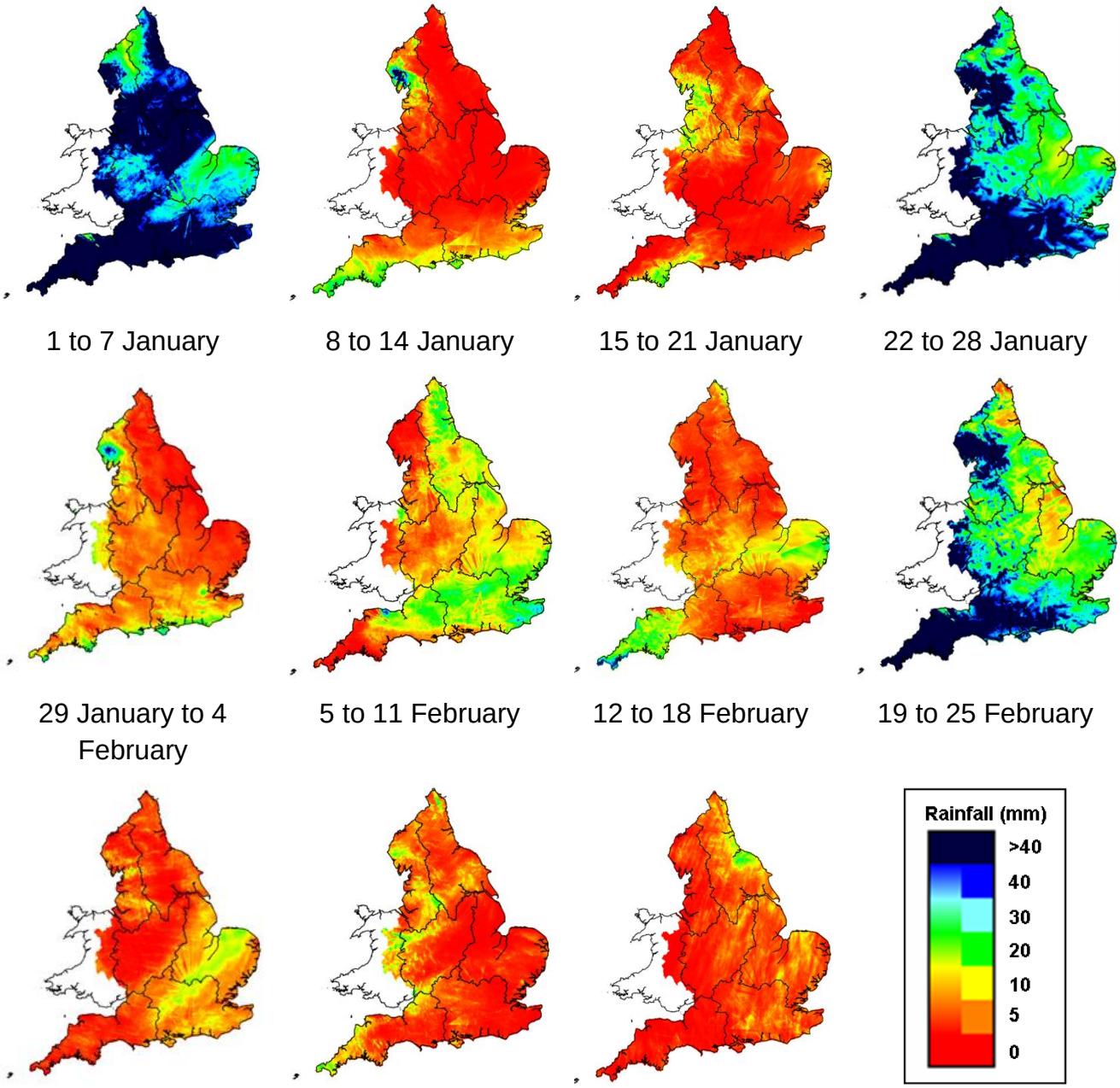
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2025)

Geographic regions	12 to 18 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	2	7	8	60	78	331	104	672	98	1,358	113
north-east	7	11	16	37	64	211	96	449	100	880	105
central	3	6	10	37	73	201	106	511	136	885	123
east	4	5	10	35	93	148	103	357	118	650	108
south-east	2	2	4	60	122	216	109	538	133	908	124
south-west	<1	4	4	92	109	316	100	734	121	1,242	122
England	3	6	9	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

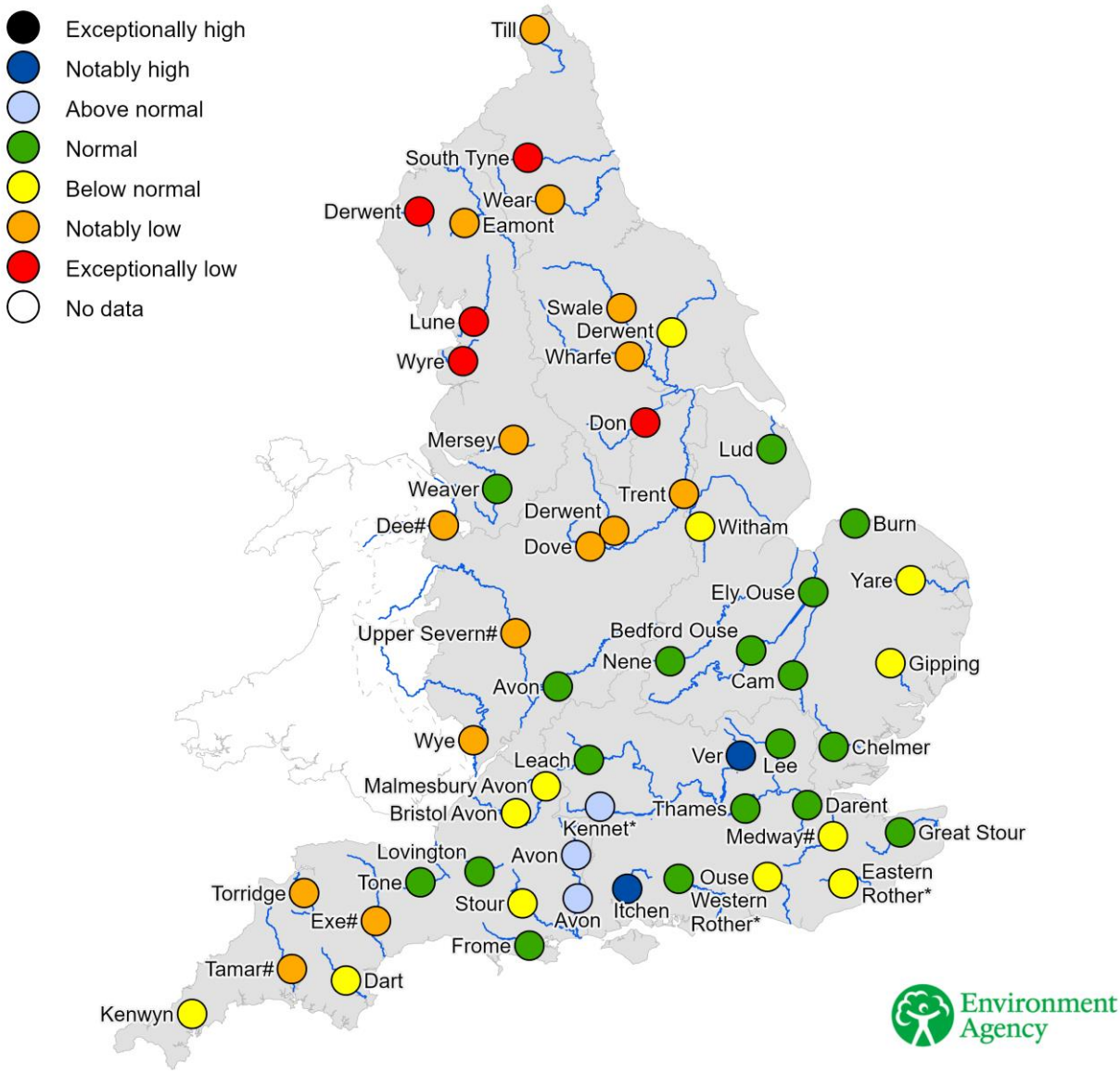
Figure 2: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation affecting its performance. This does not reflect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