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Iowa State University Iowa Environmental Mesonet

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Rawinsonde (RAOB) Data Archive

The IEM processes and archives Rawinsonde (RAOB) data made available on the ruccsoundings.noaa.gov website. This archive also contains data from other sources to backfill it to the 1940s. Data for the United States and Canada is available. This data are vertical profiles of the atmosphere taken from weather balloons released twice daily.

Download Data

This form provides a simple comma delimited file of RAOB data, the columns should be self-explanatory except the 'levelcode' column. Those values provide metadata on that level of data. The start time is inclusive and end time is exclusive. Special soundings should be in this archive as well.

[View Sounding Percentiles](#)[SPC Sounding Climatology Page](#)

Level Codes

- 4 = mandatory level
- 5 = significant level
- 6 = wind level (PPBB)
- 7 = tropopause level
- 8 = maximum wind level
- 9 = surface level

Output Datafile Columns

station	3 or 4 character station identifier
validUTC	RAOB Launch Cycle Time in UTC
levelcode	Level Code for this observation
pressure_mb	Pressure of data in millibar
height_m	Height above sea level m
tmpc	Air Temperature in C
dwpc	Dew Point Temperature in C
drct	Wind Direction in deg from North
speed_kts	Wind Speed in knots
bearing	Balloon bearing in degree
range_sm	Ballon range from launch in statute miles

Select Site: [KABR] Aberdeen ▼	Start Time: <input type="text"/>	End Time: <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Download to disk	Giveme Data!
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JSON(P) Webservice

A jsonp webservice exists that currently emits one RAOB profile at a time provided a site and valid timestamp in UTC. Please visit the IEM JSON Services for more details. For the impatient, the example URI is:

<https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/json/raob.py?ts=199305031200&station=KOUN>

[Comments / Suggestions?](#)

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**IOWA STATE
UNIVERSITY**

College of Ag
Department of Agronomy

Department of Agronomy

716 Farm House Ln

Ames, IA 50011

akrherz@iastate.edu

515-294-5978 phone



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