Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 7 May to Tuesday 13 May 2025

1 Summary

It has been another very dry week across the whole of England. River flows decreased at nearly all of the sites we report on compared to the previous week.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been another very dry week across the whole of England. Rainfall totals ranged from 7mm in south-west to less than 1mm in east, north-west and north-east England (Table 1 and Figure 1). Rainfall totals for the month of May range from 10% of the long-term average (LTA) in south-west England to only 1% of the LTA in north-west England (Figure 1). The rainfall total for England for May to date, 4mm, was 6% of the May LTA (Figure 1).

1.2 River flows

River flows decreased at nearly all of the sites we report on compared to the previous week with all sites classed as above normal or lower for the time of year. Two sites (4%) were classed as above normal, 14 sites (25%) were classed as normal, another 14 sites (25%) were classed as below normal, 7 sites (13%) were classed as notably low and 17 sites (31%) are now classed as exceptionally low for the time of year across the majority of sites located in central, north-west and north-east England (Figure 2).

1.3 Outlook

The weather is expected to remain largely dry, warm, and sunny. On Thursday, some eastern coastal areas maybe cloudy with an onshore breeze keeping conditions cooler. From Friday through Sunday, the settled and warm pattern continues, with occasional low cloud persisting in east of England. This pattern will continue into Monday and Tuesday with the chance of a few showers across the south-east.

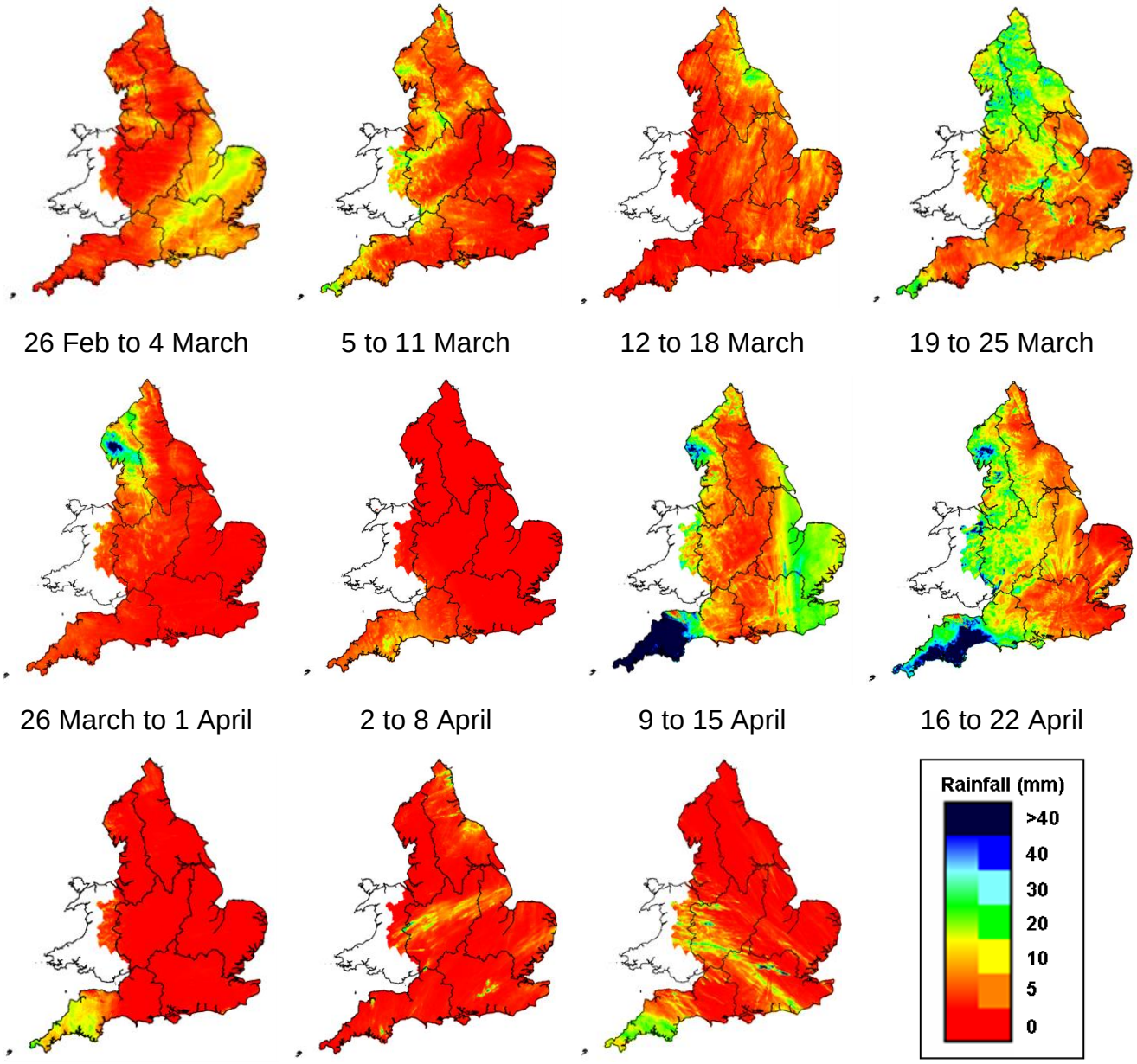
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2025)

Geographic regions	7 to 13 May 2025 total rainfall (mm)	May 2025 to date total rainfall (mm)	May 2025 to date rainfall % of LTA	Apr 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Apr 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 3 months Feb to Apr 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 3 months Feb to Apr 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 6 months Nov 2024 to Apr 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 6 months Nov 2024 to Apr 2025 rainfall % of LTA	Last 12 months May 2024 to Apr 2025 total rainfall (mm)	Last 12 months May 2024 to Apr 2025 rainfall % of LTA
north-west	<1	<1	1	24	34	115	47	470	77	1,149	96
north-east	<1	2	4	10	17	74	40	293	68	738	88
central	2	4	7	21	39	72	44	308	84	749	104
east	<1	2	5	20	43	62	47	226	77	572	95
south-east	3	4	7	25	49	92	57	330	86	771	105
south-west	7	7	10	74	120	177	76	528	92	1,084	106
England	2	4	6	28	51	95	53	346	81	813	99

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

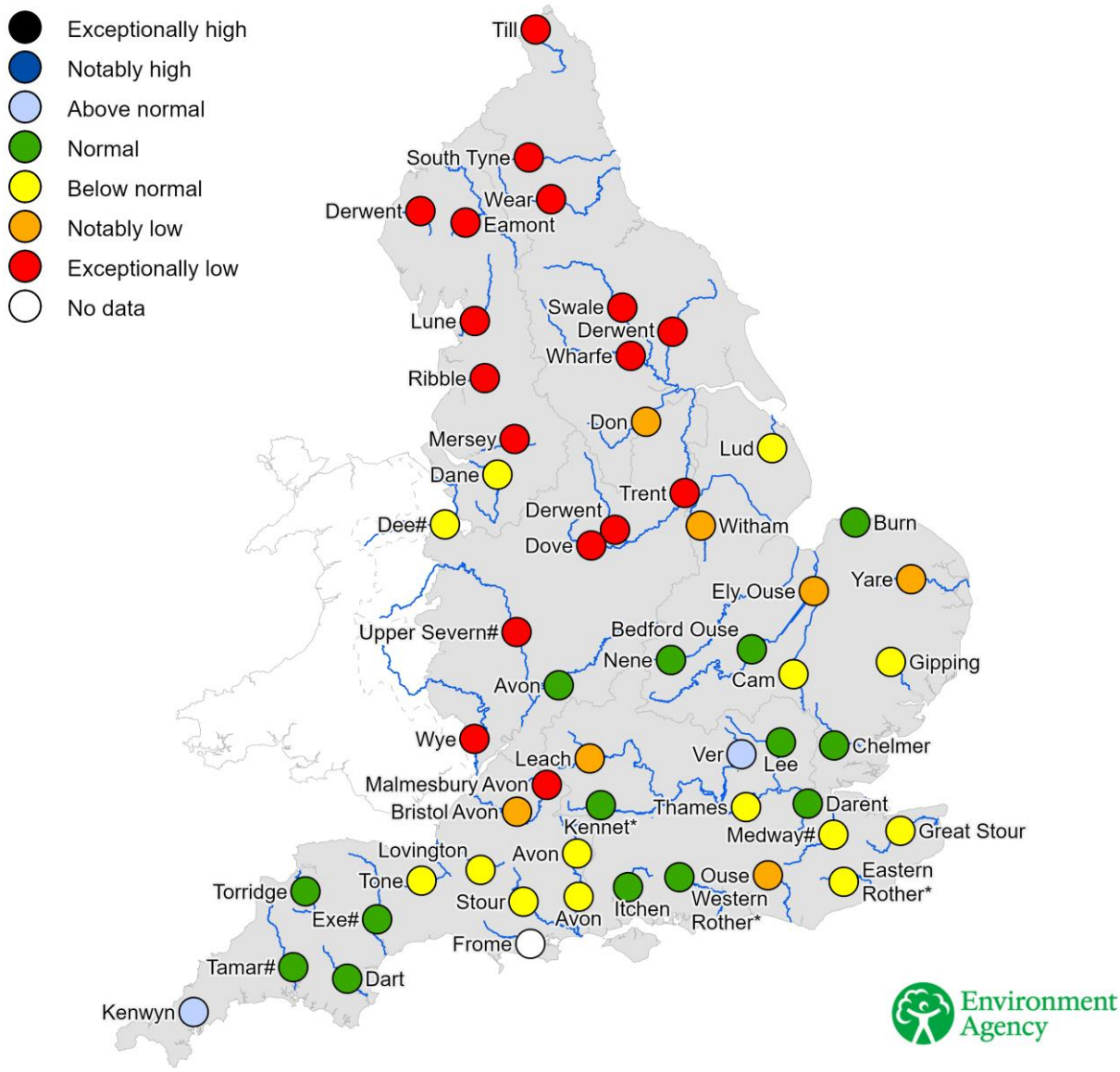
Figure 2: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation affecting its performance. This does not reflect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



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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