

PRISM Gridded Climate Data Downloads via FTP

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An anonymous FTP service is available for bulk downloads of zipped BIL files; other types of files must be downloaded manually using the [PRISM website](#), or via [web services](#). For more information on the formats, and for a complete explanation of the file naming conventions, see PRISM [data formats](#). The files available via FTP are a subset of those available via the website. They are of the form:

```
PRISM_<var>_<stability>_<scale&version>_<time period>_[all|annual]_bil.zip
```

Before downloading PRISM data, be sure to acquaint yourself with our [terms of use](#), which explain how to acknowledge any use of PRISM data.

Many FTP client software packages exist, such as the open source [FileZilla](#) or the built-in *ftp* command in Linux.

Note that we also maintain a [web-based pseudo-FTP interface](#) for those who prefer using a web browser to explore the PRISM data available using an FTP-style view.

To connect: Use **prism.oregonstate.edu** as the host, with no username or password required. Navigate the file tree to locate the files of interest or use **cd** to change directories if using the command-line version of *ftp*. You'll need to select:

- Which class of data you want: 4km normals, 800m normals, monthly time series, or daily time series
- Which climate variable you want:
 - ppt (precipitation), tmin, tmean, tmax (min/mean/max temperature) – these variables are available as both data grids and normals grids.
 - tdmean (mean dewpoint temperature), vpdmin, vpdmax (min/max vapor pressure deficit)
 - soltotal, solslope, solclear, soltrans – these solar variables are currently available ONLY as normals grids.

For **30-year monthly normals**, all files will appear in the directory named for the variable. Each directory will include 14 .zip files: one for each month (`_01` through `_12`), one for the annual averages (`_annual`), and one containing all months (`_all`).

For **30-year daily normals**, all files will appear in the directory named for the variable. Each directory will include 378 .zip files: one for each day (`_0101` through `_1231`, including leap day), and one for all days in each month (e.g., `_0501-0531`). To retrieve all daily normals for a variable, it is recommended to fetch the 12 “all days in each month” .zip files.

NOTE: For monthly and daily time series data, the “stability” portion of the filename will change over time. As explained on the PRISM website, datasets are considered “early” for the first month, “provisional” for 2-6 months, and finally “stable” after 6 months. This is because PRISM data are reprocessed multiple times within the 6-month period, as new weather station data arrives. It is recommended to re-download the files once their names say “stable” (i.e., after 6 months have elapsed).