NWS Wilmington, Ohio
February 2019
Regional Climate Summary

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The month of February once again featured ample rainfall and extended periods of above normal temperatures across the region. The weather pattern served several heavy rain events, which caused multiple episodes of both areal and river flooding across parts of the area. Despite the lack of extended cold air, there were several events which provided accumulating snow, particularly for northern segments of the region. However, the month will largely be remembered for how wet and warm it was.

Temperatures

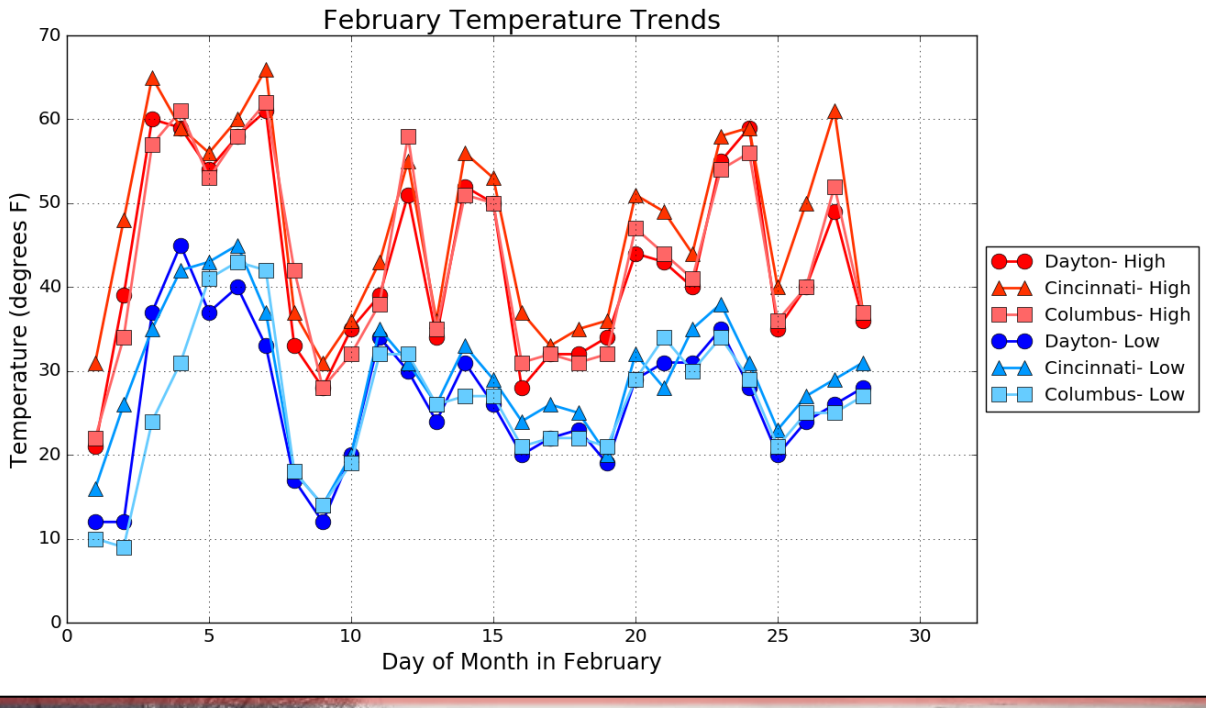
Although the month of January ended on quite a cold note, it didn't last long once the calendar flipped to February. In fact, much above normal temperatures filtered into the Ohio Valley for most of the first week of the month, with numerous days with highs in the 50s and even 60s. A cold front ushered in a brief spell of chillier more seasonable air for several days before temperatures again soared above normal for another extended stretch through the middle of the month.

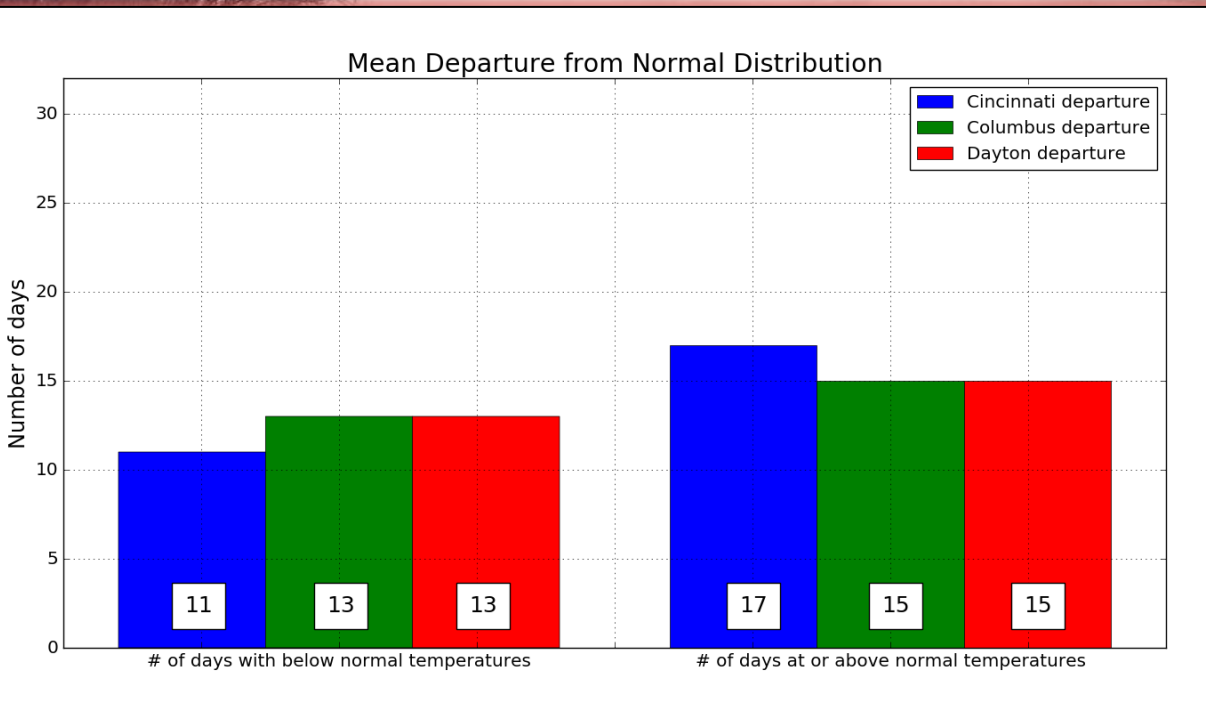
Past the middle of the month, there were several days with near normal temperatures before another unseasonably warm weather pattern evolved from the 21st through the 24th. Temperatures quickly fell during the day on the 24th as a strong cold front moved through, with very windy conditions during the day. Even with this being said, temperatures dipped back to near normal for just a couple of days, with the month ending on a bit of a colder note as a light wintry mix moved through the region.

Despite the generally warmer-than-normal temperatures throughout the month, only a few daily records were reached or broken. At Dayton, the low temperature only fell to 40˚F on the 6th, tying the record for the date originally set in 1938. At Columbus, the high of 62˚F on the 7th and the low of 43˚F broke the old daily records of 61˚F last set in 1925 and 42˚F set in 1991, respectively.

Site	Avg Temp (°F)	Avg High Temp (°F)	Avg Low Temp (°F)	Departure From Normal (°F)	Maximum Temperature (°F)	Minimum Temperature (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	38.2˚F	47.2˚F	29.3˚F	+ 3.7˚F	66˚F (02/07)	14˚F (02/09)
Columbus (CMH)	34.8˚F	43.4˚F	26.3˚F	+ 2.0˚F	62˚F (02/07)	9˚F (02/02)
Dayton (DAY)	34.8˚F	42.9˚F	26.6˚F	+ 3.8˚F	61˚F (02/07)	12˚F (Mult.)

Temperatures (Continued)





Precipitation

February was yet another wet month in a recent string of wet months across the region. Several heavy precipitation events impacted the region – the first of which stretched from the 6th into the 7th. In fact, severe weather moved through parts of the area late on the 7th, spawning a weak tornado in Clark County, Ohio. Widespread rainfall of 2 to 4 inches occurred throughout the region during the 2-day period – particularly near and south of the Ohio River.

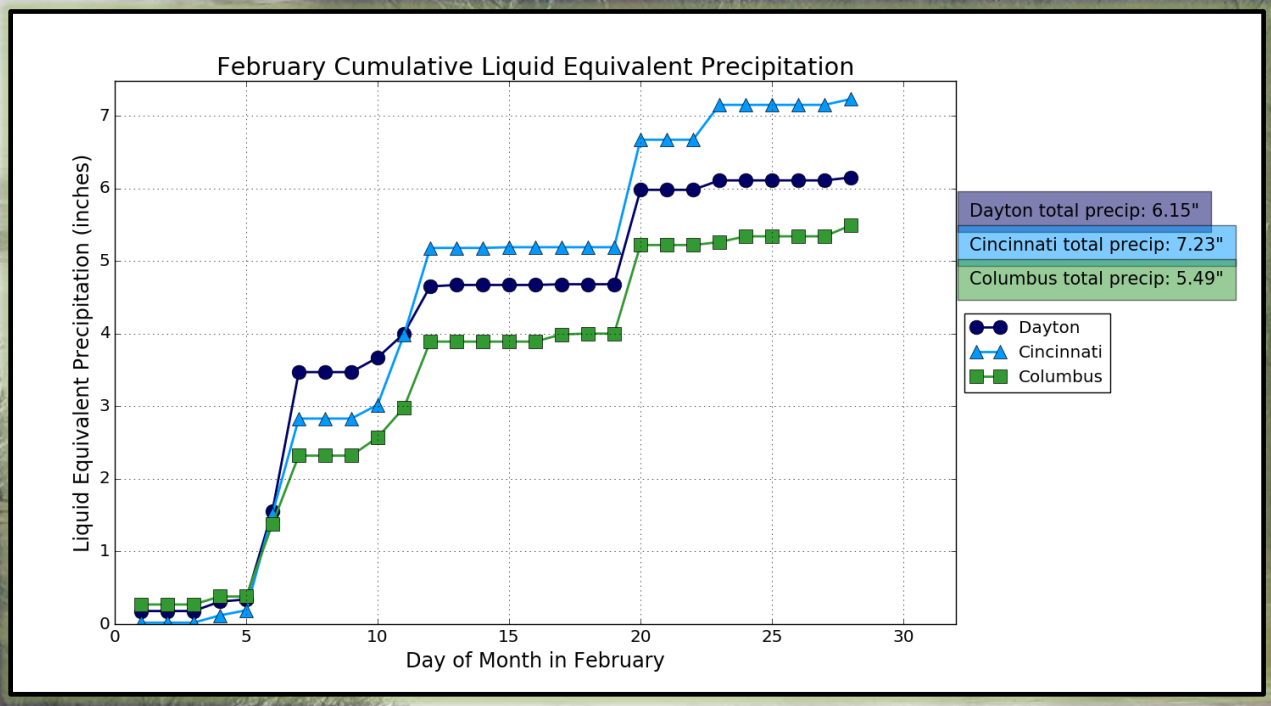
After only a few dry days, another widespread heavy rain event impacted the Ohio Valley from the 11th into the 12th, with another round of 2 to 3 inches across parts of the local area. This brought monthly rainfall totals to near 6 inches in parts of the area through only the first 12 days of the month.

Luckily, following the event from the 11th into the 12th, a somewhat colder and drier pattern evolved for most of the next week before another heavy precipitation system moved through on the 20th. A mix of precipitation occurred with this system from snow, sleet, freezing rain, and rain. Rain moved across the region on the 23rd in advance of a cold front that moved through during the morning hours of the 24th. The precipitation ended as some snow flurries and light snow showers.

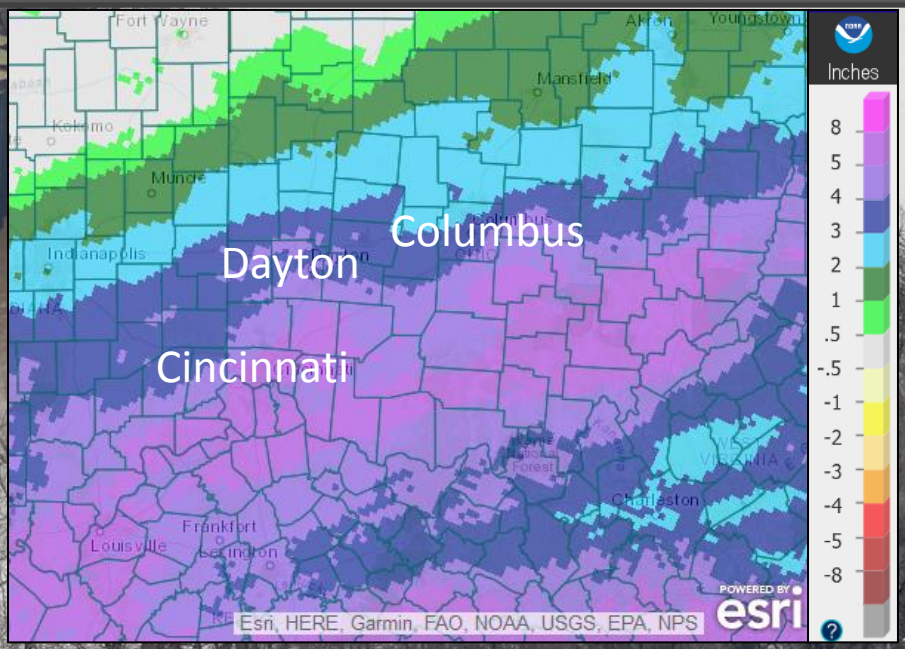
Despite the multiple heavy rain events throughout the first ¾ of the month, February ended on a slightly drier note, with most of the area receiving only about 0.5" in the final full week. However, multiple daily precipitation records were set, and the month ended up being the 4th wettest February at Cincinnati, 6th wettest at Columbus, and 2nd wettest February on record at Dayton.

Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure From Normal (in.)	Max Daily Precipitation (in./date)		Total Snowfall (in.)	Max Daily Snowfall (in./date)	
Cincinnati (CVG)	7.23"	+ 4.42"	1.48"	02/20	1.6"	0.5"	02/10
Columbus (CMH)	5.49"	+ 3.24"	1.22"	02/20	11.6"	4.2"	02/01
Dayton (DAY)	6.15"	+ 3.91"	1.91"	02/07	9.4"	4.9"	02/20

Precipitation (Continued)



February Precipitation Departure From Normal



Severe Weather

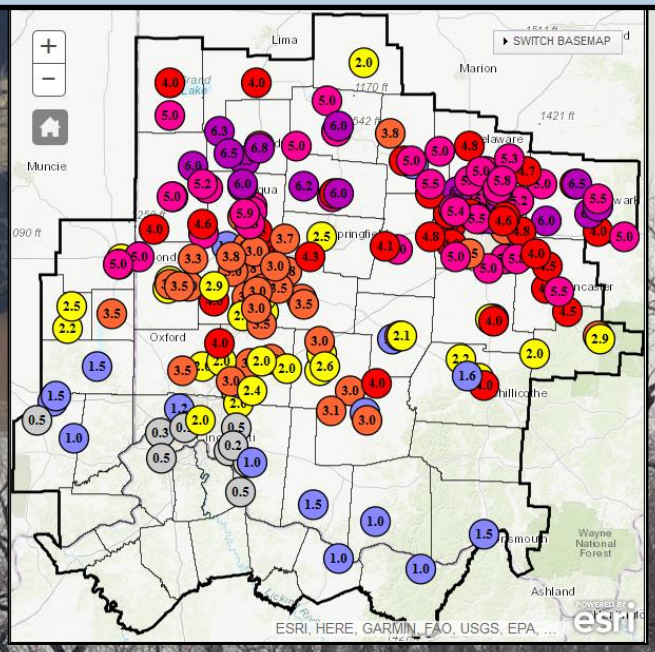
A tornado was confirmed in Clark County Ohio on February 7th as a line of storms progressed west-to-east across the region. The tornado occurred coincident with strong wind fields and was on the ground for only several minutes. The tornado occurred from 317-323pm with estimated wind speeds of 80 to 85 mph. The tornado was rated an EF-0. The tornado was on the ground for 7.5 miles and had a width of 150 yards. Select damage photos from the NWS storm survey are shown below.

Winter Weather

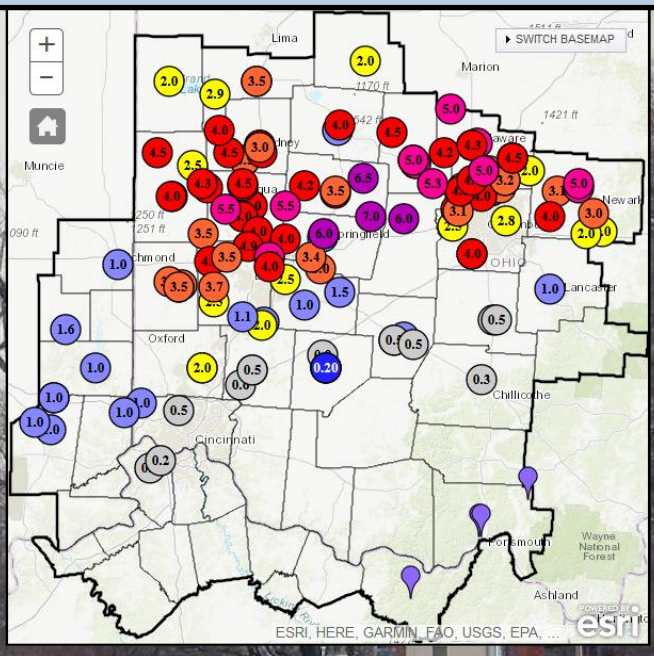
A winter storm began to move into the area on January 31st with a majority of the snow occurring during the overnight hours on February 1st. Less snow occurred near and south of the Ohio River with higher amounts near the I-70 corridor.

A wintry mix of precipitation occurred on February 20th with a mix of snow, sleet, freezing rain, and rain. Several inches of snow occurred along the I-70 corridor while further south more of a mix of precipitation occurred, and then primarily rain near and south of the Ohio River. Once again, locations near and north of I-70 received considerably more snow that points further south.

Jan 31st – Feb 1st



Feb 20th



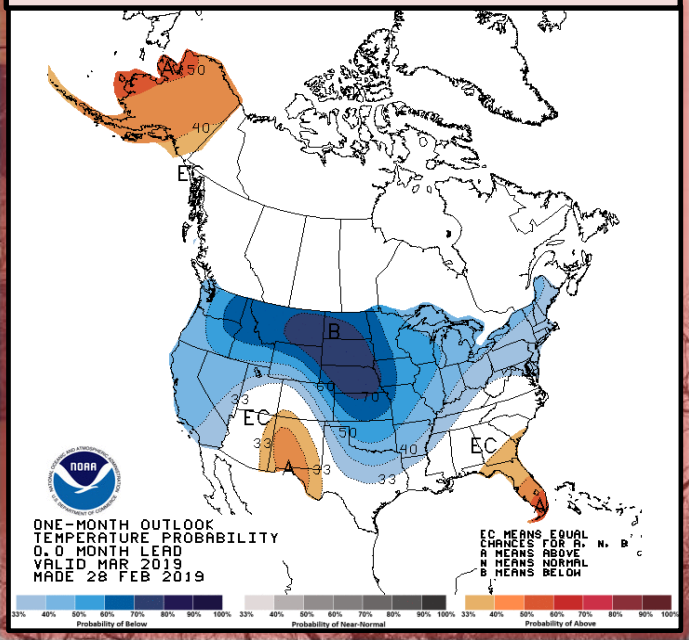
March Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) indicated increased likelihood of below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation across parts of the area. However, the Ohio Valley sits right on the edge of the strongest signals in both categories.

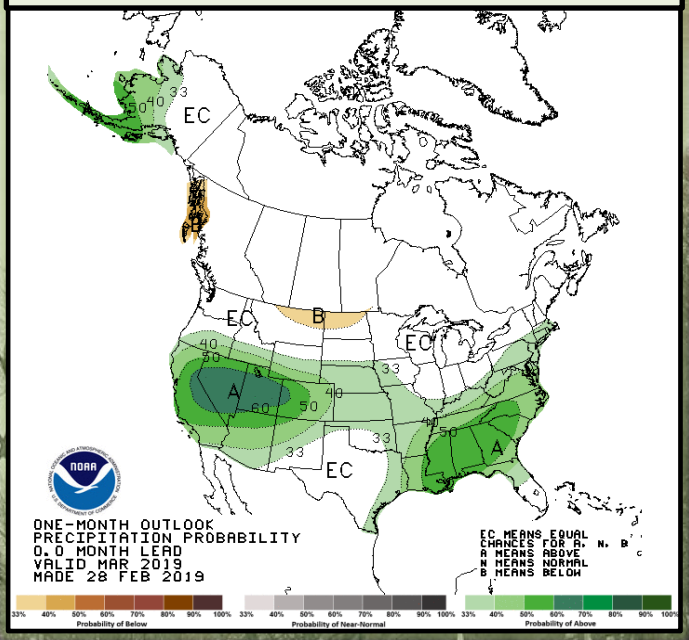
Site	Normal Avg Temp (°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)
Cincinnati (CVG)	43.6°F	53.2°F	34.0 °F
Columbus (CMH)	41.9°F	51.1°F	32.7°F
Dayton (DAY)	40.4°F	49.6 °F	31.2°F

Site	Normal Precipitation (in.)	Normal Snowfall (in.)
Cincinnati (CVG)	3.96”	3.0”
Columbus (CMH)	3.02”	4.2”
Dayton (DAY)	3.34 ”	3.4”

Upcoming Temperature Outlook



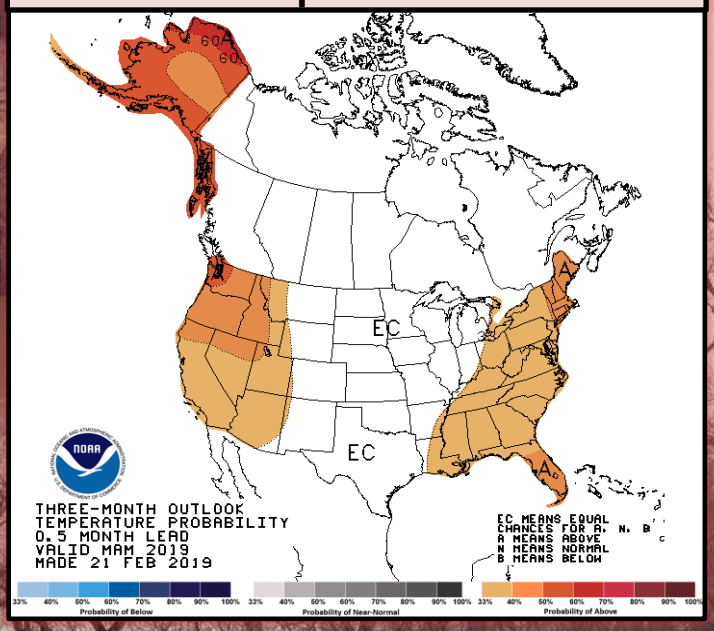
Upcoming Precipitation Outlook



March-May Outlook

The latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) from March through May, which covers meteorological spring, indicated increased likelihood for above normal temperatures across much of the region. There is a signal for wetter-than-normal conditions across much of the southern U.S., which could ultimately spell a slightly wetter-than-normal spring for parts of the Ohio Valley as well.

Three-Month (MAM) Temp. Outlook



Three-Month (MAM) Precip. Outlook