

Montana Drought/Precipitation Summary

October 1, 2004

Montana weather and precipitation summary, September 2004.

Temperatures were generally near normal across Montana with wetter than usual conditions across the west, and portions of southeast Montana. The northeast portion was very dry. Rain showers were distributed throughout the month, with a period of severe weather on the 1st. Wind gusts of 89 mph were reported at Choteau on the 1st when thunderstorms associated with a cold front moved through the area.

**Historical Rank of Precipitation (inches)
for the Past Month and Water Year to Date**

Location	Sep 1 - Sep 30	% of Normal	Oct 1 - Sep 30	% of Normal	Rank	Percentile	Years of Record
Billings	1.19	89	11.54	78	15 th driest	21 st	70
Bozeman	1.43	100	14.18	96	28 th wettest	56 th	63
Butte	1.35	124	10.91	85	28 th driest	25 th	110
Cut Bank	0.67	57	7.25	58	9 th driest	9 th	101
Dillon	0.98	101	10.37	104	29 th wettest	55 th	64
Glasgow	0.28	29	12.96	115	52 nd wettest	53 rd	111
Great Falls	1.99	162	12.90	87	39 th driest	35 th	112
Havre	1.36	132	11.40	99	54 th driest	44 th	124
Helena	1.76	168	12.07	107	61 st wettest	51 st	124
Kalispell	1.91	159	16.44	96	50 th wettest	52 nd	105
Lewistown	0.79	57	12.74	71	9 th driest	8 th	108
Livingston	1.95	132	13.69	87	39 th driest	39 th	101
Miles City	2.16	182	9.51	71	8 th driest	7 th	111
Missoula	1.96	182	16.78	121	50 th wettest	55 th	111

For an automated version of this chart, updated daily, go to <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/greatfalls/getproduct.pl?PCPNTOTALS>

For a state map of % of normal water year precipitation (updated around the 7th of each month), go to: http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/Greatfalls/txf.php?TEXT+wateryear_percent.html

For the latest information on mountain snow pack from the NRCS, go to: <http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/index.html>

For the latest U.S. Drought Monitor, issued weekly by the Climate Prediction Center (CPC), go to: <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>

Montana precipitation/temperature forecast.

As of October 1st, the CPC October temperature forecast is a 50 to 55% chance of cooler than normal conditions. The October precipitation forecast is for equal chances of wetter or drier than normal conditions. For the period October through January, the forecast calls for equal chances of above or below normal temperatures and precipitation over the state and a 50 to 55% chance of warmer than normal temperatures. Graphics and text relating to these outlooks, and additional long-range forecasts can be found at

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/multi_season/13_seasonal_outlooks/color/seasonal_forecast.html

Further inquiries about the moisture conditions can be directed to Dave Bernhardt or Gina Loss at (406) 453-2081. Many more links can be found on the Drought Information Page of the NWS Great Falls web site at <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/Greatfalls/txf.php?HTML+drought>