

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

Month: March
Year: 2016



Temperature:

Mean T_{\max} was 56.1°F which is 1.4° above the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 32nd warmest in the 128 year record (1889-2016), tied with 1940. The last March this warm or warmer was 2015 with 61.5°F .

Mean T_{\min} was 30.2°F which is 1.7° above the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 8th warmest in the 128 year record (1889-2016). The last March this warm or warmer was 2012 with 32.7°F .

Mean T_{mean} was 43.2°F which is 1.8° above the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 11th warmest in the 128 year record (1889-2016), tied with 1994. The last March this warm or warmer was 2015 with 45.8°F .

The maximum daily temperature for the month was 74°F and occurred on March 21st, 2016.

The minimum daily temperature for the month was 13°F and occurred on March 20th, 2016.

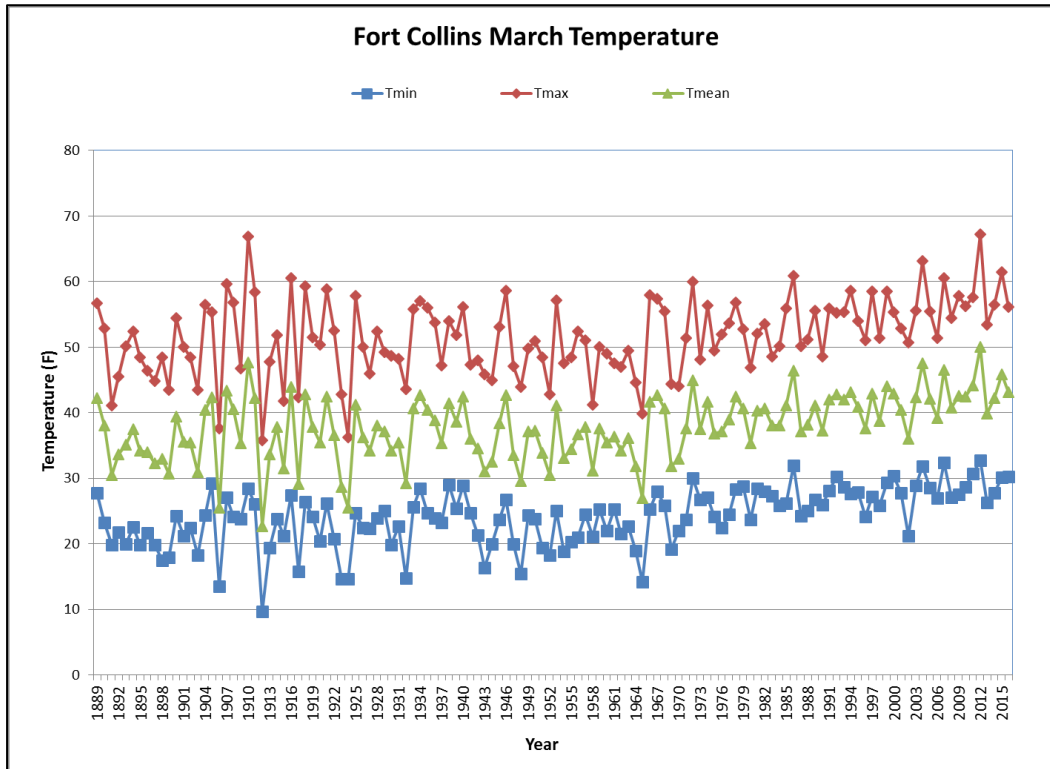


Figure 1: March temperature time series.

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

No Temperature Records for March

Days below 0F

At the end of March, there were no days below 0°F during the winter. This is only the 4th time in the history of the Fort Collins Weather Station the temperature did not drop below 0°F December - March.

Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation is 2.28” and was 0.69” above the 1981-2010 normal for the month (143% of normal). This ranks as the 13th wettest in the 128 year record (1889-2016). The last March this wet or wetter was 2003 with 5.76” of precipitation.

Water year precipitation through March totaled 8.18” and is 3.38” above the normal for the water year (170% of normal). This ranks as the 4th wettest start to the water year in the 127 year record (1890-2016). The last water year to start this wet or wetter was 2003 with 8.54”.

Total monthly snowfall was 21.1” and was 8.5” above the 1981-2010 normal for the month (168% of normal). This was the 14th snowiest March in the 128 year record (1889-2016), tied with 1956. The last March with this much snowfall or more was 2003 with 37.3” of snowfall.

Seasonal snowfall for the 2016 snow season is 67.0” and is 18.1” above the 1981-2010 normal for the season through March (137% of normal). This ranks as the 9th snowiest in the 127 year record (1890-2016). The last season with this much snowfall or more by the end of March was the 2010 season with 82.7”.

March had 7 days with measureable precipitation (≥ 0.01 ”) and 4 days with measureable snowfall (≥ 0.1 ”).

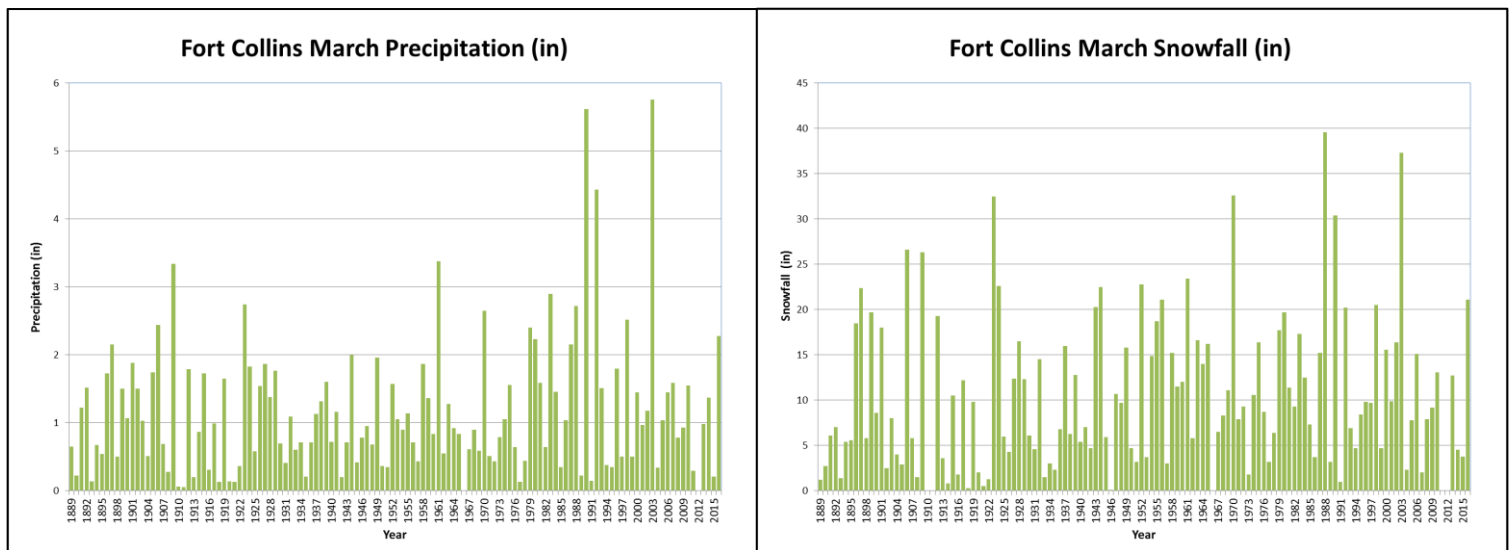


Figure 2: March precipitation (left) and snowfall (right) time series.

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

Highest Daily Precipitation:

March 23rd, 2016: The daily precipitation of 1.44" broke the previous record for the day of 0.78" set in 2010.

Highest Daily Snowfall:

March 23rd, 2016: The daily snowfall of 13.4" broke the previous record for the day of 6.7" set in 2013.

Days with Snow Depth \geq 1 inch

March had 5 days with at least 1" of snow on the ground. This compares to a normal of 5 days in March.

This season has seen 71 days with at least 1" of snow on the ground at the end of March. This compares to a normal of 44 days.

Wind:

In March 2016 there were 18 days with maximum wind gusts \geq 20 mph and 3 days \geq 30 mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 56 mph and occurred on March 14th, 2016 at 10:50 AM MST from 240.