

# Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 29 October to 4 November 2014

## Summary

It has been another wet week across England, especially in the northwest and southeast. After just 4 days of November southeast England has already had over two fifths of the November long term average (LTA) rainfall. River flows have increased compared to the previous week at most of our indicator sites and are **normal** or higher for the time of year at all but 3 of our sites.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 13 mm in east England to 36 mm in the southeast (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- The cumulative rainfall totals for November to date range from 14% of the November LTA in northeast England to 43% in the southeast (Table 1).
- River flows have increased at the majority of our indicators sites across England with the greatest increases in the southeast (Figure 2).
- The latest daily mean river flows are **normal** or higher for the time of year at all but 3 of our indicator sites, with nearly a third of our indicator sites being **above normal** or higher for the time of year (Figure 2).

## Outlook

A band of widespread and locally heavy frontal rain will move in from the west on Thursday and overnight into Friday. During Friday morning and again on Saturday bands of heavy showery rain are expected to affect western, central and southern areas. Conditions are expected to remain unsettled on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, with scattered locally heavy rain moving in from the west.

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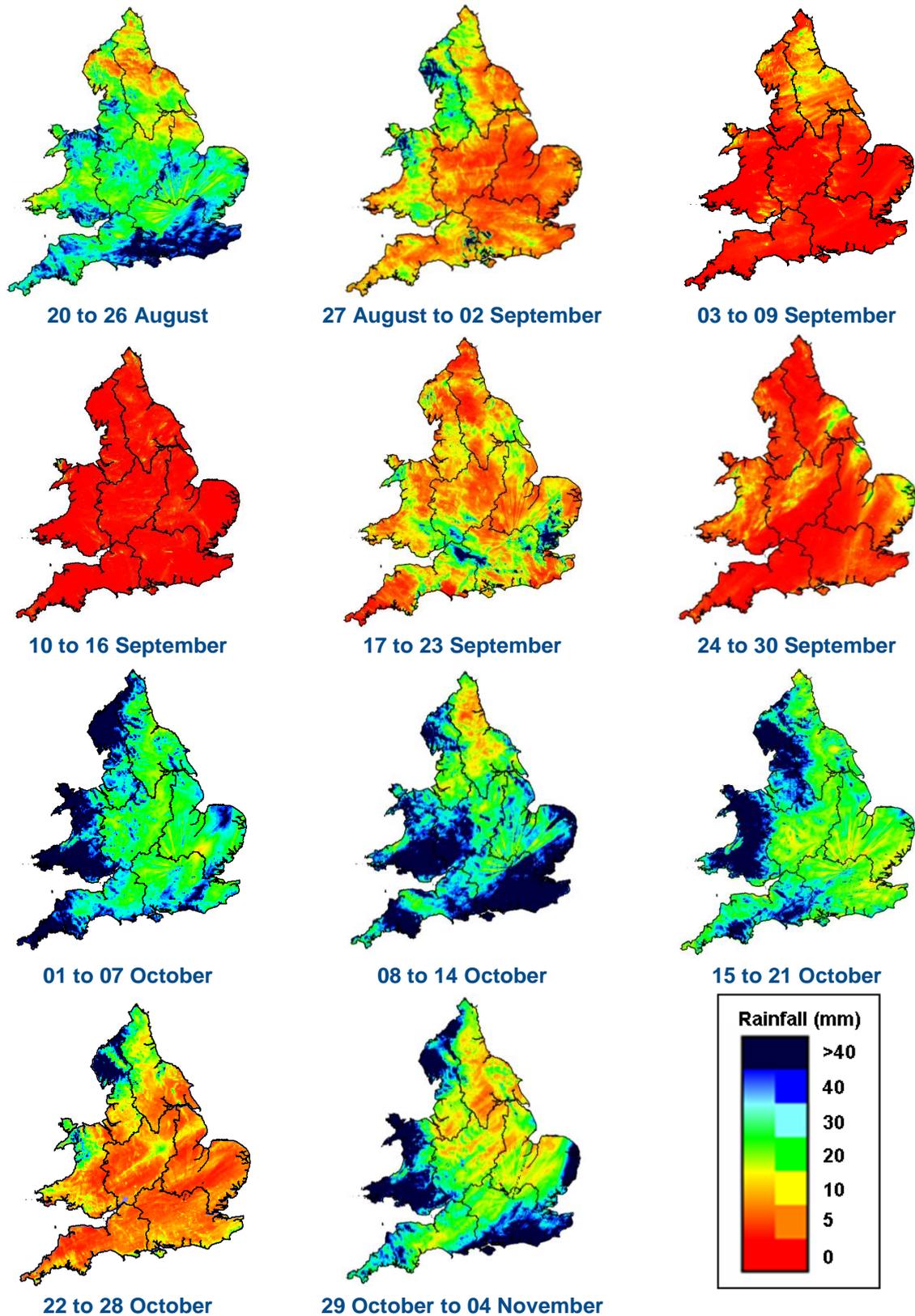
| Geographic regions | Latest Week:<br>29 Oct - 04 Nov '14 | Latest month to date:<br>Nov '14 |       | Last month:<br>Oct '14 |       | Last 3 months:<br>Aug '14 - Oct '14 |       | Last 6 months:<br>May '14 - Oct '14 |       | Last 12 months:<br>Nov '13 - Oct '14 |       |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|
|                    | Total (mm)                          | Total (mm)                       | % LTA | Total (mm)             | % LTA | Total (mm)                          | % LTA | Total (mm)                          | % LTA | Total (mm)                           | % LTA |
| North West         | 33                                  | 24                               | 20    | 176                    | 143   | 334                                 | 99    | 546                                 | 95    | 1303                                 | 112   |
| North East         | 16                                  | 12                               | 14    | 91                     | 125   | 222                                 | 102   | 427                                 | 108   | 929                                  | 113   |
| Central            | 14                                  | 11                               | 17    | 81                     | 134   | 188                                 | 102   | 388                                 | 110   | 857                                  | 120   |
| East               | 13                                  | 10                               | 17    | 80                     | 157   | 189                                 | 122   | 382                                 | 126   | 696                                  | 116   |
| South East         | 36                                  | 31                               | 43    | 107                    | 152   | 222                                 | 116   | 377                                 | 108   | 1026                                 | 141   |
| South West         | 30                                  | 27                               | 26    | 129                    | 132   | 267                                 | 105   | 469                                 | 105   | 1339                                 | 133   |
| England            | 23                                  | 19                               | 23    | 105                    | 140   | 229                                 | 107   | 422                                 | 109   | 994                                  | 123   |

**Table 1:** Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Notes:

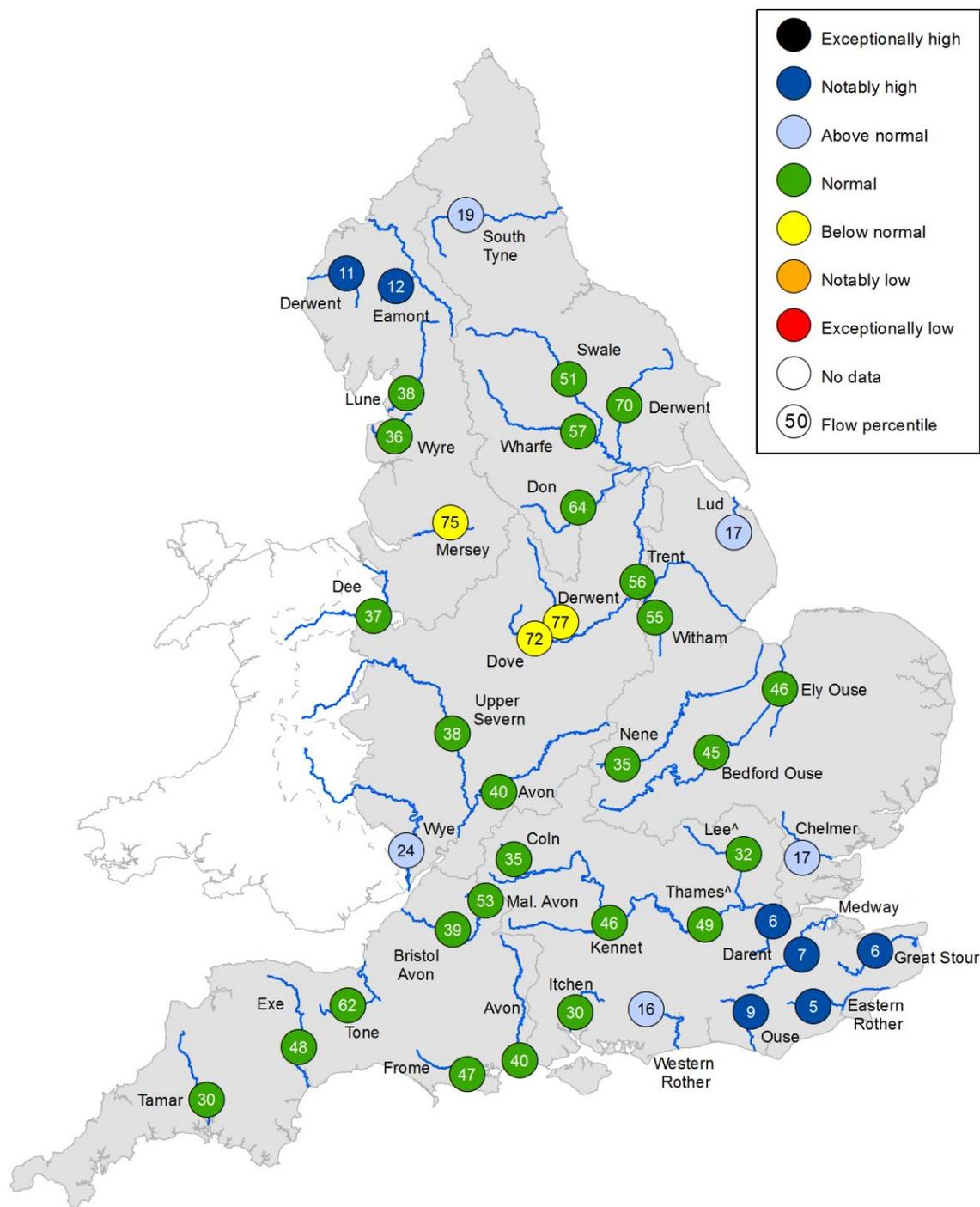
- LTA = long term average rainfall for 1961 – 1990
- Data for the current month are calculated using MORECS (Met Office Rainfall and Evaporation Calculation System); data for past months are provisional values from the National Climate Information Centre (NCIC).
- The data is rounded to the nearest millimetre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

All data are provisional and may be subject to revision. The views expressed in this document are not necessarily those of the Environment Agency. Its officers, servants or agents accept no liability for any loss or damage arising from the interpretation or use of the information, or reliance upon views contained herein.



**Figure 1:** Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past eleven weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2014). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2014.

# River Flow



^ – 'Naturalised' flows are provided for the Thames at Kingston and the Lee at Feildes Weir.

**Figure 2:** Latest daily mean river flow expressed as a percentile<sup>2</sup> and classed relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows for the same time of year (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Flow percentiles describe the percentage of time that a particular flow has been equalled or exceeded compared to the historic flow record for that site for the time of year. For example, a flow percentile of 5 indicates that the current flow has only been equalled or exceeded approximately 5% of the time within the historic record for that time of year – i.e. a very high flow. A flow percentile of 95 indicates that the current flow has been equalled or exceeded approximately 95% of the time – i.e. a low flow. Flow percentiles presented relate to an analysis for the time of year and not a whole year.