

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

Month: March

Year: 2022



Photo by Noah Newman

Temperature:

Mean T_{\max} was 56.1°F which is 0.3° below the 1991-2020 normal for the month. This is the 100th coolest (74th percentile) in the 134-year record (1889-2022), tied with 1940 and 2016. The last March this cool or cooler was 2021 with 52.9°F.

Mean T_{\min} was 26.7°F which is 1.8° below the 1991-2020 normal for the month. This is the 88th coolest (65th percentile) in the 134-year record (1889-2022), tied with 1989. The last March this cool or cooler was 2013 with 26.3°F.

Mean T_{mean} was 41.4°F which is 1.0° below the 1991-2020 the normal for the month. This is the 95th coolest (71st percentile) in the 134-year record (1889-2022), tied with 2018. The last March this cool or cooler was 2021 with 39.8°F.

The maximum daily temperature for the month was 80°F and occurred on March 26, 2022.

The minimum daily temperature for the month was 1°F and occurred on March 11, 2022.

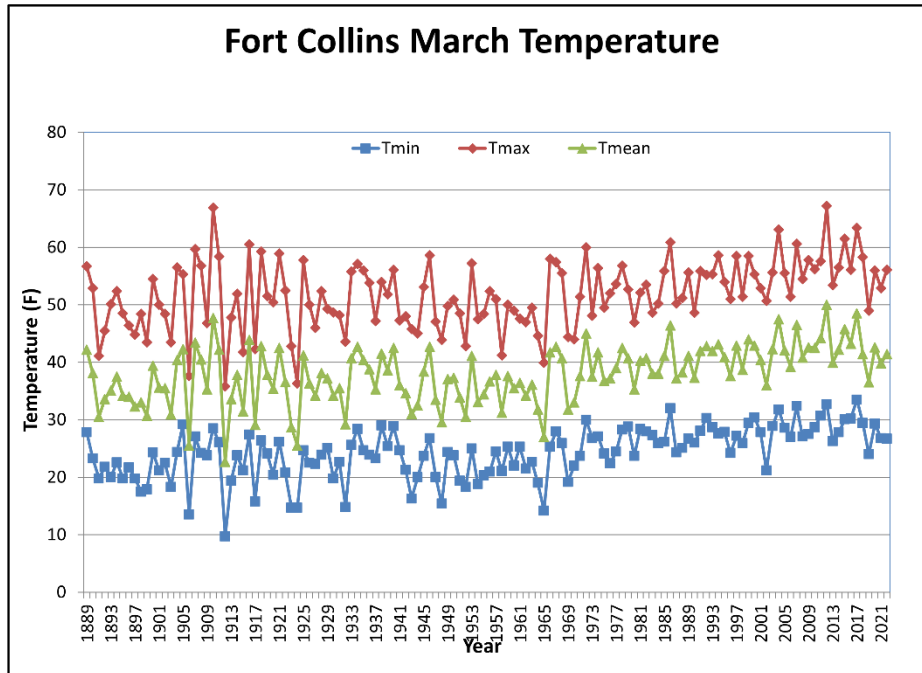


Figure 1: March temperature time series.

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

No records for March 2022

The maximum temperature of 80°F on March 26th, was the first 80° day of the year. This is the 5th earliest in the history of the weather station, tied with 2012.

Year	Date	Temp
2015	03-16 (2015)	80
1907	03-18 (1907)	80
1921	03-18 (1921)	81
1910	03-22 (1910)	80
2012	03-26 (2012)	81
2022	03-26 (2022)	80
1895	03-27 (1895)	80
1978	03-30 (1978)	80
1946	03-31 (1946)	80
2011	04-02 (2011)	82

Table 1: Top 10 earliest 80F

Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation was 0.97” which is 0.34” below the 1991-2020 normal for the month (74% of normal). This ranks as the 50th percentile (67th driest and wettest, the median) for the 134-year record (1889-2022). The last March this dry or drier was 2018 with a 0.71” of precipitation.

Water Year 2022 precipitation through March totaled 3.81” which is 0.84” below the 1991-2020 normal (82% of normal). This ranks as 61st driest start to a water year (45th percentile) in the 133-year record (1890-2022). The last water year to start this dry or drier was 2017 with 3.66” of precipitation through March.

Total monthly snowfall for March was 8.8” which is 0.6” below the 1991-2020 normal for the month (94% of normal). This ranks as the 71st least snow March (53rd percentile) in the 134-year record (1889-2022). The last March with this little snowfall was 2020 with 4.5” of snowfall.

Seasonal Snowfall for the 2022 snow season totaled 44.1” through March. This is 0.5” above the 1991-2020 normal (101% of normal). This ranks as the 47th snowiest start to a snow season (65th percentile). The last season to start with this much snowfall or more was the 2021 snow season with 63.4” of snow through March.

March had 9 days with measurable precipitation (≥ 0.01 ”) and 6 days with measurable snowfall (≥ 0.1 ”).

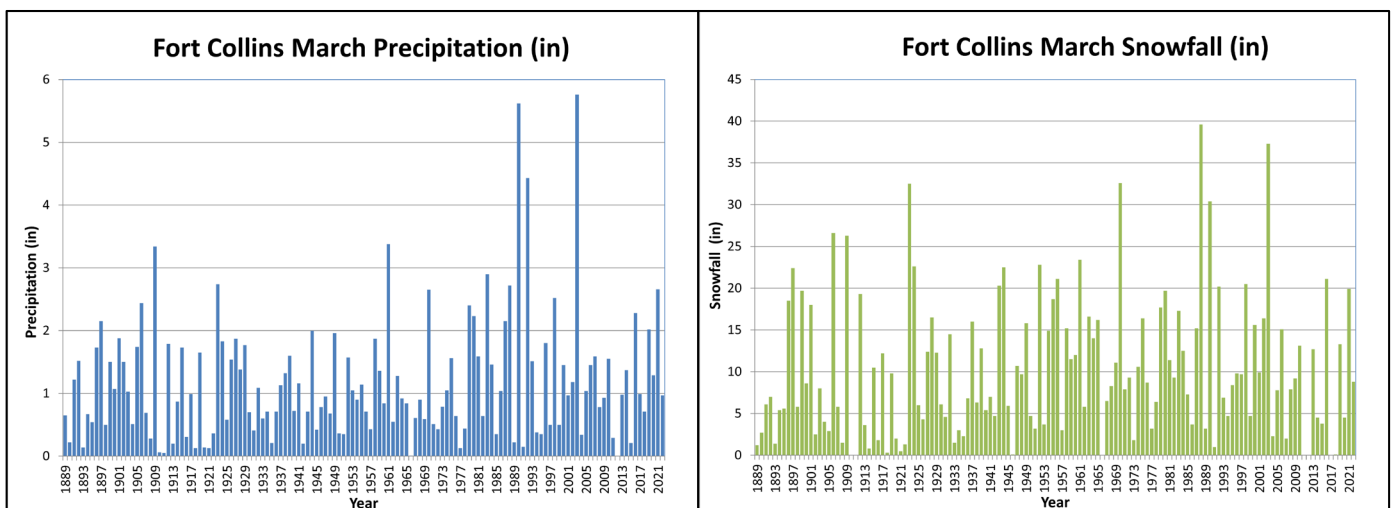


Figure 2: March precipitation (left) and snowfall (right) time series.

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

No precipitation or snowfall records for March 2022

Days with Snow Depth ≥ 1 inch

March had 4 days with 1" of snow or greater on the ground. This compares to a normal of 4 days in March.

This season has seen 55 days with 1" of snow or greater on the ground through the end of March. This compares to a normal of 42 days.

The highest one-day precipitation total for March 2022 was 0.31" falling on March 17th. The highest one-day snowfall total for the month was 3.1" on March 9th.

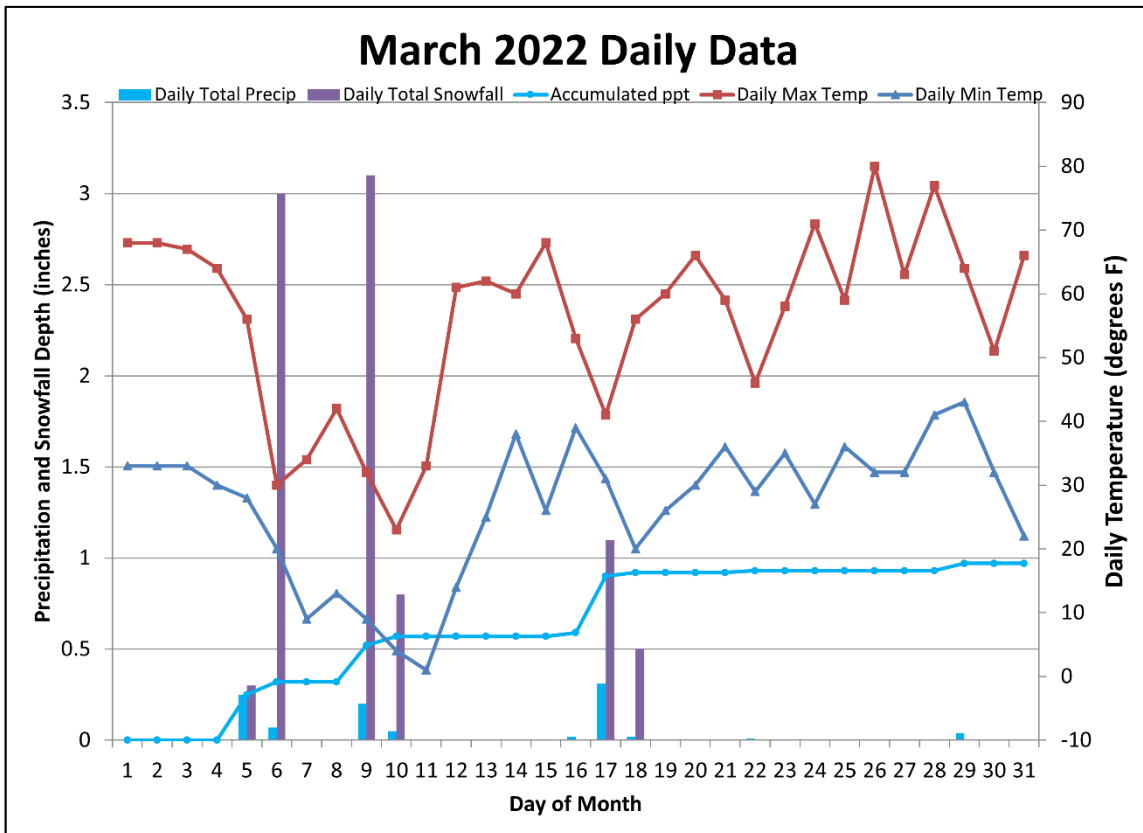


Figure 3: Daily Data for March 2022. Precipitation and temperature both show up on this graph. The y-axis on the left is for precipitation and snowfall. The y-axis on the right is for temperature.

Wind:

In March 2022 there were 11 days with maximum wind gusts ≥ 20 mph and 2 days ≥ 30 mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 33 mph and occurred on March 22, 2022, at 2:17 PM MST from 340° (NNW) and March 23, 2022, at 1:45 MST from 010° (NNE).

Additional graphs on following page!

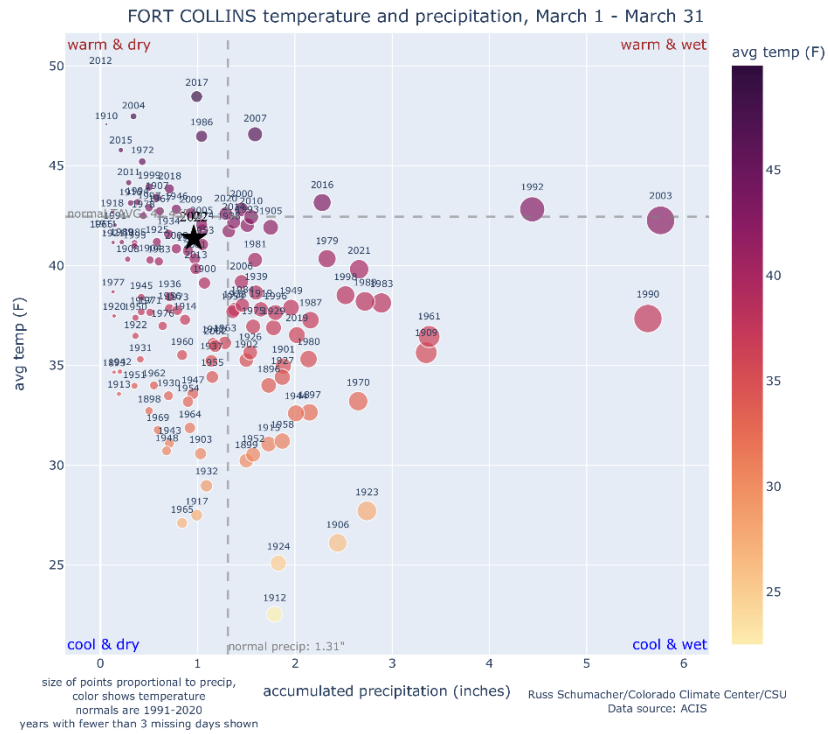


Figure 4: March (top) and water year to date (bottom) precipitation and temperature data plot. Each dot plots monthly average temperature and precipitation at Fort Collins for the period of record. From left to right, monthly precipitation is shown on the x-axis, where the wettest years are plotted furthest 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 1991-2020 normals. March 2022 shows up slightly cooler and drier than normal. The first 6 months of the water year shows up slightly warmer and drier than normal.

