NWS Wilmington, Ohio
October 2023
Regional Climate Summary

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As the seasons transition from summer to fall, the regional weather can be chaotic at times. While the local area avoided severe weather and flooding extremes, temperature swings throughout the month were quite frequent. High temperatures in the upper 80s kicked off the month with low temperatures dropping into the mid 20s to close it out. Thanks to near or slightly above normal precipitation, drought conditions improved across the region. The first snowflakes of the year were observed on Halloween night.

Temperatures

Temperatures started out well above normal for the month with high temperatures in the 80s. Towards the end of the first week of the month a cold front brought much cooler air to the region with high temperatures then ranging from the 50s to the 60s. Low temperatures started dropping down into the 30s with some frost.

The second week of the month was a roller coaster of temperatures, starting out low, then above normal, and finally settling near normal. For the 3rd week, temperatures were generally below normal for most of the week.

Another significant swing and temperatures wrapped up the final week of the month. While high temperatures failed to reach the 80s, abnormally warm minimum temperatures helped solidify the above normal temperatures described in the table below. In fact, a few record high minimum temperatures were observed.

On October 27th, Columbus had a low temperature of 62 degrees. This broke the old minimum temperature record of 61 degrees set in 1918. On the same date, Dayton had a low temperature of 63 degrees. This breaks the record of 61 degrees set in 1918.

After these records were observed, a strong cold front provided the coldest air of the season to wrap up 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)	57.2	66.9	47.5	1.0	86 on 3rd	25 on 31st
Columbus (CMH)	57.6	67.0	48.2	2.4	87 on 3rd and 4th	29 on 31st
Dayton (DAY)	57.0	66.5	47.6	1.0	87 on 3rd and 4th	26 on 31st

Temperatures (Continued)

October Temperature Trends

Mean Departure from Normal Distribution
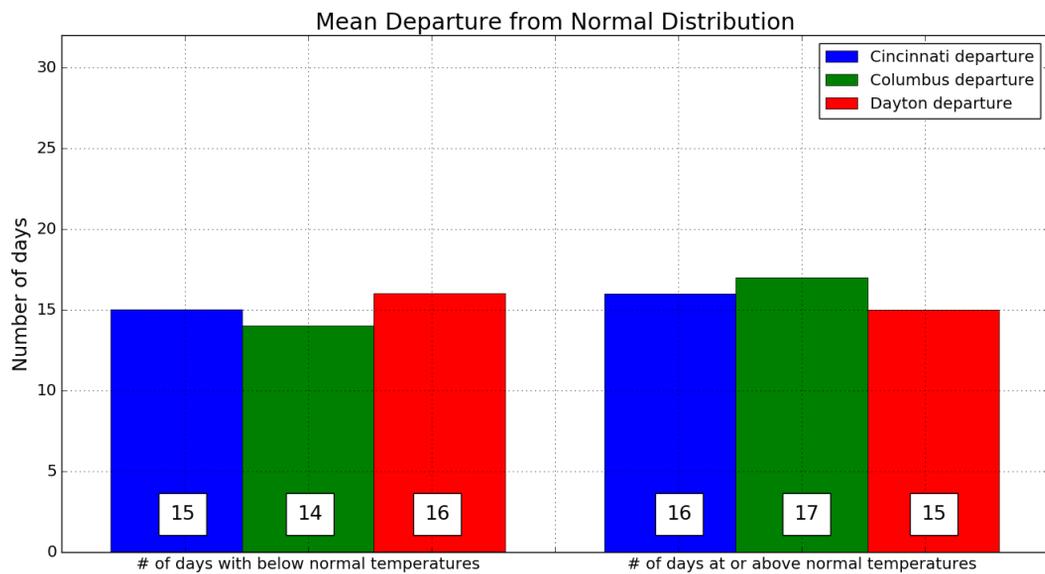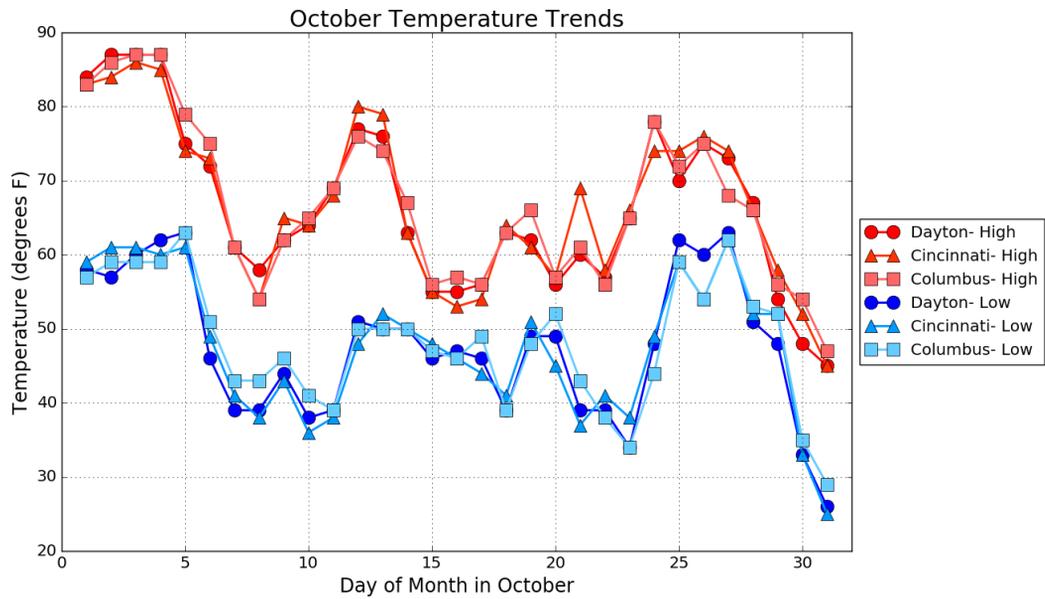
Precipitation

Conditions started out dry at the start of the month, but the second half of the month provided more frequent opportunities which helped all three climate sites to be within a half inch of normal. The first trace of snow was also recorded for the season.

Toward the end of the first week there was widespread precipitation as a cold front moved through the region. After this system moved through there were several days of either light or no precipitation. Another modest rainfall event occurred during the second week of the month, but conditions remained dry overall, allowing abnormally dry and moderate drought conditions to persist.

This would change during the second half of the month as two main systems provided widespread rainfall to the region. The first system which moved through during the 3rd week of the month doubled the monthly totals as three quarters to one inch fell.

To wrap up the month, a multi-day rainfall event helped push much of the area to near or above climatological normals. The highest monthly amounts were observed along and south of the I-71 corridor (page 6) thanks in part to thunderstorm activity.

Cold air eventually made its way into the region, resulting in snow showers on Halloween night. All three climate sites observed a trace of snowfall.

Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure From Normal (in.)	Max Daily Precipitation (in./date)		Total Snowfall (in.)	Max Daily Snowfall (in./date)	
Cincinnati (CVG)	3.72 in.	0.37 in.	0.91 in.	28th	Trace	Trace	31st
Columbus (CMH)	3.11 in.	0.21 in.	0.72 in.	19th	Trace	Trace	31st
Dayton (DAY)	2.47 in.	-0.48 in.	0.92 in.	29th	Trace	Trace	31st

Precipitation (Continued)

Dayton total precip: 2.47"
Cincinnati total precip: 3.72"
Columbus total precip: 3.11"
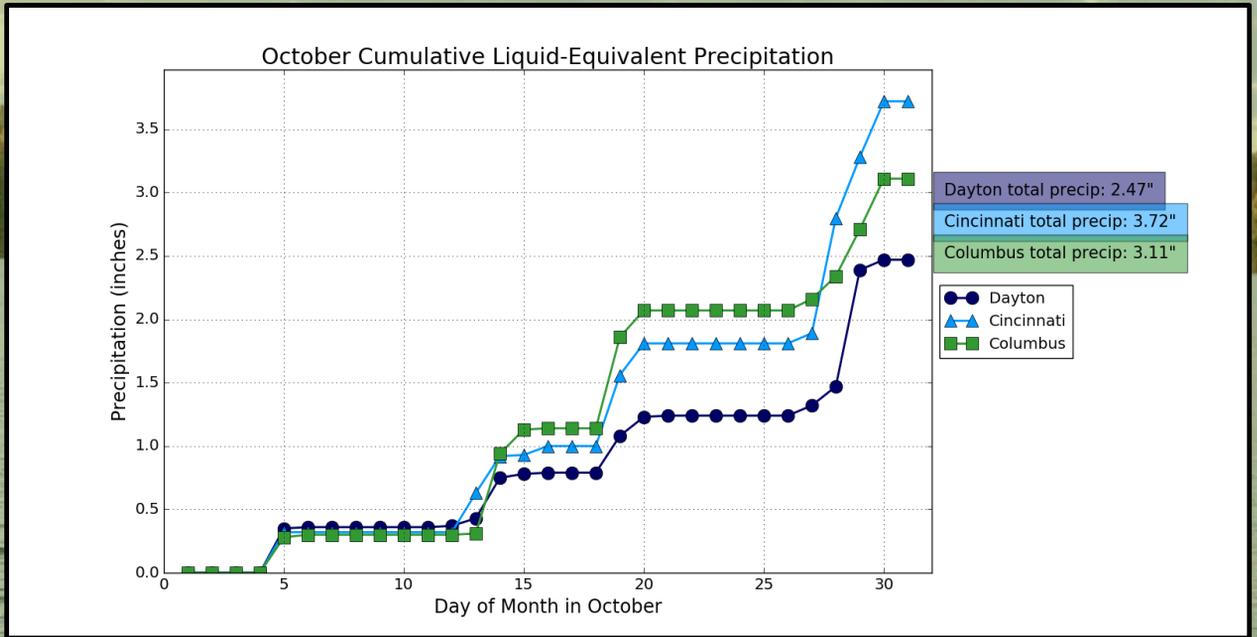
October Precipitation Departure From Normal (In.)
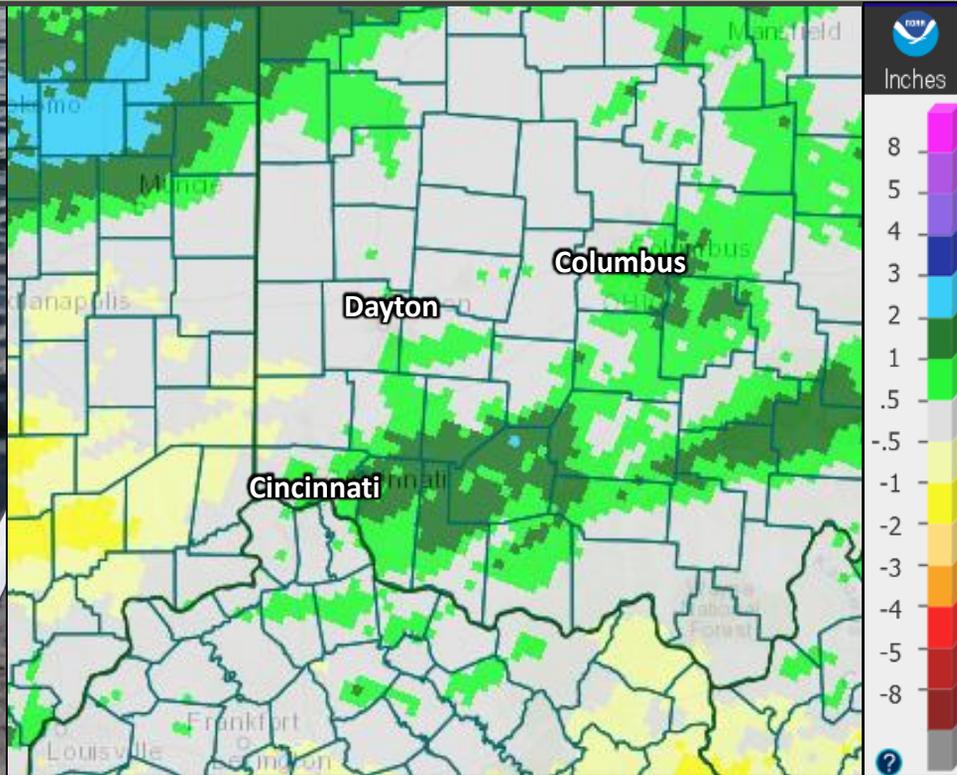
Precipitation (Continued)

October – Precipitation Total (In.)
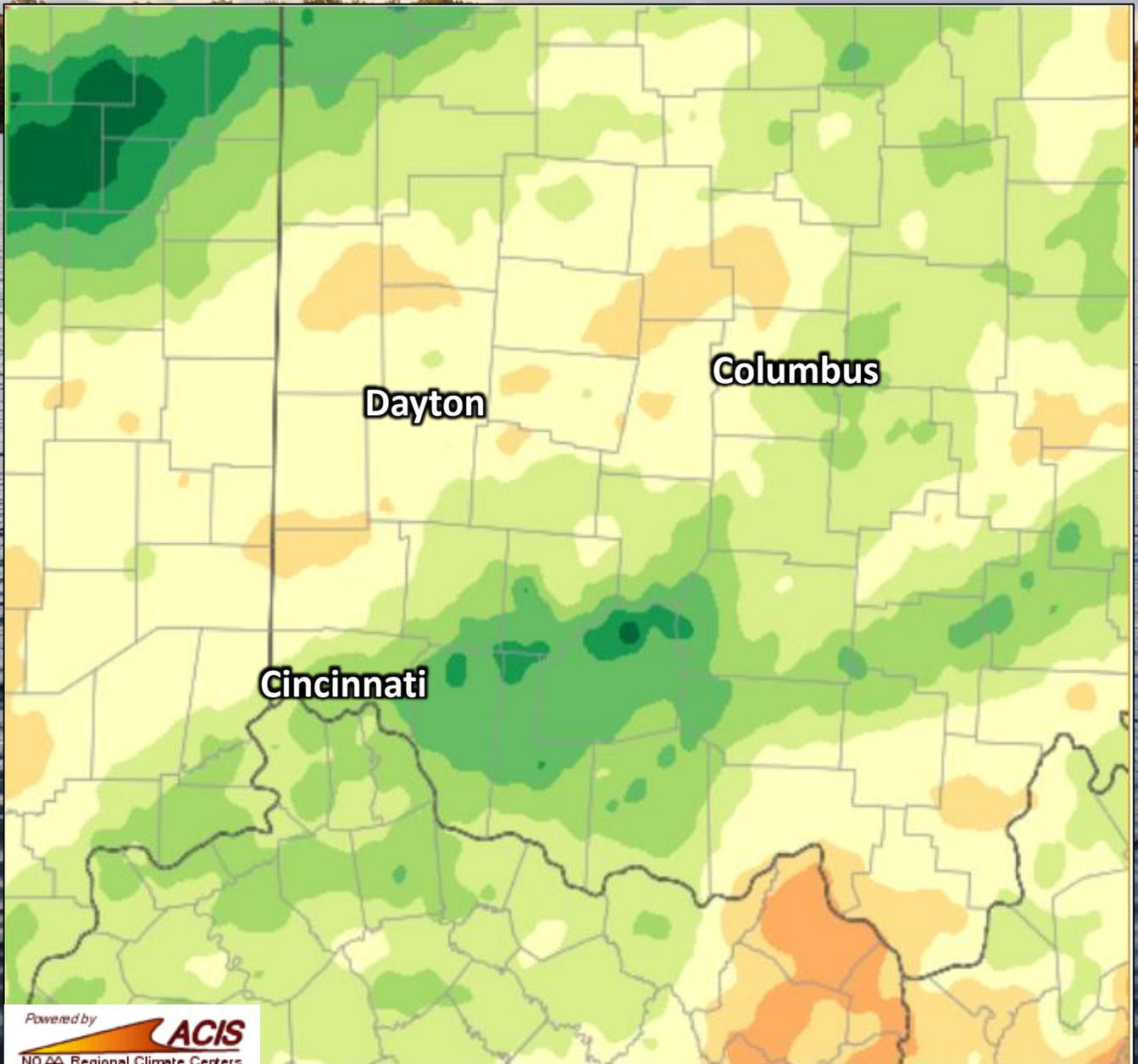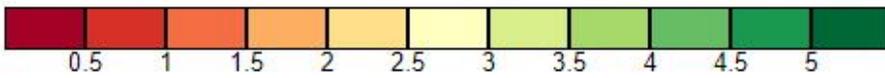
November Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center is forecasting equal chances for observing below, above, or near normal temperature and precipitation across the region.

Site	Normal Avg Temp (°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	44.4	53.8	35.1
Columbus (CMH)	43.6	52.3	35.0
Dayton (DAY)	44.1	52.7	35.4

Site	Normal Precipitation (in.)	Normal Snowfall (in.)
Cincinnati (CVG)	3.23	0.8
Columbus (CMH)	2.79	1.2
Dayton (DAY)	3.07	0.8

Upcoming Temperature Outlook

Upcoming Precipitation Outlook
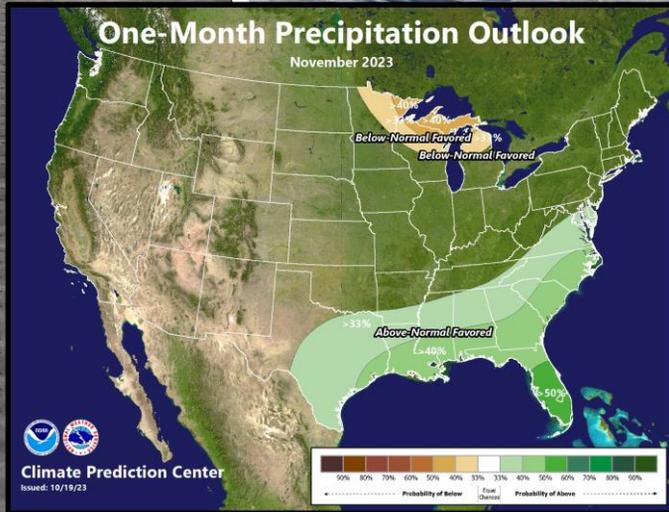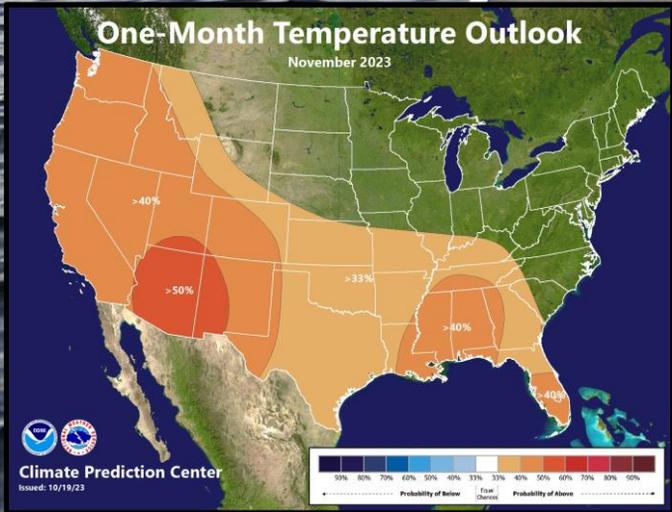
November-January Outlook

There is an increased likelihood of above normal temperatures. There is not a clear signal for precipitation during the November to January timeframe, however there is an increased likelihood of below normal precipitation for the winter timeframe of December through February.

An El Nino advisory remains in effect and is expected to continue through the winter and spring months. There is an 80% chance of El Nino lasting through the March to May 2024 timeframe.

Three-Month (NDJ) Temp. Outlook	Three-Month (NDJ) Precip. Outlook