

Fort Collins Weather Station Monthly Summary

February 2024

Photo Credit:
Nolan Doesken



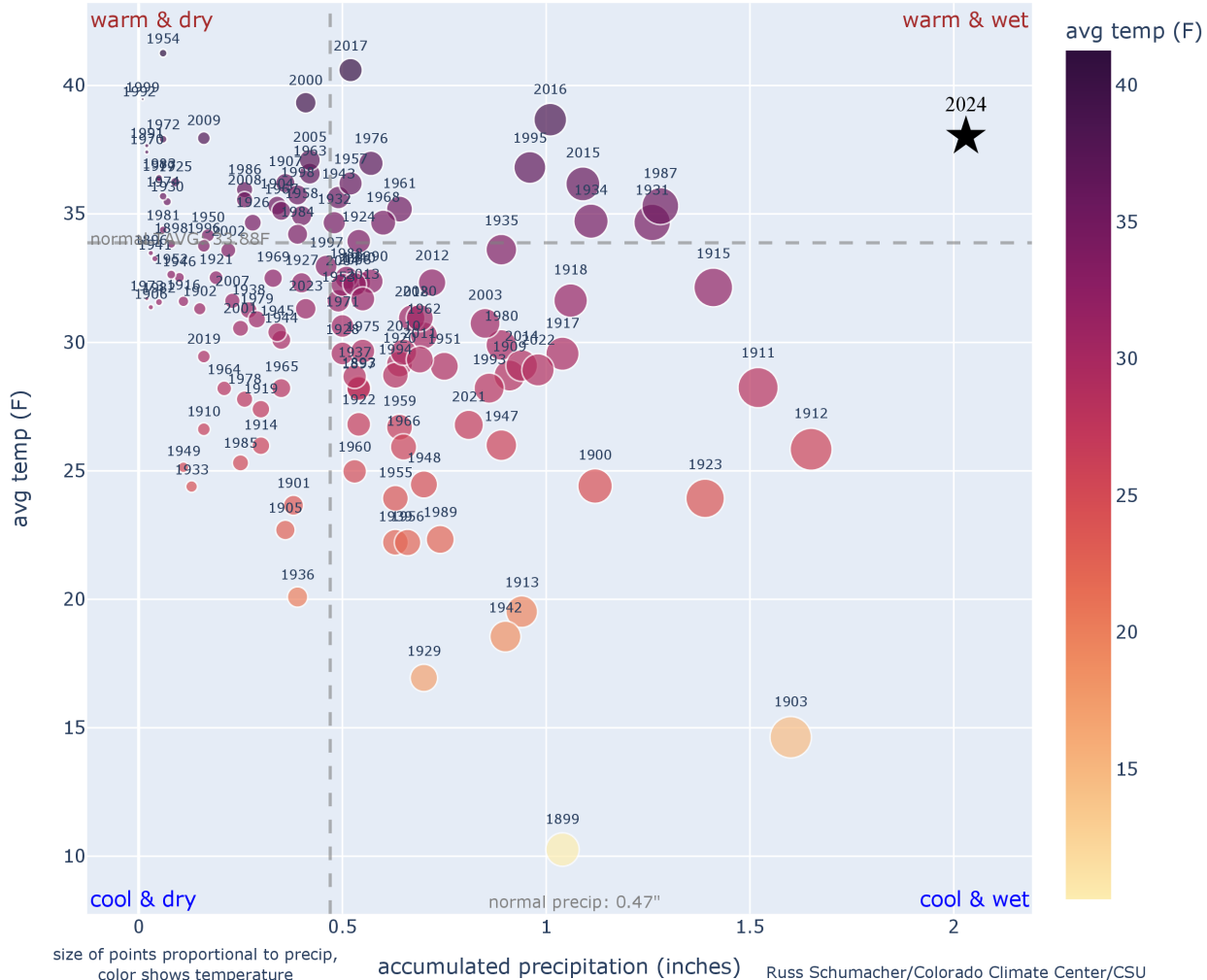
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ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Average February Temperature and Precipitation

FORT COLLINS temperature and precipitation, February 1 - February 29



The average air temperature for February 2024 was 38.0 °F, 4.2 °F above our 1991-2020 February normal (33.8 °F)

The last warmer February was 2017 (40.5 °F)

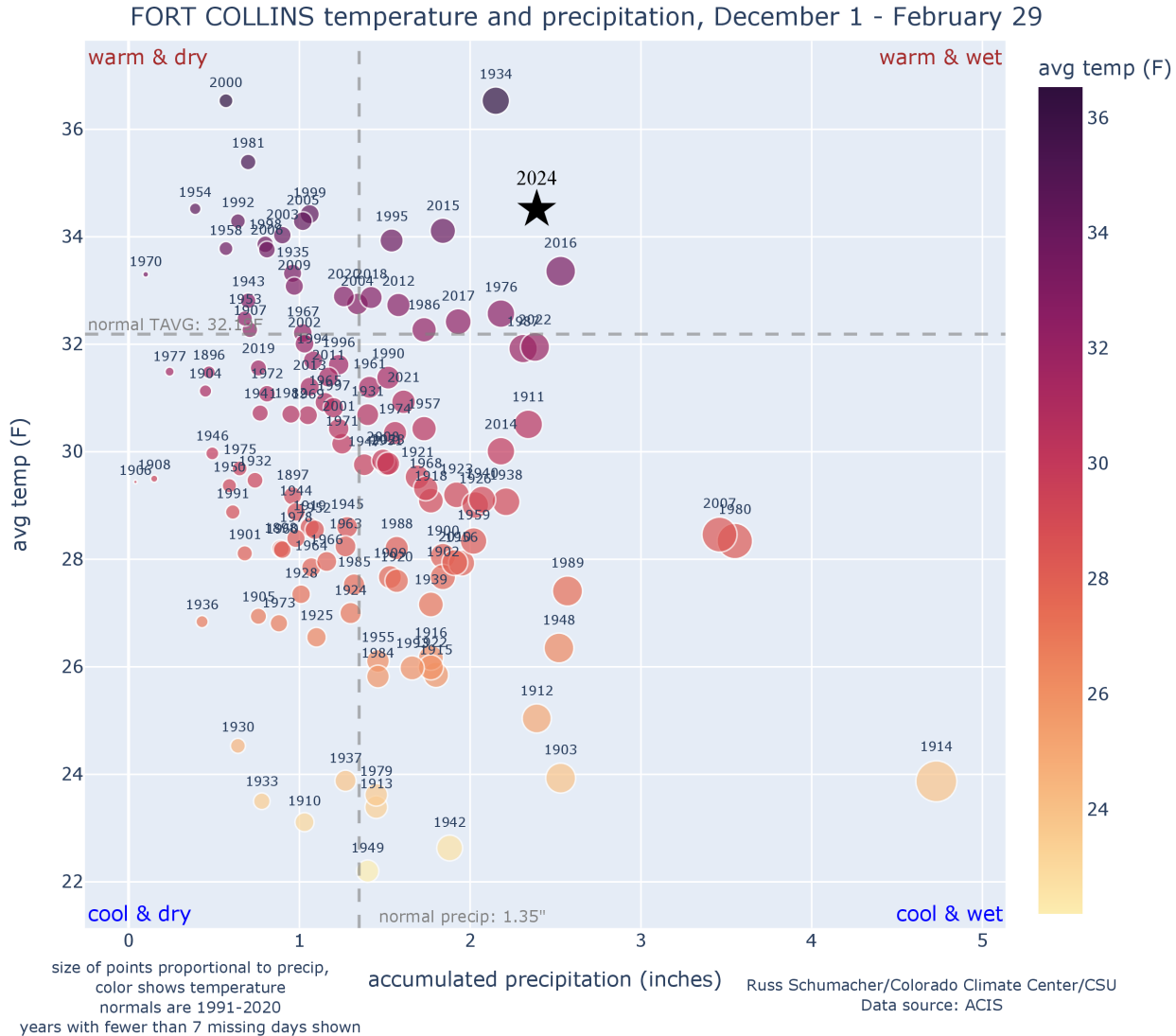
We received 2.03" of precipitation in February 2024, 432% of our 1991-2020 February normal (0.47"). 2024 is the wettest February on record

We received 6.0" of snowfall in February 2024, 80% of our 1991-2020 February normal (7.5")

The last February with less snow was 2023 with 4.8" of snowfall



Winter 2024 Temperature and Precipitation



The average air temperature for meteorological winter 2024 was 34.5 °F. This is 2.5 °F warmer than the 1991-2020 normal (32.0 °F). This is the 6th warmest winter on record

The last warmer winter was 2005 (also 34.5 °F, but warmer before rounding)

We received 2.39" of precipitation this winter. This is 178% of our 1991-2020 normal winter (1.34"). This is the 8th wettest winter on record

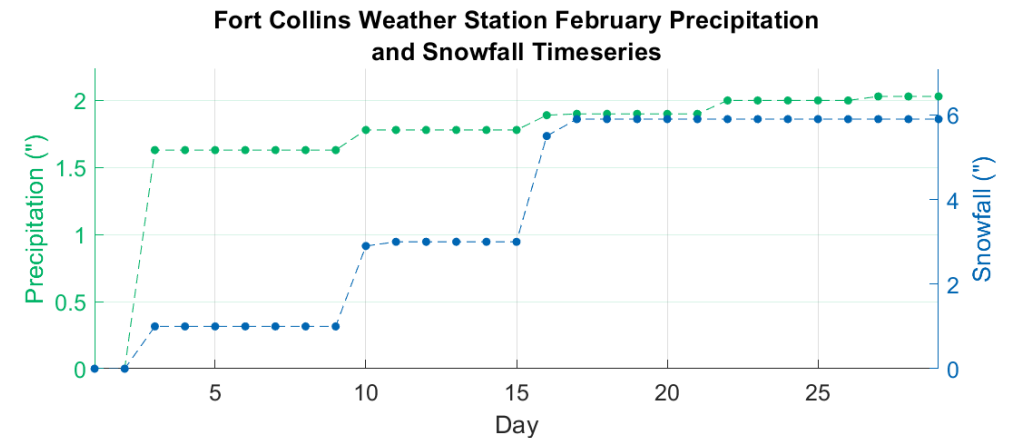
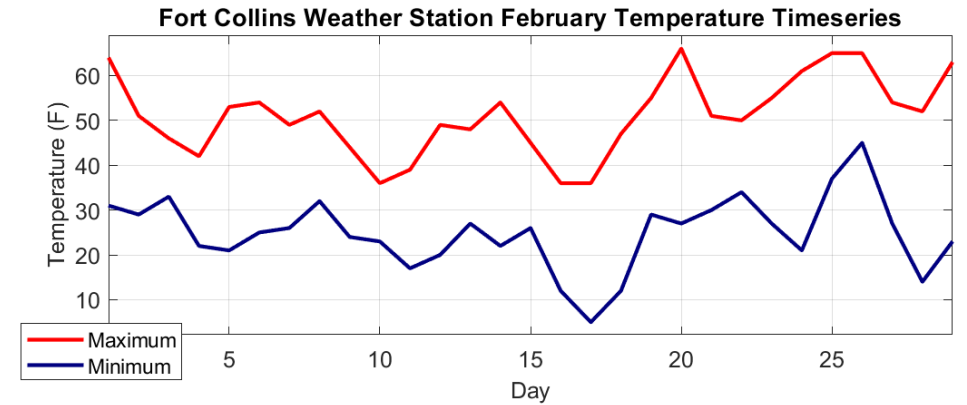
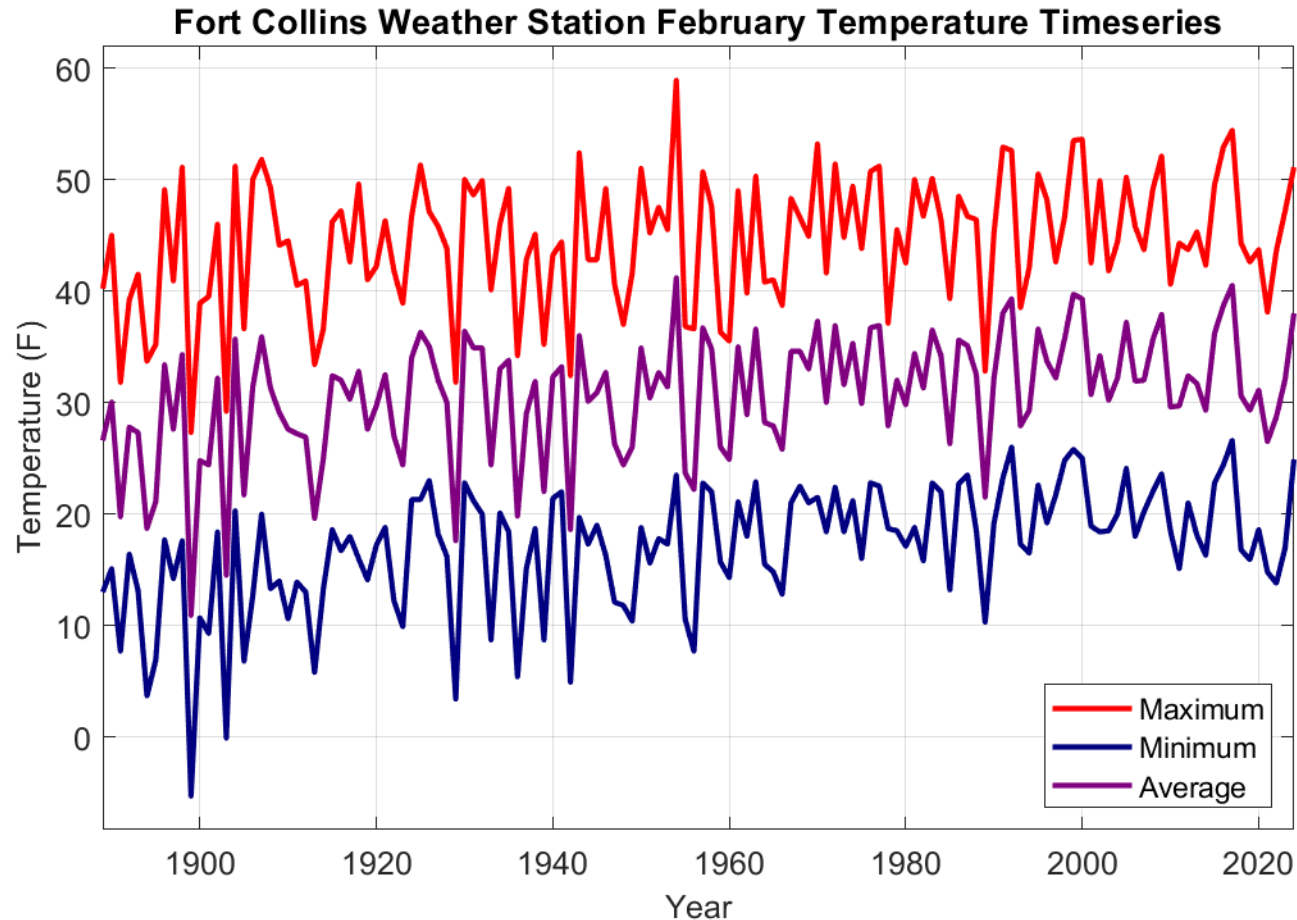
The last wetter winter was 2016 (2.53")

We received 9.0" of snowfall this winter. This is 42% of our 1991-2020 normal (21.6"). Don't abandon hope! Fort Collins is unique in that over 50% of our annual average snowfall occurs outside of meteorological winter

The last winter with less snow than 2024 was 2019 (7.8")



February 2024 Time Series Graphics



Highest Daily T_{max} : 66 °F on February 20th

Lowest Daily T_{min} : 5 °F on February 17th

Highest Daily Precipitation: 1.63" on February 3rd

Highest Daily Snowfall: 2.5" on February 16th



Additional February 2024 Statistics

	Observed	1991-2020 Normal	POR Average	Depart from Normal	Depart from POR Average	Last Above	Last Below
Tmean °F	38	33.8	30.7	4.2	7.3	2017	2023
Mean(Tmax) °F	51.1	46.8	44.4	4.3	6.7	2017	2023
Mean(Tmin) °F	24.9	20.7	17	4.2	7.9	2017	2023
Precipitation "	2.03	0.47	0.52	1.56	1.51	N/A	2023
Snowfall "	6	7.4	7.3	-1.4	-1.3	2022	2023
Oct-Feb Precipitation "	3.65	3.31	3.09	0.34	0.56	2020	2023
Oct-Feb Snowfall "	24.1	33.6	30	-9.5	-5.9	2023	2019

	Value	Date
Max(T _{max}) °F	66	20 th
Min(T _{max}) °F	36	10 th
Max(T _{min}) °F	45	26 th
Min(T _{min}) °F	5	17 th
Max(Daily Precip)"	1.63	3 rd
Max(Daily Snowfall)"	2.5	16 th
Peak Wind Gust (mph)	38.5	25 th

Days Precip > 0	9
Days Snowfall > 0	7
Days Precip > Trace	6
Days Snowfall > Trace	5
Days Wind Gust > 20mph	8
Peak Wind Gust Direction	254
Peak Wind Gust Time (MST)	2306 MST

POR = period of record (1889-2024)



Records Broken

We set a new record highest daily precipitation measurement of 1.63" on February 3rd, 2024. This shatters the old record from 2012 of 0.51". Our February 3rd measurement alone would have made 2024 the second wettest February on record. Furthermore, the 1.63" of precipitation on February 3rd was 122% of our normal winter precipitation (1.34"). This was a truly remarkable spring-like weather pattern. We released a blogpost on the Colorado Climate Center website, but please note this post was published before the February 3rd total was corrected down from the original mark of 1.66" to 1.63": <https://climate.colostate.edu/blog/>. This marks only the 5th time in 136 years that monthly precipitation has been greater than the 90th percentile, and monthly snowfall has been below the 50th percentile, and only the 2nd time in a winter month.

Our monthly precipitation total of 2.03" breaks the old monthly record of 1.65". The old record was set in 1912 and stood for 112 years. We will see if 2024 can similarly stand the test of time.

We set a record highest daily low temperature on February 26th by cooling only to 45 °F at night. This breaks the old record of 40 °F set in 2009.



**Photo Credit:
Nolan
Doesken**



If this February felt extra warm, it might be in part because the last six Februaries were all cooler than the 1991-2020 normal!

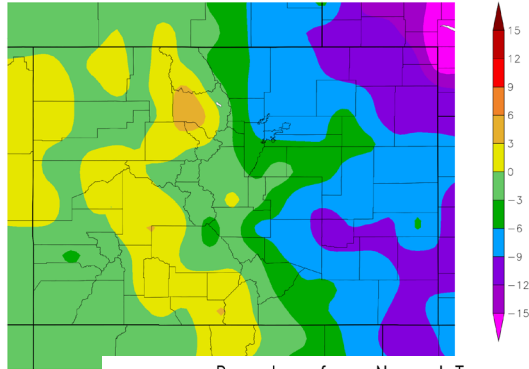
Here is how this February compares to recent years:

5.9 °F warmer than 2023

9.3 °F warmer than 2022

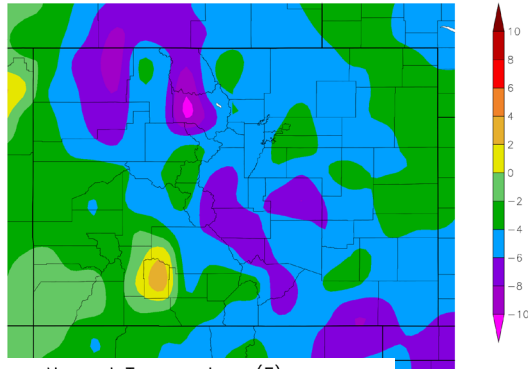
11.5 °F warmer than 2021!

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
2/1/2021 - 2/28/2021

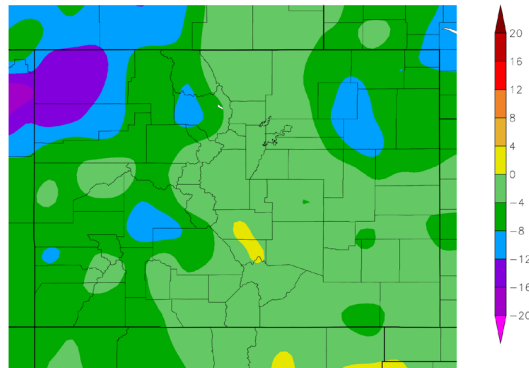


Generated 3/20/2021 at HPRCC

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
2/1/2022 - 2/28/2022



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
2/1/2023 - 2/28/2023

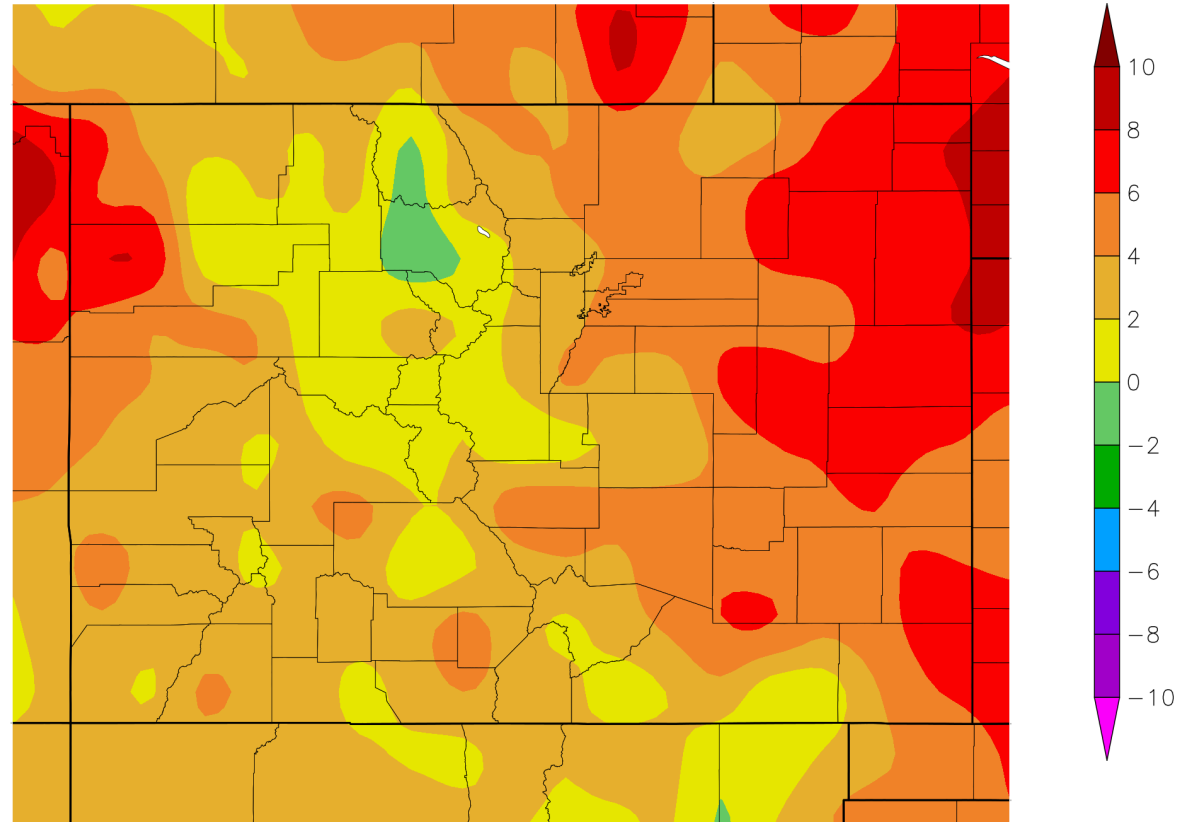


Generated 3/20/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

This February vs recent Februaries

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
2/1/2024 - 2/29/2024



Generated 3/1/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers



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