

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

**Month: January**  
**Year: 2021**



## **Temperature:**

Mean  $T_{\max}$  was  $44.7^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $0.5^{\circ}$  above the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 43<sup>rd</sup> warmest in the 133-year record (1889-2021), tied with 1933. The last January this warm or warmer was 2020 with  $47.5^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Mean  $T_{\min}$  was  $20.1^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $2.2^{\circ}$  above the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 16<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 133-year record (1889-2021). The last January this warm or warmer was 2020 with  $22.6^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Mean  $T_{\text{mean}}$  was  $32.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $1.3^{\circ}$  above the 1981-2010 the normal for the month. This is the 26<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 133-year record (1889-2021), tied with 2014. The last January this warm or warmer was 2020 with  $35.1^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

The maximum daily temperature for the month was  $58^{\circ}\text{F}$  and occurred on January 13, 2021.

The minimum daily temperature for the month was  $6^{\circ}\text{F}$  and occurred on January 11, 2021.

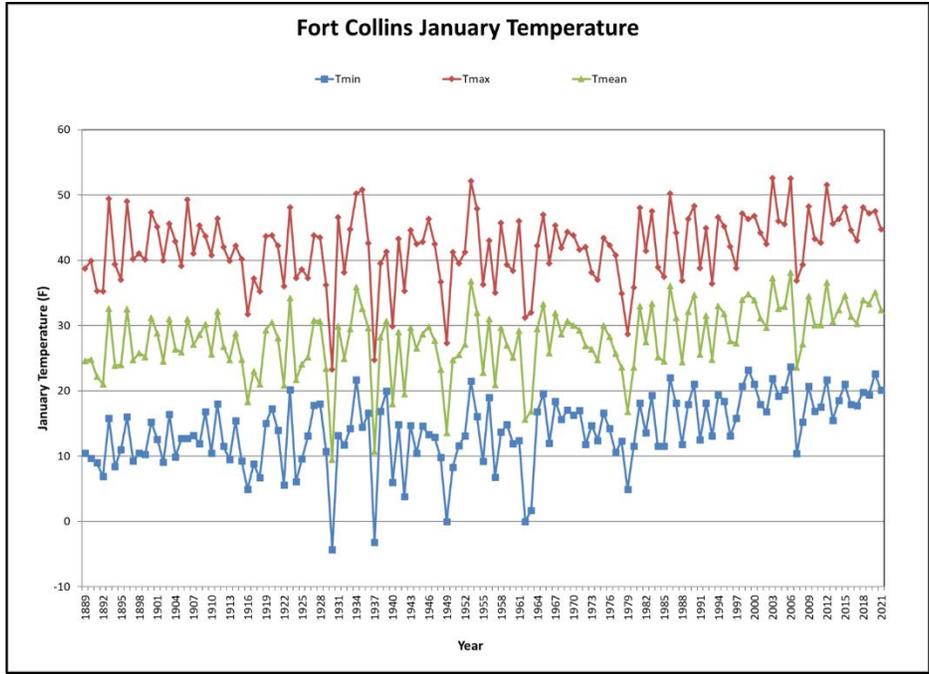


Figure 1: January temperature time series.

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

*No temperature records this January*

## Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation was 0.30” which is 0.10” below the 1981-2010 normal for the month (75% of normal). This ranks as the 63<sup>rd</sup> driest in the 133-year record (1889-2021), tied with 1913 and 1976. The last January this dry or drier was 2020 with a trace of precipitation (less than 0.01”).

Water Year 2021 precipitation through January totaled 2.58” which is 0.23” below the 1981-2010 normal (92% of normal). This ranks as the 77<sup>th</sup> driest start to a water year in the 132-year record (1890-2021). The last water year to start this dry or drier was 2019 with 2.22” of precipitation through January.

Total monthly snowfall for January was 5.6” which is 2.3” below the 1981-2010 normal for the month (71% of normal). This ranks as the 73<sup>rd</sup> least snowy January in the 133-year record (1889-2021), tied with 1912 and 1917. The last January with this little snowfall was 2020 with trace of snowfall (less than 0.1”).

Seasonal Snowfall for the 2021 snow season totaled 33.4” through January. This is 4.0” above the 1981-2010 normal (114% of normal). This ranks as the 24<sup>th</sup> snowiest start to a snow season. The last season to start with this much snow or more was the 2020 snow season with 37.1” of snow.

January had 4 days with measurable precipitation ( $\geq 0.01$ ”) and 5 days with measurable snowfall ( $\geq 0.1$ ”).

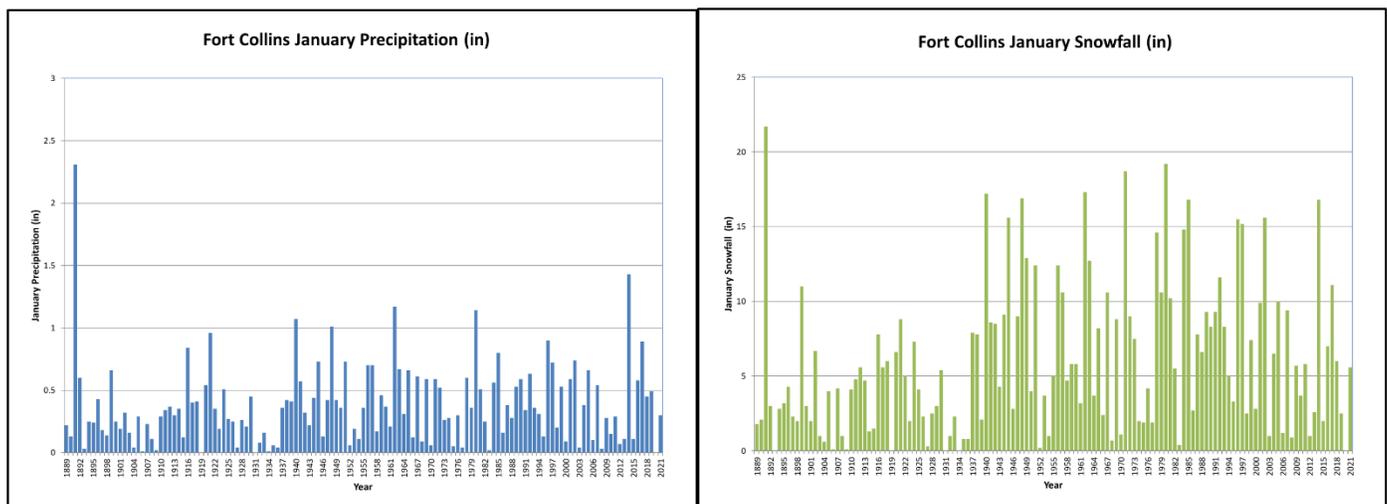


Figure 2: January precipitation (left) and snowfall (right) time series.

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

*No precipitation records this January*

### *Days with Snow Depth $\geq 1$ inch*

January had 11 days with 1" of snow or greater on the ground. This compares to a normal of 13 days in January.

This season has seen 30 days with 1" of snow or greater on the ground through the end of January. This compares to a normal of 31 days.

*The highest one-day precipitation total for January 2021 was 0.14" falling on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The highest one-day snowfall total for the month was 2.6" on January 9<sup>th</sup>.*

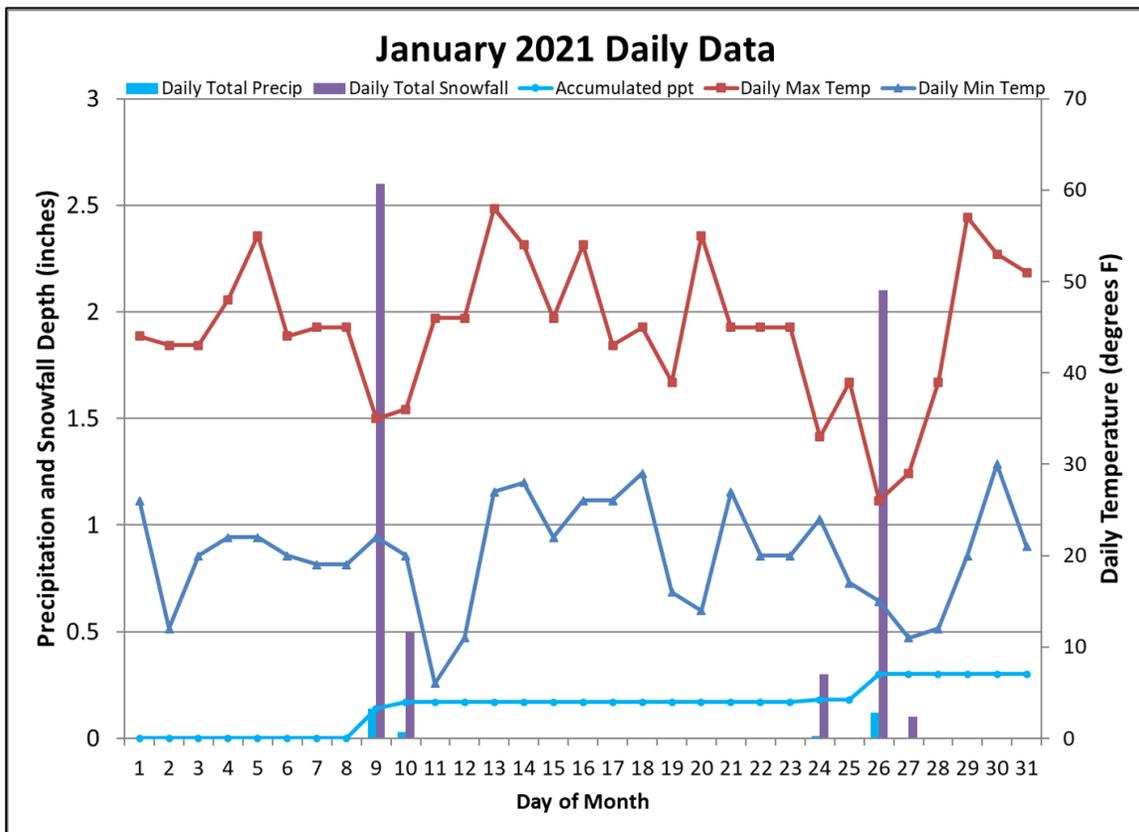
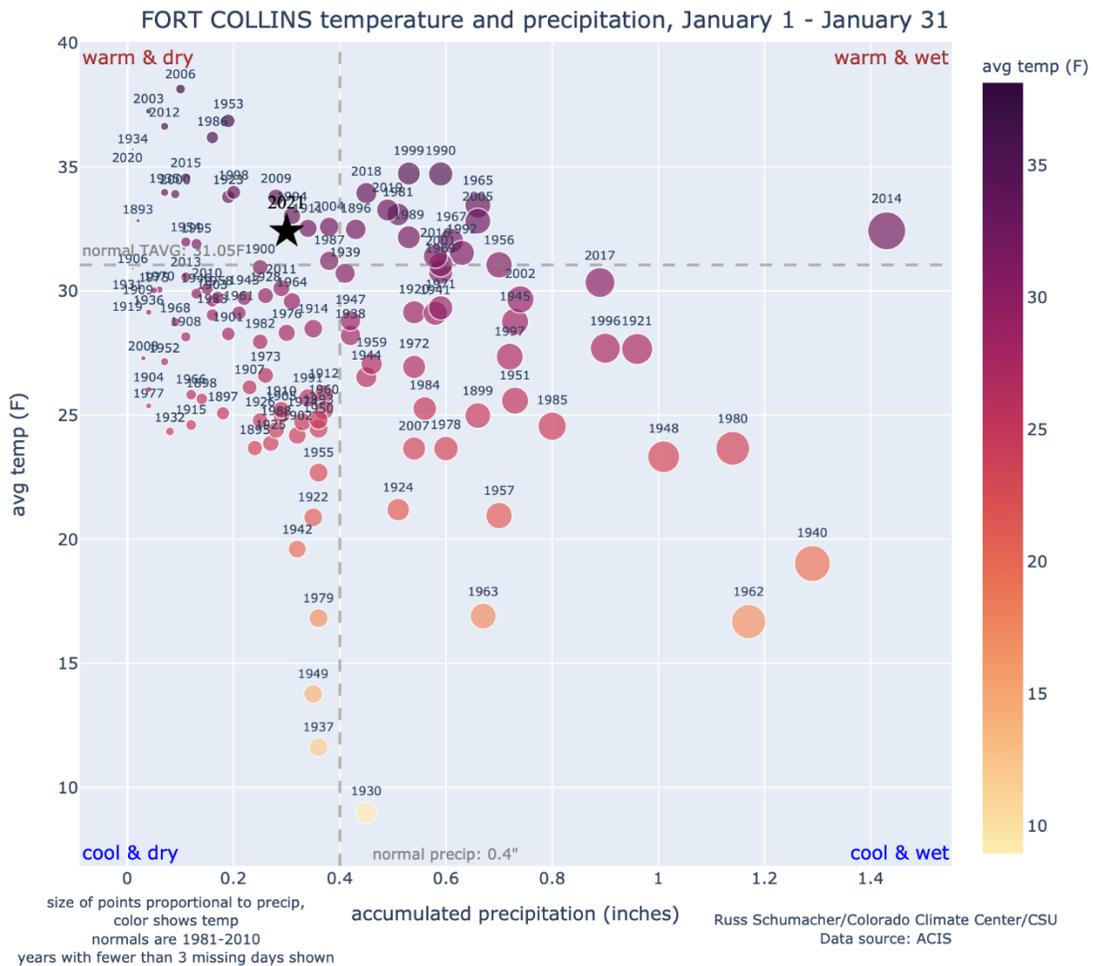


Figure 3: Daily Data for January 2021. Precipitation and temperature both show up on this graph. The y-axis on the left is for precipitation and snowfall. The y-axis on the right is for temperature.

## Wind:

In January 2021 there were 8 days with maximum wind gusts  $\geq 20$  mph and 3 days  $\geq 30$  mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 36 mph and occurred on January 14, 2021 at 8:00 PM MST from  $270^\circ$  (W).



**Figure 4:** January precipitation and temperature data plot. Each dot plots monthly average temperature and precipitation at Fort Collins for the period of record. From left to right, monthly precipitation is shown on the x-axis, where the wettest years are plotted furthest to the right. Dot sizes are proportional to precipitation amounts. From bottom to top on the y-axis, average monthly temperature is shown, where the warmest years are plotted towards the top. The dots are also color coded with darker colors indicating higher temperatures. The horizontal and vertical dotted lines indicate the 1981-2010 normals. January 2021 shows up slight warmer and drier than average.