PRISM Gridded Dataset Downloads via FTP

(document last updated 26 Mar 2025)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This document describes the new PRISM FTP structure, which is currently in effect and will continue to operate going forward. The old PRISM FTP structure can still be accessed but will be disabled on September 30, 2025. Documentation for the old FTP structure can be found here: https://prism.oregonstate.edu/documents/PRISM_downloads_FTP_v1.pdf

An anonymous FTP service is available for bulk downloads of zipped PRISM grids in COG (Cloud Optimized GeoTiff) format. These datasets are also available via the PRISM website and our web services. For more information on the formats, and for a complete explanation of the file naming conventions, as well as a detailed description of the contents of each PRISM grid, see data formats. PRISM grids available via FTP adhere to the following file naming scheme:

```
prism_<var>_<region>_<resolution>_<time_period>.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*.

Once connected, select the following from the FTP directory structure:

1. Data category (*time_series, normals*). "time_series" refers to daily (1981-present) and monthly (1895-present) data products. "normals" refers to the 30-year normals (available as monthly and daily [for most variables] data products).
2. Region of interest (*us, hi, ak, pr*). "us" refers to CONUS (the 48 states). Data for Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico will be added in the future.
3. Spatial resolution (*400m, 800m, 4km*). CONUS data and are available in 800m and 4km resolutions. Hawaii and Puerto Rico data, when complete, will be available in 400m resolution. Alaska data, when complete, will be available in 800m and 4km resolutions.
4. Dataset (*an, lt*). "an" refers to "all networks" and is the default PRISM data. "lt" refers to "long term," which is an 800m monthly version of PRISM data that incorporates observations from only long-term established weather stations. See the PRISM Datasets document for more information.

5. Variable (*ppt, tmax, tmin, tmean, tdmean, vpdmin, vpdmax*) for "us". Different variable sets will be available for the various regions. Also (*soltotal, solslope, solclear, soltrans*) are available as normal for region "us."
6. Time step (*daily, monthly*).
7. Year [for time series data only] (*1981-present* for daily data, *1895-present* for monthly data).

At this point (or any point above), you can decide which data to download. If you are using a graphical FTP client like FileZilla, you can simply drag directories (e.g., an entire year or years' worth of data) to your computer to initiate the download process.