

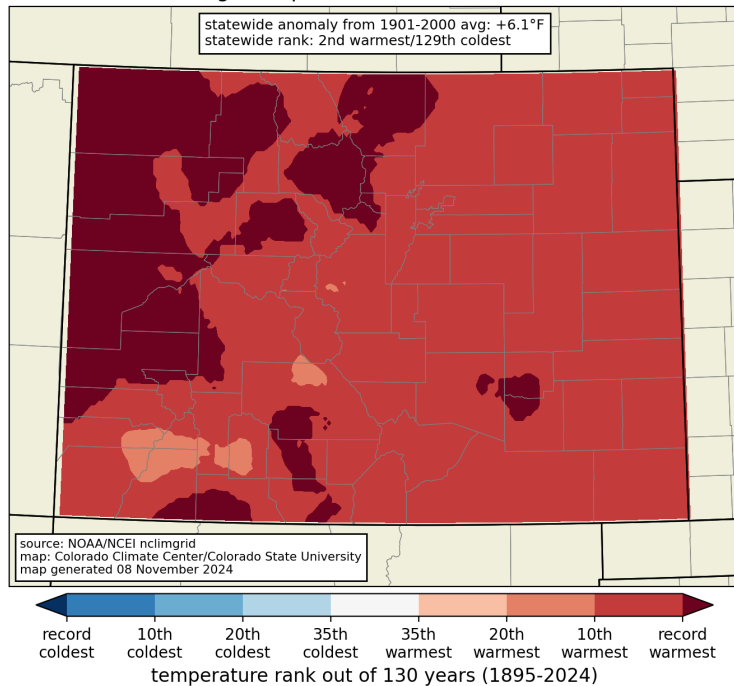


October 2024 Colorado Monthly Climate Summary



temperature

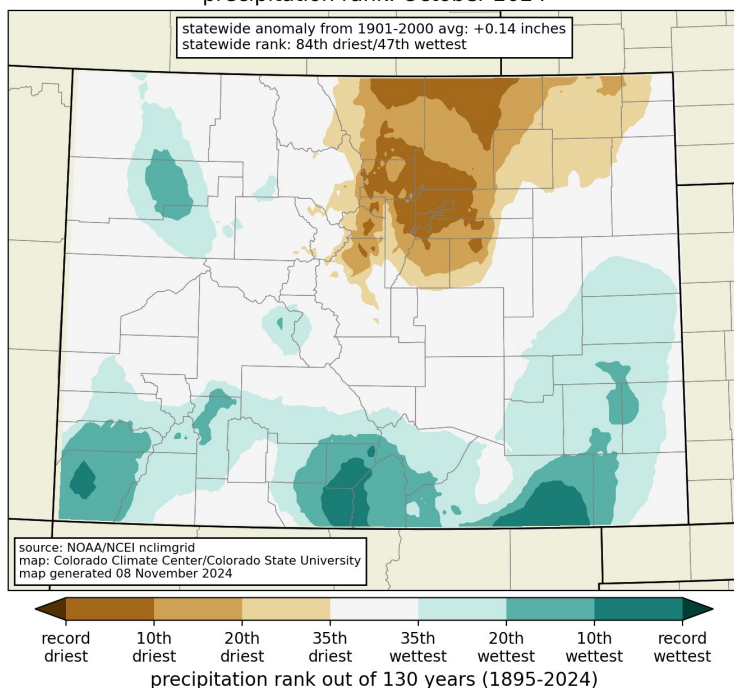
average temperature rank: October 2024



October 2024 was extremely warm across Colorado, with large portions of the state having their warmest October on record. The entire state was warmer than average in October, and in the statewide average it was the 2nd warmest, behind only October 1963.

precipitation

precipitation rank: October 2024



There was a north-south split across Colorado for precipitation in October. Southern Colorado was much wetter than average, with parts of the San Luis Valley and southeastern Plains seeing top-10 wet Octobers. In contrast, northern Colorado was very dry: a top-10 dry October on the Front Range.



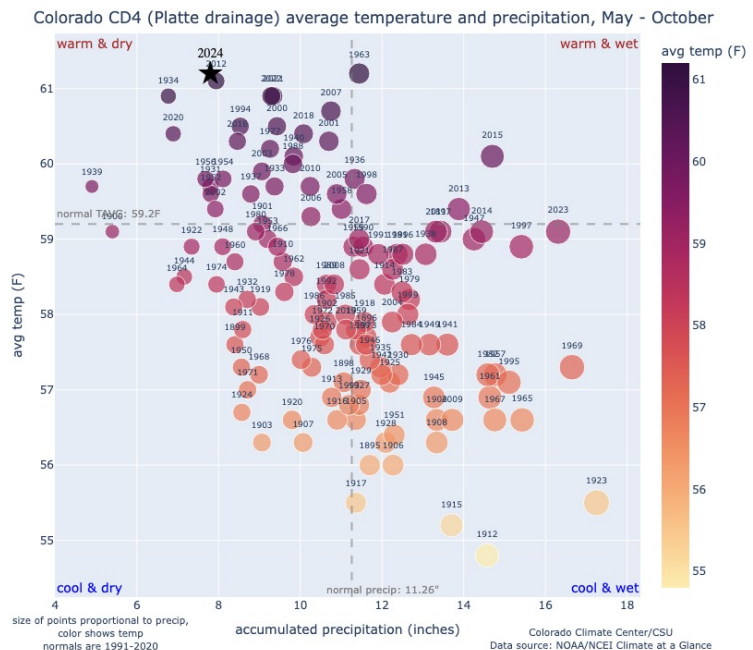
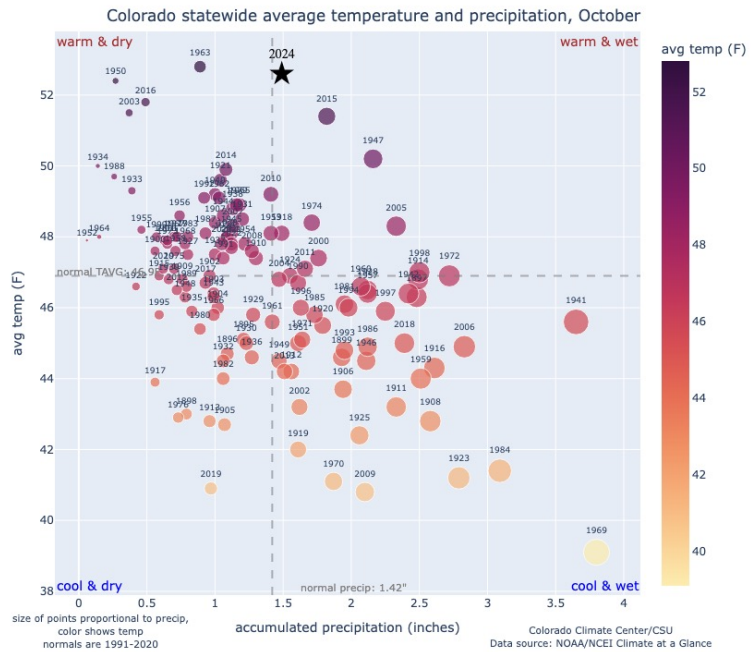
quadrant charts

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.

Averaged across Colorado, October 2024 was very warm, but near average for precipitation. It was the 2nd-warmest October in the 130-year record, 5.7° F warmer than the 1991-2020 average and 6.1° F warmer than the 20th-century average. It was tied for the 47th wettest/84th driest October statewide, at 0.14" above average.

Over the last six months (May through October), northeastern Colorado (climate division 4, the Platte River drainage) was extremely warm and dry. It was tied for the warmest and 9th-driest May through October on record in this region.

[view all quadrant charts](#)

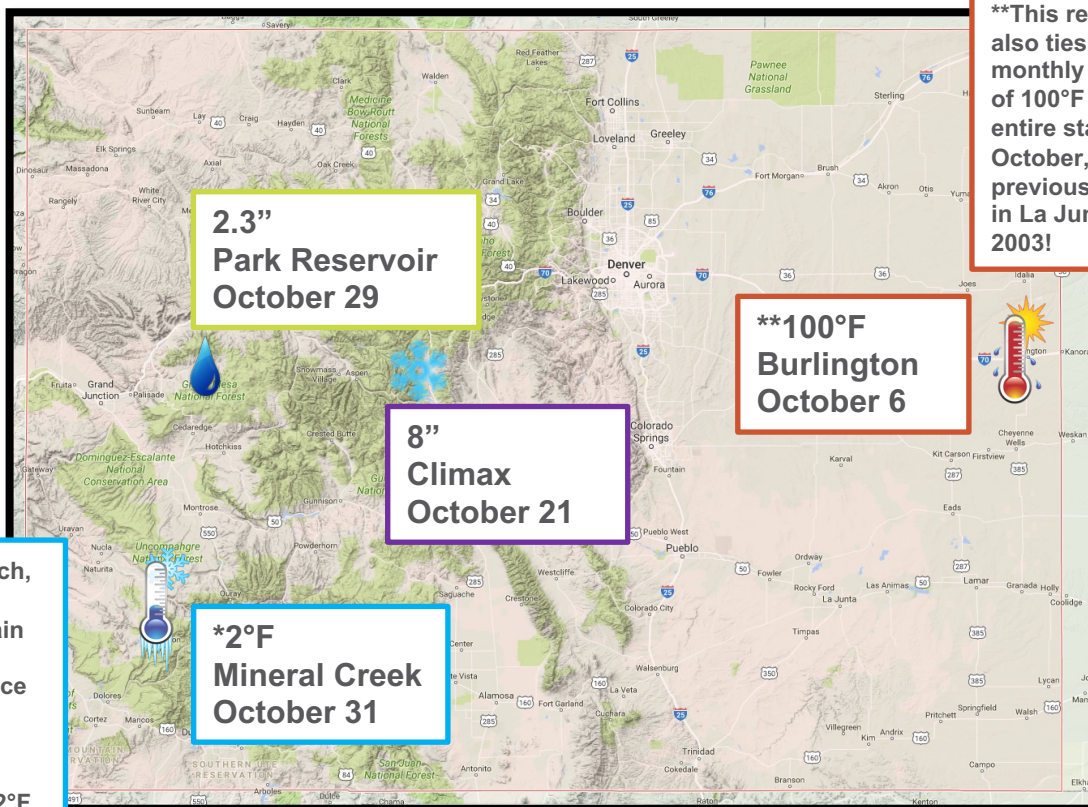


records tied and broken

	High Max	Low Max	High Min	Low Min	Precip	Snow
Daily	168/324	2/6	100/313	2/2	31/112	1/1
Monthly	17/19	0/0	6/9	0/0	0/2	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



*Wager Gulch, Molas Lake, Red Mountain Pass, and Independence Pass also shared the minimum extreme of 2°F on October 31

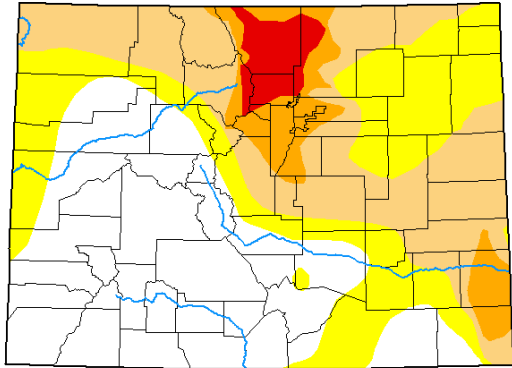
**This record also ties the monthly record of 100°F for the entire state for October, previously set in La Junta in 2003!



drought & snowpack

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

October 29, 2024
(Released Thursday, Oct. 31, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	39.87	60.13	34.93	9.89	3.26	0.00
Last Week 10-22-2024	44.43	55.57	33.13	8.51	1.59	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-30-2024	59.29	40.71	9.42	1.53	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2024	34.65	65.35	29.59	8.85	2.05	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	48.27	51.73	24.40	4.62	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-31-2023	58.00	42.00	21.66	3.73	0.00	0.00

Intensity

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme 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>

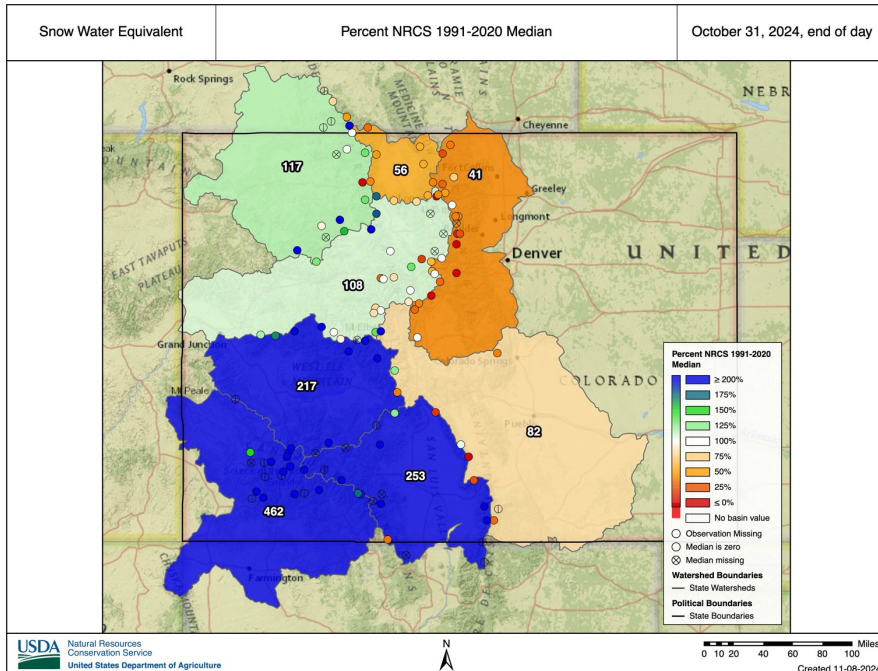
Author
Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Drought intensified across northern Colorado in October with the combination of warm and very dry weather. Severe drought (D3) covered most of Larimer and Boulder Counties. Overall, 34.93% of the state was in drought (D1 or worse) as of the end of October.

[Colorado Drought Update Page](#)



The snow accumulation season got off to a fast start in the southern mountains, with significant storms on October 18-21 and on the last couple days of the month. In contrast, the ranges east of the continental divide did not see much snow in October, but there is a long snow season still ahead!



Colorado

October 2024 Average Temperature Rankings

View Period (Months): [All](#) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 18 24 36 48 60

Download: [↓ CSV](#) [↓ JSON](#) [↓ XML](#)

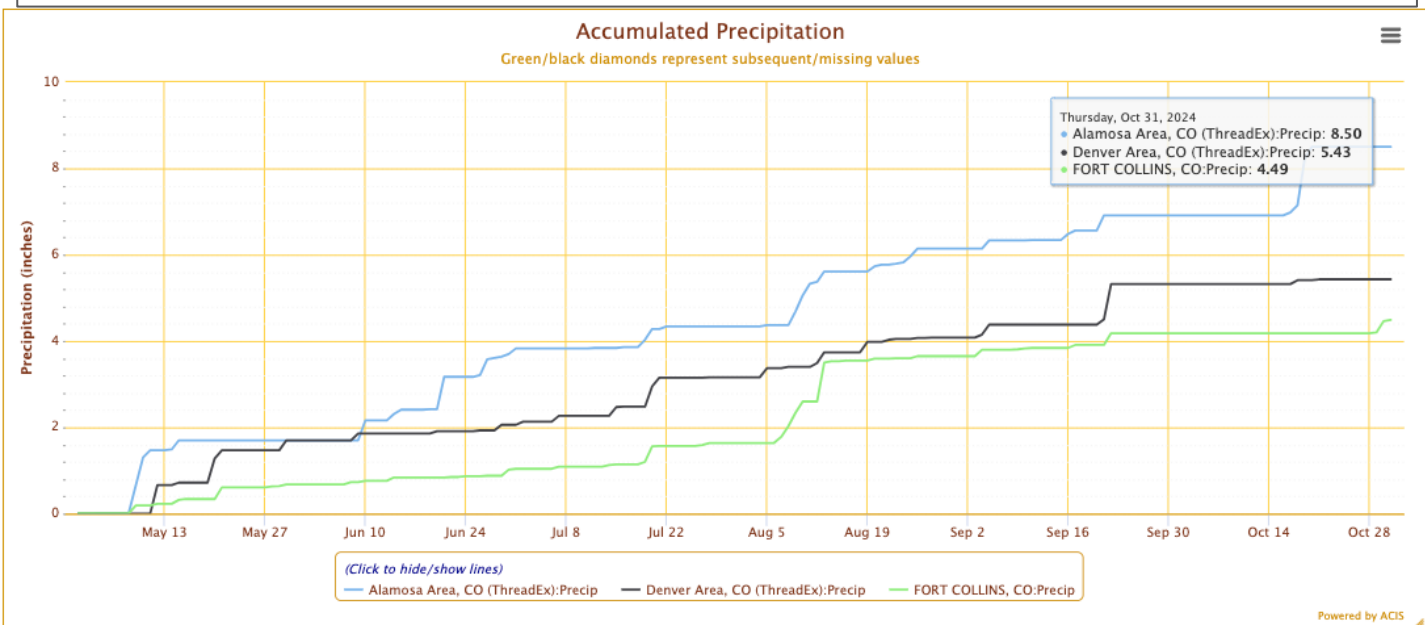
Record Coolest	Bottom 1/10	Bottom 1/3	Normal	Top 1/3	Top 1/10	Record Warmest
Period	Value	1901-2000 Mean	Anomaly	Rank (1895-2024)	Coollest/Warmest Since	Record
October 2024 1-Month	52.6°F (11.4°C)	46.5°F (8.1°C)	6.1°F	129th Coolest 2nd Warmest	Coollest since: 2023 Warmest since: 1963	1969 1963
Sep-Oct 2024 2-Month	57.1°F (13.9°C)	51.9°F (11.1°C)	5.2°F	130th Coolest 1st Warmest	Coollest since: 2023 Warmest to Date	1912 2024
Aug-Oct 2024 3-Month	60.7°F (15.9°C)	56.3°F (13.5°C)	4.4°F	130th Coolest 1st Warmest	Coollest since: 2023 Warmest to Date	1912 2024
Jul-Oct 2024 4-Month	62.6°F (17.0°C)	59.0°F (15.0°C)	3.6°F	130th Coolest 1st Warmest	Coollest since: 2023 Warmest to Date	1912 2024
Jun-Oct 2024 5-Month	63.4°F (17.4°C)	59.5°F (15.3°C)	3.9°F	130th Coolest 1st Warmest	Coollest since: 2023 Warmest to Date	1912 2024
May-Oct 2024 6-Month	61.4°F (16.3°C)	58.2°F (14.6°C)	3.2°F	130th Coolest 1st Warmest	Coollest since: 2023 Warmest to Date	1912 2024

Although October itself wasn't record-warm statewide, it was the warmest over the 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 months ending in October.

The calendar year through October has been the 6th-warmest on record.

Source: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/climate-at-a-glance/statewide/rankings/>

A remarkable precipitation stat: from May through October, Alamosa was a *lot* wetter than both Denver and Fort Collins. For this period, Alamosa typically gets about 5" and the Front Range locations average about 10". But in 2024, Alamosa had 8.5" and Fort Collins only 4.49". Only two other times has Alamosa been wetter than both Denver and Fort Collins from May-October, and never by such a large margin.



CCC in the news

- ❑ **October 23, 2024:** [Fort Collins to break latest fall frost record as warm, dry weather continues](#) Featuring Russ Schumacher in The Coloradoan.
- ❑ **October 10:** [What will La Nina mean for ski conditions this winter? Colorado predictions](#) Featuring Peter Goble in The Coloradoan.
- ❑ **October 2:** [Why are so many historically rare storms hitting the Carolinas?](#) Featuring Russ Schumacher in The Conversation.

[And ICYMI, check out our blog post on the timing of first fall snows in Colorado, and how they are changing](#)

