



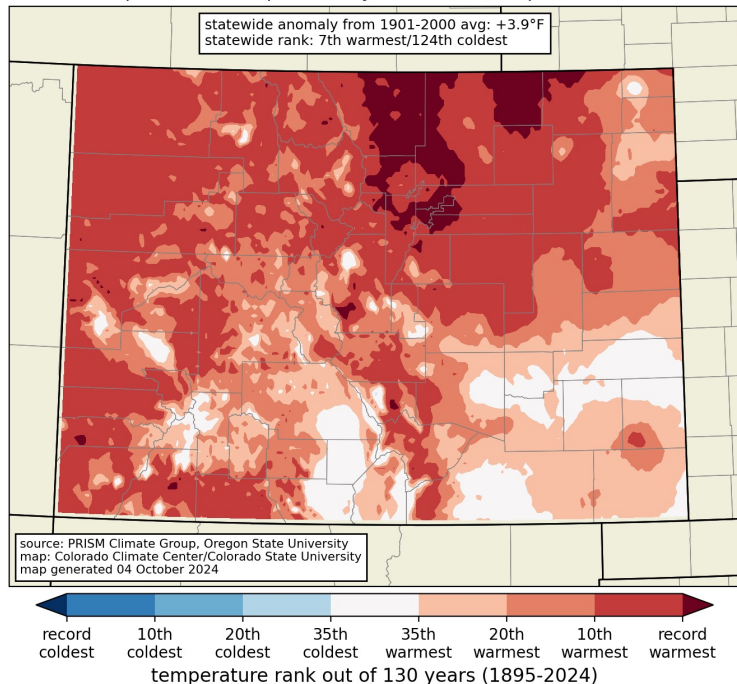
# September 2024 Colorado Monthly Climate Summary

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Note: this month's summary is somewhat abbreviated, as some of the usual data are unavailable owing to outages at the National Centers for Environmental Information in Asheville, NC. Our hearts go out to our colleagues and friends in western North Carolina as they begin the recovery from the disastrous flooding. We will publish a complete summary of water year 2024 when NCEI datasets are available again.

# temperature

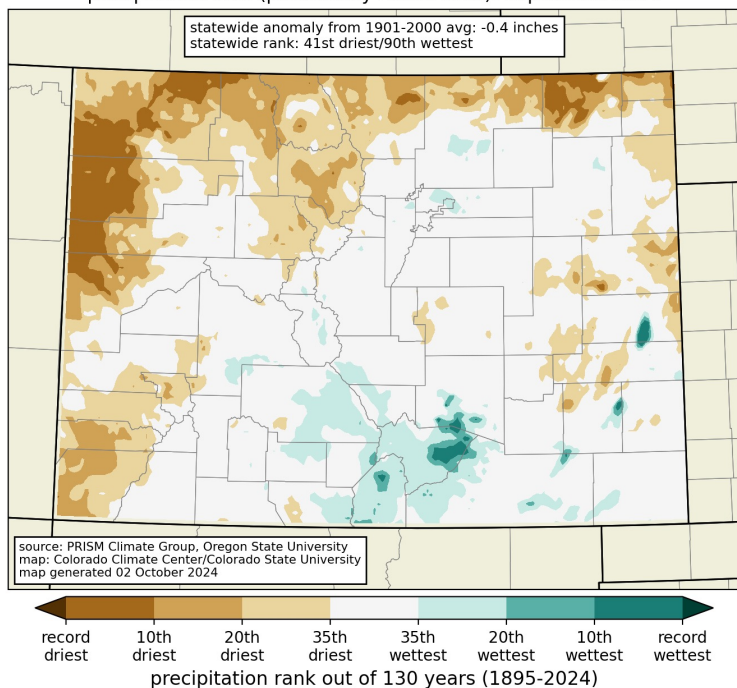
temperature rank (preliminary PRISM data): September 2024



September 2024 was another very warm month across Colorado. Much of the state had a top-10 warm September, and it was record-warm for parts of the Front Range and northeastern plains. September temperatures were closer to average in southeast Colorado and the San Luis Valley.

# precipitation

precipitation rank (preliminary PRISM data): September 2024



Much of Colorado was in the middle of the historical pack for September precipitation, but a “ring” around the edges of the state saw much drier than average conditions. A small pocket of southern Colorado was wetter than average in September, from storms both early and late in the month.

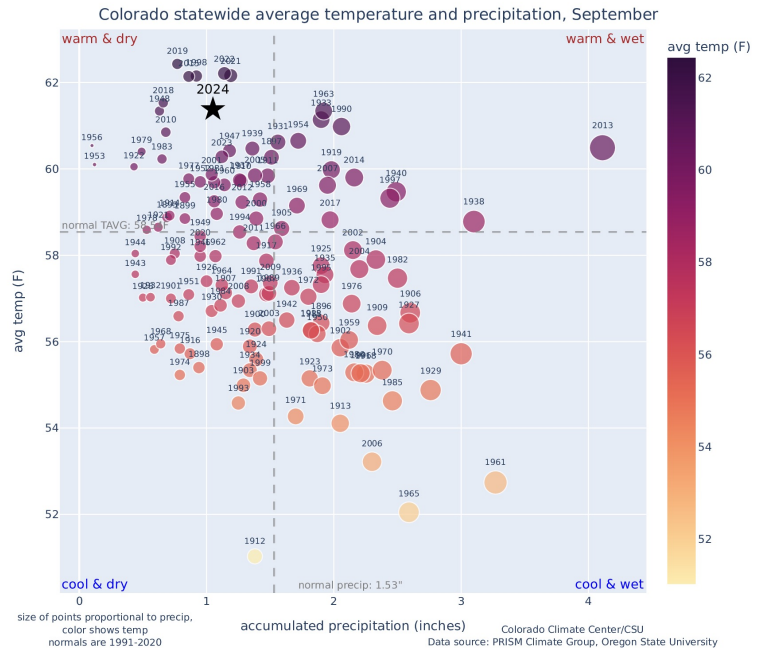


# quadrant charts

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, September 2024 was squarely in the warm and dry quadrant. Based on data from the PRISM Climate Group, it was the 7<sup>th</sup> warmest and 41<sup>st</sup> driest September statewide.

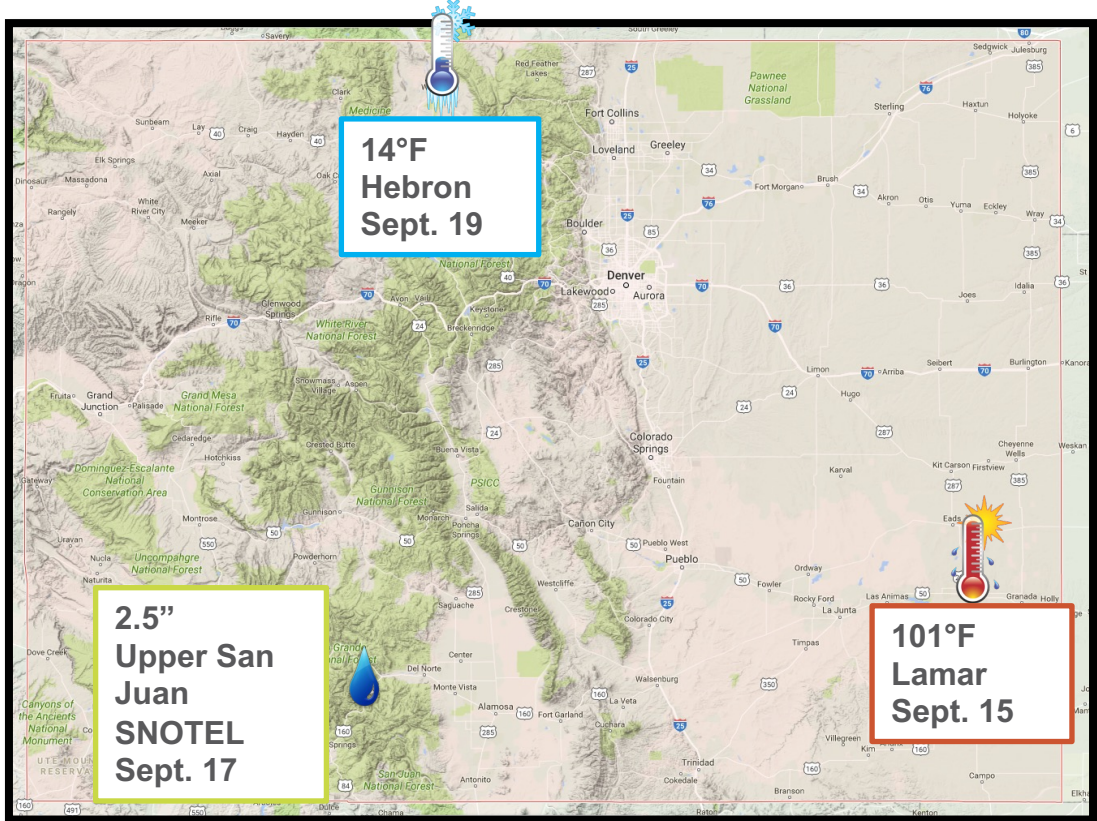
The upper-left quadrant is heavily populated with recent years: 2015, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, and 2024 were all warm and dry in Colorado during September. 1948 and 1998 are the only earlier Septembers to have a similar combination of warm and dry.



[view all quadrant charts](#)



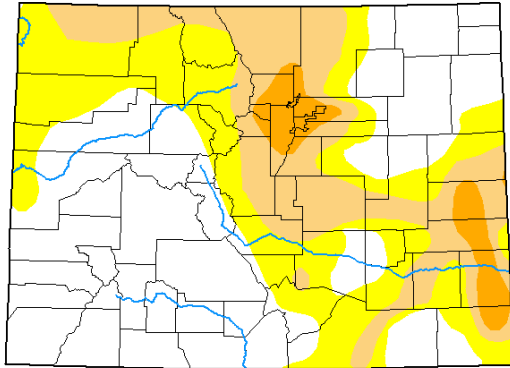
# state extremes



# drought

## U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

**October 1, 2024**  
(Released Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	48.27	51.73	24.40	4.62	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 09-24-2024	56.84	43.16	19.18	3.71	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 07-02-2024	67.39	32.61	4.61	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-03-2024	34.65	65.35	29.59	8.85	2.05	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-26-2023	65.71	34.29	17.43	2.77	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 10-03-2023	62.37	37.63	20.14	3.54	0.00	0.00

**Intensity:**  
 None (White)  
 D0 Abnormally Dry (Yellow)  
 D1 Moderate Drought (Light Orange)  
 D2 Severe Drought (Orange)  
 D3 Extreme Drought (Red)  
 D4 Exceptional Drought (Dark Red)

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>

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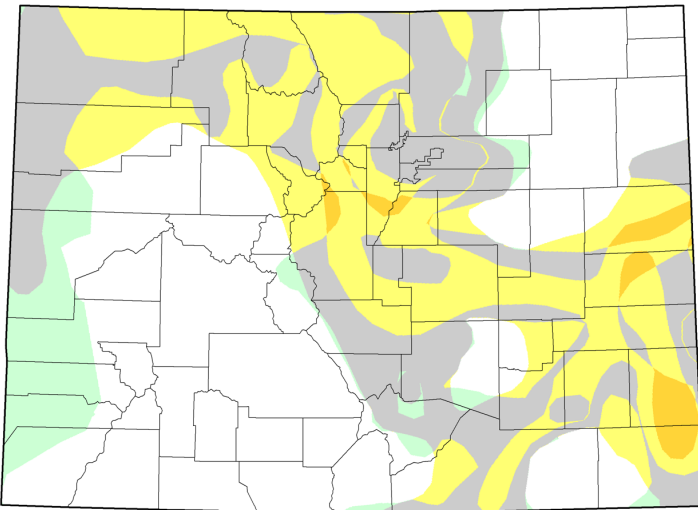


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

As of October 1, about 24% of Colorado was in drought conditions on the US Drought Monitor (D1 or worse), which was a substantial increase from the end of August when only 8.5% showed drought. Areas of severe drought (D2) expanded along both the Front Range and in southeastern Colorado.

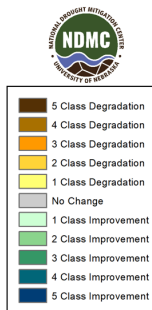
## [Colorado Drought Update Page](#)

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Colorado  
5 Week



October 1, 2024  
compared to  
August 27, 2024

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



The change map since late August shows the widespread expansion of drought across the state, with some parts of the eastern plains seeing a 2-category degradation over this time frame.



# CCC in the news

- ❑ [Is Boulder the best place to weather climate change? No, but it's not the worst.](#)  
*September 26, 2024*  
Featuring Peter Goble in the Boulder Reporting Lab.
- ❑ [Colorado had a shockingly normal year of precipitation - but drought is creeping back on the Front Range](#)  
*September 26, 2024*  
Featuring Peter Goble in the Colorado Sun.
- ❑ [The Farmers' Almanac winter weather prediction for Colorado](#)  
*September 22, 2024*  
Featuring Peter Goble in the Coloradoan.
- ❑ [Climatologist: Warming of state almost certain to continue](#)  
*September 21, 2024*  
Featuring Russ Schumacher in the Grand Junction Sentinel.
- ❑ [Up to the stratosphere: Weather balloon launched at CSU demonstration](#)  
*September 5, 2024*  
Featuring Russ Schumacher in the Coloradoan.

