

# The Weather Wire

March 2015

Volume 22 Number 3

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## February 2015 Now Snowiest February in Denver History!

February of 2015 monthly snowfall surpassed the long standing record snowfall of 22.1” set over 100 years ago in 1912! At DIA 22.4” of snow was measured for the month with much higher amounts for some of the Denver suburbs in the 25-35” range! Below is the daily breakdown by day for DIA:

DY	MAX	MIN	AVG	DEP	HDD	CDD	WTR	SNW	DPTH	SPD	SPD	DIR	MIN	PSBL	S-S	WX	SPD	DR
1	29	8	19	-12	46	0	0.07	0.9	1	9.3	24	360	M	M	8	18	32	360
2	52	17	35	4	30	0	0.00	0.0	1	9.3	22	270	M	M	5	8	25	270
3	62	33	48	17	17	0	0.00	0.0	T	9.6	26	280	M	M	6		34	290
4	47	22	35	4	30	0	0.10	1.0	0	10.9	35	10	M	M	8	12	43	40
5	63	23	43	12	22	0	0.00	0.0	T	11.0	25	260	M	M	6		29	270
6	70	46	58	27	7	0	0.00	0.0	0	12.0	22	210	M	M	6		26	220
7	74	41	58	27	7	0	0.00	0.0	0	13.6	31	270	M	M	4		40	280
8	67	33	50	19	15	0	0.00	0.0	0	11.6	33	300	M	M	1		41	310
9	70	31	51	20	14	0	0.00	0.0	0	9.0	21	290	M	M	1		26	280
10	59	32	46	15	19	0	0.00	0.0	0	8.6	21	80	M	M	5		26	70
11	48	30	39	7	26	0	T	T	T	6.5	16	210	M	M	5		18	40
12	62	28	45	13	20	0	0.00	0.0	0	10.4	20	210	M	M	6		24	210
13	62	31	47	15	18	0	0.00	0.0	0	9.5	16	210	M	M	3		19	210
14	70	30	50	18	15	0	0.00	0.0	0	7.3	14	260	M	M	5		18	200
15	35	26	31	-1	34	0	0.07	1.0	0	8.9	21	10	M	M	9	18	26	10
16	31	22	27	-5	38	0	0.37	3.8	2	7.8	21	40	M	M	10	128	24	40
17	34	17	26	-7	39	0	0.00	0.0	3	9.3	17	140	M	M	6		19	140
18	47	14	31	-2	34	0	0.00	0.0	T	9.2	15	110	M	M	3		17	200
19	63	22	43	10	22	0	0.00	0.0	0	8.7	20	300	M	M	4		23	300
20	52	29	41	8	24	0	0.01	0.4	0	9.4	25	350	M	M	7	18	30	310
21	33	14	24	-10	41	0	0.19	6.0	1	10.7	44	10	M	M	10	129	36	360
22	15	8	12	-22	53	0	0.15	3.1	6	8.9	16	60	M	M	10	18	19	70
23	21	6	14	-20	51	0	0.03	1.0	9	5.4	14	210	M	M	6	128	17	210
24	38	12	25	-9	40	0	0.00	0.0	5	10.1	18	200	M	M	1		21	210
25	40	16	28	-7	37	0	0.18	2.1	2	12.0	29	30	M	M	9	12	34	30
26	17	4	11	-24	54	0	0.08	2.9	3	11.0	22	160	M	M	9	1289	25	140
27	21	-6	8	-27	57	0	T	0.2	6	8.8	18	200	M	M	5	128	22	200
28	22	0	11	-25	54	0	T	T	4	4.4	9	20	M	M	6	12	11	350
SM	1304	589			864	0	1.25	22.4	263.2				M		164			
AV	46.6	21.0								9.4	FASTST				6	MAX(MPH)		
MISC	----	>	#	44	10					M	M				#	43	40	

STATION: DENVER CO  
 MONTH: FEBRUARY  
 YEAR: 2015  
 LATITUDE: 39 52 N  
 LONGITUDE: 104 40 W

[TEMPERATURE DATA]	[PRECIPITATION DATA]	SYMBOLS USED IN COLUMN 16
AVERAGE MONTHLY: 33.8	TOTAL FOR MONTH: 1.25	1 = FOG OR MIST
DPTR FM NORMAL: 1.3	DPTR FM NORMAL: 0.88	2 = FOG REDUCING VISIBILITY TO 1/4 MILE OR LESS
HIGHEST: 74 ON 7	GRTST 24HR 0.40 ON 15-16	3 = THUNDER
LOWEST: -6 ON 27		4 = ICE PELLETS
	SNOW, ICE PELLETS, HAIL	5 = HAIL
	TOTAL MONTH: 22.4 INCHES	6 = FREEZING RAIN OR DRIZZLE
	GRTST 24HR 6.0 ON 21-21	7 = DUSTSTORM OR SANDSTORM: VSBY 1/2 MILE OR LESS
	GRTST DEPTH: 9 ON 23	8 = SMOKE OR HAZE
		9 = BLOWING SNOW
		X = TORNADO
[NO. OF DAYS WITH]	[WEATHER - DAYS WITH]	
MAX 32 OR BELOW: 7	0.01 INCH OR MORE: 10	
MAX 90 OR ABOVE: 0	0.10 INCH OR MORE: 5	
MIN 32 OR BELOW: 24	0.50 INCH OR MORE: 0	
MIN 0 OR BELOW: 2	1.00 INCH OR MORE: 0	
[HDD (BASE 65) ]		
TOTAL THIS MO. 864	CLEAR (SCALE 0-3) 5	
DPTR FM NORMAL -44	PTCLDY (SCALE 4-7) 15	
TOTAL FM JUL 1 4113	CLOUDY (SCALE 8-10) 8	
DPTR FM NORMAL -326		

There were 13 days during the month with snowfall of a trace or more and 10 days with measureable snow at DIA. Of the 10 days greater than a trace, 6 days reported 1" or more of snow with a maximum of 6" on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Moisture from the 22.4" of snow produced 1.25" of liquid which resulted in a 17.9" snow to 1" water ratio for the month. Spring storms can average between 6-10" snow to 1" of water so the cold temperatures while it was snowing definitely helped produce a "drier" and powdery" snow which easily accumulated all surfaces.

Below are the snow totals for many communities around the Front Range for the month of February.

<b>Fort Collins to Castle Rock</b>	
<b>Location</b>	<b>Feb Total</b>
Arapahoe Park	<b>24.3</b>
Arvada NE	<b>29.0</b>
Aurora Ctrl	<b>22.6</b>
Aurora/Eaglecrest	<b>26.9</b>
Berthoud	<b>20.8</b>
Boulder 1.6 S	<b>49.4</b>
Boulder Central	<b>39.2</b>
Brighton	<b>17.2</b>
Broomfield	<b>29.9</b>
Castle Pines	<b>39.4</b>
Castle Rock - 1 N	<b>26.5</b>
Castle Rock - 3 NE	<b>28.3</b>
Centennial W	<b>28.5</b>

Chatfield 2NW	<b>28.3</b>
Cherry Creek Dam	<b>30.4</b>
Cherry Hills North	<b>23.6</b>
Commerce City NE	<b>23.5</b>
Conifer SW	<b>25.1</b>
Denver - DIA	<b>22.4</b>
Denver - Stapleton	<b>22.7</b>
Denver 2.1 ESE	<b>27.0</b>
Drake WSW	<b>12.2</b>
Elizabeth 2E	<b>21.2</b>
Englewood SE	<b>27.9</b>
Erie WNW	<b>25.8</b>
Estes Park	<b>27.3</b>
Evergreen	<b>24.5</b>
Federal Heights N	<b>31.0</b>
Fort Collins 4E	<b>12.4</b>
Fort Collins CSU	<b>16.9</b>
Fort Collins SW	<b>22.4</b>
Fort Collins WSW	<b>21.1</b>
Glendale	<b>29.1</b>
Golden 2NNW	<b>33.4</b>
Golden SSW	<b>46.5</b>
Greeley 4NW	<b>14.5</b>
Greenwood Village	<b>25.2</b>
Highlands Ranch East	<b>33.6</b>
Ken Caryl Ranch	<b>38.3</b>
Lakewood 6th and Sheridan	<b>23.3</b>
Lakewood 6th and Simms	<b>30.6</b>
Lakewood Cntrl	<b>25.0</b>
Lakewood Grn Mtn	<b>32.6</b>
Larkspur	<b>40.3</b>
Lafayette	<b>29.0</b>
Littleton	<b>31.4</b>
Littleton NE	<b>28.3</b>
Littleton SW	<b>37.0</b>
Lone Tree	<b>31.1</b>
Longmont 2NE	<b>21.5</b>
Longmont West	<b>22.9</b>
Louisville	<b>33.0</b>
Marston Reservoir	<b>30.6</b>
Loveland	<b>22.6</b>
Morrison	<b>33.8</b>
Nederland	<b>42.3</b>
Niwot	<b>23.3</b>
Northglenn S	<b>28.2</b>
Parker	<b>22.5</b>

Roxborough Park	<b>37.7</b>
Sedalia 5SSE	<b>30.6</b>
Thornton 2N	<b>26.5</b>
Watkins SE	<b>13.2</b>
Westminster	<b>31.0</b>
Wheat Ridge	<b>29.6</b>
Windsor SW	<b>19.0</b>
<b>Monument to Pueblo</b>	
<b>Location</b>	<b>Feb Total</b>
Black Forest SW	<b>21.8</b>
Canon City	<b>12.9</b>
Canon City N	<b>16.5</b>
Canon City NW	<b>16.7</b>
Canon City SE	<b>18.1</b>
Cimarron Hills	<b>24.4</b>
Colorado Springs Airport	<b>16.6</b>
Colo Sprgs W FD#18	<b>21.3</b>
Colo Sprgs N FD #19	<b>20.8</b>
Colo Sprgs W FD#20/6NE	<b>20.0</b>
Colo Springs S FD HQ	<b>17.4</b>
Colo Springs S	<b>25.3</b>
Colo Springs 5.7 WNW	<b>29.3</b>
Colo Springs 3 NE	<b>19.9</b>
Falcon 2.3 NNE	<b>13.8</b>
Fountain E	<b>16.6</b>
Gleneagle	<b>19.5</b>
Manitou Springs East	<b>23.9</b>
Monument Hill	<b>26.5</b>
Penrose NW	<b>20.6</b>
Penrose ESE	<b>11.9</b>
Pueblo NWS	<b>23.5</b>
Pueblo 2E	<b>15.5</b>
Pueblo WSW	<b>19.3</b>
Pueblo W	<b>13.2</b>
Pueblo SW	<b>16.4</b>
Pueblo N	<b>20.3</b>
Woodland Park	<b>25.5</b>

## Is February Becoming Our “New” March?

With 2 of the top 3 February snowfall records in just the past 4 years is February becoming our new March? March is well known as a month with heavy snowfall potential but since 2012 there has been more snow in February on average than in March. Even though DIA set the all time record snowfall for February this year many locations actually received more snow in 2012 than in 2015. Below are the February and March snowfall totals since 2012. (Averages for February = 4years, Average for March = 3years).

Location	Feb 2012	Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Feb 2015	Avg Feb	Avg Mar
Arvada	25.8	TR	15.7	21.8	3.0	4.2	29.0	18.4	8.7
Aurora Ctrl	16.8	0.2	9.9	17.3	2.8	7.0	22.6	13.0	8.2
Aurora/Eaglecrest	20.8	0.6	14.5	19.8	4.9	9.2	26.9	16.8	9.9
Black Forest SW	19.9	1.2	17.4	9.9	6.9	11.5	21.8	16.5	7.5
Boulder 1.6 S	32.0	TR	18.2	22.9	8.4	11.1	49.4	27.0	11.3
Brighton	18.9	0.2	12.8	18.6	3.1	4.6	17.2	13.0	7.8
Broomfield	26.8	TR	10.7	21.5	3.0	10.2	29.9	17.6	10.6
Castle Pines	39.5	1.0	24.9	23.4	5.4	17.3	39.4	27.3	13.9
Castle Rock - 1 N	28.1	1.0	17.7	15.4	3.8	12.4	26.5	19.0	9.6
Castle Rock - 3 NE	30.3	1.2	16.1	17.5	3.9	13.3	28.3	19.7	10.7
Centennial	31.2	0.3	21.1	21.2	4.5	11.2	28.5	21.3	10.9
Chatfield 2NW	30.8	0.2	16.1	19.1	2.0	9.7	28.3	19.3	9.7
Cherry Creek Dam	25.7	0.2	14.6	19.5	3.8	7.2	30.4	18.6	9.0
Cherry Hills North	28.5	0.2	13.0	18.3	2.3	5.3	23.6	16.9	7.9
Colo Sprgs N FD #19	10.4	0.6	11.8	5.0	7.0	5.7	20.8	12.5	3.8
Colo Sprgs W FD#18	12.1	0.5	11.9	5.7	9.0	5.0	21.3	13.6	3.7
Colo Springs WNW	9.2	0.7	10.2	5.9	7.2	7.4	29.3	14.0	4.7
Colo Springs S	6.1	1.1	9.9	4.1	5.3	4.3	25.3	11.7	3.2
Colo Springs NE	10.5	0.3	11.2	5.1	5.7	5.2	20.0	11.9	3.5
Colo Springs FD HQ	6.1	0.5	9.7	3.9	3.9	3.8	17.4	9.3	2.7
Colo Springs Airport	4.9	0.7	10.6	4.1	2.0	2.8	16.6	8.5	2.5
Conifer 3SW	38.0	0.8	35.1	19.6	2.4	18.0	25.1	25.2	12.8
Denver - DIA	20.2	TR	14.1	23.5	3.2	6.0	22.4	15.0	9.8
Denver - Stapleton	18.3	TR	12.0	16.2	3.4	5.0	22.7	14.1	7.1
Denver 2.1 ESE	25.7	0.3	15.2	20.8	4.4	7.2	27.0	18.1	9.4
Elizabeth 2E	35.2	1.0	15.9	25.0	5.5	8.8	21.2	19.5	11.6
Estes Park*	18.8	0.3	7.9	13.5	11.0	15.9	27.3	16.3	9.9
Evergreen 1S	31.7	1.0	29.5	15.9	3.4	16.9	24.5	22.3	11.3
Falcon 2.3 NNE	14.3	1.0	7.8	5.9	1.0	4.2	13.8	9.2	3.7
Fort Collins 4E	7.5	0.2	7.3	8.2	4.6	2.9	12.4	8.0	3.8
Fort Collins CSU	14.7	TR	10.6	11.2	5.0	4.5	16.9	11.8	5.2
Fort Collins SW	18.0	1.0	13.0	16.3	5.8	5.7	22.4	14.8	7.7
Fort Collins WSW	17.4	TR	15.2	17.4	6.2	7.1	21.1	15.0	8.2
Glendale	26.8	0.2	10.7	16.2	4.1	6.1	29.1	17.7	7.5
Gleneagle	17.4	0.6	19.0	10.3	4.1	10.4	19.5	15.0	7.1
Golden	33.2	0.4	21.3	26.6	4.7	11.9	33.4	23.2	13.0
Greeley 4NW	6.0	0.4	8.9	10.7	3.5	2.8	14.5	8.2	4.6
Greenwood Village	30.4	0.5	16.3	18.5	2.4	7.7	25.2	18.6	8.9
Highlands Ranch East	34.7	0.3	21.7	22.9	4.7	14.0	33.6	23.7	12.4
Ken Caryl Ranch	36.5	TR	20.9	25.5	2.5	11.5	38.3	24.6	12.3

Lakewd 6th/Sheridan	23.0	0.3	13.1	16.4	3.4	6.8	23.3	15.7	7.8
Lakewood 6th/Simms	32.6	0.1	13.9	20.0	4.3	9.7	30.6	20.4	9.9
Lakewood Cntrl	26.0	0.2	14.1	15.0	3.4	8.6	25.0	17.1	7.9
Lakewood Grn Mtn	35.4	0.3	18.4	21.5	4.6	12.2	32.6	22.8	11.3
Lafayette	1.7	TR	11.8	20.6	3.1	6.7	29.0	11.4	9.1
Littleton	33.7	0.3	19.0	19.0	3.3	10.2	31.4	21.9	9.8
Littleton NE	32.8	0.2	14.4	20.3	3.5	7.3	28.3	19.8	9.3
Littleton SW*	37.9	0.3	23.7	22.8	4.2	15.1	37.0	25.7	12.7
Lone Tree	30.9	0.3	18.5	22.6	3.2	11.2	31.1	20.9	11.4
Longmont 2NE	17.0	TR	12.5	13.7	4.6	2.4	21.5	13.9	5.4
Longmont West	18.2	TR	10.1	12.2	3.9	3.0	22.9	13.8	5.1
Louisville	27.4	TR	13.3	22.3	4.2	7.3	33.0	19.5	9.9
Loveland	16.0	0.2	14.4	15.0	4.4	4.1	22.6	14.4	6.4
Monument Hill	27.1	2.1	27.5	14.4	7.1	16.5	26.5	22.1	11.0
Morrison	33.7	0.3	21.0	25.0	5.0	14.7	33.8	23.4	13.3
Nederland	50.9	0.3	28.2	23.9	26.8	21.8	42.3	37.1	15.3
Niwot	23.3	TR	12.0	15.6	3.8	3.7	23.3	15.6	6.4
Parker	23.2	0.3	17.5	16.8	3.0	10.8	22.5	16.6	9.3
Roxborough Park	40.9	0.7	24.0	26.6	3.4	17.5	37.7	26.5	14.9
Sedalia 5SSE	28.9	1.0	21.0	11.0	3.2	12.8	30.6	20.9	8.3
Thornton	22.0	0.3	14.6	27.3	2.9	7.3	26.5	16.5	11.6
Westminster	28.2	0.1	16.1	24.0	3.8	10.1	31.0	19.8	11.4
Wheat Ridge	30.9	0.2	16.8	21.0	6.5	8.2	29.6	21.0	9.8
Windsor SW	10.4	0.3	12.3	12.7	2.7	1.3	19.0	11.1	4.8

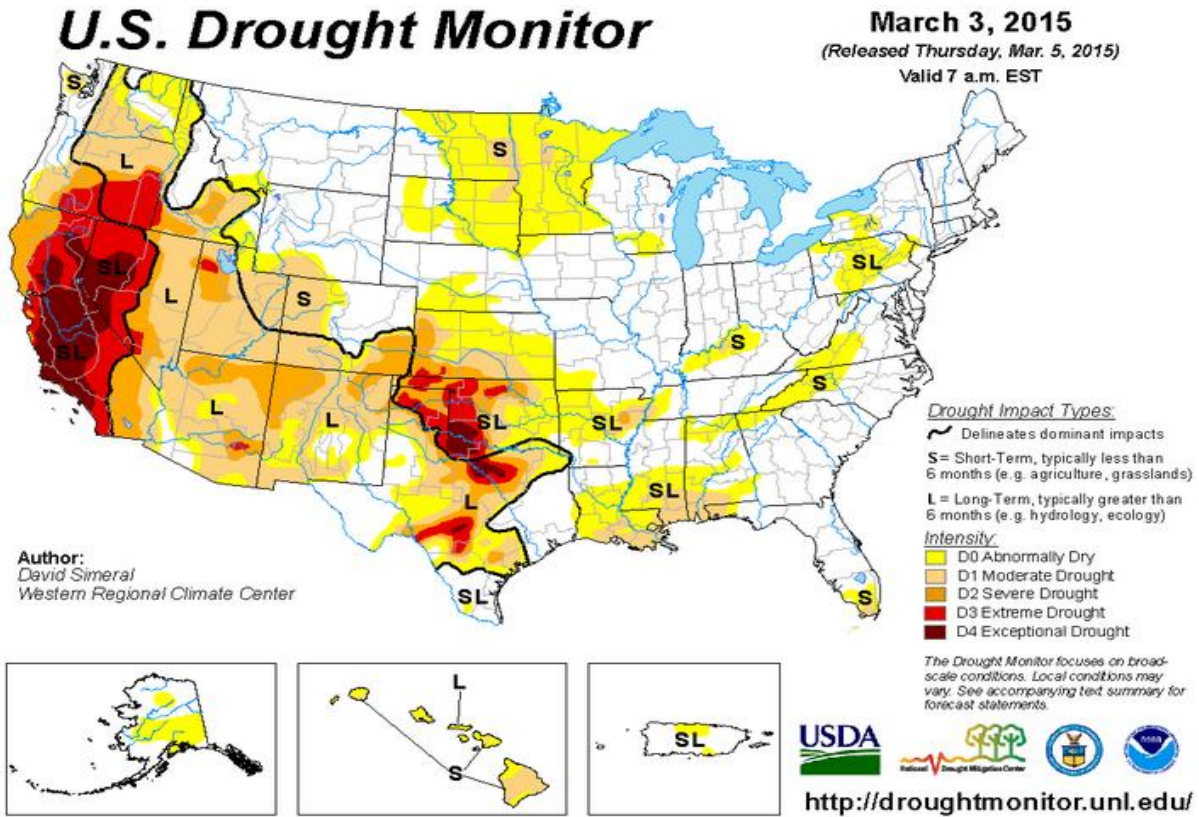
With such a small sample size we cannot come to the conclusion that February is now snowier than March but since 2012 nobody can argue that February has produced more snow on average. What do we expect for this March? Well... For March of 2015 we have equal chances for above and below normal precipitation which typically means that March will end up somewhere near normal in snowfall, but all it takes is one "big" storm to make or break a month.

Remember that Skyview Weather snow totals are not official snow fall totals and typically contain estimates for missing or partial data but are a good representation of snowfall for a particular area.

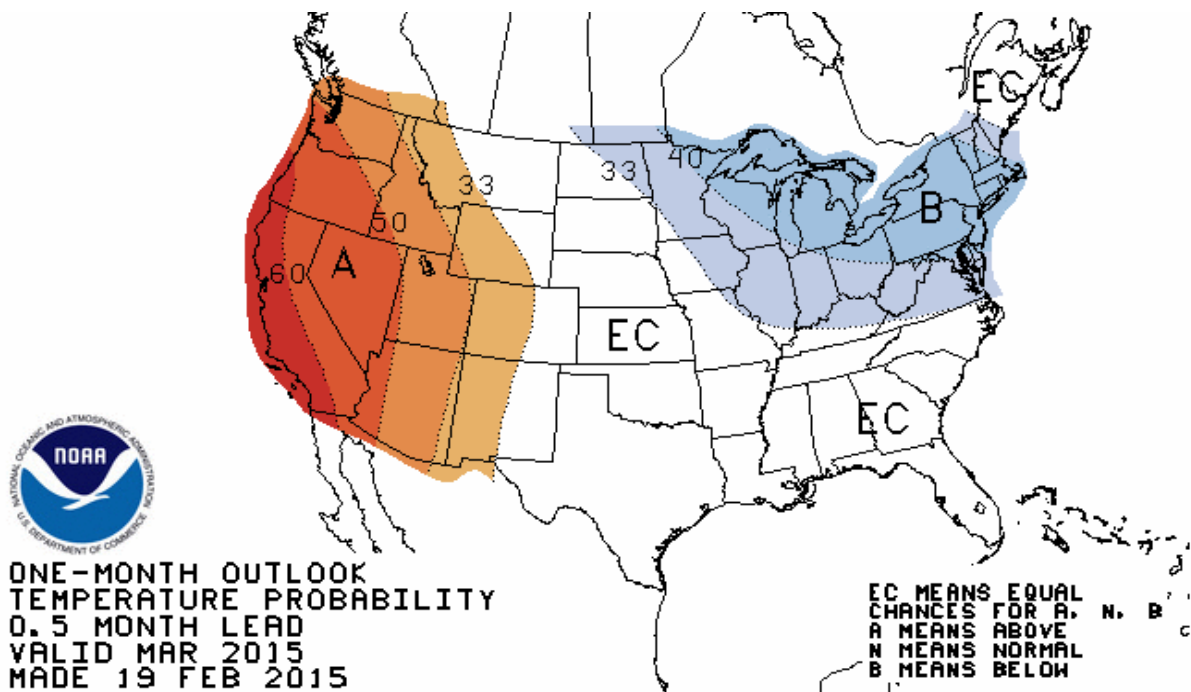


# Drought Update

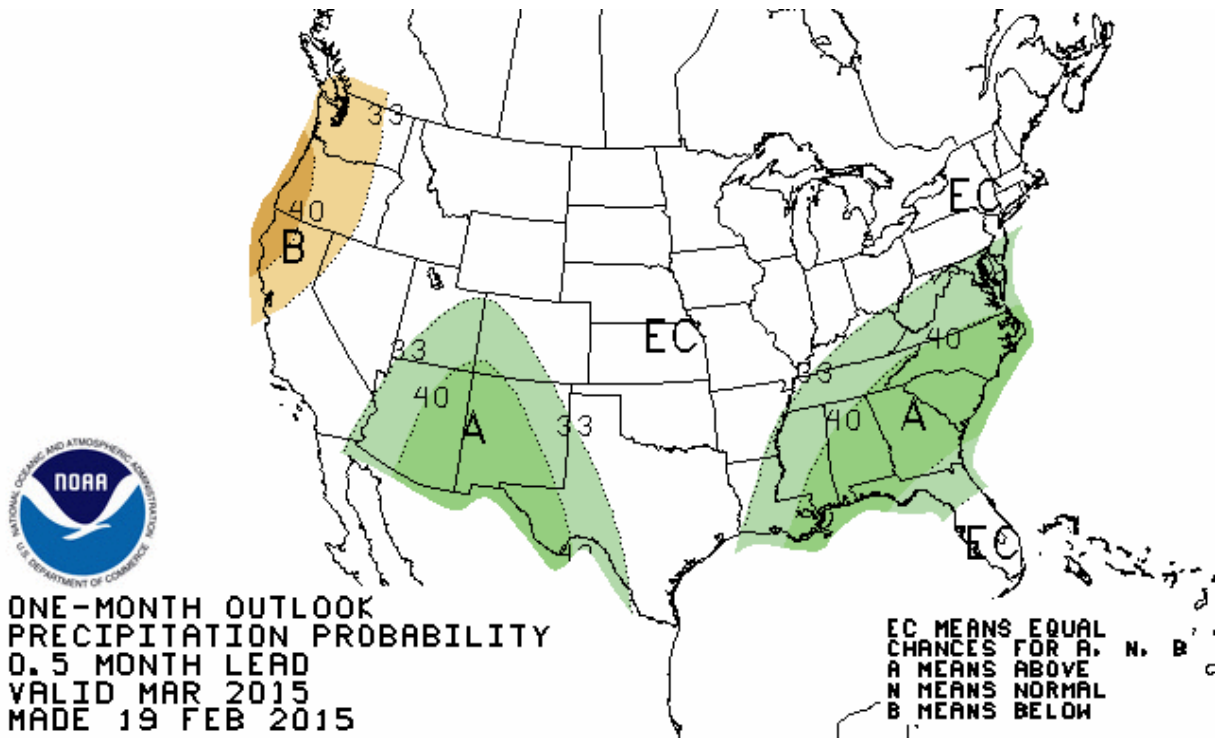
Drought severity has eased over portions of AZ and NM with exceptional drought over a large area of CA/NV persisting. Drought free conditions over NE Colorado with moderate drought over the W and SE portions of the state.



The map below shows forecasted temperature deviances for March 2015. There is a bias towards above normal temperatures over western Colorado and equal chances for above and below normal temperatures for areas east of the Continental Divide.



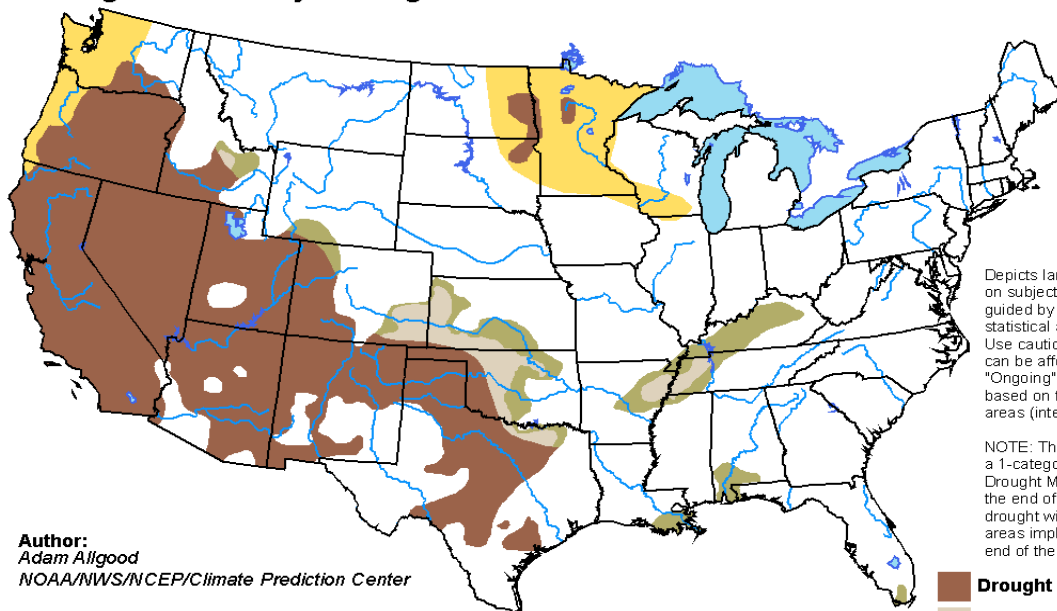
The map below shows forecasted precipitation deviances for March 2015. Equal chances for above or below normal precipitation is forecast for NE Colorado.



Drought conditions are forecast to improve over SE Colorado. Drought looks to persist or intensify over the west Coast inland through the Great Basin as well as western Colorado.

**U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook**  
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for February 19 - May 31, 2015  
Released February 19, 2015

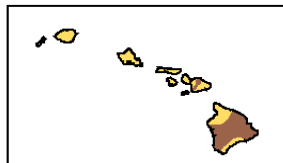
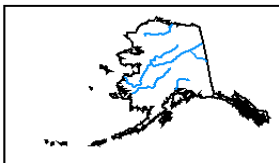


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:  
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NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

- Drought persists/intensifies
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/hHTe>



## February Summary

Of 2015 will go down as the snowiest February in Denver history and resulted in a greater than 6" snow deficit at the start of the month being erased with a greater than 10" surplus at month's end. 22.4" of snow was measured at DIA but many other Denver suburbs reported even higher amounts. Despite all of the snow the month ended up with above normal temperatures, mainly due to record breaking heat early on in February. The average high was 46.6 degrees compared to 46.2 on average. The average low for the month was 21 degrees, about 2 degrees above the normal of 18.9 degrees. The average monthly highs and lows combined to produce a monthly mean temperature of 33.8 degrees which was 1.3 degrees above the normal of 32.5 degrees. There were multiple high temperature records broken during the month on 2/6, and 2/7 with record high minimum temperatures on those same days. Most of the month was abnormally warm or cold with very few days actually being near normal. With all of the snow the precipitation for the month was well above normal at 1.25" compared to only 0.37" on average. For the year now DIA has tallied 1.63" of moisture which results in a surplus of 0.85" for the year so far. There was an abnormally high amount of days with fog producing low visibility with 8 days reported at DIA with visibility of ¼ mile or less. Typically there are only 2 days during the month with heavy fog. Additional February information can be found in the newsletter article.

*Note: The 0.3"(1/31) and 0.9"(2/1) from the storm on January 31<sup>st</sup> into the pre dawn hours on February 1<sup>st</sup> are combined for snow totals for DIA on our snow reports and will result in a surplus for January snow and a deficit for February snow if you are logging totals from our individual storm reports.*

## February Stats

### TEMPERATURE (IN DEGREES F)

AVERAGE MAX	46.6	NORMAL 46.2	DEPARTURE 0.4
AVERAGE MIN	21.0	NORMAL 18.9	DEPARTURE 2.1
MONTHLY MEAN	33.8	NORMAL 32.5	DEPARTURE 1.3
HIGHEST	74 on the 7 <sup>th</sup>		
LOWEST	-6 on the 27 <sup>th</sup>		

DAYS WITH MAX 90 OR ABOVE	0	NORMAL	0
DAYS WITH MAX 32 OR BELOW	7	NORMAL	4
DAYS WITH MIN 32 OR BELOW	24	NORMAL	27
DAYS WITH MIN ZERO OR BELOW	2	NORMAL	1

### TEMPERATURE RECORDS

2/6- Record High of 70 and Record High Min of 46 degrees

2/7- Record high of 74 and Record High Min of 41 degrees

### HEATING DEGREE DAYS

MONTHLY TOTAL	864	NORMAL 908	DEPARTURE -44
SEASONAL TOTAL	4113	NORMAL 4439	DEPARTURE -326

### COOLING DEGREE DAYS

MONTHLY TOTAL	0	NORMAL 0	DEPARTURE 0
YEARLY TOTAL	0	NORMAL 0	DEPARTURE 0

### PRECIPITATION (IN INCHES)

MONTHLY TOTAL	1.25	NORMAL 0.37	DEPARTURE 0.88
YEARLY TOTAL	1.63	NORMAL 0.78	DEPARTURE 0.85
GREATEST IN 24 HOURS	2/15-2/16		
DAYS WITH MEASURABLE PRECIP.	10		

### SNOWFALL (IN INCHES)

MONTHLY TOTAL	22.4	NORMAL 5.7	DEPARTURE 16.7
SEASONAL TOTAL	45.6	NORMAL 35.2	DEPARTURE 10.4
GREATEST IN 24 HOURS	6.0" on the 21 <sup>st</sup>		
GREATEST DEPTH	9" on the 23 <sup>rd</sup>		

### WIND (IN MILES PER HOUR)

AVERAGE SPEED	9.4mph
PEAK WIND GUST	43mph from the NNE

### MISCELLANEOUS WEATHER

NUMBER OF DAYS WITH THUNDERSTORM	0	NORMAL	0
NUMBER OF DAYS WITH HEAVY FOG	8	NORMAL	2
NUMBER OF DAYS WITH HAIL	0		
NUMBER OF SUNNY DAYS	5		
NUMBER OF PARTLY CLOUDY DAYS	15		
NUMBER OF CLOUDY DAYS	8		
AVERAGE RELATIVE HUMIDITY	60%		

## March Preview

Almost any kind of weather can occur in March whether it is snow, rain, sleet, graupel or even thunderstorms. March is best known as a Denver's "snowiest" month of the year with 10.7" of snow on average. Precipitation in general increases with 0.92" of moisture on average. Most of us have lived through some March extremes with the snowiest March ever in 2003 at 35.2" (most of which was from a single storm) and the least snowiest in 2012 with only a trace. Towards the end of the month it is common for storms to begin as rain lower elevations then change over to snow as the storm progresses. Snow accumulations pavement become less and less likely with snow storms as more sunshine begins to warm the ground. There is a time change on the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month but sunrise on March 1<sup>st</sup> is 6:34am and sunset is 5:51pm. By month's end the sun rises at 6:47am and sets at 7:22pm which equates to 78 additional minutes of sunshine. With the extra sun the temperatures begin to warm with average highs to start the month at 50 degrees and by month's end are at 58 degrees. Average lows also change 8 degrees starting the month at 22 degrees and ending the month with an average low of 30. Temperatures below zero can occur but become less and less common. The record low for the month of March is -11 degrees with a record high of 84 degrees (95 degree temperature spread). March of 2015 is expected to be near normal in temperature and near normal to slightly above normal in precipitation and snowfall.

### DENVER'S MARCH CLIMATOLOGICALLY NORMAL (NORMAL PERIOD 1981-2010 DIA Data)

#### TEMPERATURE

AVERAGE HIGH	54.4
AVERAGE LOW	26.4
MONTHLY MEAN	40.4
DAYS WITH HIGH 90 OR ABOVE	0
DAYS WITH HIGH 32 OR BELOW	2
DAYS WITH LOW 32 OR BELOW	24
DAYS WITH LOWS ZERO OR BELOW	0

#### PRECIPITATION

MONTHLY MEAN	0.92"
DAYS WITH MEASURABLE PRECIPITATION	6
AVERAGE SNOWFALL IN INCHES	10.7"
DAYS WITH 1.0 INCH OF SNOW OR MORE	NA

#### MISCELLANEOUS AVERAGES

HEATING DEGREE DAYS	763
COOLING DEGREE DAYS	0
WIND SPEED (MPH)	9.7mph
WIND DIRECTION	South
DAYS WITH THUNDERSTORMS	<0
DAYS WITH DENSE FOG	1
PERCENT OF SUNSHINE POSSIBLE	69%

## EXTREMES

RECORD HIGH	84 on 3/26/1971
RECORD LOW	-11 on 3/28/1886
WARMEST	50.4 in 1910
COLDEST	26.4 in 1912
WETTEST	4.56" in 1983
DRIEST	0.11" In 1908
SNOWIEST	35.2" in 2003
LEAST SNOWIEST	TR in 2012

## Snowfall

### September 2014 to April 2015

City	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
Aurora (Central)	0.0	0.0	5.5	8.4	15.4	22.6			51.9
Brighton	0.0	0.0	2.7	8.2	3.5	17.2			31.6
Broomfield	0.2	0.0	5.6	11.8	11.6	29.9			59.1
Castle Rock	0.1	0.2	7.0	12.4	17.0	28.3			64.9
Colo Sprgs Airport	0.0	0.0	6.8	4.2	14.4	16.6			42.0
Denver DIA	TR	0.0	4.0	12.0	7.2	21.5			44.7
Denver Downtown	0.0	0.0	5.0	9.7	15.8	27.0			57.5
Golden	0.1	0.0	9.5	13.5	11.1	33.4			67.6
Fort Collins	0.0	0.0	4.9	10.2	2.2	16.9			34.2
Highlands Ranch	0.1	0.0	7.8	15.6	18.4	33.6			75.5
Lakewood	0.0	0.0	5.3	10.7	12.2	25.0			53.2
Littleton	TR	0.0	6.3	13.2	10.2	31.4			61.1
Parker	TR	TR	6.5	12.4	17.0	22.5			58.4
Sedalia - Hwy 67	0.1	0.0	6.7	17.5	17.5	30.6			72.4
Thornton	0.0	0.0	4.1	9.4	8.9	26.5			48.9
Westminster	TR	0.0	6.3	12.8	13.4	31.0			63.5
Wheat Ridge	0.0	0.0	6.4	12.0	11.8	29.6			59.8

*Note(italics): The 0.3"(1/31) and 0.9"(2/1) from the storm on January 31<sup>st</sup> into the pre dawn hours on February 1<sup>st</sup> are combined for snow totals for DIA on our snow reports and will result in a surplus for January snow and a deficit for February snow if you are logging totals from our individual storm reports.*

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