Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 23 April to Tuesday 29 April 2025

1 Summary

It has been a return to dry conditions across England, with the highest rainfall total of just 3mm being received in the south-west. River flows decreased at all of our key reporting sites, and almost two-thirds of sites were classed as below normal or lower for the time of year.

1.1 Rainfall

It was another very dry week across England. Rainfall totals ranged from 3mm in south-west England to less than 1mm across the rest of the country (Table 1 and Figure 1). Rainfall totals for April so far are very mixed, with north-east England having received only 19% (11mm) of the long term average (LTA) for the time of year, while south-west England has received 116% (71mm) of the LTA. For England as a whole, April rainfall totals to date are just over half of the LTA (Table 1).

1.2 River flows

Following a dry week, river flows decreased at all of our key reporting sites compared to the previous week. River flows were mixed across England, with almost two-thirds classed as below normal or lower for the time of year. Seventeen sites (31% of the total) were classed as normal for the time of year, most of which were in south-west, south-east and east England. Two sites were classed as being notably high for the time of year, the River Kenwyn in the south-west, and the River Ver in the south-east. Fifteen sites (27%) were classed as below normal, and 18% (10 sites) were classed as notably low for the time of year. Finally, 10 sites (18%) were classed as exceptionally low for the time of year, including all sites in north-east England.

1.3 Outlook

Warm and sunny conditions are expected to continue for many on Thursday, although temperatures may be cooler in the north, and thunderstorms are a risk in the afternoon. Friday may bring some isolated heavy showers, but dry and bright conditions are expected for many. Temperatures are likely to return to near average for the time of year as the weekend progresses. Monday will bring more dry and sunny spells, with a chance of showers along coasts.

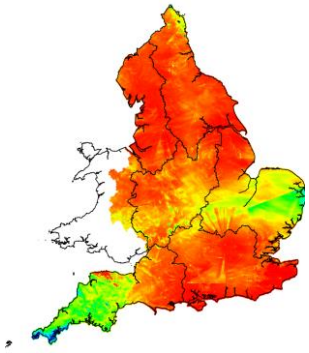
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2025)

Geographic regions	23 to 29 Apr 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Apr 2025 to date total rainfall (mm)	Apr 2025 to date rainfall % of LTA	Mar 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Mar 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Jan to Mar 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Jan to Mar 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Oct 2024 to Mar 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Oct 2024 to Mar 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months Apr 2024 to Mar 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months Apr 2024 to Mar 2025 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	<1	27	38	31	33	191	66	573	86	1,263	106
north-east	<1	11	19	26	38	137	66	371	83	828	99
central	<1	24	46	13	23	133	76	370	99	802	111
east	<1	21	46	7	15	99	73	262	88	610	102
south-east	<1	24	46	7	11	170	94	388	97	821	112
south-west	3	71	116	11	13	259	91	587	97	1,103	108
England	<1	29	52	15	22	160	78	409	92	870	106

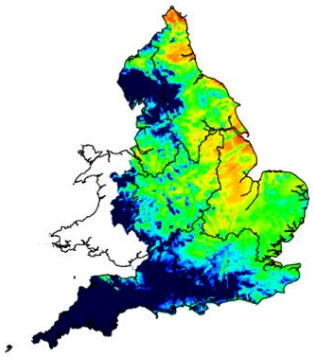
Notes: Long term average (LTA) rainfall for 1961 to 1990. Data for the current month are calculated using MORECS (Met Office Rainfall and Evaporation Calculation System); data for past months are provisional values from the National Climate Information Centre (NCIC). The data are rounded to the nearest millimetre or percent except when values are less than 1. Recorded amounts of rainfall are likely to be underestimated during snow events.

2 Rainfall

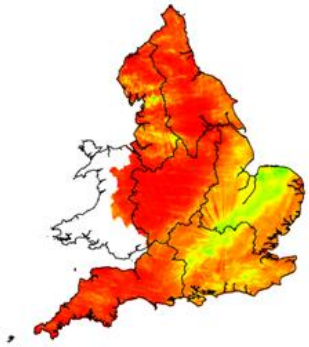
Figure 2: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation affecting its performance. This does not reflect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



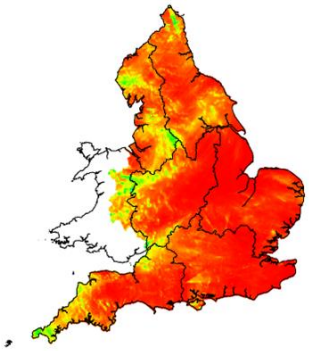
12 to 18 February



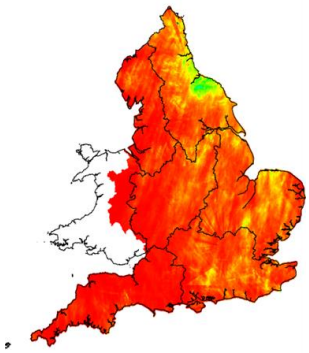
19 to 25 February



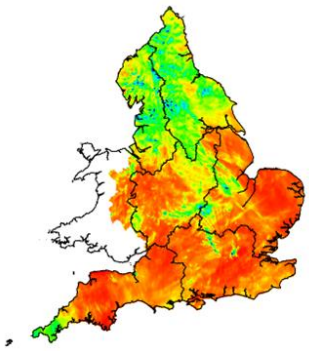
26 February to 4 March



5 to 11 March



12 to 18 March



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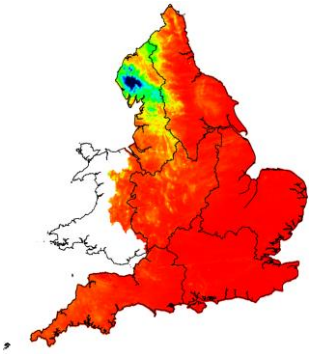
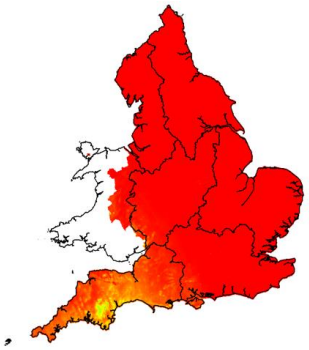
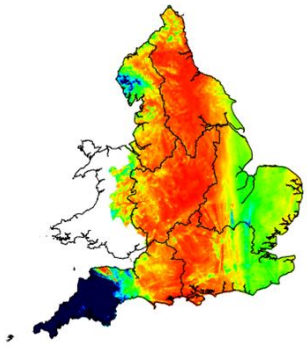


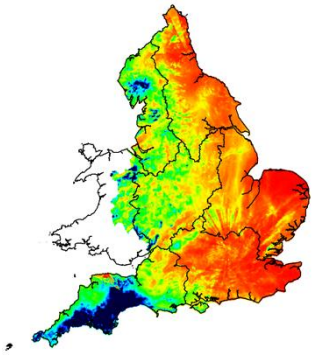
26 March to 1 April



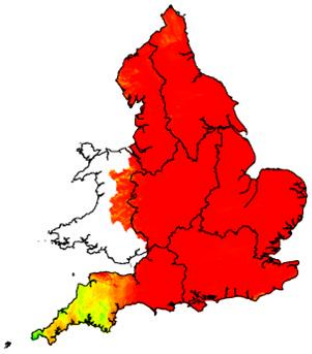
2 to 8 April



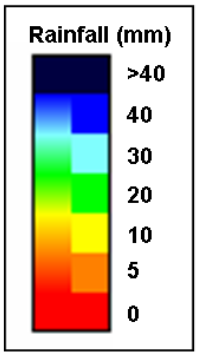
9 to 15 April



16 to 22 April



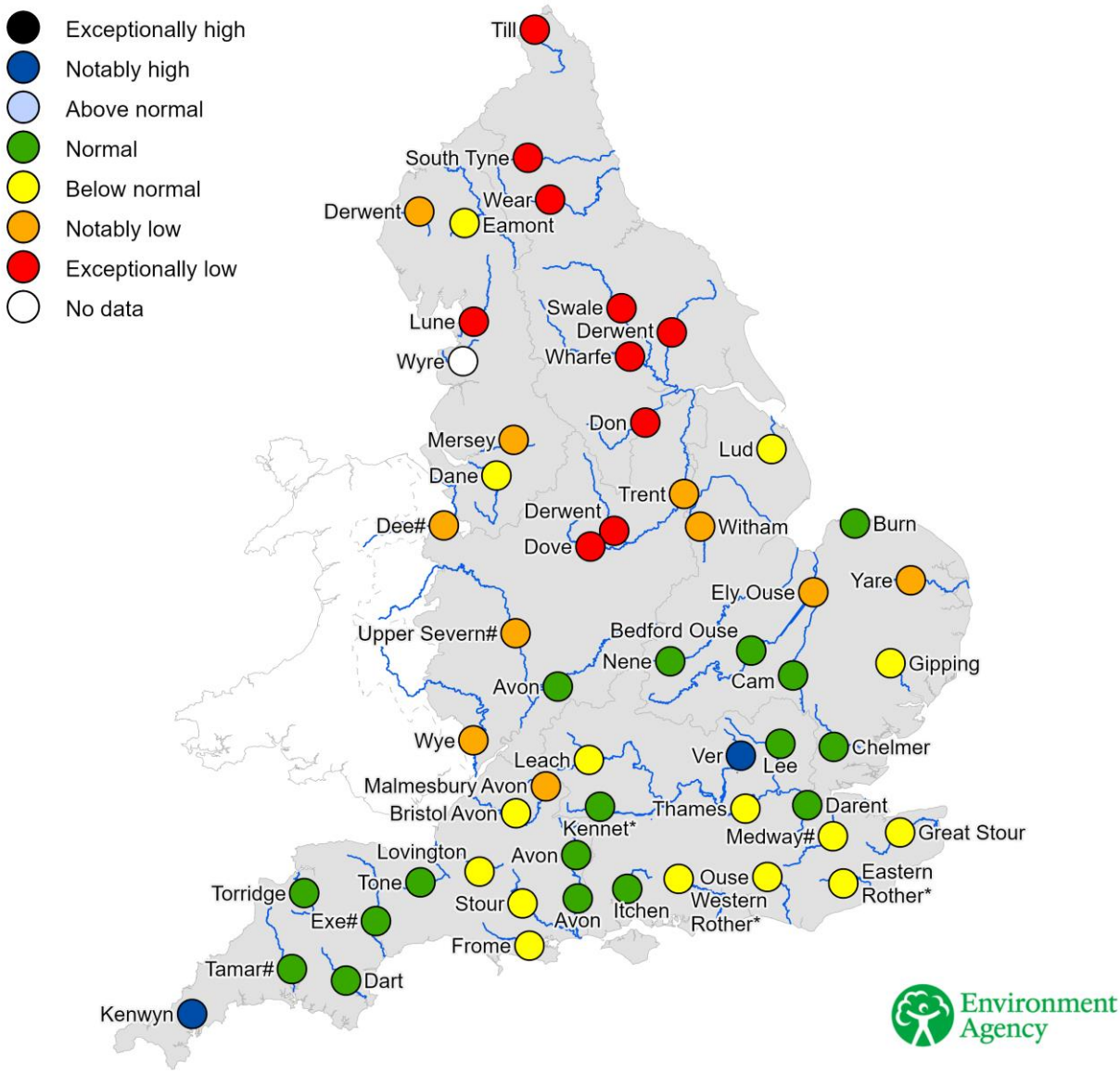
23 to 29 April



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