

# Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 21 May to Tuesday 27 May 2025

## 1 Summary

It has been the wettest week across England for three months. River flows increased at a significant number of the sites we report on, and the percentage of sites that remain classed as below normal or lower has fallen considerably.

### 1.1 Rainfall

It has been a wetter week across the whole of England and the wettest since late February. Rainfall totals ranged from 15mm in the south-east, to 39mm in north-west England (Table 1 and Figure 1). Rainfall totals for the month of May to date range from 38% of the long-term average (LTA) in the south-east England to 55% of the LTA in east England (Figure 1). The rainfall total for England during May to date, was 28mm, 48% of the May LTA (Figure 1).

### 1.2 River flows

River flows have increased at 48 sites (89%) and decreased at 6 of the sites (11%) we report on, compared to the previous week. Four sites (7%) were classed as notably high, three sites (5%) were classed as above normal and twenty nine sites (53%) classed as normal. The percentage of sites that remain classed as below normal or lower, for the time of year, has fallen from over three-quarters to just over one third. Ten sites (18%) were classed as below normal, three sites (5%) were classed as notably low and six sites (11%) exceptionally low for the time of year. The exceptionally low sites were primarily across west and north-east England (Figure 2).

### 1.3 Outlook

It will be windy and cloudy on Thursday, with outbreaks of rain clearing eastwards during the day. It should turn brighter later with sunny spells developing, particularly to the east. Unsettled conditions continue into Friday with rain spreading across the country, though some areas may stay dry and bright. Sunny spells and scattered showers are expected over the weekend. Monday should remain dry before it turns unsettled on Tuesday.

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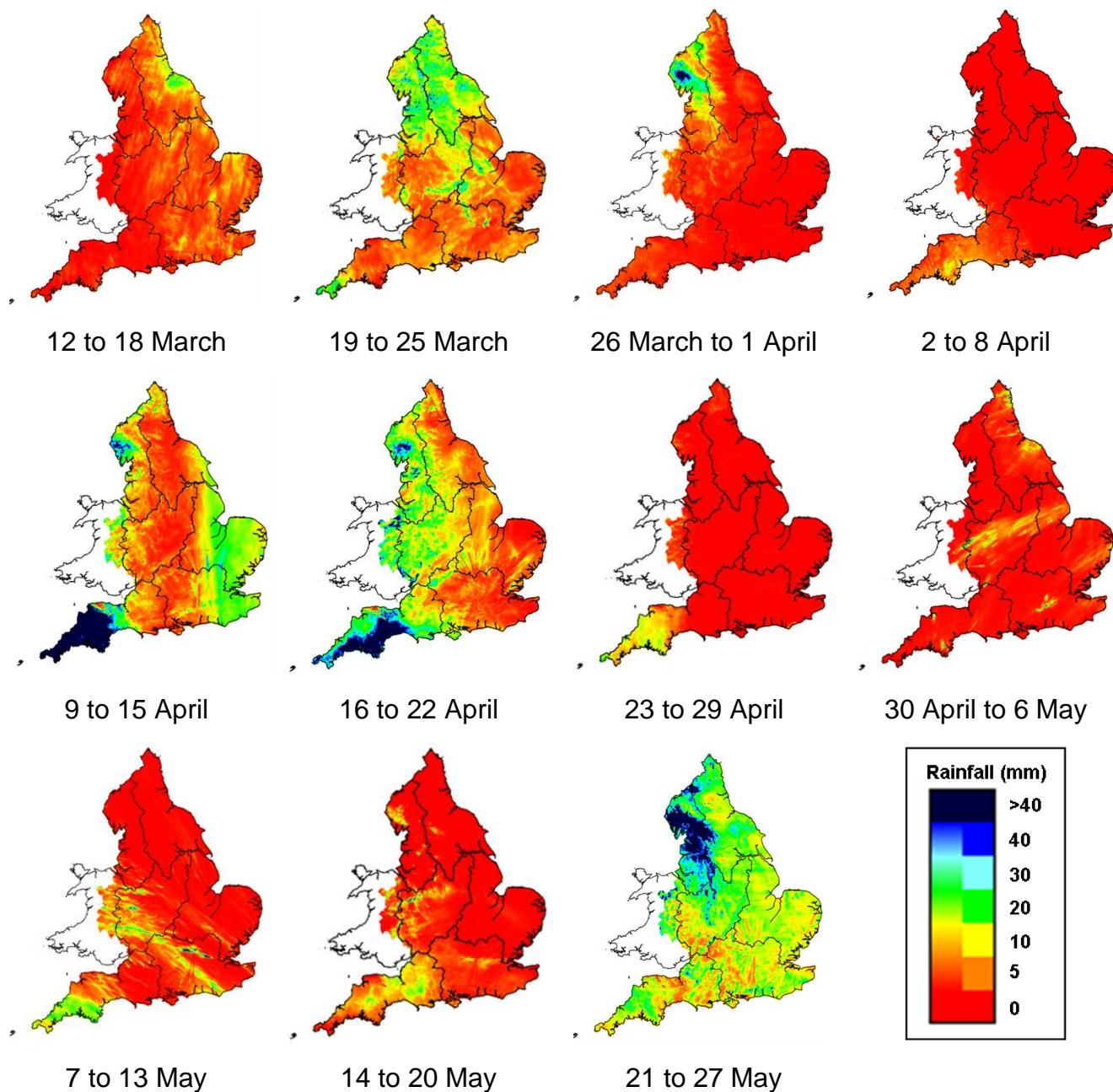
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2025)

Geographic regions	21 to 27 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	39	41	54	24	34	115	47	470	77	1,149	96
north-east	25	27	45	10	17	74	40	293	68	738	88
central	24	30	52	21	39	72	44	308	84	749	104
east	24	27	55	20	43	62	47	226	77	572	95
south-east	15	21	38	25	49	92	57	330	86	771	105
south-west	18	29	43	74	120	177	76	528	92	1,084	106
England	23	28	48	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.

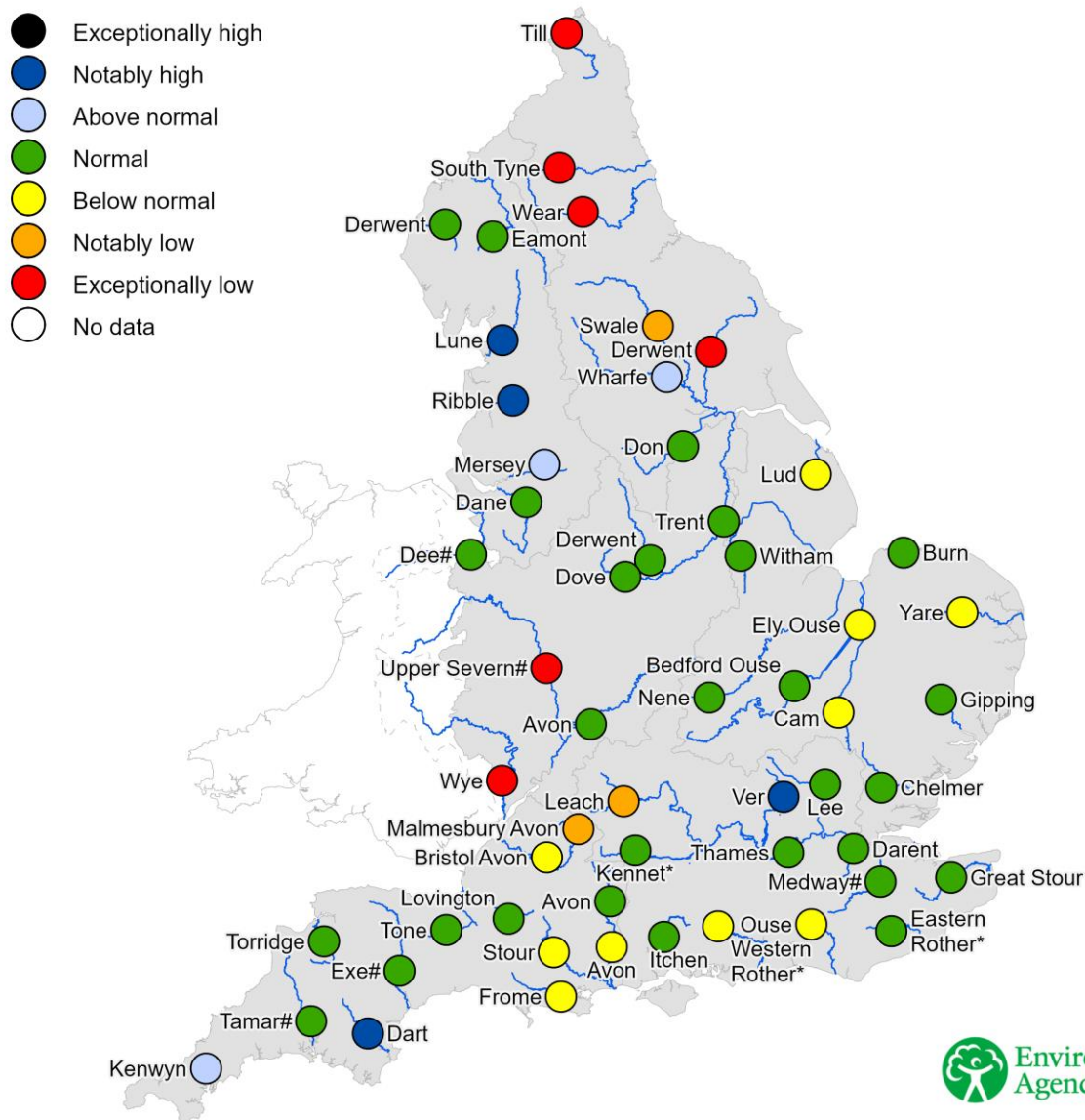


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## 3 River flows

### 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