



# 2020 Cincinnati Football Preview

**Head Coach (Yr)**  
Luke Fickell (4)  
**Offensive Coord.**  
Mike Denbrock (4)  
**Defensive Coord.**  
Marcus Freeman (4)  
**Conference/Div**  
American

Team Profile	#	Rk
2020 Team Power Rating	73.5	39
Power Ratings Diff vs Last Year	-1.0	77
2020 Strength of Schedule	68.0	70
2020 Season Win Projection	8.1	28
Returning Starters (OFF/DEF)	14 (6/8)	45
Return Starting QB (YES/NO)	YES	
Returning Production %	73%	31
Returning Offense Production	69%	53
Returning Defense Production	76%	33
2020 Recruiting (Signees)	22	40
2020 Roster Talent Rank		64

## 2020 Offense/Defense Analysis

Luke Fickell is doing a great job here with back-to-back 11-win seasons and the Bearcats also just signed the best Group of 5 recruiting class. With that being said, we thought the Bearcats were extremely fortunate last season to win 11 games. **They beat UCF, Houston, Tulsa, ECU, USF and Temple despite being out-gained in all those games by an average of 101 ypg!** They were 4-1 in one-score games and were just a couple plays away from a 4 or 5-loss season. This year's team will be just as good. Desmond Ridder is back at QB after throwing for 2,164 yards (18-9 ratio) while also adding 650 rushing yards. Ridder dealt with a shoulder injury last season and should put up improved passing numbers. Leading rusher Michael Warren departs after running for 1,265 yards (14 TD's) last year as does TE Josiah Deguara (7 TD's, 3rd round pick). Gerrid Doaks (526 yards) and Alabama transfer Jerome Ford will replace Warren and leading receiver Alec Pierce is back after averaging 17.6 ypc. Keep an eye on Michigan transfer James Hudson on the OL. The defense loses a pair of All-AAC LB's in Bryan Wright and Perry Young who combined for 181 tackles and 22 TFL's. Cincinnati will have one of the better secondaries in the Group of 5 led by safeties Darrick Forrest (106 tackles) and Ja'Von Hicks (5 INT's) along with CB Ahmad Gardner (3 INT's). All three are All-AAC caliber and they also get back star safety James Wiggins who sat out last year due to injury. The schedule could see Cincy favored in as many as 10 games this fall with their two toughest games coming at Nebraska and UCF. We do project five of their favorite roles to be in the single-digits and we're not sure if they'll be as fortunate in one-score games. Cincinnati won't match last year's 11 wins.

## 2020 Schedule with BP Projected Lines

Date	Opponent	Line	Win %	Line	Total	Score	W/L/O/U
9/3	Austin Peay	-19.4	92%				
9/11	W. Michigan	-14.8	85%				
9/19	at Miami (OH)	-10.8	76%				
9/26	at Nebraska	6.2	34%				
10/3	USF	-13.7	83%				
10/10							
10/17	at Tulsa	-7.0	68%				
10/24	at SMU	-3.0	61%				
10/31	Memphis	-1.7	55%				
11/7	Houston	-8.4	71%				
11/12	E. Carolina	-16.9	90%				
11/21	at UCF	11.4	24%				
11/28	at Temple	-7.2	69%				
<b>Projected Wins</b>		<b>8.08</b>					

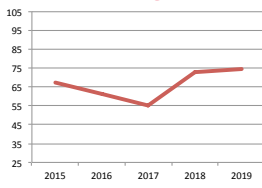
## Last 5 Year Records

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Straight Up	7-6	4-8	4-8	11-3	11-3	37-27
Home	5-1	3-4	2-4	6-0	6-0	22-9
Away	2-4	1-4	2-4	4-2	4-3	13-17
Neutral	0-1	0-0	0-0	1-0	1-0	2-1
Conference	4-4	1-7	2-6	6-2	7-2	20-21
Non-Conf	3-2	3-1	2-2	5-0	4-1	17-6
<b>ATS</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>3-9</b>	<b>4-6-1</b>	<b>7-6</b>	<b>9-5</b>	<b>29-33-1</b>
Home Fav	2-3	1-2	0-2	0-3	4-2	10-12
Home Dog	1-0	0-4	1-1	0-0	1-0	3-5
Away Fav	1-2	1-1	0-1	1-1	2-2	5-7
Away Dog	2-1	1-2	3-1	2-2	2-1	10-7-1
Conference	5-3	2-6	2-4	4-4	5-4	18-21-1
Non-Conf	1-4	1-3	2-2	3-2	4-1	11-12
<b>O/U</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>1-10</b>	<b>14-7-1</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>3-11</b>	<b>20-42-2</b>

## ATS Stat

The UNDER has gone 42-16-2 (72%) in Cincinnati's last 60 games, the best mark of any team in the country during that span!

## End of Season Power Rating 2015-19



## 2019 Stats

	Cincy	Rk	Opp	Rk
<b>Rushing</b>				
YPC	4.7	46	3.6	28
YPG	208	25	138.6	44
<b>Passing</b>				
Comp %	55.2%	106	51.5%	5
YPA	6.8	99	6.9	40
YPG	182.3	107	222.8	60
TD-INT	19-11		17-16	
<b>Total</b>				
YPP	5.5	87	5.1	31
YPC	390.3	80	361.4	40
<b>Scoring</b>				
PPG	29.6	60	20.6	24
<b>3rd Down</b>				
%	43.4%	30	38.2%	55
<b>Red Zone</b>				
TD %	66.2%	42	43.1%	6
Scoring %	83.1%	69	72.5%	12
<b>KO Ret</b>				
Avg	21.9	43	20.4	60
<b>Punt Ret</b>				
Avg	8.3	56	4.9	24
<b>Sacks</b>				
By	Rk	Vs	Rk	
#	31	46	35	108
<b>TFL's</b>				
By	Rk	Vs	Rk	
#	96	22	89	111
<b>Net Punt</b>				
Avg	40.9	20		
<b>4th Down</b>				
Off	Rk		Rk	
Att P/Gm	1.2	99		
<b>Turnovers</b>				
Margin	6	27		
<b>Penalties</b>				
Per Game	8.8	127		

## 2019 Game-By-Game Recap

Teams	Open	Close	Score	ATS
UCLA	54.5	56	14	Under: 18
Cincinnati	-4.5	-2.5	24	Cover: 7.5
-Cincy had 23-14 first down and 417-218 yard edges.				
Cincinnati	55	52	0	Under: 10
Ohio State	-16.5	-16	42	Cover: 26
-The Buckeyes destroyed Cincy with 31-13 first down and 508-273 yard edges including 270-107 on the ground.				
--"We got our absolute butts whipped," said Fickell, the third-year Bearcats coach who played and coached for years at Ohio State. "They just ruined any sentimental thought you had," he said. "I'm disappointed we couldn't give them a real game."				
Miami (OH)	49.5	49.5	13	Under: 1.5
Cincinnati	-16.5	-17	35	Cover: 5
-Cincinnati had 23-14 first down and 420-207 yard edges including 234-64 on the ground.				
-Miami, Oh actually led the game 10-0 after the first quarter but Cincy dominated from that point forward.				
-It was the Bearcats' 14th straight win over the RedHawks, whose campus is roughly 30 miles from Cincinnati.				
Cincinnati	-2.5	-4	52	Cover: 34
Marshall	46	47.5	14	Over: 18.5
-Cincy had 29-14 first down and 525-256 yard edges and led 45-0 entering the 4Q.				
-Cincinnati coach Luke Fickell said it was "probably the complete game we've been looking for. We've been in a little bit of a rut. We were 2-1, but it just didn't feel the same, the energy. And then after tonight you walk in that locker room, there's a different energy."				
Central Florida	-3	-3.5	24	Under: 11.5
Cincinnati	60	62.5	27	Cover: 6.5
<b>Misleading Final:</b> UCF had 28-18 first down and 423-341 yard edges but were -3 in TO's.				
-UCF true frosh QB Dillon Gabriel had 4 crucial TO's. He threw an interception on 2nd&Goal at the Cincy 9-yard line in the 1Q, fumbled at his own 19-yard line that set up Cincy for a TD in the 2Q. He also threw a "Pick 6" in the 3Q and threw another interception at the Cincy 11-yard line in the 4Q.				
-The Bearcats had lost their past 13 games against ranked teams since 2009.				
Cincinnati	-5	-8.5	38	Cover: 6.5
Houston	55	51	23	Over: 10
<b>Misleading Final:</b> Houston had a 424-394 yard edge including 190-131 on the ground but were -4 in TO's.				
-Houston played 3 different QB's but they only combined to get 10 of 30 for 234 yards with a 3-4 ratio.				
Cincinnati	50.5	47.5	13	Cover: 5
Cincinnati	-13	-16	24	Under: 10.5
<b>Misleading Final:</b> Tulsa had 23-18 first down and 377-317 yard edges but also had 5 TO's.				
-Cincinnati RB Michael Warren limped off for a series in the first half and had to be helped off in the third quarter, putting little weight on his left leg. He finished with 35 yards on 13 carries.				
Cincinnati	-20.5	-24	46	Over: 41
East Carolina	49.5	48	43	Cover: 21
<b>Misleading Final:</b> ECU had 35-19 first down and 638-462 yard edges. Cincy did have a 301-103 rushing yard edge.				
-Cincy got a 32-yard FG on the final play for the win.				
Connecticut	52.5	53.5	3	Under: 2.5
Cincinnati	-34.5	-34.5	48	Cover: 10.5
-Cincy had 27-13 first down and 507-218 yard edges including 307-148 on the ground.				
-Cincy led 38-0 at halftime.				
Cincinnati	-9.5	-13.5	20	Under: 9.5
South Florida	49	46.5	17	Cover: 10.5
<b>Misleading Final:</b> USF had 18-13 first down and 438-278 yard edges. USF missed 4 FG's.				
Temple	46.0	44.5	13	Cover: 7.5
Cincinnati	-9.5	-9.5	15	Under: 16.5
<b>Misleading Final:</b> Temple had 20-14 first down and 310-210 yard edges. Temple missed a field goal attempt and was stopped on fourth-and-1 from the Cincinnati 18-yard line in the second half.				
Cincinnati	57.5	59	24	Cover: 3.5
Memphis	-12	-13.5	34	Under: 1
-Memphis had 21-20 first down and 432-407 yard edges but were also +2 in TO's.				
-Memphis got a 94-yard kick return TD on the opening play and led 17-3 after the first quarter.				
-Cincinnati started redshirt freshman Ben Bryant for the first time, snapping a 24-game streak of starts for Desmond Ridder whose ailing shoulder limited him to 140 yards passing combined over his past two games. Bryant finished with 229 for Cincinnati's fourth-highest passing game this season. "He did a great job," Fickell said of Bryant. "No one wants turnovers. Again, we had obviously a few too many of those. He had poise, he had confidence. He didn't seem rattled at any time in the game."				
Cincinnati	58.5	58.5	24	Cover: 4
Memphis	-10	-9	29	Under: 5.5
-Memphis had a 25-21 first down edge but Cincy a 454-447 yard edge. Memphis got a TD with 1:14 left.				
Boston College	55.5	54	6	Under: 10
Cincinnati	-6.5	-7.5	38	Cover: 24.5
-Cincinnati had 33-8 first down and 459-164 yard edges including 343-77 on the ground.				

## Scoring Quarter-By-Quarter

	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	OT	Total
Cincy	97	109	103	106	0	415
Opp	71	78	59	80	0	288

## 2019 Stat Margins

Margins	+/-	Rk
Rush YPC	+1.1	24
Pass YPA	-0.1	74
YPP	+0.4	56
YPG	+28.9	60
Scoring	+9.0	30

## 2019 Individual Stats

	Passing	Att	Yds	%	Ratio
<b>Desmond Ridder</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Ben Bryant</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Rushing</b>					
Att Yds	YPC	TD			
Michael Warren	261	1265	4.8	14	
<b>Desmond Ridder</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Gerrid Doaks</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Receiving</b>					
Rec Yds	YPC	TD			
Alec Pierce	37	652	17.6	2	
Josiah Deguara	39	504	12.9	7	
Rashad Medaris	25	354	14.2	2	
<b>Defense</b>					
Tkl	Sks	TFL	Int		
<b>Darrick Forrest</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3</b>	
Bryan Wright	100	3.5	10	0	
Perry Young	81	1	7.5	2	
<b>Jarell White</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Coby Bryant</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Ja'Von Hicks</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Kicking</b>					
FG	LG	XP			
Sam Crosa	14-19	44	51-51		
<b>Punting</b>					
Avg	Yds	50+	BLK		
<b>James Smith</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	

## 2015 (SU: 7-6, ATS: 6-7, O/U: 6-7) 2016 (SU: 4-8, ATS: 3-9, O/U: 1-10-1) 2017 (SU: 4-8, ATS: 4-6-1, O/U: 4-7) 2018 (SU: 11-2, ATS: 7-6, O/U: 6-7) 2019 (SU: 11-3, ATS: 9-5, O/U: 3-11)

Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U				
9/5	Alabama A&M	-45	52-10	L	059	8/31	Austin Peay	-42	26-14	L	u58	9/1	at UCLA	+14	26-17	W	u63	8/29	UCLA	-2	24-14	W	u56
9/12	Temple	-6	26-34	L	055	9/9	at Michigan	+3	14-36	W	u50	9/8	at Miami, Oh	+1	21-0	W	u47	9/7	at Ohio St	+16	0-42	L	u52
9/19	at Miami, Oh	-20	37-33	L	060	9/16	at Miami, Oh	+4	21-17	W	u48	9/15	Alabama A&M	-43	63-7	W	051	9/14	Miami, OH	-17	35-13	W	u49
9/24	at Memphis	+8	46-53	W	070	9/23	at Navy	+10	32-42	P	052	9/22	Ohio	-7	34-30	L	053	9/28	at Marshall	-4	52-14	W	047
10/1	Miami, FL	+7	34-23	W	u70	9/30	Marshall	-3	21-38	L	052	9/29	at Connecticut	-17	49-7	W	u62	10/4	UCF	+3	27-24	W	u62
10/10						10/7	UCF	+16	23-11	NA	053	10/6	Tulane	-7	37-21	W	048	10/12	at Houston	-8	38-23	W	051
10/16	at BYU	+5	24-38	L	u68	10/14	at South Florida	+24	3-33	L	u64	10/13						10/19	Tulsa	-16	24-13	L	u47
10/24	Connecticut	-12	37-13	W	u57	10/21	SMU-ot	+6	28-31	W	u66	10/20	at Temple-ot	+3	17-24	L	u47	10/26					
10/31	UCF	-26	52-7	W	u61	10/28					10/27	at SMU-ot	-9	26-20	L	u50	11/2	at East Carolina	-24	46-43	L	048	
11/7	at Houston	+8	30-33	W	u70	11/4	at Tulane	+6	17-16	W	u54	11/3	Navy	-12	42-0	W	u48	11/9	Connecticut	-34	48-3	W	u53
11/14	Tulsa	-21	49-38	L	076	11/10	Temple	+11	3-20	L	u52	11/10	USF	-14	35-23	L	053	11/16	at USF	-9	20-17	L	u46
11/20	at USF	-2	27-65	L	064	11/18	at East Carolina	-3	20-48	L	067	11/17											