

Description of Normals Maps

This directory contains maps of climate normals for the state of Montana for the 1991 - 2020 reference period. All normals are derived from gridMET climate data. The data were projected to Montana State Plane and some units were transformed from metric to imperial for display. The units and variable names associated with each of the sub-directories are listed in the table below:

Abbreviation	Long Name	Units
erc	Energy Release Component	NFDRS fire danger index
pr	Precipitation	in
rmax	Maximum Relative Humidity	%
rmin	Minimum Relative Humidity	%
sph	Specific Humidity	kg/kg
srad	Solar Radiation	W/m ²
tmmn	Minimum Temperature	deg C
tmmx	Maximum Temperature	deg C
vpd	Vapor Pressure Deficit	kPa
vs	Wind Speed	m/s

Within each subdirectory, files adhere to a naming convention of {time}_{statistic}.tif, where time is the time period of the normal (e.g., annual, jan, feb, etc.) and statistic is the climate normal summary statistic (e.g., mean, median, etc).

For more details about how the climate normals were created, please visit the information tab on the Montana Climate Atlas. If you have any other questions about the data, please reach out to Colin Brust at the Montana Climate Office (colin.brust@mso.umt.edu).