NWS Wilmington, Ohio
October 2026
Regional Climate Summary

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Above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation were the primary themes for the month of October across the Ohio Valley. Temperatures varied quite a bit the first half of the month, with a couple of cooler spells along with a period of record heat. However, last two weeks of the month saw considerably less variability with steady temperatures and persistent dry weather. The entire region would also observe below normal precipitation values for the month.

Temperatures

Temperatures across the Ohio Valley kicked off the month with very warm conditions. While no temperature records were broken, temperatures of 10 to 15 degrees above normal helped to jump start the warm monthly averages.

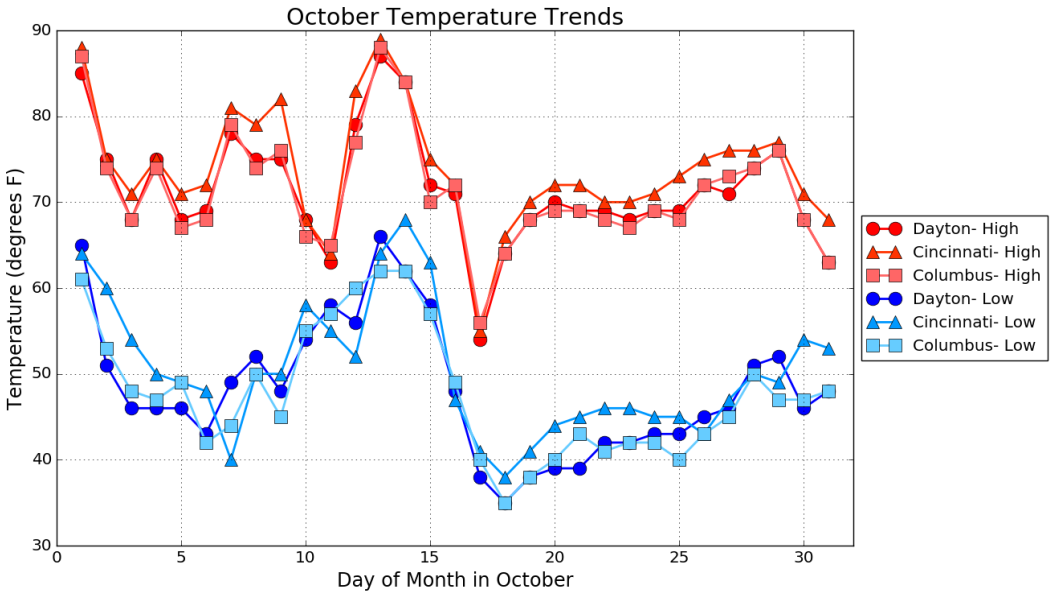
A strong system moved through and knocked temperatures down to near and slightly below normal for the next few days. Temperatures gradually warmed to a few degrees above normal toward the middle part of the month ahead of a very warm stretch.

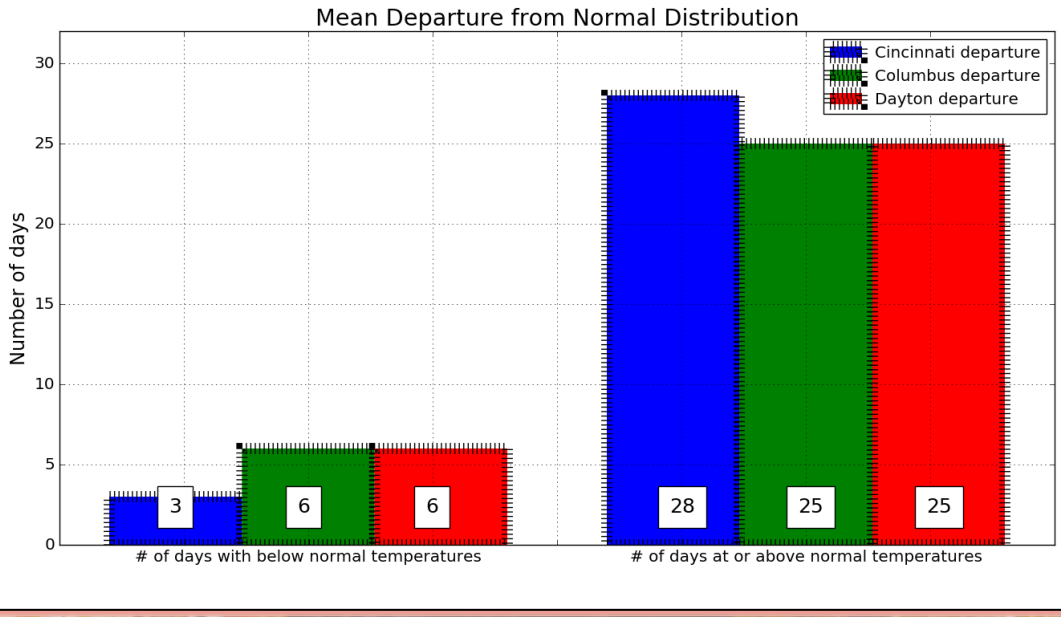
Upper 80s are not uncommon to start the month of October, however, they are more rare for the middle part of the month. On October 13th, temperatures soared into the upper 80s, setting daily max temperature records at all three climate sites. Daily high minimum temperatures records were also set at two of the three sites (DAY/CVG) during the 13th and 14th.

Another cool period occurred between the 17th and 19th, but it would not be enough to drop temperatures below freezing at any of the sites. A series of high pressures would then establish a very persistent temperature pattern through the rest of the month. Temperatures slowly climbed above normal, sustaining the monthly averages to between 3 and 5 degrees above normal. Cincinnati and Dayton would crack the top 10 warmest Octobers in terms of average temperature, while Columbus would rank in the top 15.

Site	Avg Temp (°F)	Avg High Temp (°F)	Avg Low Temp (°F)	Departure From Normal (°F)	Maximum Temperature (°F)	Minimum Temperature (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	62.1	73.9	50.3	+5.9	89 on 13th	38 on 18th
Columbus (CMH)	59.6	71.4	47.8	+4.4	88 on 13th	35 on 18th
Dayton (DAY)	59.9	71.5	48.2	+3.9	87 on 13th	35 on 18th

Temperatures (Continued)





Precipitation

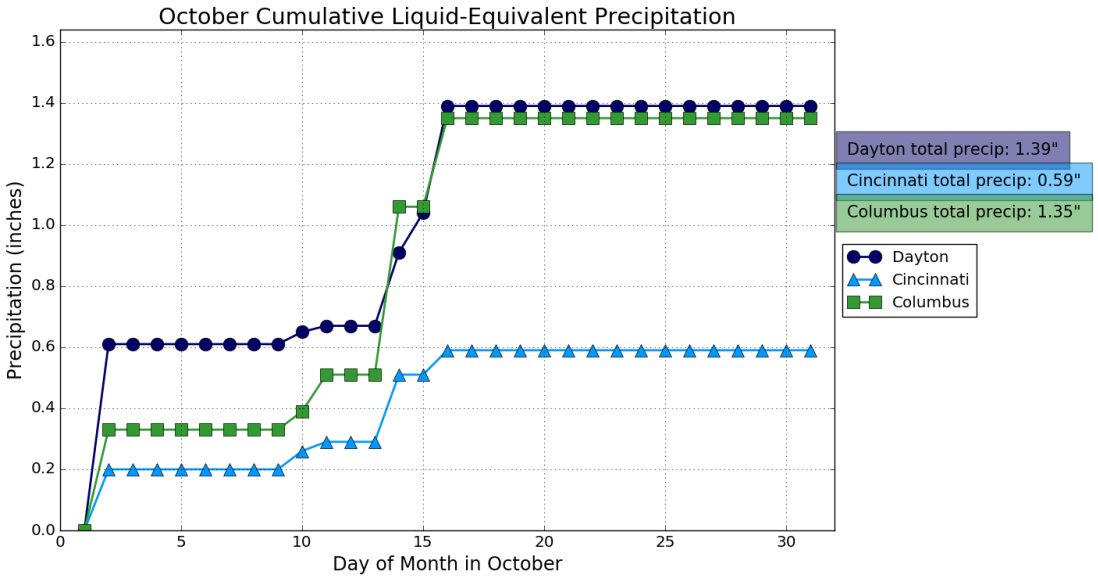
Below normal precipitation was observed across the entire Ohio Valley for the month of October. All of the rainfall for the month fell within roughly the first half of the month, with the last measurable rainfall occurring on the 16th.

The majority of the rainfall occurred in two separate periods. A system moved through on the 2nd, bringing rainfall amounts between 0.2-0.6". After a week or so of dry weather, a series of systems provided light rain between the 10th and 16th.

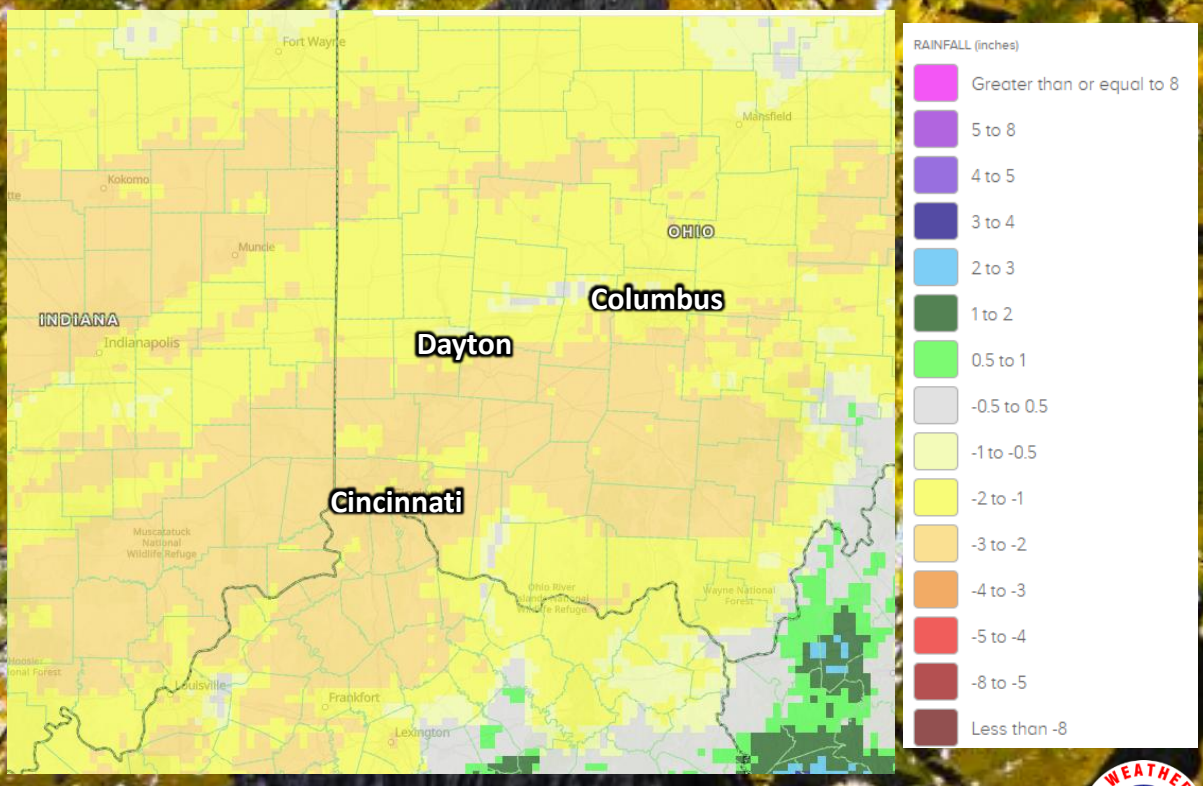
No rainfall was observed for the remainder of the month across the three climate sites. Given this prolonged dry stretch, Cincinnati would end up just outside the top 10 of the driest Octobers on record (ranked 11th) .

Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure From Normal (in.)	Max Daily Precipitation (in./date)	
Cincinnati (CVG)	0.59	-2.76	0.22	14th
Columbus (CMH)	1.35	-1.55	0.55	14th
Dayton (DAY)	1.39	-1.56	0.61	2nd

Precipitation (Continued)



October Precipitation Departure From Normal (In.)



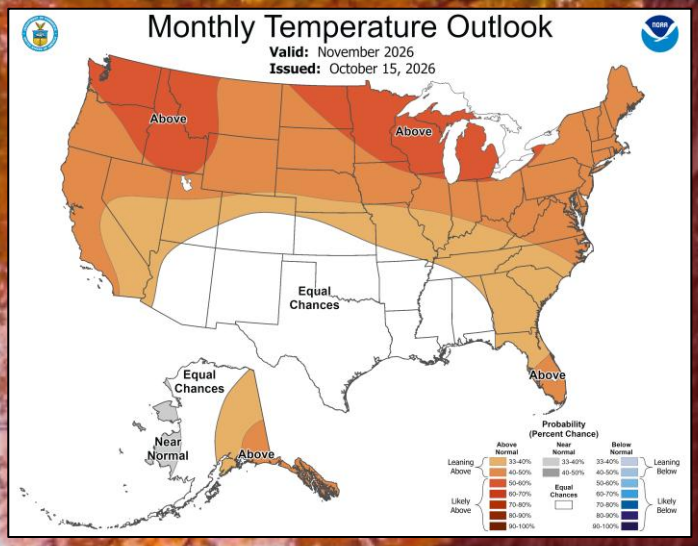
November Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center for the month of November calls for above normal temperatures and equal chances for above, below, and normal precipitation for most of the area. Below normal precipitation is favored along/north of the I-70 corridor.

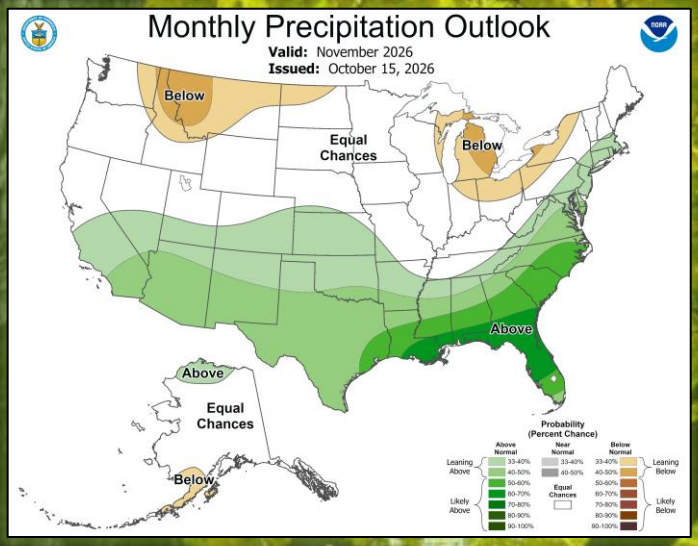
Site	Normal Avg Temp (°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	44.4	53.8	35.1
Columbus (CMH)	43.6	52.3	35.0
Dayton (DAY)	44.1	52.7	35.4

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

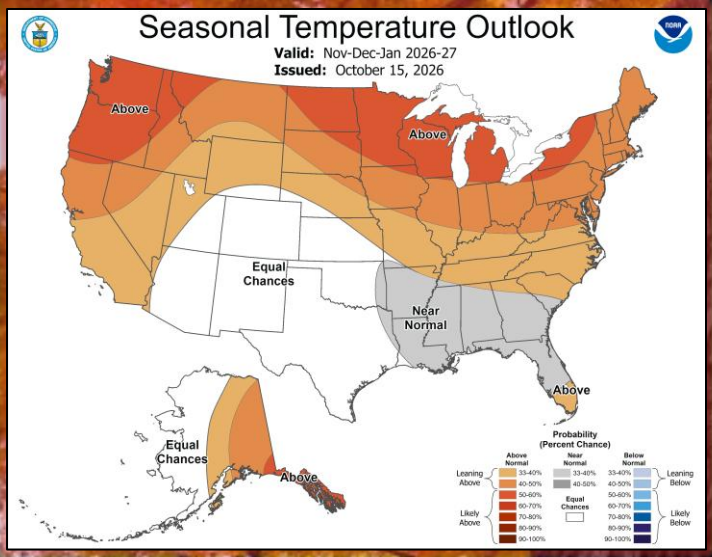


Nov-Dec-Jan Outlook

Strong to very-strong El Nino will continue through the fall and winter season, with a "historic" event still likely. With an El Nino event of this magnitude, we are more likely to observe the traditional impacts consistent with El Nino (though not fully guaranteed).

For the Ohio Valley, this means that drier than normal conditions along with milder temperatures would become favored during the upcoming season. The three month (November-January) outlook reflects that warmer temperatures are favored, but precipitation chances remain equal for below, near and above normal values.

Three-Month (NDJ) Temp. Outlook



Three-Month (NDJ) Precip. Outlook

