

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

**Month: February**  
**Year: 2012**



## **Temperature:**

Mean  $T_{\max}$  was 43.7 which is 2.8 degrees below the normal for the month. This ranks as the 53<sup>rd</sup> coolest in the 124 year record (1889-2012) tied with 2007.

Mean  $T_{\min}$  was 21.0 degrees which is 0.1 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the 33<sup>rd</sup> warmest in the 124 year record (1889-2012) tied with 1967 and 1969. The last February this warm was 2009 with 23.6 degrees.

Mean  $T_{\text{mean}}$  was 32.4 degrees which is 1.4 degrees below the normal for the month. This ranks as the 50<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 124 year record (1889-2012) tied with 1915.

Winter (DJF) mean temperature was 32.7 degrees which is 1.0 degrees above the normal for the winter. This ranks as the 18<sup>th</sup> warmest winter in the 123 year record (1890-2012) tied with 2004. The last winter this warm was 2009 with 33.4 degrees.

The maximum daily temperature was 62 and occurred 25 February 2012. The minimum daily temperature was 5 and occurred on 12 February 2012.

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

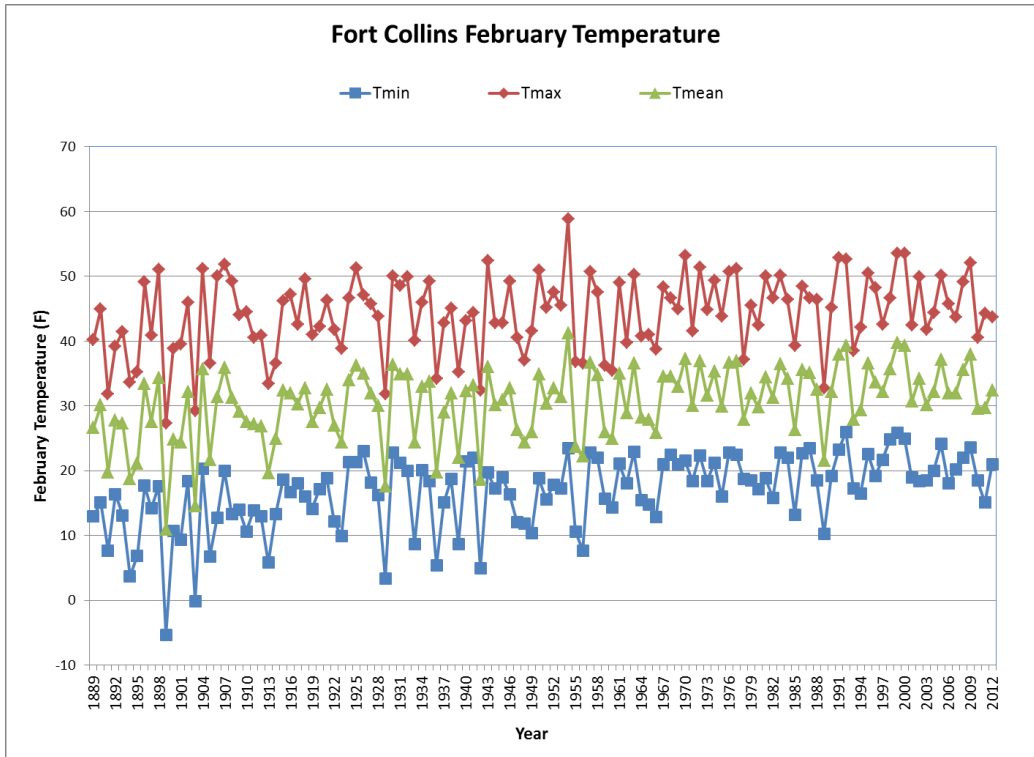


Figure 1: February temperature time series

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

*Highest Minimum Temperature*

22 February 2012: Daily minimum temperature of 45 breaks the old record of 39 set in 1925.

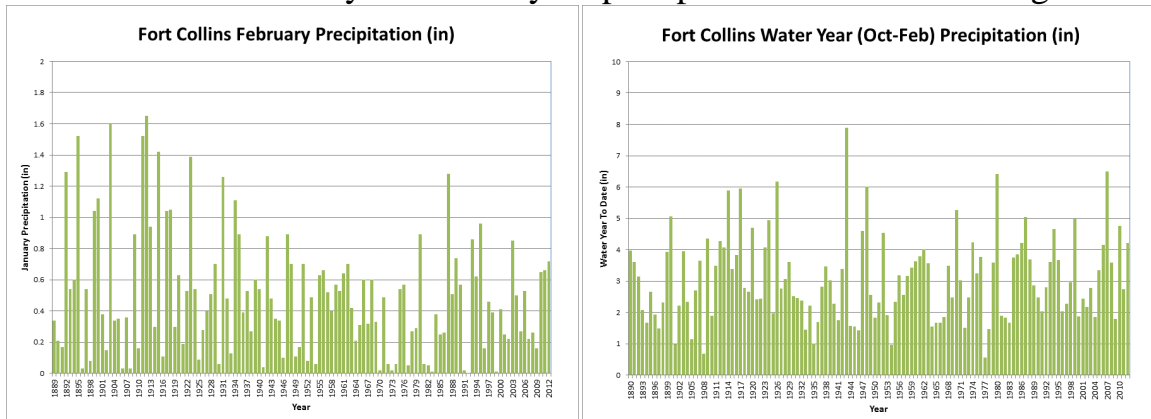
**Precipitation and Snowfall\*:**

Total monthly precipitation was 0.72” and was 0.32” above the normal for the month (180% of normal). This ranks as the 25<sup>th</sup> wettest February in the 124 year record (1889-2012). The last February this wet was 2003 with 0.85”.

Water year 2012 precipitation through February was 4.22” and was 1.01” above the normal (131% of normal). This ranks as the 21<sup>st</sup> wettest water year in the 123 year data record (1890-2012) tied with 1986. The last water year to start this wet was the 2010 water year with 4.77”.

Winter (DJF) precipitation was 1.58” and was 0.28” above the normal for the winter (122%). This ranks as the 39<sup>th</sup> wettest winter in the 123 year data record (1890-2012). The last winter this wet was 2010 with 1.91”.

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



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

Total monthly snowfall was 14.7” and was 7.8” above the normal (213% of normal) and ranks as the 13<sup>th</sup> snowiest February in the 124 year record (1889-2012). The last February with this much snowfall was 1990 with 16.1”.

Seasonal snowfall was 49.9” and was 13.6” above the normal for the season by February (138% of normal). This ranks as the 11<sup>th</sup> snowiest season in the 123 year data record (1890-2012). The last snow season this snowy was the 2009-10 season which had 69.6” by the end of February.

Winter (DJF) snowfall was 29.6” and was 6.4” above the normal for the winter (128%). This ranks as the 20<sup>th</sup> snowiest winter in the 123 year data record (1890-2012). The last winter this snowy was 2010 with 37.0”.

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

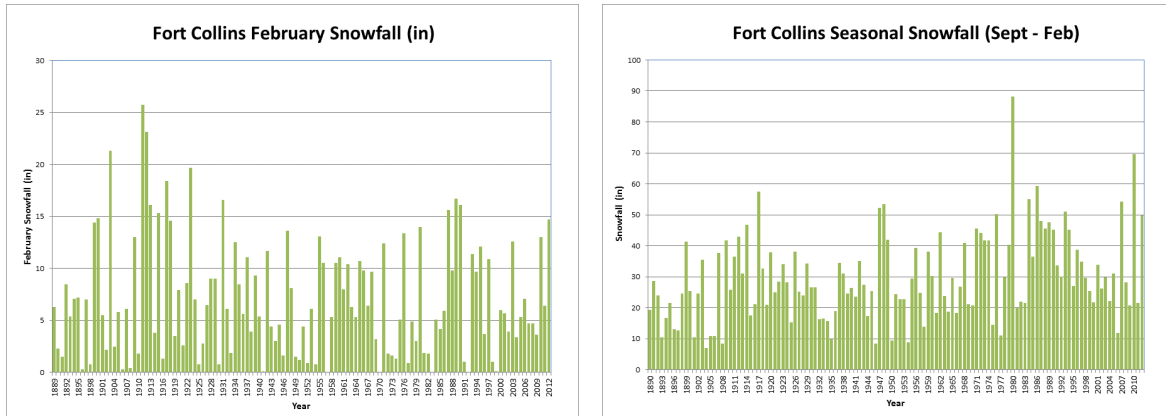


Figure 3: February (left) and seasonal (right) snowfall time series.

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

### *Daily Precipitation*

3 February 2012: Daily precipitation of 0.51” breaks the old record of 0.37” set in 1903.

### *Daily Snowfall*

3 February 2012: Daily snowfall of 9.1” breaks the old record of 8.0” set in 1955.

## Wind:

In February 2012 there were 13 days with maximum wind gusts  $\geq 20$  mph and 5 days  $\geq 30$  mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 45 mph and occurred on 22 February 2012 at 14:20 MST from 250°.