



National Weather Service, Lincoln, IL



Finding Climate Information on the Lincoln NWS Homepage

The National Weather Service has implemented new standards of design and content for its climate web pages across the nation, in order to ease customer access and service, much like the standard design of the Weather Forecast Office home pages. However, unfortunately this happened to occur in combination with reorganizations of the NWS homepages in general, which led to confusion on where to find the climate information. In order to assist you, this document has been developed.

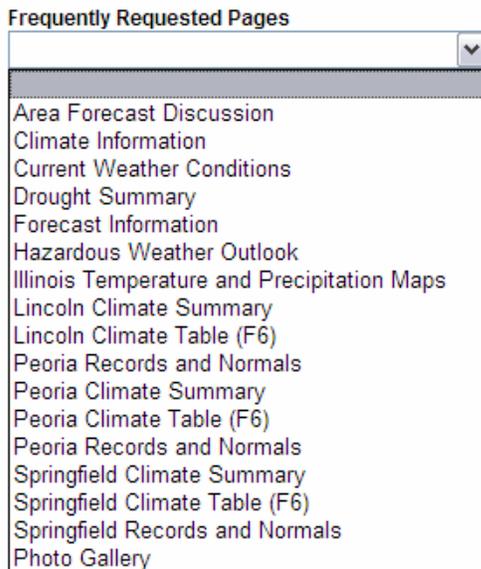
Locations of the Pages:

Access to the climate pages can be found in several locations on our front page (<http://www.weather.gov/lincoln>):

The screenshot shows the NWS Lincoln, IL homepage. On the left is a blue navigation menu with categories like 'Local Radar', 'Forecasts', 'Rivers / Hydrology', 'Climate', and 'Weather Safety'. The 'Climate' section includes links for 'Local', 'National', and 'More...'. A red arrow points to the 'Climate' section. At the top, there are tabs for 'Warnings & Forecasts', 'Graphical Forecasts', 'National Maps', 'Climate', 'Radar', 'Rivers', and 'Satellite & Upper Air'. A green arrow points to the 'Climate' tab. Below the tabs are three map panels: 'Lincoln, IL Radar', 'Infrared Satellite image', and 'U.S. weather map'. Below the maps, it shows 'Latest Conditions at Springfield, IL' with a temperature of 37°F (3°C) and a time of 6:54 pm on Feb 23. At the bottom, there is a 'Frequently Requested Pages' dropdown menu with a purple arrow pointing to it.

- **Left-Hand Menu:** There are 3 options on this menu:
 - **Local:** This will send you to the NWS national climate page for central Illinois (<http://www.weather.gov/climate/index.php?wfo=ilx>). On this page, you can get access to various climate products and tables issued by the Lincoln NWS office.
 - **National:** This goes to the main NWS national climate page (<http://www.weather.gov/climate>). From here, you can click on the map to go to more localized climate information anywhere in the U.S.
 - **More...:** This will take you to a basic local climate page. You will be able to find the items broken up by specific classes (records, observed data, etc.), with brief explanations of what are available. If you are overwhelmed by the national climate page, bookmark this page instead. You can directly access this particular page at <http://www.weather.gov/lincoln/climate.php>

- **“Climate” Tab:** This tab is found between the satellite map on the front page, and the weather advisory map further up on the page. This link corresponds to the “Local” option on the left hand menu, going to the NWS national climate page for central Illinois.
- **Frequently Requested Pages:** We have added a new feature for quick access to several products issued by the Lincoln NWS, including climate products. This can be found underneath the “Latest Conditions” temperature display, found under the radar and satellite maps:



By clicking on the drop-down menu, you will see several options for climate data for Lincoln, Peoria, and Springfield. These include:

- **Climate Table** -- current month’s table of climate data (temperatures, precipitation, etc.), known in the NWS as the “F-6” form.
- **Climate Summary** – the latest daily climate summary for these sites. It contains tabular information on observed data for the date, and running totals for the month and year, along with normals and records.
- **Records and Normals** – These provide links to the historical record values (daily, monthly, yearly), as well as normal data for specific months.

If you have bookmarked the climate tables for specific locations, they have changed over the last few months. They are now in the format of <http://www.weather.gov/lincoln/f6XXX.php> , where XXX is the station ID: **bmi** (Bloomington), **cmi** (Champaign), **dec** (Decatur), **lww** (Lawrenceville), **ilx** (Lincoln), **mto** (Mattoon), **pia** (Peoria), or **spi** (Springfield). (The value of “XXX” needs to be in lower case in the link address.)

Tutorial for National Climate Pages:

The national climate pages contain a wealth of data, greatly expanded in some cases from what we had previously been able to offer. In addition to the increased data availability, the pages were formatted so that accessing the data was a similar process, regardless of what part of the country you were researching.

Go to the next page for a tutorial on how to navigate these pages.

If you have any questions on the climate pages, please contact Chris.Geelhart@noaa.gov or Kirk.Huettl@noaa.gov

Navigating the National Climate Pages:

The page for central Illinois is at: <http://www.weather.gov/climate/index.php?wfo=ilx>

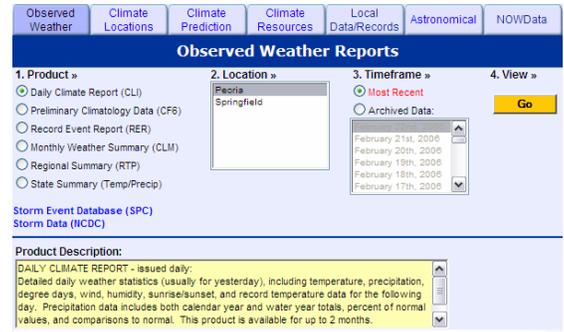
When you first reach this page, you will see the following menu:

The screenshot shows a web interface with a navigation bar at the top containing tabs: Observed Weather, Climate Locations, Climate Prediction, Climate Resources, Local Data/Records, Astronomical, and NOWData. Below this is a blue header for 'Observed Weather Reports'. The main content area is divided into four sections: 1. Product, 2. Location, 3. Timeframe, and 4. View. Under '1. Product', there are radio buttons for Daily Climate Report (CLI), Preliminary Climatology Data (CF6), Record Event Report (RER), Monthly Weather Summary (CLM), Regional Summary (RTP), and State Summary (Temp/Precip). Under '2. Location', a dropdown menu shows 'Peoria' and 'Springfield'. Under '3. Timeframe', there are radio buttons for 'Most Recent' and 'Archived Data:'. The 'Archived Data' section shows a list of dates from February 17th, 2006, to February 21st, 2006. A yellow 'Go' button is located in the '4. View' section. Below the main form, there are links for 'Storm Event Database (SPC)' and 'Storm Data (NCDC)'. At the bottom, a 'Product Description' box highlights the 'DAILY CLIMATE REPORT - issued daily' with a detailed description of the data provided.

Much of the observed data for central Illinois airport stations can be found on the default page that appears (corresponding to the “Observed Weather” tab). Several items will be accessible via this page:

- **Daily Climate Report:** This product is available for both Peoria and Springfield. It is issued around 12:30 AM and 4:30 PM.
- **Preliminary Climatology Data:** Also known as the “F-6” table, this is a tabular listing of observed weather data (temperatures, precipitation, snow, etc.) on a day-by-day basis. It is available for the airports at Champaign, Decatur, Lawrenceville, Mattoon, Peoria and Springfield. It is updated daily around 4:30 AM and 5:30 PM. (For Lincoln and Bloomington climate tables, you will need to click on the Local Data/Records tab along the top of the page.)
- **Record Event Report:** This is issued on an “as-needed” basis. While the “Location” box will say Lincoln, it can contain data from Lincoln, Peoria, or Springfield.
- **Monthly Weather Summary:** This product is available for both Peoria and Springfield. It is issued on the 1st of each month, typically during the late morning hours. It contains specific weather data observed during the previous month, and how they compare to normal values.
- **Regional Summary:** This product is issued several times a day: 12:30 AM, 6:15 AM CST (7:15 AM CDT), 8:30 AM, 4:30 PM, 6:15 PM CST (7:15 PM CDT), and 8:30 PM. It will contain the latest observed weather parameters (high/low temperature, precipitation, and snowfall) for many locations. The 8:30 AM and 8:30 PM products contain weather reports from volunteer weather stations, while the other products report data from airport weather stations.
- **State Summary:** This product is issued around 6:45 AM/PM CST (7:45 AM/PM CDT). It contains high and low temperature, and precipitation values, from airports around the state.

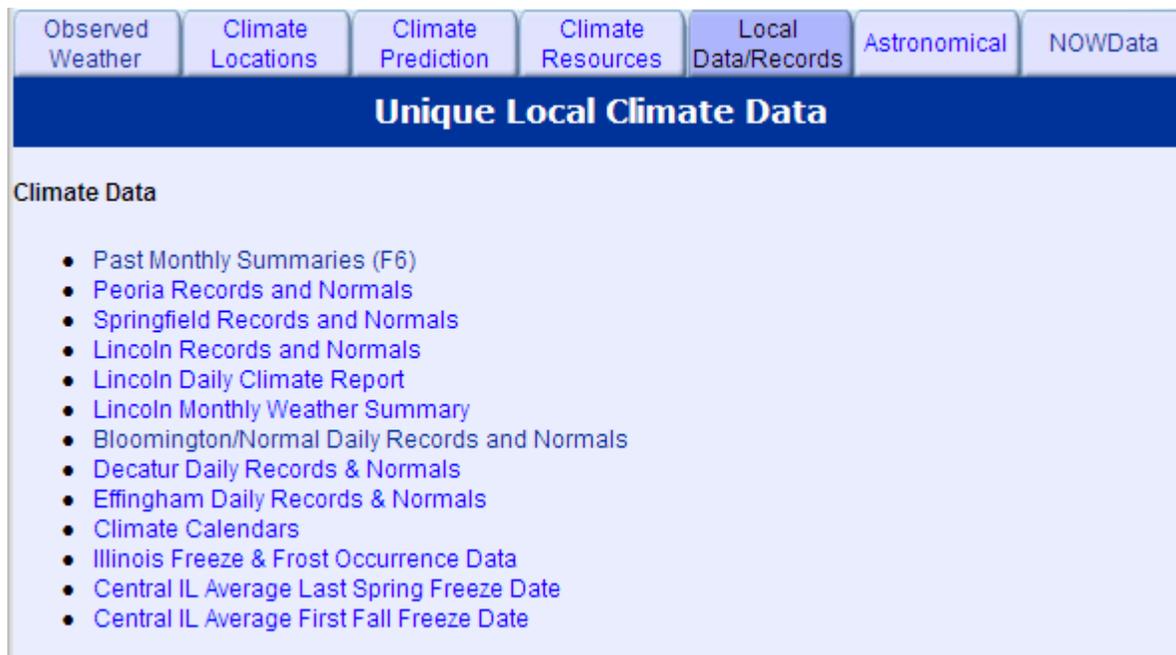
To select items, you work from left to right across the page. Select the desired item in the “Product” column, the station in the “Location” column, the specific day in the “Timeframe” column (or leave the value set to “most recent”), then click on the gold Go button.



The distance you can go back in time will vary from product to product. The available period will be listed in the “Product Description” box.

Records and Normals:

Local records and normals are available on the “Local Data/Records” tab, which is found in the 3rd tab from the right, along the top of the screen:

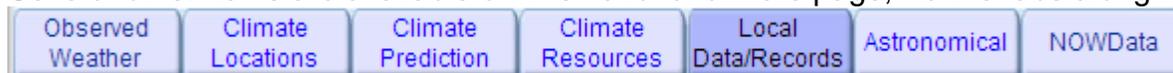


There will be several sub-sections on this screen. The records and normals are found in the “Climate Data” subsection on the upper part of the screen. Data for Bloomington, Decatur, Effingham, Lincoln, Peoria, and Springfield are available.

There are several other sub-sections in the Local Data/Records screen. These contain historical weather summaries, climate graphs, and access to the last 3 days of hourly weather observations.

Other Sections:

Several other items are available on this national climate page, via the tabs along the top:



We have covered the Observed Weather and Local Data/Records tabs. A brief review of the other tabs:

- **Climate Locations:** This shows a map of central and southeast Illinois, specifically showing where the observing stations are located.
- **Climate Prediction:** This section contains several links to various items from the Climate Prediction Center. This includes access to long-range outlooks, El Niño and La Niña, and the U.S. drought forecast. More technical data on various forecast and observed climate indices are available, if you are so inclined.
- **Climate Resources:** Here, you can access climate data from other parts of the country, and the national climate archives. Some international climate data is available too.
- **Astronomical:** Here, you can find information on sunrise and sunset, moon phases, tides, and the official atomic clock time for the U.S. The sunrise/sunset data is provided by the U.S. Naval Observatory, which is responsible for keeping official sunrise and sunset records.

NOWData:

The last tab, labeled “NOWData”, stands for “NOAA Online Weather Data”. This is a new feature, used to access various weather data for volunteer weather stations in the area. Accessible items include observed weather for the last 2 months, and records and normals for specific dates or months, and observed monthly weather for the last 2 years.

As with the airport data, you work from left to right on the screen to obtain the desired data. Select the specific product in the first column, the station of interest in the second column, the desired element in the 3rd and 4th columns, the click on “Go”.

For data going back further than 2 years, you can contact the Midwestern Regional Climate Center in Champaign at: <http://mrcc.sws.uiuc.edu> or by phone at 217-244-8226.

Observed Weather | Climate Locations | Climate Prediction | Climate Resources | Local Data/Records | Astronomical | NOWData

NOWData - NOAA Online Weather Data

1. Product »	2. Location »	3. Variable »	4. Year »	5. View »
<input type="radio"/> Daily data for a month	Avon 5 Ne, IL	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Max Temperature	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Current year	<input type="button" value="Go"/>
<input type="radio"/> Daily almanac	Beecher City, IL	<input type="radio"/> Min Temperature	<input type="radio"/> Last year	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Monthly avgs/totals	Bradford 1 S, IL	<input type="radio"/> Avg Temperature	<input type="radio"/> 1971-2000	
<input type="radio"/> Monthly occurrences	Casey, IL	<input type="radio"/> Precipitation		
<input type="radio"/> Monthly extremes	Charleston, IL	<input type="radio"/> Snowfall		
<input type="radio"/> Daily extremes	Chenoa, IL	<input type="radio"/> Snow Depth		
<input type="radio"/> Daily/monthly normals	Chillicothe, IL	<input type="radio"/> Heating Degree Days		
<input type="radio"/> Record extremes	Clay City 6 Sse, IL	<input type="radio"/> Cooling Degree Days		
<input type="radio"/> First/last dates	Clinton 1 Ssw, IL	<input type="radio"/> Growing Degree Days		
	Congerville 2 Nw, IL			

Product Description: MONTHLY AVERAGES/TOTALS - calculates averages or totals, as appropriate, for the selected variable for each month of the year. This product is available for the current year, the previous year, or an average of the years 1971 through 2000. Additional stations and years of data are

Questions, comments

Powered by ACIS
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

The Applied Climate Information System (ACIS) is a joint project of the Regional Climate Centers, the National Climatic Data Center and the National Weather Service. Official data and data for additional locations and years are available from the Regional Climate Centers and the National Climatic Data Center.