

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](#). 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 via FTP.

Use FTP to connect to **prism.oregonstate.edu**. Type “anonymous” as the username and provide your email address as the password (alternatively, in some FTP clients you can simply leave these fields blank). 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 data, or daily data
- 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 normals**, all files will appear in the directory named for the variable. Each directory will include 14 files, one for each month (`_01` through `_12`), one for the annual averages (`_annual`), and one containing all months (`_all`).

An additional level of directory occurs for **monthly data**, corresponding to one directory for each year available. If a given year has completed, it will include 14 files similar to those for the 30-year normals (except that the filenames for annual averages just show the year, and not the word `_annual`). For the year-in-progress, only completed months will be available.

Daily data are also grouped by year. In this case, there will be up to 366 files in a directory, one for each day in the year.

NOTE: For monthly and daily data, the “stability” portion of the filename will change over time. As explained on the website, datasets are considered “early” for the first 6 months; these will be updated frequently, so you may need to re-download periodically. Datasets from 6-12 months ago are considered “provisional” because they are still likely to change; you will probably want to re-download the files once their names say “stable” (i.e., after 12 months have elapsed).