Fort Collins Weather

Station Monthly Summary

March 2023



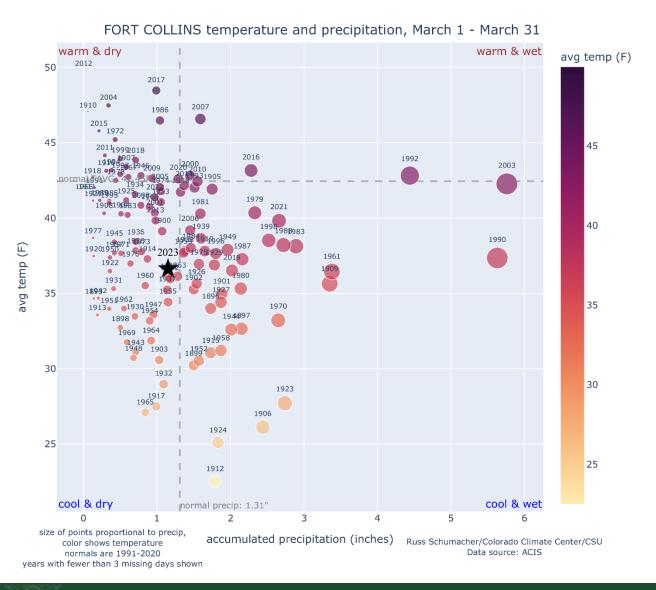


Photo credit: Kristie Davis



ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE

Average Temperature and Precipitation



The average air temperature for March 2023 was 36.6 °F, 5.8 °F below our 1991-2020 March normal (42.4 °F)

The last cooler March was 2019 (36.5 °F)

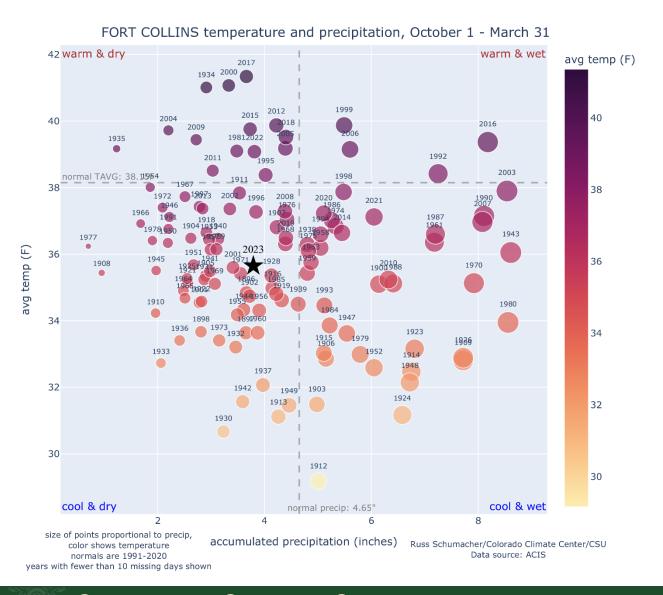
We received 1.16" of precipitation in March 2023, 88.5% of our 1991-2020 March normal (1.31")

The last drier March was 2022 (0.97")

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Average Temperature and Precipitation



The average air temperature for our 2023 Water Year to date (since October 1st) is 35.6 °F. This is well below our 1991-2020 normal of 38.1 °F.

The last cooler October-March was 2010 (35.2 °F). Wow!

We have received 3.79" of precipitation this Water Year to date, 81.5% of our 1991-2020 normal (4.65")

The last Water Year to start at least this dry was 2017 (3.66"). Over 70% of our water year precipitation falls from April onwards; this deficit could still easily be made up in one good May rainfall event.

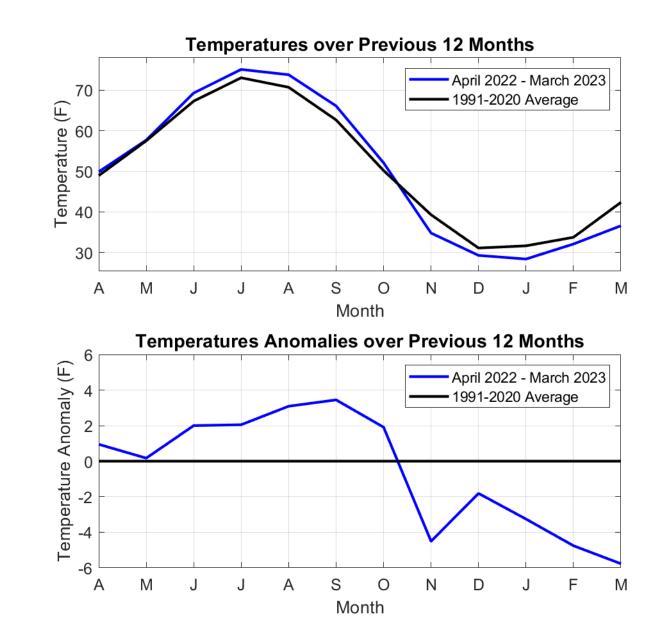
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Feature Story: Seasonality

Did it feel like a hot summer followed by a cold winter? You're not imagining it. November 2022 – March 2023 have all been cooler than the 1991-2020 normal marks. April 2022 – October 2022 were all warmer than the 1991-2020 normals.

With the hot months being hotter than normal and the cool months colder, the last calendar year has effectively included six extra °F of seasonality.





Records Broken

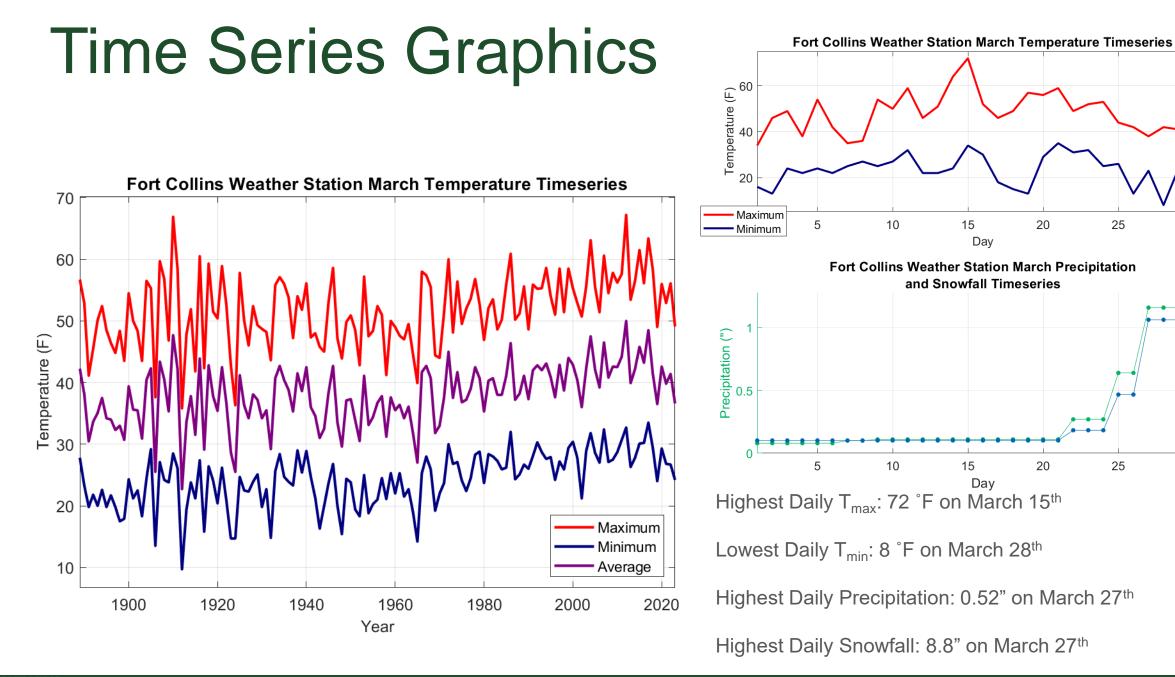
We measured 8.8" of snowfall on March 27th. This broke the old record of 8.6" (1975). It was a relatively high snow:liquid ratio event with only 0.52" of precipitation, which was not enough for a record. It also closed the university, and, as seen here, postponed the Schumacher Final IV.

Despite the much cooler than normal March, we did not set any records for lowest maximum or minimum daily temperature.



Photo credit: Russ Schumacher







Snowfall (")

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Additional March Statistics

		1991-2020		Depart from	Depart from POR		
	Observed	Normal	POR Average	Normal	Average	Last Above	Last Below
T _{mean} °F	36.6	42.4	38	-5.8	-1.4	2022	2019
Mean(T _{max}) °F	49.1	56.4	51.8	-7.3	-2.7	2022	2019
Mean(T _{min}) °F	24.2	28.5	24.3	-4.3	-0.1	2022	2019
Precipitation "	1.16	1.31	1.18	-0.15	-0.02	2021	2022
Snowfall "	15.7	9.4	10.3	6.3	5.4	2021	2022
Water Year Precip "	3.79	4.65	4.28	-0.86	-0.49	2022	2017
Seasonal Snowfall "	42.7	43	40.4	-0.3	2.3	2022	2019
POR = period of record (since 1894)							

	Value	Date
Max(T _{max})	72	15th
Min(T _{max})	34	1st
Max(T _{min})	42	31st
Min(T _{min})	8	28th
Max(Daily Precip)	0.52	27th
Max(Daily Snowfall)	8.8	27th
Peak Wind Gust (mph)	42.5	31st

Days Precip > 0	16
Days Snowfall > 0	14
Days Precip > Trace	6
Days Snowfall > Trace	4
Days Wind Gust > 20mph	15
Peak Wind Gust Direction	290
Peak Wind Gust Time (MST)	13:00



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