

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

**Month: January**  
**Year: 2012**



## **Temperature:**

Mean  $T_{\max}$  was 51.5 which is 7.3 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the 4<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 124 year record (1889-2012). The last January this warm was 2006 with 52.5 degrees.

Mean  $T_{\min}$  was 21.7 degrees which is 3.8 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the 5<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 124 year record (1889-2012) tied with 1934. The last January this warm was 2006 with 23.7 degrees, which is the warmest on record.

Mean  $T_{\text{mean}}$  was 36.6 degrees which is 5.5 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the 4<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 124 year record (1889-2012). The last January this warm was 2006 with 38.1 degrees, which is the warmest on record.

The maximum daily temperature was 66 and occurred 5 January 2012.  
The minimum daily temperature was 7 and occurred on 12 January 2012.

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

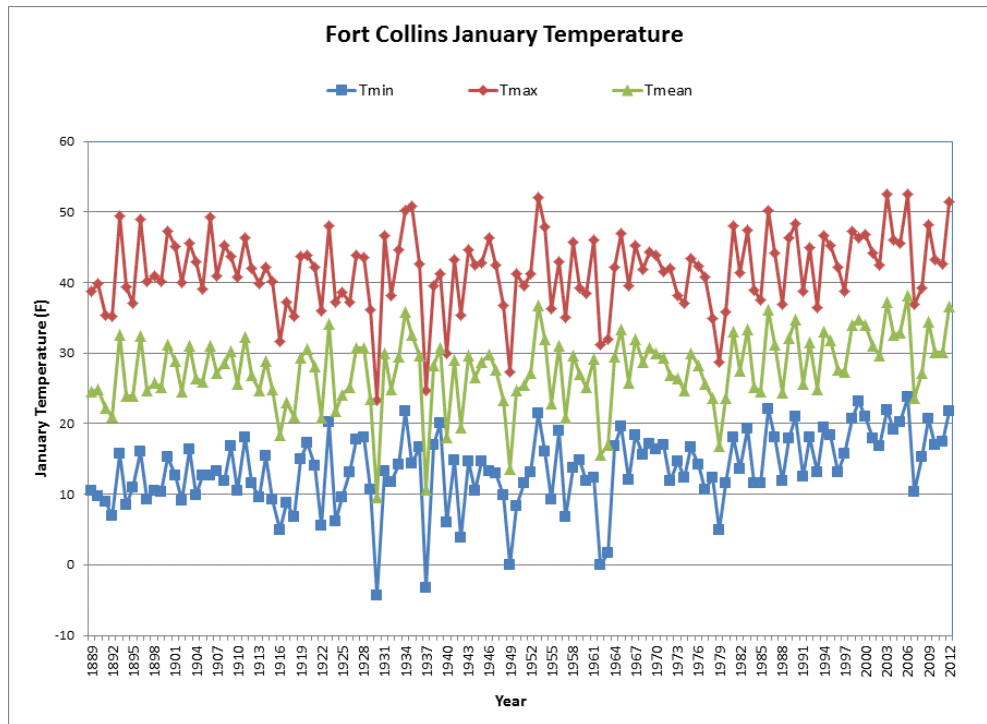


Figure 1: January temperature time series

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

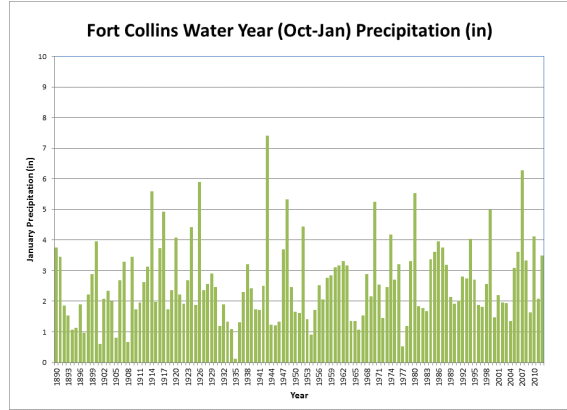
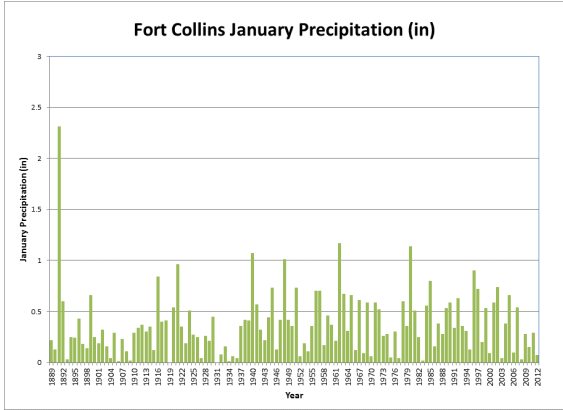
*Highest Minimum Temperature:* 20 January 2012: Daily minimum temperature of 40 breaks the old record of 37 set in 1964.

**Precipitation and Snowfall\*:**

Total monthly precipitation was 0.07” and was 0.33” below the normal for the month (18% of normal). This ranks as the 18<sup>th</sup> driest January in the 124 year record (1889-2012). The last January this dry was 2008 with 0.03”.

Water year 2012 precipitation through January was 3.50” and was 0.69” above the normal (125% of normal). This ranks as the 24<sup>th</sup> wettest water year in the 123 year data record (1890-2012). The last water year to start this wet was the 2010 water year with 4.12”.

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

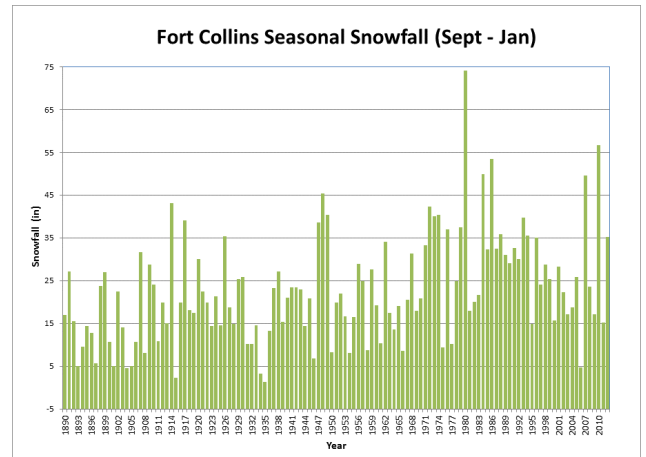
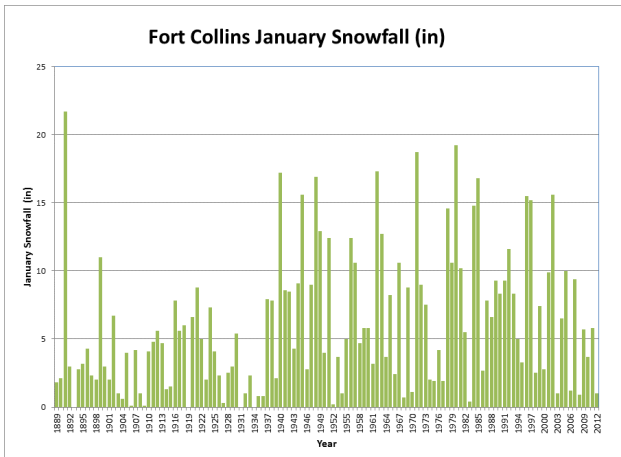


**Figure 2: January (left) and water year (right) precipitation time series.**

Total monthly snowfall was 1.0” and was 6.9” below the normal (13% of normal) and ranks as the 15<sup>th</sup> least snowy January in the 124 year record (1889 -2012) tied with 1903, 1908, 1932, 1954, and 2003. The last January with this little snowfall was 2008 with 0.9”.

Seasonal snowfall was 35.2” and was 5.8” above the normal for the season by January (120% of normal). This ranks as the 20<sup>th</sup> snowiest season by January in the 123 year data record (1890-2012). The last snow season this snowy was the 2009-10 season which had 56.6” by the end of January.

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



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

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

**Wind:**

In January 2012 there were 15 days with maximum wind gusts  $\geq 20$  mph and 6 days  $\geq 30$  mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 35 mph and occurred on 20 January 2012 at 4:50 MST from  $280^\circ$ .