

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

**Month: May**  
**Year: 2022**



## Temperature:

Mean  $T_{\max}$  was 72.1°F which is 1.2° above the 1991-2020 normal for the month. This is the 32<sup>nd</sup> warmest (75<sup>th</sup> percentile) in the 134-year record (1889-2022), tied with 1925 and 1962. The last May this warm or warmer was 2020 with 73.3°F.

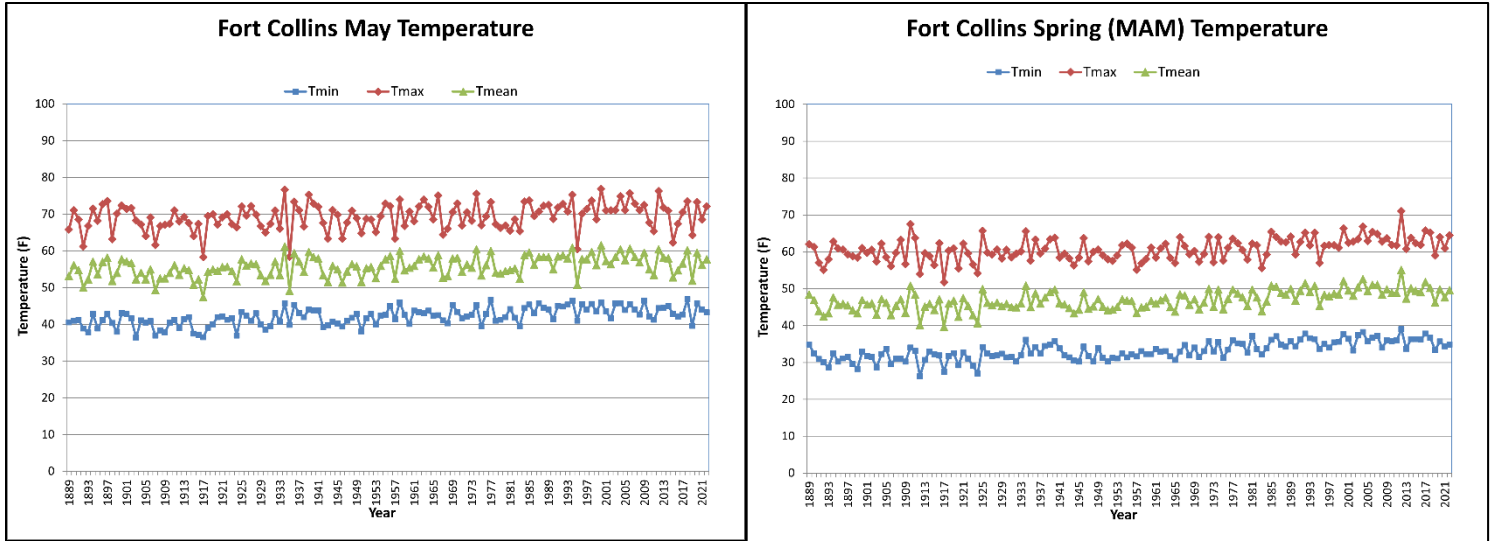
Mean  $T_{\min}$  was 43.3°F which is 0.8° below the 1991-2020 normal for the month. This is the 91<sup>st</sup> coolest (68<sup>th</sup> percentile) in the 134-year record (1889-2022), tied with 1962. The last May this cool or cooler was 2019 with 39.6°F.

Mean  $T_{\text{mean}}$  was 57.7°F which is 0.2° above the 1991-2020 normal for the month. This is the 38<sup>th</sup> warmest (68<sup>th</sup> percentile) in the 134-year record (1889-2022), tied with 1900, 1925, 1955, 1962 and 1997. The last May this warm or warmer was 2020 with 59.5°F.

The maximum daily temperature for the month was 90°F and occurred on May 27, 2022.

The minimum daily temperature for the month was 32°F and occurred on May 22, 2022.

Spring (March, April, May) mean temperature was 49.7°F which is 0.1° above the 1991-2020 normal for the month. This was the 25<sup>th</sup> warmest (82<sup>nd</sup> percentile) in the 134-year record, tied with 1974 and 1981. The last spring this warm or warmer was 2020 with 49.8°F.



**Figure 1: May (left) and Spring (right) temperature time series.**

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

#### ***Maximum Temperature Record:***

*May 7, 2022: The maximum daily temperature for the day of 86°F tied the record set in 2004.*

*The first 90° day of the year occurred on May 27<sup>th</sup>. This is the 11<sup>th</sup> earliest first 90 and the 16<sup>th</sup> first 90 in May. The earliest 90° on record is May 5, 2000.*

## **Precipitation and Snowfall:**

Total monthly precipitation was 2.37” which is 0.35” below the 1991-2020 normal for the month (87% of normal). This ranks as the 67<sup>th</sup> driest (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) in the 134-year record (1889-2022). The last May this dry or drier was 2016 with 1.84” of precipitation.

Water Year 2022 precipitation through May totaled 6.29” which is 3.18” below the 1991-2020 normal (66% of normal). This ranks as 22<sup>nd</sup> driest start to a water year (16<sup>th</sup> percentile) in the 133-year record (1890-2022). The last water year to start this dry or drier was 2004 with 5.93” of precipitation through May.

Spring (March, April, May) precipitation totaled 3.45” which is 3.21” below the normal for the season (36% of normal). This ranks as the 20<sup>th</sup> driest (14<sup>th</sup> percentile) on record. The last spring this dry or drier was 2012 with 2.09” of precipitation.

Total monthly snowfall for May was T (less than 0.1”). Normal snowfall in May is 1.6”. This was the 5<sup>th</sup> May with a trace of snowfall. The last year with this little snowfall in May was 2020 with no snowfall. There have been 45 years on record with measurable snowfall.

Seasonal Snowfall for the 2022 snow season will end at 44.1”. This is 7.3” below the 1991-2020 normal for the season (86% of normal). This ranks as the 58<sup>th</sup> least snowy season (43<sup>rd</sup> percentile). The last season with this little snowfall was the 2018 snow season with 35.3” of snow.

May had 10 days with measurable precipitation ( $\geq 0.01$ ”).

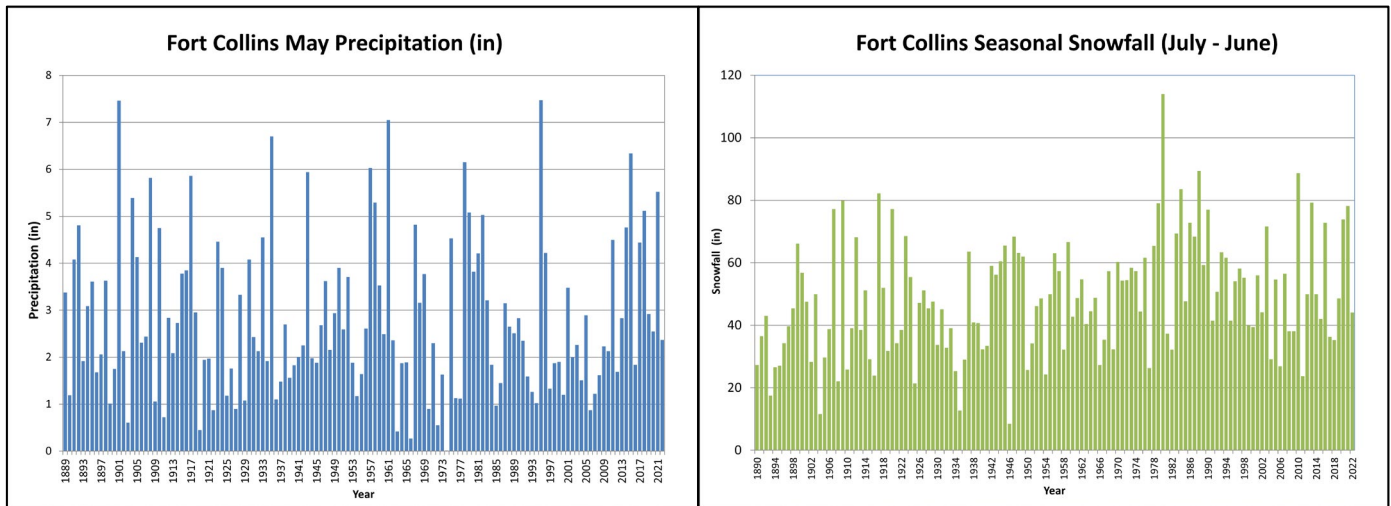


Figure 2: May precipitation (left) and seasonal snowfall (right) time series.

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

### *Daily Snowfall Record:*

*May 20, 2022: The snowfall amount of a trace tied the record snowfall for the day set in 1915 and tied in 1931.*

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

May had 0 days with 1” of snow or greater on the ground. This compares to a normal of 0 days in May.

This season has seen 55 days with 1” of snow or greater on the ground. This compares to a normal of 43 days.

*The highest one-day precipitation total for May 2022 was 0.70” falling on May 4<sup>th</sup>.*

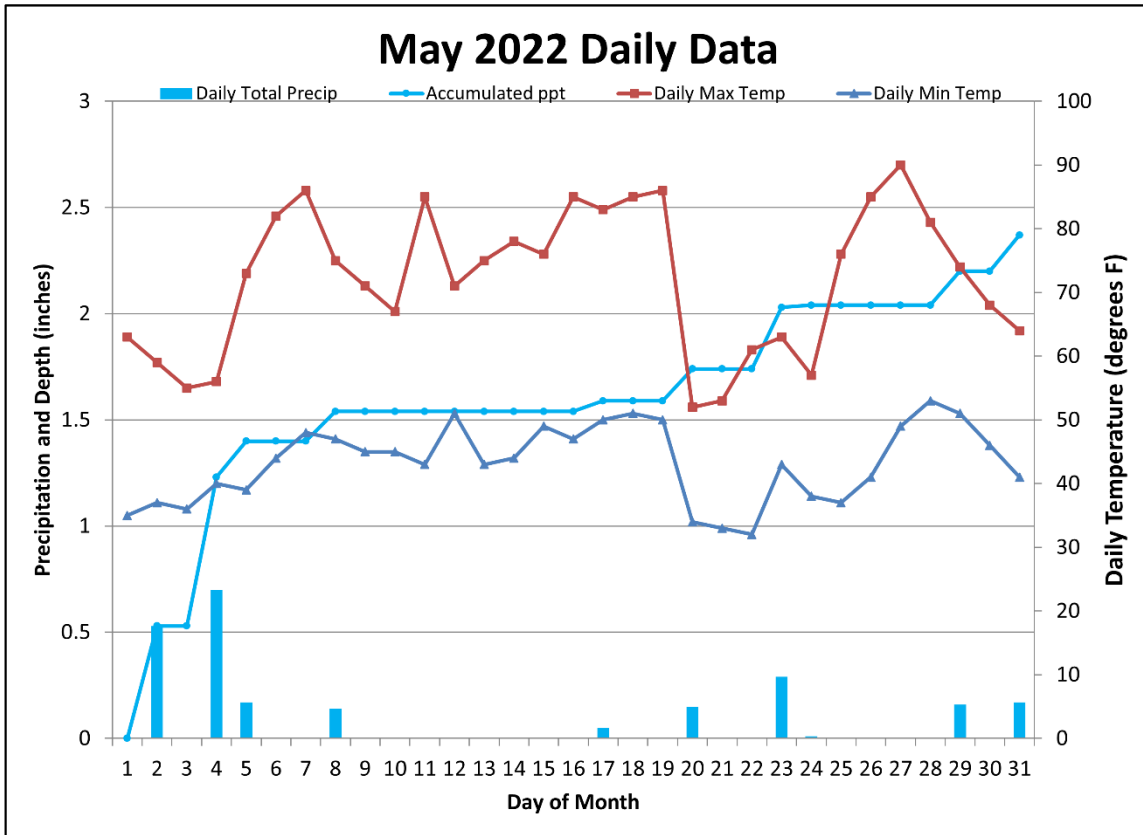


Figure 3: Daily Data for May 2022. Precipitation and temperature both show up on this graph. The y-axis on the left is for precipitation and snowfall. The y-axis on the right is for temperature.

**Wind:**

In May 2022 there were 21 days with maximum wind gusts  $\geq 20$  mph and 6 days  $\geq 30$  mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 32 mph and occurred on May 27, 2022, at 2:52 PM MST from 300° (NW).

**Pan Evaporation:**

Pan evaporation for May 2022 totaled 6.27". This is 0.35" above the normal for the month (106% of normal).