



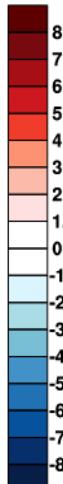
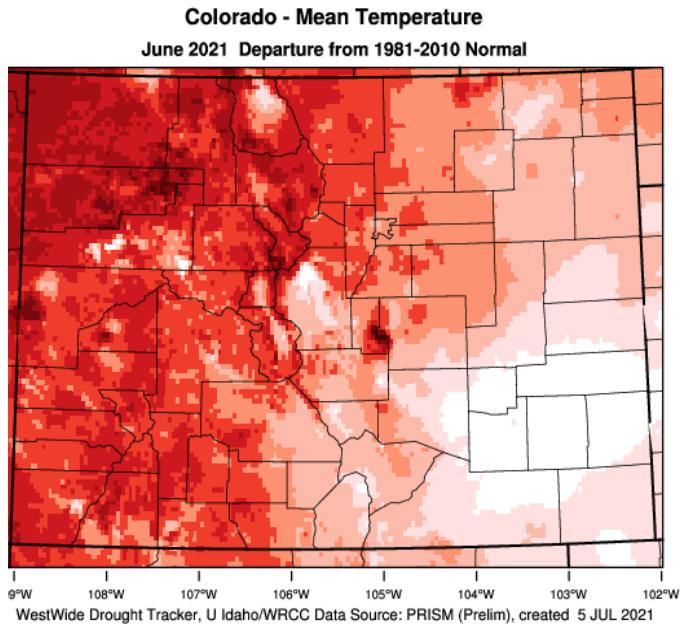
# June 2021 Colorado Monthly Climate Summary

---



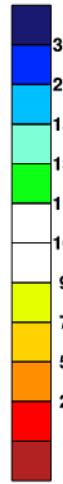
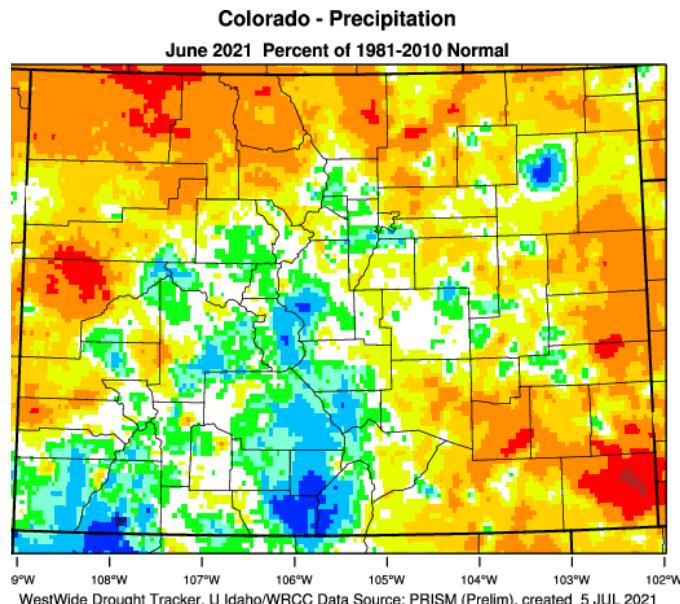
ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

# temperature



June 2021 was the 6<sup>th</sup> warmest June in the 127-year record, and 4<sup>th</sup> warmest for minimum temperatures. Temperatures were closer to average in the Arkansas valley, with much above average temperatures across western CO. Temperatures in the Yampa basin were 5° -8°F above average.

# precipitation



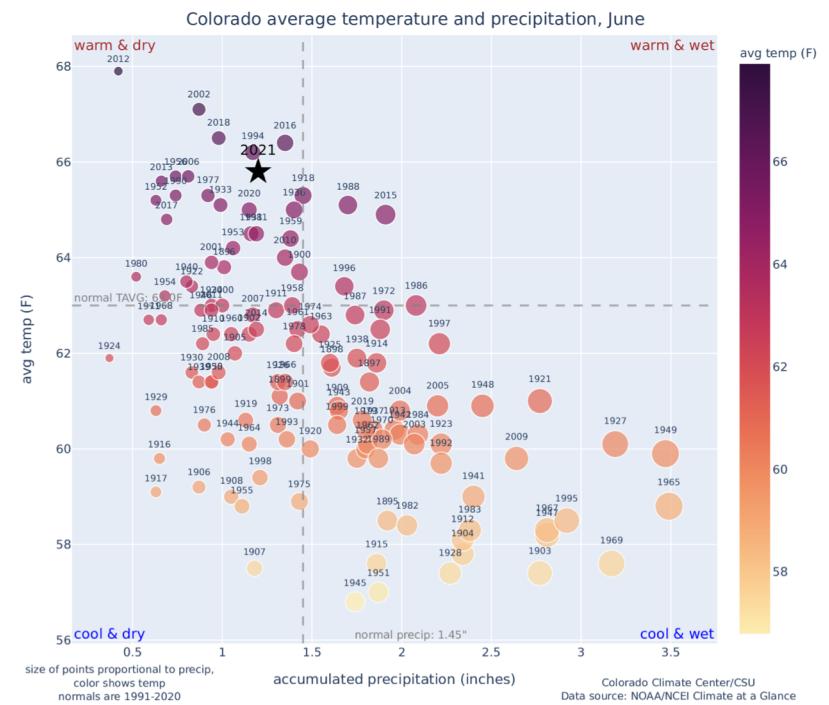
June 2021 was the 53<sup>rd</sup> driest June in the 127-year record, which ranks in the near average range. Precipitation ranked in the top 10<sup>th</sup> driest percentiles for Morgan and Yuma counties in eastern CO. Chaffee County ranked in the top 10<sup>th</sup> wettest precipitation percentiles.



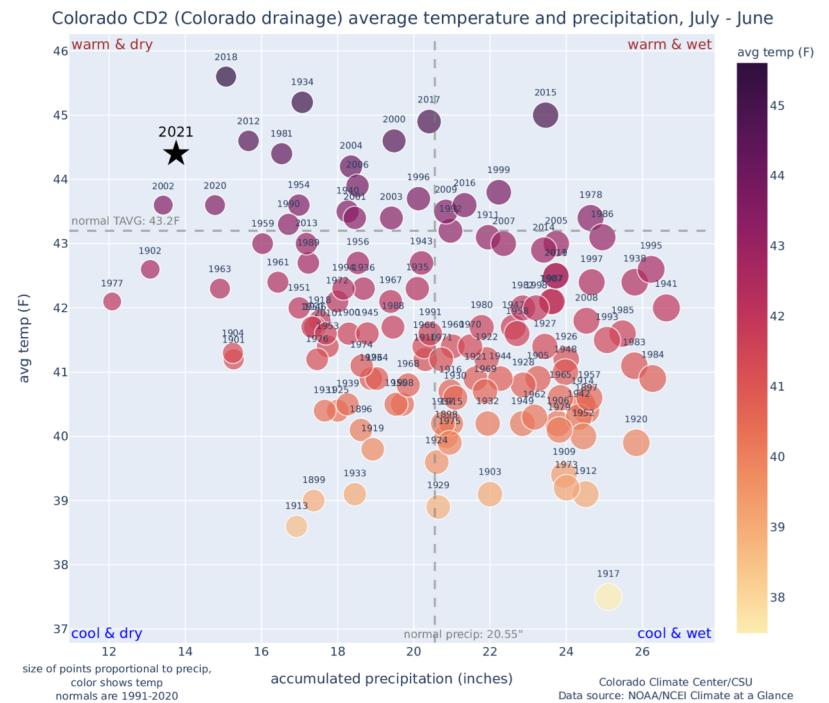
# quadrant charts

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.

June 2021 temperature and precipitation for the state ended in the warm and dry quadrant. Temperatures were ranked very warm, almost 5° above the long-term average, and precipitation was a bit closer to the long-term average line.



The lower right chart is for the July – June period for the Colorado Drainage basin (western CO). The star, denoting the most recent 12-month period is amongst the warmest and driest on record.



[view all quadrant charts](#)



COLORADO CLIMATE CENTER

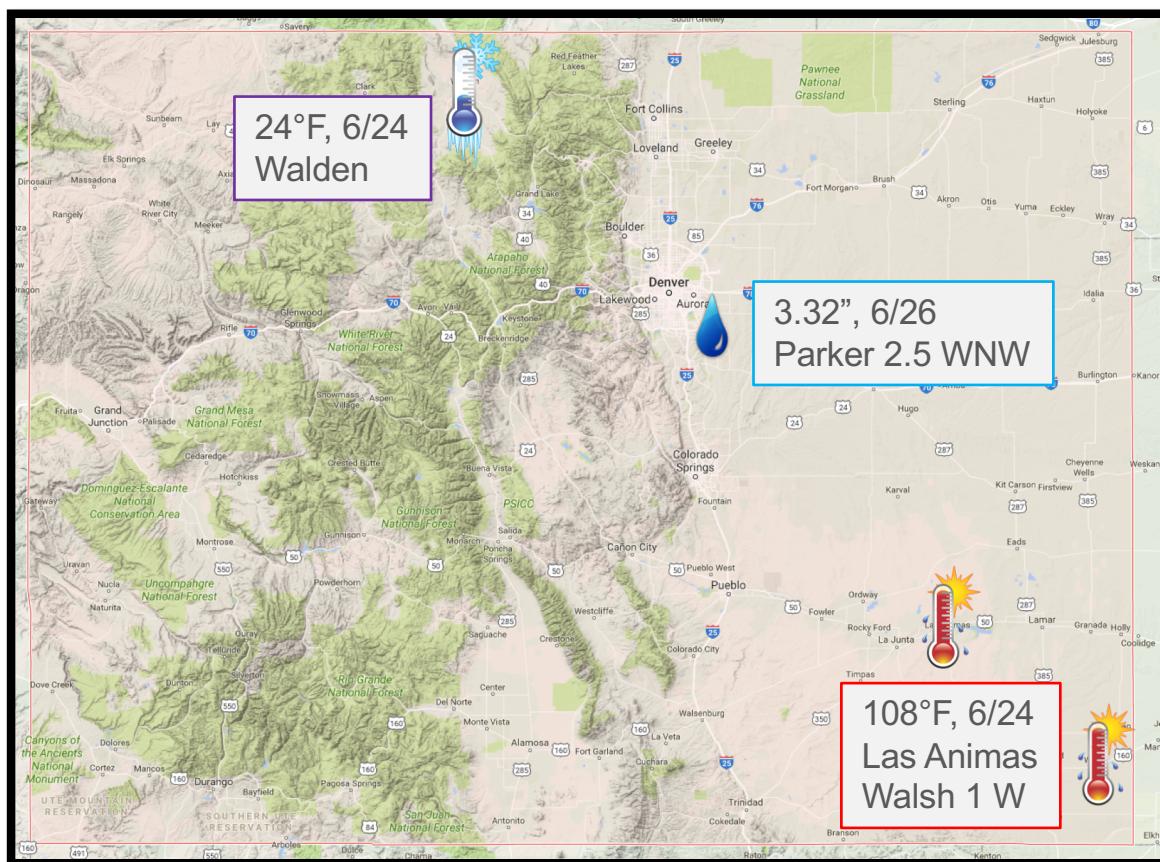


# records tied and broken

	warm max	warm min	cold max	cold min	precip	snow
daily	115/ 679	74/ 450	22/ 131	7/15	42/85	0/0
monthly	18/15	6/25	0/1	0/0	2/2	0/0
All-time	5/4	3/12	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0

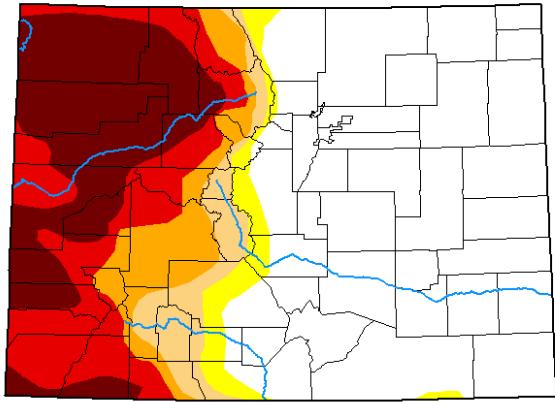
tied/broken, from NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information

## state extremes



# drought

## U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado



June 29, 2021  
(Released Thursday, Jul. 1, 2021)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	54.48	45.52	41.62	36.37	29.95	17.52
Last Week 06-22-2021	54.41	45.59	41.62	36.37	30.35	17.73
3 Months Ago 03-30-2021	0.00	100.00	92.31	61.69	32.13	14.65
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.73	76.17	27.60
Start of Water Year 09-29-2020	0.00	100.00	99.29	89.35	52.88	2.64
One Year Ago 06-30-2020	15.67	84.33	67.96	56.23	34.07	1.37

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:

Deborah Balke  
National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Drought currently covers about 42% of the state. Almost all drought conditions are west of the Continental Divide.

In June 2021, improvements were made in Park, Fremont, Saguache, and Las Animas counties. Jackson and Routt counties saw worsening conditions in drought categories.

## Colorado Drought Update Page

# wildfire

The following wildfires started in June 2021:

- The West Fire started in Moffat County near the WY and UT borders and burned over 3,000 acres.
- The Muddy Slide Fire started south of Steamboat Springs and has burned over 4,000 acres.
- The Oil Springs Fire has burned over 12,000 acres and is now 99% contained.
- The Sylvan Fire in Eagle County has burned almost 4,000 acres.

The West Fire, taken June 21, 2021, courtesy BLM



COLORADO CLIMATE CENTER



# significant events

## June 12-19: A scorching week

### All-time record high temperature tied at:

- Cortez (102°F), on both June 16 and 17
- Antero Reservoir (88°F), June 16

New June record high at Antero Reservoir (88°F), June 16

### June record high tied at:

- Cortez (102°F), June 16 and 17
- Grand Junction (105°F), June 16
- Colorado National Monument (104°F), June 17
- Vallecito Dam (92°F), June 16

### Streaks of daily record high temps:

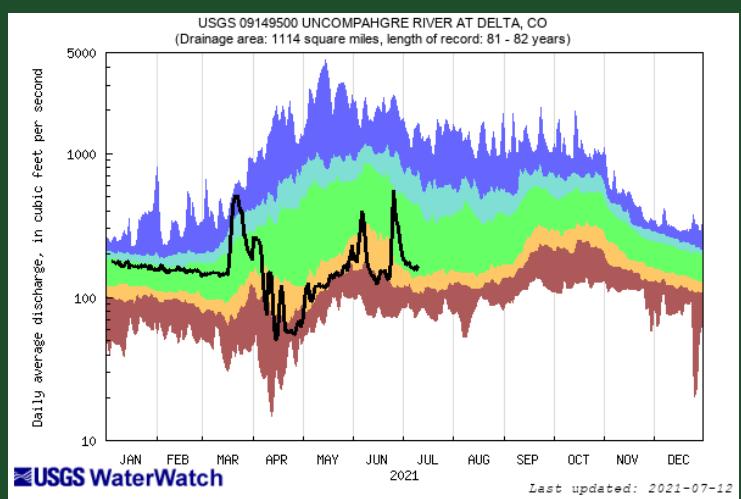
- Alamosa: 6 straight record highs (June 12-17)
- Cortez: 6 straight record highs (June 14-19)
- Five straight days of record highs at Altenbernd, Antero Reservoir, Del Norte, Dillon, Leadville, Grand Lake
- Four straight days of record highs at Crested Butte, Colorado National Monument, Grand Junction, Hayden, Monte Vista, Palisade
- Three straight days of record highs at Briggsdale, Denver, Fort Collins, Steamboat Springs, Yuma

Stations with at least 50 years of records



Montrose homes, crops, livestock, and roads damaged in flash flood on June 24, 2021.

Although only a quarter of an inch fell in the area, it fell in such a short time that it quickly ran off. See how the flows on the Uncompahgre River quickly increased in response.



Intense downpours along the Glenwood Canyon also caused I-70 closures due to mudslides starting over burn scars.



COLORADO CLIMATE CENTER



# CCC in the news

- [Nearly half of state emerges from drought conditions, Western Slope remains a fire risk](#)
  - Becky Bolinger quoted, June 1, 2021
- [Rafting companies make the most of low water levels in Colorado's High Country](#)
  - Becky Bolinger quoted, June 9, 2021
- ['Extremely critical' fire warning for first time in 15 years as Western Slope drought worsens](#)
  - Peter Goble quoted, June 11, 2021
- [Fort Collins sees potential third day in a row of record-breaking heat](#)
  - Russ Schumacher quoted, June 17, 2021
- [Here's why Fort Collins' skies are so smoky and when we'll see some relief](#)
  - Russ Schumacher quoted, June 24, 2021

