

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

Month: February
Year: 2018



Hoarfrost on a tree from February 9. Photo credit Ben Toms.

Temperature:

Mean T_{\max} was 44.3°F which is 2.2° below the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 59th coolest in the 130 year record (1889-2018), tied with 2011. The last February this cold or colder was 2014, with 42.3°F.

Mean T_{\min} was 16.8°F which is 4.1° below the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 53rd coolest in the 130 year record (1889-2018). The last February this cold or colder was 2014 with 16.3°F.

Mean T_{mean} was 30.6°F which is 3.1° below the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 57th coolest in the 130 year record (1889-2018). The last February this cold or colder was 2014 with 29.3°F.

Winter (December-February) mean temperature was 32.7°F which is 1.0° above the 1981-2010 normal for the season. This ranks as the 22nd warmest in the 129 year record (1890-2018), tied with 2004, 2012 and 2017. The last winter this warm was 2017 with 32.7°F.

The maximum daily temperature for the month was 67°F and occurred on February 18, 2018.

The minimum daily temperature for the month was -3°F and occurred on February 20, 2018.

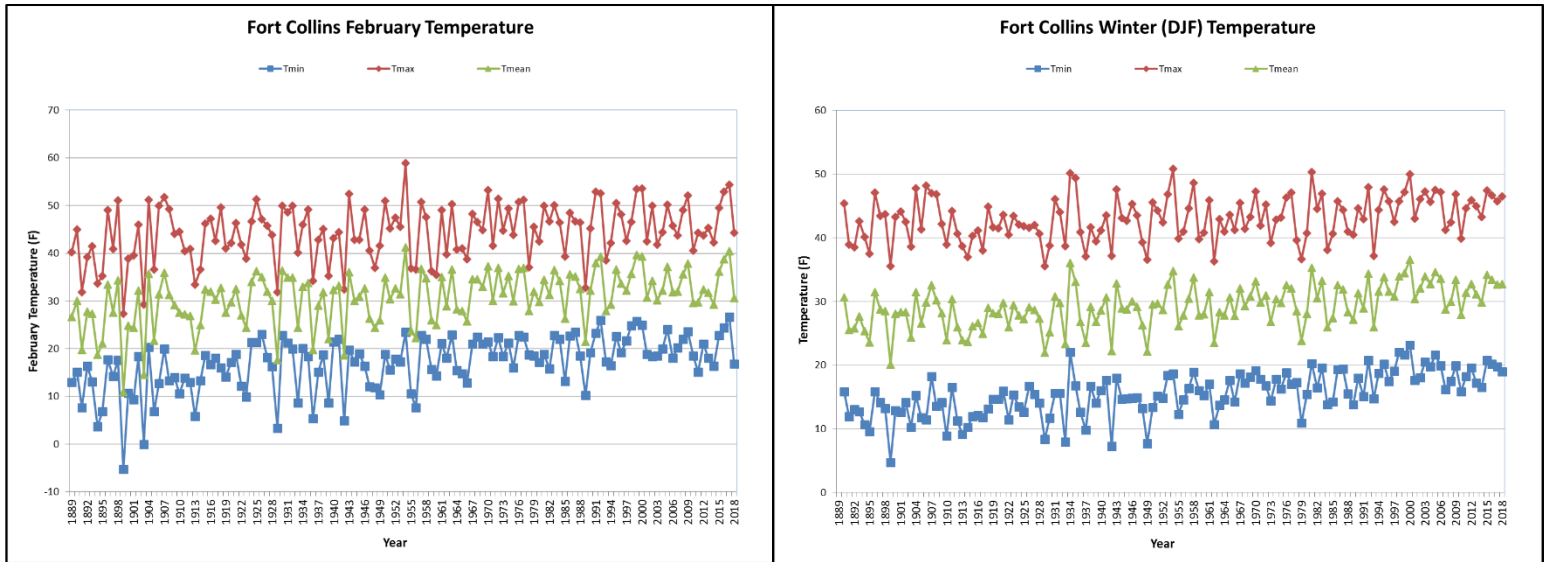


Figure 1: February (left) and winter (right) temperature time series.

Misc. Temperature (record status, thresholds, etc.):

No temperature records for February 2018!

0 Degrees and Colder Days:

As of the end of February, there have been 4 days with minimum temperatures at or below 0°F in Winter 2018.

Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation was 0.67” which is 0.27” above the 1981-2010 normal for the month (168% of normal). This ranks as the 32nd wettest in the 130 year record (1889-2018). The last February this wet or wetter was 2016 with 1.01”.

Water year precipitation through February totaled 3.69” which is 0.48” above the 1981-2010 normal for the water year (115% of normal). This ranks as the 38th wettest start to a water year in the 129 year record (1890-2018), tied with 1988. The last year to start this wet or wetter was 2016 with 5.90”.

Winter (December-February) precipitation totaled 1.42”. This is 0.12” above the 1981-2010 normal for the season (109% of normal). This ranks as the 56th wettest winter in the 129 year record (1890-2018). The last winter to start this wet or wetter was 2017 with 1.93” of precipitation.

February snowfall totaled 13.4” which is 6.5” above the 1981-2010 normal for the month (194% of normal). This ranks as the 20th snowiest February in the 130 year record (1889-2018), tied with 1976. The last February with this much snow or more was 2016 with 13.8” of snowfall.

Seasonal snowfall for the 2018 snow season through February is 32.8” which is 3.5” below the 1981 – 2010 normal for the season (90% of normal). This ranks as the 82nd least snowy in the 129 year record (1890-2018). The last season to start with this little snowfall or less was 2017 with 26.3” at the end of February.

Winter snowfall was 26.6” which is 3.4” above the 1981-2010 normal for the season (115% of normal). This ranks as the 33rd snowiest winter in the 129 year record (1890-2018), tied with 1997. The last winter with this much snowfall or more was 2016 with 37.5”.

February had 8 days with measurable precipitation (≥ 0.01 ”) and 8 day with measurable snowfall (≥ 0.1 ”).

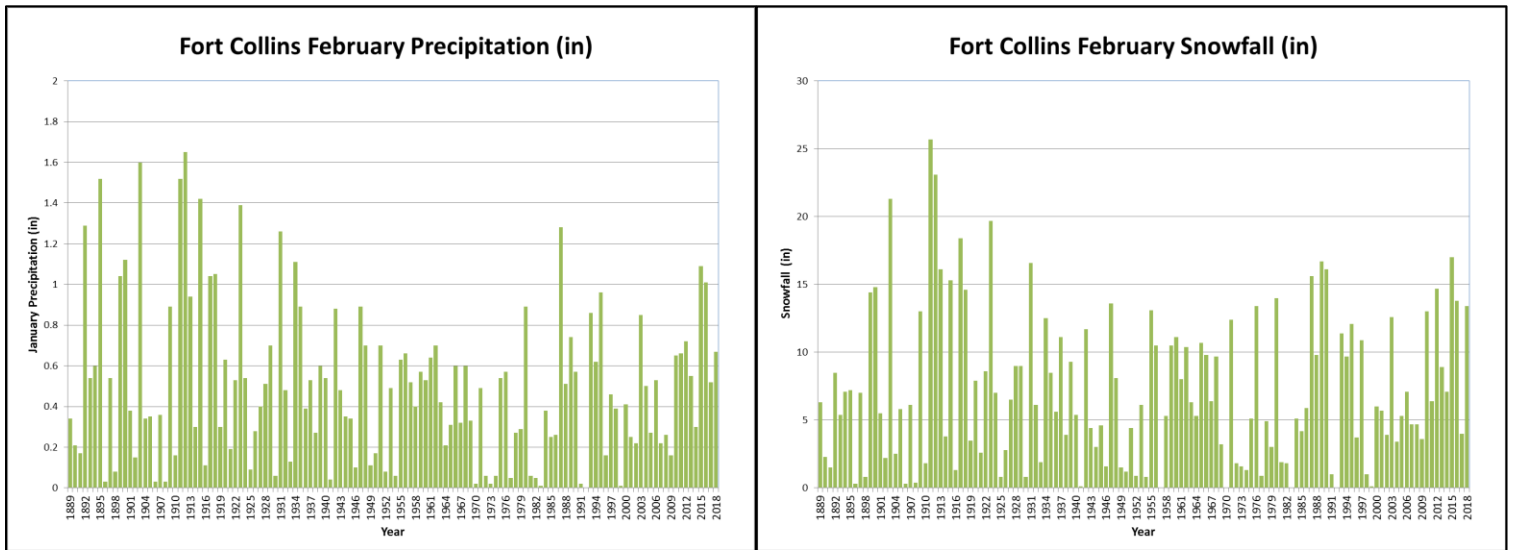


Figure 2: February precipitation (left) and snowfall (right) time series.

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

No precipitation records for February 2018.

Days with Snow Depth ≥ 1 inch

February had 13 days with 1” of snow or greater on the ground. This compares to a normal of 8 days in February.

This season has seen 32 days with 1” of snow or greater on the ground at the end of February. This compares to a normal of 39 days.

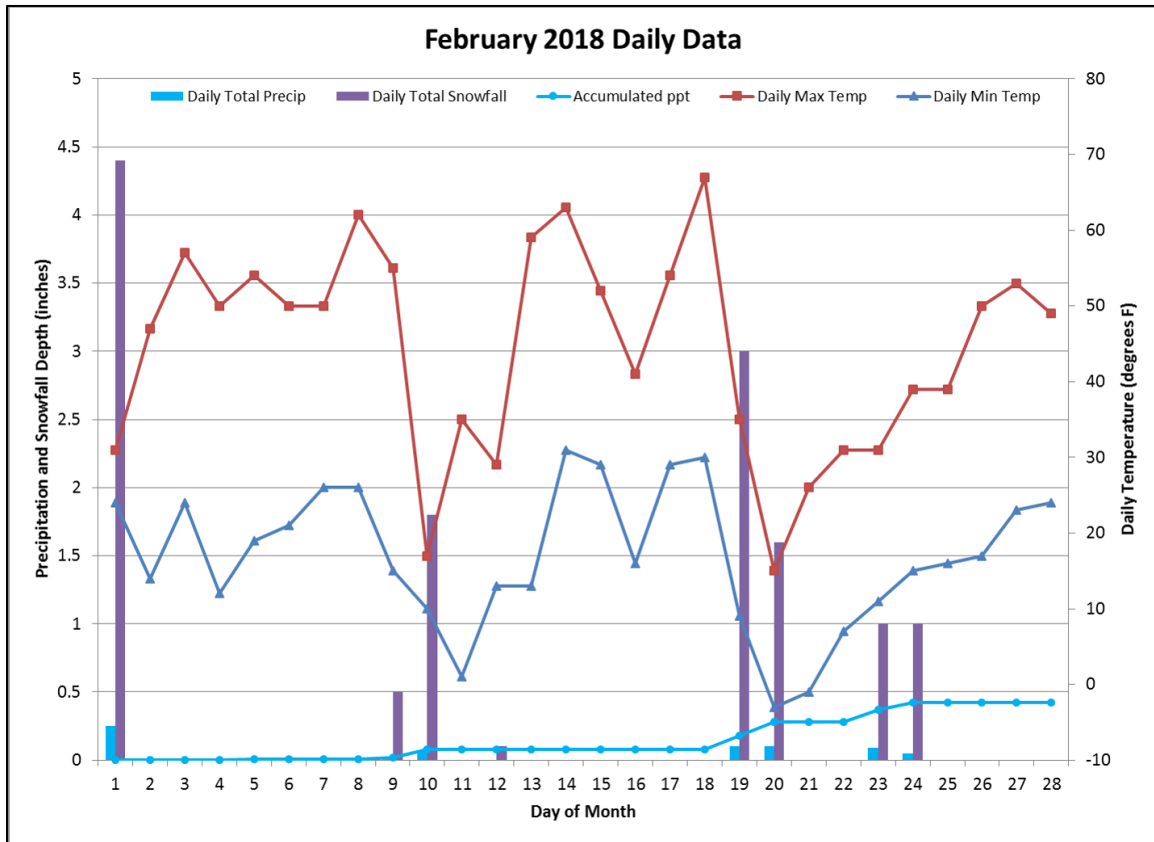


Figure 3: Daily Data for February 2018. Precipitation and temperature both show up on this graph. The y-axis on the left is for precipitation and snowfall. The y-axis on the right is for temperature.

Wind:

In February 2018 there were 16 days with maximum wind gusts ≥ 20 mph and 3 days ≥ 30 mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 33 mph and occurred on February 5, 2018 at 5:50 AM MST from 340° and February 18, 2018 at 1:10 PM MST from 190° .