

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

Month: April
Year: 2013



Temperature:

Mean T_{\max} was 57.1 which is 5.1 degrees below the normal for the month. This ranks as the 26th coolest in the 125 year record (1889-2013). The last April this cold was 1999 with 56.4 degrees.

Mean T_{\min} was 30.4 degrees which is 5.1 degrees below the normal for the month. This ranks as the 24st coolest in the 125 year record (1889-2013) tied with 1902. The last April this cold was 1983 with 29.6 degrees.

Mean T_{mean} was 43.8 degrees which is 5.2 degrees below the normal for the month. This ranks as the 23rd coolest in the 125 year record (1889-2013). The last April this cold was 1997 with 43.2 degrees.

The maximum daily temperature was 81 and occurred on 28 April 2013. The minimum daily temperature was 10 and occurred on 18 April 2013.

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

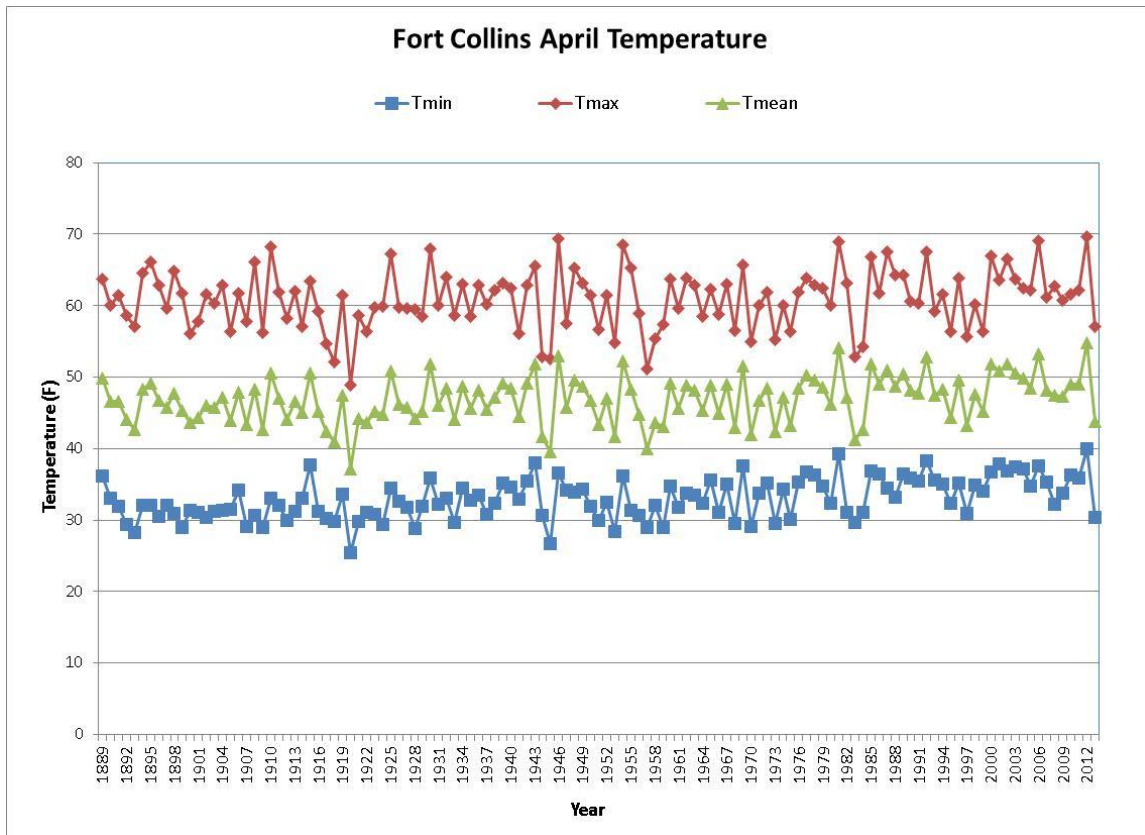


Figure 1: April temperature time series

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

Lowest Maximum Temperature:

17 April 2013: High temperature of 30 breaks the old record of 33 set in 1944.

Lowest Minimum Temperature:

23 April 2013: Low temperature of 18 breaks the old record of 20 set in 1920.

24 April 2013: Low temperature of 22 ties the old record set in 1931.

Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation was 2.84” and was 0.78” above the normal for the month (138% of normal). This ranks as the 26th wettest in the 125 year record (1889-2013). The last April this wet was 2010 with 3.15”.

Water year 2013 precipitation total was 5.68” and was 1.18” below the normal for the water year through April (83% of normal). This ranks as the 56th driest start to the water year in the 124 year data record (1890-2013). The last water year to start this dry was 2012 with 4.62”.

Total monthly snowfall was 29.4” which is 23.2” above the normal for the month (474% of normal). This ranks as the 4th snowiest April in the 125 year record (1889-2013). The last April this snowy was 1945 with 34.1.

Table 1: Top 5 snowiest Aprils.

Year	April Snowfall (in)
1920	37.3
1945	34.1
1907	29.9
2013	29.4
1957	27.5

Seasonal snowfall was 66.3” which is 11.2” above the normal for the season (120% of normal). This ranks as the 16th snowiest season in the 124 year snow season record (1890-2013). The last season with this much snow was 2010 with 84.6”.

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

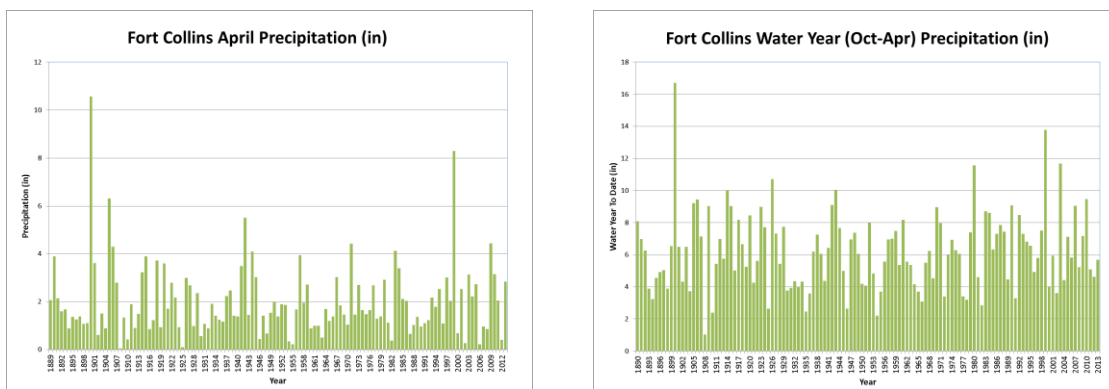


Figure 2: April (left) and water year (right) precipitation time series.

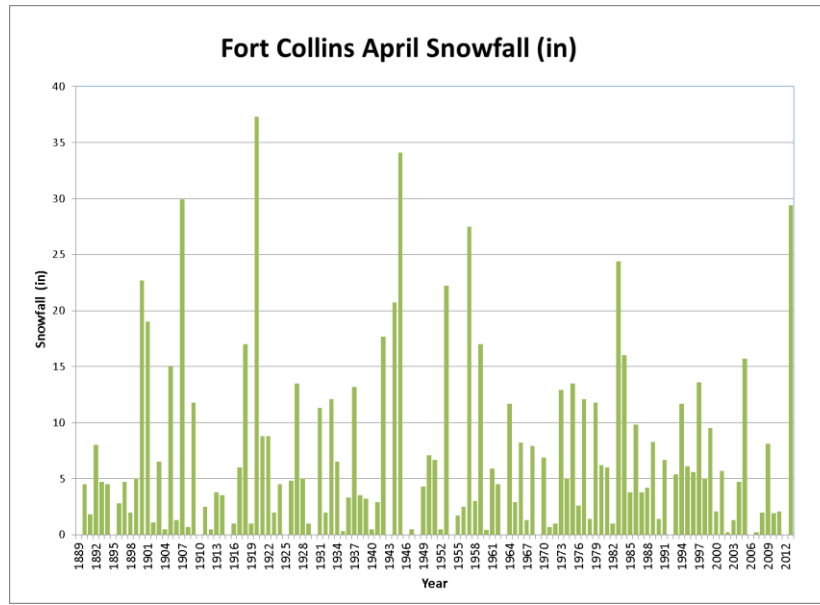


Figure 3: April snowfall time series.

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

Maximum Daily Snowfall:

15 April 2013: Daily snowfall of 9.4” breaks the old daily snowfall record of 4.0” set in 1921.

16 April 2013: Daily snowfall of 7.1” breaks the old daily snowfall record of 4.1” set in 1944.

23 April 2013: Daily snowfall of 2.6” breaks the old daily snowfall record of 2.4” set in 1937.

The 3 day snowfall total from 4/15-4/17 2013 of 22.4” is the second largest April snowfall event, the highest is 4/17-4/19 1920 with 23.0”.

Wind:

In April 2013 there were 12 days with maximum wind gusts ≥ 20 mph and 3 days ≥ 30 mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 37 mph and occurred on 14 April 2013 at 0:20 MST from 295°.

Evaporation:

April 2013 pan evaporation was 3.55" which was 1.17" below the normal for April (75% of normal).