



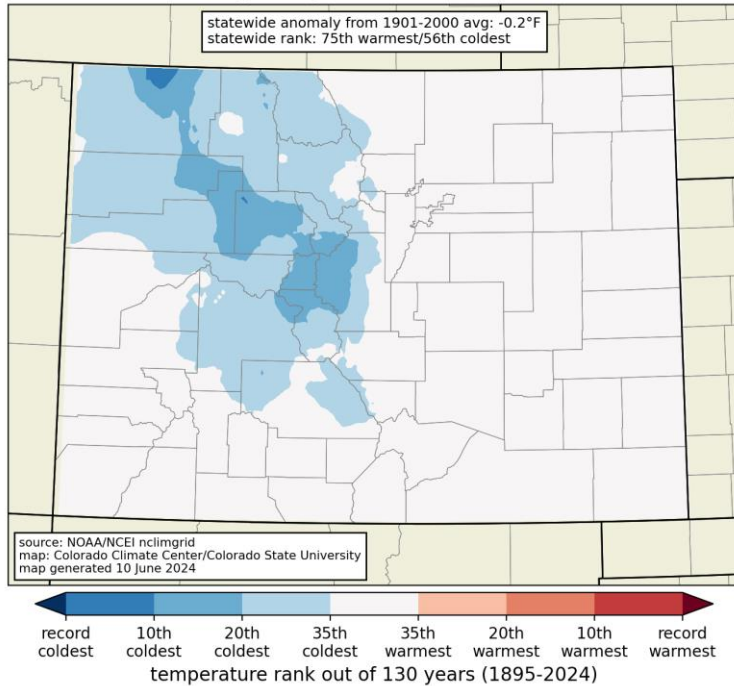
# May 2024 Colorado Monthly Climate Summary

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# temperature

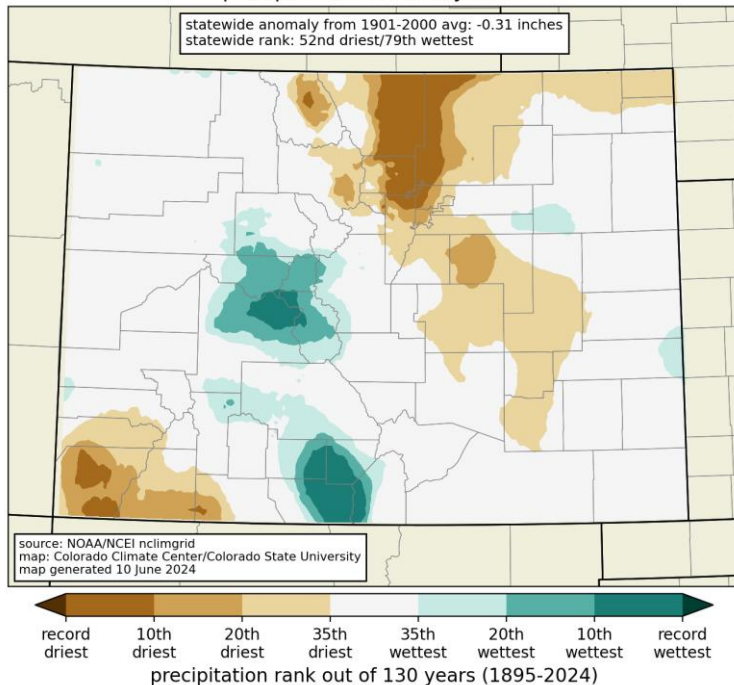
average temperature rank: May 2024



May 2024 broke the streak of 10 straight months that were warmer than the 20th-century average in Colorado. May was cooler than average across northwestern Colorado, while it was closer to the long-term average across the rest of the state.

# precipitation

precipitation rank: May 2024



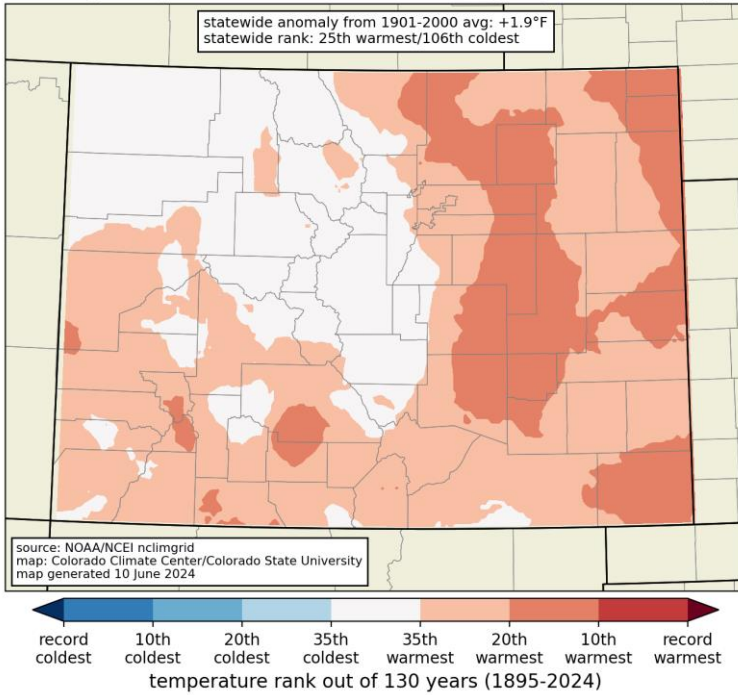
Two regions of Colorado saw a very dry May: the northern Front Range and the southwest corner of the state. In contrast, the central mountains and the San Luis Valley were much wetter than average during May, with parts of both areas experiencing a top-10 wet May.



# temperature: spring

average temperature rank: 3 months ending May 2024 (Mar-May)

statewide anomaly from 1901-2000 avg: +1.9°F  
statewide rank: 25th warmest/106th coldest

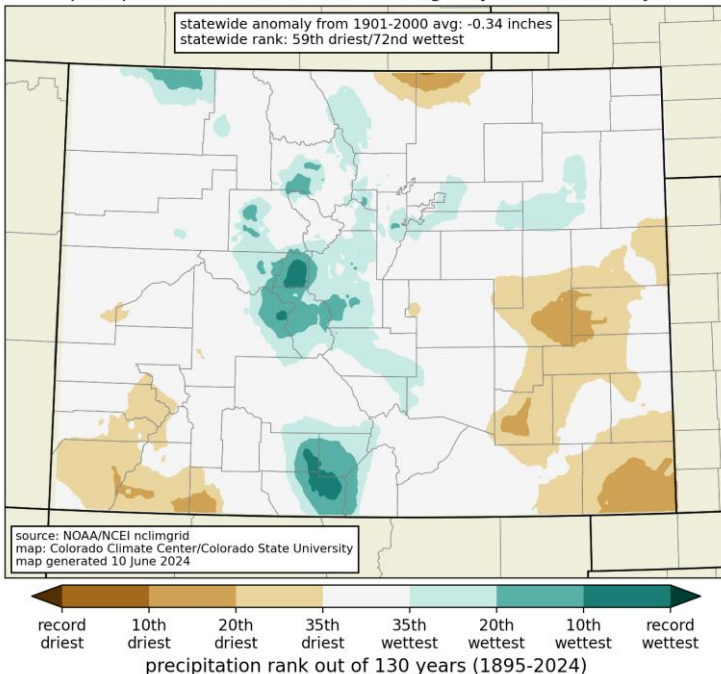


Climatological spring (March, April, May) was warmer than average across most of the state, with the exception of northwest Colorado, where the cool May brought the spring back closer to average temperature.

# precipitation: spring

precipitation rank: 3 months ending May 2024 (Mar-May)

statewide anomaly from 1901-2000 avg: -0.34 inches  
statewide rank: 59th driest/72nd wettest



Spring precipitation was near average overall in Colorado, with only a few areas seeing especially wet or dry conditions. Parts of southwest and southeast Colorado were drier than average for spring, while the central mountains and San Luis Valley were wetter than average.



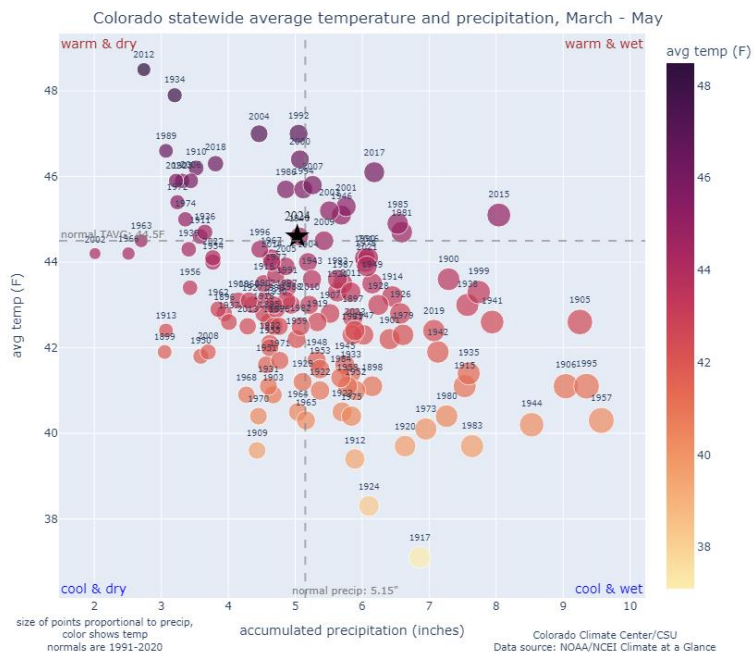
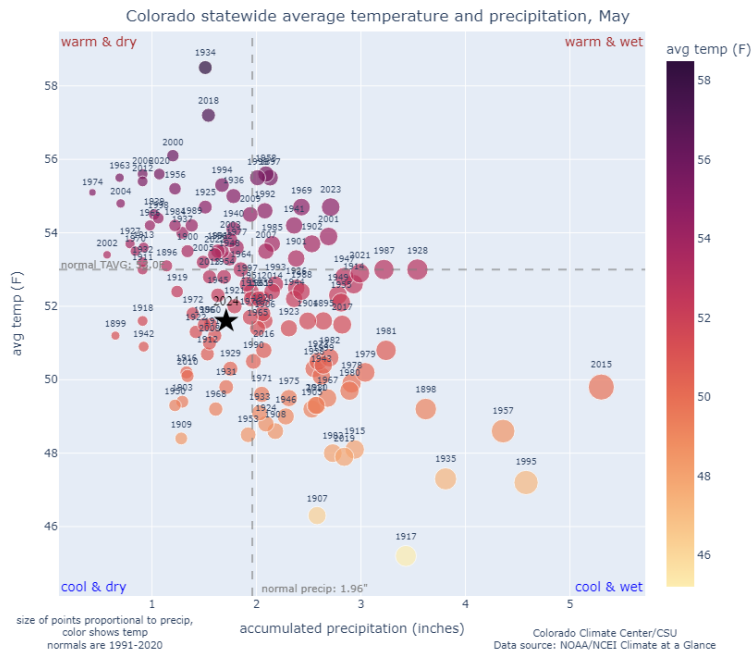
# quadrant charts

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.

May 2024 ended up in the cool and dry quadrant when averaged across Colorado. It was the 52<sup>nd</sup> coolest May in the 130-year record, at 1.4° F below the 1991-2020 average and 0.2° F below the 20<sup>th</sup> century average. It was the 51<sup>th</sup> driest (80<sup>th</sup> wettest) May, at 0.31" below average statewide.

For climatological spring, the quadrant chart shows that it was abnormally normal in Colorado! The statewide average temperature was just 0.1° F above the 30-year average, although it was still 1.9° F warmer than the 20<sup>th</sup>-century average, ranking the 25<sup>th</sup> warmest spring on record. It was the 59<sup>th</sup> driest (72<sup>nd</sup> wettest) spring, 0.34" below average statewide.

[view all quadrant charts](#)



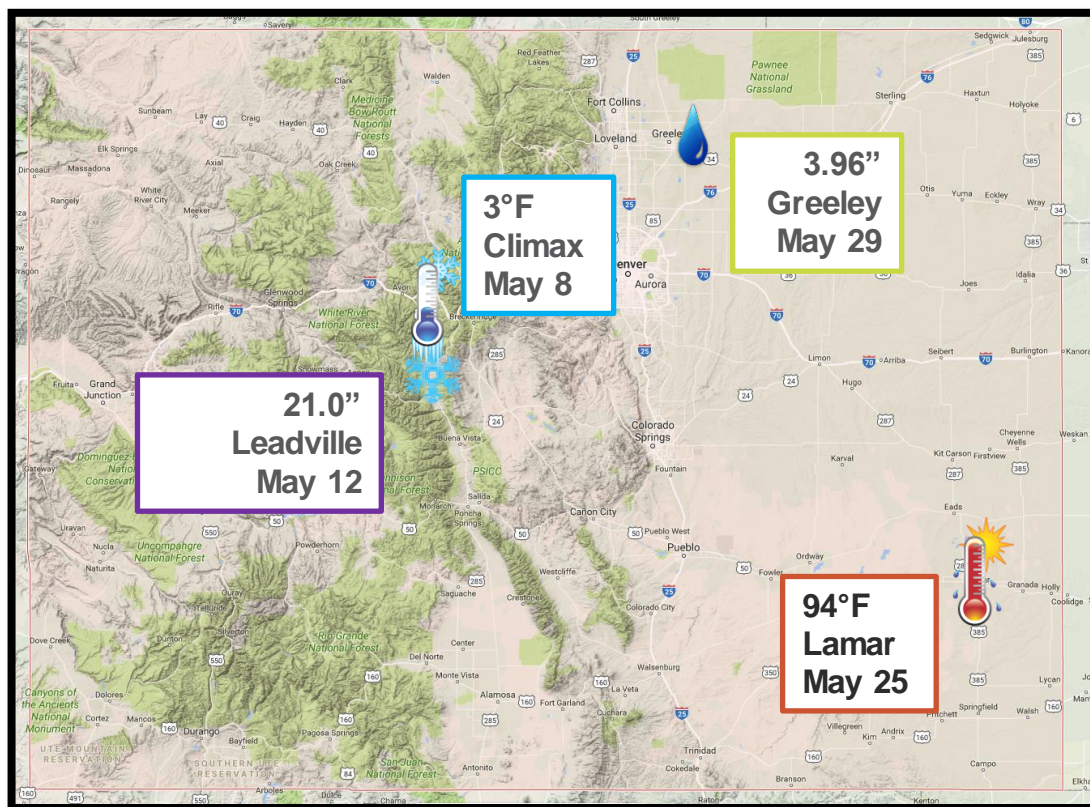


# records tied and broken

	High Max	Low Max	High Min	Low Min	Precip	Snow
Daily	0/0	18/202	3/14	32/127	30/63	2/15
Monthly	0/0	1/2	0/0	0/0	1/3	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

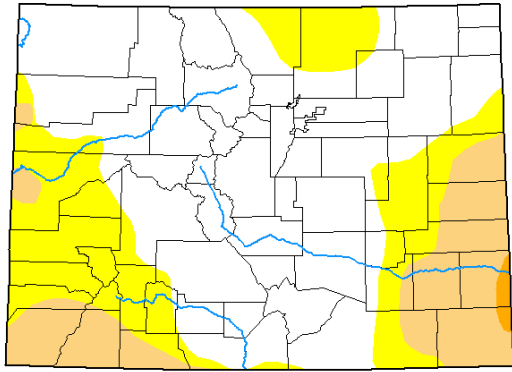
## state extremes



# drought

## U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

May 28, 2024  
(Released Thursday, May 30, 2024)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	60.75	39.25	15.78	0.50	0.00	0.00
Last Week 05-21-2024	62.83	37.17	12.23	0.22	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 02-27-2024	63.34	36.66	10.68	3.52	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	34.65	65.35	29.59	8.85	2.05	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	65.71	34.29	17.43	2.77	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 05-30-2023	76.28	23.72	6.34	1.08	0.24	0.00

**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>

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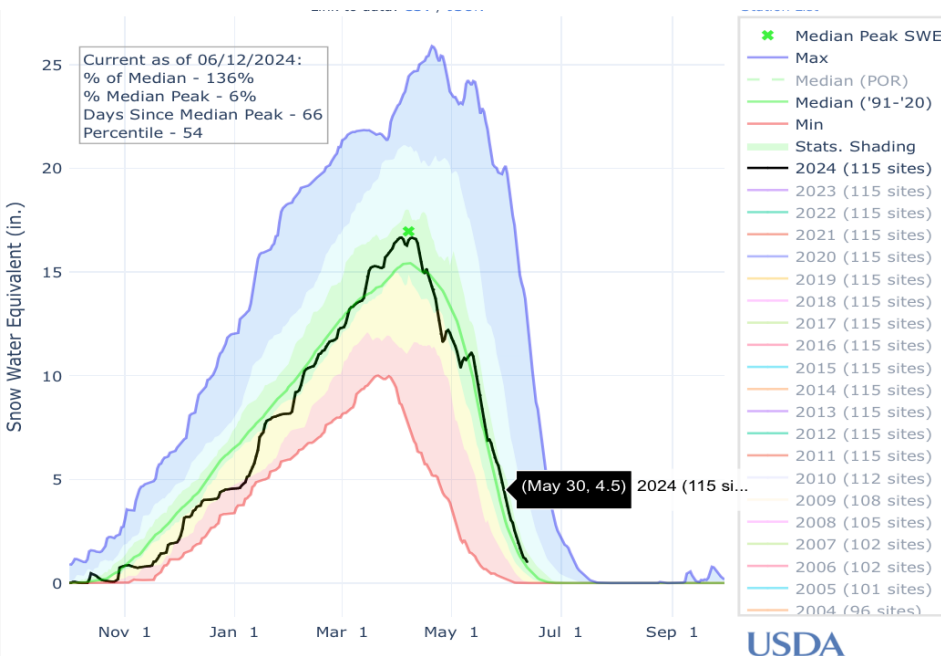


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

The southeast and southwest saw drought conditions expand in May. Wet conditions in the San Luis Valley resulted in the removal of drought categories. In northern CO, D0 was introduced.

## Colorado Drought Update Page

# snowpack



After rapid melting of snowpack started in April, melting slowed a bit in May. Cooler temperatures and additional snow events throughout May helped to regulate melting, so that we will likely end the snowpack season on time.



# significant events

Three high-impact hailstorms hit Colorado during May 2024:

- On May 20, supercell thunderstorms moved across the eastern plains, producing massive amounts of rain and hail in Yuma County. Flooding and widespread hail damage occurred in Yuma.

[https://www.weather.gov/gld/052024\\_WindHail](https://www.weather.gov/gld/052024_WindHail)



*Deep hail accumulation in Yuma on May 20.*

*From NWS Goodland summary*

- On the evening of May 28, storms with very heavy rain and large hail developed over Weld County, resulting in major flooding and damage in Greeley, unfortunately causing one fatality. <https://www.greeleytribune.com/2024/05/29/crews-begin-cleanup-after-heavy-rain-and-hail-overnight-in-greeley-flood-many-areas/>
- After dark on May 30, a series of storms moved through the Denver Metro area, producing hail up to 2.75” in diameter. This storm produced significant damage to vehicles and structures in a swath from the northern suburbs across to the Central Park area. <https://www.denverpost.com/2024/05/31/colorado-weather-denver-hail-storm-march-30-damage-forecast-friday/?share=wns55o3deafwatrmnot1>

