NWS GRAND JUNCTION COLORADO

A LOOK BACK AT

WINTER 2025-2026

WEATHER ACROSS E UTAH / W COLORADO

March 1st marked the end of Meteorological Winter, which runs from December 1st to February 28th, and the beginning of Meteorological Spring. Meteorological Winter has, for the most part, underperformed, with much above normal temperatures and a lack of snow defining the season. Record or near-record high temperatures happened at least once in each month, and mean temperature departures for northern locations were often in the double digits as the lack of snow affected cold-pool development. We did see a few stronger winter storms, including one particularly strong one in the middle of February, which brought a foot or two of snow to the mountains. While it certainly helped the snow drought, it did not get us out of the woods, with most basins finishing the season at 40-70% of median for the time of year. Seasonal mean temperature departures were much above normal, ranging from 5.2F to 11.4F above normal. Precipitation was also overall below normal, with departures ranging from 0.12 inches to 1.45 inches below normal.

WINTER 2025-2026
CLIMATE SUMMARY

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NOTE: all data mentioned is collected from our automated observing stations from 10 airports across the area. Some observers in more remote areas may have measured warmer or colder temperatures, or more or less precipitation than mentioned in this summary.

WINTER
2025 - 2026

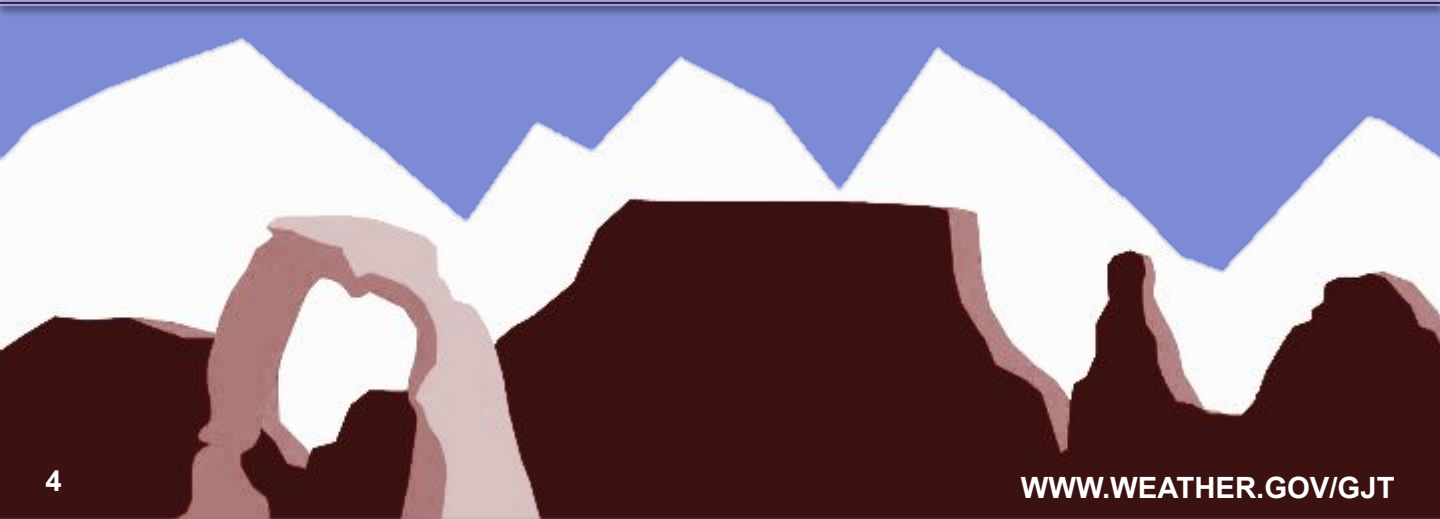
TEMPERATURES

Location	Average Temp (° F) (VS Normal)	Warmest Temp (° F)	Coldest Temp (°F)
Aspen, CO	28.5 **(+5.6)**	59 on 12/22	-15 on 1/26
Cortez, CO	34.9 **(+5.2)**	65 on 12/23, 2/27	-5 on 2/21
Craig, CO	30.6 **(+11.4)**	63 on 12/22, 12/23, 12/24	-17 on 1/26
Durango, CO	34.1 **(+7.6)**	66 on 2/27	-8 on 2/21
Grand Junction, CO	37.6 **(+7.2)**	66 on 2/25	10 on 1/26
Meeker, CO	32.1 **(+8.9)**	61 on 2/6	-8 on 1/26
Montrose, CO	35.7 **(+6.3)**	66 on 12/22	1 on 1/26
Rifle, CO	34.2 **(+6.8)**	62 on 12/22, 12/24	-2 on 1/26
Canyonlands Airport, UT	37.3 **(+6.8)**	69 on 2/25	14 on 1/22
Vernal, UT	33.1 **(+10.0)**	65 on 2/25	4 on 1/26

WINTER
2025 - 2026

PRECIPITATION

Location	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)
Aspen, CO	1.32	-1.45
Cortez, CO	1.81	-1.07
Craig, CO	2.39	-0.31
Durango, CO	2.26	-1.00
Grand Junction, CO	0.84	-0.90
Meeker, CO	1.63	-1.08
Montrose, CO	1.17	-0.12
Rifle, CO	1.49	-0.38
Canyonlands Airport, UT	1.03	-0.36
Vernal, UT	0.71	-0.99



WINTER 2025-2026
CLIMATE SUMMARY

SEASONAL RECORDS REPORT

A total of 7 daily records were set across the primary climate sites

Site	Date	Record Type	New Record	Previous Record
Grand Junction, CO	December 22nd	High Max Temperature	62F	54F in 2010
Grand Junction, CO	December 23rd	High Min Temperature	39F	34F in 1980
Grand Junction, CO	December 24th	High Max Temperature	64F	64F in 1955
Grand Junction, CO	December 25th	High Max Temperature	60F	60F in 1971
Grand Junction, CO	December 26th	High Min Temperature	39F	38F in 1971
Grand Junction, CO	January 5th	High Min Temperature	35F	34F in 1981

High Max | Low Max | Precip | High Min | Low Min

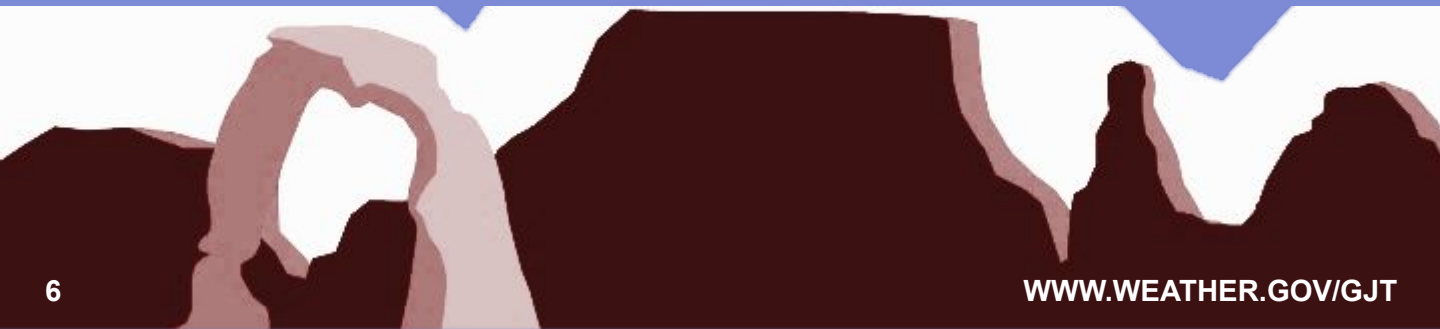
WINTER 2025-2026
CLIMATE SUMMARY

SEASONAL RECORDS REPORT

A total of 7 daily records were set across the primary climate sites

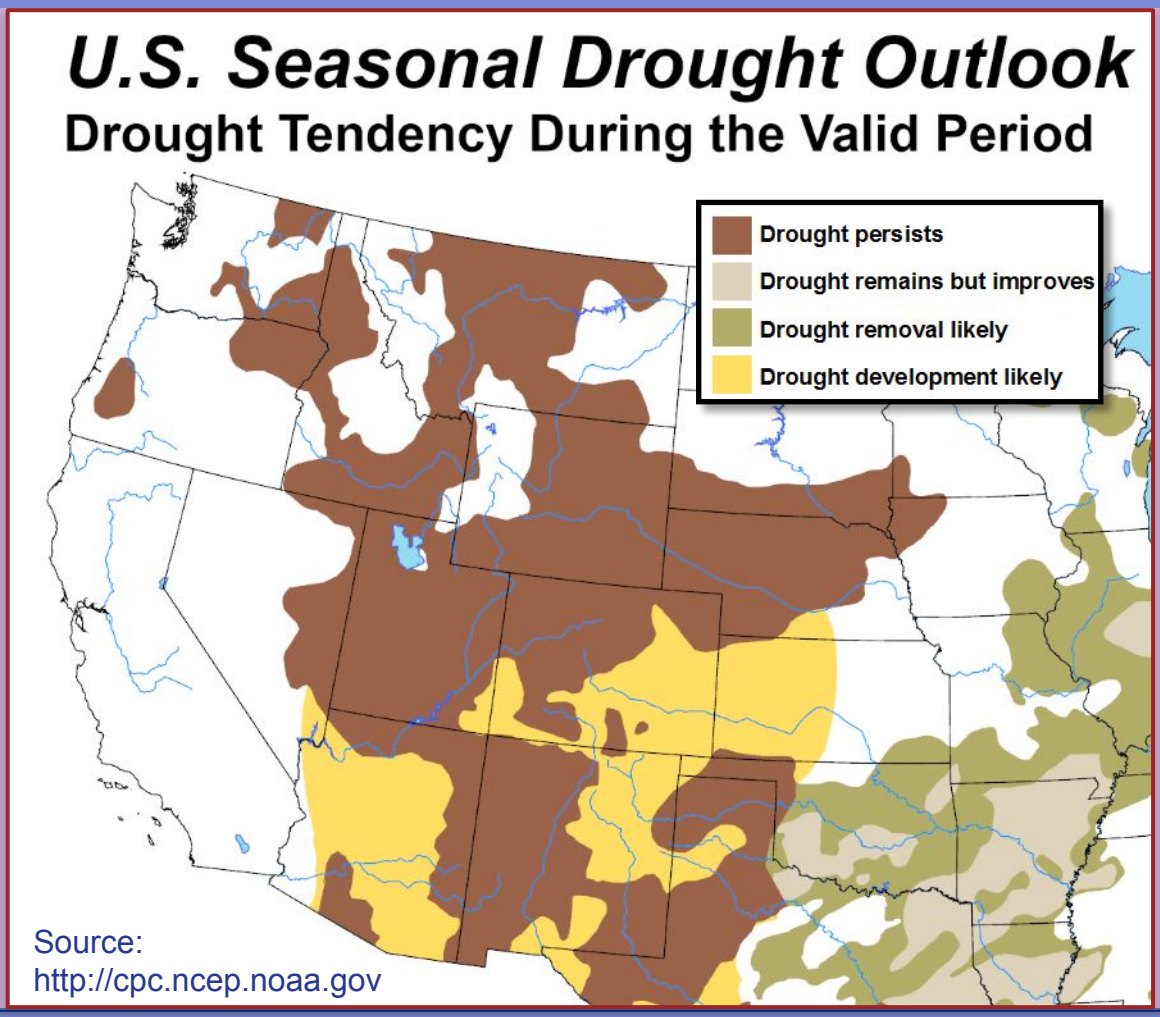
Site	Date	Record Type	New Record	Previous Record
Grand Junction, CO	**February 20th**	**High Snowfall**	**3.1 in.**	**2.8 inches in 1913**

High Max | **Low Max** | **Precip** | **High Min** | **Low Min**



SEASONAL DROUGHT OUTLOOK

For Meteorological Spring, the Seasonal Drought Outlook is favoring drought persisting across much of eastern Utah and western Colorado. For areas of southeast Utah, southwest Colorado, and into central-western Colorado, where drought has improved to Abnormally Dry (D0), drought is expected to redevelop.



SPRING
2026

OUTLOOK

TEMPERATURES & PRECIPITATION

For Meteorological Spring, the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is leaning toward above normal temperatures for most of eastern Utah and western Colorado. The Four Corners have the highest probability, at 50-60%, followed by all but areas along the Northern Divide, at 40-50%. Areas along the Northern Divide are have a 33-40% probability of seeing above normal temperatures. CPC is also favoring below normal precipitation, again highlighting the Four Corners with a 50-60% chance. Chances decrease to the north, first to 40-50%, then across northeast Utah and northwest Colorado at 33-40%.