

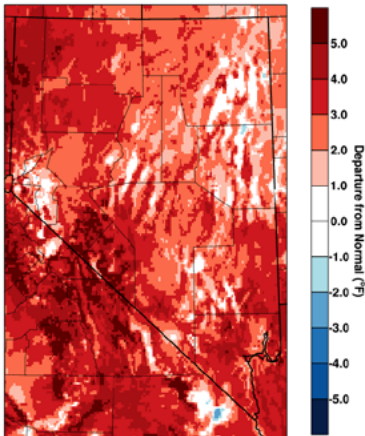
Nevada State Climate Office

Photo by A. Csank

Quarterly Report & Outlook April - June 2021

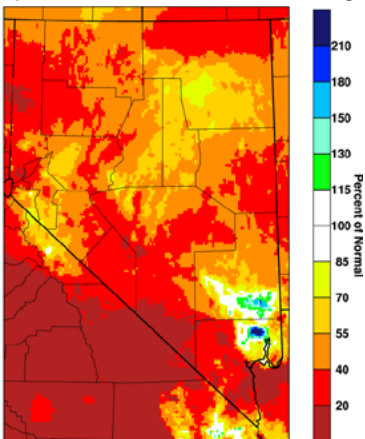
Notable Weather & Climate in Nevada: April - June

Difference between the April - June 2021 temperatures and the 1981-2010 seasonal average



WestWideDroughtTracker
<https://wrcc.dri.edu/wwdt/using-PRISM>

April - June 2021 precipitation as a percent of the 1981-2010 average



WestWideDroughtTracker
<https://wrcc.dri.edu/wwdt/using-PRISM>

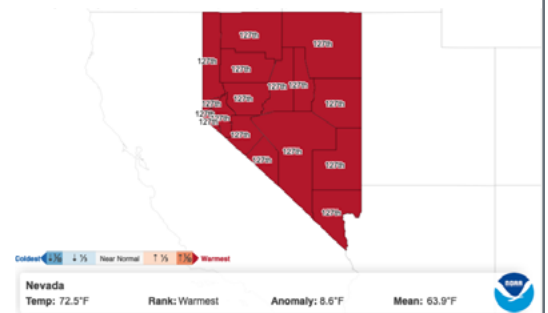
June certainly was hot! According to NOAA's [Climate at a Glance](#), this was the warmest June on record (since 1895) in every county in the state. The very warm June and somewhat warm conditions in April and May mean that, seasonally, statewide temperatures were warmer than the 1981 - 2010 average.

Nevada didn't break any all-time high temperature records, but five stations reported their highest ever June daytime highs, and 22 stations broke records for the highest June nighttime lows. For the first time ever, the Las Vegas airport reported five June nights when the temperature did not drop below 90°F. In June 2015, 2016, and 2017, temperatures stayed at or above 90°F for 3, 1, and 2 nights, respectively.

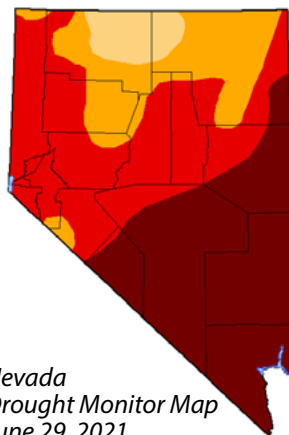
Spring was relatively dry across most of the state, though scattered storms brought welcome rains. In April and May, parts of northeastern and central Nevada received up to about six inches. In June, storms hit far northern and southern Nevada, dropping up to a few inches in Lincoln county.

While not enough to resolve drought conditions, the spring and early summer rains have kept things from getting worse, despite the high temperatures. Drought remains significant across the state, worsening in the northwest and far northeast.

Ranking of June 2021 average temperature in each county. A rank of 127 is the hottest recorded temperature



NOAA Climate at a Glance
<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/mapping>



	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D1	D1-D4	D0-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.87	76.88	40.58
Last Week (6-22-2021)	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.87	76.02	40.58
3 Months Ago (3-29-2021)	0.00	100.00	100.00	91.74	72.01	40.15
Start of Calendar Year (1-1-2021)	0.00	100.00	99.71	91.18	72.49	23.68
Start of Water Year (6-15-2020)	0.44	99.56	97.13	79.39	51.41	5.80
One Year Ago (6-30-2020)	15.52	84.48	63.31	19.27	0.00	0.00

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

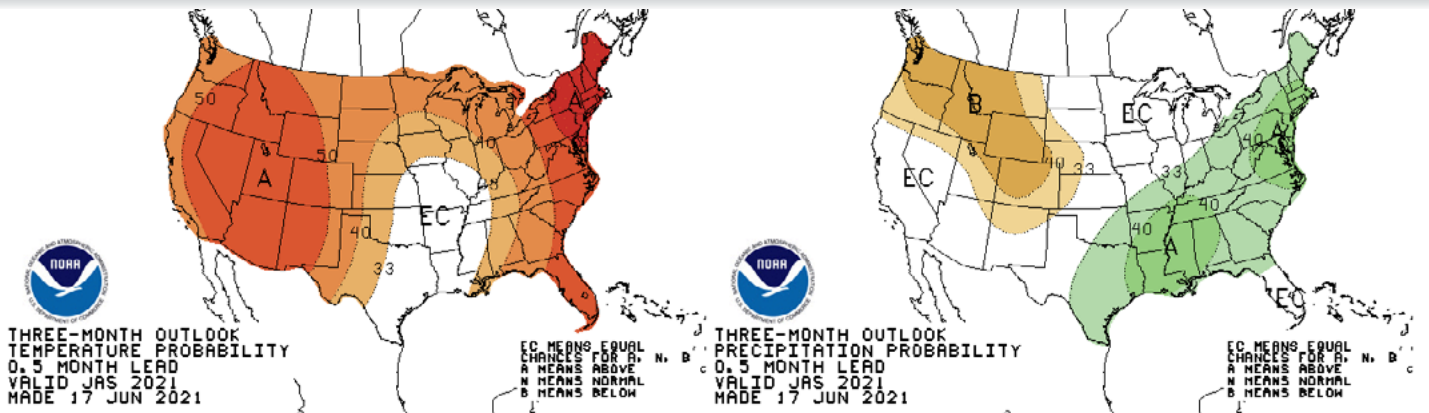


droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Monthly drought updates now available at [Living with Drought](#).

Nevada
Drought Monitor Map
June 29, 2021

Outlook for July - September



According to [CPC seasonal outlooks](#), the remainder of the the summer and the early part of the fall is most likely to be warmer than normal, statewide, with a 50-60% chance of above normal temperatures, and a 40 - 50% chance of normal or below normal temperatures. The northernmost part of the state has slightly enhanced chances of below normal precipitation. Across the rest of the state, there are equal chances of precipitation being above, near, or below normal.

La Niña conditions dissipated during the spring. However, as of early July, the Climate Prediction Center has issued a La Niña Watch, suggesting that another La Niña is more likely than not to develop during the fall. This bodes poorly for southern Nevada, where La Niña winters are often drier than normal. See the [CPC's outlook](#) for more information.

In depth - air quality

Ah summer! family gatherings, outdoor fun ... and wildfire smoke. The biggest air quality concern from wildfire is PM_{2.5} – tiny stuff in the air. The 2.5 means that these are smaller than 2.5 micrometers -- there are over 25,000 microns in an inch. Wildfire smoke can cause respiratory and cardiovascular problems. Some people are at greater risk than others. People who work outdoors or don't have access to a tightly built home with AC or an air filter are simply much more exposed. Older adults, children, people who are pregnant, and those who already have respiratory or cardiovascular conditions are physically more sensitive to smoke.

Air Quality Index levels and color coding.

AQI	Levels of Concern
0-50	Green - Good
51-100	Yellow - Moderate
101-150	Orange - Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
151-200	Red - Unhealthy
201-300	Purple - Very Unhealthy
301-500	Maroon - Hazardous

What can you do to protect yourself, your family, and your community from wildfire smoke?

- 1. Stay informed.** You can get air quality status and forecasts, usually as the Air Quality Index or AQI from [airnow.gov](#), your local weather report and probably even a weather app on your phone.
- 2. Limit smoke exposure,** depending on your risk and the AQI. This might mean skipping some outdoor activities, or planning them for a less smoky time of day, if you can, and spending more time inside with an air purifier or good filtration system. If that's not possible at home, some communities set up cleaner-air shelters. If an air filter isn't in the budget, you might be able to get some filtration with [a box fan and a furnace filter](#), but use it with care.
- 3. Reduce other kinds of pollution** by not cooking those meals that always set off the smoke detector (that'd be pancakes for me), smoking, running gas-powered yard tools -- that sort of thing.

Want to learn more? I summarized the 50-some page EPA-452/R-19-901 Wildfire Smoke: A Guide for Public Health Officials) into a single paragraph, so this is hardly the last word. [airnow.gov](#) and the [EPA](#) both have many more resources.