

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

**Month: May**  
**Year: 2015**



## **Temperature:**

Mean  $T_{\max}$  was  $62.7^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is 8.4 degrees below the normal for the month. This ranks as the 6<sup>th</sup> coldest May in the 127 year record (1889-2015). The last May this cold or colder was 1995 with  $60.5^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Mean  $T_{\min}$  was  $42.8^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is 1.7 degrees below the normal for the month. This ranks as the 53<sup>rd</sup> warmest in the 127 year record (1889-2015), tied with six other years. The last May this warm or warmer was last year with  $45^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Mean  $T_{\text{mean}}$  was  $52.8^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is 5.1 degrees below the normal for the month. This ranks as the 23<sup>rd</sup> coldest in the 127 year record (1889-2015). The last May this cold or colder was 1995 with  $50.8^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Spring (MAM) mean temperature was  $49.1^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is 0.3 degrees below the normal for the season. This spring ranks as the 27<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 127 year record (1889-2015). The last spring this warm or warmer was last year with  $50.1^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

The maximum daily temperature was  $82^{\circ}\text{F}$  and occurred on 31 May 2015.  
The minimum daily temperature was  $28^{\circ}\text{F}$  and occurred on 11 May 2015.

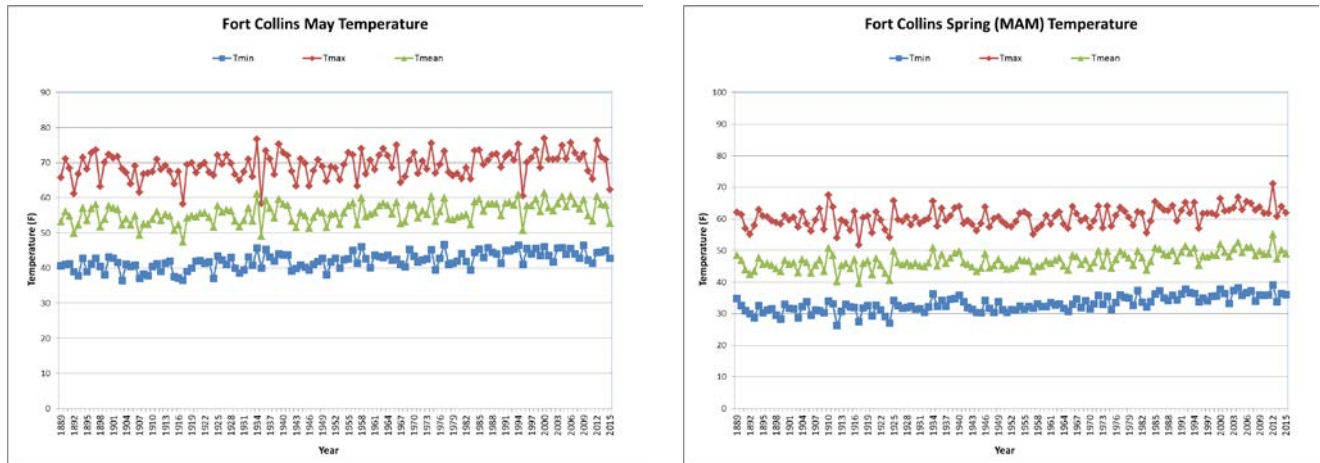


Figure 1: May and Spring temperature time series.

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

*None*

## Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation was 6.34” and was 3.91” above the normal for the month (261% of normal). This ranks as the 5<sup>th</sup> wettest in the 127 year record (1889-2015). The last May this wet was 1995 with 7.47” of precipitation (wettest May on record).

Water year precipitation through May totaled 13.39” and was 4.10” above the normal for the water year (144% of normal). This ranks as the 11<sup>th</sup> wettest water year in the 126 year record (1890-2015). The last water year this wet through May was 2013 with 13.93”.

Spring (MAM) precipitation was 9.87” and was 3.79” above the normal for the season (162%). This ranks as the 10<sup>th</sup> wettest spring in the 127 year record (1889-2015). The last spring this wet was 2003 with 11.15”.

Total monthly snowfall was 1.2” and was 0.5” above the normal for the month (171% of normal). This ranks as the 26<sup>th</sup> snowiest May in the 127 year record (1889-2015). The last May this snowy was 2010 with 4.1”.

Seasonal snowfall is 42” which is 13.8” below the normal for the season through May (75% of normal). This ranks as the 53<sup>rd</sup> least snowy season in the 126 year record (1890-2015). The last snow season with this little snowfall through May was 2011 with 23.7”.

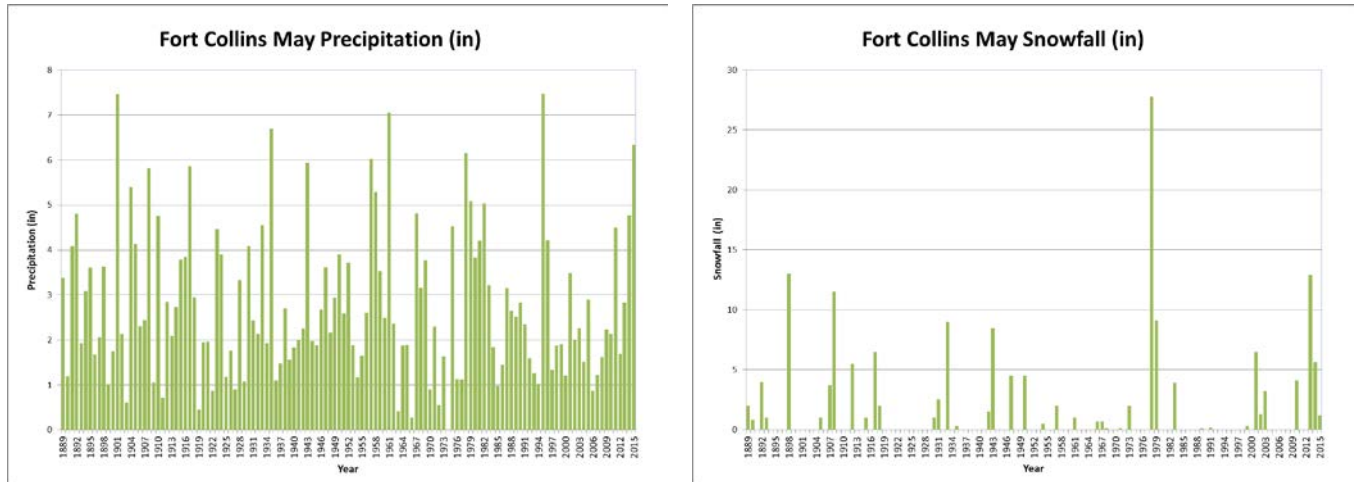


Figure 2: May precipitation (left) and snowfall (right) time series.

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

#### ***Highest Daily Precipitation:***

*9 May 2015: The daily precipitation of 1.55” broke the previous record for this day of 1.50 set in 1957.*

*19 May 2015: The daily precipitation of 1.43” broke the previous record for this day of 1.35 set in 1988.*

22 days of precipitation  $\geq 0.01$ ” in May 2015, tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> most days with measurable precipitation with May 1898 in any month. May 1935 has the most at 26 days.

27 days with trace of precipitation or greater, 2<sup>nd</sup> most days of greater than 0.00” of precipitation in any May. May 1935 has the most at 28 days.

2 May – 10 May 2015 tied for 8<sup>th</sup> longest streak of consecutive days of  $\geq 0.01$ ”.

18 May – 25 May 2015 tied for 17<sup>th</sup> longest streak of consecutive days of  $\geq 0.01$ ”.

For snow season 2014-2015, Fort Collins has experienced 48 days with snow depth  $\geq 1$ ” compared to the normal of 46 days by the end of May.

### **Wind:**

In May 2015 there were 8 days with maximum wind gusts  $\geq 20$  mph and 1 day  $\geq 30$  mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 30.3 mph and occurred on 14 May 2015 at 19:20 PM MST from 190°.

### **Evapotranspiration**

Pan evaporation for May was 3.22” which was 2.70” below the normal for May (54% of normal).