

NWS Wilmington, Ohio May 2022 Regional Climate Summary

Regional Climate Summary

An active weather pattern evolved across the region for much of the month, offering numerous rounds of showers and storms, leading to one of the wettest Mays on record for many spots in the local area. This was offset by above normal temperatures past the first week of May, with summerlike temperatures for the final part of the month.

1

Temperatures

Due to a period of active weather to start the month, temperatures varied around average through the first week. Moving into the second week of the month, a blocking ridge pattern set up over the eastern continental United States. This prompting a significant warming trend which pushed temperatures into the low to mid 80s for several consecutive days. Daily high temperatures were 10 to 15 degrees above normal before the arrival of precipitation resulted in temperatures much closer to normal for the middle portion of May.

For the 9th through the 21st of May temperatures were near normal or above normal. Cooler temperatures started off the 4th week of the month with highs in the 60s to low 70s on the 22nd and 23rd. A few days of temperatures slightly below or slightly above occurred before warming up for the end of the month.

Although some days during the month experienced well above normal temperatures, no temperature records were broken at Cincinnati, Dayton, or Columbus for May.

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Site	Avg Temp (°F)	Avg High Temp (°F)	Avg Low Temp (°F)	Departure From Normal (°F)	Maximum Temperature (°F)	Minimum Temperature (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	67.2°F	76.9°F	57.5°F	+ 3.1°F	88°F (05/31)	43°F (05/02)
Columbus (CMH)	66.2°F	76.0°F	56.3°F	+ 2.9°F	89°F (05/31)	40°F (05/08)
Dayton (DAY)	66.4°F	76.5°F	56.3°F	+ 2.4°F	89°F (05/31)	41°F (05/08)



Temperatures (Continued)









Precipitation

The first week of the month featured two separate periods of heavy rainfall. The first occurred on the 3rd with the second following a few days after on the 6th. While all areas received some rain on the 3rd, the I-71 corridor observed the most with 1-2" falling along with locally higher amounts. No flooding was reported with this rainfall, however, it saturated the ground leading into the second event. As an area of low pressure approached the Ohio Valley, heavy rain started late on the 5th and into the early morning hours of the 6th, dropping 1-2" once again over the I-71 corridor. Around 0.25" or less was observed elsewhere. During the afternoon on the 6th, additional heavy downpours and thunderstorms developed as the low pressure moved through. An additional 1-2" fell along with locally higher amounts. Where the heavy rain occurred, flooding was observed along area creeks and streams. A record maximum rainfall occurred at Columbus on the 6th with 1.91 inches of rain. This breaks the old record of 1.42 inches set in 1916. Cincinnati also broke a record on this day with 1.84 inches. The previous record was 1.48 set in 1908.

A dry period from the 8th through the 13th allowed locations to dry out. The dry period came to an end on the 14th. Almost every day from the 14th through the 23rd had precipitation somewhere in the region. Another record rainfall for the day occurred at Cincinnati on the 19th of May. 1.82 inches of rain occurred breaking the old record of 1.57 inches set in 2020. 8.13 inches of rainfall was measured at Cincinnati through the first three weeks of May, making it the wettest first 21 days of May on record.

One dry day occurred on the 24th before additional showers and storms moved in for the 25th. Heavy downpours and wind damage occurred with the storms on the 25th and 26th. An upper low on the 27th allowed for additional precipitation and brief heavy downpours. Drier conditions then moved in for the 28th through the remainder of the month.

It was the 5th wettest May on record for Cincinnati (CVG) and the 3rd wettest May on record for Columbus (CMH).

Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure From Normal (in.)	Max Daily Precipitation (in./date)		Total Snowfall (in.)	Max Daily Snowfall (in./date)	
Cincinnati (CVG)	9.08″	+ 4.41"	1.84"	05/06			
Columbus (CMH)	8.69"	+ 4.70"	1.91"	05/06	T (hail)	T (hail)	05/21
Dayton (DAY)	5.36"	+ 0.85"	1.54"	05/21			





Precipitation (Continued)



5



Severe Weather

Severe storms occurred on the 3rd, 14th, 19th-20th, 21st, 25th, and 26th. Wind and hail both occurred with the storms on the 3rd, 19th-20th, and the 21st. Wind damage reports occurred with the storms on the 14th, 25th, and 26th.

A gustnado touched down in the Tri-State on the 21st, with wind damage in the Sayler Park area determined to be caused by a gustnado. Around 510 pm on Saturday, May 21, 2022, an eyewitness filmed a swirling column of air over the Ohio River, just offshore from the Sayler Park area of Hamilton County, Ohio. It appears that this swirling column of air moved onto land and then produced damage across a portion of Sayler Park. The damage was primarily located over Catalpa Road, Gracely Drive and Fernbank Avenue. Numerous trees were damaged, some completely knocked over or uprooted and thrown onto homes and power lines. Based on pictures from the damage, winds were likely 70 to 80 mph. The cause of the damage on land is being classified as a gustnado.

By the National Weather Service definition, a gustnado is a small whirlwind which forms as an eddy in thunderstorm outflows. They do not connect with any cloud-base rotation and are not tornadoes. Like dust devils, some stronger gustnadoes can cause damage. This particular gustnado was not directly associated with a thunderstorm updraft. Doppler radar supports the assessment that this gustnado formed on an outflow boundary several miles ahead of a thunderstorm. The gustnado was observed over the Ohio River, and then produced damage in the Sayler Park area before dissipating.



June Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center for the Ohio Valley shows equal chances of experiencing above normal, near normal, or below normal temperatures and precipitation.

Site	Normal Avg Temp (°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)	Cite March	Site	Normal Precipitation (in.)	Normal Snowfall (in.)
Cincinnati (CVG)	72.3°F	82.6°F	62.1		Cincinnati (CVG)	4.75″	0.0"
Columbus (CMH)	71.9°F	82.2°F	61.6		Columbus (CMH)	4.33″	0.0"
Dayton (DAY)	72.7°F	82.6°F	62.7	1	Dayton (DAY)	4.14"	0.0"

Upcoming Temperature Outlook



Upcoming Precipitation Outlook







June-August Outlook

A La Niña advisory remains in effect. According to the Climate Prediction Center, La Niña is favored to continue, however the odds for La Niña decrease into the late Northern Hemisphere summer (58% chance in August-October 2022).

There is an increased likelihood of above normal temperatures through the summer months. There are equal chances of above, below, and normal precipitation through this same time frame.



8



