NWS Wilmington, Ohio
February 2022
Regional Climate Summary

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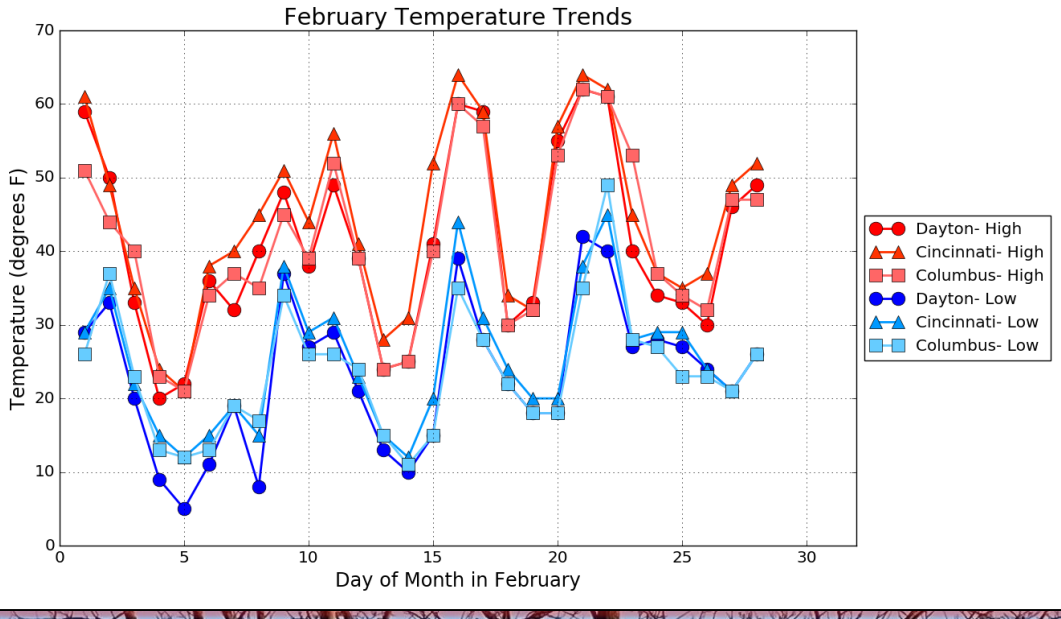
February featured above normal precipitation due to several long duration events that brought widespread heavy rain along with some impactful winter hazards. Most locations saw double the normal February precipitation. This resulted in widespread areal flooding along streams and some major river basins. Despite the above normal precipitation, only one event provided significant snowfall amounts. Freezing rain also led to travel impacts later in the month.

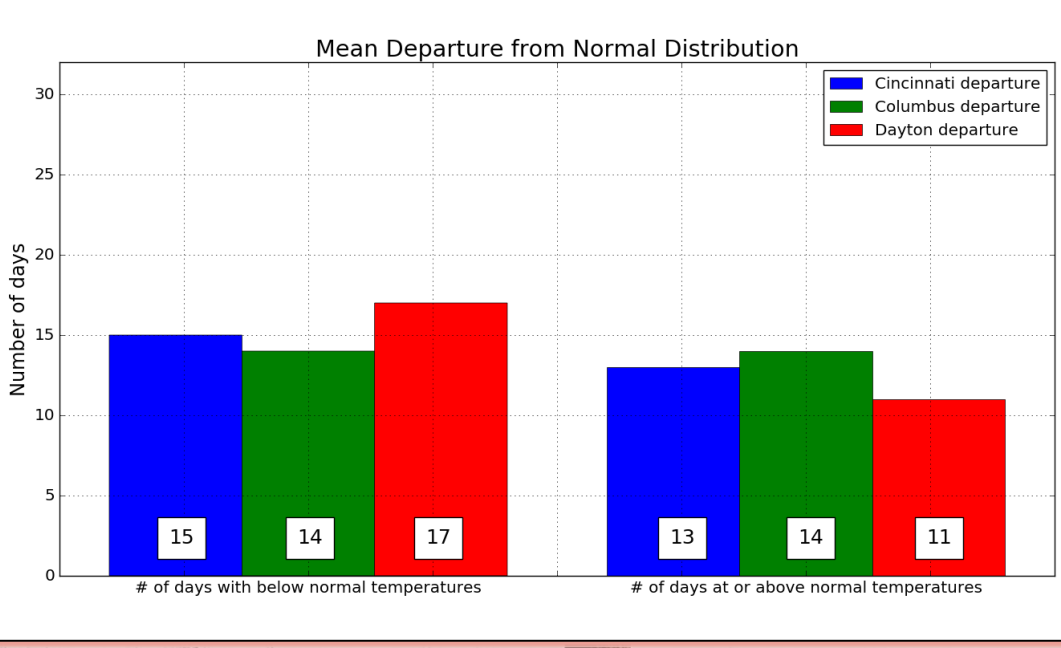
Temperatures

For the month of February, there were quite a few periods of variable temperatures across area due to the active weather pattern, however, those ups and downs averaged to near normal for all three climate locations. In fact, the departure from normal for Columbus for the month was 0.0°F. Some of those ups and downs on temperatures led to days where the temperature departure was over 10 and close to 20 degrees either above or below normal. Even with these days where there were significant departures from the normal temperature, there were no temperature records set during the month of February. They did lead to quite a range of temperatures for the month with the high temperature for the month at Cincinnati, Columbus, and Dayton in the 60s and the lows ranged from 5 above zero to 12 degrees at the three sites.

Site	Avg Temp (°F)	Avg High Temp (°F)	Avg Low Temp (°F)	Departure From Normal (°F)	Maximum Temperature (°F)	Minimum Temperature (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	34.9	44.4	25.3	+0.2	64	12
Columbus (CMH)	32.5	41.2	23.7	0.0	62	11
Dayton (DAY)	32.0	41.0	23.1	-0.8	62	5

Temperatures (Continued)





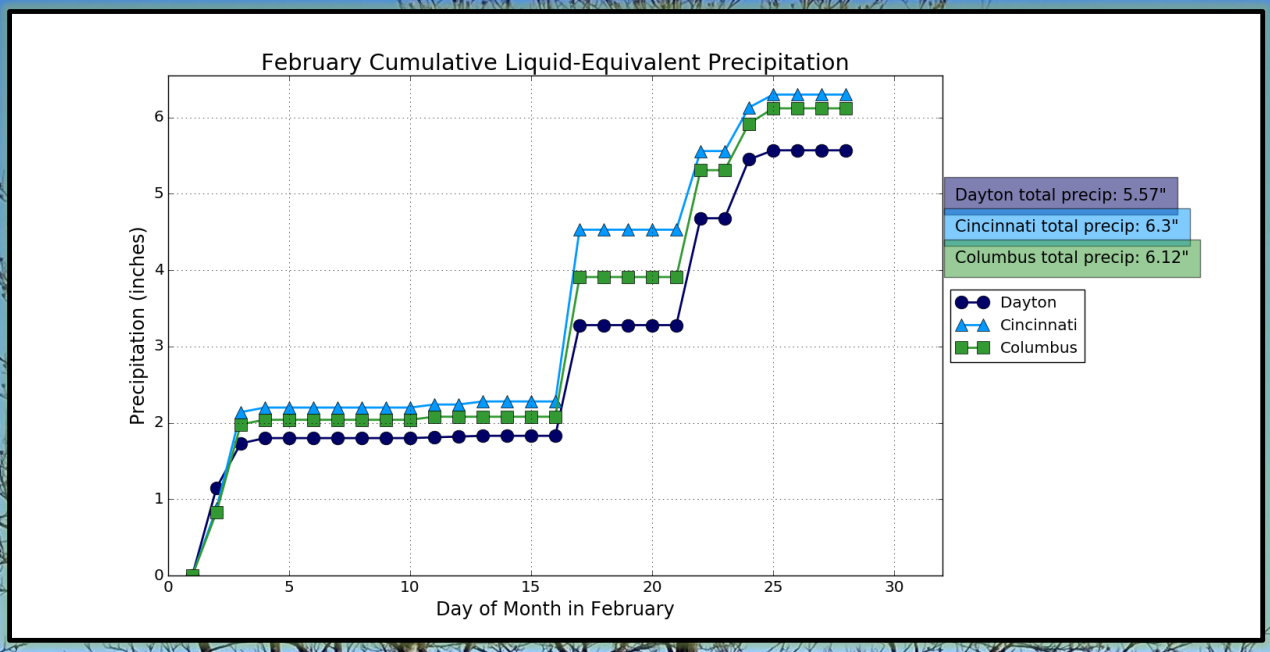
Precipitation

Precipitation forecasts leading into February called for above normal precipitation due to the continued La Niña conditions in the equatorial Pacific. That forecast became a reality not by the number of days where precipitation was observed but by the quantity of precipitation when it did fall.

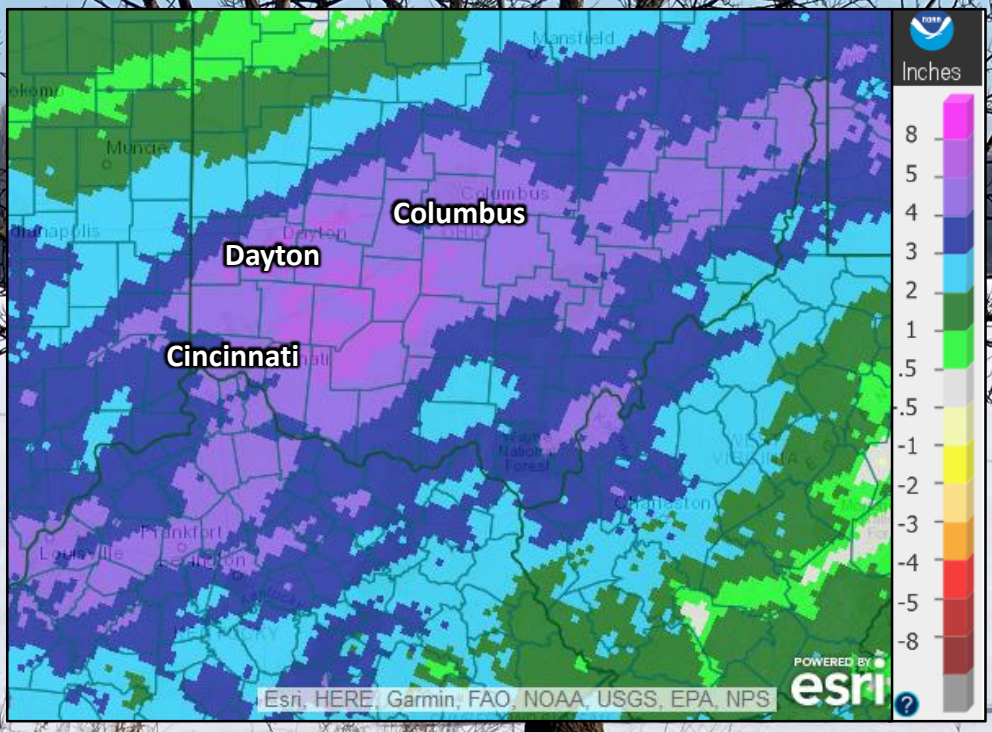
The first event occurred over several days, spanning from Feb 2-4th. Initially, precipitation was all rain. Then, colder air moved into area with a combination of rain, freezing rain, sleet, and snow falling on the 3rd and 4th. Freezing rain accumulations caused damage across northern Kentucky and southern Ohio. Sleet persisted over numerous hours, accumulating in several inches across the I-71 corridor. Snow was the dominant precipitation type across west-central Ohio with 6-10 inches of accumulation. After two weeks of mostly dry weather, the wet pattern resumed with significant rainfall occurring over much of the area. Between 1.5-3" of rain fell between the 17th-18th, resulting in widespread areal flooding as streams and rivers flooded. The 3rd period of active weather occurred over a period of several days between Feb 22nd-25th. Much of the precipitation was rainfall, but cooler air moved in on Thursday the 24th, resulting in freezing rain and widespread travel impacts during the morning commute, especially around the Tri-State. Ice accumulations near and north of the I-70 corridor also occurred during the evening and overnight hours. Over the course of the month, several daily precipitation records were set and all three climate sites observed top 10 wettest February's for each of their historical records.

Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure From Normal (in.)	Max Daily Precipitation (in./date)		Total Snowfall (in.)	Max Daily Snowfall (in./date)	
Cincinnati (CVG)	6.30	+3.13	2.25	17	4.8	2.4	3
Columbus (CMH)	6.12	+3.71	2.19	3	4.8	3.3	3
Dayton (DAY)	5.57	+3.22	1.45	17	8.2	6.0	3

Precipitation (Continued)



February Precipitation Departure From Normal (In.)

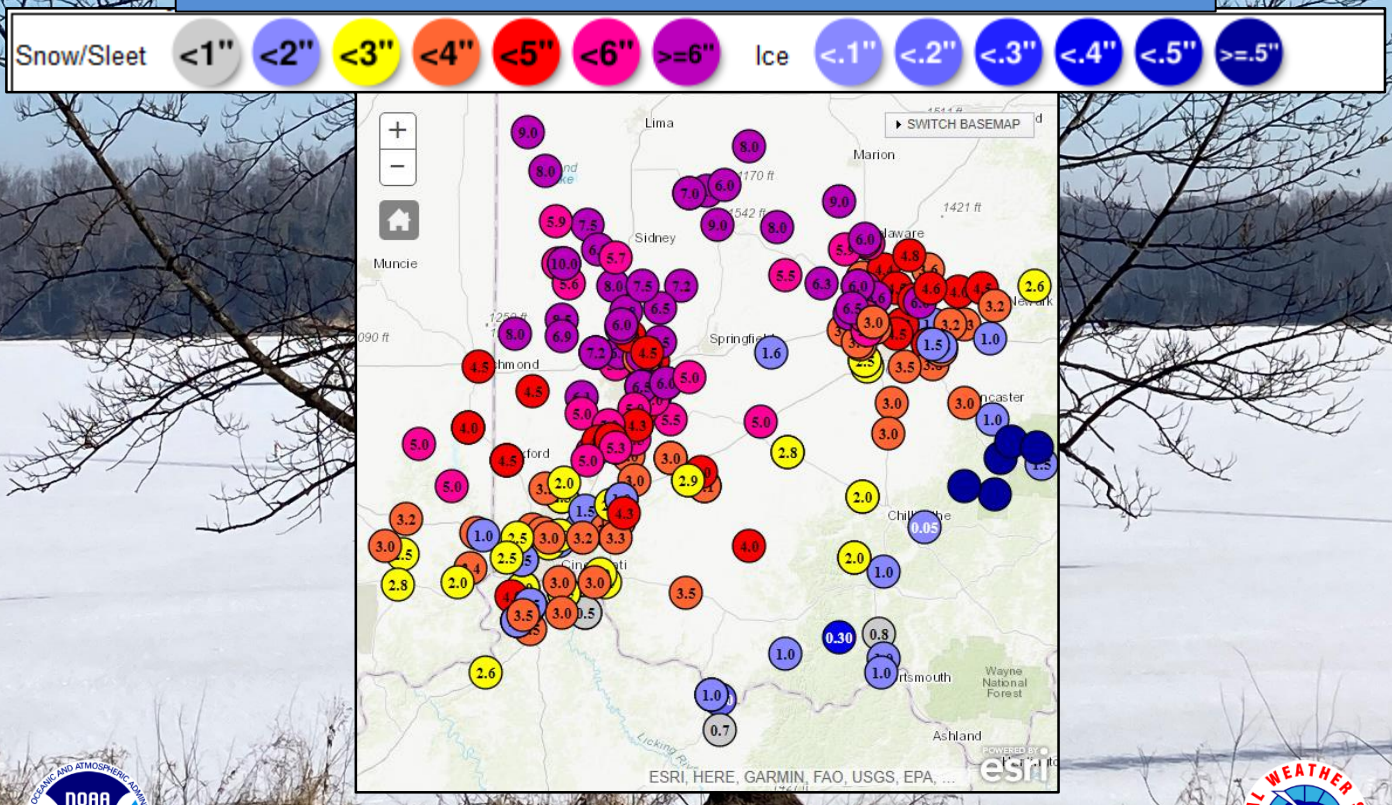


Winter Weather

For the major winter storm occurring early in the month, a myriad of precipitation types occurred with significant impacts to travel regardless of type. The locations that observed freezing rain saw numerous power outages. The locations that saw mostly sleet saw significant travel delays and tough clean-up conditions. Blowing and drifting of snow was an issue for locations that saw the highest snowfall amounts.

Overall, two of the three climate sites ended the month with below normal snowfall even though precipitation was over 3" above. Dayton OH was the only climate site that observed above normal snowfall for the month.

February 2-4th Winter Storm



Winter Weather Continued

Freezing rain and freezing drizzle brought widespread travel issues to the region on the morning of the 24th, especially around the Tri-State area. Additional mixed precipitation moved through during the evening and overnight hours, bringing additional ice to the region. The locations that received the most ice during the evening and overnight hours were locations generally near and north of Interstate 70.

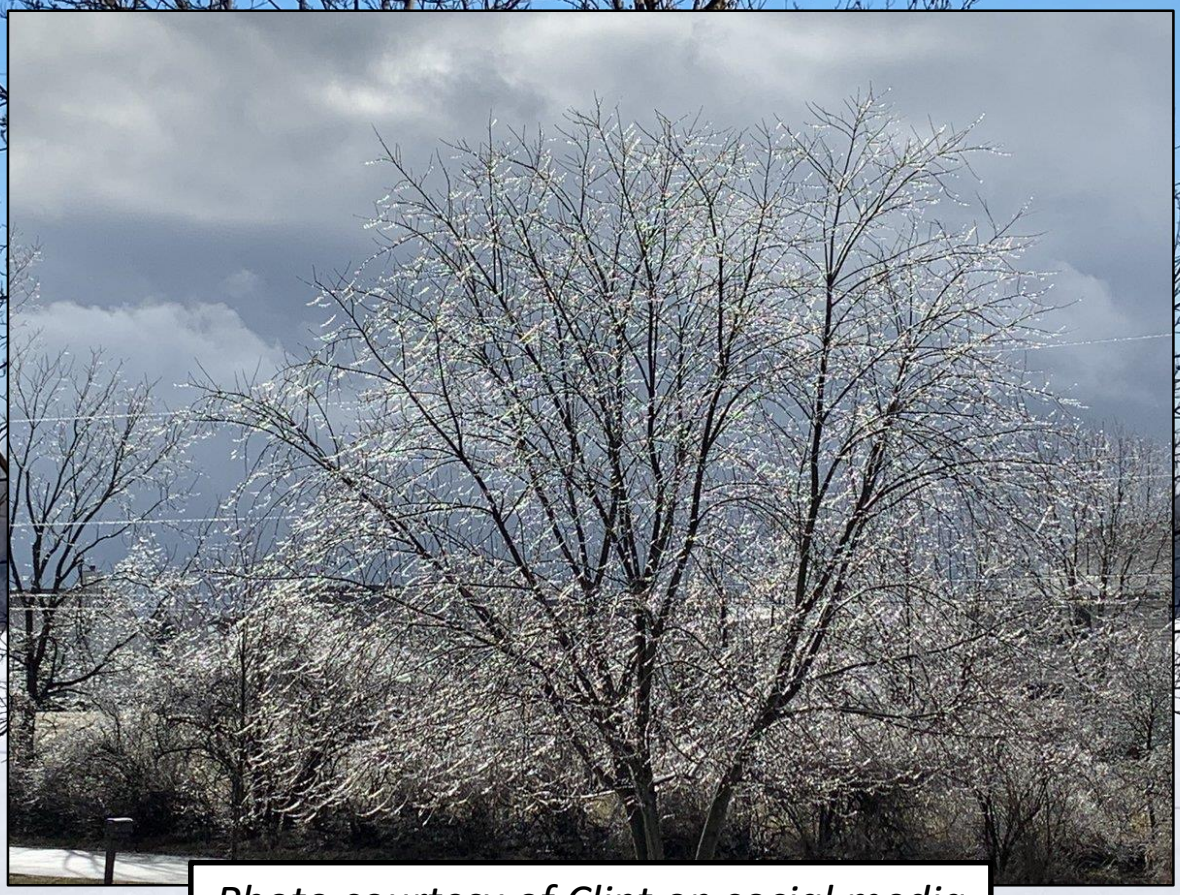


Photo courtesy of Clint on social media

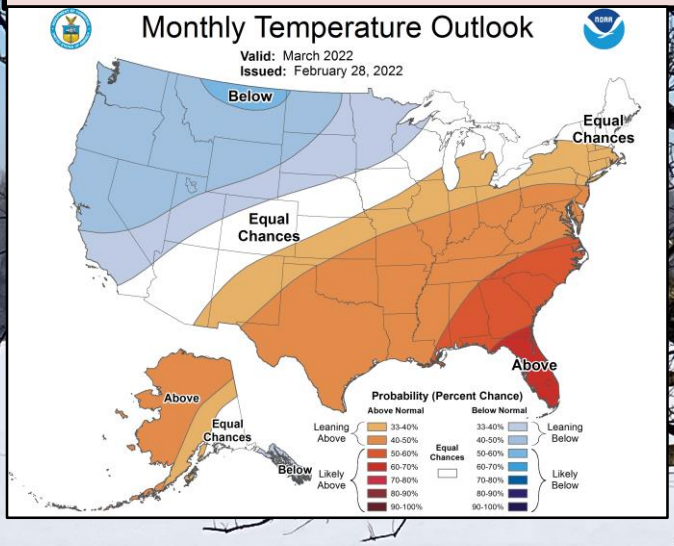
March Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center currently favors above normal temperatures and precipitation across the Ohio Valley for March.

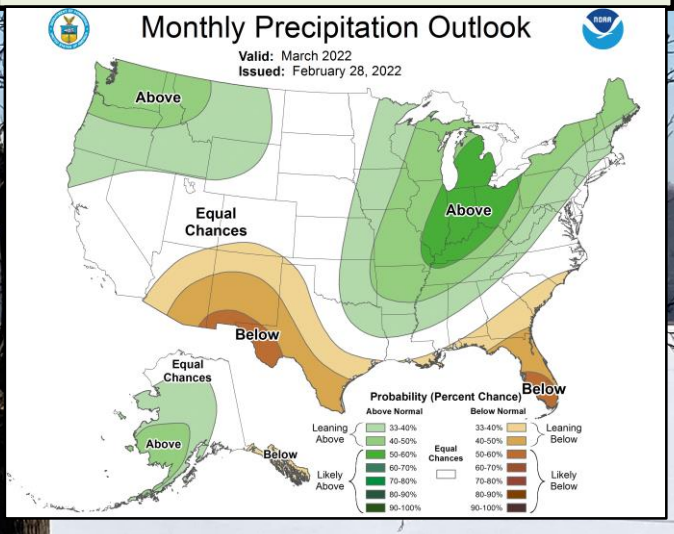
Site	Normal Avg Temp (°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	43.6	53.5	33.8
Columbus (CMH)	41.6	51.1	32.0
Dayton (DAY)	42.1	51.5	32.7

Site	Normal Precipitation (in.)	Normal Snowfall (in.)
Cincinnati (CVG)	4.16	3.4
Columbus (CMH)	3.62	4.1
Dayton (DAY)	3.50	3.9

Upcoming Temperature Outlook



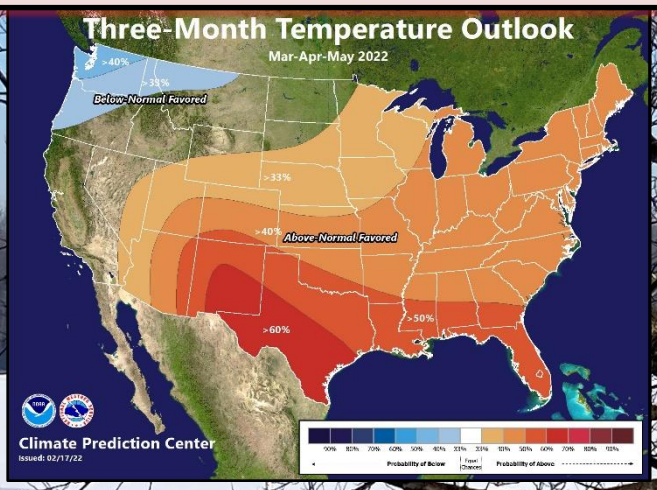
Upcoming Precipitation Outlook



March-May Outlook

La Niña is forecast to continue across the Northern Hemisphere this spring, eventually transitioning to ENSO-neutral from May-June. The three month outlook between March – May continues to show La Niña's impact across the Ohio Valley with warmer and wetter conditions favored during this period.

Three-Month (MAM) Temp. Outlook



Three-Month (MAM) Precip. Outlook