



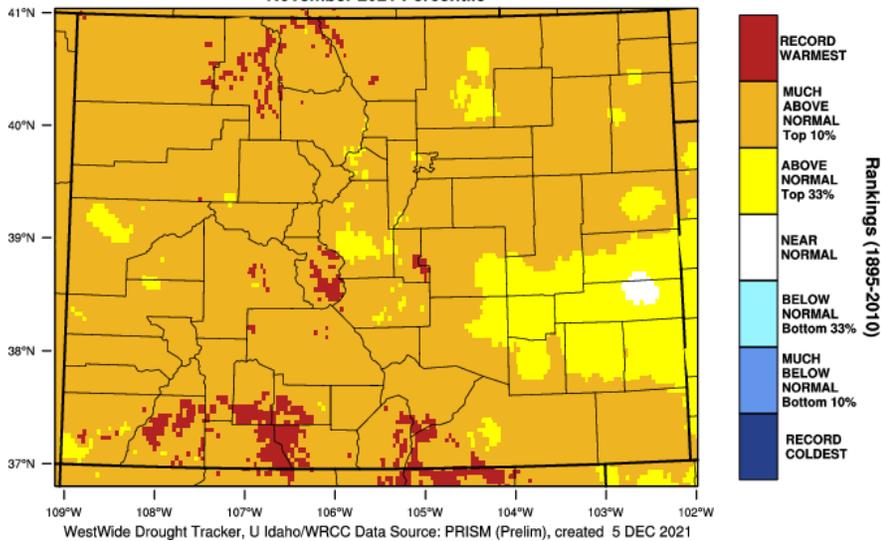
November 2021 Colorado Monthly Climate Summary



ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

temperature

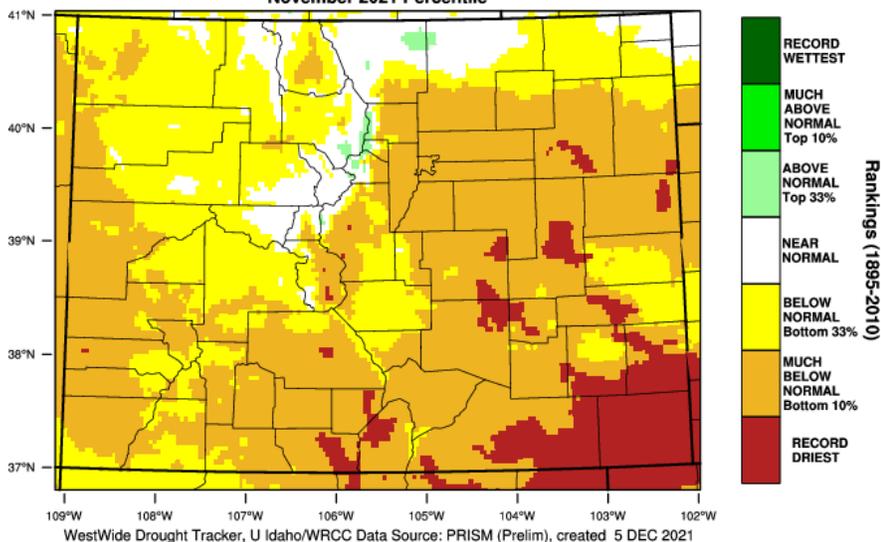
Colorado - Mean Temperature
November 2021 Percentile



November 2021 was the third warmest November on record in Colorado. The statewide average temperature was 40.9° F which was 7.4° F above average. The warmest November occurred in 2017 and the second warmest occurred in 1999.

precipitation

Colorado - Precipitation
November 2021 Percentile



Statewide average precipitation was 0.40" which was 0.67" below average for November. It tied for the 11th driest November on record. The eastern plains were particularly dry, and much of the region saw less than 0.10".



quadrant charts

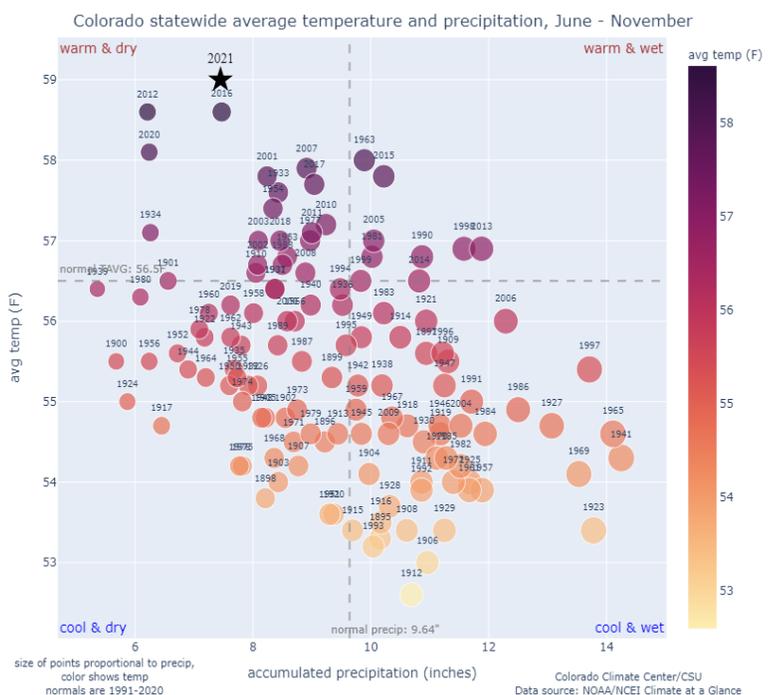
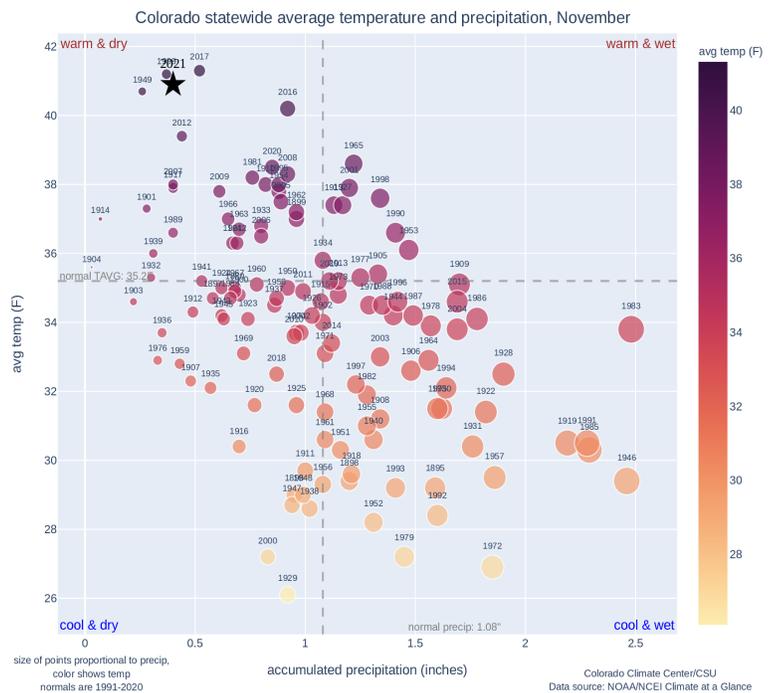
Each dot plots the precipitation on the x-axis and the temperature on the y-axis. Dots are colored based on temperature and size is based on precipitation. The current year is denoted with a star. Long-term averages are denoted by the dashed lines.

Our November quadrant chart shows the current year in the far upper left quadrant for warm and dry (with 3rd warmest and 11th driest). This November was quite similar to November 2017.

When combining the summer and fall months (lower right chart), 2021 comes in as record warmest and 17th driest.

Did you know you can view interactive quadrant charts for various time periods for the whole state or specific climate divisions? You can zoom in and see the rank for all the years. Check it out with the link below!

[view all quadrant charts](#)

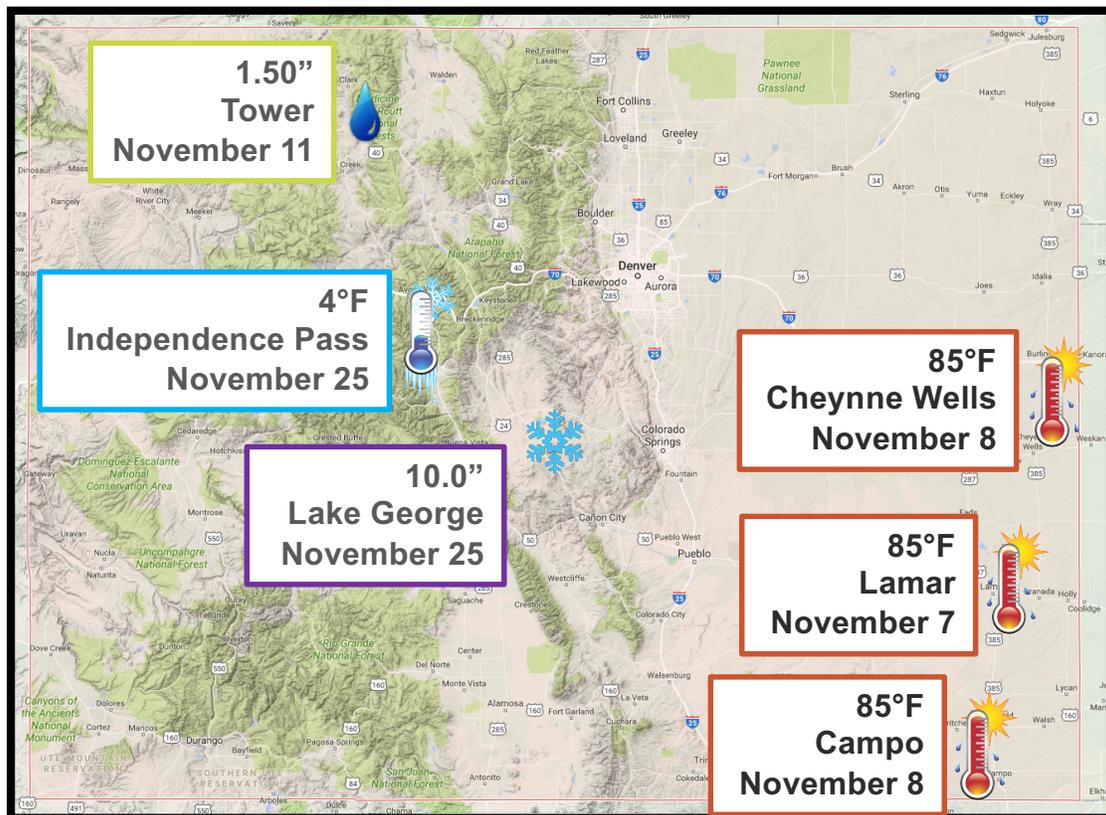


records tied and broken

	High Max	Low Max	High Min	Low Min	Precip	Snow
Daily	53/182	0/1	52/234	0/1	13/19	2/1
Monthly	2/3	0/0	2/5	0/0	0/0	0/0
All-time	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0

Tied/**Broken**, from NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information

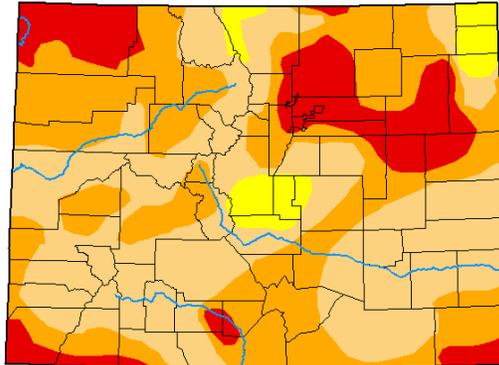
state extremes



drought

Some slight improvements to drought conditions were made in northwest CO in November. Aside from that, there were widespread degradations. Drought coverage across the state increased from 77% to 95% and extreme drought coverage doubled.

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado



November 30, 2021
(Released Thursday, Dec. 2, 2021)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	95.45	52.30	14.34	0.00
Last Week 11-23-2021	0.00	100.00	88.10	40.83	8.75	0.00
3 Months Ago 08-31-2021	49.43	50.57	36.47	24.44	15.05	3.91
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.73	76.17	27.60
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	12.72	87.28	46.42	26.30	15.05	3.91
One Year Ago 12-01-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.71	74.68	26.71

Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

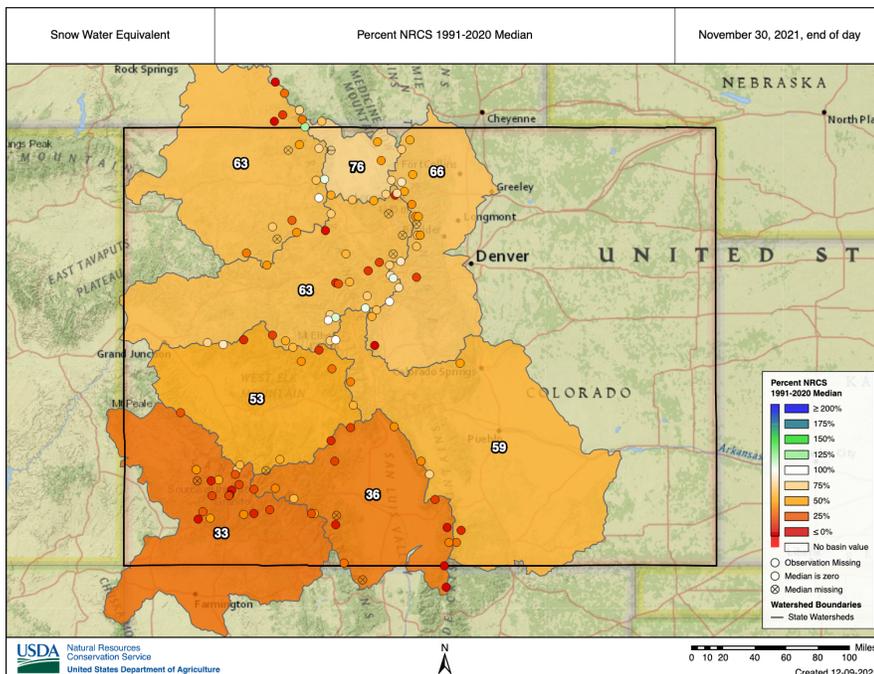
Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

[Colorado Drought Update Page](#)

snowpack



Snowpack percent of normal significantly decreased in November. This was due to the lack of snowfall accumulations that normally occur during the month. Warm temperatures also resulted in some melting of snowpack accumulations from October.



significant events

Number of Consecutive Days Snowfall < .1 for DENVER-CENTRAL PARK, CO

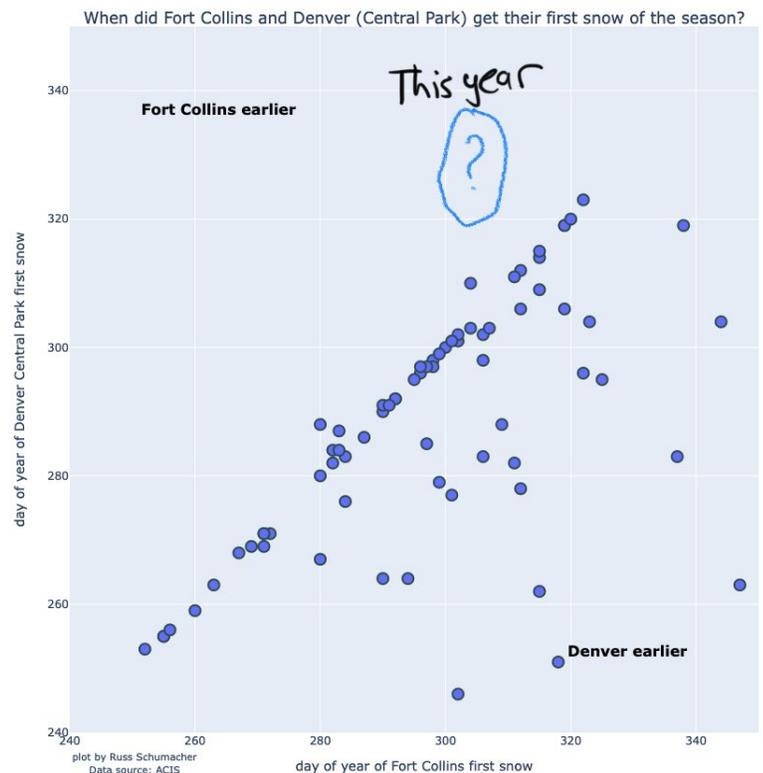
Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Run Length	Dates
1	223	2021-04-22 through 2021-11-30
2	211	1992-04-01 through 1992-10-28
-	211	1977-04-03 through 1977-10-30
4	208	1987-04-21 through 1987-11-14
5	204	2011-04-05 through 2011-10-25
6	199	2016-05-03 through 2016-11-17
7	198	1981-04-09 through 1981-10-23
8	196	1998-04-25 through 1998-11-06
-	196	1988-05-03 through 1988-11-14
10	192	1969-03-25 through 1969-10-02
Period of record: 1948-01-01 to 2021-11-30		

Denver experiences its longest streak of no measurable snow at 223 days. This smashed the previous record of 211 days from 1992 and 1977.

Prior to this year, Denver had never made it to December without its first snow of the season. Denver's average date of first snowfall is October 15.

A comparison of Denver and Fort Collins shows that it's much more common for Denver to get its first snow of the season before Fort Collins. This year will be the most notable exception of only a few instances when it snowed in Fort Collins first.



CCC in the news

- ❑ [Denver still without snow but climatologists say they're more concerned by snowpack levels out west](#)
 - Russ Schumacher and Becky Bolinger
 - Denver Post, November 29
- ❑ [Colorado's dry weather is forecast for Thanksgiving travel and beyond: Blame it on La Niña](#)
 - Russ Schumacher
 - The Coloradoan, November 23
- ❑ [Let it snow? Not in Denver, which has broken a nearly 90-year-old record in a snowless fall](#)
 - Russ Schumacher
 - USA Today, November 23
- ❑ [Colorado climatologist concerned about less-than-average snowpack for mountains](#)
 - Becky Bolinger
 - CBS Denver, November 19
- ❑ [Data gaps in Southwest Colorado limit what we know about local climate change](#)
 - Russ Schumacher and Peter Goble
 - The Durango Herald, November 15
- ❑ [Town hall on climate change in Colorado](#)
 - Becky Bolinger
 - 9News, November 10
- ❑ [Colorado climatologist trying to refocus drought conversation around agriculture](#)
 - Peter Goble
 - 9News, November 6

