A Review of the 2003 Water Year in Colorado

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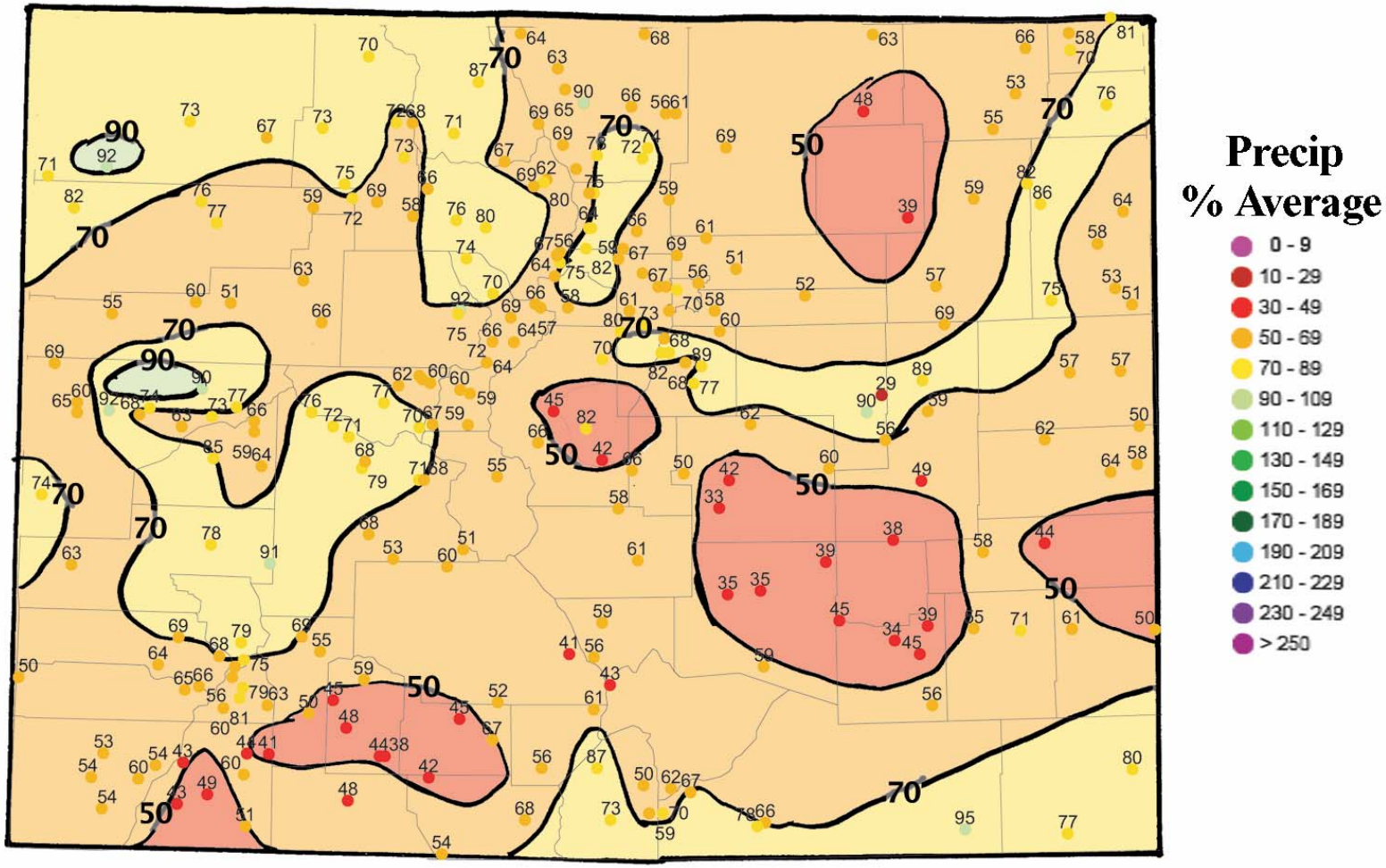
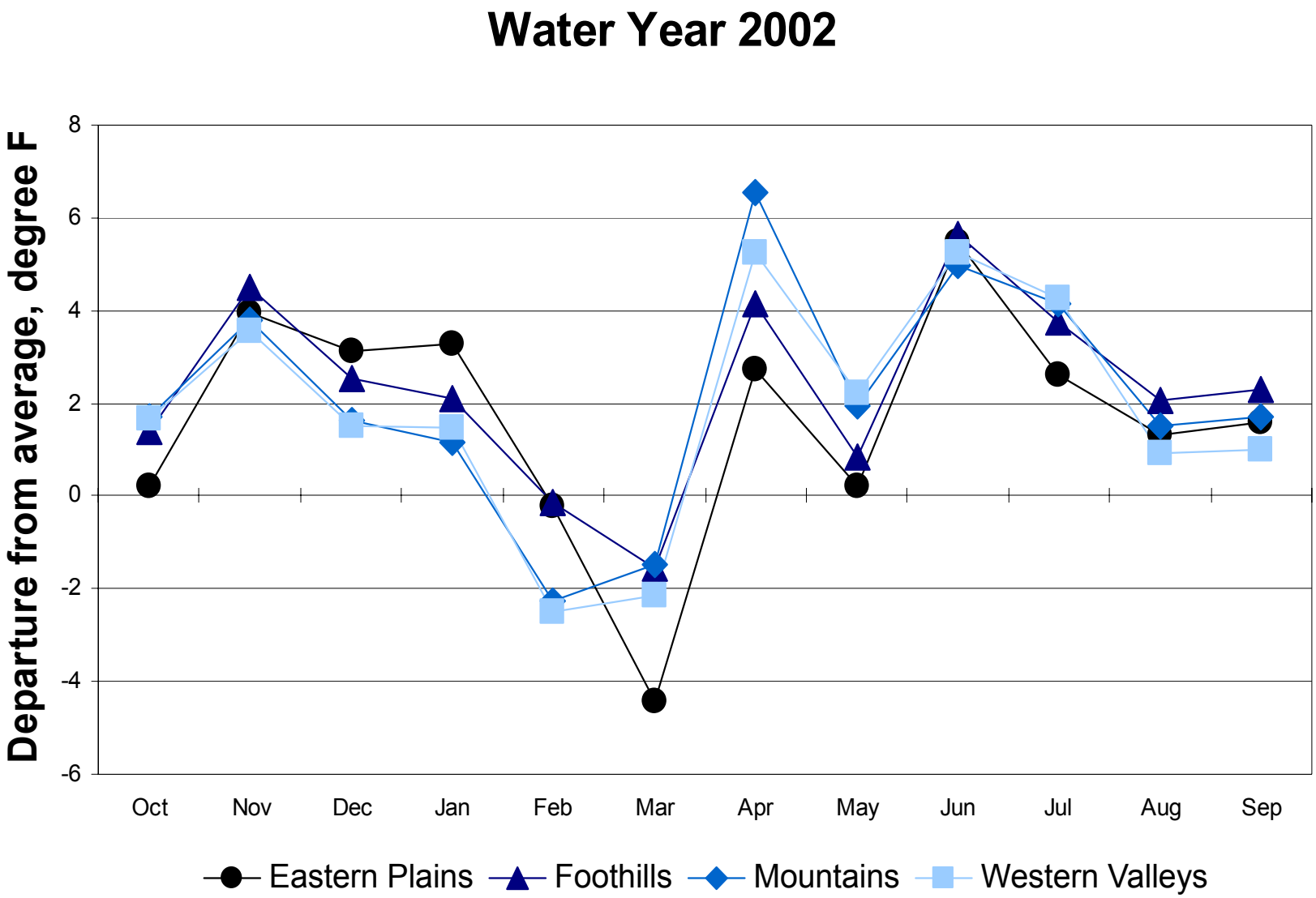
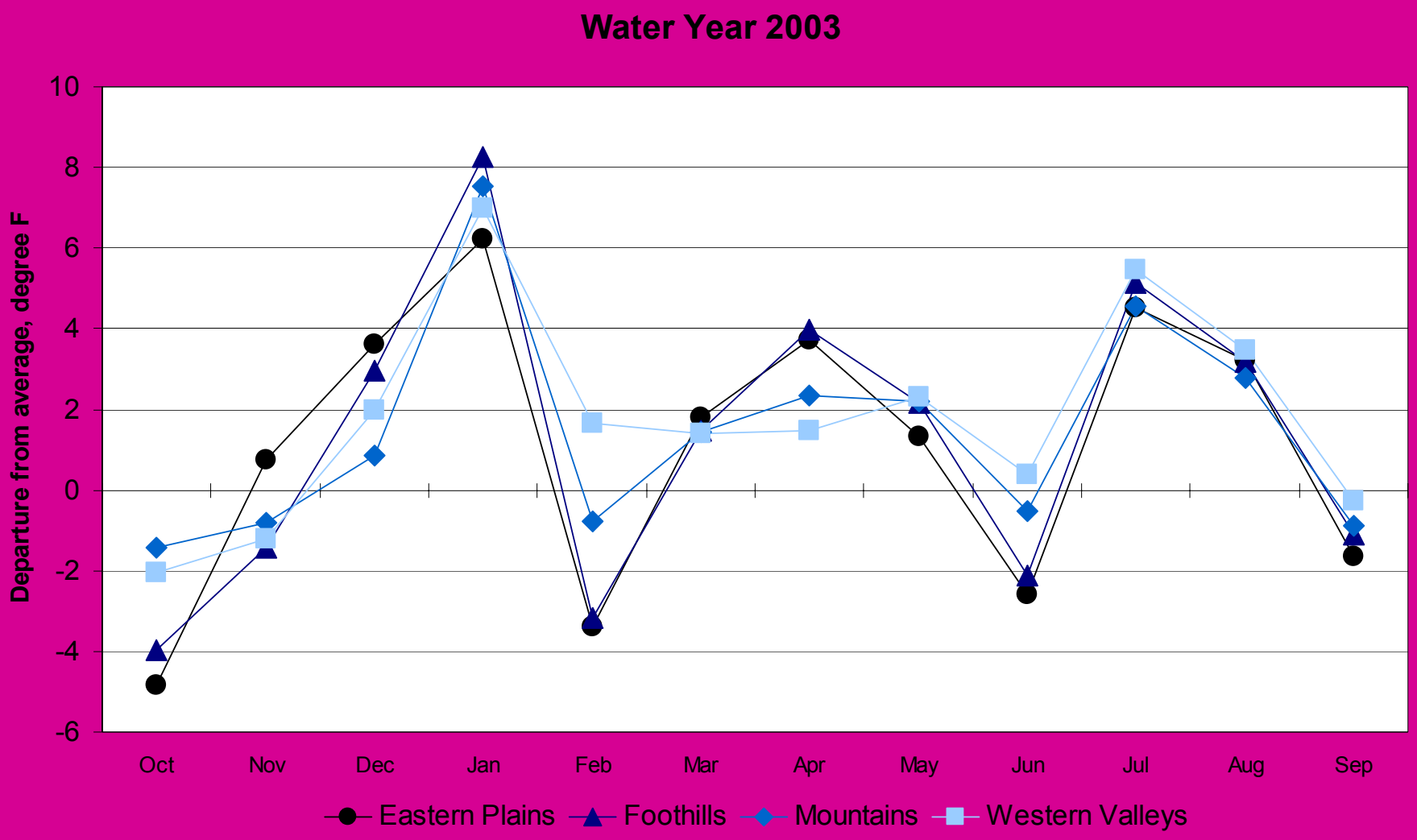
http://ccc.atmos.colostate.edu
http://www.co.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/

Water Year 2002
(Oct. 2001 - Sept. 2002)
Precipitation Percent of Average for 1961-1990 Averages

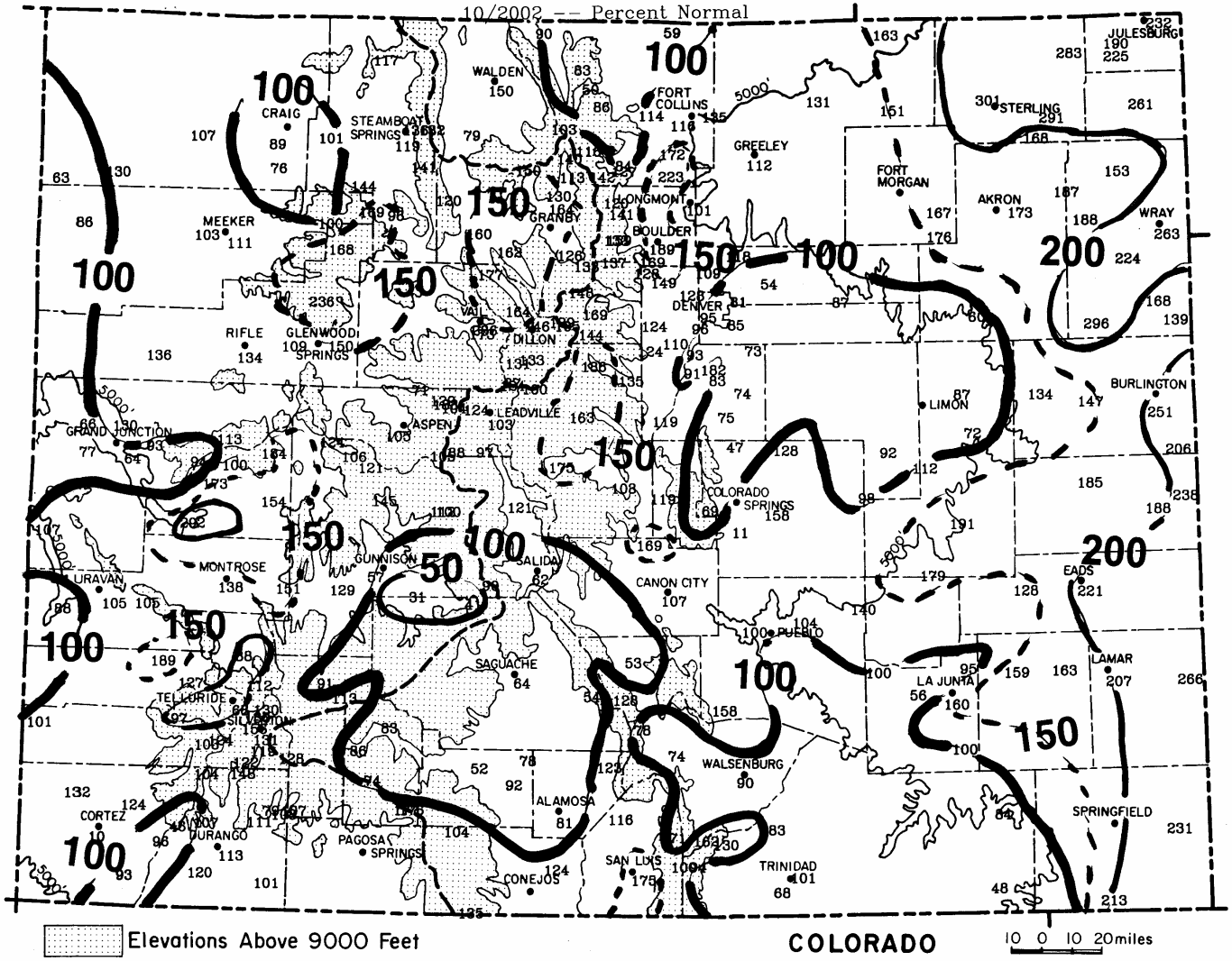



Water Year 2002
Departure from average, degree F
8
6
4
2
0
-2
-4
-6
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Eastern Plains
Foothills
Mountains
Western Valleys

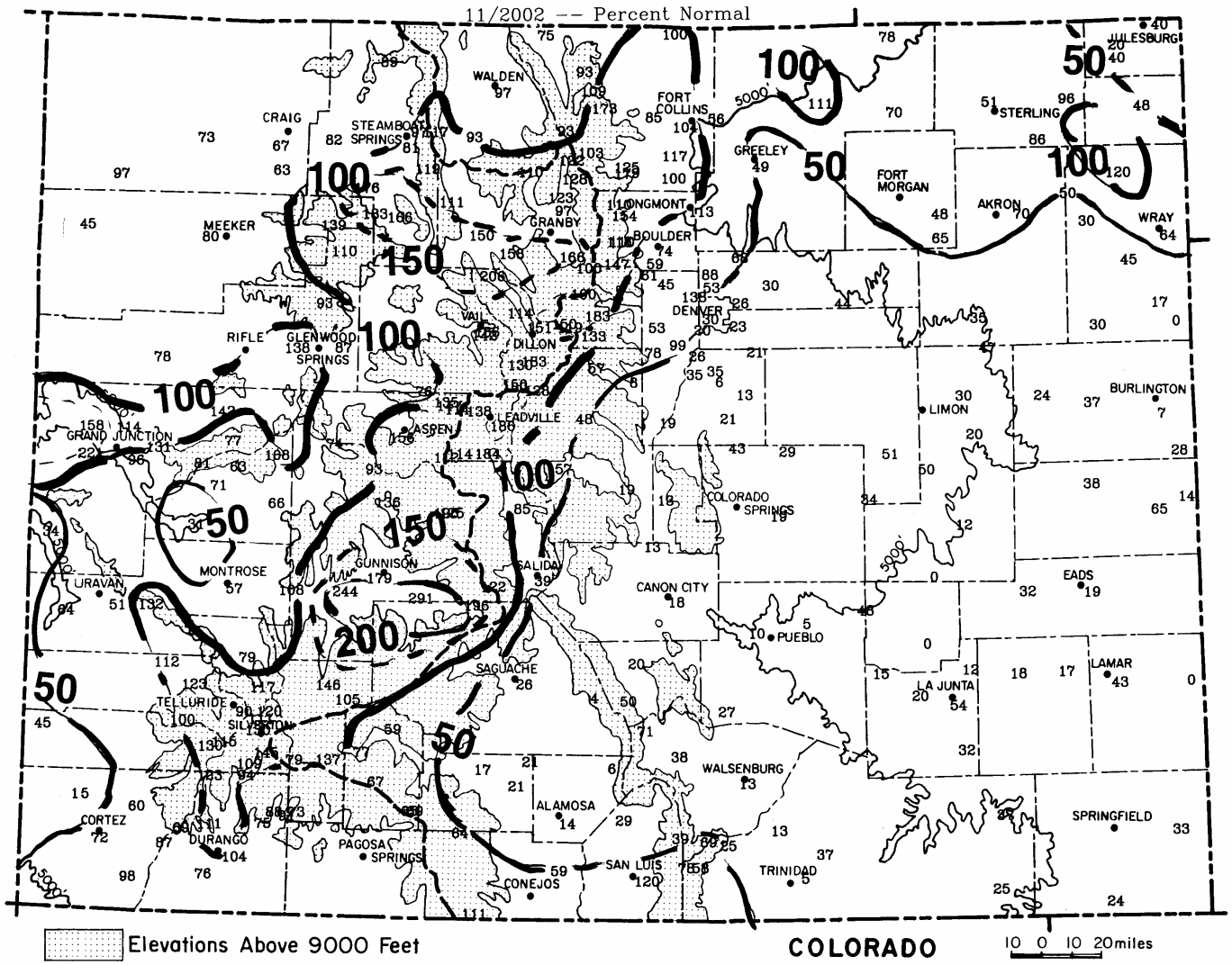
2003 WY Temperature Departures



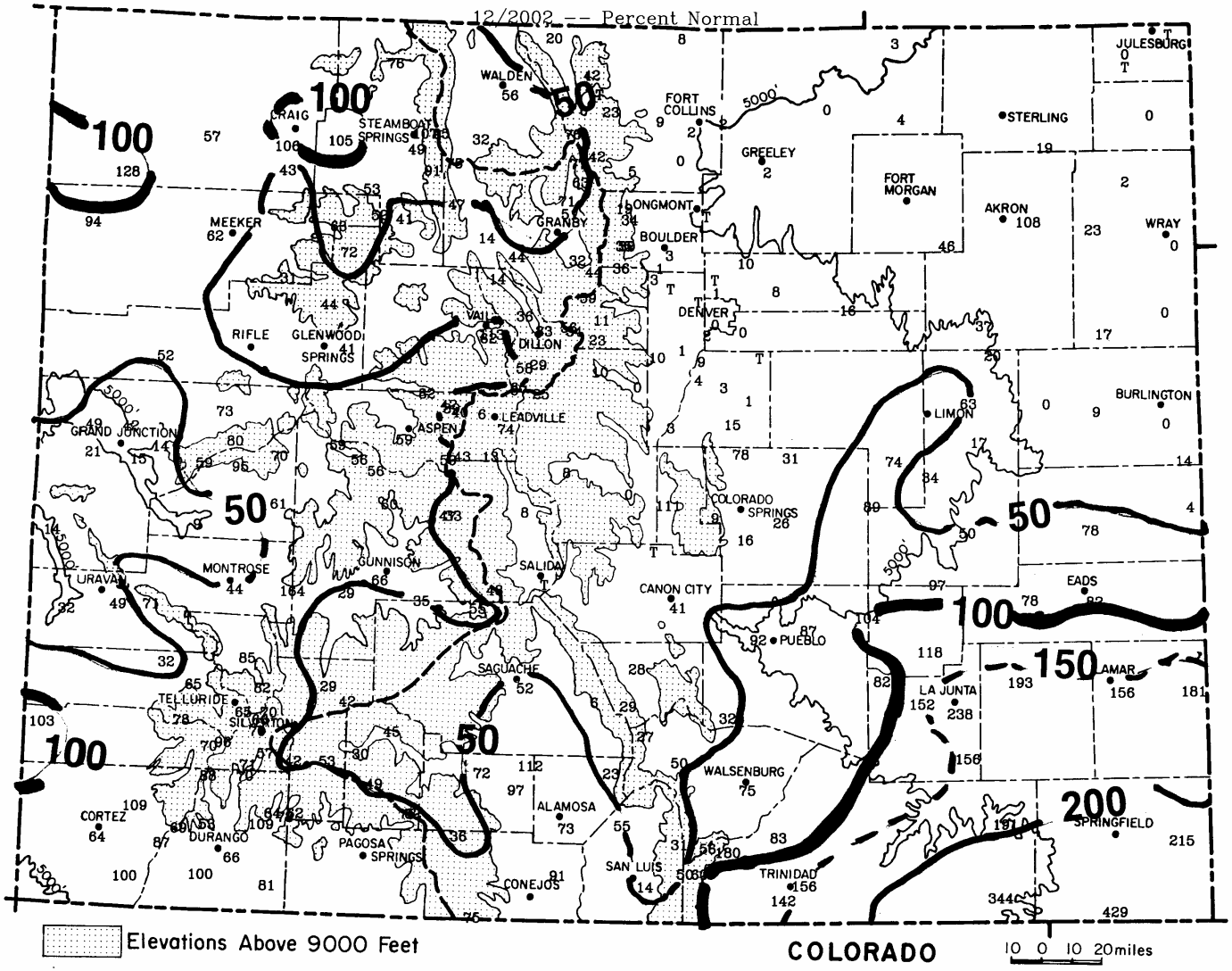
October 2002 % of Average



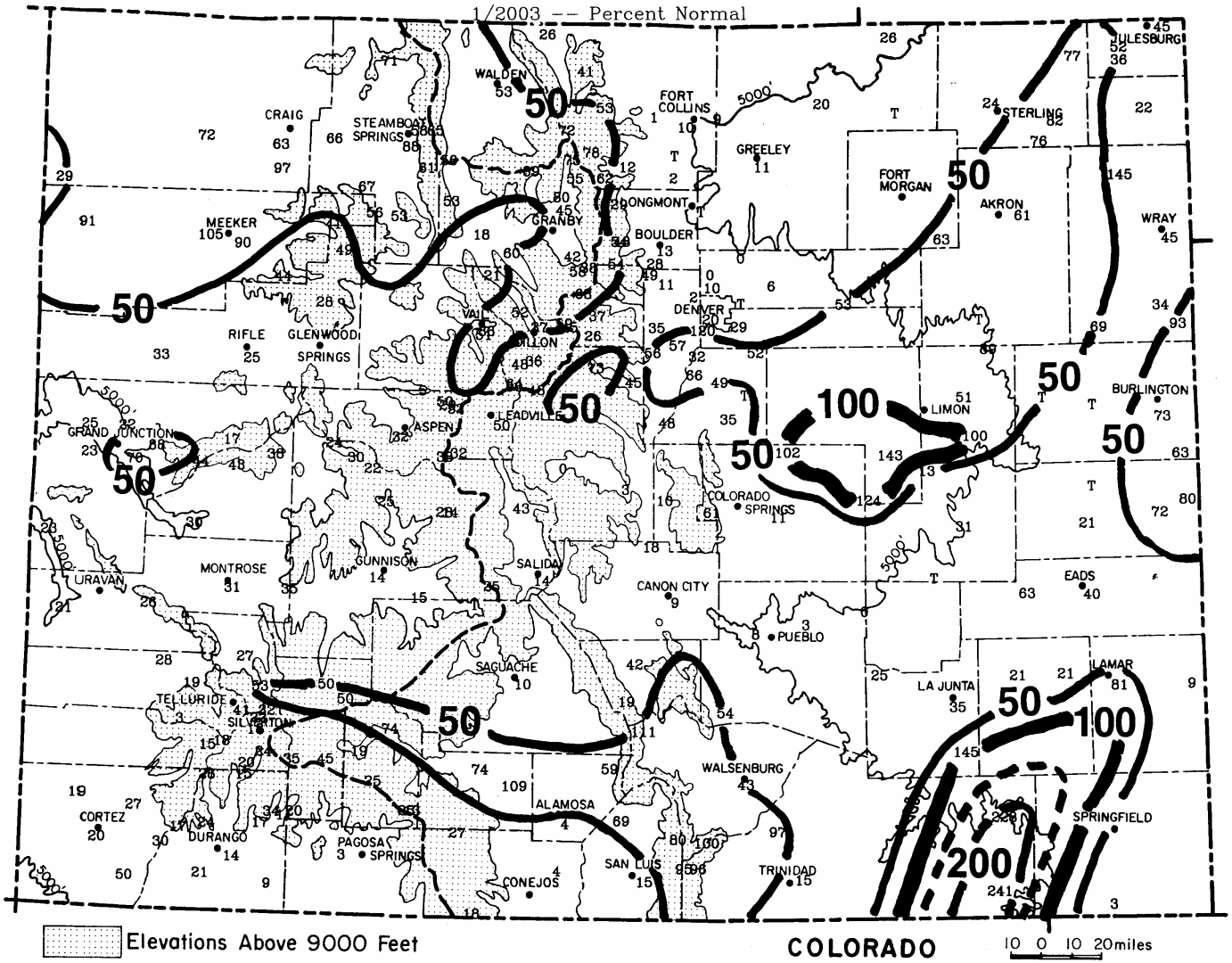
November 2002 % of Average



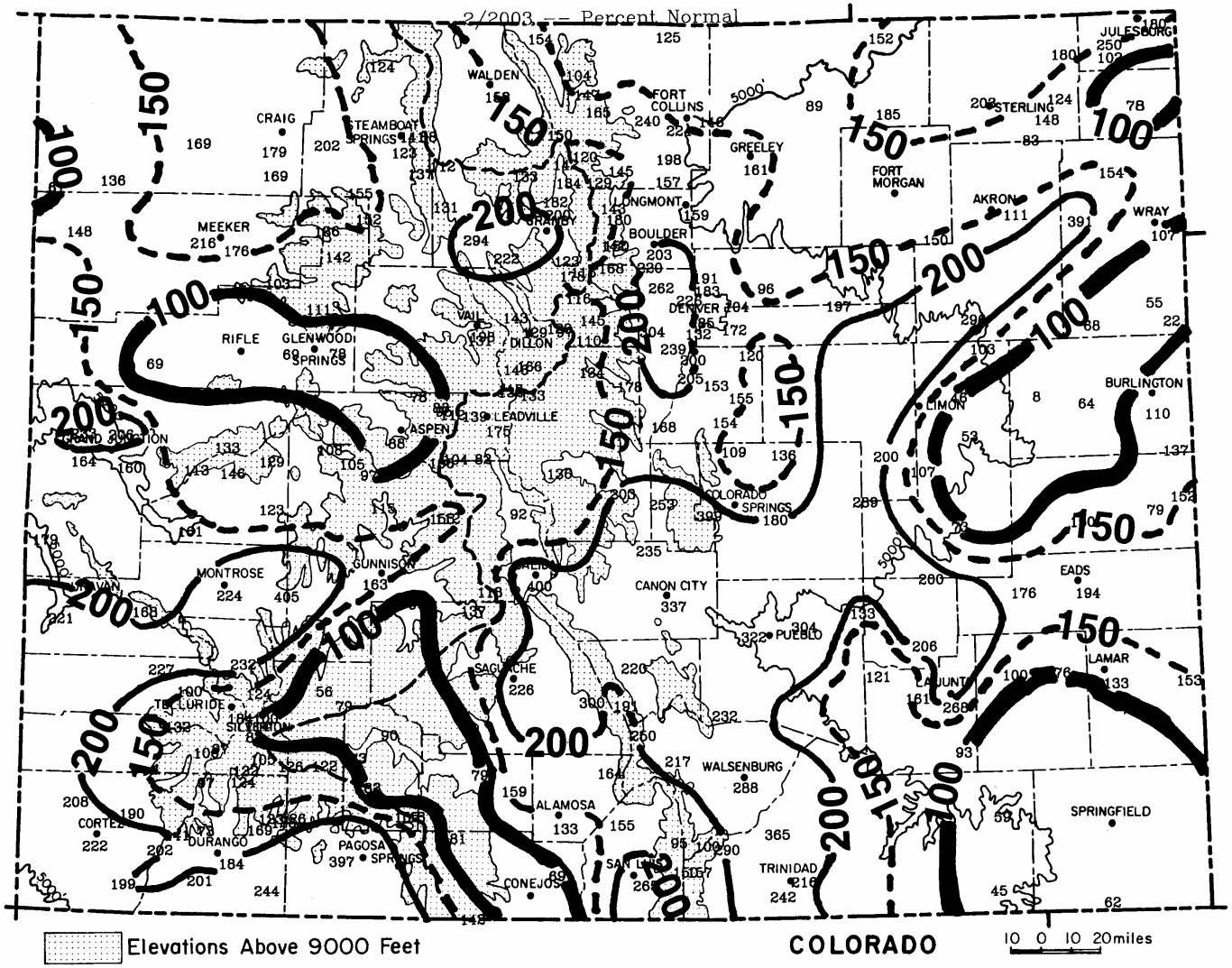
December 2002 % of Average



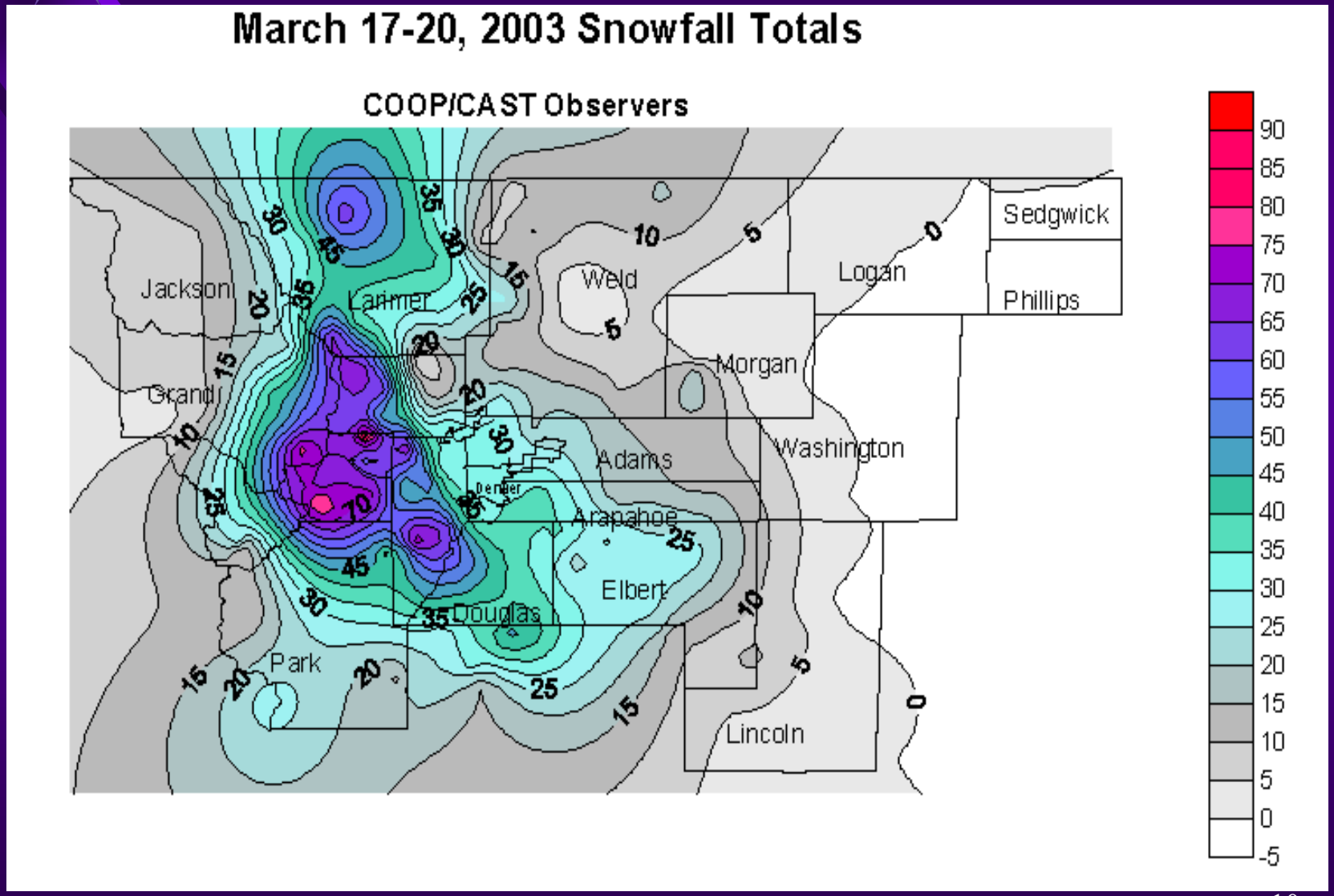
January 2003 % of Average



February 2003 % of Average



Blizzard of March 17-20, 2003



http://www.crh.noaa.gov/den/awebshtml/wfosnow.shtml

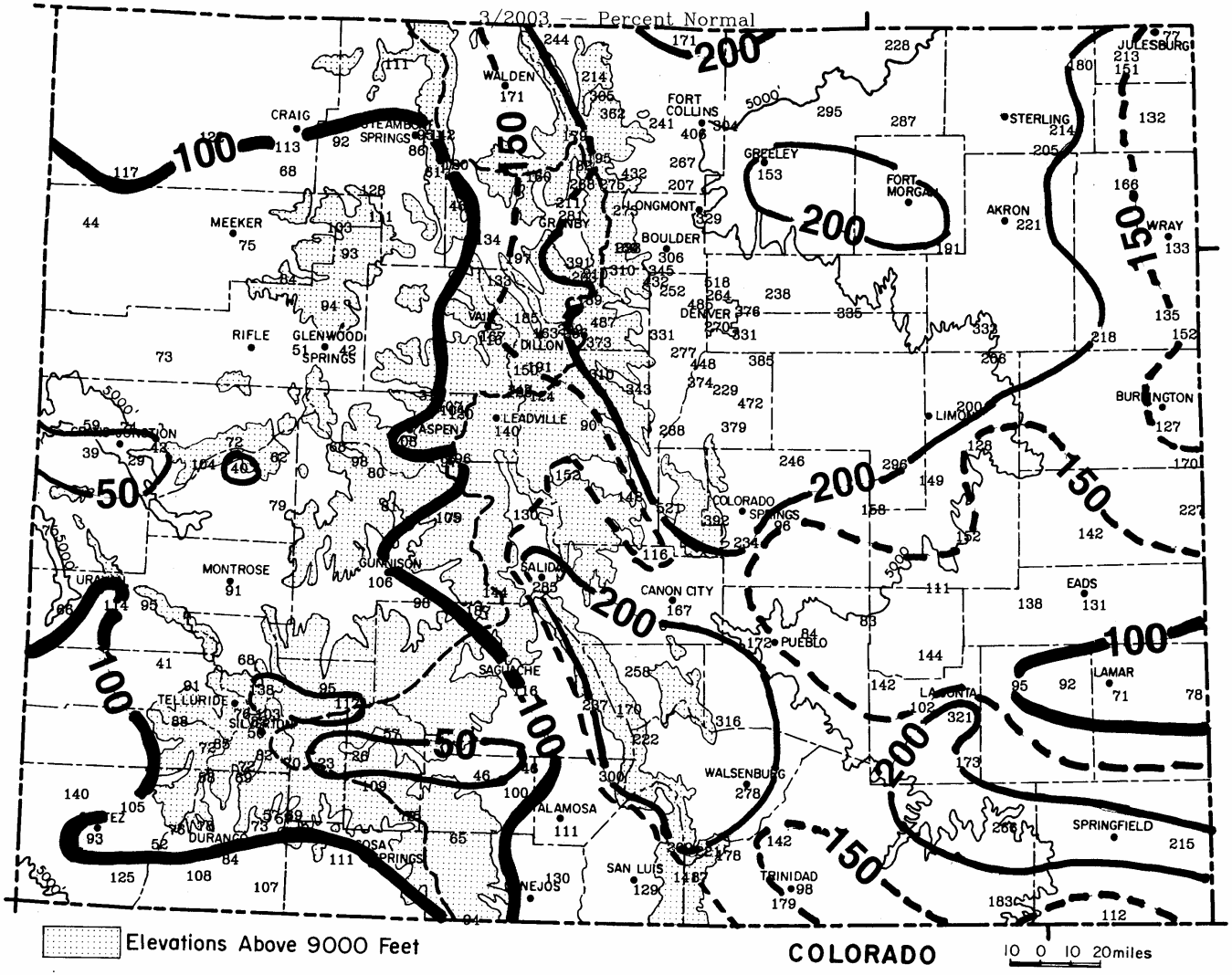
The disappearing fence

The disappearing fence

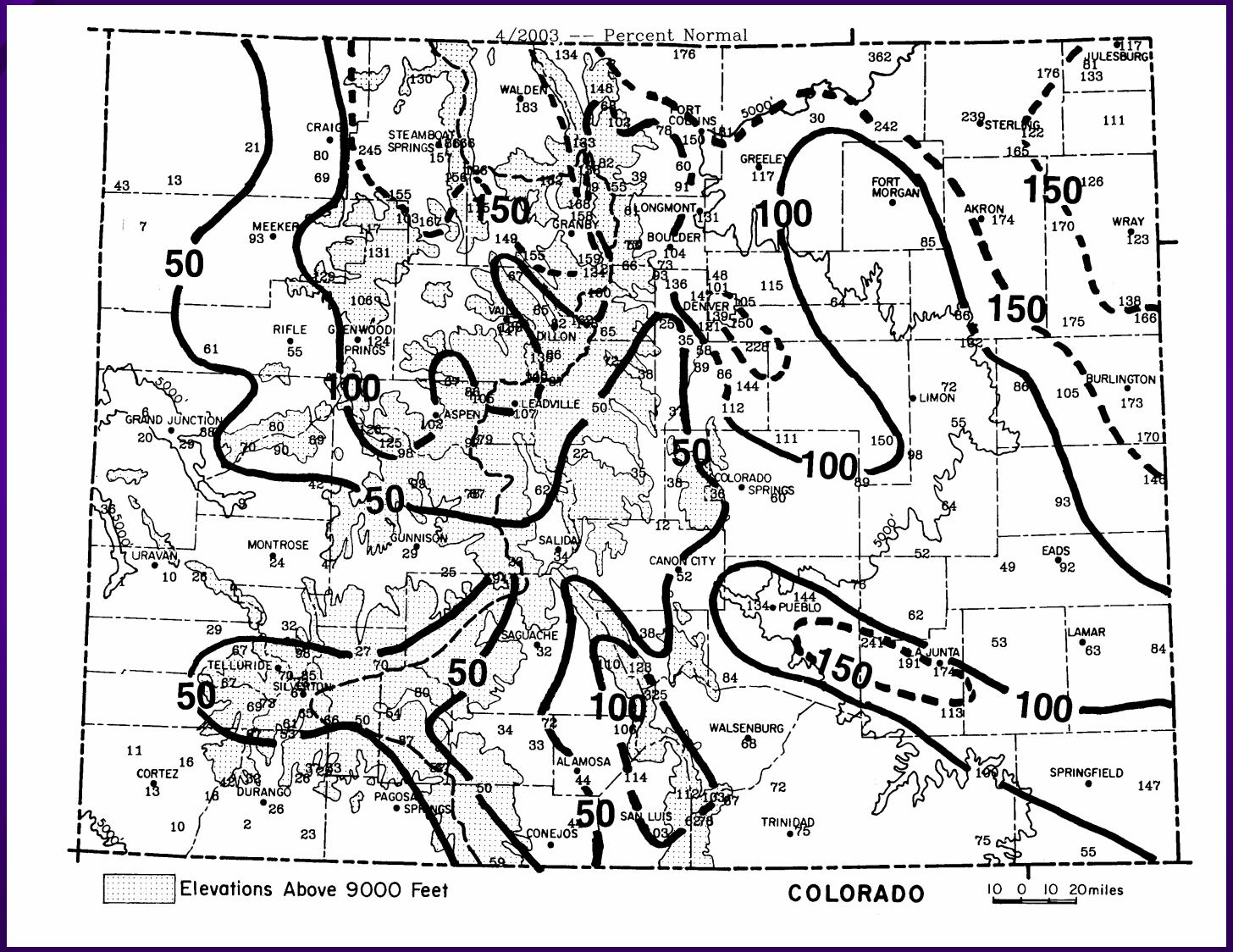
The disappearing fence

The disappearing fence

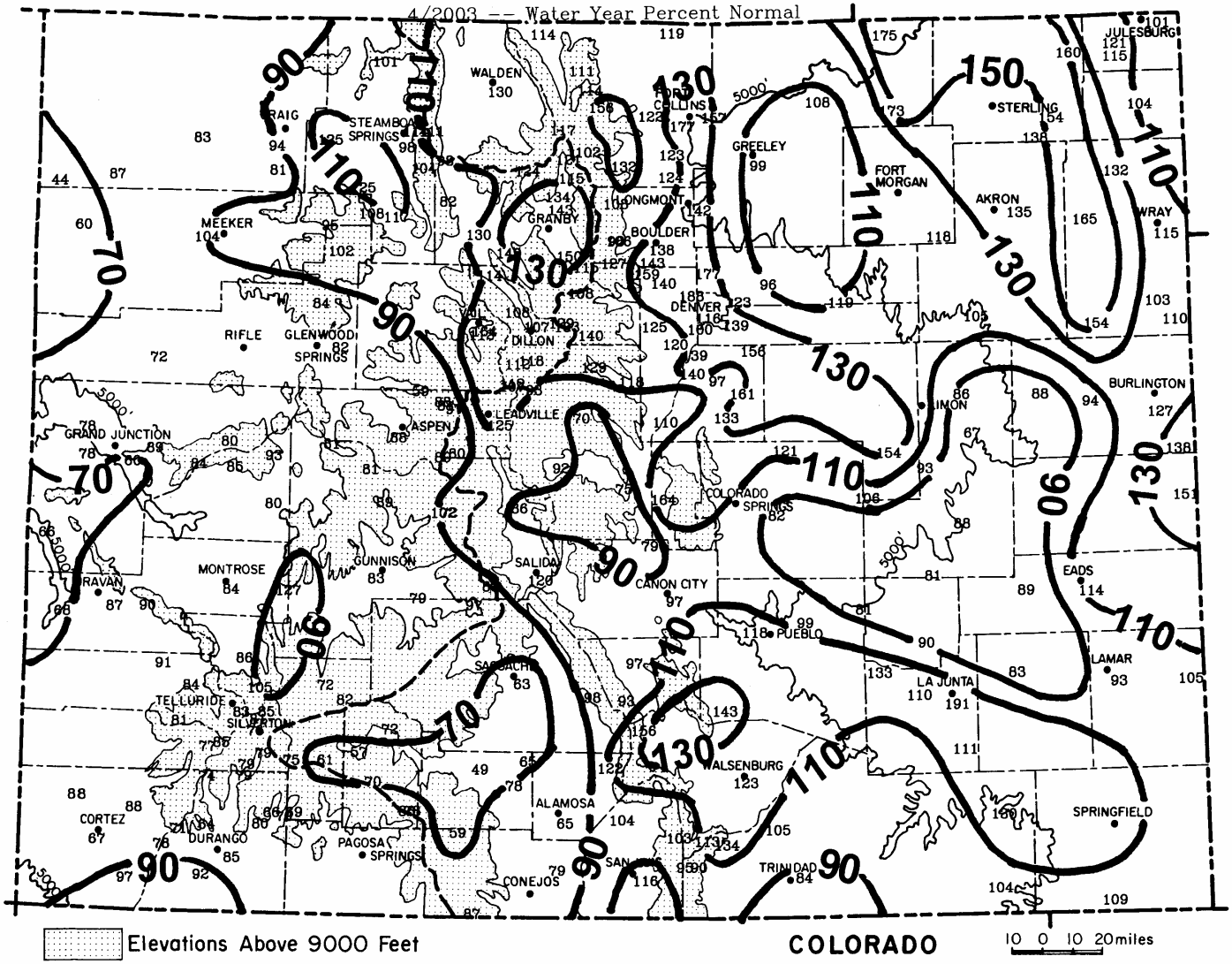
March 2003 % of Average



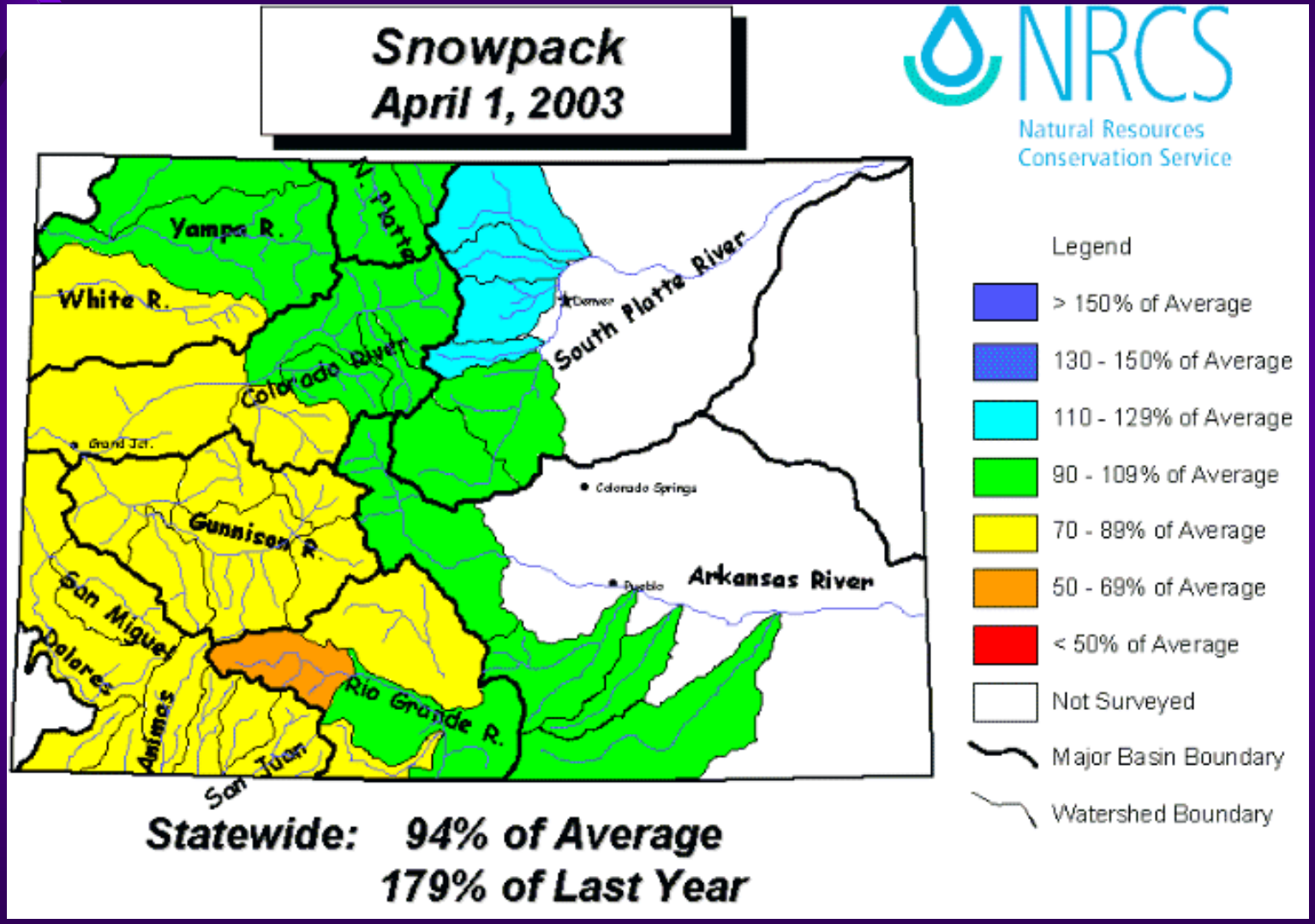
April 2003 % of Average



Winter (Oct 2002 – Apr 2003) % of Average

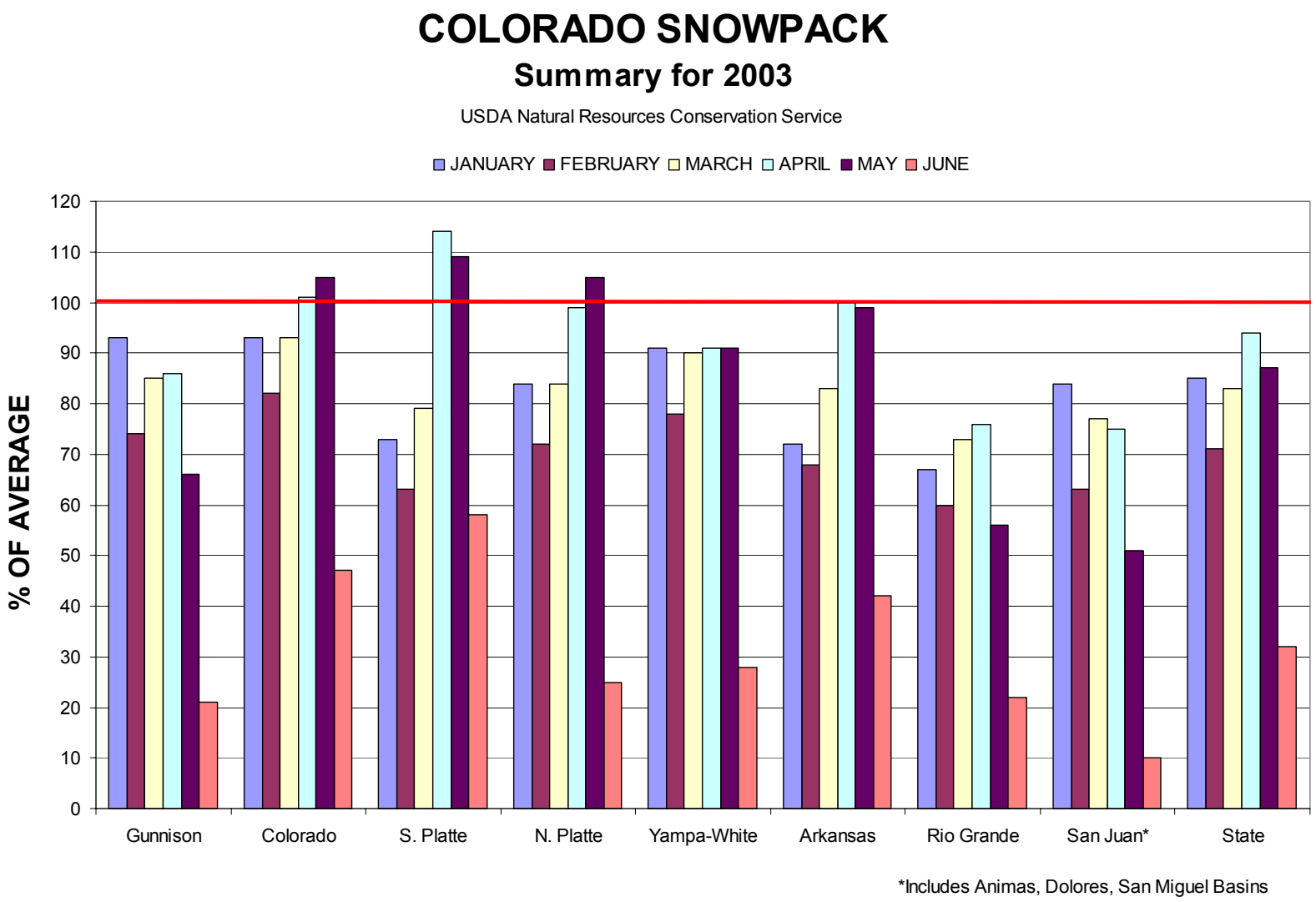


April 1 Snowpack

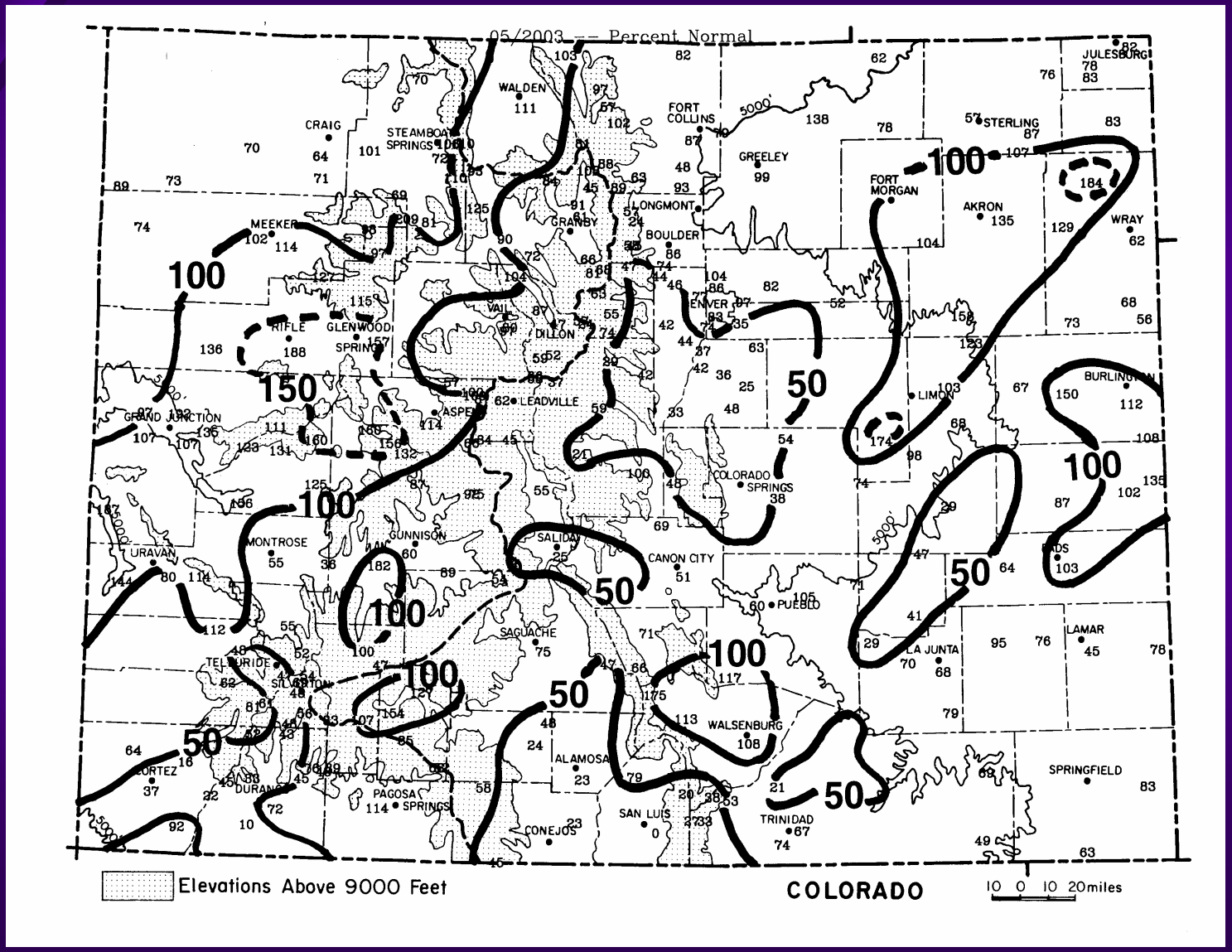


http://www.co.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/data/getsnomap.html

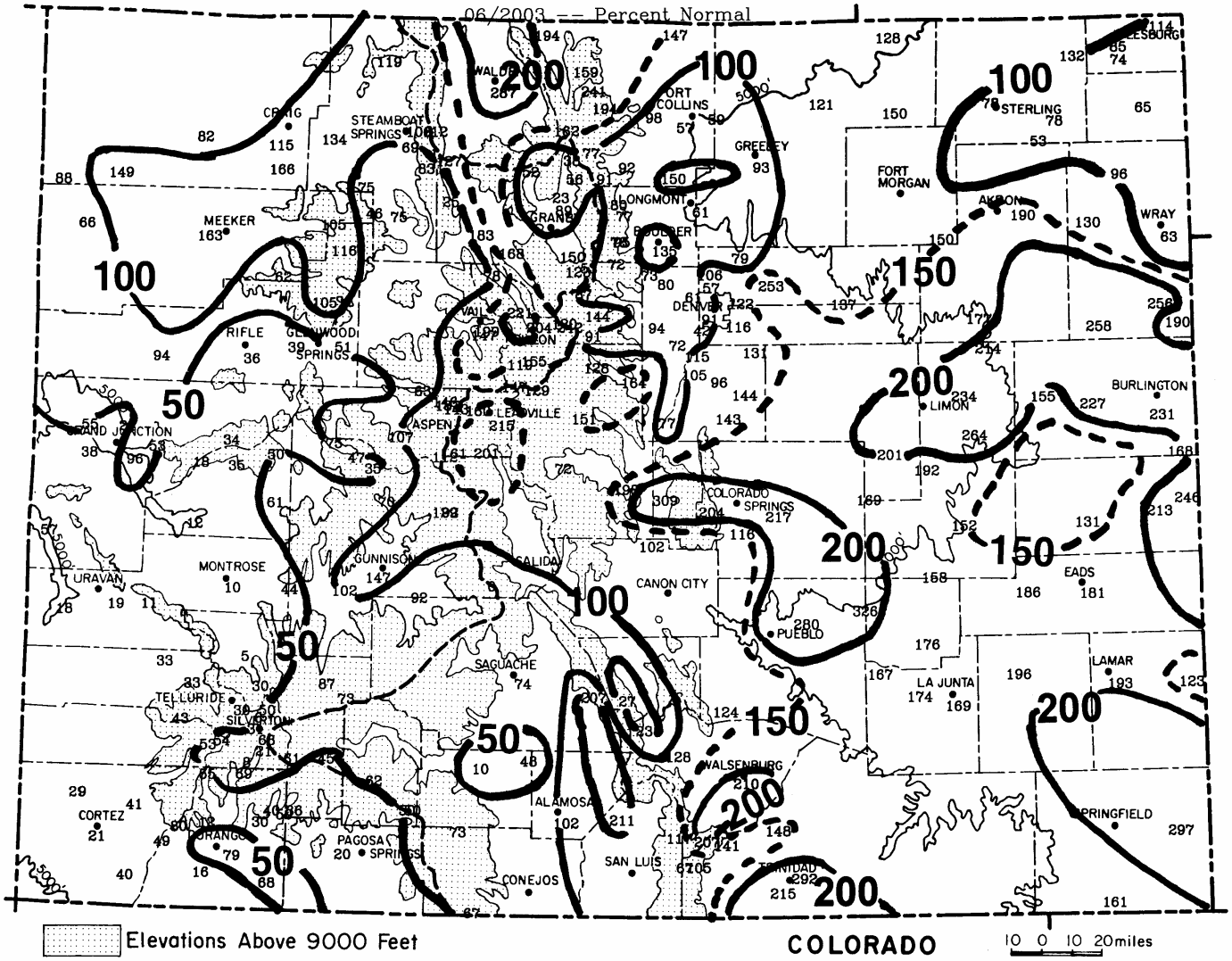
Colorado Snowpack for 2003



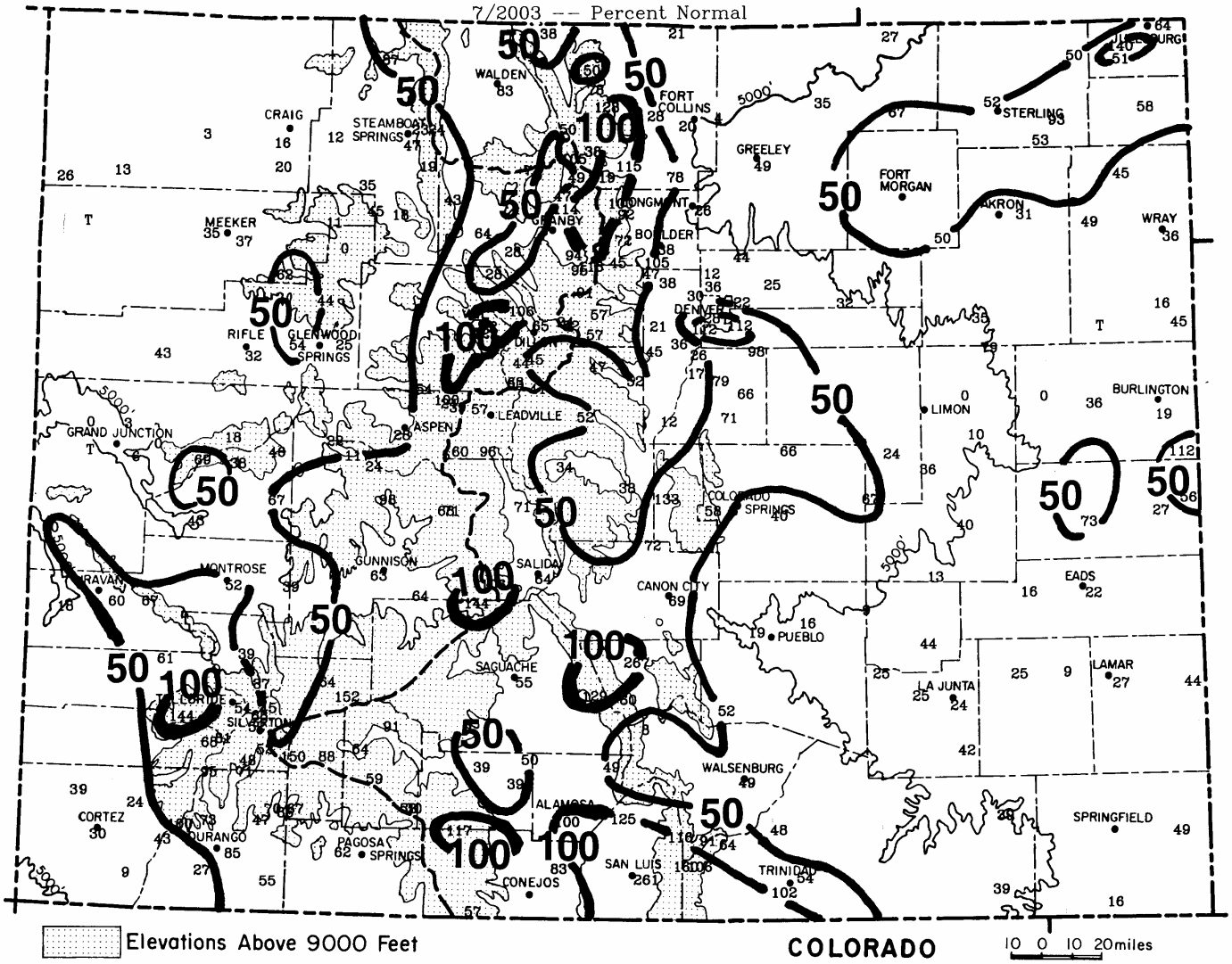
May 2003 % of Average



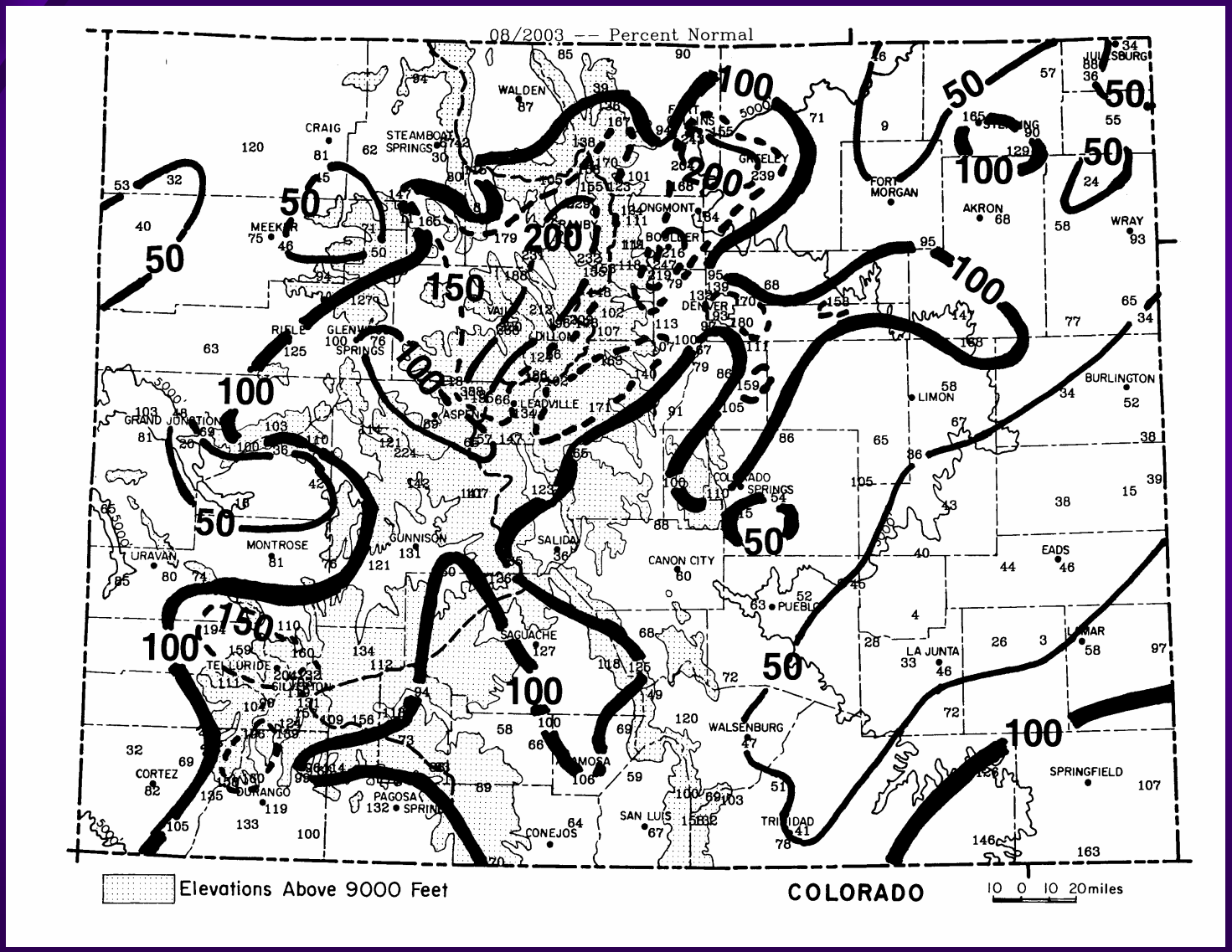
June 2003 % of Average



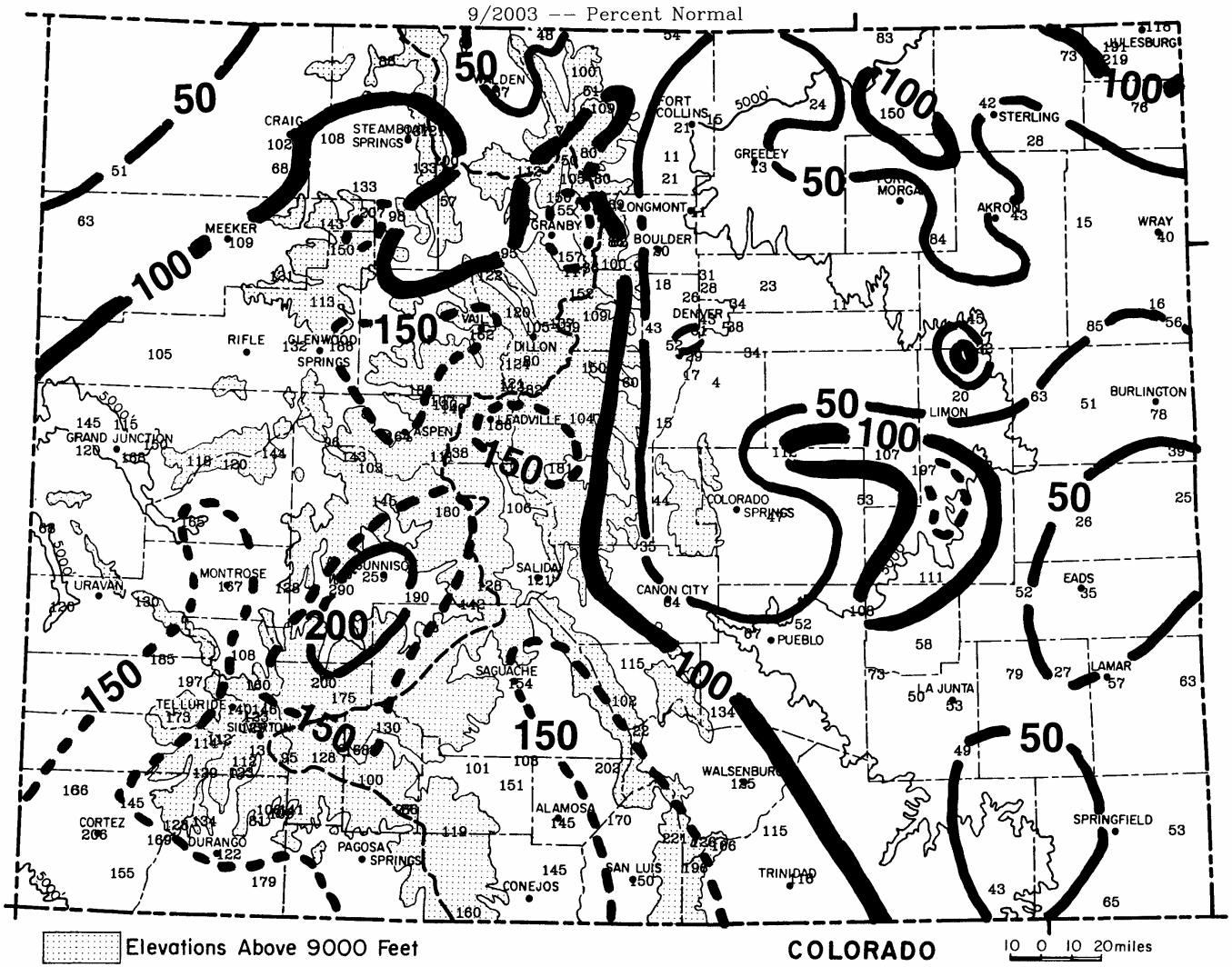
July 2003 % of Average



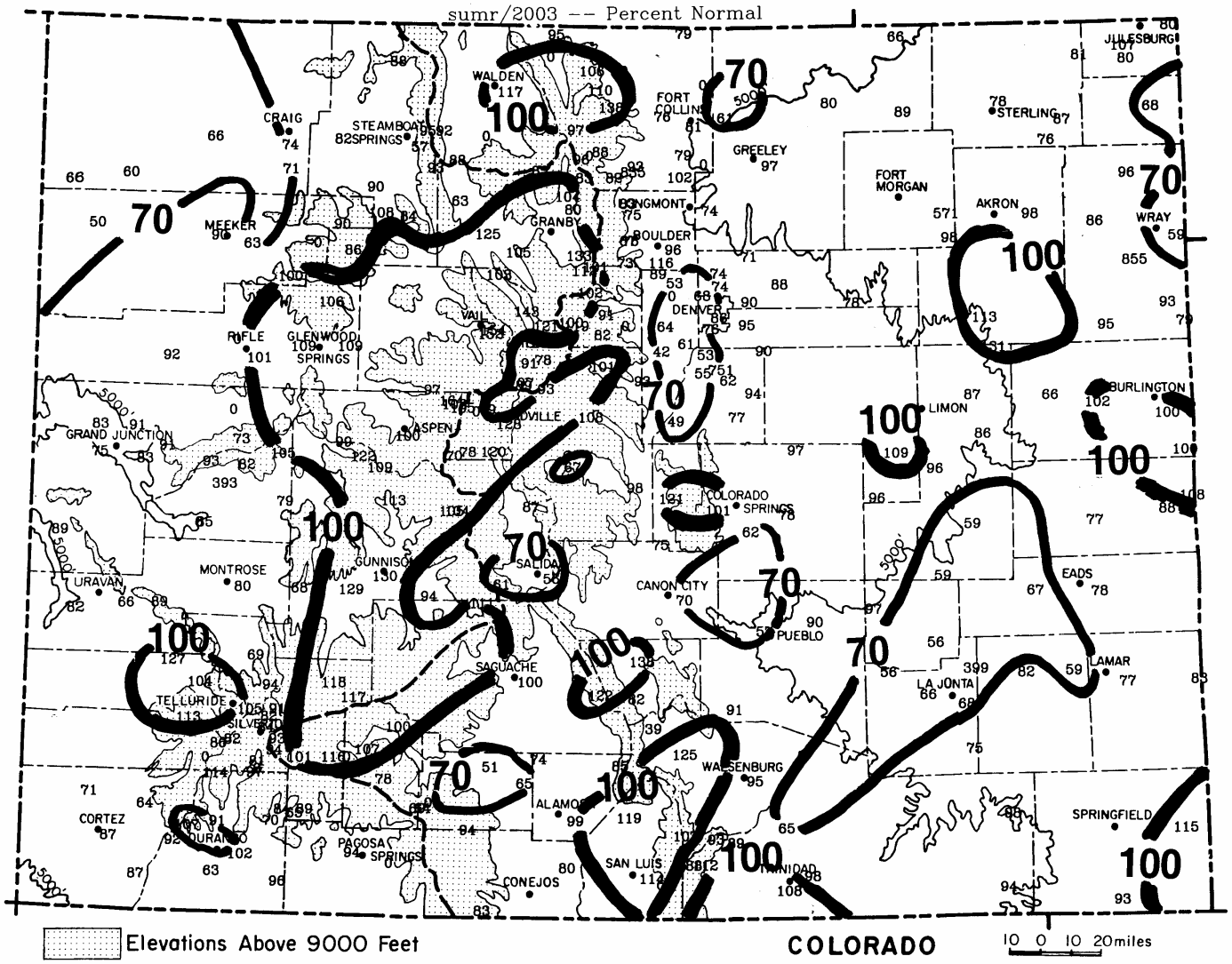
August 2003 % of Average



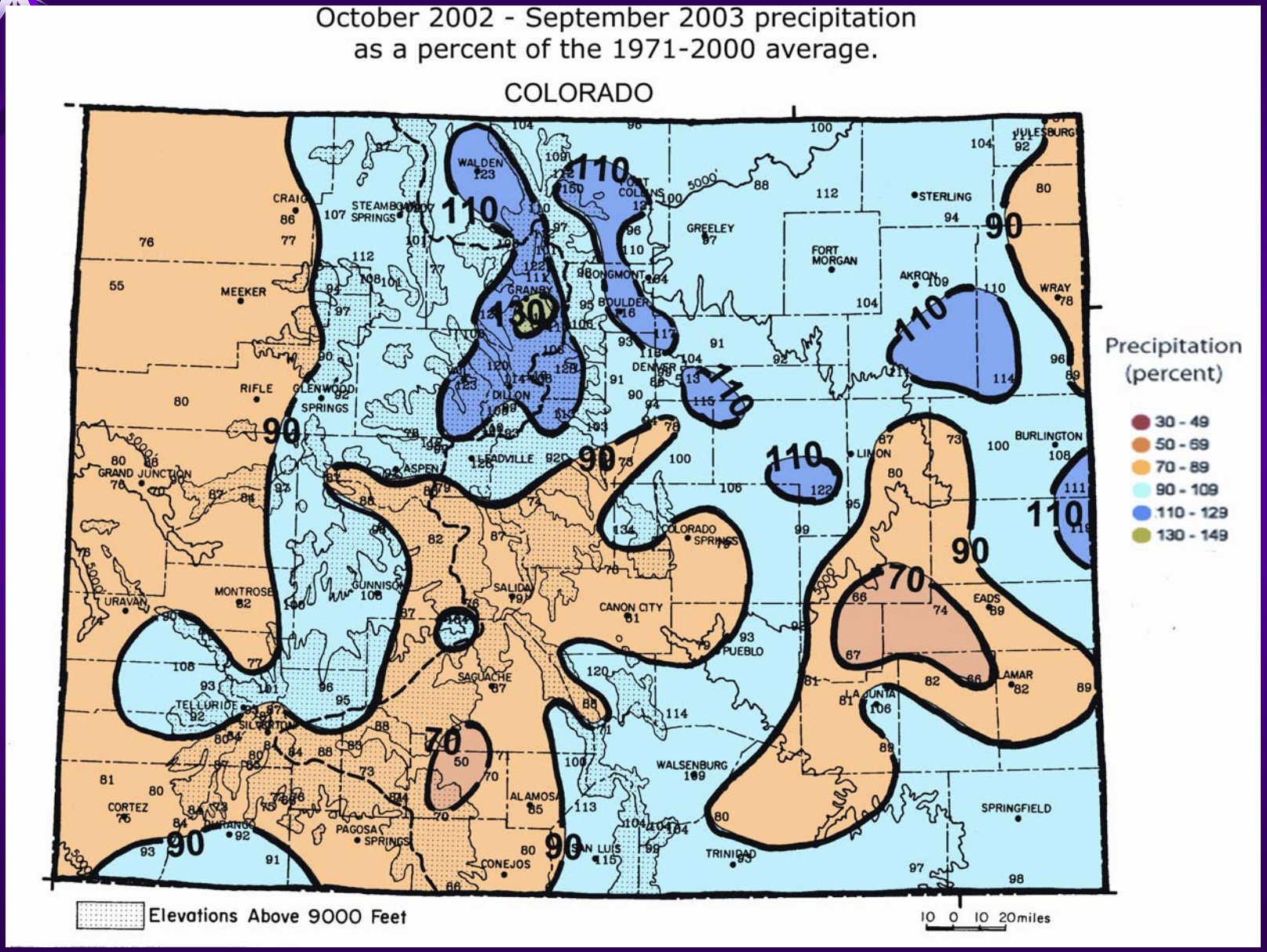
September 2003 % of Average



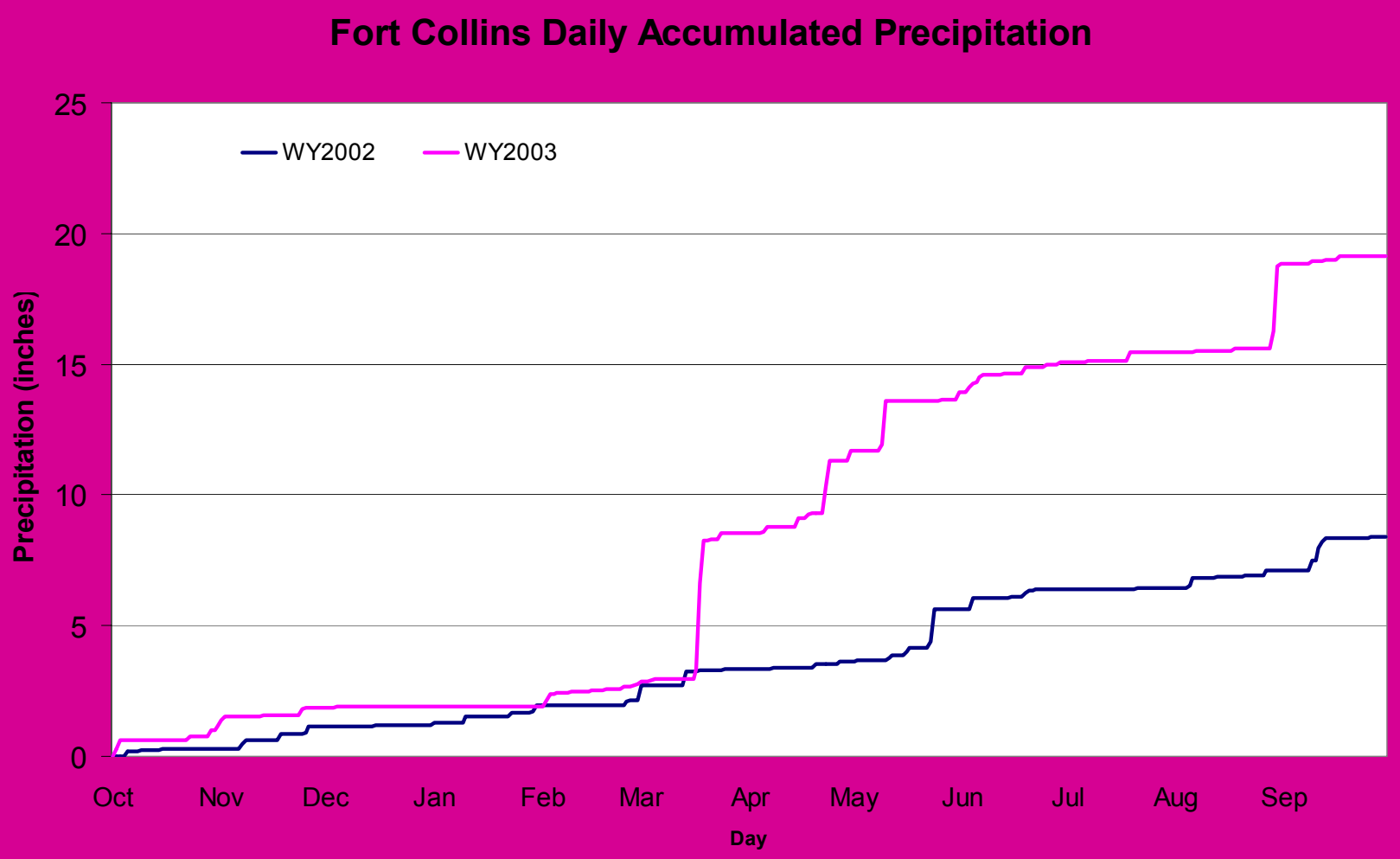
May-Sep 2003 Growing Season



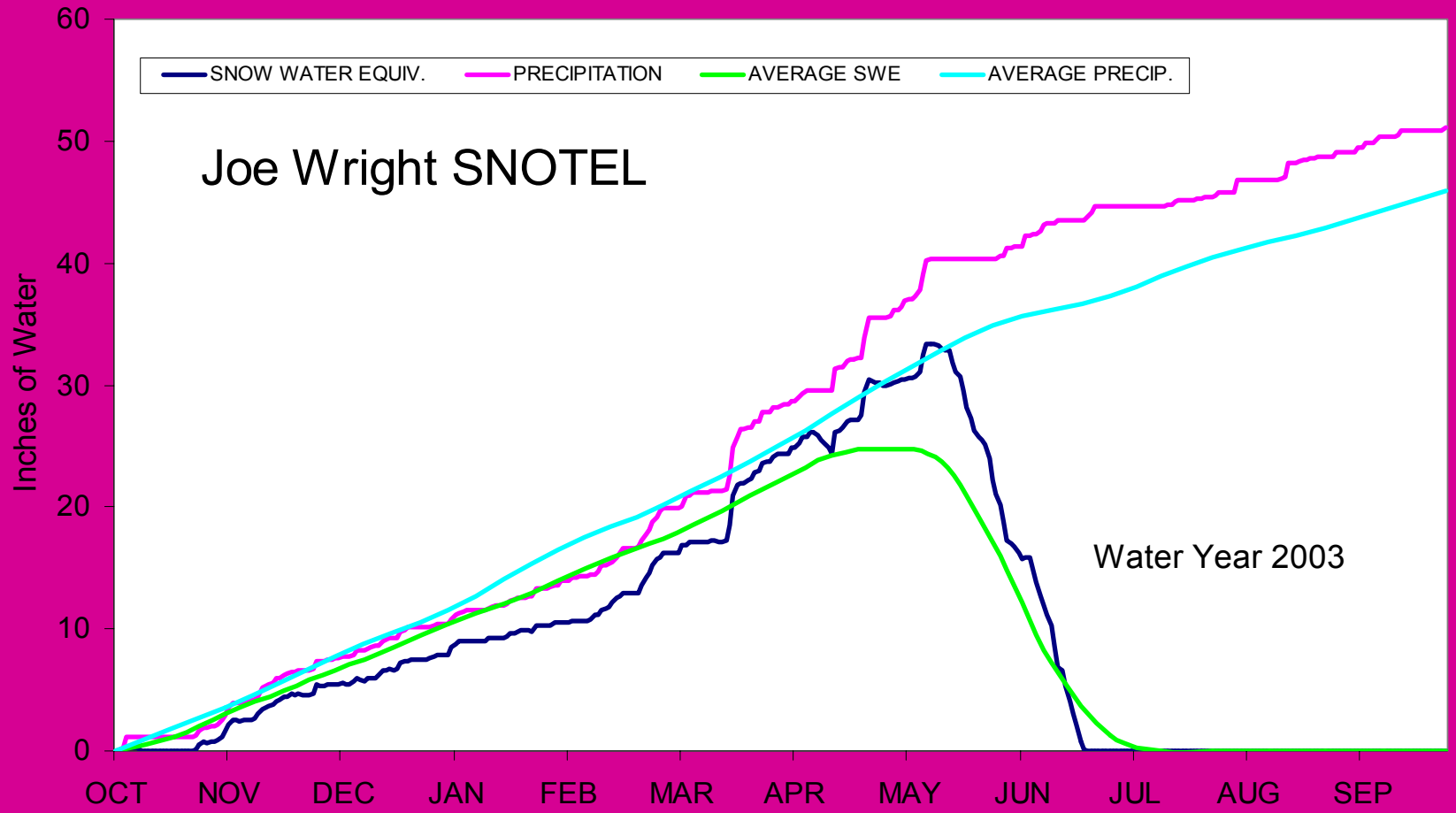
2003 Water Year Precipitation



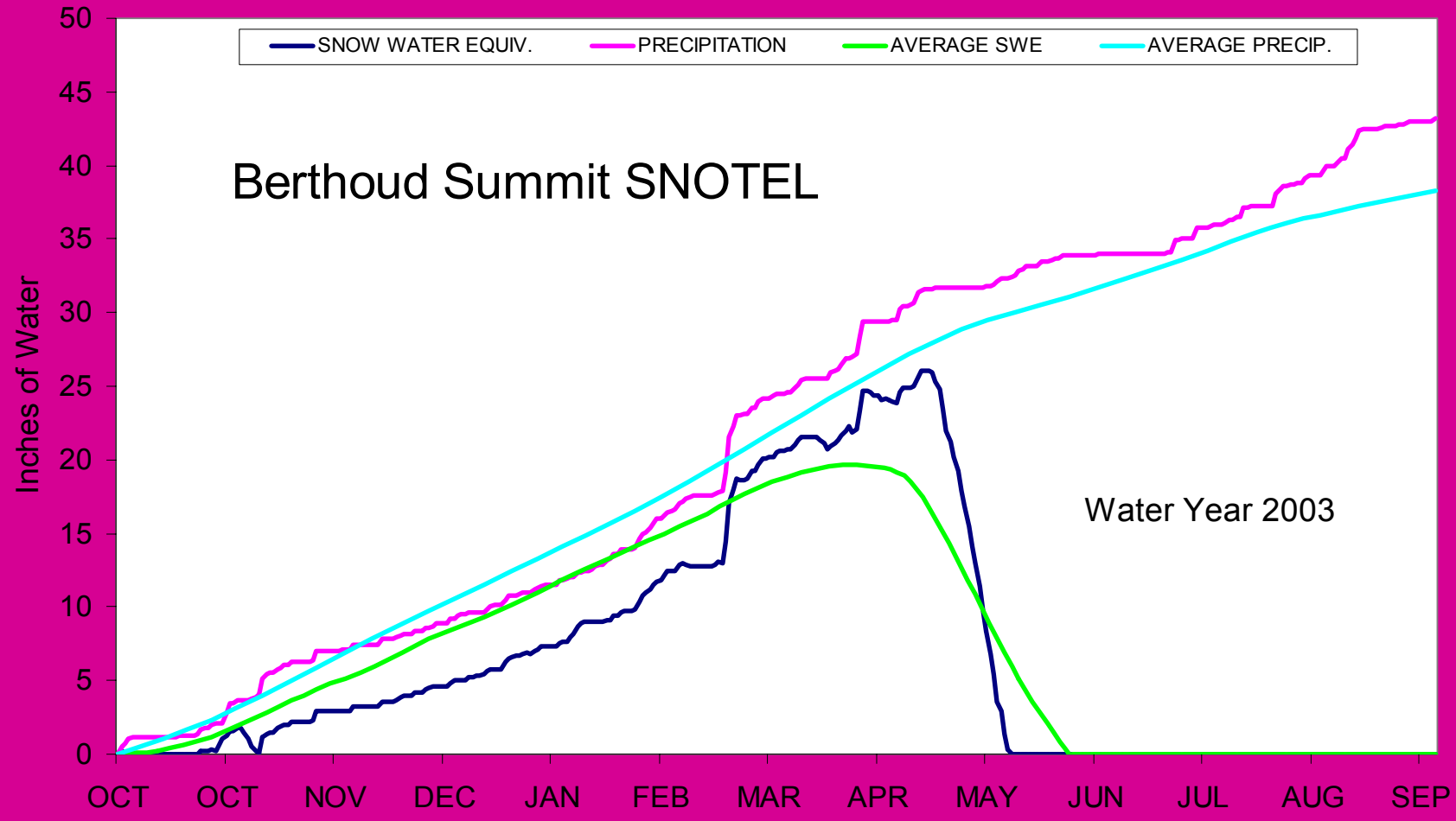
Fort Collins Daily Accumulated Precipitation for WY2002 and WY2003



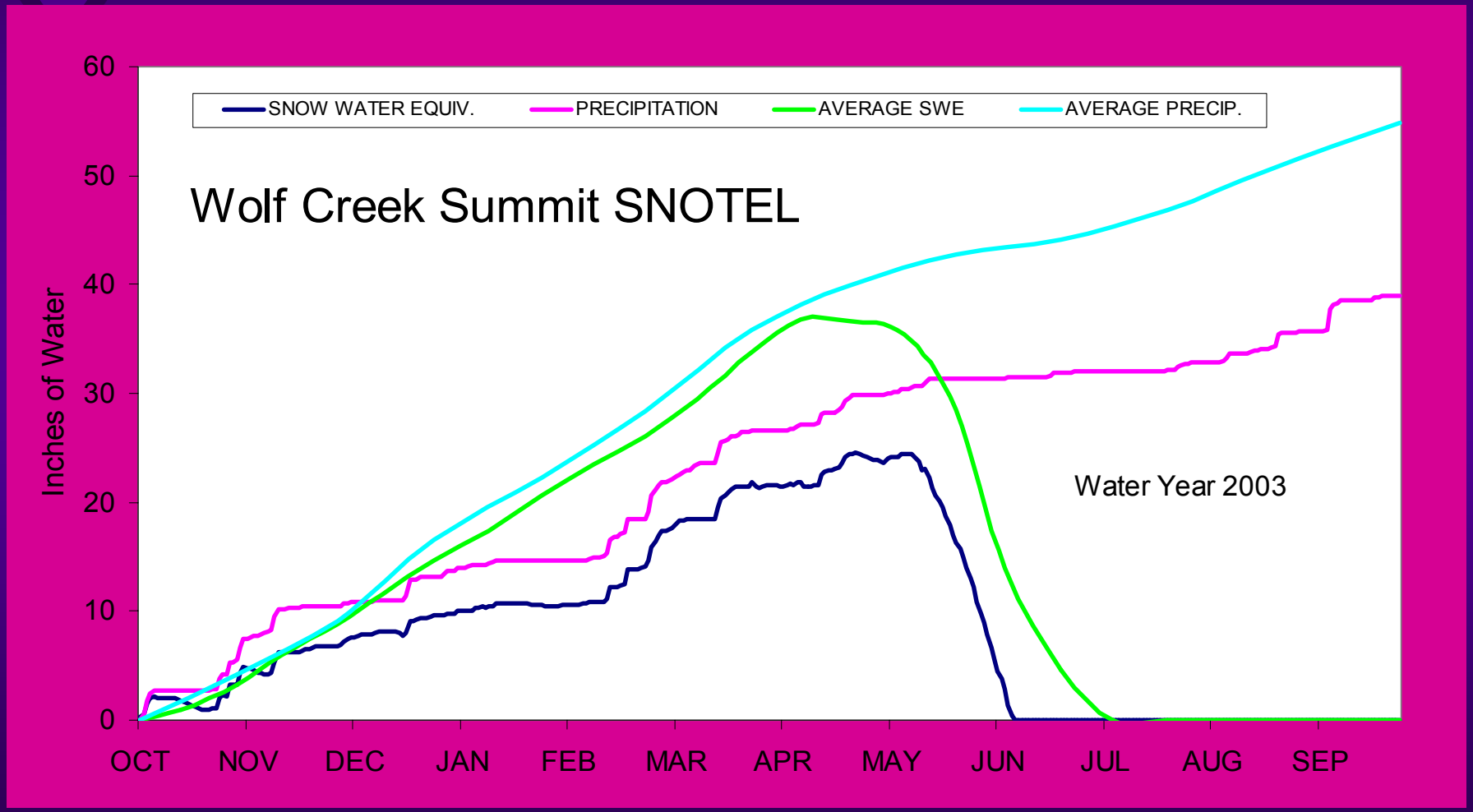
Joe Wright Snotel



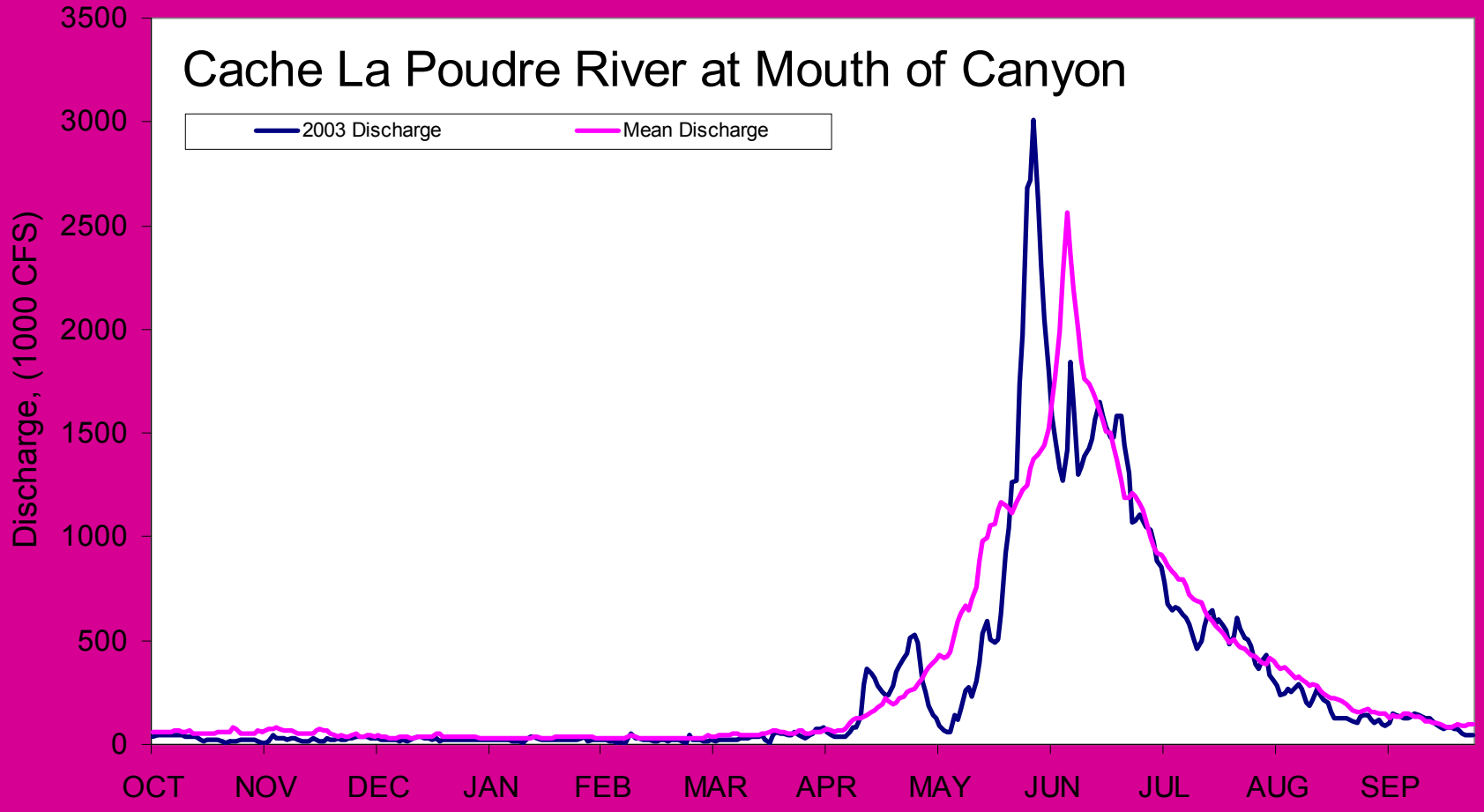
Berthoud Summit Snotel



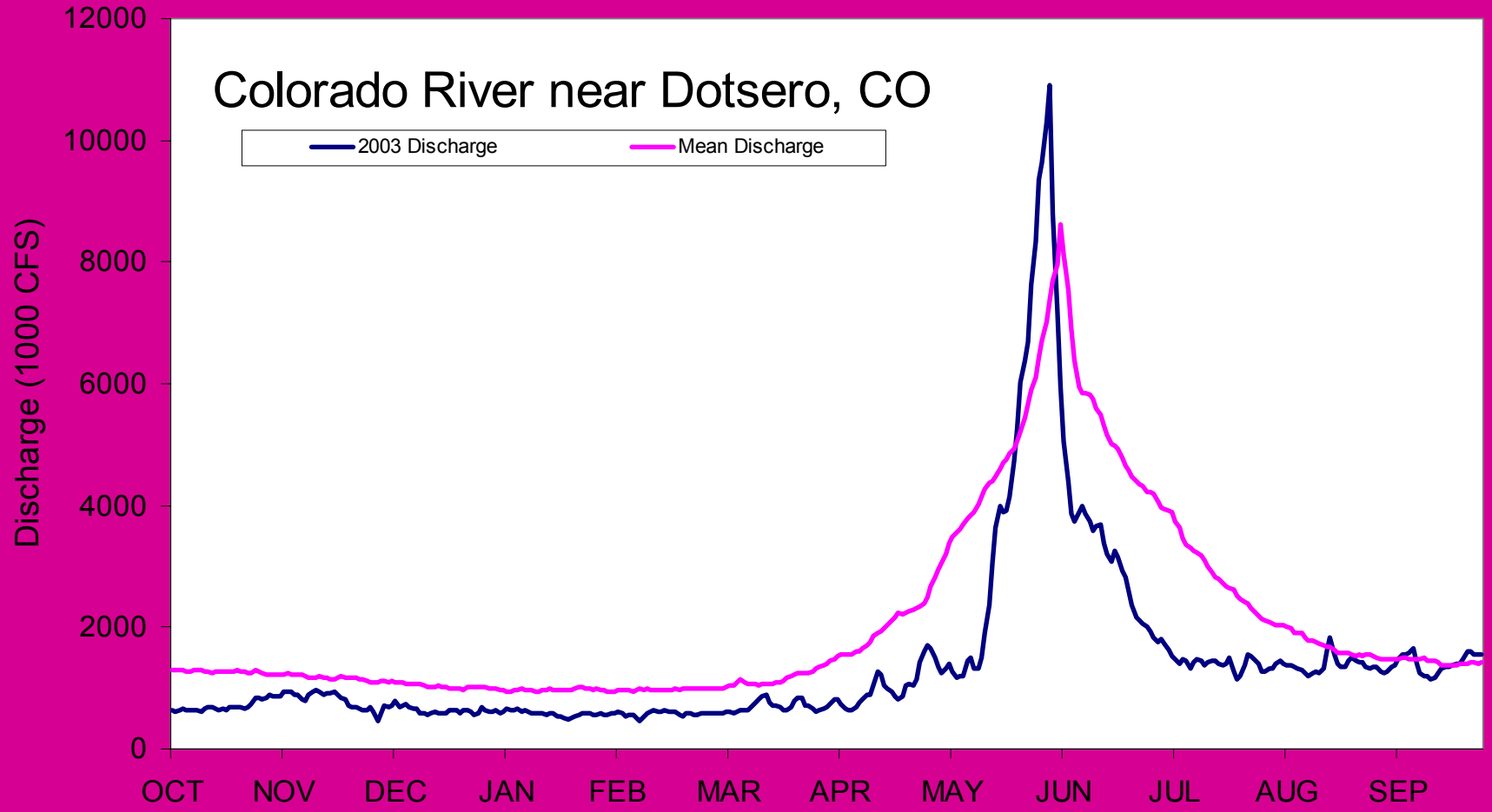
Wolf Creek Summit Snotel



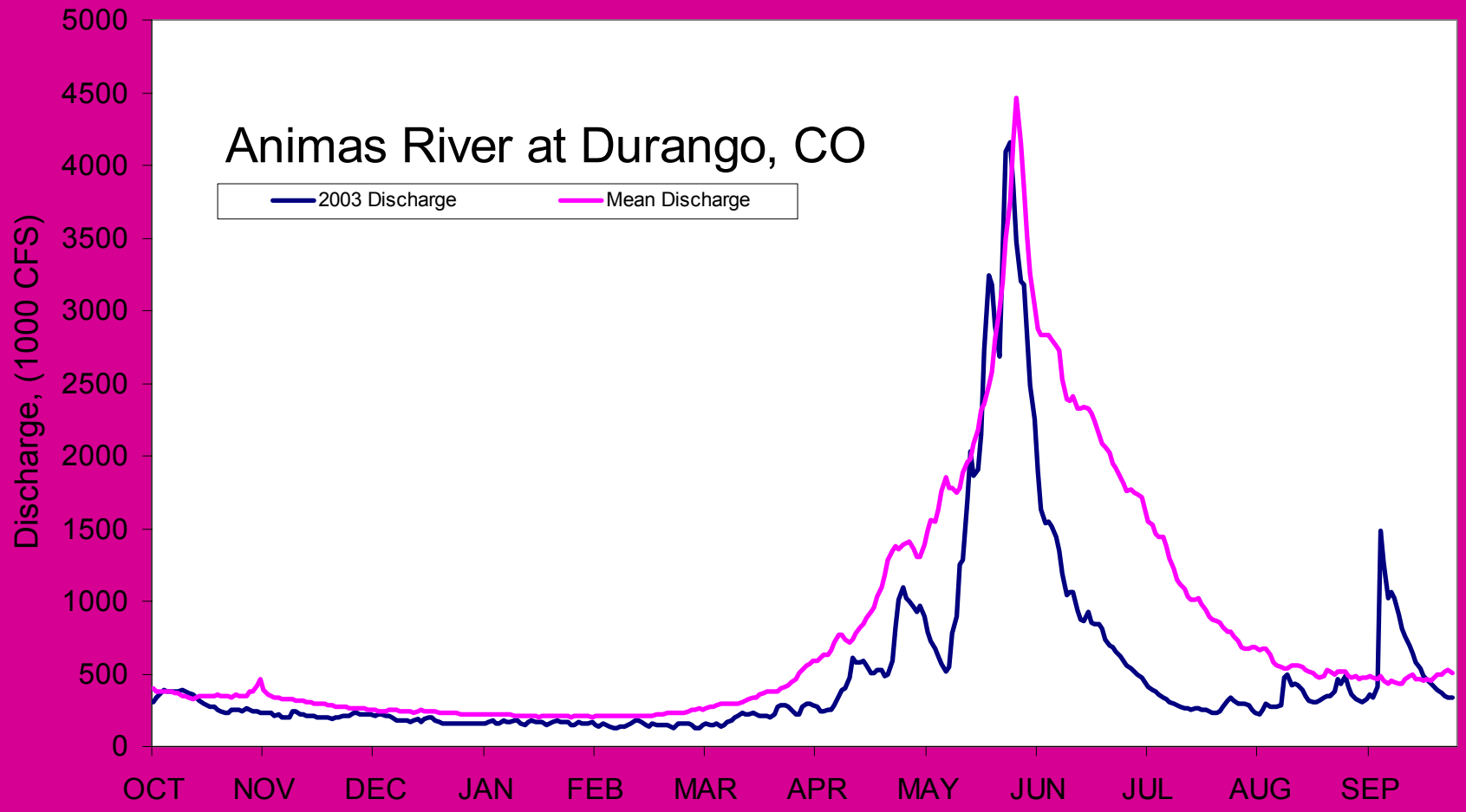
Cache La Poudre River Streamflow



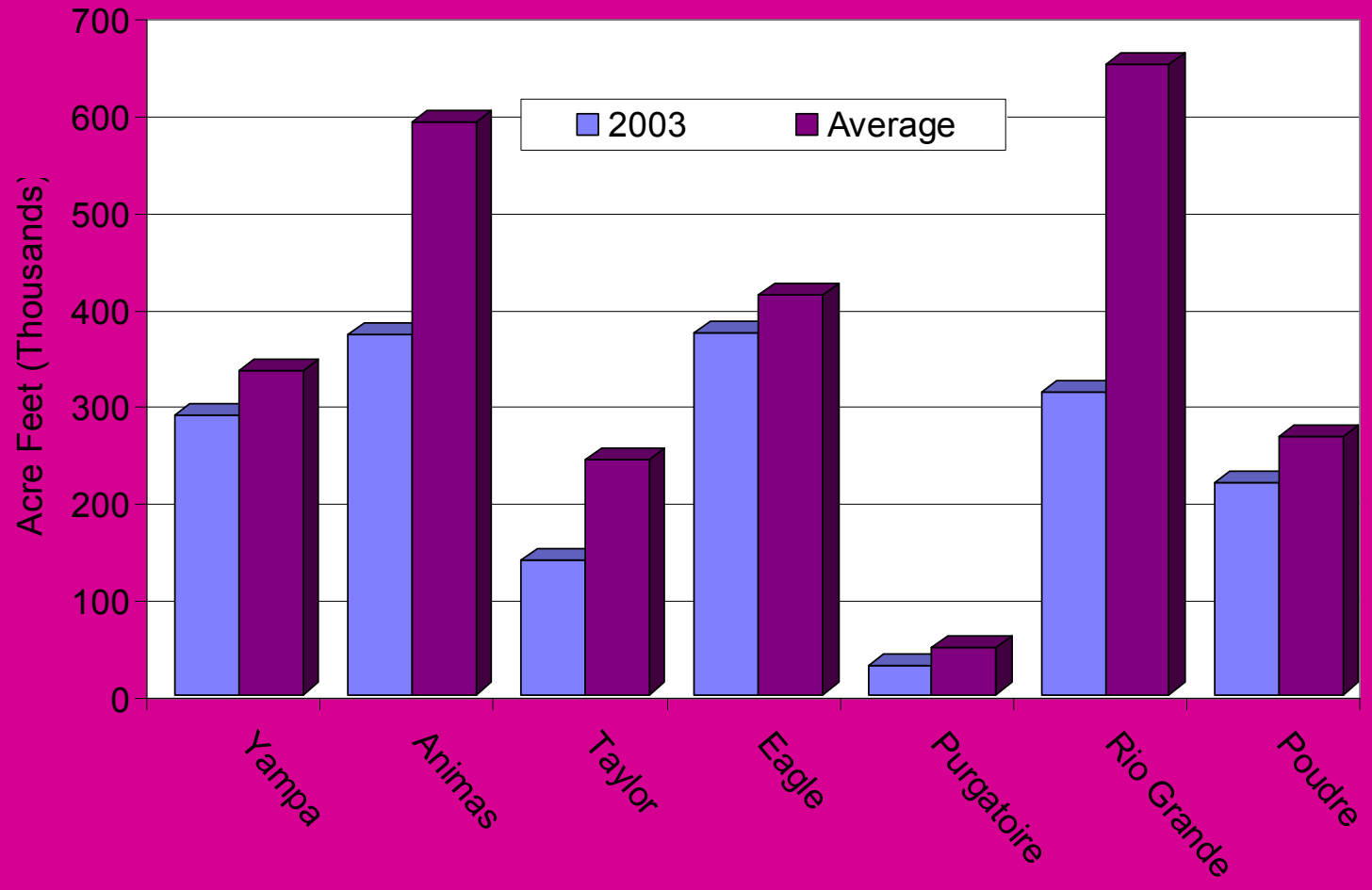
Colorado River Streamflow



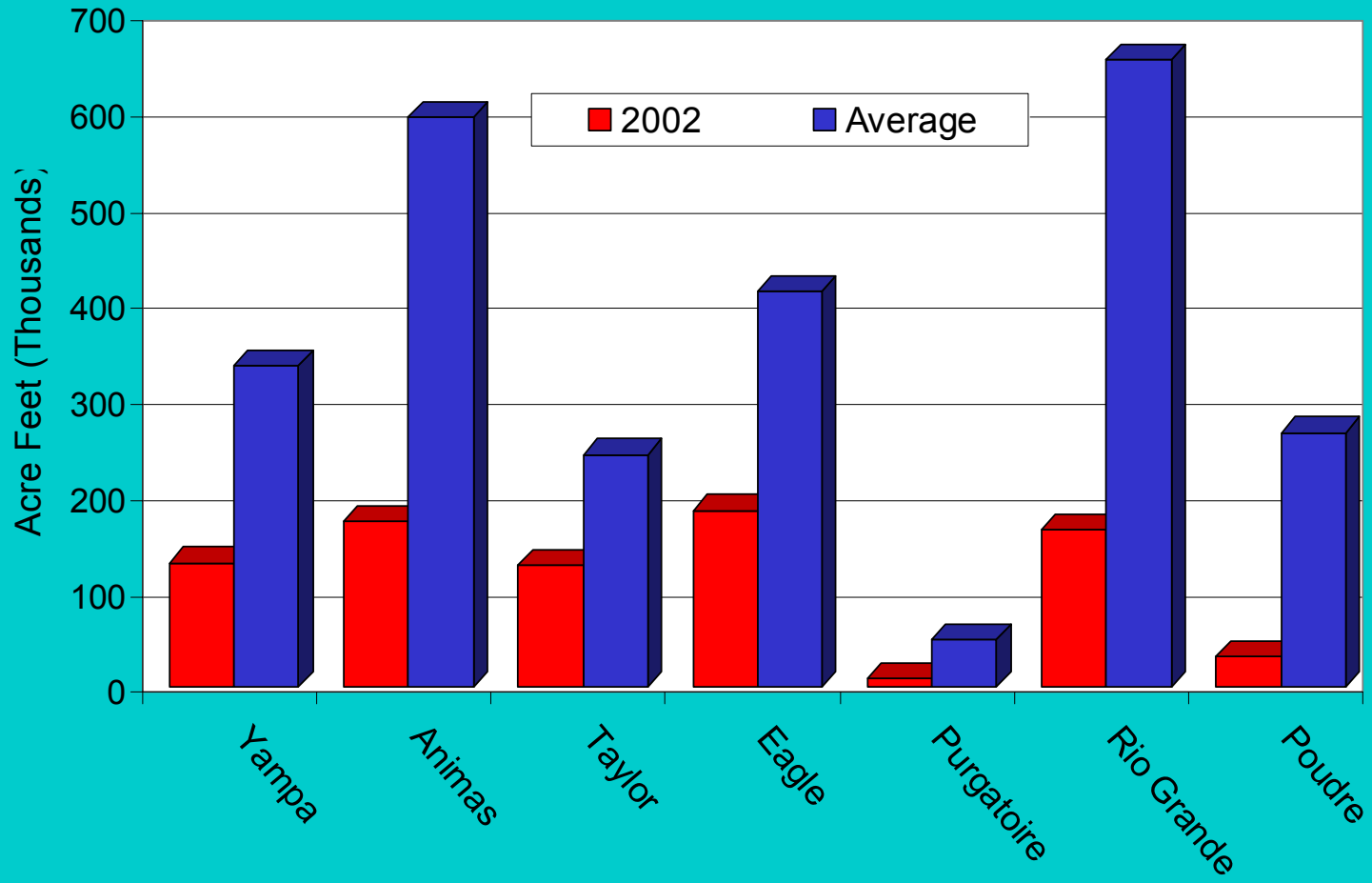
Animas River Streamflow



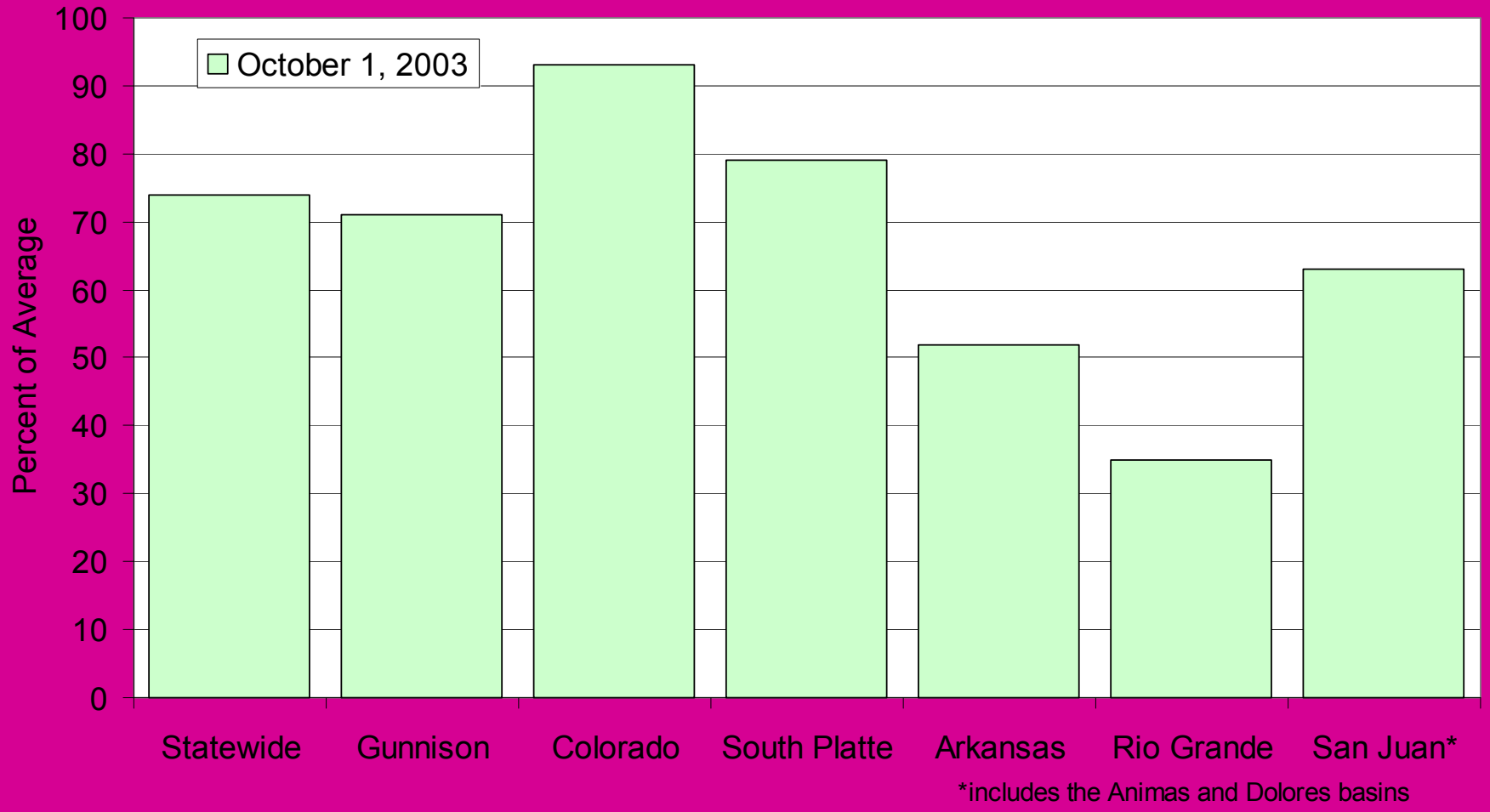
Streamflow for 2003 vs. Average



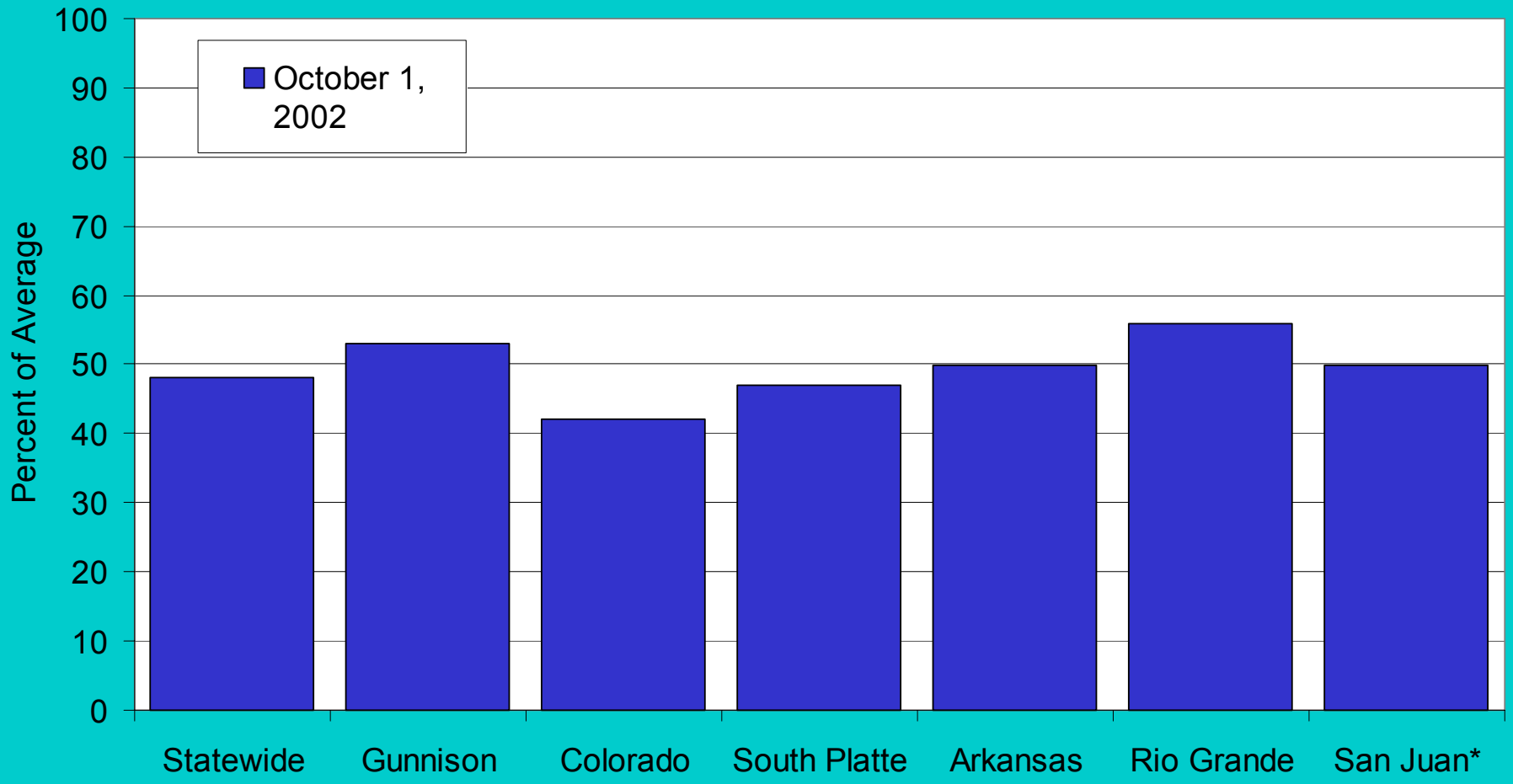
2002 Streamflows for Selected Basins



Reservoir Storage by Basin for Oct 1, 2003

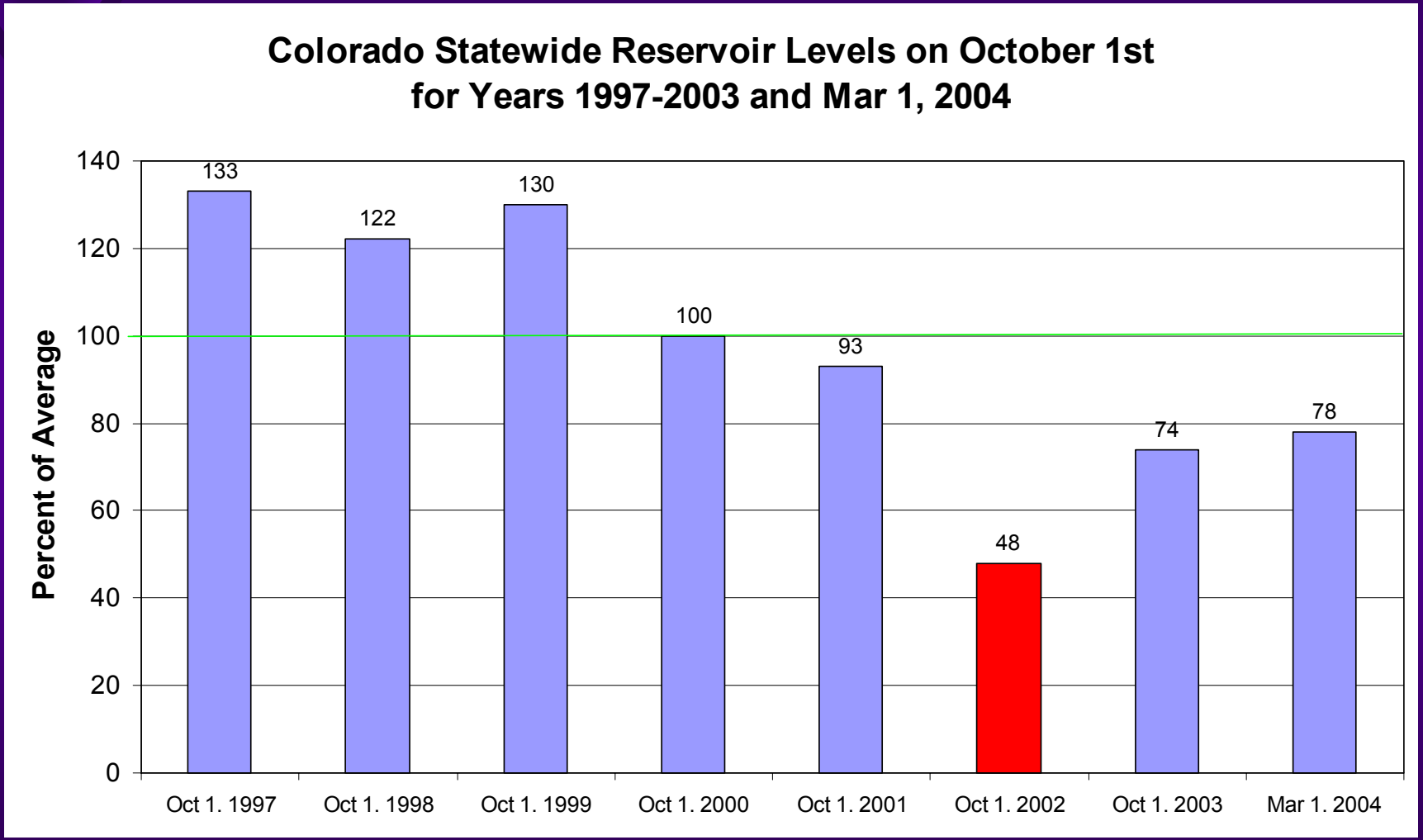


Reservoir Storage by Basin For Oct. 1, 2002



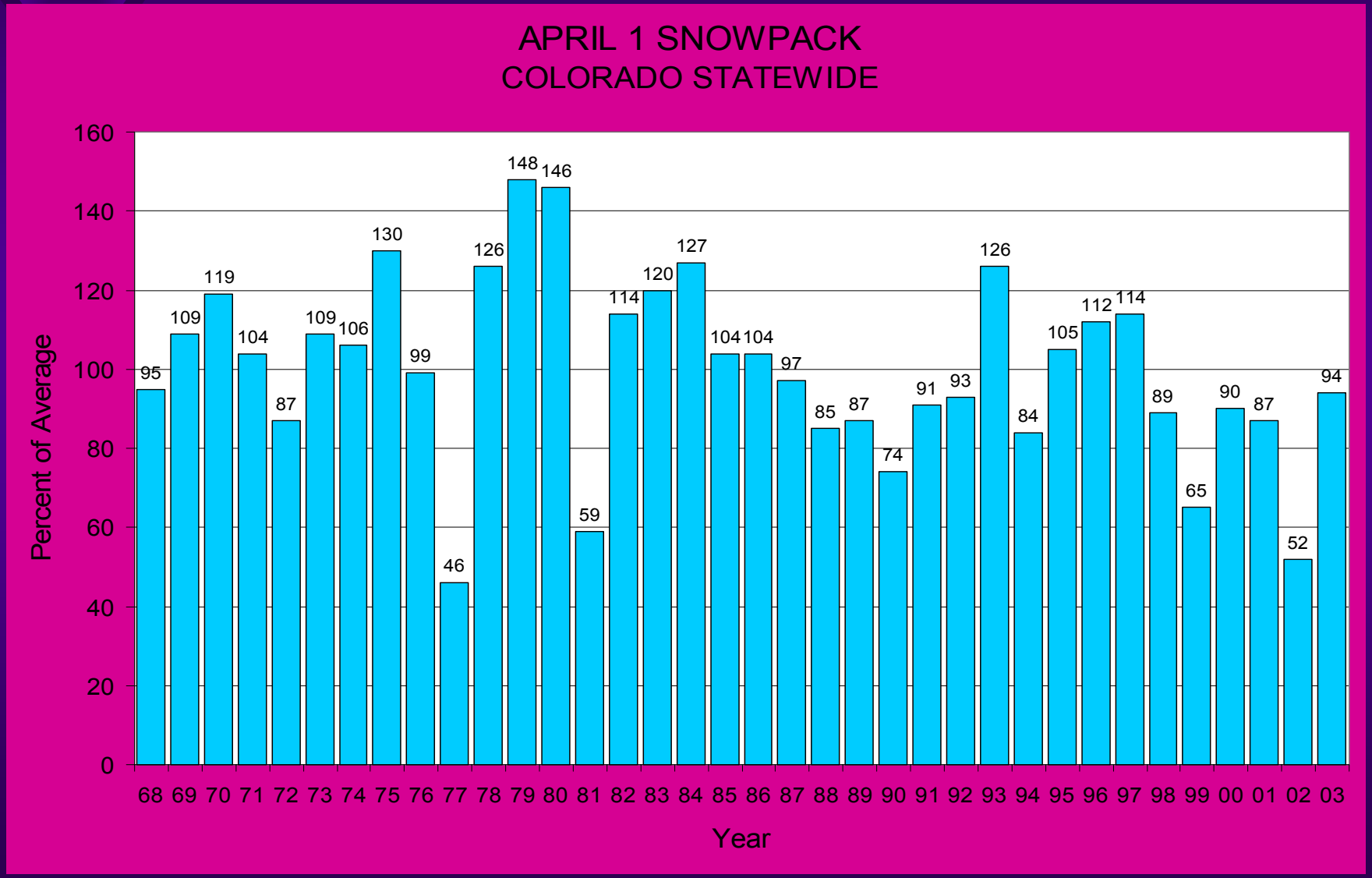
*includes the Animas and Dolores basins

Colorado Reservoir Storage



Provisional Data Provided by NRCS

April 1 Snowpack History



Colorado Climate Center
Colorado State University

- Data and Power Point Presentations available for downloading

- http://ccc.atmos.colostate.edu

  click on "Drought"

  then click on "Presentations"