

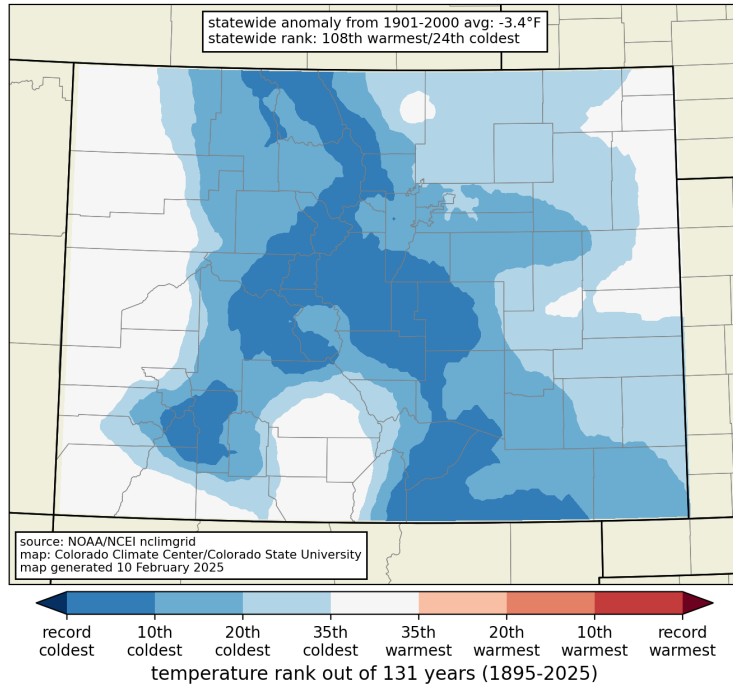


January 2025 Colorado Monthly Climate Summary



temperature

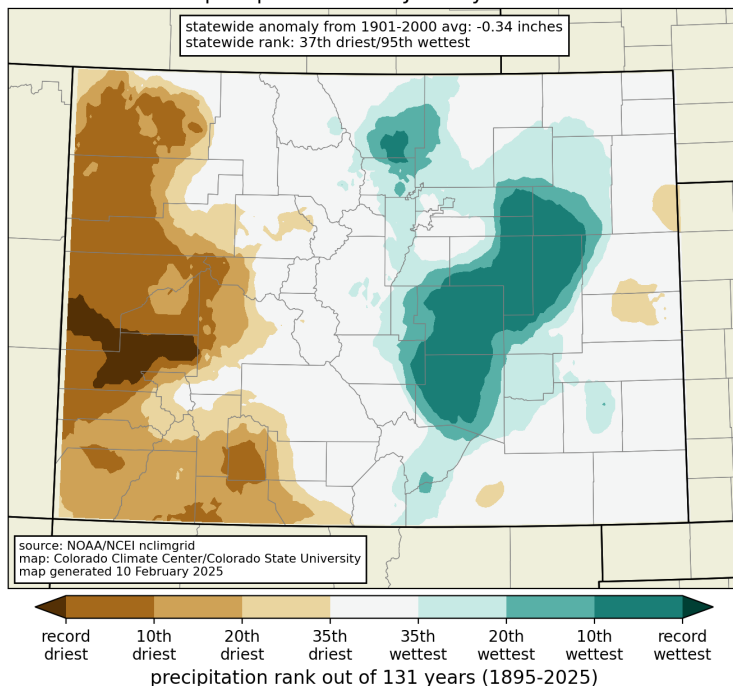
average temperature rank: January 2025



2025 got off to a chilly start in Colorado, with much colder-than-average conditions for January, especially in the central part of the state. A broad region through the mountains and into southeastern Colorado had a top-10 cold January. Statewide, it was the coldest January since 2007.

precipitation

precipitation rank: January 2025



There was a strong west-east split for precipitation in January 2025. Parts of eastern Colorado were much wetter than average, while the western slope had one of its driest Januarys on record. Grand Junction had just 0.01" of precipitation, the 2nd driest January on record.

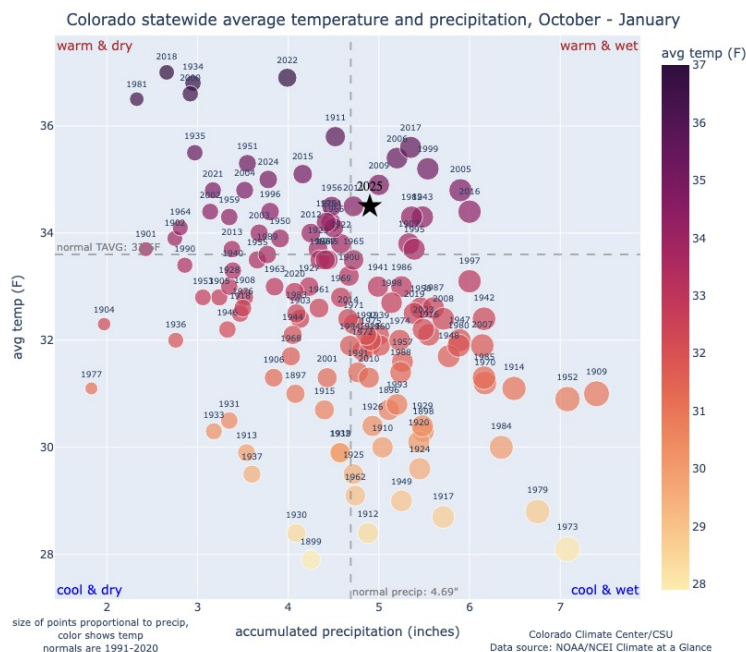
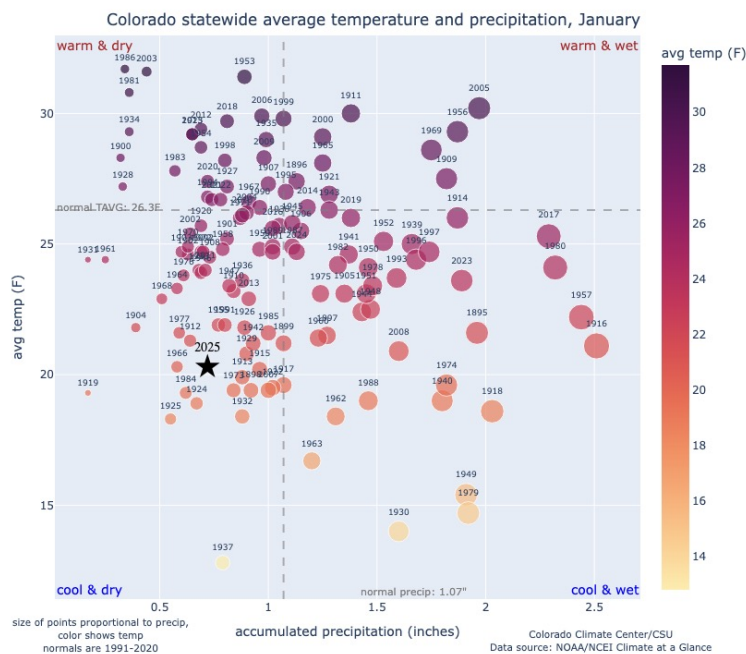
quadrant charts

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.

January 2025 fell in the cold and dry quadrant, a corner of the chart that has not been occupied much in recent years. Statewide it was tied for the 23rd coldest January, at 6.0°F colder than the 1991-2020 average and 3.4°F below the 20th-century average. It was tied for the 35th driest January statewide at 0.34" below average.

Even though January was cold, the water year to date remains warmer than average. It was tied for the 18th warmest first four months of the water year, 2.2°F warmer than the 20th-century average. For precipitation, it's tied for the 50th wettest start to the water year, 0.36" above average.

[view all quadrant charts](#)

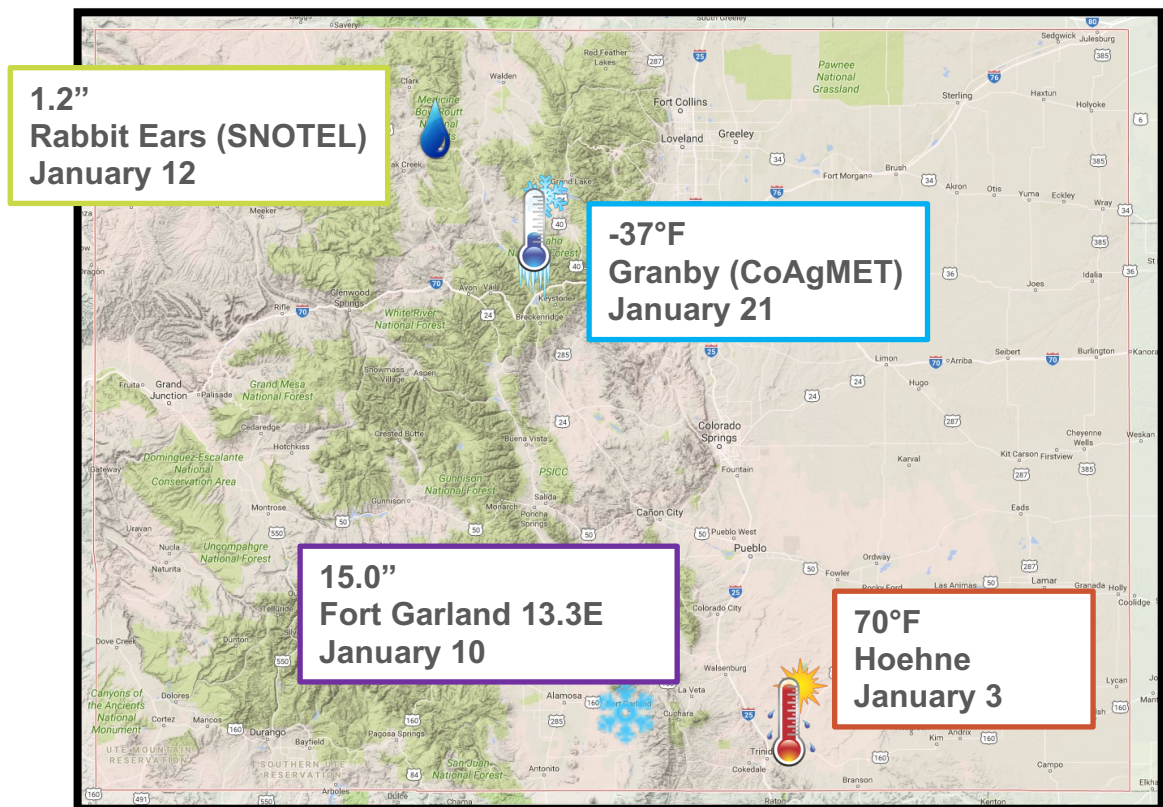


records tied and broken

	High Max	Low Max	High Min	Low Min	Precip	Snow
Daily	11/17	40/490	3/16	25/423	21/43	12/30
Monthly	0/0	5/39	0/0	8/31	0/1	0/0
All-time	0/0	0/5	0/0	1/1	0/0	0/0

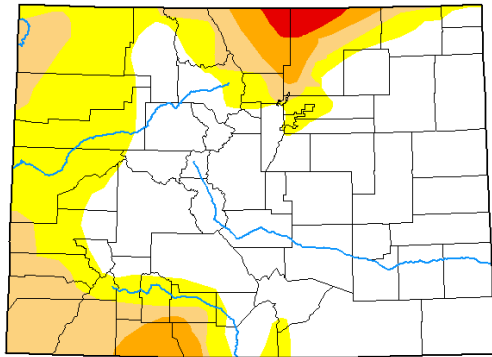
Tied/**Broken**, from NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information

state extremes



drought & snowpack

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado



January 28, 2025
(Released Thursday, Jan. 30, 2025)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	61.15	38.85	17.11	4.82	0.98	0.00
Last Week 01-21-2025	71.59	28.41	13.84	3.23	0.98	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-29-2024	39.87	60.13	34.93	9.89	3.25	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2025	71.40	28.60	10.78	4.08	0.98	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	48.27	51.73	24.40	4.62	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 01-30-2024	41.97	58.03	27.83	6.69	2.05	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

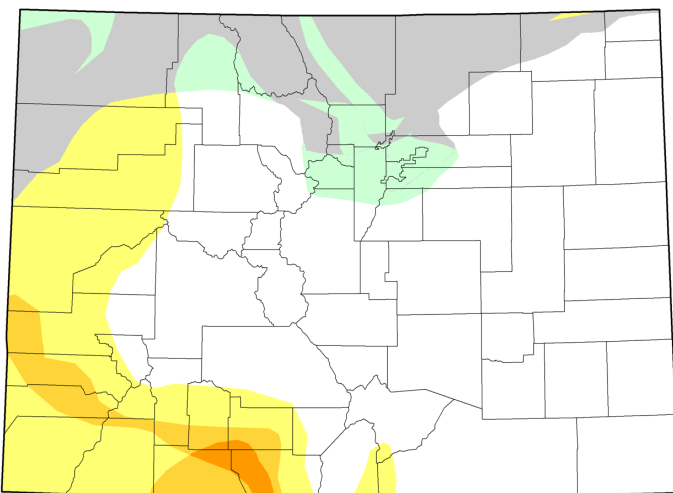
With the very dry January across western Colorado, drought conditions expanded and worsened in that part of the state. Parts of southwestern Colorado saw a 3-category degradation during January, going from no depiction on the US Drought Monitor to D2 (severe drought).

Northern Colorado saw several rounds of snowfall in January, reducing the drought severity around Denver and Boulder. However, long-term precipitation deficits and drought conditions remain in place in Larimer and Weld Counties.

About 17% of Colorado was in drought conditions as of January 28.

[Colorado Drought Update Page](#)

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Colorado 4 Week



January 28, 2025
compared to
December 31, 2024

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

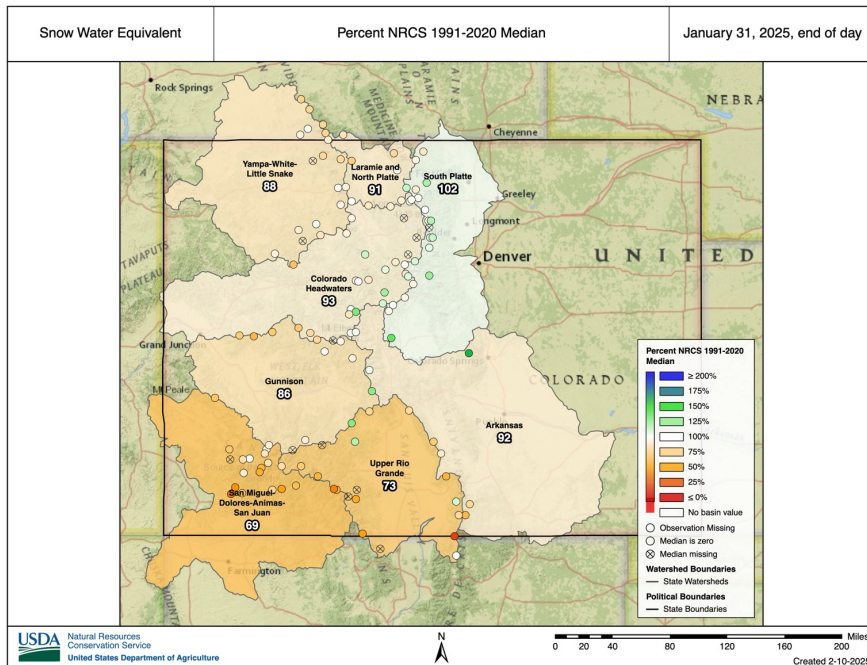


5 Class Degradation
4 Class Degradation
3 Class Degradation
2 Class Degradation
1 Class Degradation
No Change
1 Class Improvement
2 Class Improvement
3 Class Improvement
4 Class Improvement
5 Class Improvement

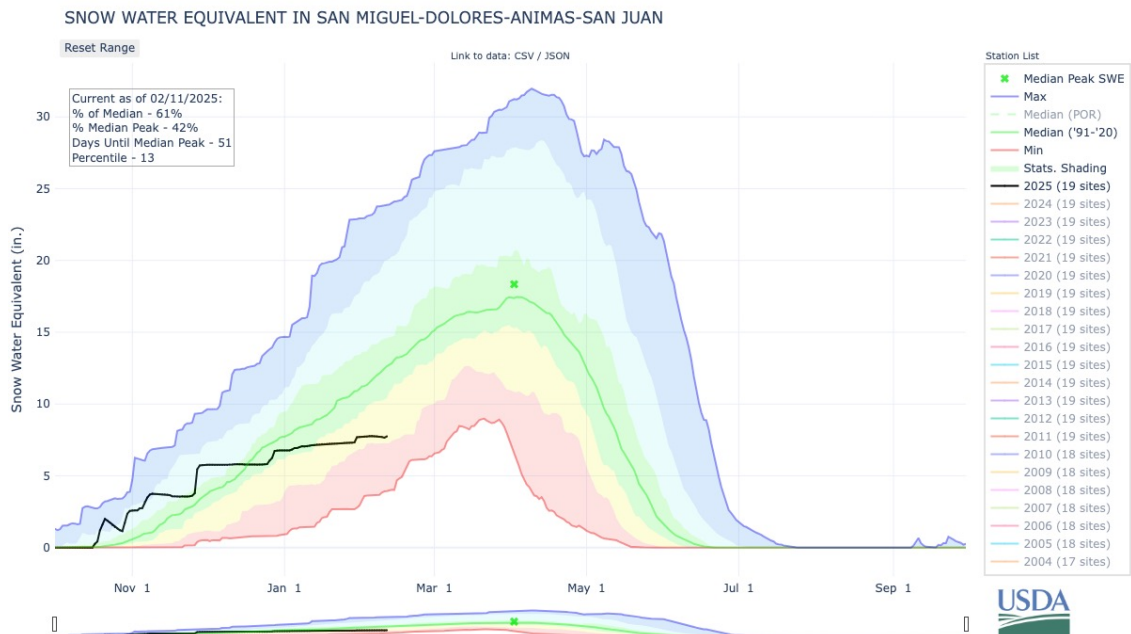


drought & snowpack

With little snowfall in January, mountain snowpack largely flatlined during the month, especially in the southern basins. The South Platte basin was the only basin above average as of the end of January, with the Rio Grande and southwest basins falling well below average. The Mancos SNOTEL station in southwest Colorado had record low snowpack, about 6" below average.



[Colorado Drought Update Page](#)



In the southwestern basins (San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan), the snowpack season started fast in November, but very little snow has fallen since then. SWE in this basin was less than 70% of average at the end of January.

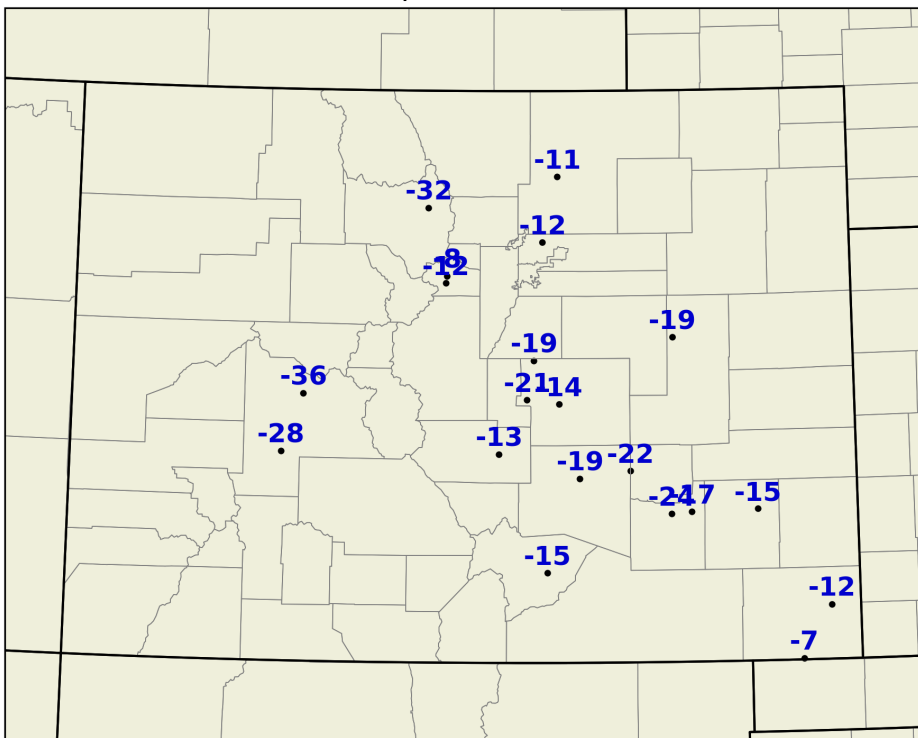


significant events

Mid-month Arctic blast: For the second year in a row, a very cold air mass moved across Colorado in mid-January. (Last year, [we crunched the numbers](#) and found that "Stock Show weather" is more legend than reality, but the last two years have definitely had Stock Show weather!)

As usual, the coldest air was in the mountain valleys, with temperatures dipping below -35°F in Grand and Gunnison Counties. But the most anomalous cold was in the Arkansas River valley, which had multiple nights with lows below -20°F . At Rocky Ford, it dipped below -15°F on four consecutive nights (January 19, 20, 21, and 22), which had never happened before in over 125 years of records.

record minimum temperatures for 2025-01-21 ($^{\circ}\text{F}$)



STATION RECORDS

BLUE MESA LAKE: -28 (-20; 2008)
BRIGHTON 3 SE: -12 (-4; 1984)
CABIN CREEK: -12 (-10; 1996)
CAMPO 7 S: -7 (4; 2022)
CANON CITY: -13 (-10; 1935)
COLORADO SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AP: -14 (-10; 1966)
CRESTED BUTTE: -36 (-36; 1984)
GEORGETOWN: -8 (-8; 1966)
GRAND LAKE 6 SSW: -32 (-28; 1991)
GREELEY UNC: -11 (-9; 1984)
JOHN MARTIN DAM: -15 (-10; 1959)
LA JUNTA MUNICIPAL AIRPORT: -17 (-12; 1966)
LIMON: -19 (-15; 1966)
PALMER LAKE: -19 (-6; 1966)
PUEBLO MEMORIAL AIRPORT: -19 (-10; 1966)
ROCKY FORD 2 SE: -24 (-17; 1930)
RUXTON PARK: -21 (-18; 1987)
TACONY 13 SE: -22 (-18; 1966)
WALSENBURG 1 NW: -15 (-10; 1959)
WALSH 1 W: -12 (-11; 1984)

Map of stations that tied or broke daily record low temperatures on January 21, at stations with at least 50 years of records



CCC in the news

- ❑ **January 7, 2025:** [Northern Colorado cleans up first snowstorm of the season](#)
 - Featuring Russ Schumacher on 9News.
- ❑ **January 15, 2025:** [Arctic air to bring freezing, below-zero temperatures to Fort Collins this weekend](#)
 - Featuring Russ Schumacher in the Coloradoan.
- ❑ **January 24, 2025:** [How much snow did Florida get this week? More than Anchorage or New York City.](#)
 - *Featuring CoCoRaHS in the Florida Herald-Tribune.*
- ❑ **January 27, 2025:** [A warming valley.](#)
 - Featuring Russ Schumacher in the Alamosa Citizen

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