

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO Weather Station Monthly Summary Report

Month: April
Year: 2012



Temperature:

Mean T_{\max} was 69.6 which is 7.4 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the warmest in the 124 year record (1889-2012). The second warmest on record is 1946 with 69.3 degrees.

Mean T_{\min} was 40.0 degrees which is 4.5 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the warmest in the 124 year record (1889-2012). The second warmest on record is 1981 with 39.2 degrees.

Mean T_{mean} was 54.8 degrees which is 5.9 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the warmest in the 124 year record (1889-2012). The second warmest on record is 1981 with 54.1 degrees.

The combined March-April mean temperature was 52.4 degrees (+7.3 degrees) and the warmest on record.

The calendar year (Jan-Apr) mean temperature was 43.5 degrees (+4.7 degrees) and was also the warmest on record.

The maximum daily temperature was 88 and occurred 24 April 2012. The minimum daily temperature was 30 and occurred on 8 April 2012.

A time series of April temperatures for Fort Collins, CO is shown in Figure 1 below.

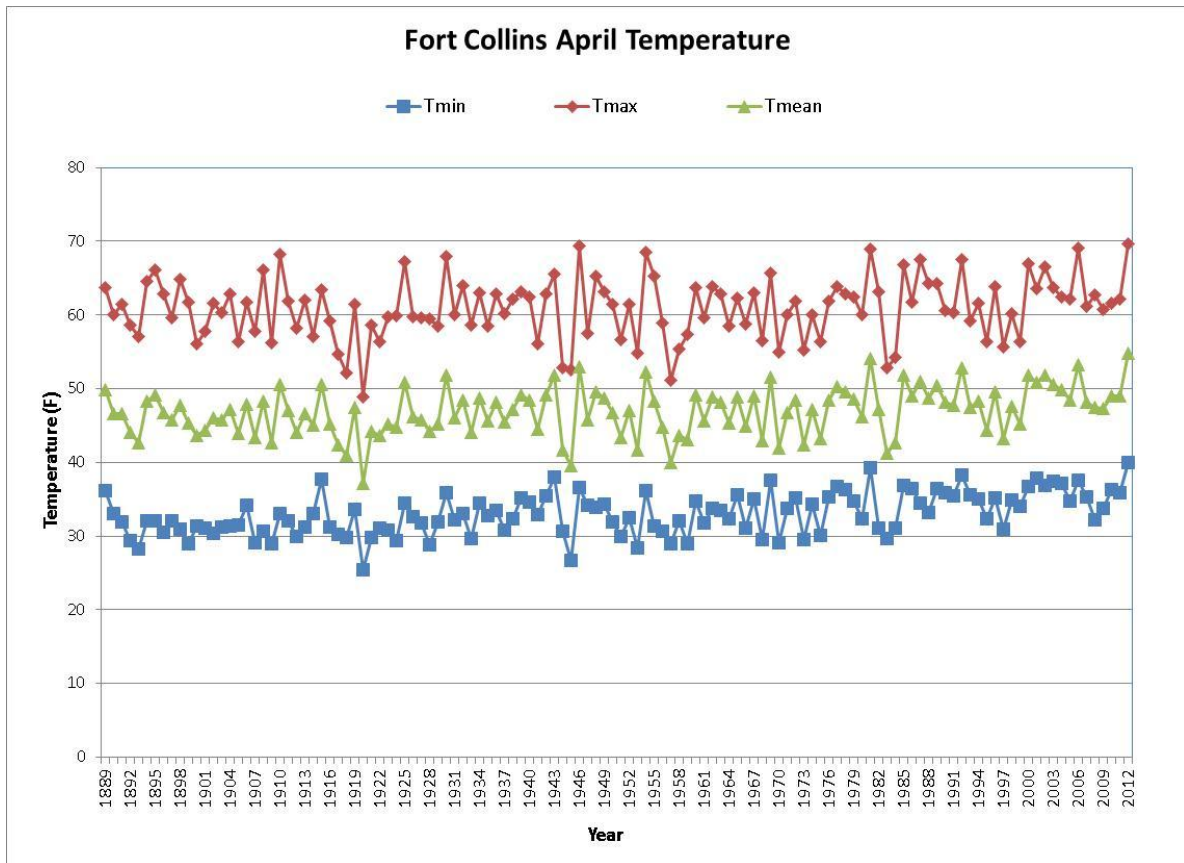


Figure 1: April temperature time series

Misc. Temperature (record status, days above/below thresholds):

Highest Maximum Temperature

- 1 April 2012:** 82 breaks the previous record of 78 set in 2004.
- 23 April 2012:** 84 breaks the previous record of 83 set in 1989.
- 24 April 2012:** 88 breaks the previous record of 84 set in 1996.
- 25 April 2012:** 82 ties the previous record set in 1891, 1938, and 1981.

Highest Minimum Temperature

- 11 April 2012:** 50 breaks the previous record of 45 set in 1992.
- 25 April 2012:** 48 ties the previous record set in 1940 and 1998.
- 26 April 2012:** 53 breaks the previous record of 52 set in 1974.

Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation was 0.40” and was 1.66” below the normal for the month (19% of normal). This ranks as the 8th driest April in the 124 year record (1889-2012). The last April this dry was 2006 with 0.22”.

Water year 2012 precipitation through April was 4.62” and was 2.24” below the normal (67% of normal). This ranks as the 38th driest water year in the 123 year data record (1890-2012). The last water year this dry by April was 2004 with 4.42”.

March-April precipitation was 0.40” (3.25” below normal) and ranked as the 2nd driest in the 124 year record.

Calendar year (Jan-Apr) precipitation was 1.19” (3.26” below normal) and ranks as the 4th driest in the 124 record.

Time series of April and water year precipitation are shown in Figure 2.

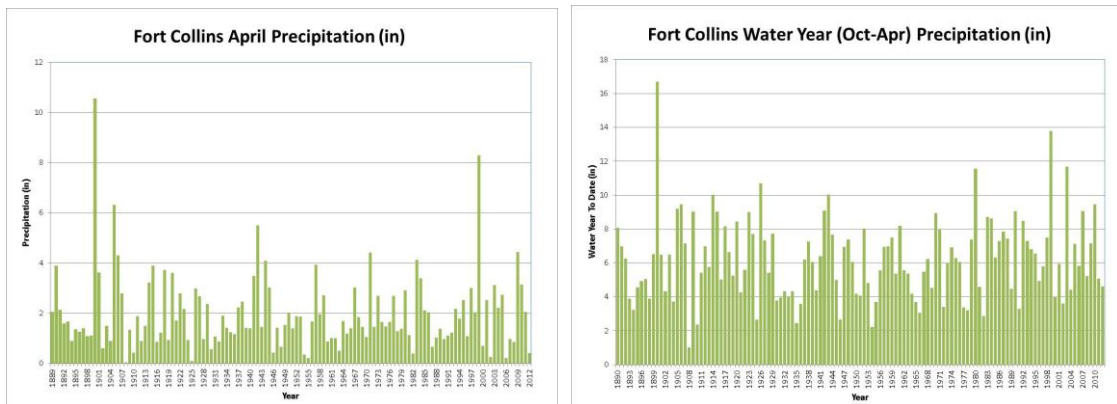


Figure 2: April (left) and water year (right) precipitation time series.

Total monthly snowfall was a Trace and was 6.2” below the normal (0% of normal) and ranks as the 14th least snowiest April in the 124 year record (1889 -2012) tied with 2006.

Seasonal snowfall was 49.9” and was 5.2” below the normal for the season by April (91% of normal). This ranks as the 50th snowiest season in the 123 year data record (1890-2012) tied with 1903 and 1955.

Mar-April total snowfall was only a Trace and ties 1910 as the least snowy Mar-Apr total.

Time series of April and seasonal snowfall are shown in Figure 3.

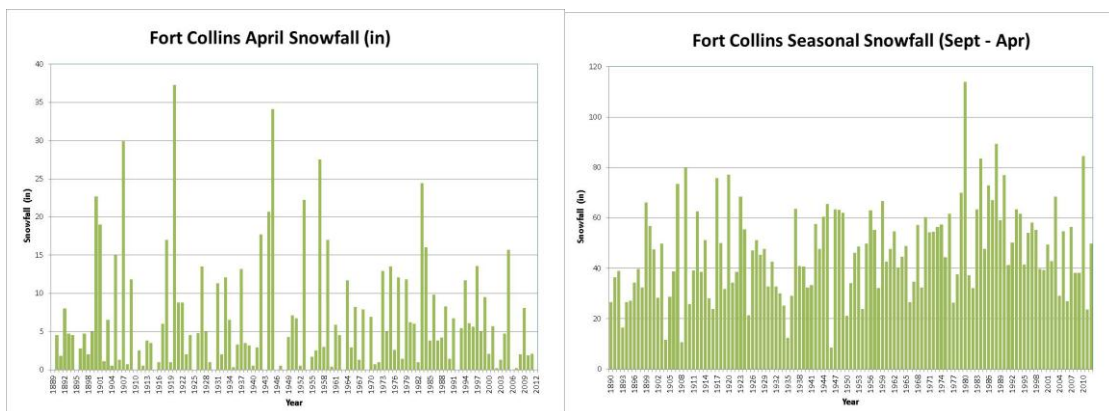


Figure 3: April (left) and seasonal (right) snowfall time series.

Misc. Precipitation (predominant type, record status, etc.):

Wind:

In April 2012 there were 14 days with maximum wind gusts ≥ 20 mph and 4 days ≥ 30 mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 38 mph and occurred on 28 April 2012 at 3:50 MST from 280°.

Evaporation:

April 2012 pan evaporation was 5.59" and is 0.87" above the normal for the month (119%).