

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

Month: January
Year: 2020



Temperature:

Mean T_{\max} was 47.5°F which is 3.3° above the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 18th warmest in the 132-year record (1889-2020), tied with 1983. The last January this warm or warmer was 2018 with 48.1°F.

Mean T_{\min} was 22.6°F which is 4.7° above the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 3rd warmest in the 132-year record (1889-2020). The warmest January on record was 2006 with 23.7°F and the second warmest is 1999 with 23.2°F.

Mean T_{mean} was 35.1°F which 4.0° above the 1981 - 2010 the normal for the month. This is the 7th warmest in the 132-year record (1889-2020). The last January this warm or warmer was 2012 with 36.6°F.

The maximum daily temperature for the month was 59°F and occurred on January 8, 2020.

The minimum daily temperature for the month was 9°F and occurred on January 11, 2020.

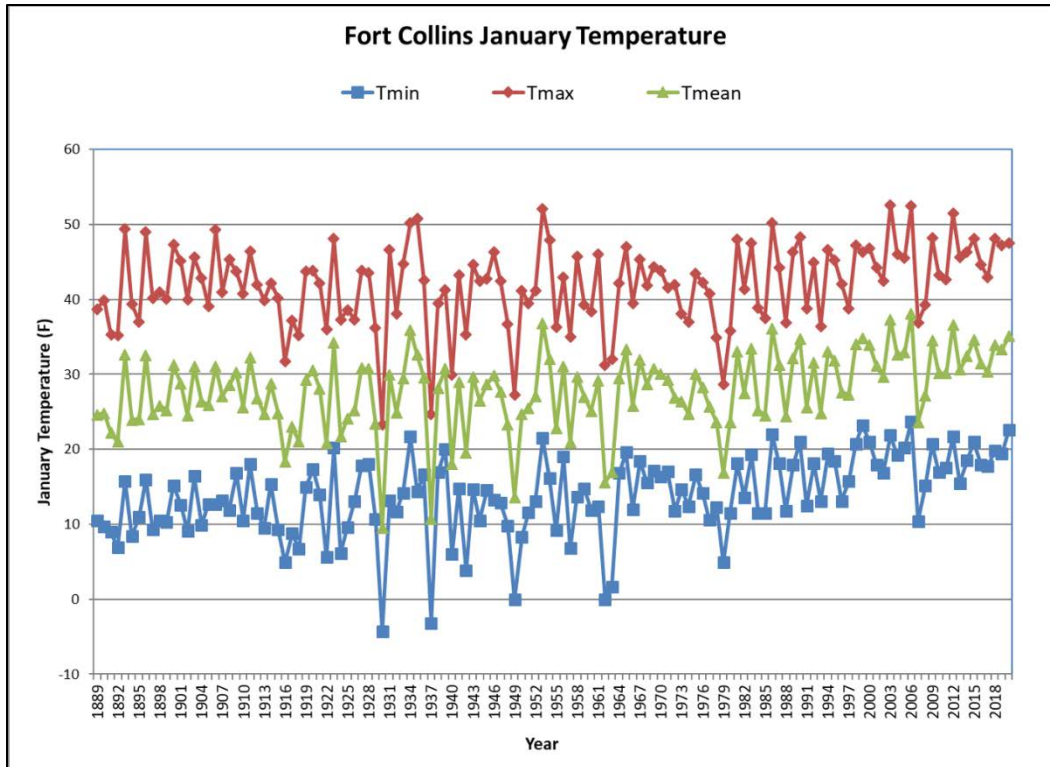


Figure 1: January temperature time series.

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

No record temperatures in January!

0 Degrees and Colder Days:

January had 0 day with a minimum temperature below 0°F.

Winter 2020 has had 0 days below 0°F

*The **minimum temperature** for January 2020 of +9°F was the 6th warmest January min temperature at the CSU Weather Station. This was the warmest monthly min temperature since 2006 with +11°F. The highest January minimum was +12°F in 1934.*

January had a temperature range (difference between warmest temperature of the month, 59°, and lowest temperature, 9°) of just 50°F. This is the second smallest range at the weather station, the smallest range was 47° from 1934 (max of 59° and min of 12°).

Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation was a Trace (less than 0.01”) which is 0.40” below the 1981-2010 normal for the month (0% of normal). This ranks as the 2nd driest in the 132-year record (1889-2019), tied with 1919. The only January with 0” of precipitation was 1931.

Water year precipitation through January totaled 3.30” which is 0.49” above the 1981-2010 normal for the water year (117% of normal). This ranks as the 33rd wettest start to a water year in the 131-year record (1890-2020). The last water year to start this wet or wetter was 2016 with 4.89” through January.

January snowfall totaled a Trace (less than 0.1”) which is 7.9” below the normal for the month (0% of normal). This ranks as the 2nd least snowy in the 132-year record (1889-2020), tied with 1893, 1919 and 1934. The only January with 0” of snowfall was 1931.

Seasonal snowfall for the 2020 season through January totaled 37.1” which is 7.7” above the 1981-2010 normal for the season (126% of normal). This ranks as the 16th snowiest start to the snow season in the 131-year record (1890-2020). The last season to start with this much snowfall or more was 2010 with 56.6” of snowfall.

January had 2 days with a trace of precipitation and snowfall.

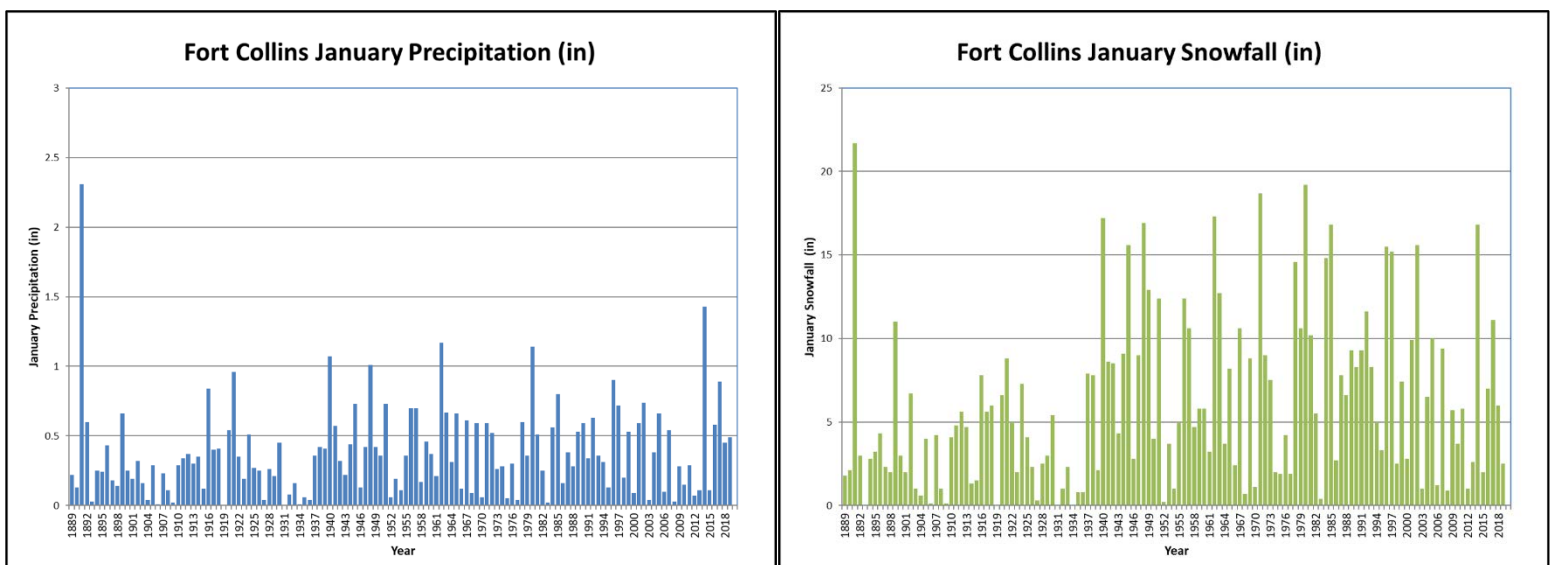


Figure 2: January precipitation (left) and snowfall (right) time series.

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

No precipitation records for January

Days with Snow Depth ≥ 1 inch

January had 3 days with 1" of snow or greater on the ground at our 7:00 PM MST observation time. This compares to a normal of 13 days.

This season has seen 49 days with 1" of snow or greater on the ground through January. This compares to a normal of 31 days.

Consecutive days with ≥ 1 inch of snow on the ground

January 3, 2020 ended the streak of 40 consecutive days with 1" of snow or more on the ground. This is the 8th longest streak since 1949.

Note: reliable snow depth data is not available before 1949.

Consecutive days with no measurable precipitation (less than 0.01")

Through the February 2, 2020 observation at 7PM MST, there have been 36 consecutive days with no measurable precipitation. This is the 29th most in the record. The last measurable precipitation occurred on December 28, 2019.

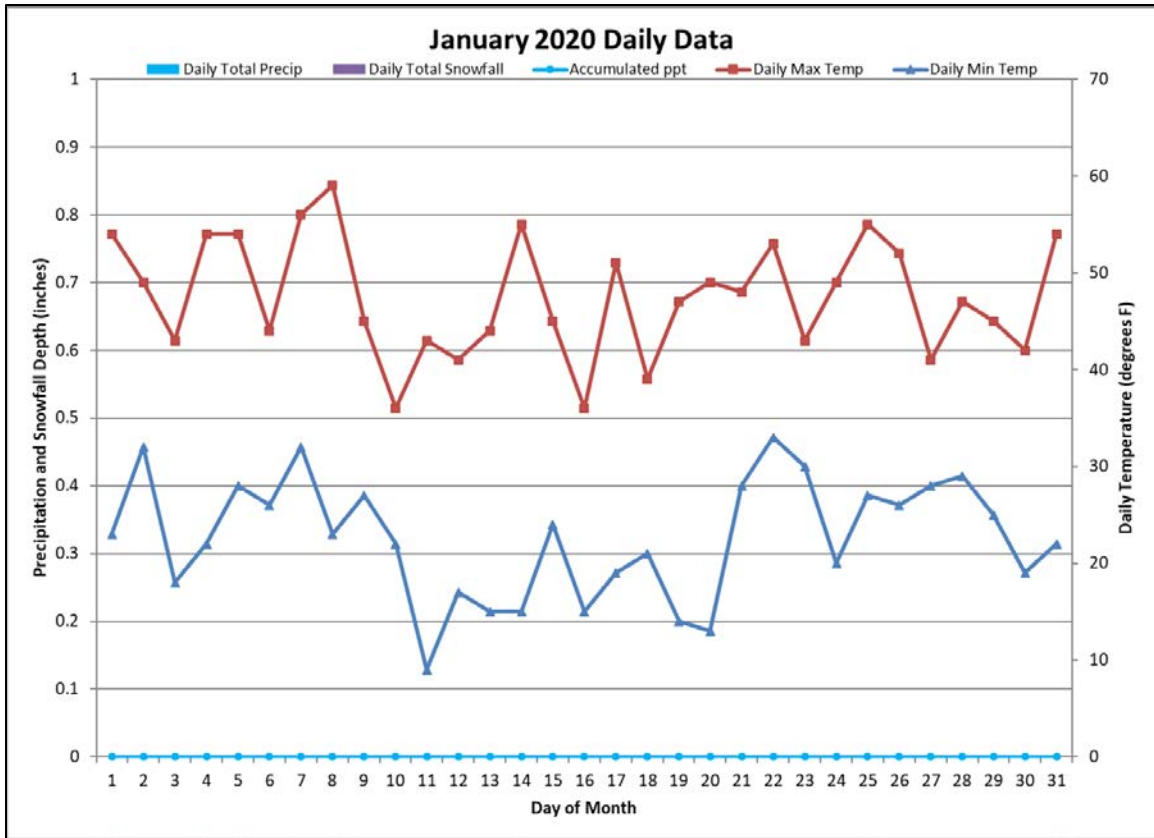


Figure 3: Daily Data for January 2020. Precipitation and temperature both show up on this graph. The y-axis on the left is for precipitation and snowfall. The y-axis on the right is for temperature.

Wind:

In January 2020 there were 16 days with maximum wind gusts ≥ 20 mph and 4 days ≥ 30 mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 35 mph and occurred on January 5, 2020 at 10:10 PM MST from 280° (the WNW).