



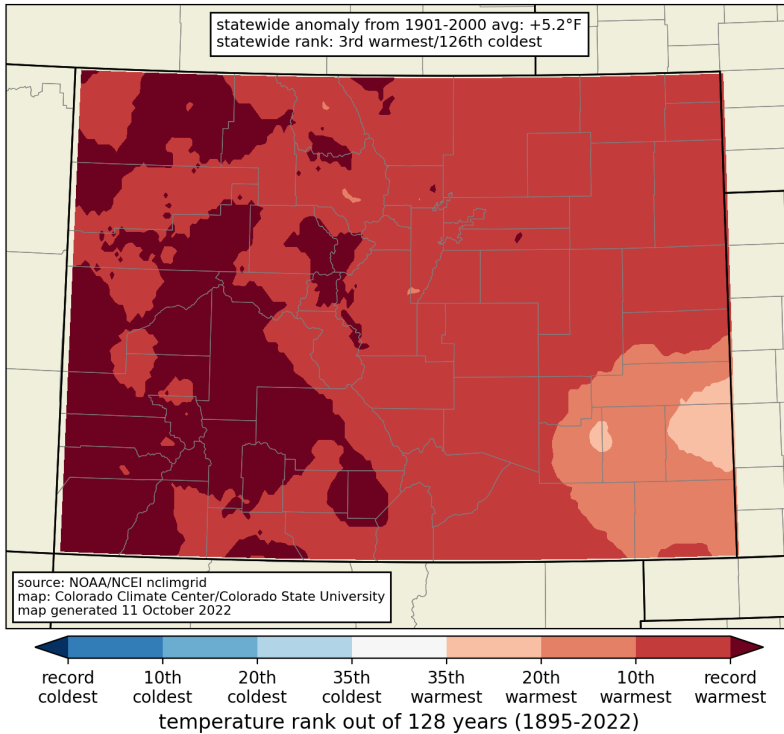
September 2022 Colorado Monthly Climate Summary



ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

temperature

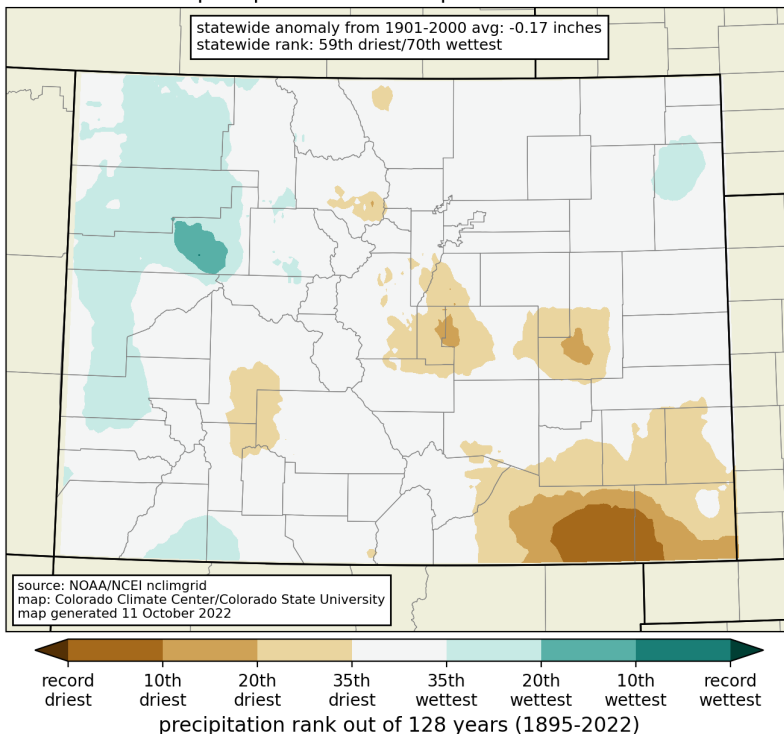
average temperature rank: September 2022



September 2022 tied for the 3rd warmest in the 128-year record. For the state, five of the warmest Septembers on record have occurred in 2015 or later. Record warmth was observed over most of western CO, with 19 counties experiencing their warmest September on record.

precipitation

precipitation rank: September 2022



Statewide precipitation ranked in the near normal range for September 2022, 58th driest. Some areas of western CO were slightly wetter. Much below average precipitation was observed in southeast CO with Las Animas and Baca counties both ranking 17th driest September in the 128-year record.



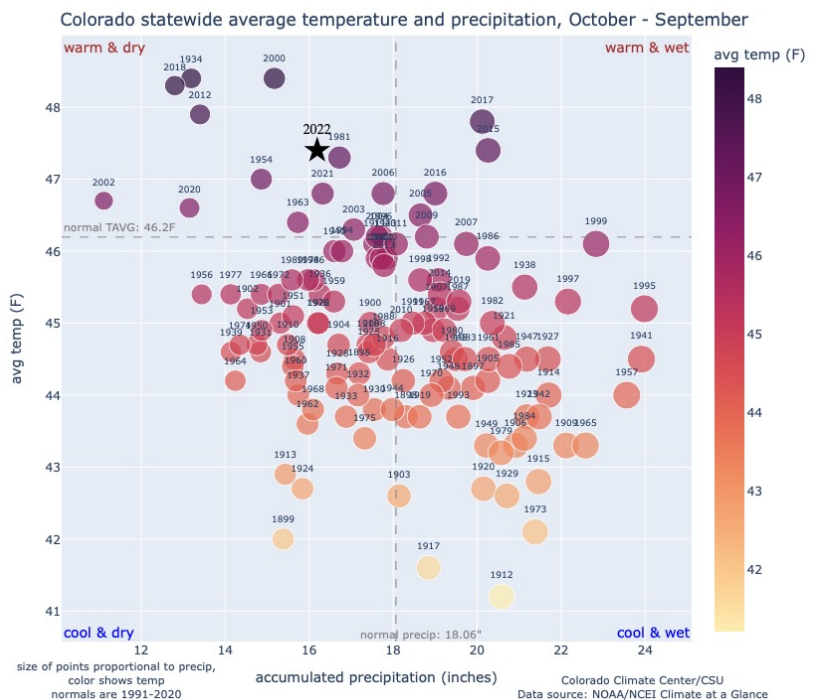
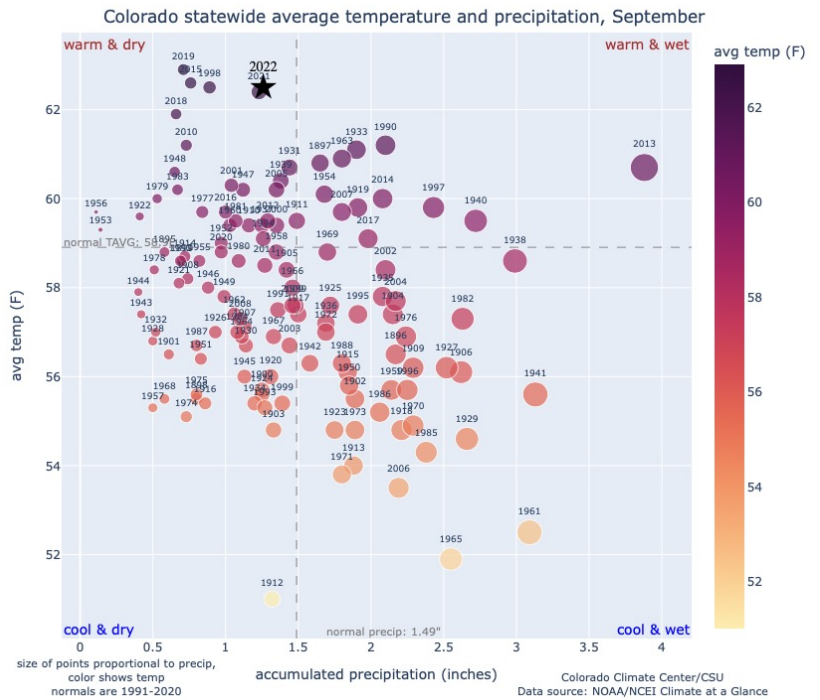
quadrant charts

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.

September 2022 landed in the warm and dry quadrant, lining up extremely close in the quadrant with September 2021. The last September to fall in the cool and wet quadrant was 2006.

Water Year 2022 also landed in the warm and dry quadrant, which has happened for four out of the last five water years. Water Year 2019 actually landed in the cool and wet quadrant.

[view all quadrant charts](#)

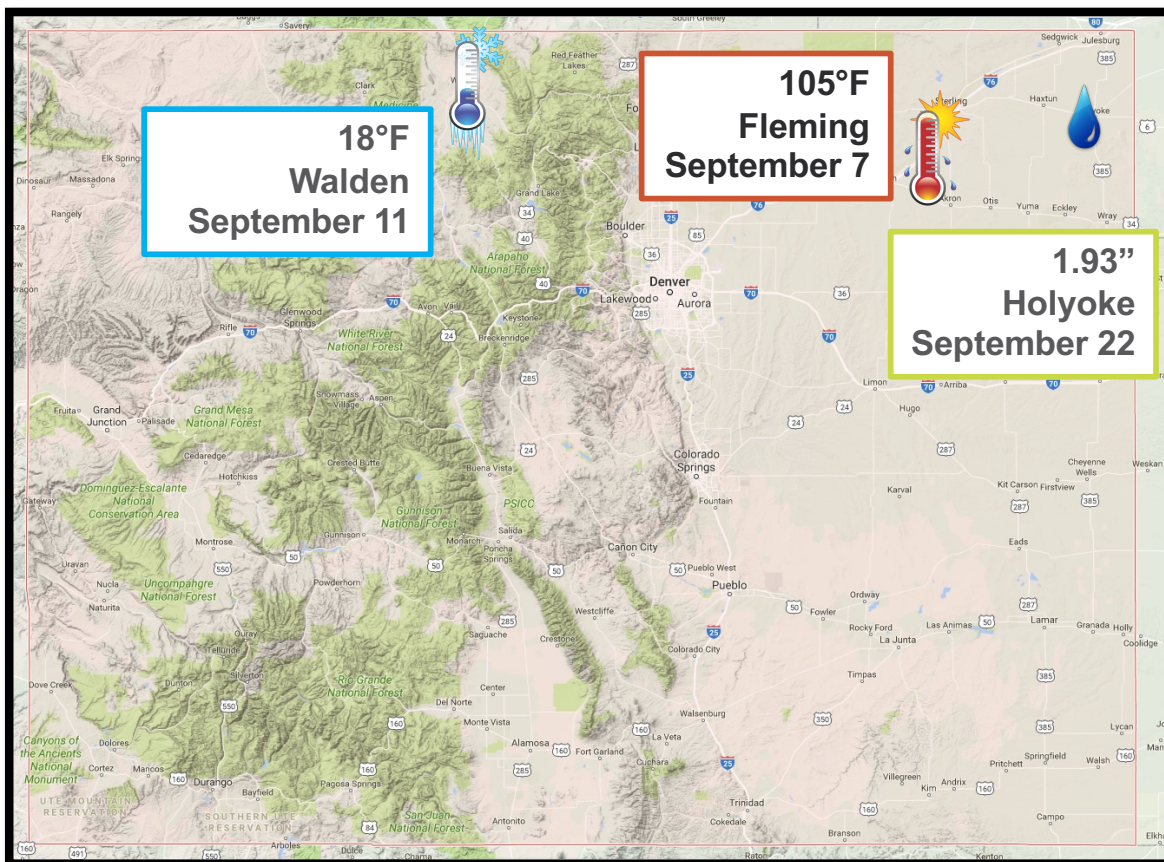


records tied and broken

	High Max	Low Max	High Min	Low Min	Precip	Snow
Daily	115/291	7/5	65/267	1/3	14/43	0/0
Monthly	56/20	0/0	7/31	0/0	1/0	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

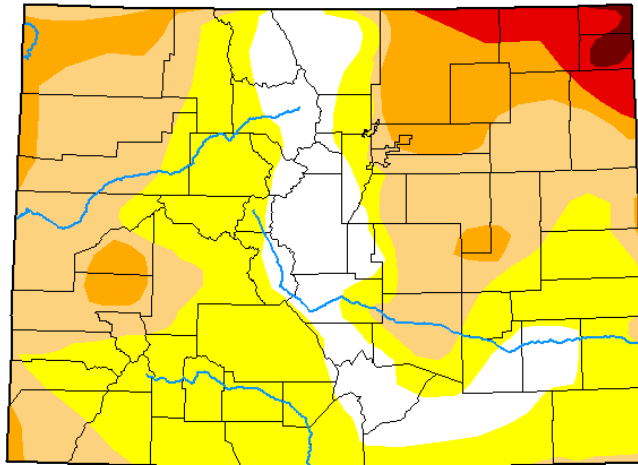
state extremes



drought

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

September 27, 2022
(Released Thursday, Sep. 29, 2022)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	15.46	84.54	45.65	15.47	3.73	0.57
Last Week 09-20-2022	15.72	84.28	47.84	17.53	3.91	0.57
3 Months Ago 06-28-2022	1.17	98.83	86.07	44.87	5.90	0.23
Start of Calendar Year 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	95.49	67.08	22.25	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	12.72	87.28	46.42	26.30	15.05	3.91
One Year Ago 09-28-2021	12.72	87.28	46.42	26.30	15.05	3.91

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>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu

[Colorado Drought Update Page](#)

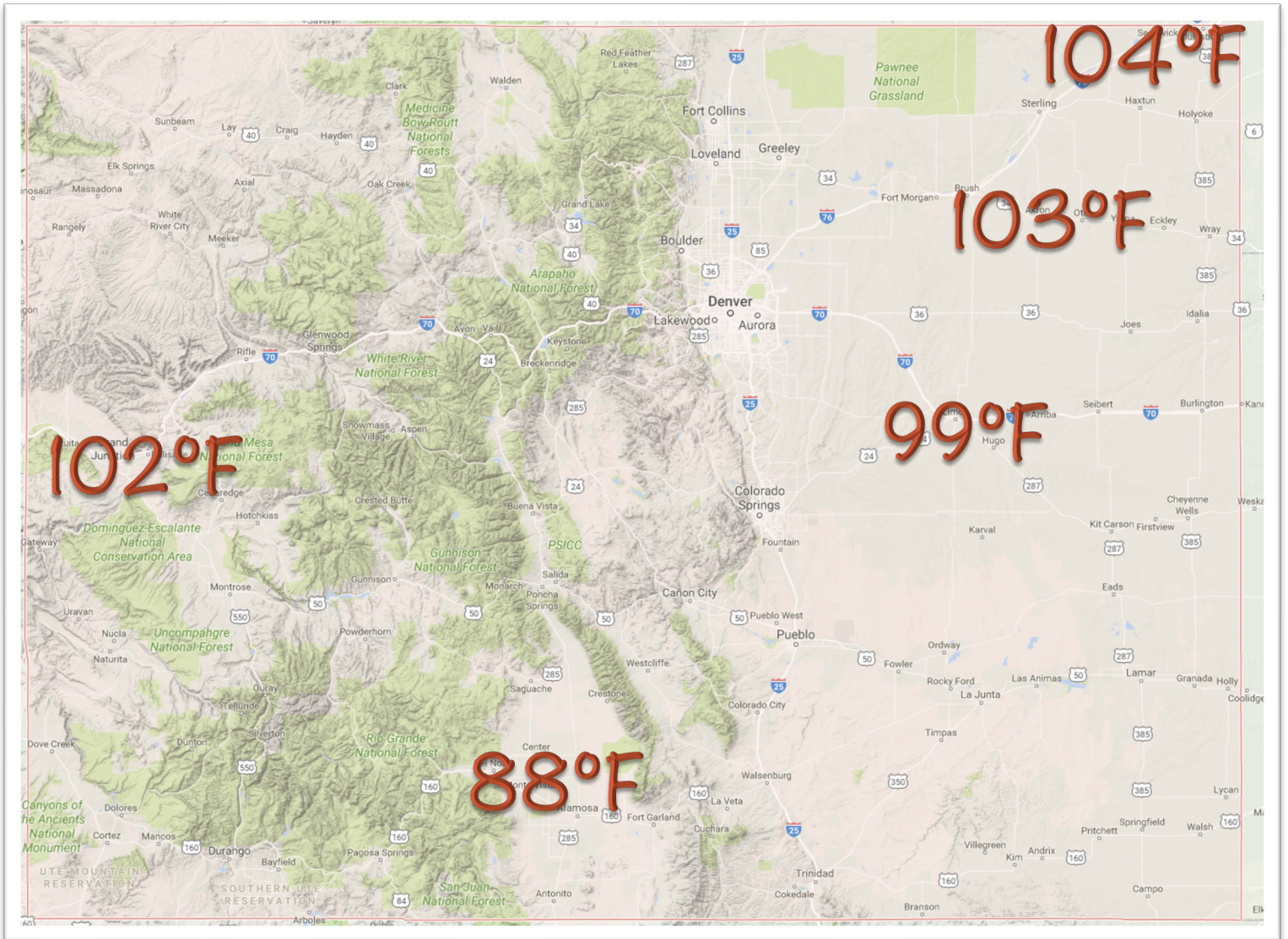
During September, some drought improvement occurred in southwest Colorado. After 122 consecutive weeks of D3/D4 drought in Montezuma County, D3 was removed from the county on September 27, 2022.

Drought deterioration occurred in a few spots in eastern CO, including more D1 in Pueblo County and the D2 spot in Elbert and Lincoln counties. Despite a decent rain event falling in the northeast corner of the state, it was not enough to erase D4 conditions.

At the end of the month, 45% of the state remained in drought conditions. 16% of the state was clear of any dry categories.



significant events



Warmest September temperature recorded in 2022.

Between September 5 – 9 2022, five stations recorded their warmest September high temperature ever (with records back to at least 1963). An additional 11 stations tied their warmest September high temperature. Akron also broke its warmest low temperature ever recorded in September with 69°F



CCC in the news

- ❑ [Monsoon improves Colorado's drought conditions, still 'drops in the bucket'](#)
 - The Denver Gazette, September 27, Becky Bolinger
- ❑ [2022-2023 Winter Weather Forecast](#)
 - ACHR News, September 24, Peter Goble
- ❑ [Conditions point to warmer, drier winter in store](#)
 - Montrose Press, September 15, Peter Goble
- ❑ [A rarity: Summit County comes out of drought before end of summer, a good omen for 2023, scientists say](#)
 - Summit Daily, September 14, Peter Goble
- ❑ [La Niña, rising global temperatures lead forecasters to predict a warm, dry winter for Utah](#)
 - The Spectrum, September 13, Peter Goble
- ❑ [High Temperatures Close Classes 2 Hours Early Last Week in Poudre School District](#)
 - North Forty News, September 12, Russ Schumacher
- ❑ [Why is it so smoky and hot in Fort Collins, and when will it end?](#)
 - The Coloradoan, September 6, Russ Schumacher
- ❑ [Farmers' Almanac says Colorado will be a 'hibernation zone' this winter. Can we trust it?](#)
 - The Coloradoan, September 2, Russ Schumacher
- ❑ [Thanks to rain, there have been far fewer Colorado wildfires in 2022. This fall could change that.](#)
 - The Colorado Sun, September 1, Becky Bolinger

