



NWS Wilmington, Ohio

July 2026

Regional Weather Summary

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July began with a significant heat wave that brought Extreme Heat headlines across the Ohio Valley. No temperature records were broken, but both Cincinnati and Columbus would end the month with above normal values. The seasonably warm temperatures were often accompanied by a very humid air mass, resulting in numerous days with thunderstorm activity. On multiple occasions, these storms would end up producing damaging straight-line winds, tornadoes and flash flooding.

Temperatures

July began with a stretch of hot and humid conditions through the 4th of July weekend. Extreme heat warnings blanketed the area for the sweltering temperatures. This heat dome become less intense after the holiday, but above normal temperatures would persist through the first 10 days of the month.

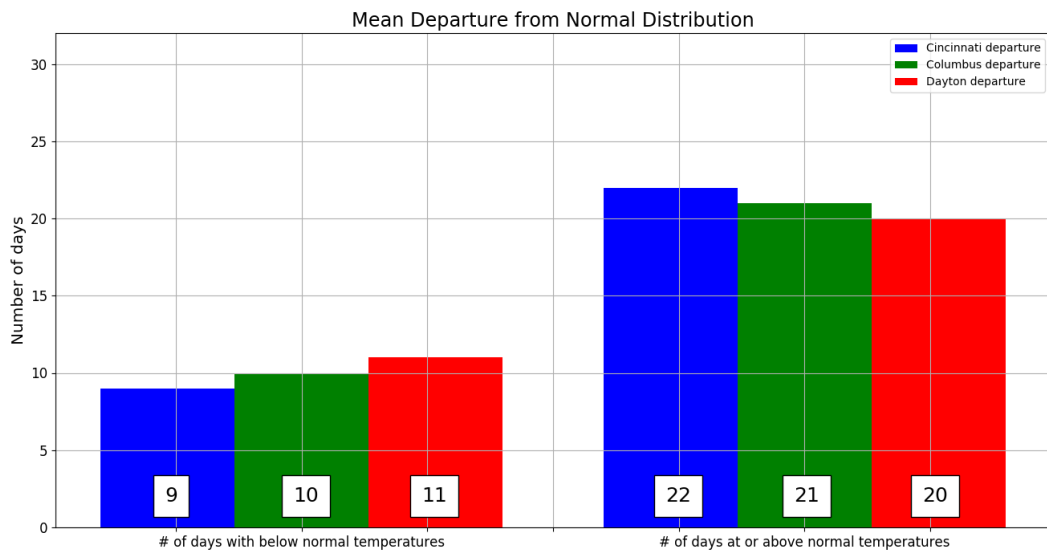
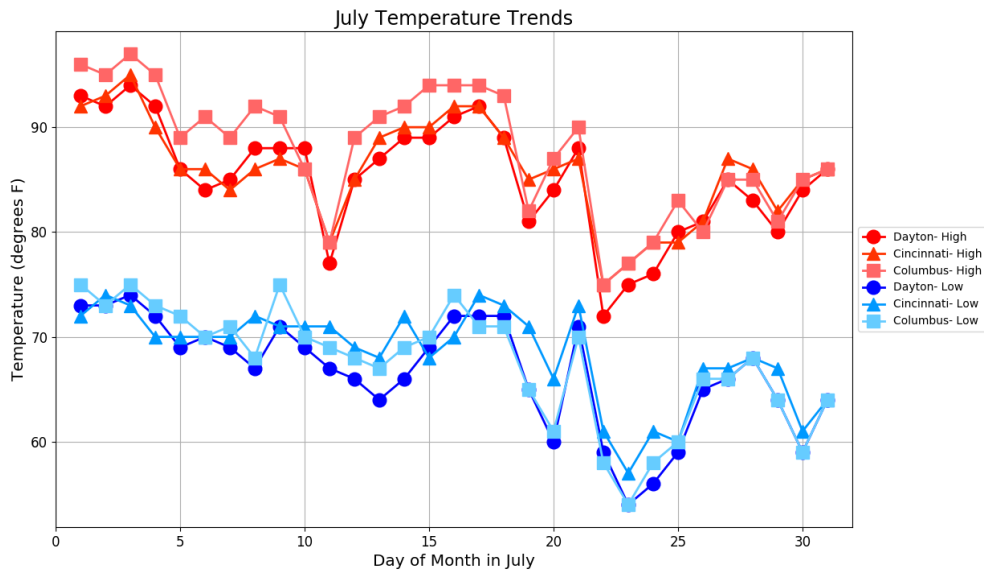
A strong cold front brought temperatures back into the upper 70s on the 11th, but temperatures would quickly rebound back into the 90s before the end of the second week of July. In fact, the Columbus airport would record six consecutive days with high temperatures in the 90s between the second and third week of the month.

A reprieve from the abnormally warm temperatures came during the final third of the month, with multiple days of highs in the 70s. The seasonably cool temperatures helped keep Dayton right at the “normal” monthly average, but both Cincinnati and Columbus would end the month with warmer than normal temperatures. No temperature records were broken this 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)	77.2	86.0	86.0	+1.3	95 on 3 rd	57 on 23 rd
Columbus (CMH)	77.7	87.8	87.8	+2.3	97 on 3 rd	54 on 23 rd
Dayton (DAY)	76.0	85.3	85.3	0.0	94 on 3 rd	54 on 23 rd



Temperatures (Continued)



Precipitation

July began with quite a dry stretch through the first week and a half. Both Columbus and Dayton would only record less than 0.10" through the first nine days, but Cincinnati was able to record over 0.50" as a thunderstorm moved over the airport on July 4.

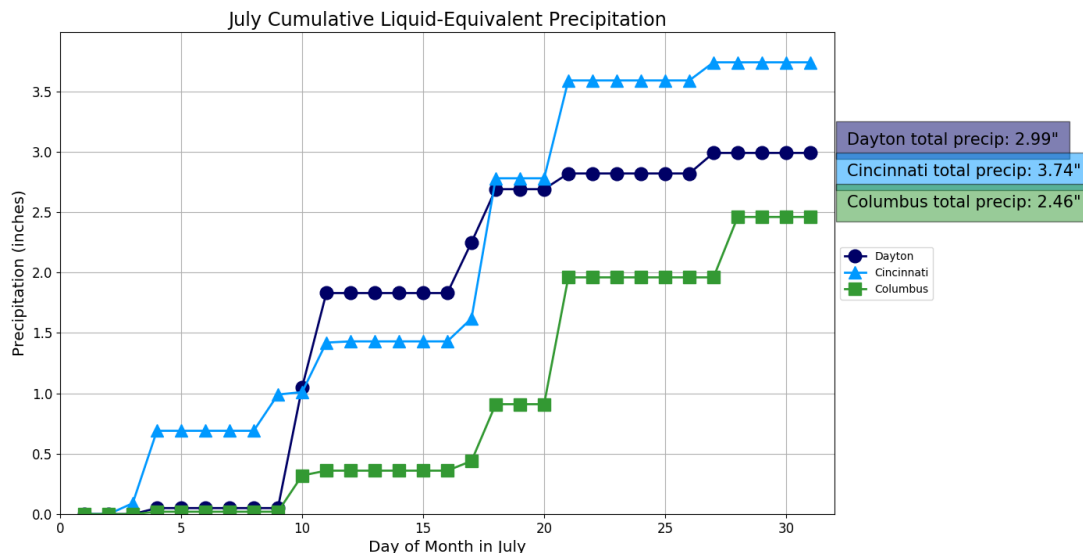
More thunderstorm activity would arrive on the 10th of the month, but as is typical with summertime storms, there was quite a bit of variability in rainfall amounts. Dayton ended up as the winner in terms of rainfall amounts between the 10th – 11th, recording 1.78" in this two day stretch.

The highly variable rainfall amounts would continue through the remainder of the month, but all three major climate sites would end up below monthly normals. Cincinnati was the closest to normal, but Columbus would end up well over 2" below normal values. No precipitation records were broken during the month of July.

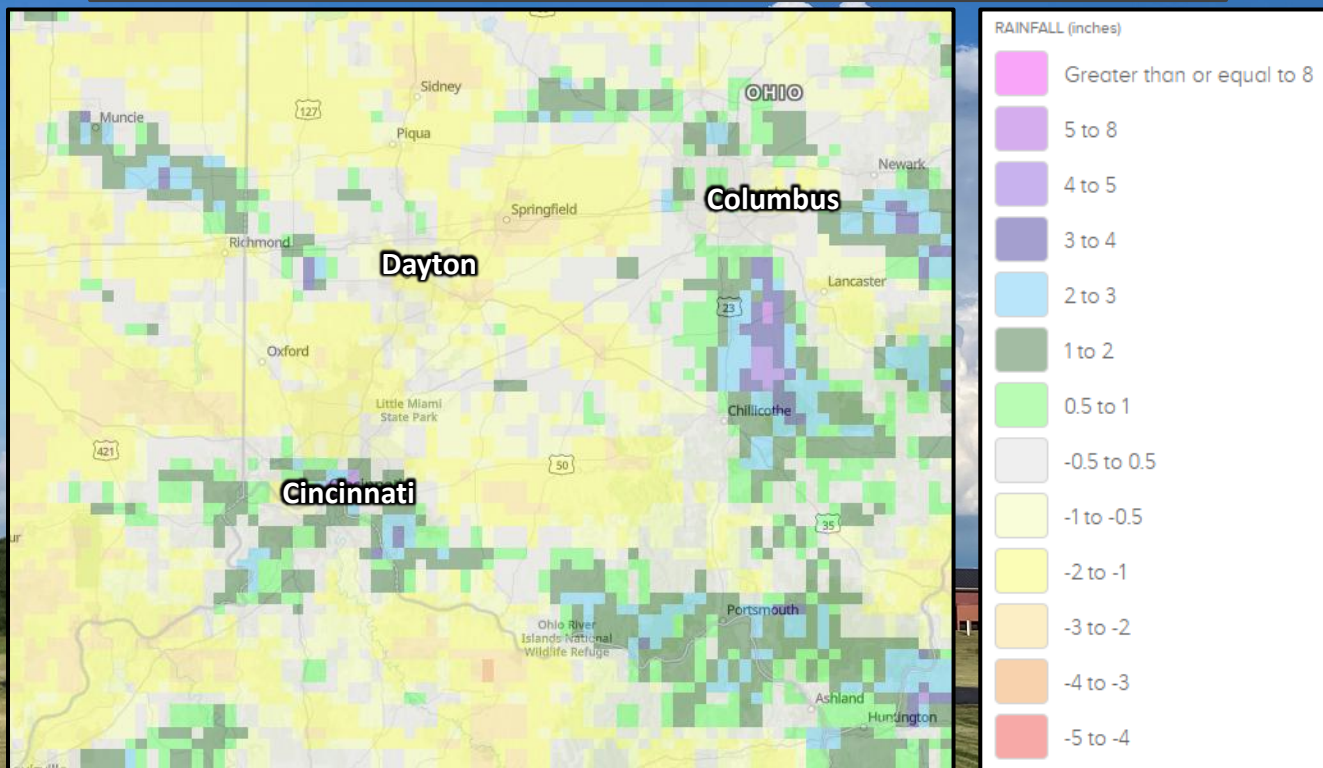
Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure From Normal (in.)	Max Daily Precipitation (in./date)	
Cincinnati (CVG)	3.74	-0.09	1.16	18 th
Columbus (CMH)	2.46	-2.21	1.05	21 st
Dayton (DAY)	2.99	-0.96	1.78	10 th - 11 th



Precipitation (Continued)



July Precipitation Departure From Normal (In.)



Severe Weather

Several severe weather events occurred during July. A few of the more widespread or higher end events include flash flooding on July 17th, severe weather and flooding on the 21st, and damaging winds on the 27th.

Thunderstorms producing extremely heavy rainfall impacted parts of the Cincinnati metro area during the afternoon and evening of Friday, July 17, 2026. The heaviest rainfall occurred in eastern portions of the city of Cincinnati, as well as the communities of Norwood, Silverton, Fairfax, and Mariemont in Hamilton County, Ohio. Rainfall amounts were as high as 4" to 5".

A cluster of thunderstorms developed during the afternoon of July 21, 2026. The combination of a very unstable air mass and strong winds aloft resulted in widespread damaging winds, several confirmed tornadoes, as well as numerous flood reports due to extreme rain rates.

Here is a list of the confirmed tornadoes from July 21:

- [Tornado confirmed near Amelia, OH \(EF1\)](#) (Clermont County OH)
- [Tornado confirmed near Lees Creek, OH \(EF0\)](#) (Clinton County OH)
- [Tornado confirmed northeast of Owenton, KY \(EF1\)](#) (Carroll / Gallatin / Owen / Grant County KY)
- [Tornado confirmed near Feesburg, OH \(EF0\)](#) (Brown County OH)

Another event on the 27th brought several damaging wind reports to portions of Indiana, Kentucky, and western Ohio during the evening hours.



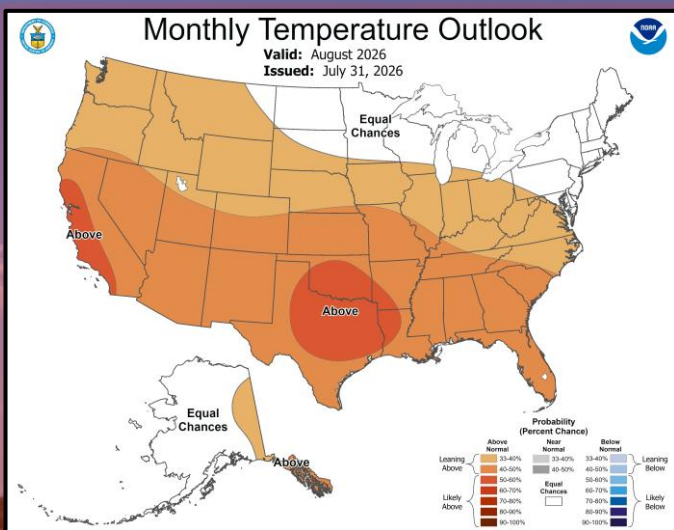
August Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center favors above normal temperatures across the Ohio Valley for August. Precipitation has equal chances for above, near and below normal values.

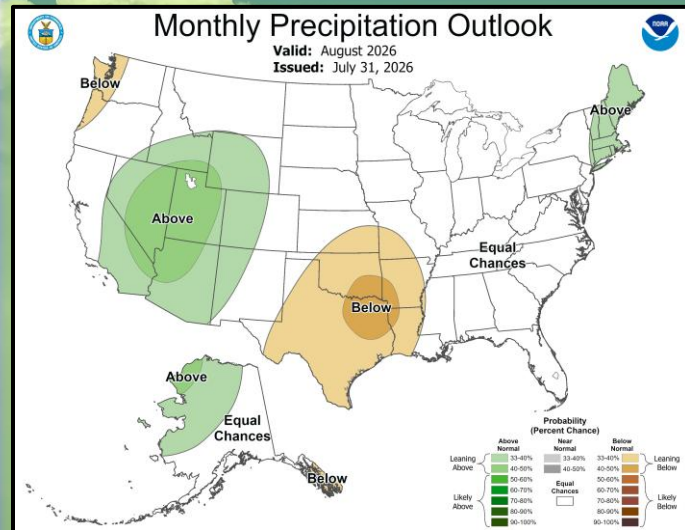
Site	Normal Avg Temp (°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	74.9	85.2	64.6
Columbus (CMH)	74.0	84.1	63.9
Dayton (DAY)	74.5	84.6	64.3

Site	Normal Precipitation (in.)	Normal Snowfall (in.)
Cincinnati (CVG)	3.43	0.0
Columbus (CMH)	3.74	0.0
Dayton (DAY)	2.96	0.0

Upcoming Temperature Outlook



Upcoming Precipitation Outlook

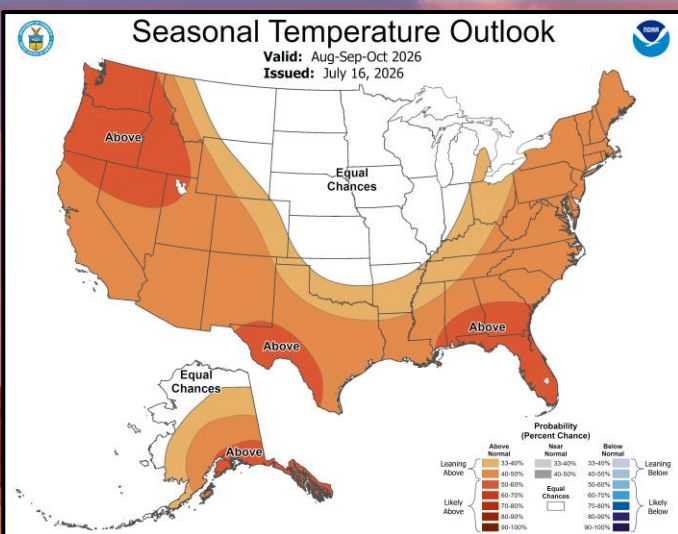


August-October Outlook

There is an increased likelihood of above normal temperatures across the region for the August through October timeframe. In addition, there is an increased likelihood of above normal precipitation around the Tri-State during the same time period.

An El Niño advisory is in effect. El Niño continues and is expected to strengthen through the end of the year. The Climate Prediction Center indicates a 97% chance of El Niño persisting through early spring 2027.

Three-Month (ASO) Temp. Outlook



Three-Month (ASO) Precip. Outlook

