

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

**Month: May**  
**Year: 2016**



Photo Credit: Noah Newman

## **Temperature:**

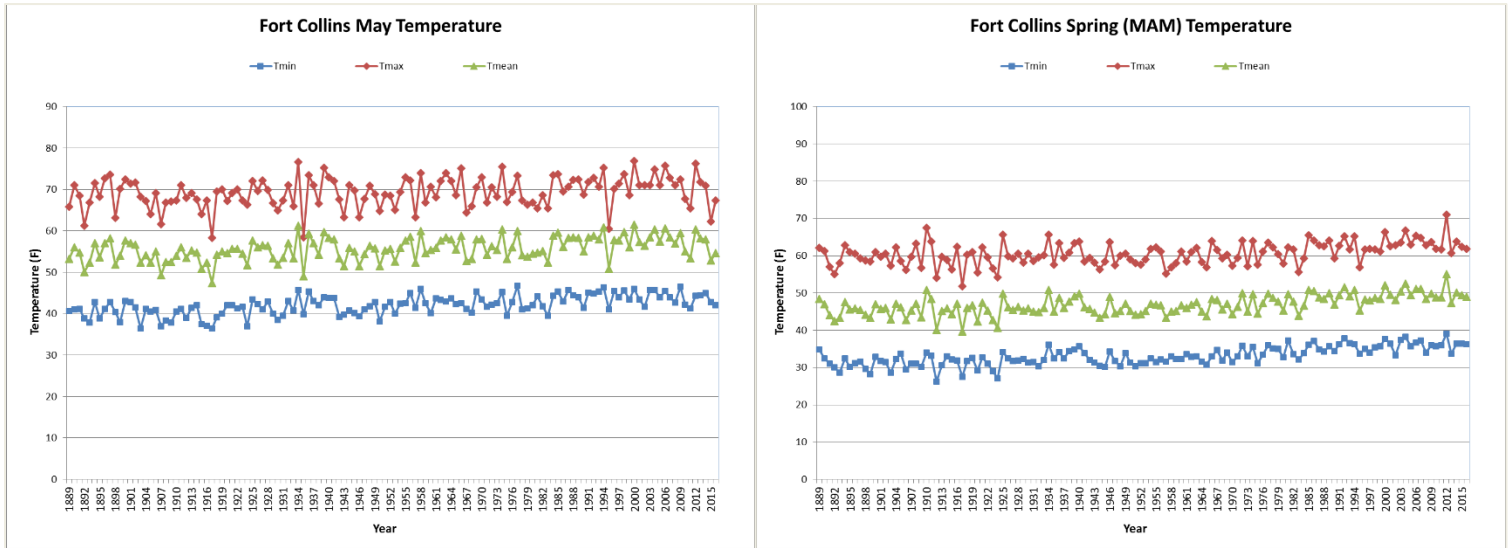
Mean  $T_{\max}$  was  $67.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $3.7^{\circ}$  below the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 41<sup>st</sup> coolest in the 128 year record (1889-2016), tied with 1910, 1916 and 1931. The last May this cool or cooler was 2015 with  $62.3^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Mean  $T_{\min}$  was  $42.1^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $2.4^{\circ}$  below the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 65<sup>th</sup> coolest in the 128 year record (1889-2016), tied with 1921. The last May this cool or cooler was 2011 with  $41.3^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Mean  $T_{\text{mean}}$  was  $54.7^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $3.1^{\circ}$  below the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 47<sup>th</sup> coolest in the 128 year record (1889-2016), tied with 1959. The last May this cool or cooler was 2015 with  $52.8^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Spring (MAM) mean temperature was  $49.0^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $0.4^{\circ}$  below the 1981-2010 normal for the season ( $2.1^{\circ}$  warmer than the 1889-2016 average). This spring ranks as the 28<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 128 year record (1889-2016). The last spring this warm or warmer was 2015 with  $49.5^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

The maximum daily temperature was  $80^{\circ}\text{F}$  and occurred on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. The minimum daily temperature was  $25^{\circ}\text{F}$  and occurred on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.



**Figure 1: May temperature time series.**

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

*The maximum temperature for May 2016 of 80°F was the 8<sup>th</sup> coolest May maximum in the 128 year record, tied with 1921 and 1971.*

## **Precipitation and Snowfall:**

Total monthly precipitation is 1.84” and was 0.59” below the 1981-2010 normal for the month (76% of normal). This ranks as the 41<sup>st</sup> driest in the 128 year record (1889-2016), tied with 1984. The last May this dry or drier was 2012 with 1.69” of precipitation.

Water year precipitation through May totaled 12.77” and is 3.48” above the normal for the water year (138% of normal). This ranks as the 15<sup>th</sup> wettest start to the water year in the 127 year record (1890-2016). The last water year to start this wet or wetter was 2015 with 13.39”.

Spring (MAM) precipitation was 6.87” and was 0.79” above the normal for the season (113% of normal). This ranks as the 37<sup>th</sup> wettest spring in the 128 year record (1889-2016). The last spring this wet or wetter was 2015 with 9.87”.

Total monthly snowfall was 0.1” and was 0.6” below the 1981-2010 normal for the month (14% of normal). This was the 86<sup>th</sup> least snowy May in the 128 year record (1889-2016), tied with 4 others. The last May with this little snowfall was 2012 which saw no snowfall.

Seasonal snowfall for the 2016 snow season is 72.8” and is 17.0” above the 1981-2010 normal for the season through May (131% of normal). This ranks as the 13<sup>th</sup> snowiest in the 127 year record (1890-2016). The last season with this much snowfall or more through May was the 2013 season with 79.2”.

May had 14 days with measureable precipitation ( $\geq 0.01$ ”) and 1 day with measureable snowfall ( $\geq 0.1$ ).

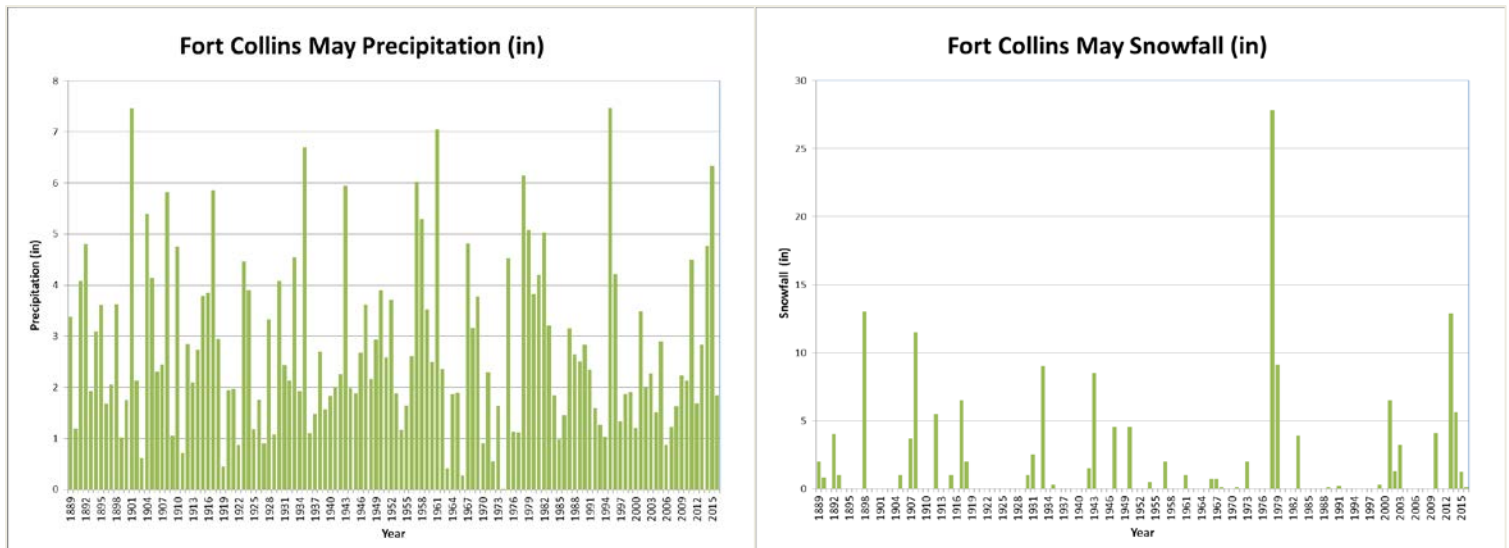


Figure 2: May precipitation (left) and snowfall (right) time series.

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

*No precipitation records for May*

**Wind:**

In May 2016 there were 12 days with maximum wind gusts  $\geq 20$  mph and 0 days  $\geq 30$  mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 25 mph and occurred on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:40 AM MST from 200°.

**Evapotranspiration:**

Pan evaporation for May was 4.69” which was 1.23” below the normal for May (79% of normal).