

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

Month: October
Year: 2020



Temperature:

Mean T_{\max} was 63.3°F which is 0.6° below the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 45th coldest in the 132-year record (1889-2020), tied with 1929. The last October this cold or colder was 2019 with 59.1°F .

Mean T_{\min} was 31.6°F which is 4.8° below the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 24th coldest in the 132-year record (1889-2020), tied with 1892, 1903, 1908 and 1951. The last October this cold or colder was 2019 with 29.4°F .

Mean T_{mean} was 47.4°F which is 2.8° below the 1981-2010 the normal for the month. This is the 28th coldest in the 132-year record (1889-2020), tied with 1890, 1917, 1941 and 2013. The last October this cold or colder was 2019 with 44.2°F .

The maximum daily temperature for the month was 84°F and occurred on October 7, 2020.

The minimum daily temperature for the month was -3°F and occurred on October 27, 2020.

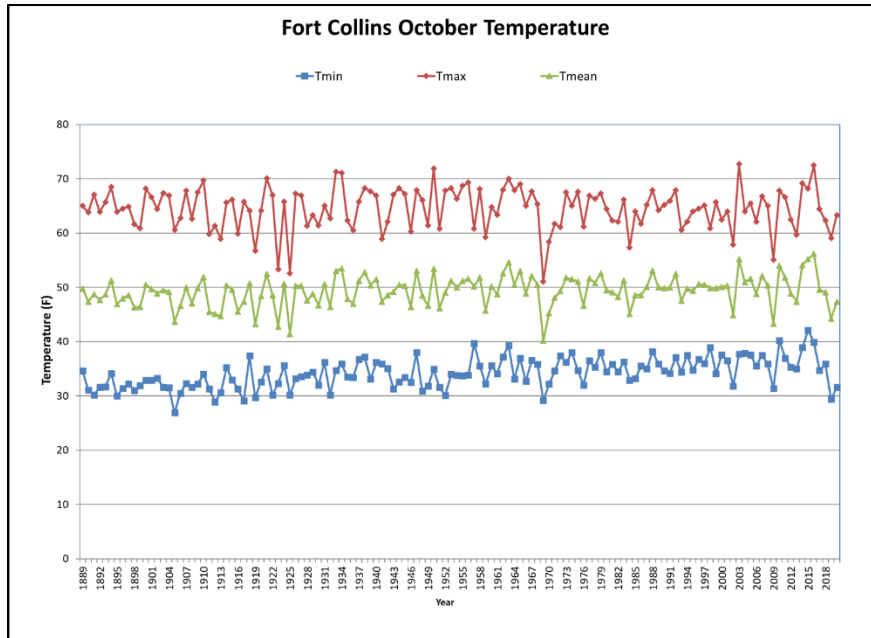


Figure 1: October temperature time series.

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

Coldest Maximum Daily Records:

October 26, 2020: The maximum temperature of 19°F broke the record for coldest maximum temperature for the day of 32°F set in 1932.

This temperature also broke the coldest daily maximum temperature for October of 21°F set on October 30, 1991.

Minimum Daily Temperature Records:

*October 25, 2020: The minimum temperature of 10°F **broke** the record minimum temperature for the day of 14°F set in 1975.*

*October 26, 2020: The minimum temperature of 6°F **tied** the record minimum temperature for the day set in 1997.*

*October 27, 2020: The minimum temperature of -3°F **smashed** the record minimum temperature for the day of 12°F set in 2011.*

Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation was 1.14” which is 0.01” below the 1981-2010 normal for the month (99% of normal). This ranks as the 83rd driest (48th wettest in the 132-year record (1889-2020), tied with 1926 and 2002. The last October this dry or drier was 2019 with 0.94” of precipitation.

Total monthly snowfall for October was 14.5” which is 10.9” above the 1981-2010 normal for the month (403% of normal). This ranks as the 5th snowiest October in the 132-year record (1889-2020). The last October with this much snow or more was 2009 with 25.7” (snowiest October on record).

Seasonal Snowfall to start the 2021 snow season totaled 17.2” through October. This is 12.7” above the 1981-2010 normal for the month (382% of normal). This ranks as the 5th snowiest start to a snow season. The last season to start with this much snow or more was 2010 with 25.7”.

October had 3 days with measurable precipitation (≥ 0.01 ”) and 2 days with measurable snowfall (≥ 0.1 ”).

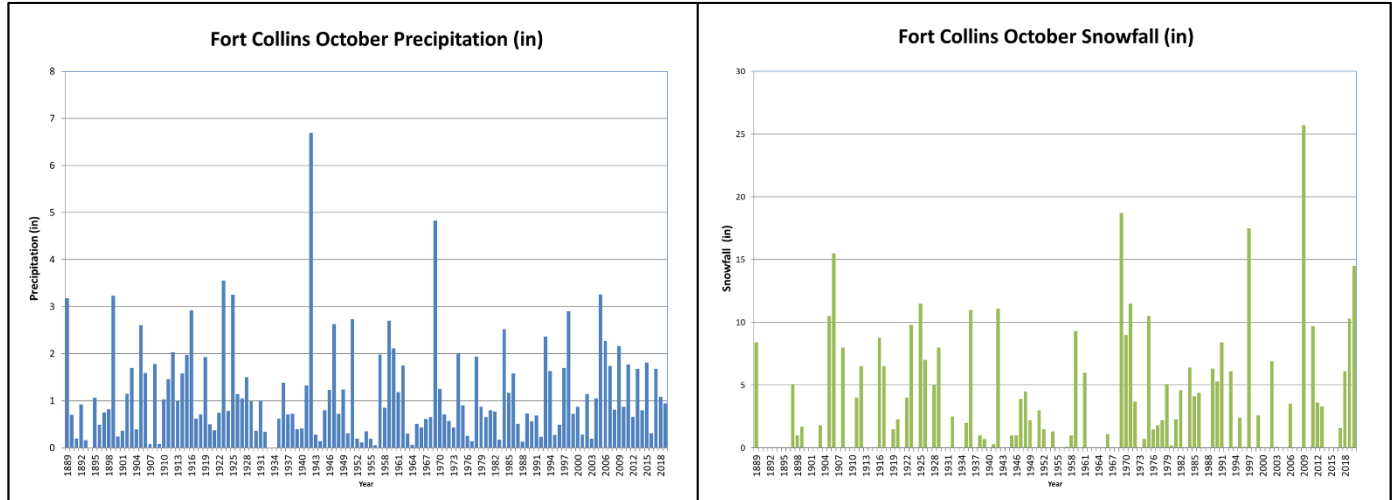


Figure 2: October precipitation (left) and snowfall (right) time series.

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

Daily Precipitation Record:

October 25, 2020: The precipitation amount of 1.03” broke the previous record precipitation for the day of 0.87” set in 1997.

Daily Snowfall Record:

October 25, 2020: The snowfall amount of 13.2” broke the previous record for the day of 12.1” set in 1997.

The highest one-day precipitation total for October 2020 was 1.03” falling on October 25th. The highest one-day snowfall total for the month was 13.2” on the same day.

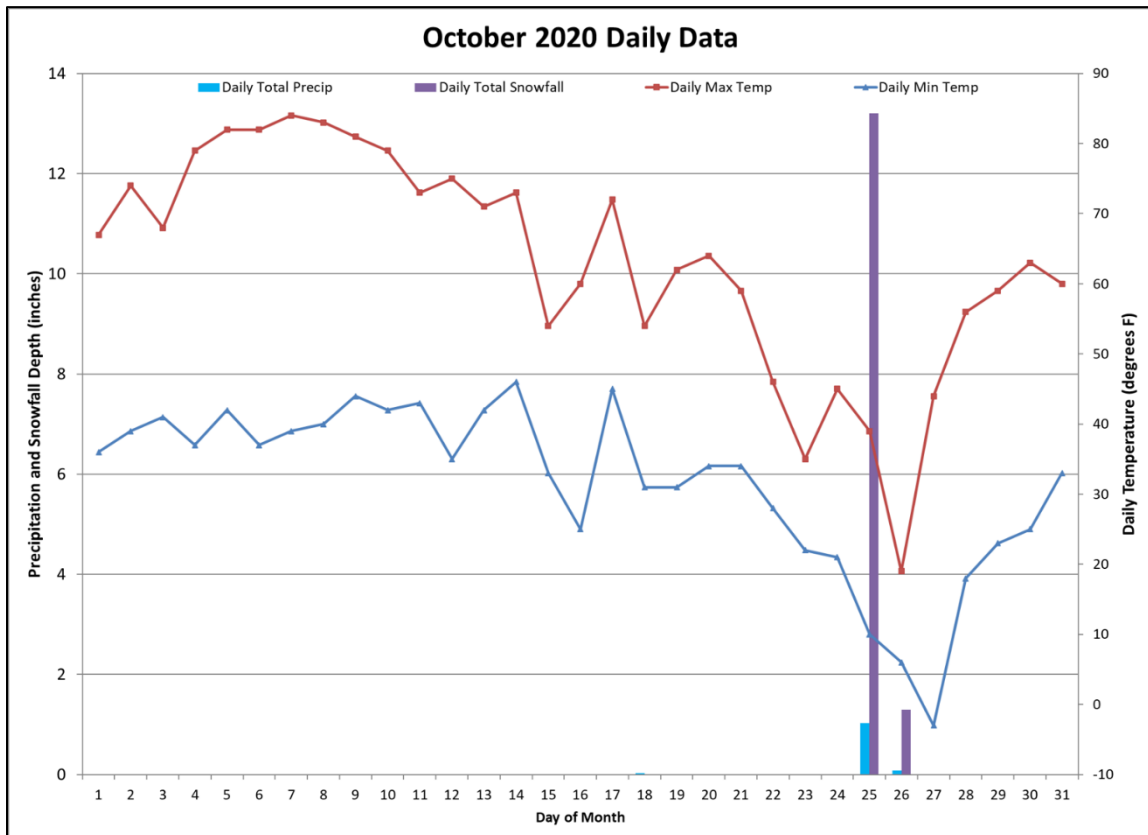


Figure 3: Daily Data for October 2020. Precipitation and temperature both show up on this graph. The y-axis on the left is for precipitation and snowfall. The y-axis on the right is for temperature.

Wind:

In October 2020 there were 6 days with maximum wind gusts ≥ 20 mph, 4 days ≥ 30 mph and 1 day ≥ 40 mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 41 mph and occurred on October 11, 2020 at 12:59 PM MST from 270° (W).

Evaporation:

Pan evaporation for October 2020 totaled 2.95” through October 24 when the pan was shut down for the season due to the snow. The normal pan evaporation for a full month of October is 3.21”.