

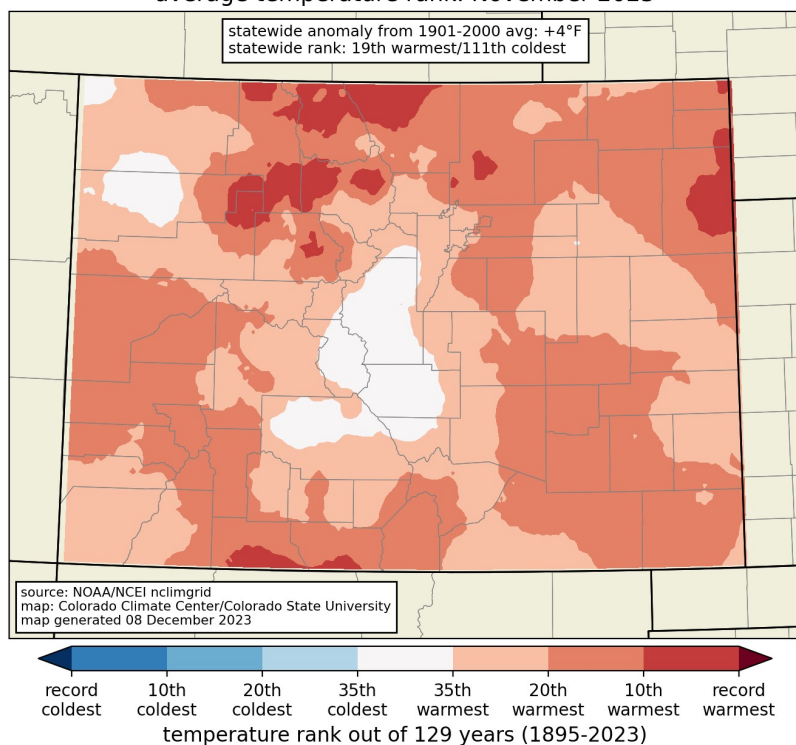


November 2023 Colorado Monthly Climate Summary



temperature

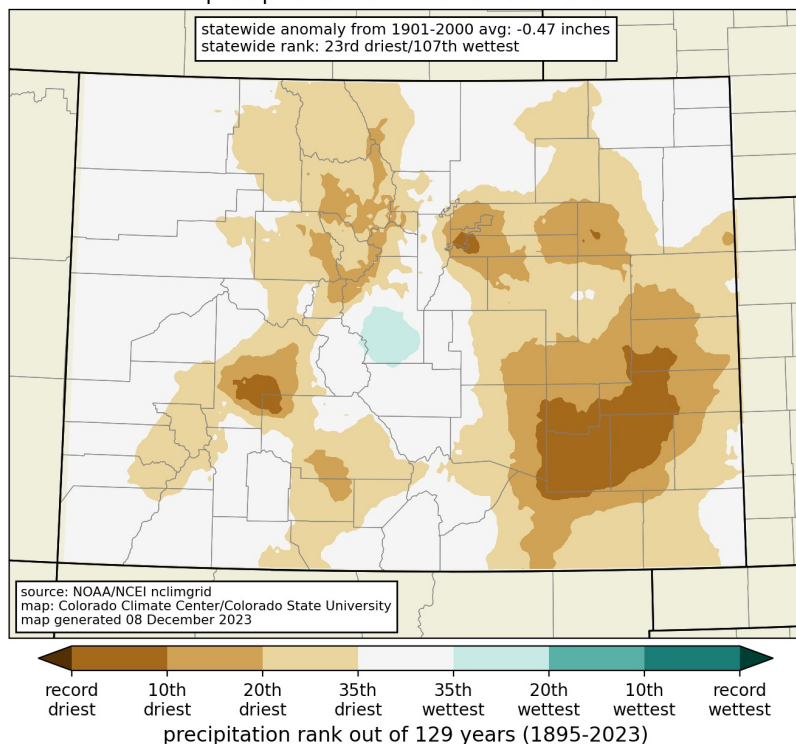
average temperature rank: November 2023



November was another warmer-than-average month: the 5th straight month with above-average temperature in Colorado. Nearly the entire state was warmer than average, with parts of the northern mountains having a top-10 warm November. There were no areas substantially cooler than average in November.

precipitation

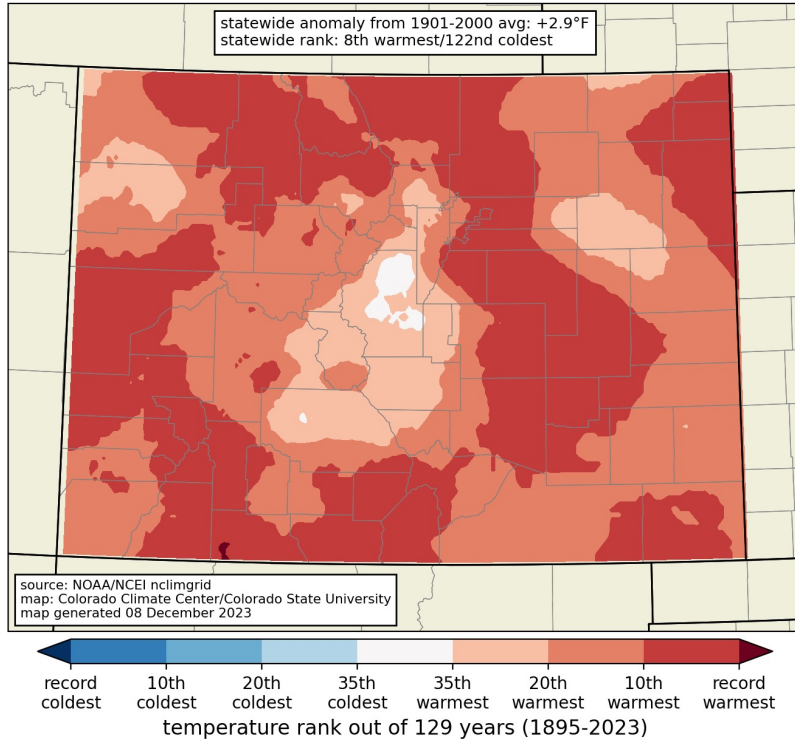
precipitation rank: November 2023



Precipitation was below average in November, driven by a very dry month on the eastern plains and also by below-average snowfall in the mountains. The rest of the state was closer to average, with only one small pocket of wetter-than-average conditions in Park County.

temperature: autumn

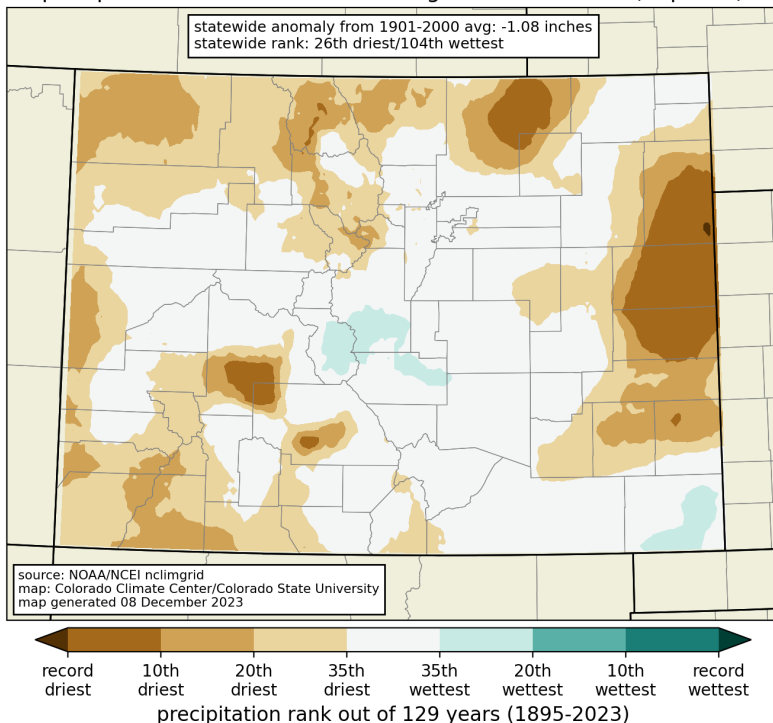
average temperature rank: 3 months ending November 2023 (Sep-Nov)



For climatological autumn (September, October, and November), it was very warm across all of Colorado. Large portions of the state had a top-10 warmest fall, with the rest of the state (except for a portion of Park County) also well above average for temperature.

precipitation: autumn

precipitation rank: 3 months ending November 2023 (Sep-Nov)



There were a few small pockets of above-average precipitation for fall in central and southeast Colorado, but the rest of the state saw either dry or near-average conditions in fall 2023. The easternmost counties were especially dry, along with portions of western Colorado.

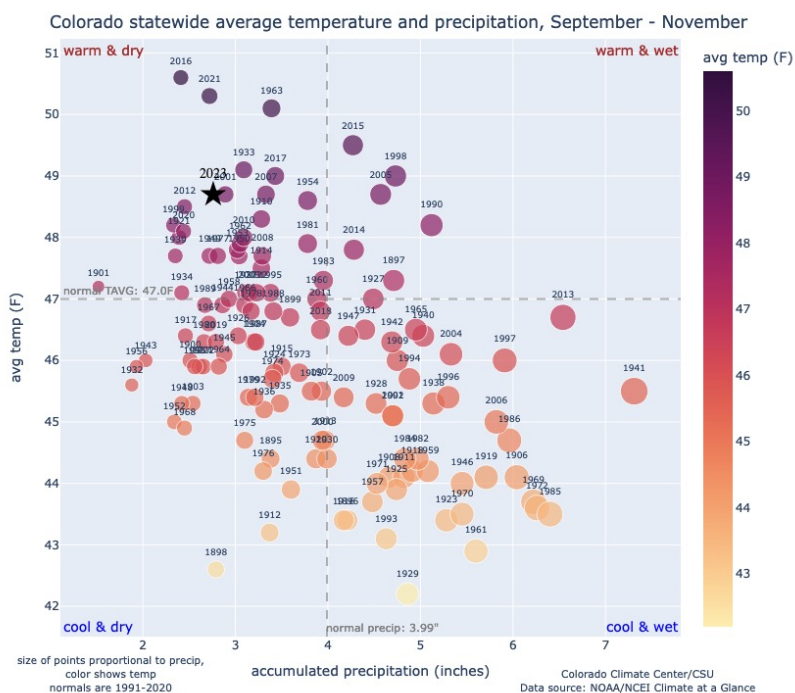
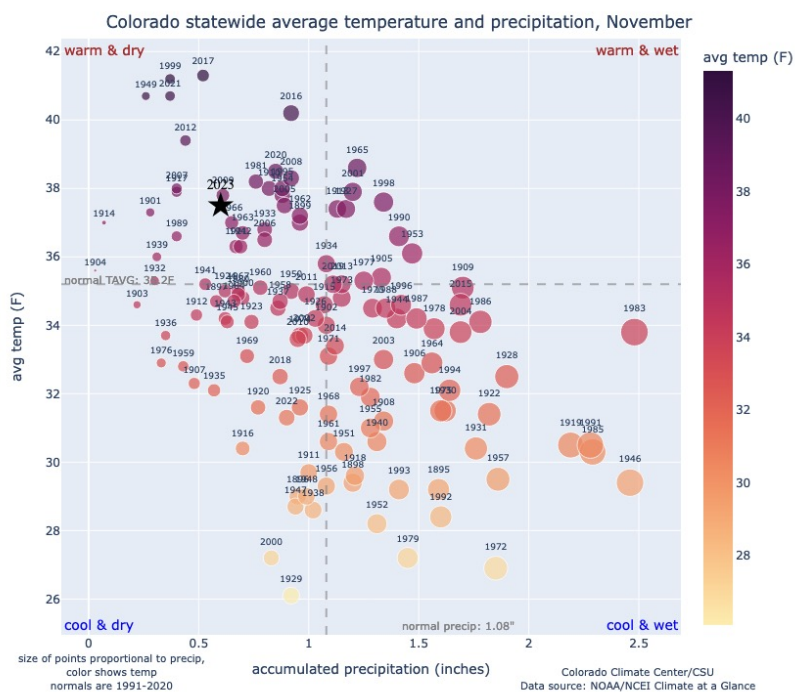
quadrant charts

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.

In the statewide average, November 2023 was again in the warm and dry quadrant. It was tied for the 19th warmest September at 2.3°F above the 1991-2020 average and 4.0°F above the 20th century average. It was the 23rd driest November (0.47" below average statewide) out of 129 years on record.

The climatological fall season was very warm and dry overall in Colorado. It was the 26th driest, and tied for the 8th warmest fall. This fits the recent trend of fall being the season that has warmed the fastest in recent decades. Furthermore, every fall season since 2015 has had less precipitation than the 1991-2020 average.

[view all quadrant charts](#)

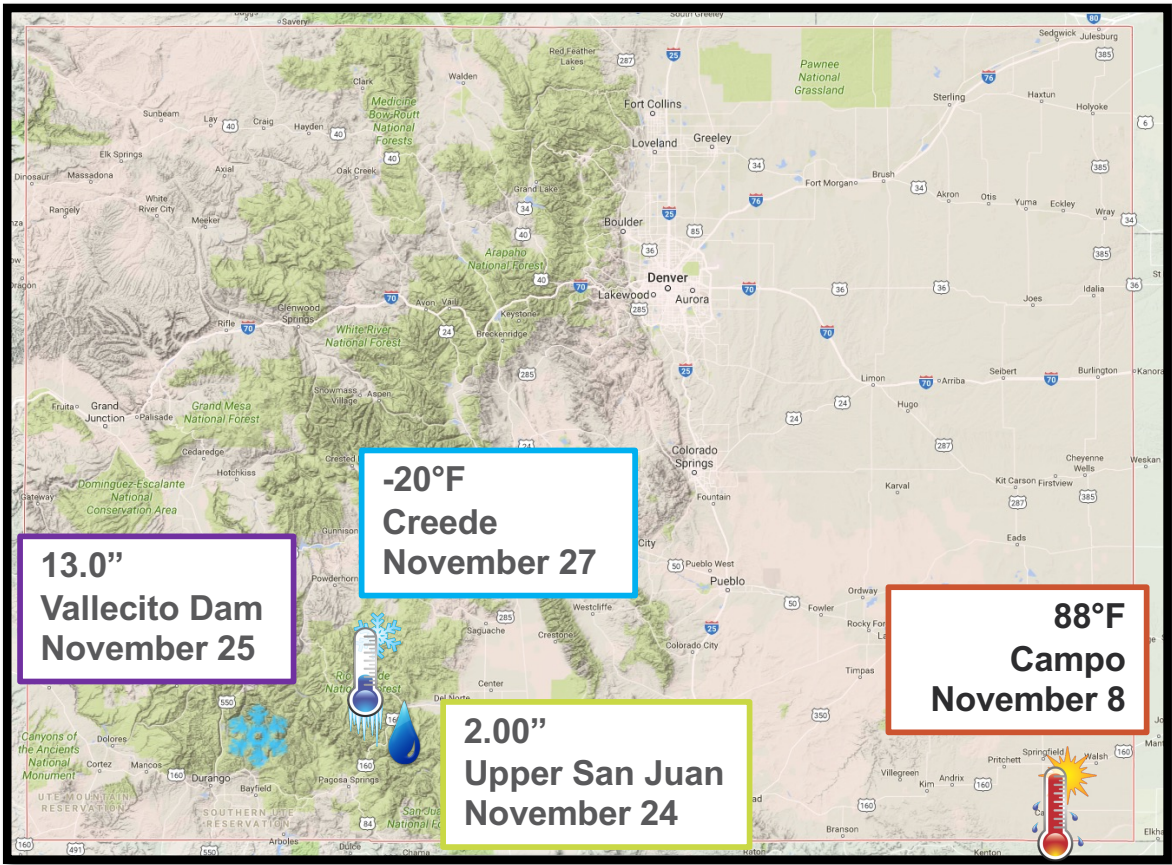


records tied and broken

	High Max	Low Max	High Min	Low Min	Precip	Snow
Daily	29/41	6/12	24/100	1/5	10/30	8/13
Monthly	3/1	0/0	3/6	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

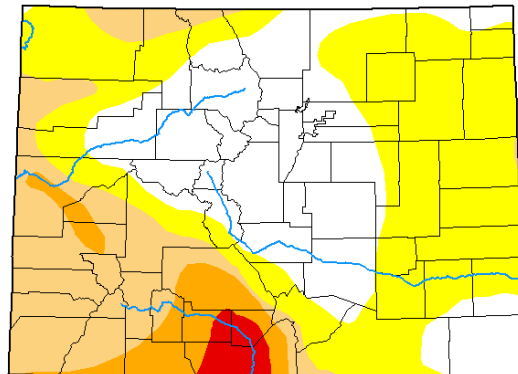


drought

Drought and dry conditions expanded across the state in November. D0 was introduced over more portions of the eastern plains. D2 (severe) and D3 (extreme) drought entered southern CO in the San Luis Valley.

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

November 28, 2023
(Released Thursday, Nov. 30, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	32.94	67.06	27.27	8.32	2.05	0.00
Last Week 11-21-2023	43.02	56.98	26.90	6.88	1.31	0.00
3 Months Ago 08-29-2023	70.68	29.32	13.97	0.93	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	39.97	60.03	33.83	12.28	1.91	0.01
Start of Water Year 09-28-2023	65.71	34.29	17.43	2.77	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 11-29-2022	16.25	83.75	47.20	23.68	4.34	0.57

Intensity

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

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:

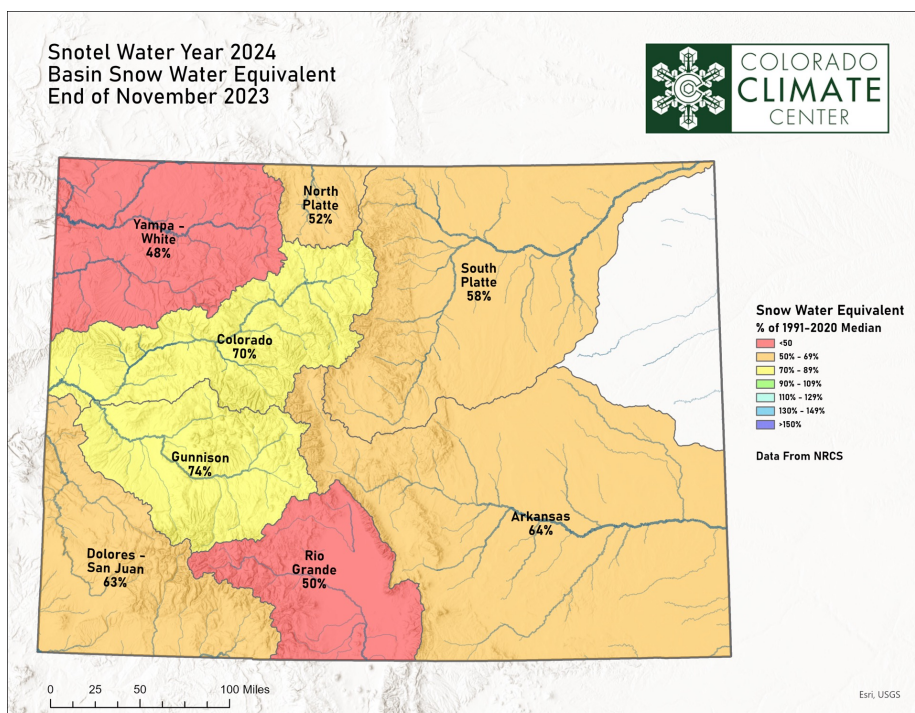
David Simerali
Western Regional Climate Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

[Colorado Drought Update Page](#)

snowpack



Snowpack was off to a sluggish start in November. While there were a few accumulating events, there was not enough to keep up with what's typical for November. All basins in the state were below average snowpack at the end of the month, with Yampa and Rio Grande most below average.



CCC in the news

- ❑ [Colorado's winter is off to an uninspiring start, climate experts say](#)
 - Colorado Sun, November 29, Becky Bolinger
- ❑ [What does climate change mean for skiing in Colorado?](#)
 - Colorado Springs Gazette, November 26, Peter Goble
- ❑ [The West is running out of water. A heavy snow could help, but will it come this winter?](#)
 - USA Today, November 11, Peter Goble
- ❑ [Super El Niño forecast for winter; past versions produced big Fort Collins snow totals](#)
 - The Coloradoan, November 6, Russ Schumacher
- ❑ [Winter snow could help recharge the Colorado River. But what if it doesn't?](#)
 - KUNC, November 6, Becky Bolinger
- ❑ [Au naturel: The forces at work behind Colorado's famed powder](#)
 - Denver Gazette, November 5, Peter Goble
- ❑ [How much rain and snow did Colorado get during the 2023 water year?](#)
 - KDVR Fox 31, November 3, Colorado Climate Center