

Photo credit:
Phoebe Lin

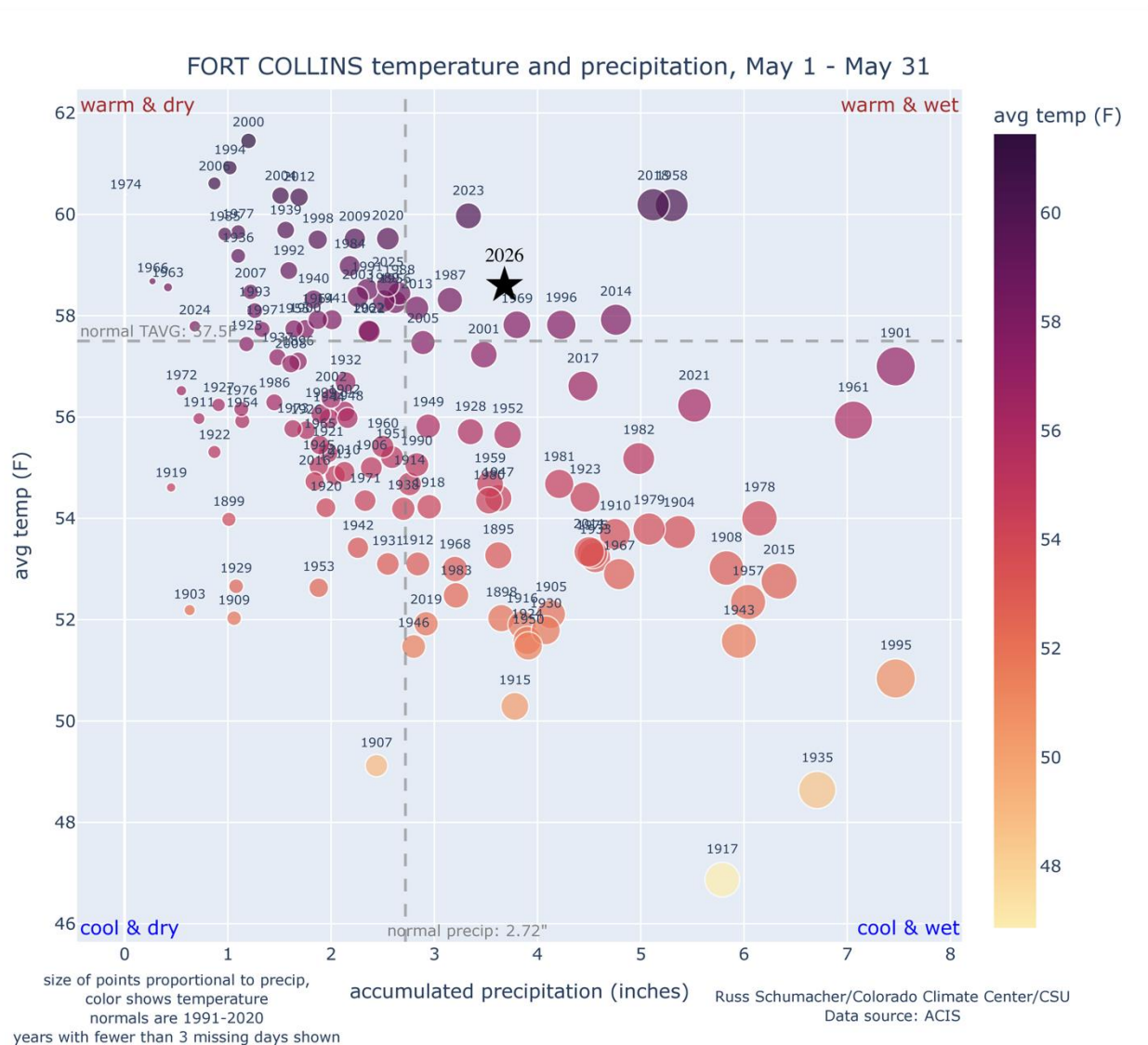


Fort Collins Weather Station Monthly Summary

May 2026



Average May Temperature and Precipitation



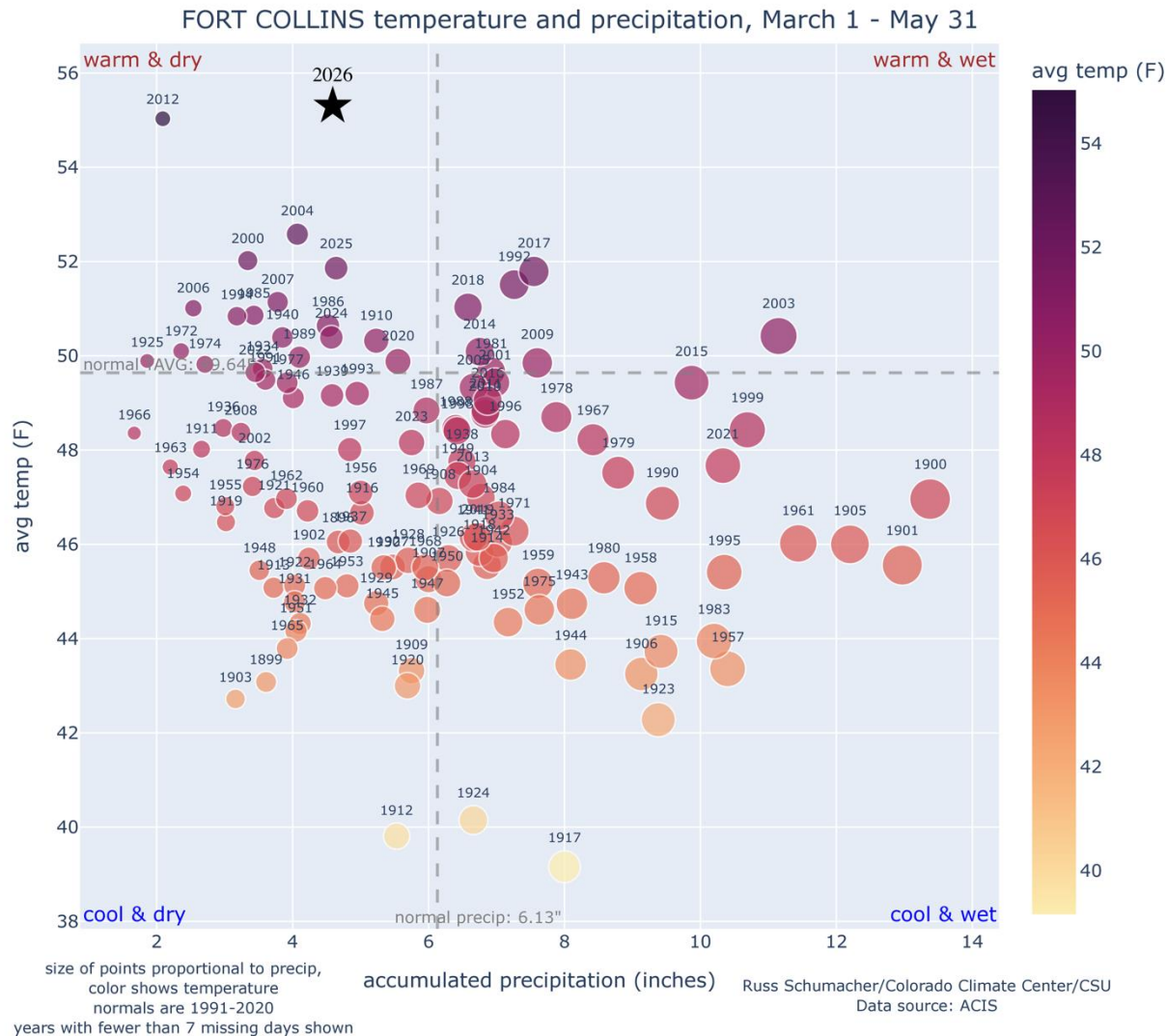
The average air temperature for May 2026 was 58.6 °F, 1.1 °F above our 1991-2020 May normal (57.5 °F) and 2.7 °F above our period of record average (since 1889) of 55.9 °F. The last warmer May was 2025 (59.1 °F)

We received 3.68" of precipitation for May 2026, 160% of our 1991-2020 normal (2.72"). The last wetter May was 2021 (5.52")

We received 5.3" of snowfall in May 2026, 331% of our normal (1.6"). The last May with more snowfall was 2017 (7.8")



Spring 2026 Temperature and Precipitation



The average air temperature for climatological spring (March-May) 2026 was 55.2 °F. This is 5.6 °F warmer than the 1991-2020 normal (49.6 °F), and 8.1 °F warmer than our period of record average (47.1 °F). This is the warmest spring on record. The next closest is 2012 (55.0 °F)

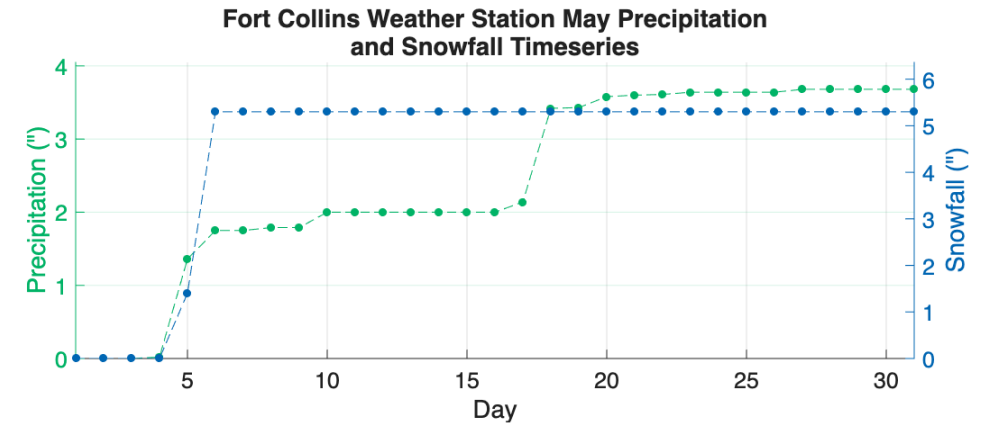
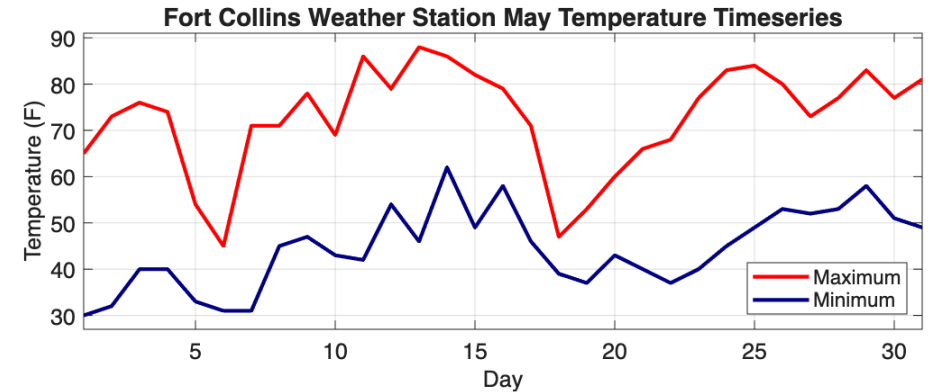
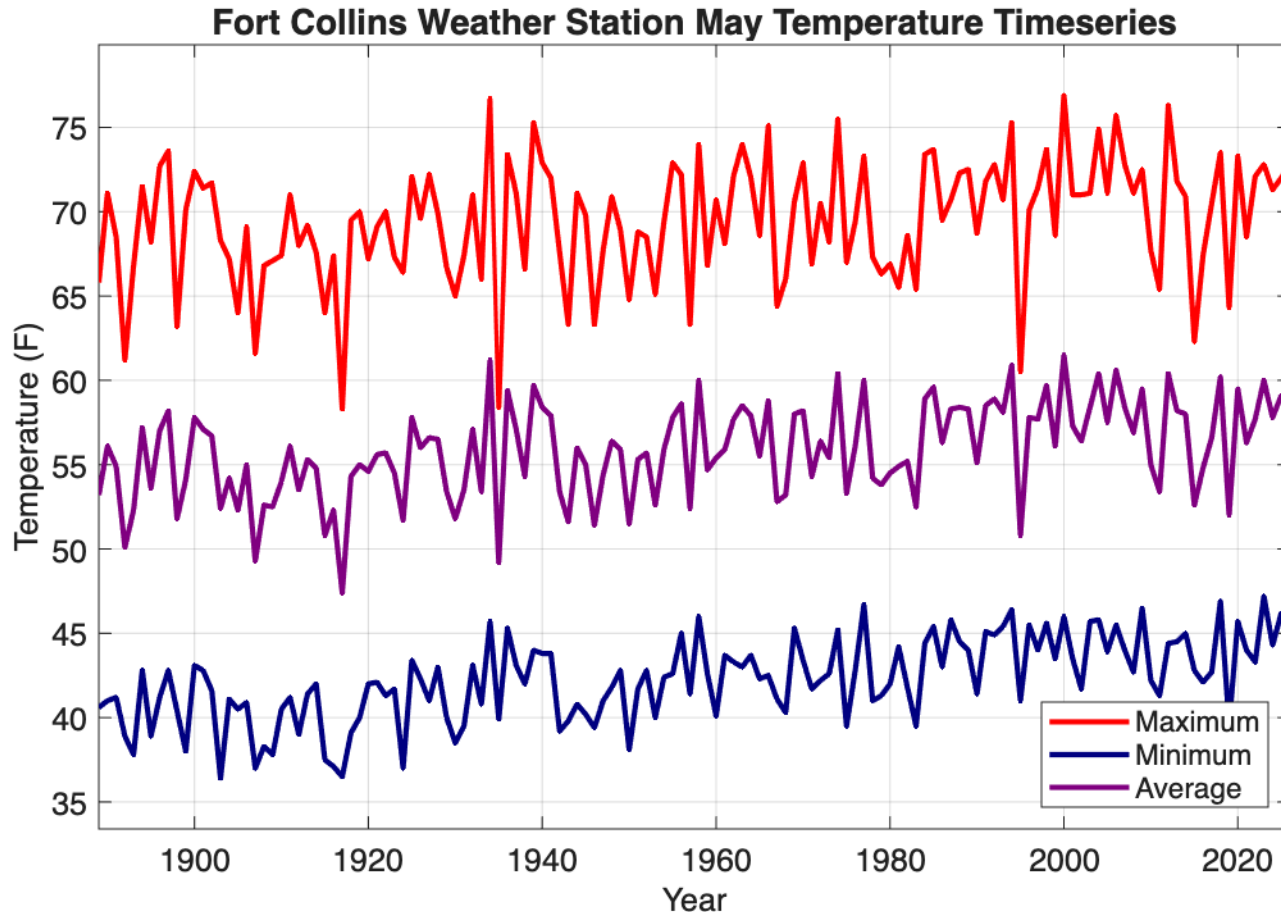
We received 4.59" of precipitation for spring 2026. This is 75% of our 1991-2020 normal (6.13"). The last drier spring was 2024 (4.57")

We have received 10.0" of snowfall this spring. This is 56% of our 1991-2020 normal spring snow (17.7"). The last spring with less snow was 2025 (3.7").

Despite a rally early this month, we received only 22.1" of snowfall for the 2025/2026 snow season. This is a meager 43% of our 1991-2020 average (51.4"), and the driest snow year on record since 1946 (8.5"). Snow in June is not unprecedented, but in all likelihood, the snow season has ended. If anyone wants to bet otherwise, I'll give you 50:1 odds, and no, hail does NOT count!



May 2026 Time Series Graphics



Highest Daily $T_{\max}$: 88 °F on May 13th

Lowest Daily $T_{\min}$: 30 °F on May 1st

Highest Daily Precipitation: 1.34" on May 5th

Highest Daily Snowfall: 3.9" on May 6th

Additional May 2026 Statistics

	Observed	1991-2020 Normal	POR Average	Depart from Normal	Depart from POR Average	Last Above	Last Below
T _{mean} °F	58.6	57.5	55.9	1.1	2.7	2025	2024
Mean(T _{max}) °F	72.8	70.9	69.4	1.9	3.4	2020	2025
Mean(T _{min}) °F	44.4	44.1	42.2	0.3	2.2	2025	2024
Precipitation “	3.68	2.72	2.8	0.96	0.88	2021	2025
Snowfall “	5.3	1.6	1.3	3.7	4	2017	2025
Oct-Apr Precipitation ”	5.99	9.43	8.99	-3.44	-3	2025	2004
Oct-Apr Snowfall ”	22.1	51.4	48	-29.3	-25.9	2025	1946

	Value	Date
Max(T _{max}) °F	88	13 th
Min(T _{max}) °F	45	6 th
Max(T _{min}) °F	62	14 th
Min(T _{min}) °F	30	1 st
Max(Daily Precip)”	1.34	5 th
Max(Daily Snowfall)”	3.9	6 th
Peak Wind Gust (mph)	29.3	17 th

Days Precip > 0	17
Days Snowfall > 0	2
Days Precip > Trace	14
Days Snowfall > Trace	2
Days Wind Gust > 20mph	13
Peak Wind Gust Direction	299
Peak Wind Gust Time	0433 MST
Pan Evaporation	7.00” (118% of normal)

POR = period of
record (1889-
2026)

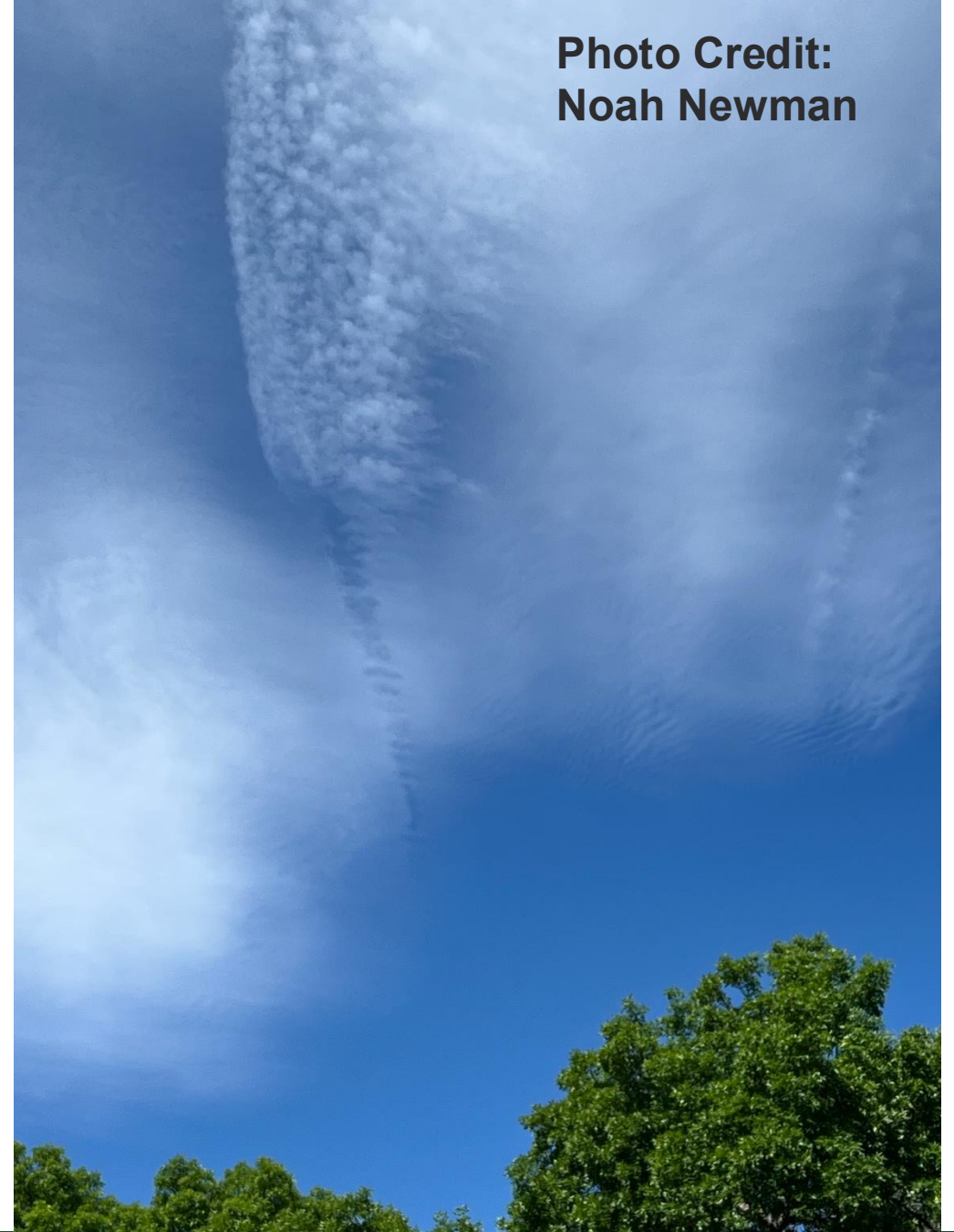


Daily Records Broken

We tied the record for highest maximum daily temperature on May 13th with a high of 88 °F. This mark was previously set in 1988

We broke the record for highest minimum daily temperature on May 14th a low temperature of 62 °F. The previous record was 58 °F in 1988

Photo Credit:
Noah Newman



Feature Story: Wettest Month of the Year

Precipitation Total					Percent of Total				
	Period of Record	1991-2020	Last 10	Last One		Period of Record	1991-2020	Last 10	Last One
January	0.39	0.41	0.55	0.34		3	3	4	3
February	0.51	0.47	0.76	0		3	3	5	0
March	1.18	1.31	1.52	0.55		8	8	10	4
April	1.94	2.1	1.55	0.36		13	13	11	3
May	2.8	2.72	3.13	3.68		19	17	21	29
June	1.77	1.9	1.45	1.76		12	12	10	14
July	1.59	1.63	1.55	0.83		11	10	11	7
August	1.41	1.45	1.46	1.69		9	9	10	13
September	1.29	1.43	1.02	2.33		9	9	7	18
October	1.1	1.25	0.72	0.5		7	8	5	4
November	0.59	0.74	0.69	0.07		4	5	5	1
December	0.47	0.47	0.34	0.49		3	3	2	4
Annual	15.04	15.88	14.74	12.6		100	100	100	100

On average, May is the wettest month in Fort Collins. Average May precipitation has increased in recent years despite decreases in annual precipitation. May has “carried more of the load,” so to speak.



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It is difficult to be certain whether this trend will continue as the climate warms. One of our recent analyses of downscaled climate models suggests winter precipitation totals are likely to increase and summer precipitation totals are likely to decrease with May holding steady.



CONTACT US!

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