Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Wednesday 19 March to Tuesday 25 March 2025

1 Summary

It has been another dry week across the country, particularly in eastern and southern England. River flows have decreased at three-quarters of the sites we report on compared with the previous week.

1.1 Rainfall

It has been another dry week across the majority of the country, particularly in eastern and southern England. Rainfall totals ranged from 4mm in south-east England to 13mm in north-west England (Table 1 and Figure 1). Rainfall totals for March to date range from 11% of the long-term average (LTA) in south-east and south-west England to 33% of the LTA in north-east England (Table 1).

1.2 River flows

River flows have decreased at almost three-quarters of the sites we report on compared with the previous week, with all but four sites classed as normal or lower for the time of year. Two sites (4%) were classed as notably high, 2 sites (4%) were classed as above normal, 20 sites (36%) were classed as normal, 16 sites (28%) were classed as below normal, 8 sites (15%) were classed as notably low, whilst 7 sites (13%) were classed as exceptionally low for the time of year (Figure 2).

1.3 Outlook

Thursday will be cloudier across most of the country with the chance of rain in the north of England. On Friday, cooler weather with sunny spells and scattered, blustery showers are forecast as a cold front moves southwards across England. Further rain is possible in the west on Saturday however drier conditions are expected on Sunday. On Monday and Tuesday settled weather is expected to cover much of England with most places are expected to be dry with clear or sunny spells and light winds.

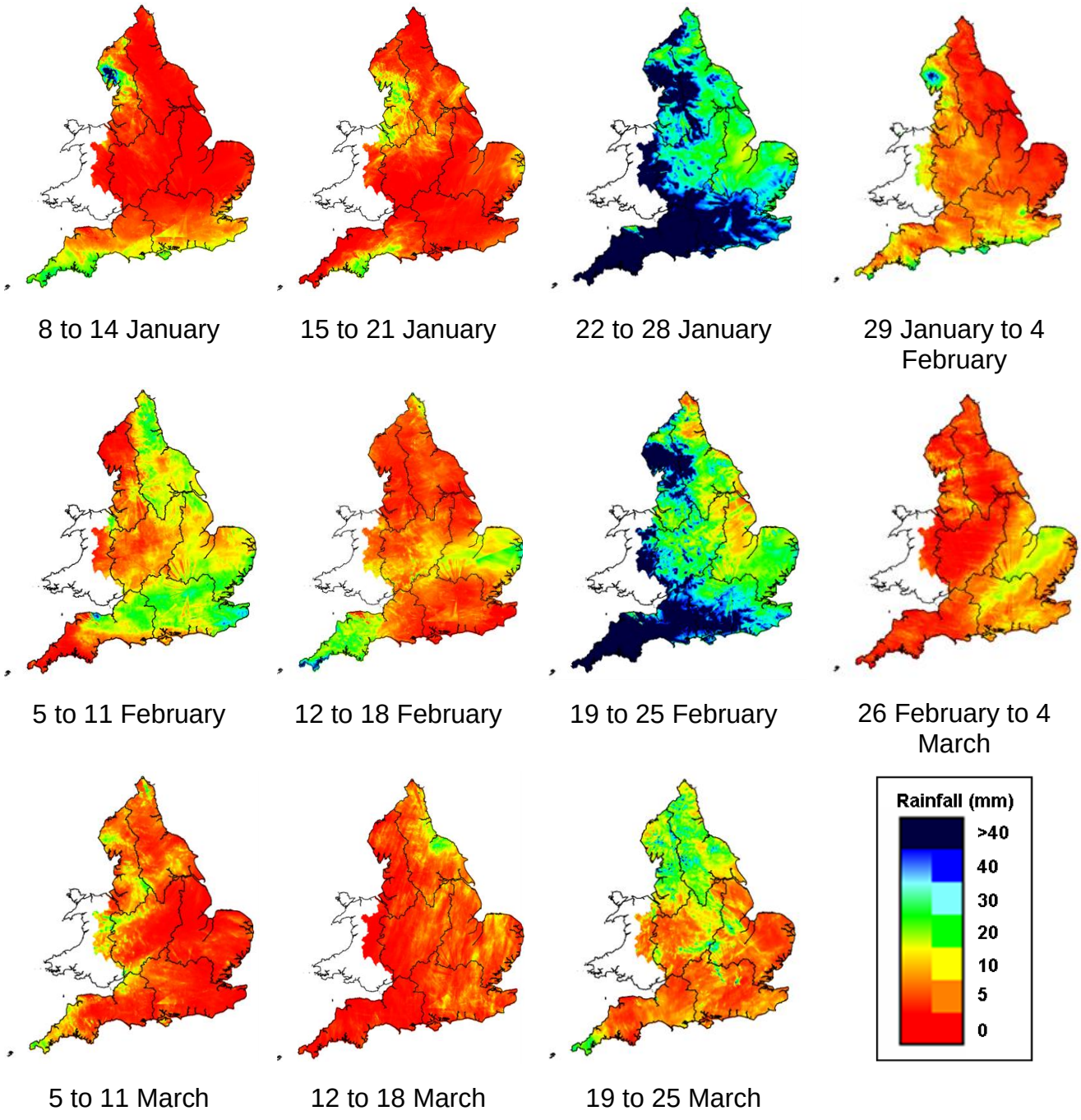
Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2025)

Geographic regions	19 to 25 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	13	20	21	60	78	331	104	672	98	1,358	113
north-east	12	23	33	37	64	211	96	449	100	880	105
central	10	15	27	37	73	201	106	511	136	885	123
east	6	11	23	35	93	148	103	357	118	650	108
south-east	4	7	11	60	122	216	109	538	133	908	124
south-west	6	9	11	92	109	316	100	734	121	1,242	122
England	8	14	21	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

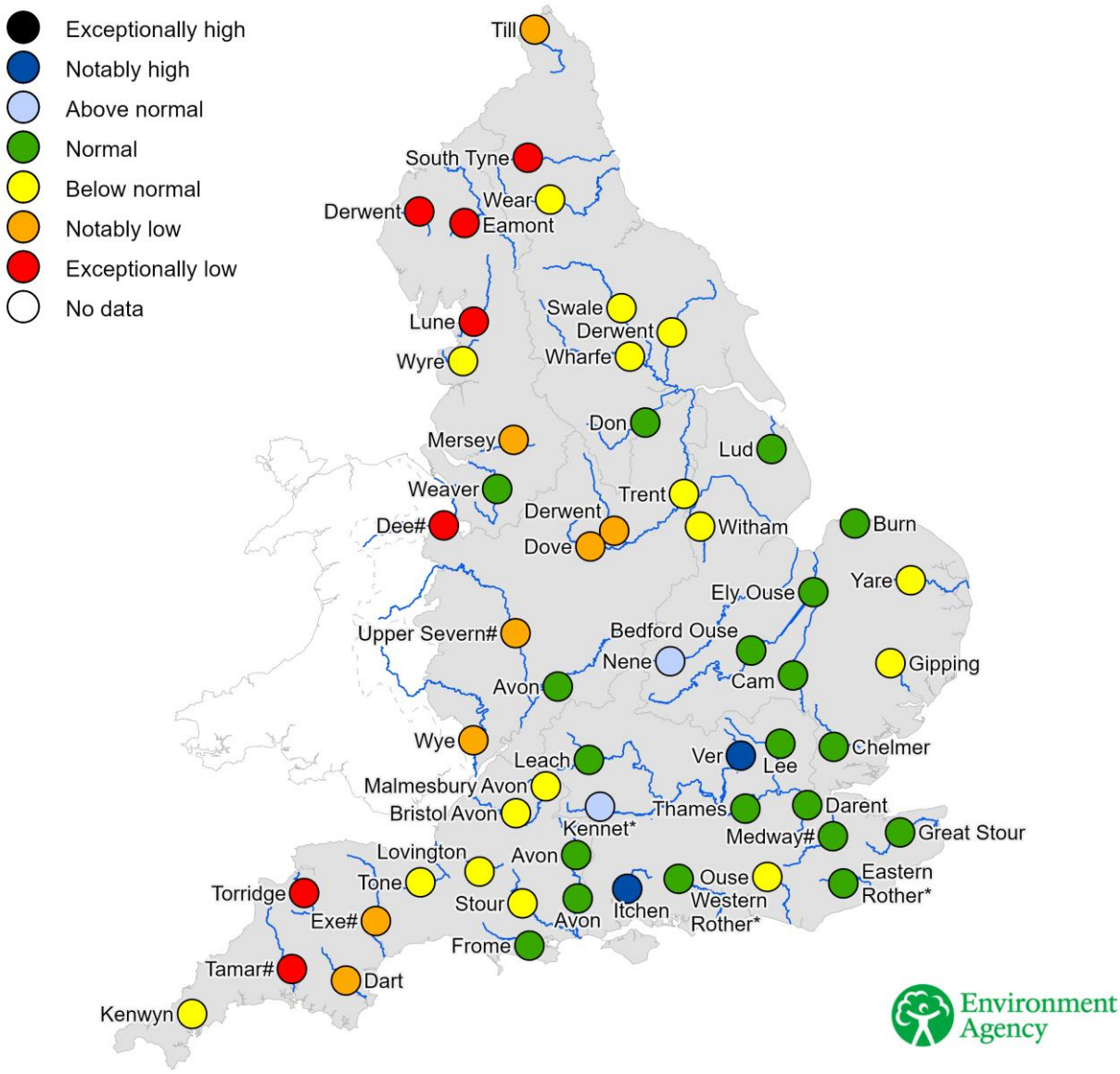
Figure 2: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar Note: Images may sometimes include straight lines originating from the centre of the radar, resulting from tall trees and buildings located near the radar installation affecting its performance. This does not reflect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