

April 2022 Climate Summary for the Denver Area

Very Dry and Windy

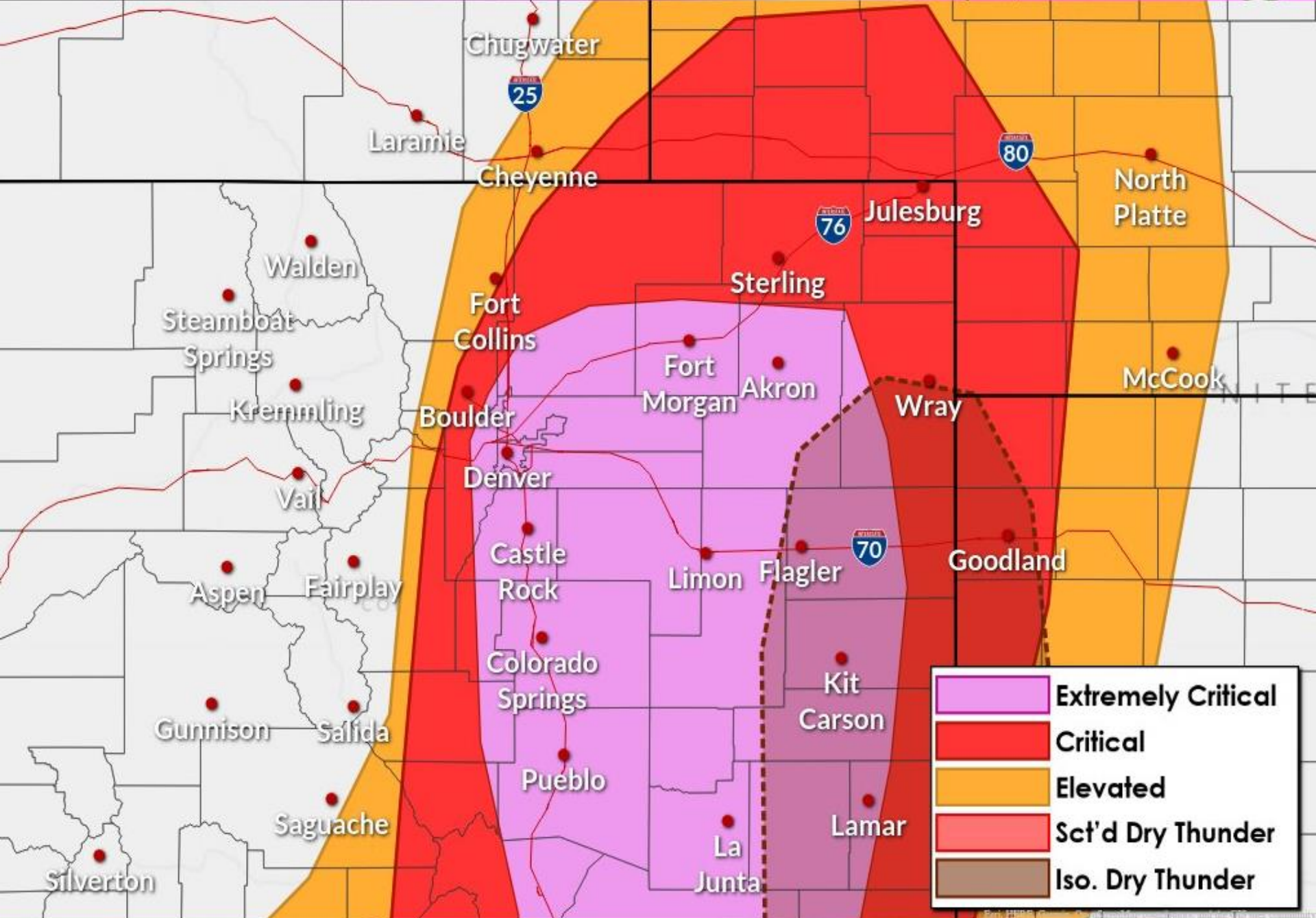
After a cool and wet start to the year, April turned windy and very dry as the storm track shifted north of Colorado. This most likely is due to extended La Nina conditions which typically leads to below normal precipitation across Northeastern Colorado. Several large storm systems tracked across the Northern Rockies and Great Plains during the month producing blizzard conditions to the Dakotas and wind and dust across the plains of Colorado.

Denver ended up with a meager 0.06 inches for the month which makes this the third driest April in Denver weather history, going all the way back to 1872. The very dry weather combined with windy conditions also resulted in heightened fire danger across the plains, Palmer Divide and portions of the foothills through much of the month.

The Denver/Boulder Forecast Office issued 16 Red Flag Warnings during the month which is the most for any month since the product has been issued. The most extreme fire weather conditions occurred on the 22nd due to strong winds, very low relative humidity and hot temperatures. Fortunately, there were only a few small fire starts which were put out quickly.



View taking off from DIA afternoon of April 22nd with blowing dust and strong winds across eastern Colorado
Photo taken by Matthew Brothers



	Extremely Critical
	Critical
	Elevated
	Sc't'd Dry Thunder
	Iso. Dry Thunder



3HR Peak Winds (mph)

April 22nd 2022

Bennett
Adams 5239ft

64

Cheesman	62	Limon	60
Red Cliff Pass	58	Akron	58
Jefferson	57	I-76 Sterling	56
Denver Intl Airport	55	7.7 NW Boyero	51
Big Ten Curve	51	Wilkerson Pass	51
Lafayette	51	Loveland Pass	51
Hugo	50	I-70 Copper Mtn	50
US 85 Wyoming Border	50	US 385 Holyoke	50
Littleton C470/Wadsworth	50	Guffey	49
Hugo	49	Cedar Point	49
Bennett	49	Berthoud Pass	48
Monument Elbert	47	7 WNW Simla	47
Strasburg	47	6 E of Silverthorne I-70	47
Holyoke Airport	46	Fort Morgan	46
Kremmling Awos	46	Elizabeth	46
I-76 Merino exit	46	Rocky Flats Hwy 93 and 72	46
Berthoud	46	I-76 Julesburg	46
Kenosha Pass	45	Surrey Ridge	45
I-70 at C470	45	Longmont	44

TEMPERATURES:

The average temperature at Denver International Airport for the month of April was 48.2 degrees F. which is 0.4 degrees above the normal of 47.8 degrees. The max temperature during the month was 89 degrees on the 22nd which set a new record for the date. The previous record high was 88 degrees set back in 1989. The min temperature for the month was 10 degrees on the morning of the 13th. This set a new record low for the month which previously was 15 degrees set back in 2020.

TEN WARMEST APRIL AVERAGE TEMPERATURES IN DENVER WEATHER HISTORY: SINCE 1872: DEGREES F

56.4 – 1981
56.3 – 1946
55.5 – 1930
55.3 – 1943
54.8 – 1992
53.8 – 1881
53.6 – 1954
53.3 - 2012, 1888
53.2 - 1948

TEN COLDEST APRIL AVERAGE TEMPERATURES IN DENVER WEATHER HISTORY: SINCE 1872: DEGREES F

38.8 – 1920
40.5 – 1997
41.0 – 1983
41.1 – 1873
41.4 – 1957
41.7 – 2013
42.2 – 1945
42.3 – 1984
42.5 – 1899
42.6 - 1918

PRECIPITATION:

Denver measured only 0.06 inches of precipitation during the month. This makes April 2022 the third driest April in Denver Weather History. The normal precipitation from the official NCEI 1991-2020 period is 1.68 inches.

TEN WETTEST APRIL TOTALS IN DENVER WEATHER HISTORY SINCE 1872: INCHES:

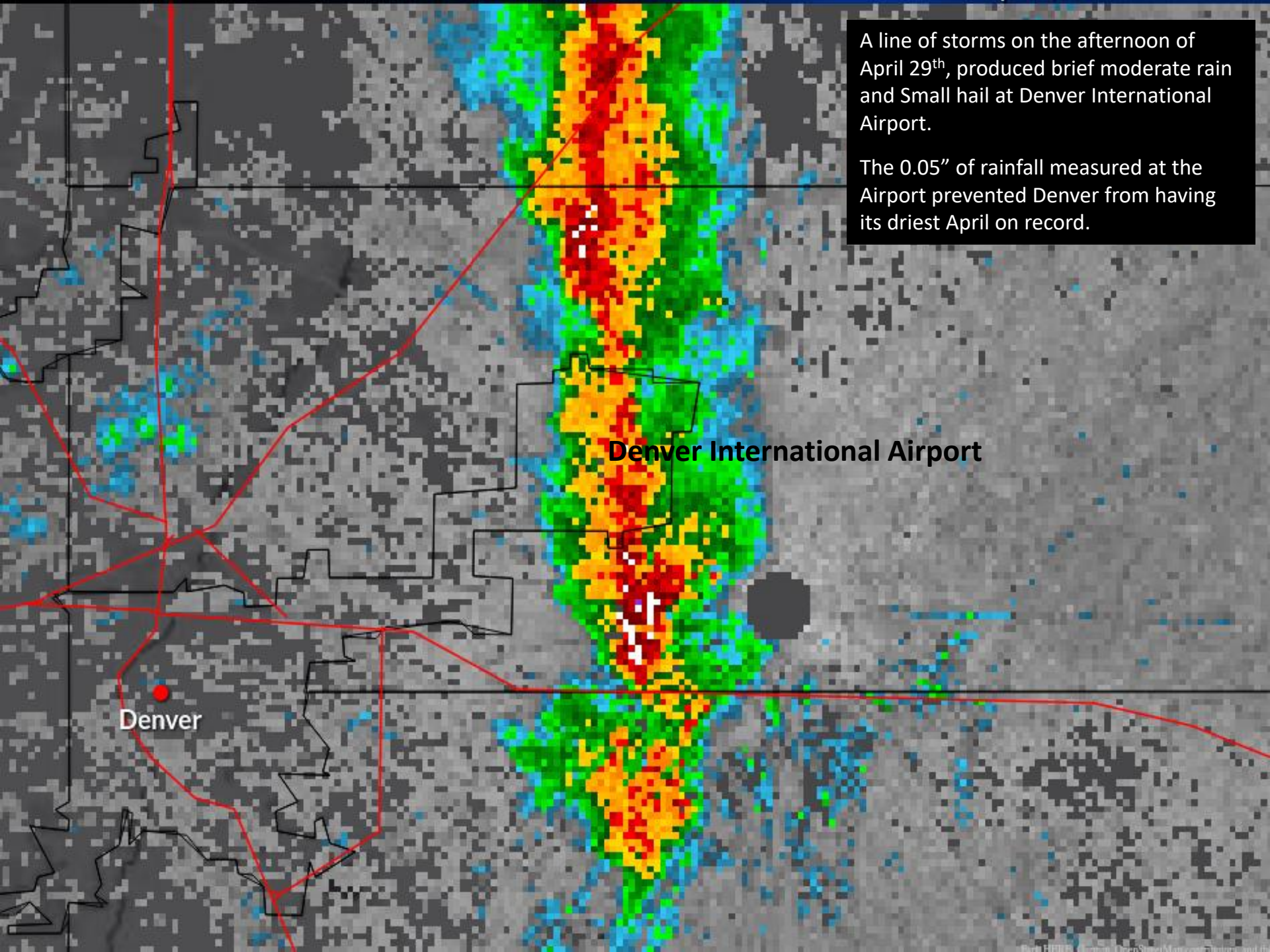
8.24 – 1900
5.86 – 1999
4.95 – 1905
4.94 – 1885
4.13 – 1957
4.09 – 1933
4.07 – 1935
4.01 – 1942
3.95 – 1967
3.75 - 1914

TEN DRIEST APRIL TOTALS IN DENVER WEATHER HISTORY SINCE 1872: INCHES:

0.03 – 1963
0.05 – 1878
0.06 -- 2022
0.23 – 2002
0.31 – 1880
0.32 – 2008
0.33 – 1996
0.34 – 1982
0.39 – 1908
0.40 – 1925

A line of storms on the afternoon of April 29th, produced brief moderate rain and Small hail at Denver International Airport.

The 0.05" of rainfall measured at the Airport prevented Denver from having its driest April on record.



Denver International Airport

Denver



12HR Peak Winds (mph)

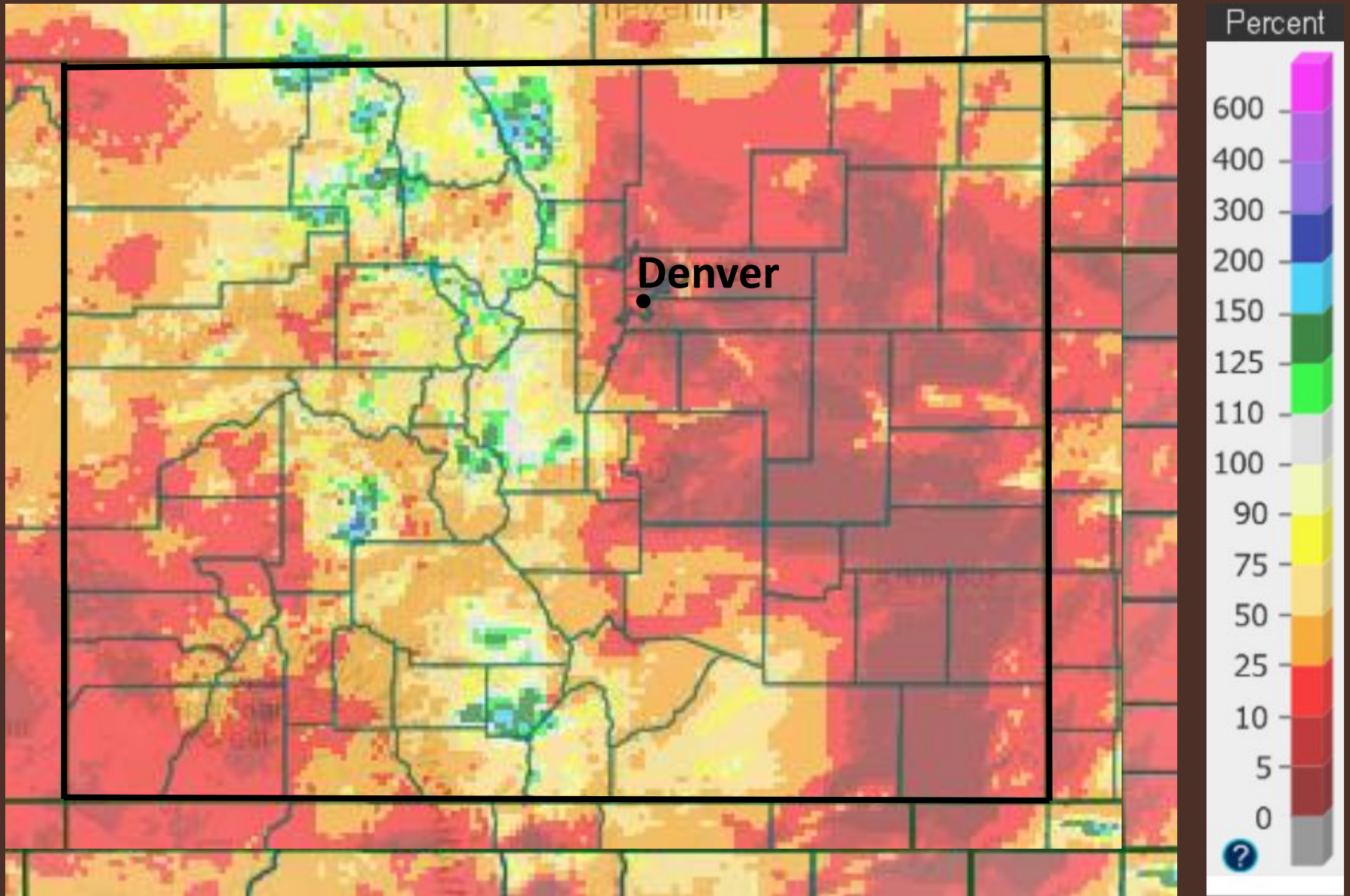
April 29th 2022

Broomfield Rocky Mtn Metro Airport Jefferson 5541ft

82

Rocky Flats Hwy 93 and 72	72	Buckeye	69
Dakota Hill	64	Sunshine	64
I-25 and Buckeye Rd	64	Genesee	64
Wondervu	63	Berthoud Pass	61
Nederland	61	Limon	60
Akron	60	I-70 Floyd Hill	60
I-70 at C470	60	Boulder	58
Centennial Airport	58	Boulder Fairview	58
Eaton	58	Castle Rock	57
Boulder US 36/Baseline Rd	57	Denver I-70/Colorado Blvd	57
Fort Morgan	56	Red Cliff Pass	56
Lakewood	56	Nederland	56
Christman Air Field	56	Hugo	56
Ward	56	Cedar Point	56
Westminster	56	Lyons	55
Hugo	55	Livermore	55
Thornton I-25/84th Ave	55	I-25 and C470	55
Denver I-25/University Blvd	55	Virginia Dale	55
Monument Elbert	54	Lafayette	54

April, 2022 Monthly Percent of Normal Precipitation



April 2022 was a very dry month across all of Northeastern Colorado including the Denver Metro Area. As can be seen on this graphic, most areas east of the mountains received less than 25 percent of their normal April rainfall with many areas measuring less than 10 percent of average.

SNOWFALL:

A trace of snow fell during April 2022 which ties for the 5th least snowiest April on record. The normal snowfall for Denver from the official NCEI 1991-2020 period is 6.1 inches.

TEN HIGHEST SNOW TOTALS FOR APRILS IN DENVER WEATHER HISTORY: INCHES

33.8 – 1933

32.0 – 1885

28.3 – 1920

28.2 – 1954

25.5 – 1957

25.4 – 1909

25.0 – 1907

24.8 – 1973

23.3 – 1935

21.0 - 1922

FOURTEEN LEAST SNOWIEST APRILS IN DENVER WEATHER HISTORY: SINCE 1872: INCHES

0.0 - 1995, 1982, 1943, 1930

TRACE – 2022, 2002, 1969, 1946, 1925, 1915, 1910, 1889, 1888, 1887

There were 2 days in which thunder was observed at Denver International Airport, 1 day with hail and no days with fog during the month. The peak wind gust of 58 mph from the south occurred on the 22nd.