

Atlas of Canada 6th Edition
 (archival version)

January Mean Total Precipitation

The map shows the mean total precipitation in the month of January. January precipitation across Canada is mainly in the form of snow. Throughout much of the interior and the north, precipitation amounts are generally less than 20 mm and, in the high Arctic, as little as a few millimetres. The west coast receives heavy precipitation in the form of rain at low elevations and mainly snow at higher elevations. For coastal British Columbia, this is the rainy season. On Canada's east coast, where cold continental air masses clash with the warmer air masses from the Atlantic, there is a mixture of rain and snow, with rain dominating close to the Atlantic and snow becoming more prevalent to the northwest, in southern Quebec and Labrador. The snow belt east of Lake Superior and Lake Huron is clearly visible, especially around Georgian Bay.

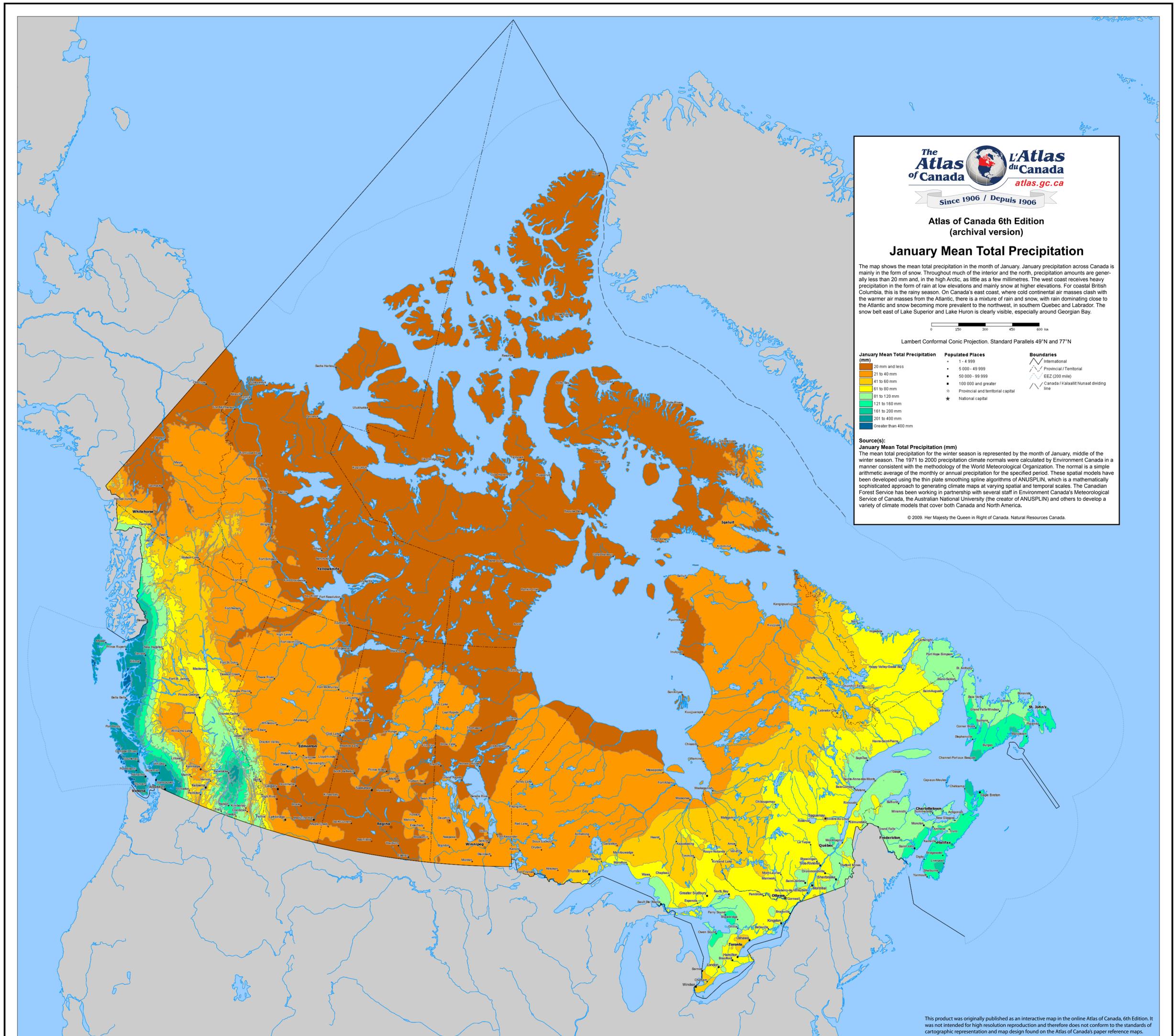
0 150 300 450 600 km

Lambert Conformal Conic Projection, Standard Parallels 49°N and 77°N

January Mean Total Precipitation (mm)	Populated Places	Boundaries
20 mm and less	• 1-4 999	— International
21 to 40 mm	• 5 000 - 49 999	— Provincial / Territorial
41 to 60 mm	• 50 000 - 99 999	— EEZ (200 mile)
61 to 80 mm	• 100 000 and greater	— Canada / Kalaallit Nunaat dividing line
81 to 120 mm	○ Provincial and territorial capital	
121 to 160 mm	★ National capital	
161 to 200 mm		
201 to 400 mm		
Greater than 400 mm		

Source(s):
January Mean Total Precipitation (mm)
 The mean total precipitation for the winter season is represented by the month of January, middle of the winter season. The 1971 to 2000 precipitation climate normals were calculated by Environment Canada in a manner consistent with the methodology of the World Meteorological Organization. The normal is a simple arithmetic average of the monthly or annual precipitation for the specified period. These spatial models have been developed using the thin plate smoothing spline algorithms of ANUSPLIN, which is a mathematically sophisticated approach to generating climate maps at varying spatial and temporal scales. The Canadian Forest Service has been working in partnership with several staff in Environment Canada's Meteorological Service of Canada, the Australian National University (the creator of ANUSPLIN) and others to develop a variety of climate models that cover both Canada and North America.

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