



Weather & Climate Summary Denali National Park and Preserve Fall 2025

Caribou surrounded by fall foliage. NPS Photo/Kent Miller

Denali Park HQ Fall Season 2025

The 2025 fall season was warmer and wetter than normal at Denali Park Headquarters. October was the warmest and wettest month compared to normal. The fall season was 3.5°F warmer than the 1991-2020 normal and the 12th warmest on record. The total precipitation accumulation for the fall season was 5.44 inches, more than 1.5 times the normal amount. It was the 7th wettest fall on record (back to 1925). Every fall month was warmer than normal. November was the only month that was drier than normal (Table 1 and 2, Figures 1 and 2).

September

September was warmer and wetter than normal. The first few weeks of the month were mild with warm evenings that averaged about 7°F warmer than normal. Overall, the month was 1.1°F warmer than normal. September precipitation was 169% of normal. Early season snow fell on September 12-13 but melted off quickly with temperatures climbing to the upper 50s. A total of 5.9 inches of snow was recorded for the month, just over the 5-inch normal.

October

October was warmer and wetter than normal. The average monthly temperature was 5.1°F warmer than normal at 29.8°F. Of note again were the warmer than normal daily minimums. Overall, the daily lows averaged more than 7°F warmer than normal. October was another wet month with a mix of rain and snow. The wettest day was October 9th with 0.80 inches of rain. The warmer than normal temperatures kept the precipitation in liquid form for the most part, but a few days had 1 to 2 inches of snow with a monthly snow total of 5.4 inches. Normal is 9.4 inches. The persistent snow cover arrived on October 25

although it did not start to accumulate more than an inch or two until early November.

November

November was warmer and drier than normal. The warmth persisted into the final month of the fall season with the November average temperature coming in 4.2°F warmer than normal. Several daily high temperatures were above freezing, although no records were broken. November precipitation was only 64% of normal, with 10.7 inches of snow. November 7 was the snowiest day of the month with a total of 5 inches.

Table 1. Denali Park HQ monthly temperature totals compared to normal.

Fall 2025	Average Monthly Temp (°F)	1991-2020 Normal (°F)	Departure from Normal (°F)
September	41.9	40.8	+1.1
October	29.8	24.7	+5.1
November	14.0	9.8	+4.2

Fall temperature departure from normal: +3.5°F

Table 2. Denali Park HQ monthly precipitation totals compared to normal.

Fall 2025	Total Monthly Precip. (in.)	1991-2020 Normal (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)
September	2.94	1.74	+1.20
October	1.96	0.84	+1.12
November	0.54	0.84	-0.30

Fall precipitation departure from normal: +2.02 in. (159% of normal).

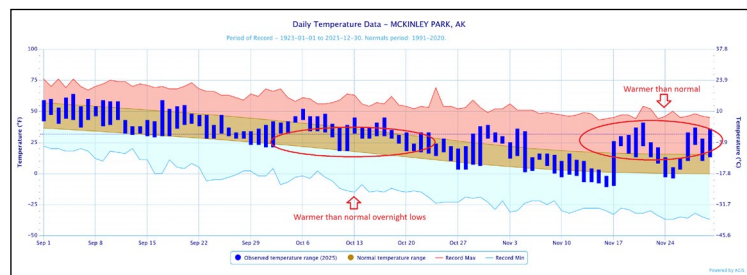


Figure 1. Fall 2025 daily temperatures at Denali Park HQ showing record maximum (red), record minimum (blue), normal (brown) and observed range (blue bars). <http://xmacis.rcc-acis.org/>

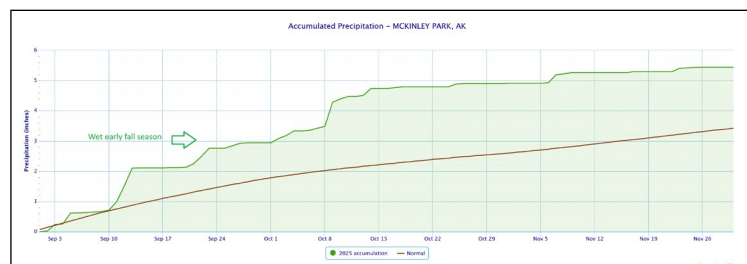


Figure 2. Fall 2025 accumulated precipitation at Denali Park HQ (green) compared to normal (brown line). <http://xmacis.rcc-acis.org/>

Water Year Wrap-Up at Park Headquarters

The end of September brings the end of the water year which we use to calculate annual precipitation to capture the entire winter season. At Park Headquarters 2025 was wetter than normal with a total of 17.96 inches for the year, which is 113% of normal. Winter precipitation was below normal while fall of 2024 and spring of 2025 were snowier than normal. The seasonal snowfall total was 10.2 inches above normal at 87 inches for the season (records back to 1925). April was the wettest month compared to normal (449% of normal), followed by August (177% of normal), and September (169% of normal).

October Statewide Warmth

October was much warmer than normal across most of Alaska and northwest Canada. Red shading in Figure 3 indicates that the average October temperature was $>4.5^{\circ}\text{F}$ warmer than normal, including Denali.

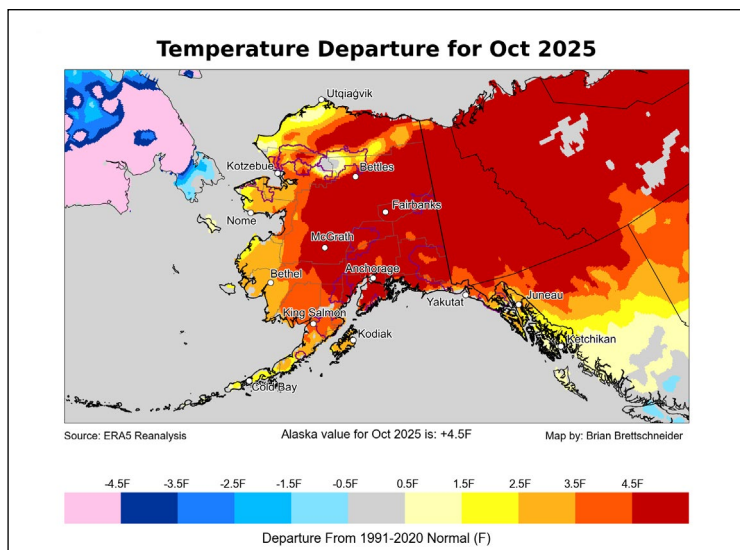


Figure 3. Statewide temperature departure for October 2025. Map courtesy of Brian Brettschneider using ERA5 reanalysis data.

Early Season Snow

October 1 marked the start of the 2026 water year which we use to capture the entire winter season and track the movement of water through the landscape. At Kantishna the cumulative precipitation (Oct 1 – Nov 30) was 3.0 inches, 143% of normal, most of that fell as rain in September and early October. The snow depth on November 30th was 5 inches, 6 inches below the median and the lowest on record (since 2007). Tokositna Valley also had more precipitation than normal for the fall season, 129% of normal at the end of November. The snow depth was 12 inches, 8 inches below normal for November 30 (Figure 4).

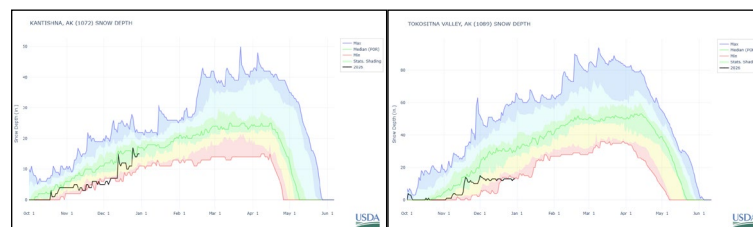


Figure 4. Kantishna (left) and Tokositna Valley (right) snow depth for October-September time period, with maximum (blue), minimum (red), and median (green) snow depth (2007-2025). The black line is the current year through Dec. 30.

Eielson Visitor Center Fall Temperatures

At the Eielson Visitor Center climate station, the 2025 fall season was 0.9°F warmer than the site average at 28.5°F . It was the 7th warmest fall in the past two decades (Figure 5). September was cooler than average, while October and November were warmer than average (2006-2025). The warmest fall to date was 2018 at 34.8°F and the coolest was 2021 at 20.3°F , a range of more than 14°F .

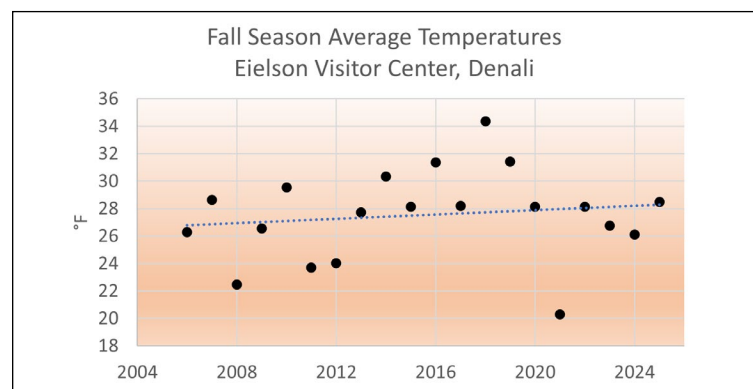


Figure 5. Fall season average temperatures at Eielson Visitor Center 2006-2025, Denali NP&P.

Current Weather in Denali

More Information

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<https://www.nps.gov/im/cakn/climate.htm>

Data disclaimer: Please note that the near-real time data used to generate these reports is subject to change. QA/QC data from the NPS CAKN/ARCN climate stations are available at [nps data store](https://www.nps.gov/im/cakn/climate.htm)