



NWS Wilmington, Ohio December 2018 Regional Climate Summary

Regional Climate Summary

Although there was around a week of below normal temperatures, above normal temperatures were present for a majority of the month. With these warmer temperatures, snowfall values were low during the month. However, an unusually wet pattern evolved through the region during December, with multiple rounds of moderate to heavy rain which yielded precipitation that was much above normal. A strong storm system brought gusty winds and another round of heavy rain on the final day of 2018, with widespread amounts in excess of 1 inch.

Temperatures

Although November ended on a bit of a cold note, the month of December 2018 actually began quite warm – with several days where high temperatures reached into the 50s and 60s before cooler air finally filtered in by the 4th.

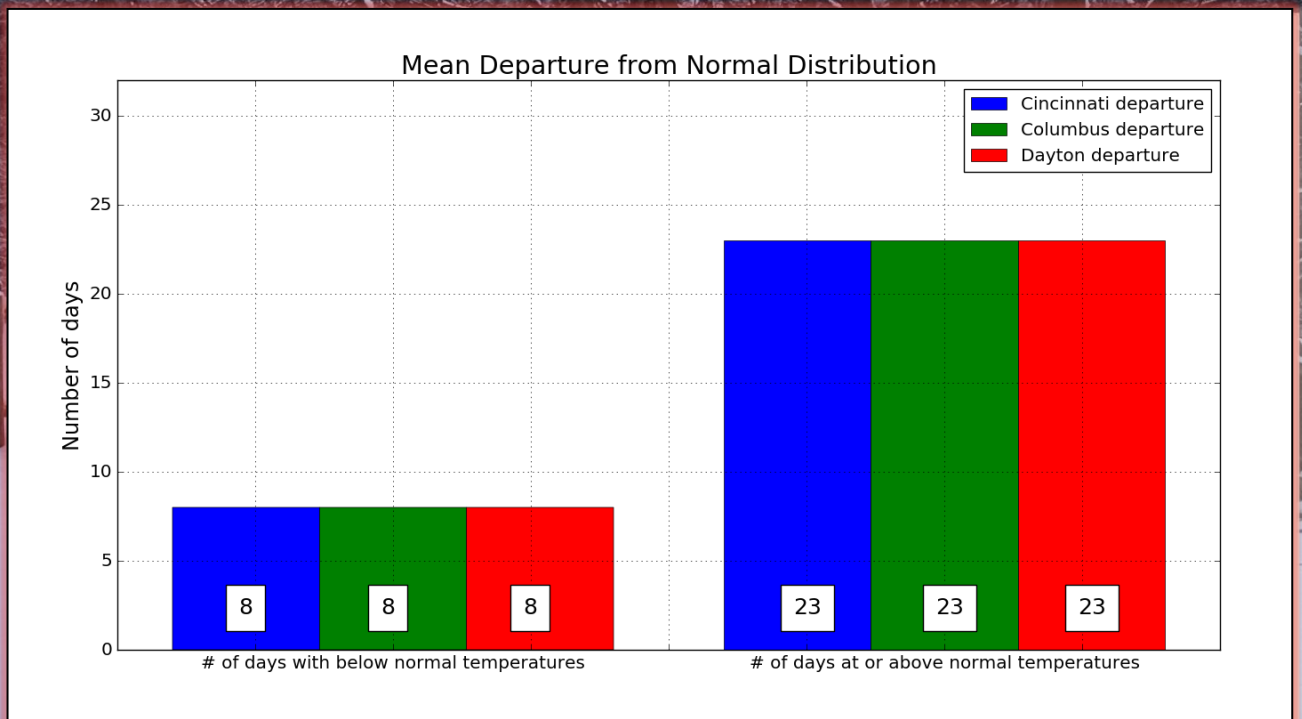
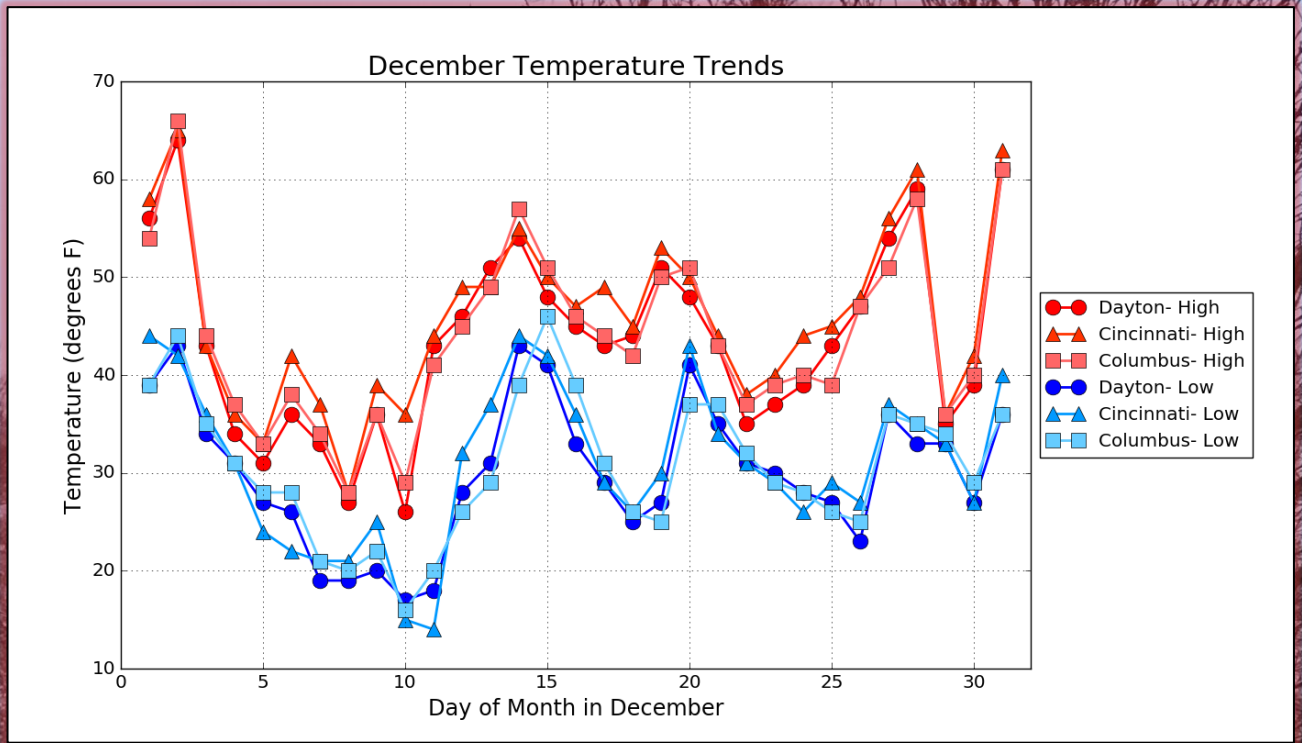
Following this return to a more seasonable cold pattern, temperatures largely remained below normal for the better part of the next week before milder temperatures made a return by the 12th or so. Slightly cooler temperatures filtered back into the area on the 16th through the 18th, however they still stayed above normal.

These above normal temperatures continued for the remainder of the month to varying degrees. The month finished off on a warm note as well with temperatures rising into the 50s and 60s. Although no temperature records were broken, there were several days where temperatures were well above normal and a few days where temperatures were well below normal values. Overall, above normal temperatures were much more prevalent during the month, especially on the final day of the year when highs soared into the mid 60s.

Site	Avg Temp (°F)	Avg High Temp (°F)	Avg Low Temp (°F)	Departure From Normal (°F)	Maximum Temperature (°F)	Minimum Temperature (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	38.5°F	46.0°F	31.0°F	+4.4°F	65°F on 2nd	14°F on 11th
Columbus (CMH)	37.3°F	44.1°F	30.6°F	+3.8°F	66°F on 2nd	16°F on 10th
Dayton (DAY)	36.8°F	43.6°F	30.0°F	+5.6°F	64°F on 2nd	17°F on 10th



Temperatures (Continued)



Precipitation

In terms of precipitation, the month of December started right where the November weather pattern ended – on a very wet note. A large/expansive system brought moderate to heavy rain on the 1st day of the month, with many locations in the local area receiving 1-2” of rain. This rain fell on top of already-saturated soils from the wet November pattern, which led to some minor flooding throughout the region.

Gratefully, following the soaker on the 1st day of the month, a somewhat drier pattern evolved until the middle of the month where another large and slow-moving low pressure system brought another 1-1.5” of rain to portions of the local area. A brief dry spell followed in the next several days before widespread rain moved into the area for the 20th. Off and on precipitation occurred after the 20th.

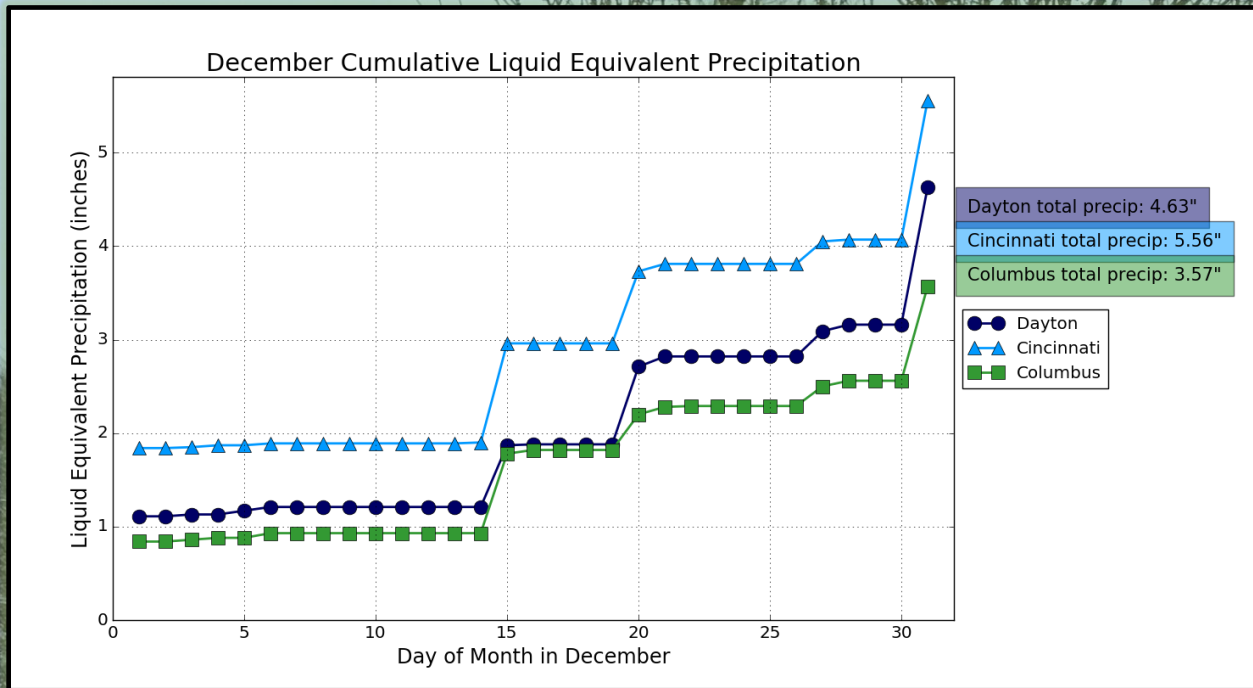
Widespread heavier rainfall occurred on the 31st as a strong low pressure system approached the region and brought multiple rounds of rain to the region. Total rainfall with this system alone was in excess of 1 inch in many spots across the region.

Given the warmer temperature pattern during the month, snowfall values were well below normal for the month, but total precipitation was well above normal. December was a wet month that ended a rather wet year. A record annual precipitation total of 55.18 inches was set at John Glenn International Airport in Columbus breaking the old record for the site of 54.96 inches set in 2011.

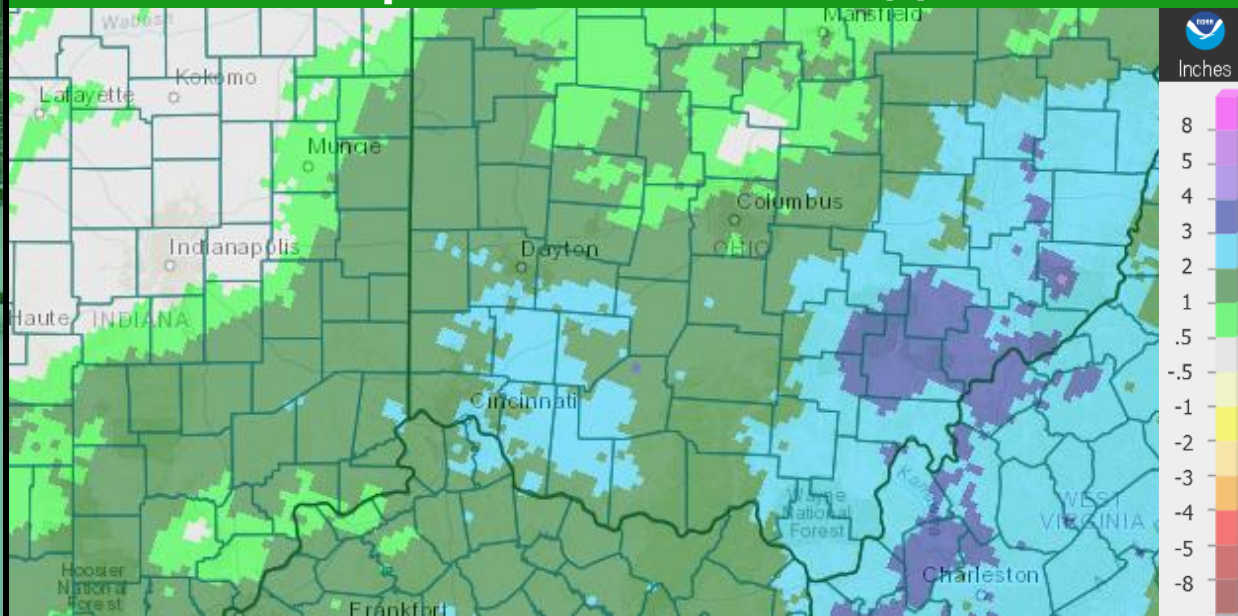
Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure From Normal (in.)	Max Daily Precipitation (in./date)		Total Snowfall (in.)	Max Daily Snowfall (in./date)	
Cincinnati (CVG)	5.56”	+2.19”	1.84”	1st	0.5”	0.3”	5th
Columbus (CMH)	3.57”	+0.60”	1.01”	31st	0.4”	0.2”	5th
Dayton (DAY)	4.63”	+1.51”	1.47”	31st	1.4”	1.0”	5th



Precipitation (Continued)



Regional December Precipitation Departure From Normal (")



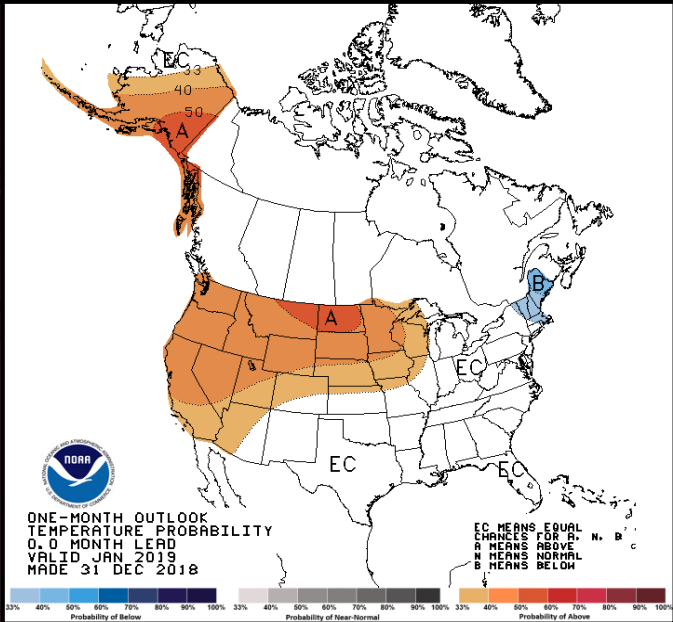
January Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center calls for an increased likelihood of below normal precipitation. There is not a clear signal for temperatures with equal chances of above, below, and normal temperatures for January.

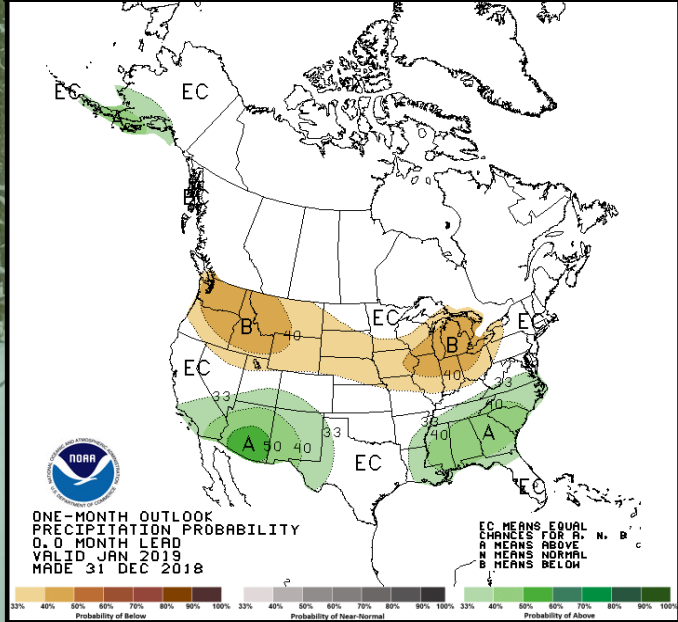
Site	Normal Avg Temp (°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	30.8°F	38.7°F	23.0°F
Columbus (CMH)	29.6°F	36.5°F	22.6°F
Dayton (DAY)	27.5°F	34.7°F	20.3 °F

Site	Normal Precipitation (in.)	Normal Snowfall (in.)
Cincinnati (CVG)	3.00"	6.5"
Columbus (CMH)	2.73"	9.2"
Dayton (DAY)	2.71"	7.9"

Upcoming Temperature Outlook



Upcoming Precipitation Outlook

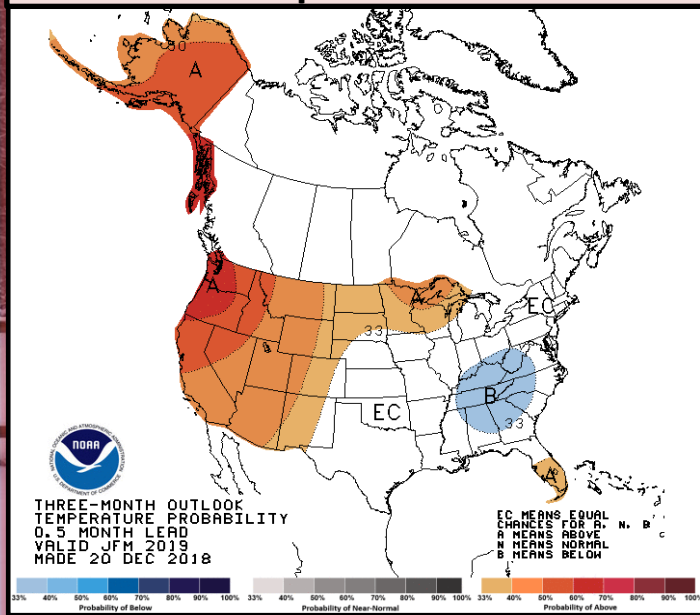


January-March Outlook

The El Niño watch continues with a 90% chance of an El Niño to develop and continue through the winter. It is also likely for the El Niño to continue into the springtime months as well.

There is an increased likelihood across portions of the region for below normal temperatures and also an increased likelihood of below normal precipitation as well for the January through March timeframe.

Three-Month (JFM) Temp. Outlook



Three-Month (JFM) Precip. Outlook

