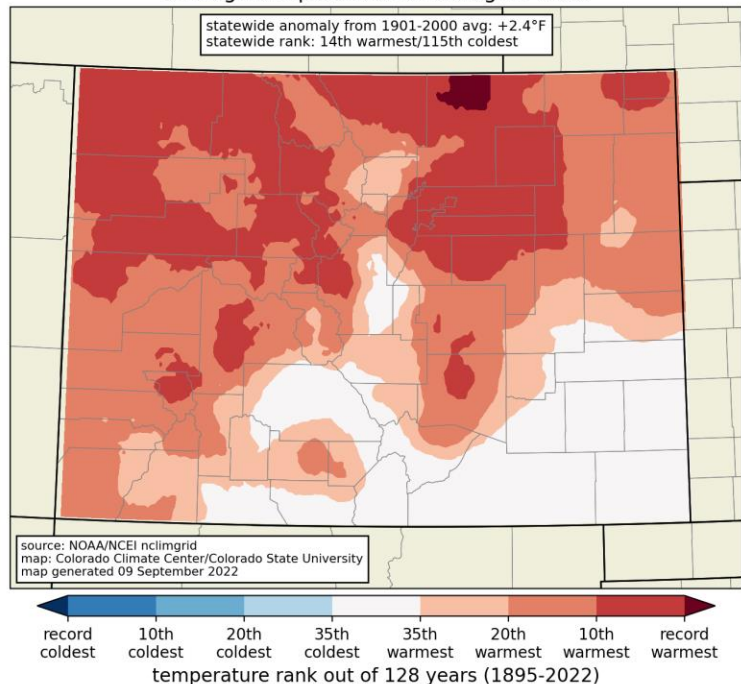




August 2022 Colorado Monthly Climate Summary

temperature

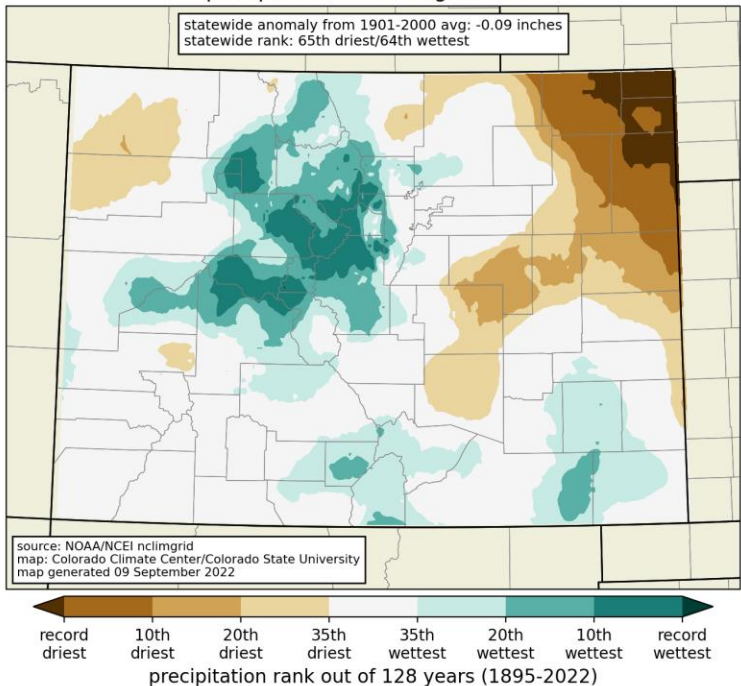
average temperature rank: August 2022



August 2022 was much warmer than average for most of the state. Record warmth was observed in northern Weld County with near normal ranks in the southeastern counties. Statewide, this August ranked as the 14th warmest in the 128 year record. This is the 4th August in a row to rank in the top 20.

precipitation

precipitation rank: August 2022



Statewide precipitation ranked right in the middle of the road for August 2022. While much of the state did fall in the normal range, much wetter than average areas were observed over the northern and central mountains. Dry conditions persisted over northeast CO, with record dry in Phillips, Sedgwick, and Yuma counties.



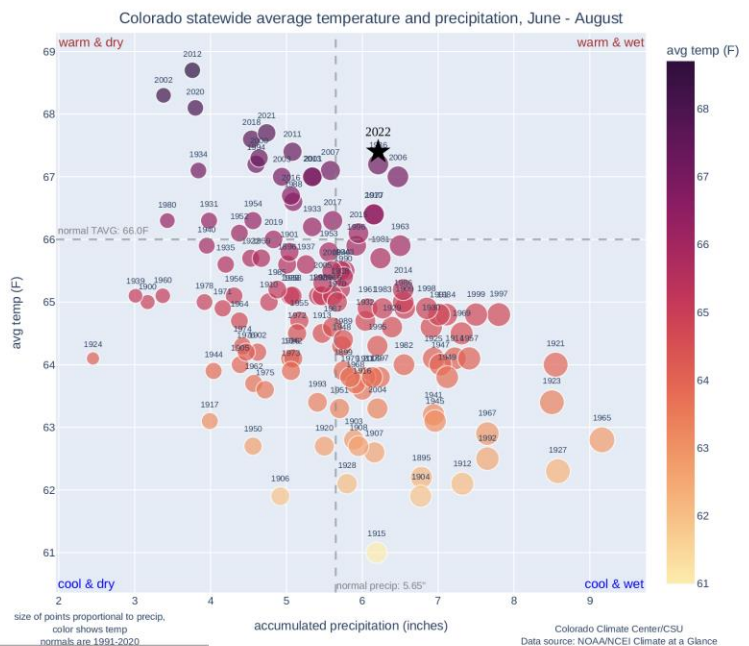
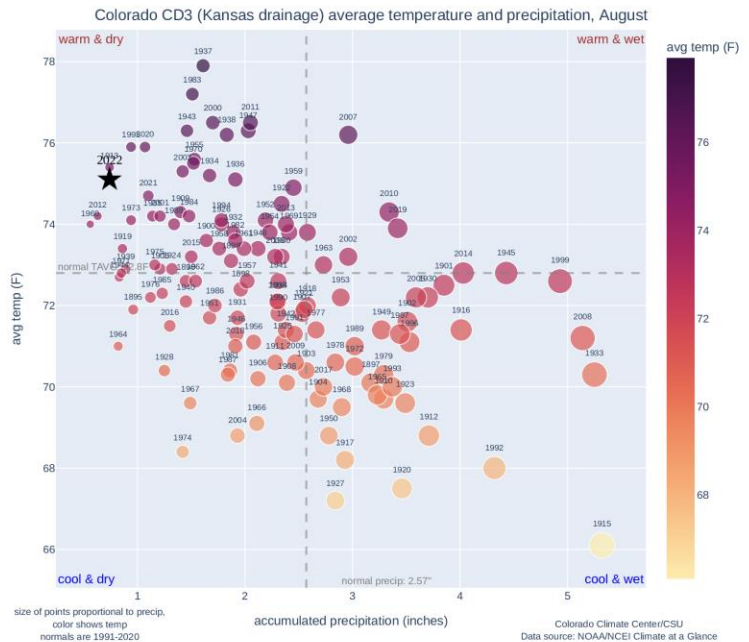
quadrant charts

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.

For the Kansas drainage area (in northeast CO) August 2022 was in the warm and dry quadrant, ranking 3rd driest and 16th warmest August on record.

Statewide, the summer finished in the warm and wet quadrant. Total summer precipitation was around half an inch greater than average. The temperature was almost 1.5° above average and this summer ranked as the 6th warmest for the state.

[view all quadrant charts](#)



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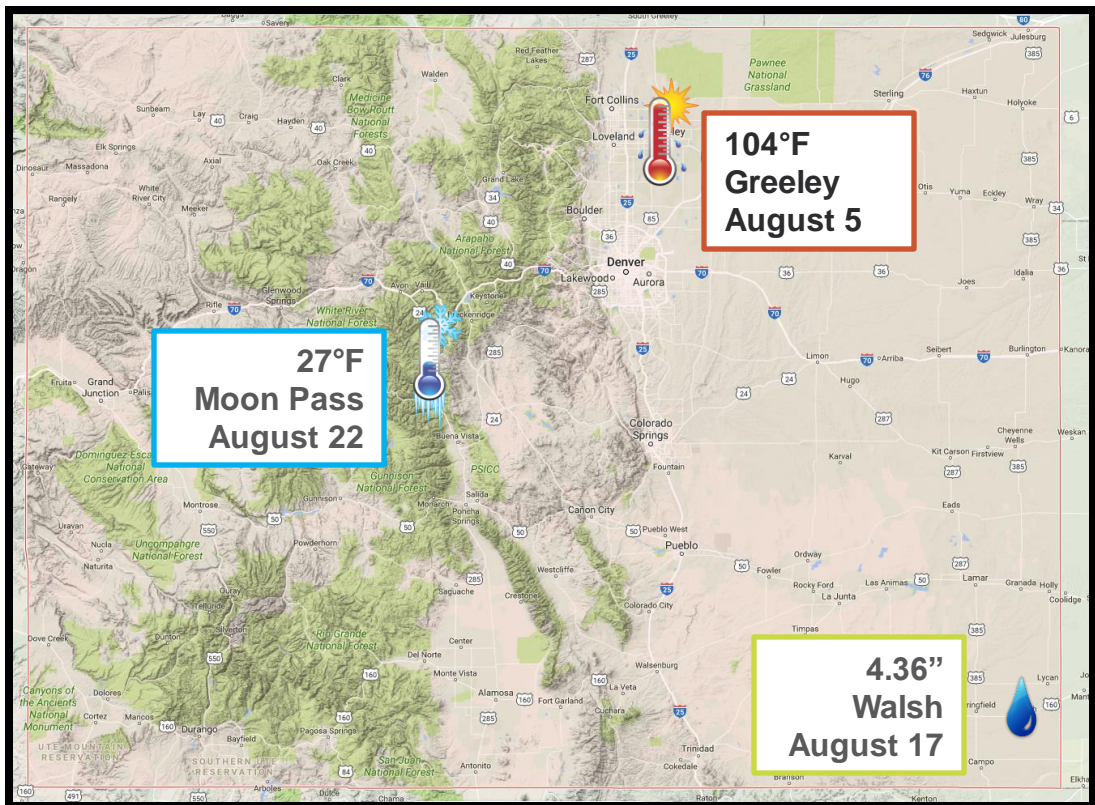


records tied and broken

	High Max	Low Max	High Min	Low Min	Precip	Snow
Daily	25/19	5/61	69/167	4/11	36/103	0/0
Monthly	0/0	1/0	11/5	0/0	2/4	0/0
All-time	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/0

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

state extremes

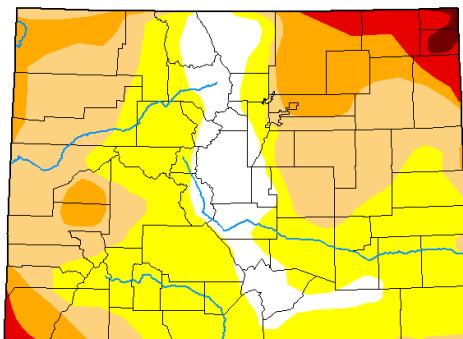


drought

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

August 30, 2022
(Released Thursday, Sep. 1, 2022)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Much of the state saw continued improvement in drought coverage thanks to the active precipitation pattern in August. Much of central CO and the Front Range mountains are now drought free.



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	13.14	86.86	46.41	16.96	4.17	0.59
Last Week 08-23-2022	12.67	87.33	56.65	22.68	4.70	0.58
3 Months Ago 05-31-2022	1.09	98.91	87.50	57.03	15.50	0.99
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2022	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 08-31-2021	49.43	50.57	36.47	24.44	15.05	3.91

Intensity

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme 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 Bathke
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Drought conditions worsened in the northeast corner of the state. D4 drought was introduced into Phillips and Sedgwick counties.

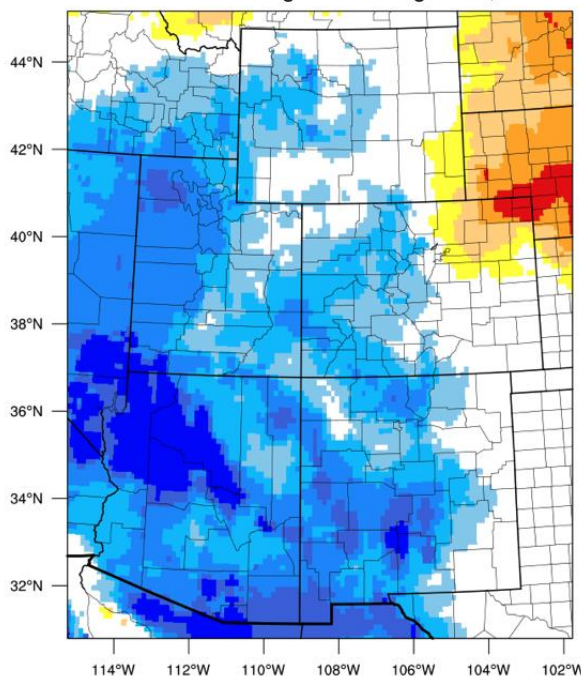
[Colorado Drought Update Page](#)

evaporative demand

Despite the very warm summer temperatures, evaporative demand has remained relatively low for this time of year. This is largely due to consistently higher dewpoints limiting evaporative losses to the atmosphere. The one exception was in northeast CO, where the worst drought conditions were found.

Evaporative demand was very high for August in that area.

1-month EDDI categories for August 29, 2022



Drought categories Wetness categories

ED4 ED3 ED2 ED1 ED0 EW0 EW1 EW2 EW3 EW4

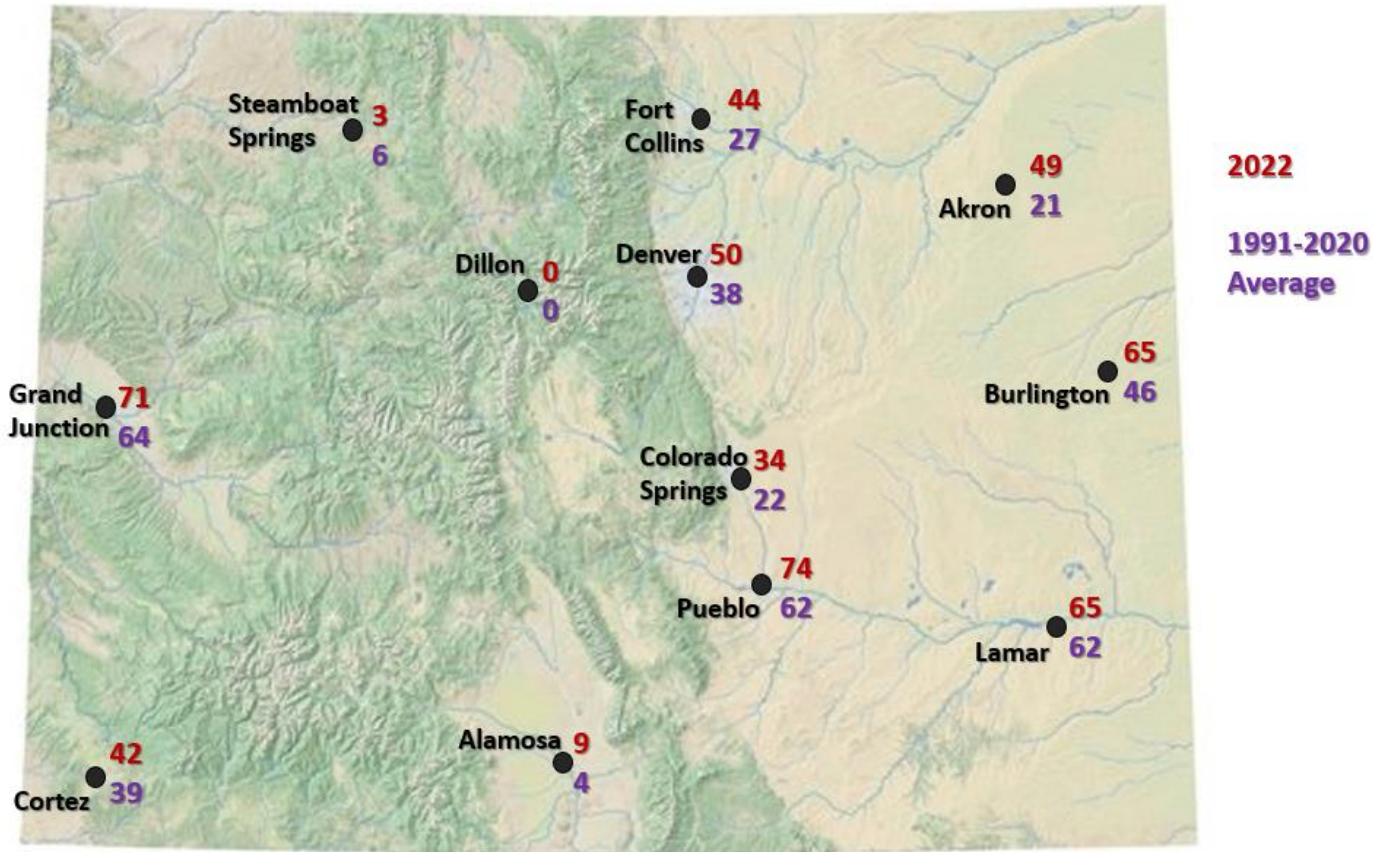
100% 98% 95% 90% 80% 70% 30% 20% 10% 5% 2% 0%
(EDDI-percentile category breaks: 100% = driest; 0% = wettest)

Generated by NOAA/ESRL/Physical Sciences Laboratory



significant events

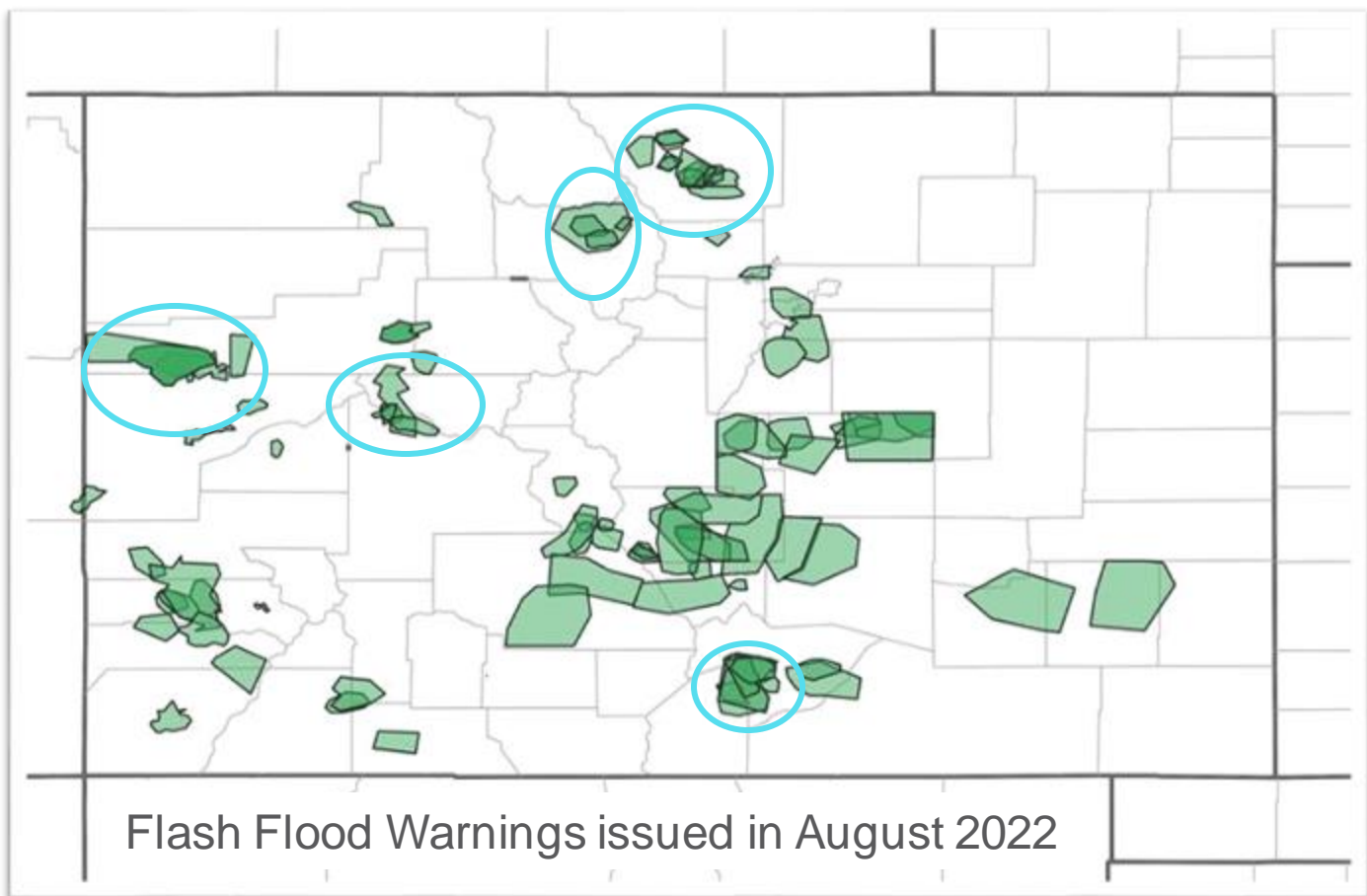
90 Degree Days in 2022 Through August 31st



With the exception of Steamboat Springs, stations all around the state have observed more 90° days than normal, and those numbers will continue to increase into September. Dillon is always a good reminder that many of our mountain locations never get to 90°!

For Grand Junction, this is the 13th time in their 123-year record that they've reached 70 days at or above 90° during the summer. They also reached 100° 13 times through the end of August, the 9th most on record.

significant events



Short bursts of intense precipitation were common in August. 93 flash flood warnings were issued across the state, including a large number over burn scars (outlined in blue). Prior to this year, the most flash flood warnings to be issued in August was 52 in 2013. Total warnings this year is second only to last year (records back to 2008).

Other significant precipitation events included:

- Walsh recorded 4.36" of rain on August 17, which set a new all-time single-day precipitation record at that station, with records back to the 1960s. The previous record was 4.30" on July 8, 1982.
- Alamosa received [1.60" of rain in 37 minutes](#) on August 22. That makes it the 2nd wettest day in their record.
- Denver street flooding on August 7 required 19 people to be rescued from vehicles, including [11 people on I-70](#).

CCC in the news

- ❑ [Why the monsoon doesn't fill reservoirs](#)
 - 9News, August 18, Russ Schumacher
- ❑ [36 ozone alerts beg the question: what can we do?](#)
 - 9News, August 18, Becky Bolinger
- ❑ [As summer temperatures soar, people living on Denver's streets struggle to escape the heat](#)
 - Greeley Tribune, August 14, Peter Goble
- ❑ [Humidity, not the heat, is causing your AC to work overtime](#)
 - Colorado Sun, August 10, Russ Schumacher
- ❑ [Denver deluge dropped 1.76 inches in 26 minutes: "When it does rain, the rain is more intense"](#)
 - The Denver Post, August 8, Russ Schumacher

