

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

**Month: August**  
**Year: 2018**



Smoke on August 20, looking west from Spring Canyon Park. Photo credit: Justin Bolinger

## **Temperature:**

Mean  $T_{\max}$  was  $84.9^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $0.9^{\circ}$  above the 1981-2010 normal for the month. This is the 42<sup>nd</sup> warmest in the 130 year record (1889-2018), tied with 1998. The last August this warm or warmer was 2015 with  $87.6^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Mean  $T_{\min}$  was  $56.0^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $0.7^{\circ}$  below the 1981-2010 normal for the month ( $1.9^{\circ}$  above the long term average). This is the 32<sup>nd</sup> warmest in the 130 year record (1889-2018), tied with 1922, 1991 and 2014. The last August this warm or warmer was 2015 with  $56.3^{\circ}\text{F}$

Mean  $T_{\text{mean}}$  was  $70.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is the normal for the 1981-2010 period. This is the 27<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 130 year record (1889-2018), tied with 2002. The last August this warm or warmer was 2015 with  $72.0^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Summer (June, July and August) mean temperature was  $71.5^{\circ}\text{F}$  which is  $1.7^{\circ}$  above the normal for the summer season. This ranks as the 9<sup>th</sup> warmest summer in the 130 year record (1889-2017). The last summer this warm or warmer was 2016 with  $71.8^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

The maximum daily temperature for the month was  $94^{\circ}\text{F}$  and occurred on August 4, 2018.

The minimum daily temperature for the month was  $49^{\circ}\text{F}$  and occurred on August 29, 2018.

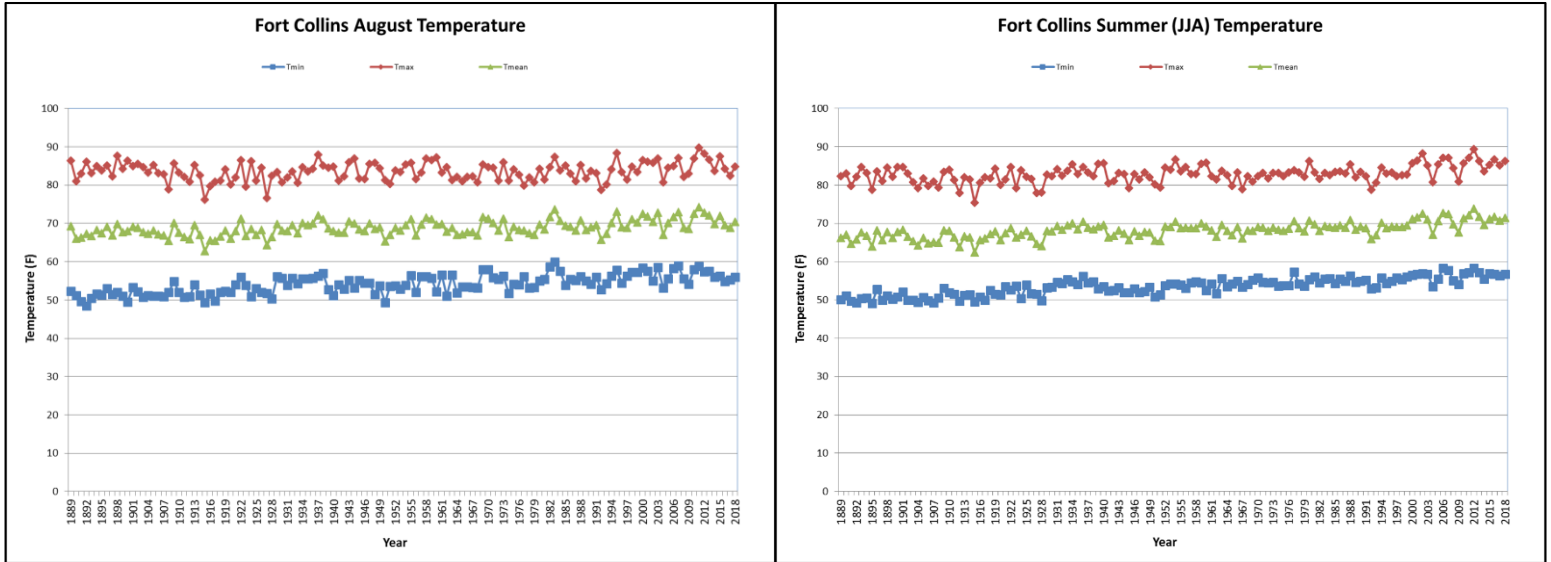


Figure 1: August and summer temperature time series.

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

#### *Warmest minimum daily temperature:*

*August 3, 2018: The minimum temperature for the day of 68°F broke the record of 67°F set in 1951 and tied in 2011.*

#### *90 Degree Days:*

*August had 5 days at or above 90°F. The 1889-2017 average for number days in the 90s for August is 6.*

*Through the end of August, there have been 30 days at or above 90°F. The 1889-2017 average for number of days in the 90s through August is 19 days.*

*The average for 90° days in a year is 20 days and the record is 57 days set in 2012.*

## Precipitation:

Total monthly precipitation was 0.28” which is 1.32” below the 1981-2010 normal for the month (18% of normal). This ranks as the 13<sup>th</sup> driest in the 130 year record (1889-2018), tied with 1934. The last August this dry or drier was 2012 with 0.03” of precipitation.

Water year precipitation through August is 13.98” which is 0.79” below the 1981-2010 normal for the water year (95% of normal). This ranks as the 73<sup>rd</sup> driest start to a water year in the 129 year record (1890-2018). The last year to start this dry or drier was 2017 with 13.69” through August.

Summer (June-August) was 3.71” which is 1.77” below the 1981-2010 normal for the water year (68% of normal). This ranks as the 44<sup>th</sup> driest summer in the 130 year record (1889-2018). The last summer this dry or drier was 2017 with 3.47” of precipitation.

August had 5 days with measurable precipitation ( $\geq 0.01$ ”).

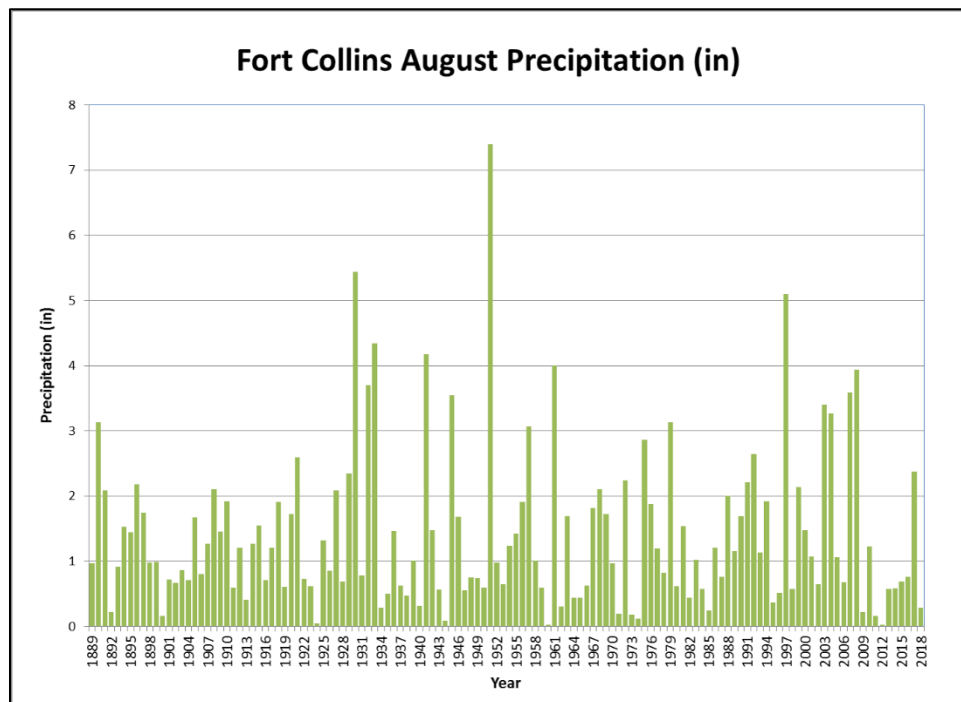


Figure 2: August precipitation time series

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

*No precipitation records in August*

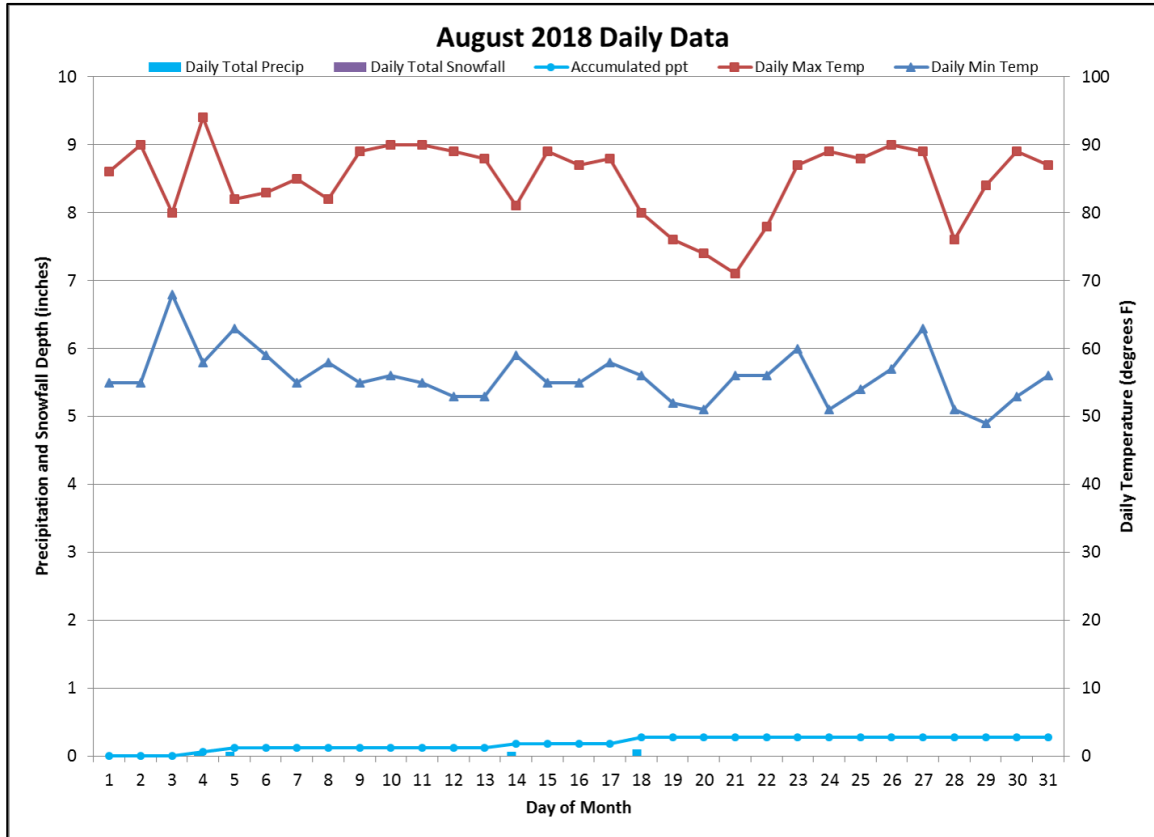


Figure 3: Daily Data for August 2018. Precipitation and temperature both show up on this graph. The y-axis on the left is for precipitation and snowfall. The y-axis on the right is for temperature.

**Wind:**

In August 2018 there were 8 days with maximum wind gusts  $\geq 20$  mph and 0 days  $\geq 30$  mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 29 mph and occurred on August 13 2018 at 3:10 PM MST from 180°.

**Evaporation:**

Pan evaporation for August 2018 was 6.42” which was 0.06” below the normal for August (99% of normal).

**Miscellaneous events:**

A thick haze covered Fort Collins for much of the month due to fires in the west and northwest U.S. This greatly impacted visibility and air quality. The haze lasted from the beginning of August finally clearing up August 26.