



NWS Wilmington, Ohio January 2018 Regional Climate Summary

Regional Climate Summary

January of 2018, like many Januarys that have come before it, was a month of extremes in the region. A frigid airmass that was entrenched in the Ohio Valley during the first week of the month gave way to a warmer (but still variable) temperature pattern for the remainder of the month. Several winter storms brought appreciable snow to the area, but precipitation as a whole was still slightly below normal.

Temperatures

The first week of 2018 started where the last week of 2017 left off – in a bitterly cold airmass. In fact, the temperature at Dayton (DAY) failed to reach 20°F for 12 consecutive days from December 26th through January 6th. This is the longest such streak of sub-20°F on record for the site (previous record was 7). The entire area was locked in a frigid airmass for the first 6 days or so of the month when highs barely made it into the teens and overnight lows often plunged below 0°F. In fact, the temperature at Dayton (DAY) fell to a frigid -13°F on the 2nd (a daily record for the site), with some unofficial sites falling below -15°F. The high of 9°F at Dayton (DAY) also set a new daily record.

As cold as the first week of the month was, the weather pattern made an abrupt, albeit brief, change from the 7th through the 12th before a winter storm brought colder temperatures back into the area towards the middle of the month. Several records were set during the aforementioned warm stretch, including multiple days of tied record highs (around 60°F) and warm lows (in the upper 40s and lower 50s).

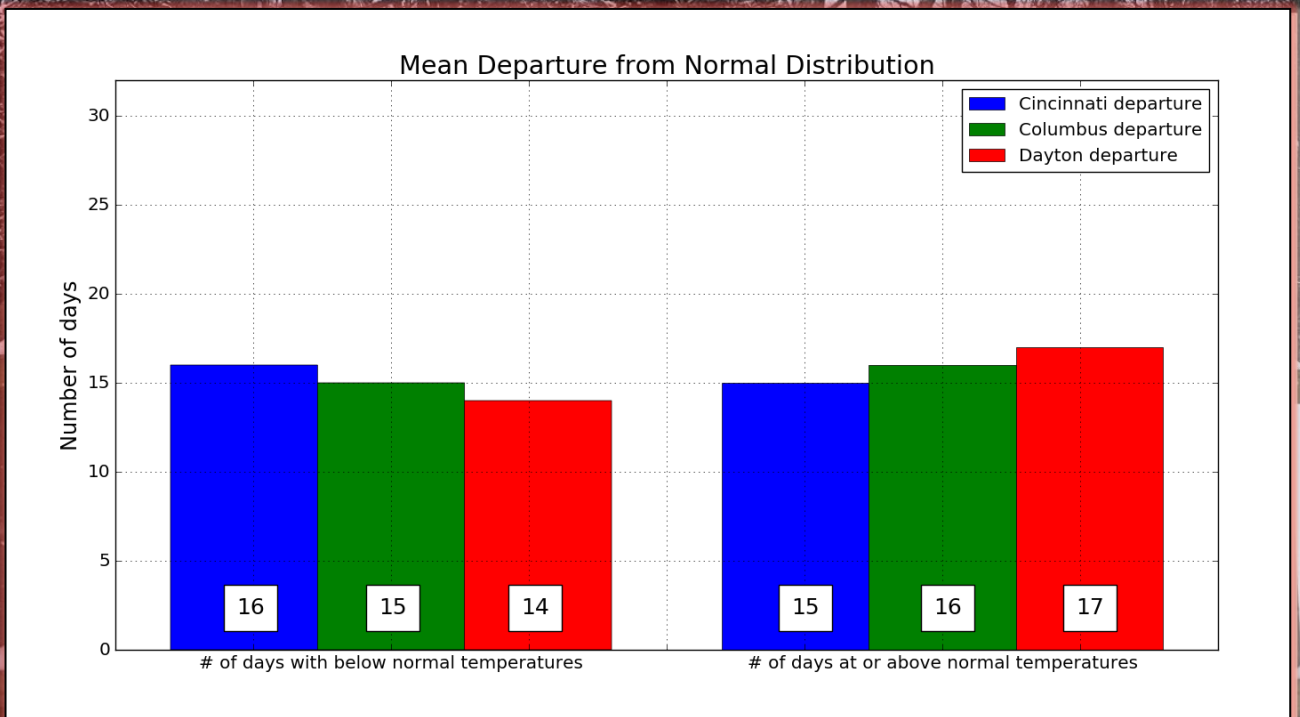
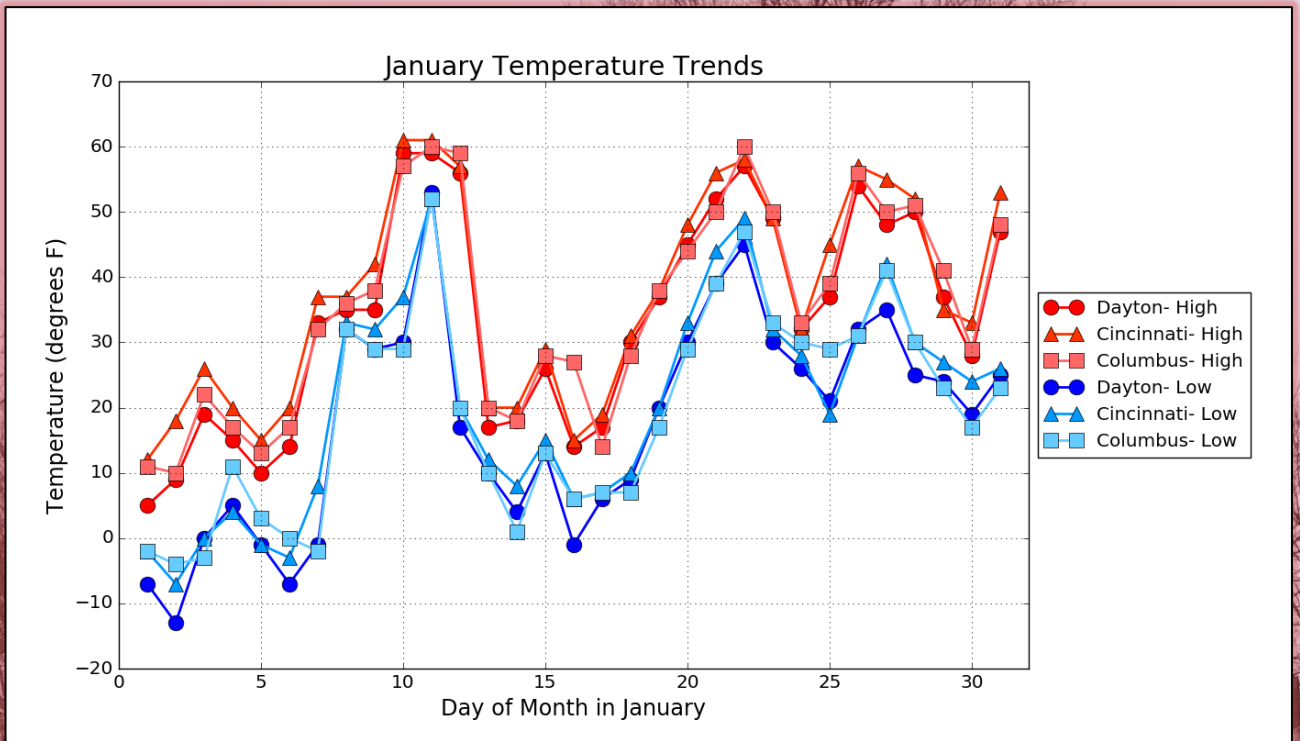
A more seasonable pattern returned to the region from the 12th through the 18th before an extended warm stretch again returned to the region. Highs in the teens and 20s from the 12th through the 18th were replaced by highs in the 40s and 50s from the 19th through the 28th. Slightly cooler temperatures returned for the final several days of the month.

January of 2018 will largely be remembered for its extremely cold start which was largely wiped out (from an average standpoint) by periods of seasonable and warm temperatures during the final ¾ of the month.

Site	Avg Temp (°F)	Avg High Temp (°F)	Avg Low Temp (°F)	Departure From Normal (°F)	Maximum Temperature (°F)	Minimum Temperature (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	28.8°F	37.1°F	20.5°F	-2.0°F	61°F (Mult.)	-7°F (01/02)
Columbus (CMH)	27.3°F	35.4°F	19.3°F	-2.3°F	60°F (Mult.)	-4°F (01/02)
Dayton (DAY)	25.7°F	33.7°F	17.7°F	-1.8°F	59°F (Mult.)	-13°F (01/02)



Temperatures (Continued)



Precipitation

With the bitterly cold airmass entrenched in the region through the first week or so, precipitation was hard to come by. The first real rainmaker arrived on the 8th, although it did start off with a bit of freezing rain as surface temperatures were slow to warm. Past this, the next appreciable widespread precipitation arrived on the 11th into the 12th as a potent low pressure system tracked through the region. This system brought rain, freezing rain, and sleet changing to snow to much of the area, with totals ranging from around 2" in portions of east-central Indiana, and west-central Ohio to around 6" in central and south-central Ohio.

Another snowmaker arrived 3 days later on the 19th as a very cold airmass led to very efficient snow in the area. Snow totals generally ranged from 2-4" area-wide.

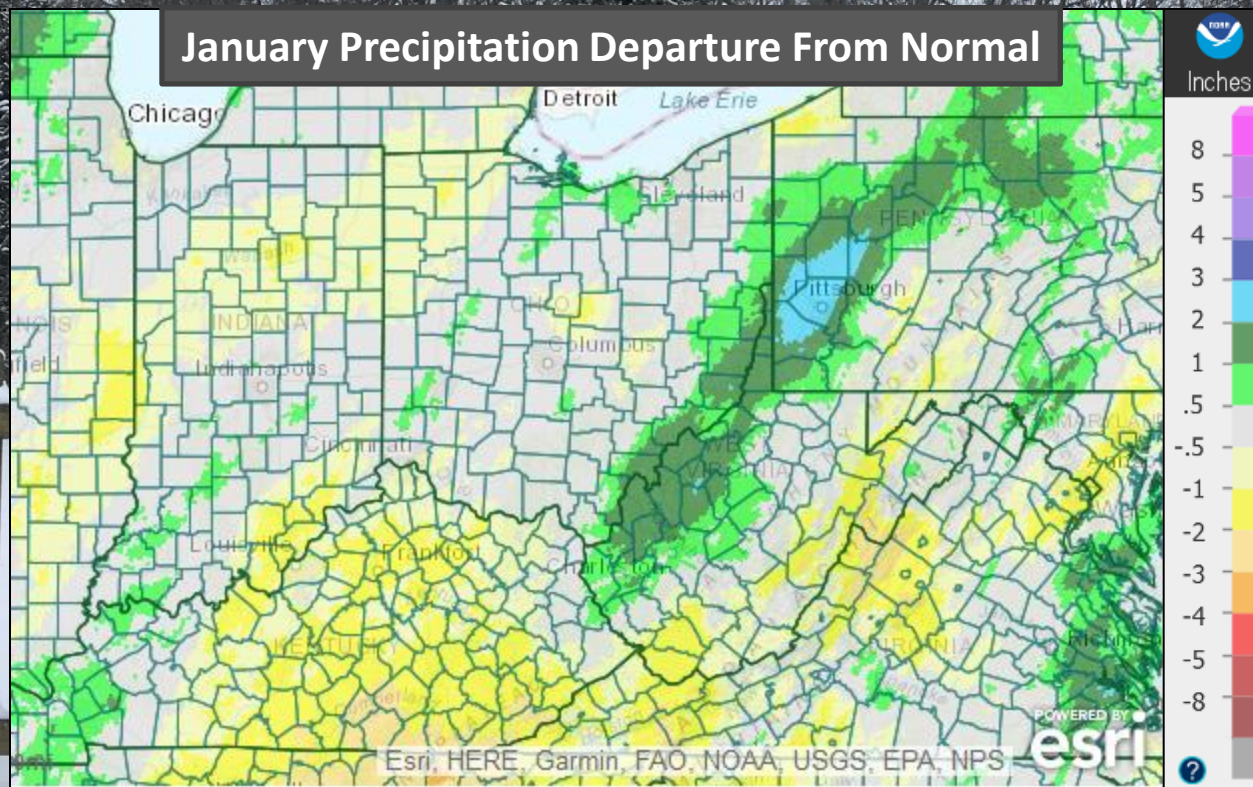
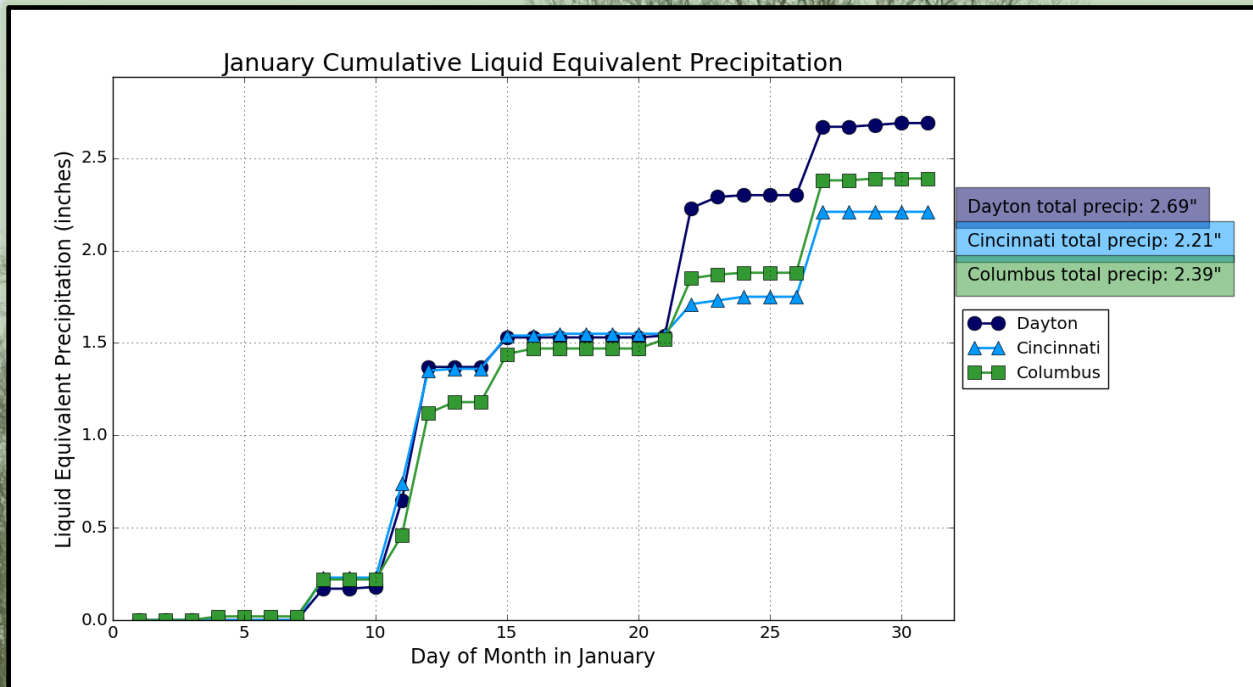
Past this event, widespread precipitation events were sparse in the area. Several days of showers yielded totals generally less than a tenth until another system brought generally ½" of rain to the area by the 27th.

With the cold start to the month and the lack of any significant or prolonged rain events, precipitation totals for the month were generally below normal.

Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure From Normal (in.)	Max Daily Precipitation (in./date)		Total Snowfall (in.)	Max Daily Snowfall (in./date)	
Cincinnati (CVG)	2.21"	-0.79"	0.61"	01/12	6.2"	2.9"	01/12
Columbus (CMH)	2.39"	-0.34"	0.66"	01/12	10.5"	3.5"	01/12
Dayton (DAY)	2.69"	-0.02"	0.72"	01/12	6.3"	2.7"	01/12



Precipitation (Continued)



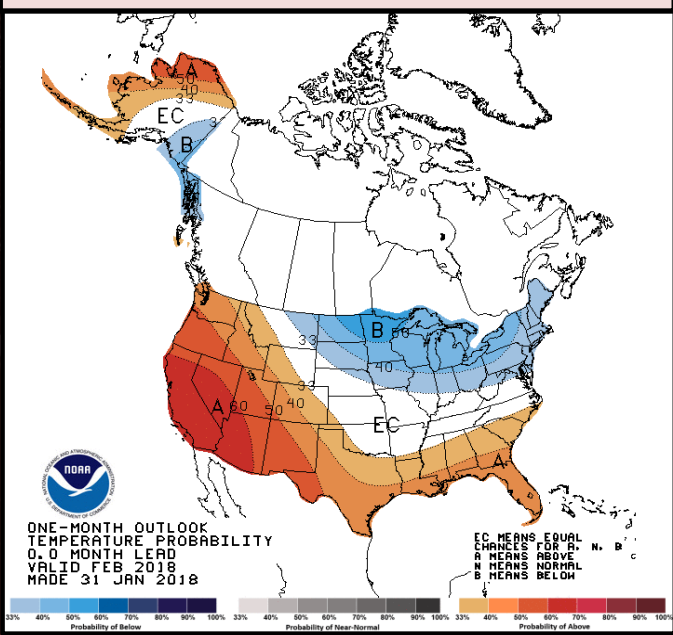
February Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) indicates increased probabilities of below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation in the month of February.

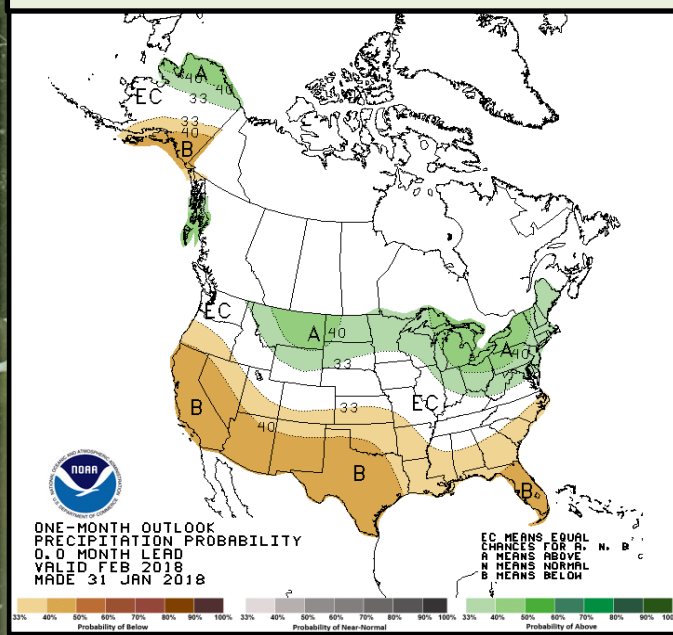
Site	Normal Avg Temp (°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	34.5°F	42.9°F	26.0°F
Columbus (CMH)	32.8°F	40.6°F	25.0°F
Dayton (DAY)	31.0°F	38.9°F	23.1°F

Site	Normal Precipitation (in.)	Normal Snowfall (in.)
Cincinnati (CVG)	2.81"	6.5"
Columbus (CMH)	2.25"	6.1"
Dayton (DAY)	2.24"	5.9"

Upcoming Temperature Outlook



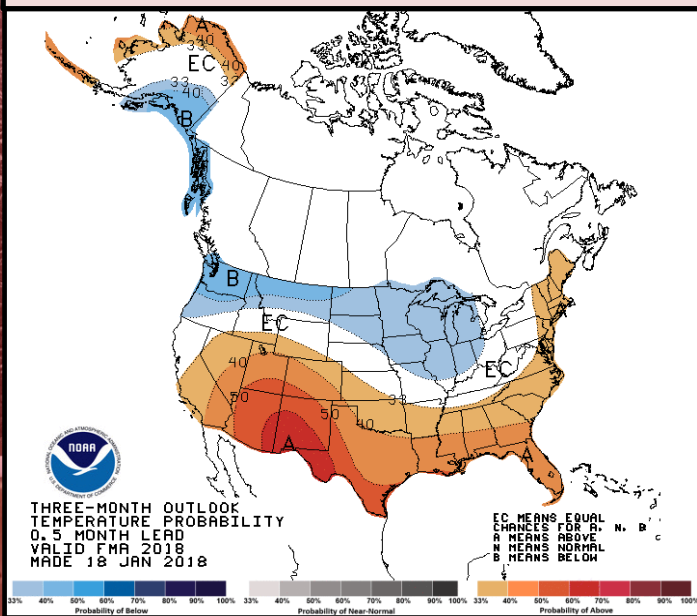
Upcoming Precipitation Outlook



February-April Outlook

A La Niña Advisory remains in effect, however expect a transition to ENSO-neutral conditions during the spring. There is an increased likelihood of above normal precipitation over the entire region. There is also an increased likelihood of below normal temperatures across portions of the area.

Three-Month (FMA) Temp. Outlook



Three-Month (FMA) Precip. Outlook

