NWS Wilmington, Ohio
January 2021
Regional Climate Summary

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The month of January started off on a warm and wet note, with widespread rain on New Year's Day followed by about a week of above normal temperatures. A slightly drier and cooler pattern evolved through most of the remainder of the month until the final week when colder, wetter, and more wintry conditions evolved to close out the month. A storm system brought widespread accumulating snow, followed by rain, on the 30th into the 31st.

Temperatures

The majority of the first half of the month had temperatures that were either close to normal or above normal, without much in the way of extremes in either direction. This was helped along by the fact that overnight low temperatures were not that cold. These warmer low temperatures were helped by overall lack of a deep snowpack and a rather persistent cloud cover.

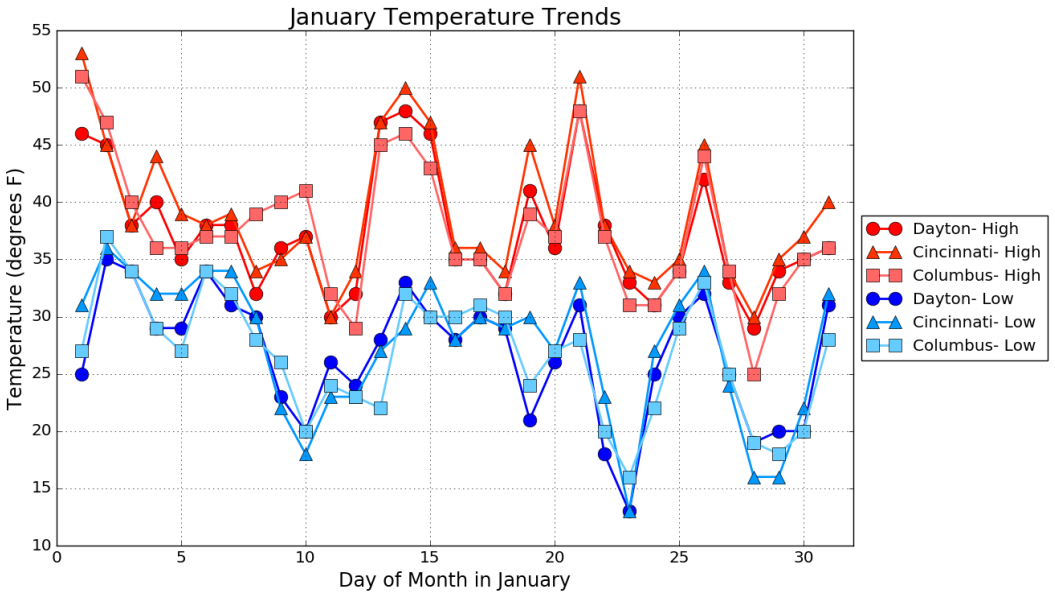
Temperatures trended a bit warmer toward the middle of the month, but still stayed relatively stable, especially by January standards. In fact, through the first 20 days of the month, the temperature at Dayton (DAY) varied by only 28 degrees (high of 48°F, low of 20°F). Some colder air briefly filtered back into the region past the 21st, with several days of below normal temperatures.

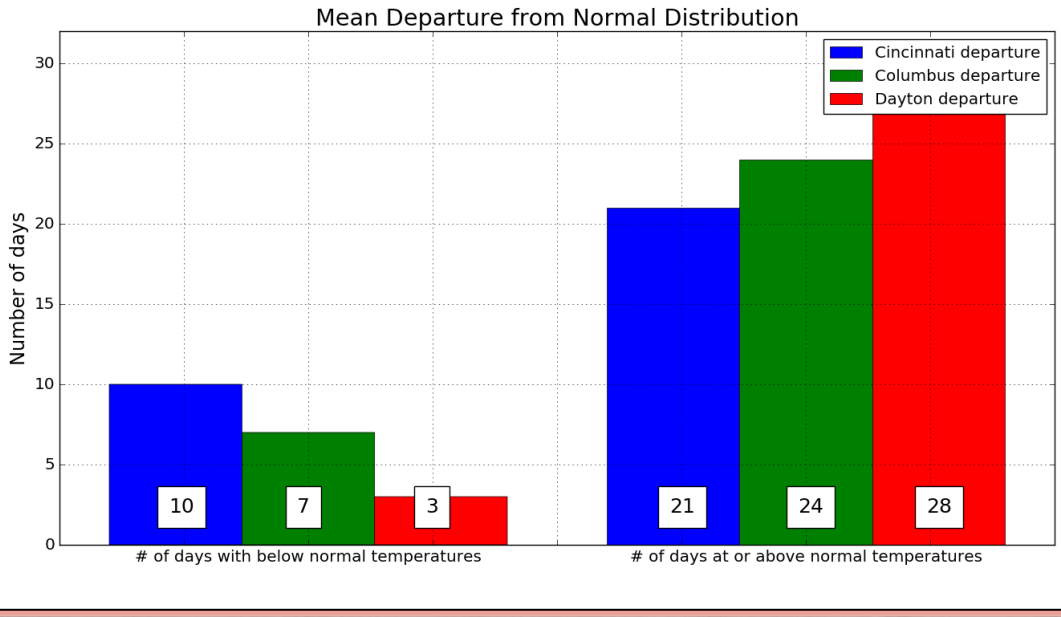
Slightly warmer air then returned by the 24th into the 25th before a slightly cooler/more seasonable pattern evolved for the final week of the month. This was accentuated by a complex winter storm which moved through the region on the 30th into the 31st, producing widespread accumulating snowfall, especially for areas near/north of the Ohio River. Warmer air eventually worked into the region on the 31st, changing the snowfall to rain before eventually the rain changed back to snow late on the 31st into first several hours of February.

Overall, averages temperatures were several degrees above normal for the month, with an absence in any notable extreme temperatures (either warm or cold). In fact, daily average temperatures stayed mostly within 10 degrees of daily average normals throughout 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)	33.3°F	39.1°F	27.5°F	+ 2.5°F	53°F (01/01)	13°F (01/23)
Columbus (CMH)	32.1°F	37.5°F	26.6°F	+ 2.5°F	51°F (01/01)	16°F (01/23)
Dayton (DAY)	32.1°F	37.4°F	26.7°F	+ 4.6°F	48°F (Mult.)	13°F (01/23)

Temperatures (Continued)





Precipitation

While the month started on a wet note, a drier pattern quickly developed for the next couple of weeks. This time period featured only light precipitation amounts and light snowfall accumulations.

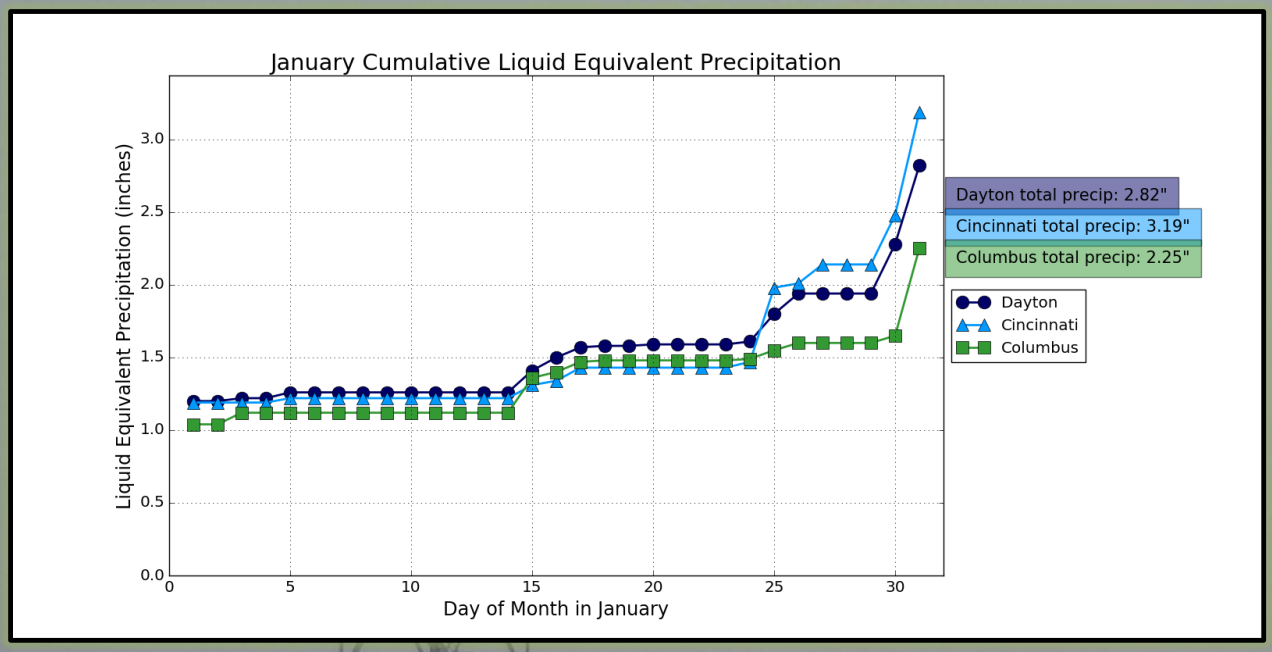
A more active pattern developed for the middle of the month. While precipitation totals were not that high, several systems did bring more widespread precipitation to the region. This included several rounds of snowfall. Due to the convective nature of some of the snowfall, amounts were somewhat variable across the region, with some areas picking up an inch or two and others not seeing much snowfall at all.

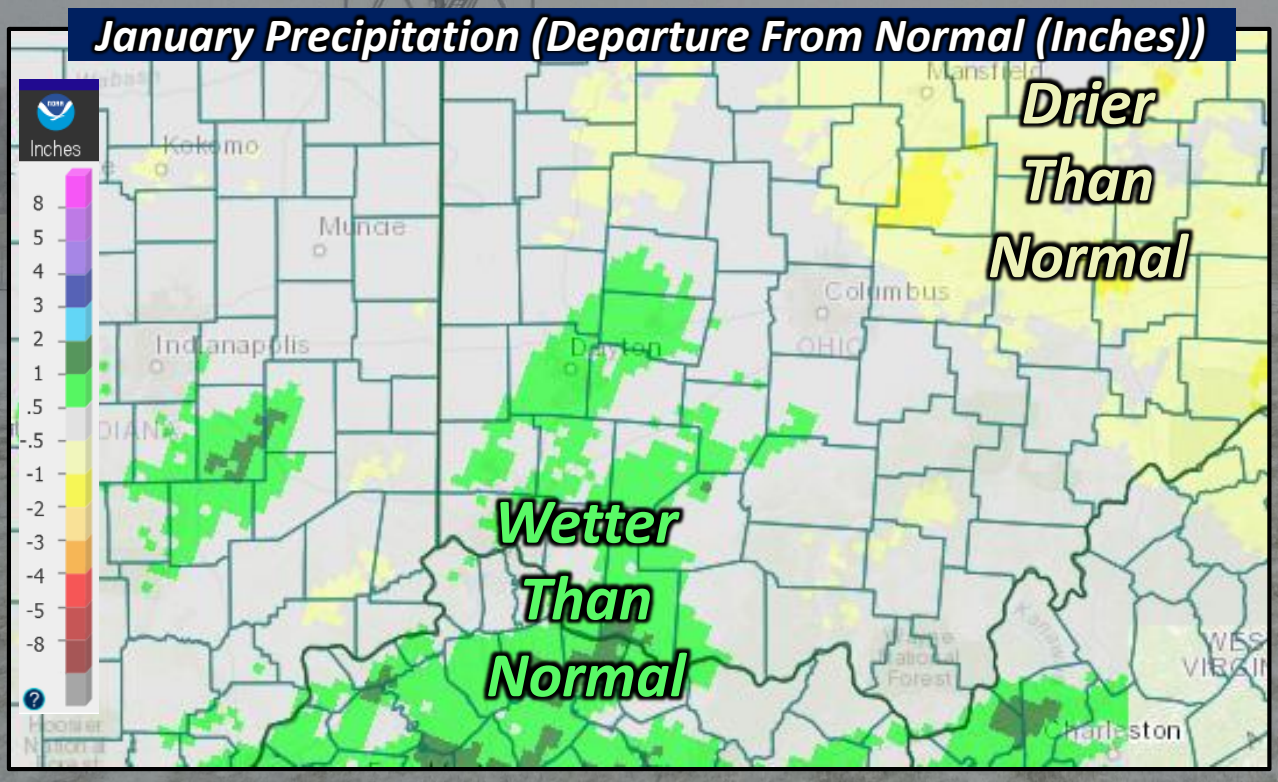
Overall, however, snowfall was below normal through a good portion of the month until the very end when a complex winter storm moved through the region late in the evening on the 30th into the 31st. This brought additional light to moderate snow accumulations to much of the area (especially for locales near/north of the Ohio River) before the snow transitioned to rain on the 31st before changing back to snow on the 1st. Most spots received appreciable liquid-equivalent precipitation on the order of one half to one inch combined for the final two days of the month. This allowed for monthly precipitation numbers to end close to normal.

In fact, most spots in the local area received well over half of the monthly precipitation combined for the first day and the final two days of the month, with spotty light precipitation for many of the days in between.

Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure From Normal (in.)	Max Daily Precipitation (in./date)		Total Snowfall (in.)	Max Daily Snowfall (in./date)	
Cincinnati (CVG)	3.19”	**+ 0.19”**	1.19”	01/01	4.6”	1.9”	01/27
Columbus (CMH)	2.25”	**- 0.48”**	1.04”	01/01	4.1”	2.3”	01/31
Dayton (DAY)	2.82”	**+ 0.11”**	1.20”	01/01	6.6”	1.7”	01/30

Precipitation (Continued)





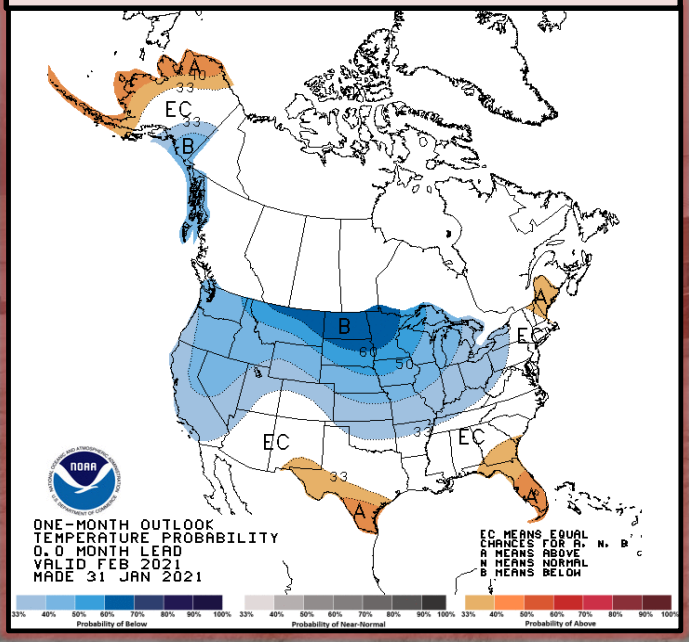
February Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) indicates favorable probabilities for slightly below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation throughout the Ohio Valley for February.

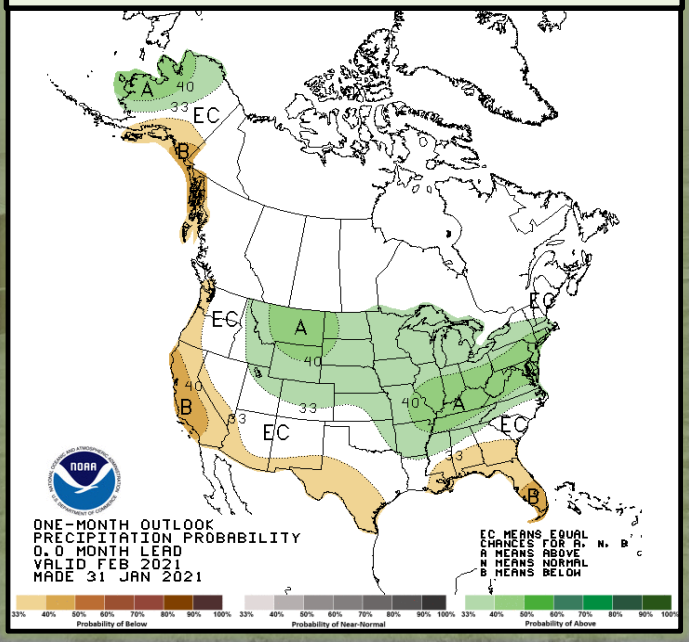
Site	Normal Avg Temp (°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	34.5°F	42.9°F	26.0°F
Columbus (CMH)	32.8°F	40.6°F	25.0°F
Dayton (DAY)	31.0°F	38.9°F	23.1°F

Site	Normal Precipitation (in.)	Normal Snowfall (in.)
Cincinnati (CVG)	2.81”	6.5”
Columbus (CMH)	2.25”	6.1”
Dayton (DAY)	2.24”	5.9”

Upcoming Temperature Outlook



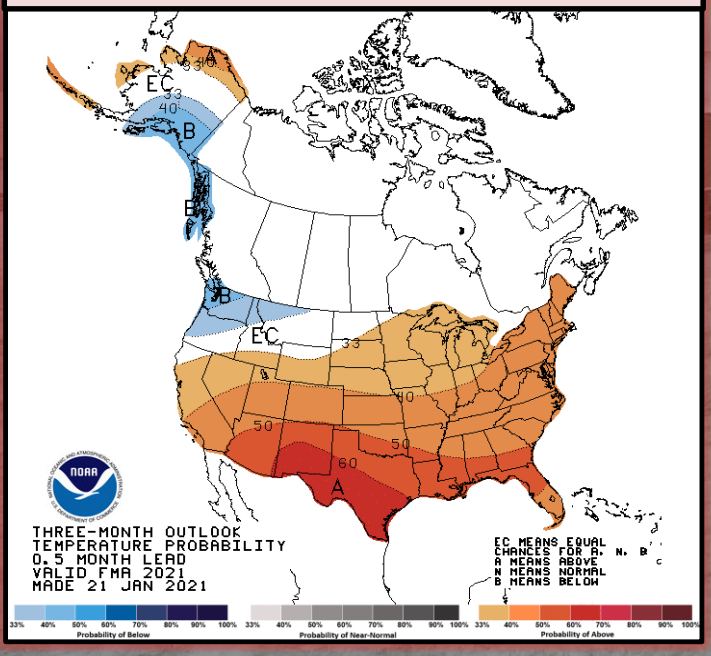
Upcoming Precipitation Outlook



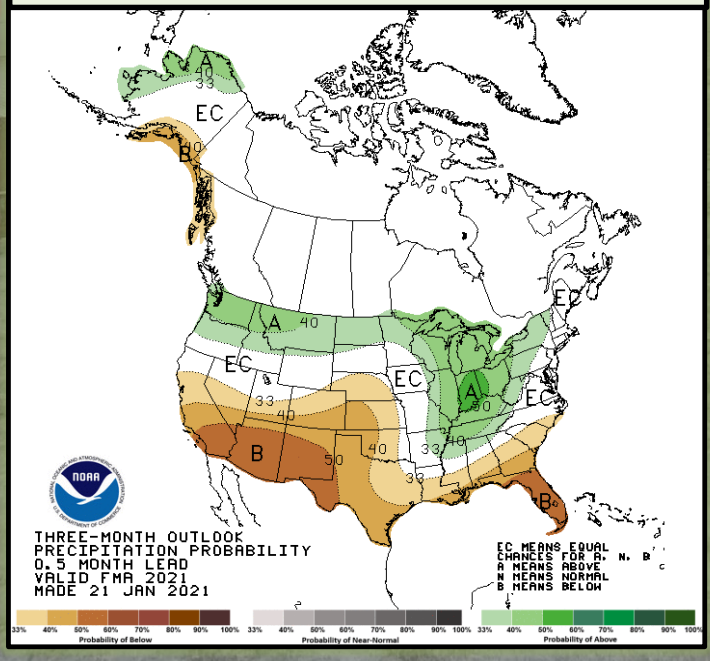
Late Winter/Early Spring Outlook

The three-month outlook, covering the months of February, March, and April, continues to favor above normal temperatures across much of the country, including in the Ohio Valley. This will occur coincident with a general weakening trend in La Nina during this time frame, which would favor above normal precipitation (a wetter pattern) for these months as well. Overall, the setup continues to favor warmer and wetter than normal conditions as we progress into the early stretches of springtime.

Three-Month (FMA) Temp. Outlook



Three-Month (FMA) Precip. Outlook



Winter Weather

There were a number of days within the month with flurries and light snow, but the only sizable widespread accumulating snowfall events occurred on the 27th (near/south of the Ohio River) and on the 30th into the 31st (more widespread, heaviest near/north of I-70). A quick-moving band of light snow impacted the Tri-State area and parts of northern Kentucky and south-central Ohio late in the evening on the 27th, bringing generally 1-3" of accumulation to many of these areas. On the 30th, a heavy band of snow moved northeast through much of the local area, bringing 1-3" of snow in a short period of time before the precipitation transitioned to rain by daybreak for many spots south of I-70. Snow had continued for locations further north, with widespread 3-6" along and just north of the I-70 corridor before the accumulating snow came to an end during the daytime hours on the 31st.