

Guidance notes:

- 1 Please select one of the options in column C (where applicable) and enter further information in column E.
- 2 Where applicable, give additional information requested in column E, replacing the italicised text.
- 3 Do not enter information in the blue cells.

No.	Question	Options	Guidance notes	Response
Description				
1.1 Author				
1.1a	Intellectual Property Right holder		Provide name and address	
1.2 Dataset				
1.2a	Title		Provide a long (up to 120 characters) and short version (less than 32 characters) of the title.	<i>Global Historical Climatology Network database. (GHCN-Monthly)</i>
1.2b	Description		Provide 200-500 word description, highlighting the key distinguishing features of the dataset. This text will be used in the DDC entry.	<i>The GHCN is a database of temperature, precipitation and pressure records managed by the National Climatic Data Center, Arizona State University and the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center. The aggregate data are collected from many continuously reporting fixed stations at the Earth's surface and represent the input of approximately 6000 temperature stations, 7500 precipitation stations and 2000 pressure stations. This work is often used as a foundation for reconstructing past global temperatures, and is used in two of the best-known reconstructions, that prepared by the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), and that prepared by NASA as its Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) temperature set. The average temperature record is 60 years long with ~1650 records greater than 100 years and ~220 greater than 150 years (based on GHCN v2 in 2006). The earliest data included in the database were collected in 1697. (from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Historical_Climatology_Network)</i>
Authority				
2.1 Use by the IPCC				
2.1a	Has the dataset been used in an IPCC Assessment or Special Report, e.g., in a figure or table or discussed in text?	Yes	List report name(s), table/figure/page number(s)	<i>Merged GHCN - ERSST data is used at several points in AR, in WG I, chapter 3 and WG II, chapter 1. Both discuss annual means, and do not state whether these are derived from GHCN monthly or daily data.</i>
2.1b	Is dataset used in any other IPCC-related documents or materials?	Not Known	List document name(s), table/figure/page number(s)	
2.2 Documentation				
2.2a	Is the dataset documented in detail in a peer-reviewed journal article or as a peer-reviewed dataset?	Yes	Provide full citation and list Thomson-Reuter impact factor (or other standard influence factors) for journal, if available	<i>J. H. Lawrimore, M. J. Menne, B. E. Gleason, C. N. Williams, D. B. Wuertz, R. S. Vose, and J. Rennie (2011), An overview of the Global Historical Climatology Network monthly mean temperature data set, version 3, J. Geophys. Res., 116, D19121, doi:10.1029/2011JD016187.</i>
2.2b	Is the dataset documented in detail in a peer-reviewed book chapter, report or technical document?	Not Known	Provide full citation, if available	
2.2c	Is the dataset documented in detail in a non-peer reviewed document, web site, or other resource?	Yes	Provide citation, UN IPCC, best quality control or other review processes used (e.g., crowd sourcing); provide evidence of credibility of authors or publisher (e.g., UN organization)	<i>GHCN Monthly National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adm</i>
2.2d	Has there been significant discussion of the dataset in the scientific literature?	Not Known	Provide citations to criticisms and responses where relevant.	
2.2e	Are the uncertainties associated with the data documented.	Not Known	Provide link(s) or reference(s) and indicate what sort of uncertainty information is provided?	
2.3 User				
2.3a	Has the dataset produced by or under the direction of a national or international body or group?	Yes	List scientific body or group	<i>Climate Services and Monitoring Division NOAA/National Climatic Data center 151 Patton Avenue Asheville, NC 28801-5001 fax: +1-828-271-4876 phone: +1-828-271-4800</i>
Significance Relative to the IPCC Community				
3.1 Interest in the data				
3.1a	Has an IPCC Working Group or the TFI used or expressed an intention of using this data?	Not Known	Indicate which group(s) and/or other body. Provide reference and quote relative passage.	
3.1b	Has the IPCC expressed interest in these data?	Not Known	Indicate numbers and/or types of users. Provide user metrics or examples of queries.	
3.1c	Are there strong reasons for considering the data relevant to the DDC user community?	Yes	Give reasons, backed by references. References from gray literature should have accompanying justification, as for IPCC reports.	<i>This work is used in two of the best-known temperature's reconstructions, one prepared by the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), and the other prepared by NASA as its Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS). http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cmb-faq/anomalies.phpSmith, T. M., et al. (2008), Improvements to NOAA's Historical Merged Land-Ocean Surface Temperature Analysis (1880-2006), J. Climate, 21, 2283-2293. http://data.giss.nasa.gov/gistemp/ Hansen, J., R. Ruedy, Mki. Sato, and K. Lo. 2010: Global surface temperature change. Rev. Geophys., 48, RG4004, doi:10.1029/2010RG000345.</i>

3.2 Uniqueness				
3.2	Are other datasets available with the same or overlapping variables?	No	Indicate other datasets and degree of overlap; provide links.	
Stability of Data and Data Provider				
4.1 Curation				
4.1a	Does the provider have a published data policy?	Yes	Provide link to the policy	http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/about/open-access-clim
4.1b	Does the provider have a succession plan for this dataset?	Not Known	Indicate if there is a long-term responsibility for the dataset (e.g., government agency, library, archive); provide a link to the plan or other documentation of the agreement	
4.1c	Is there an explicit funding model for the dataset or data provider?	Not Known	Indicate type (e.g., subscription-based, government-supported, submitter fees) and give link.	
Quality Control				
5.1 Meta-data and quality control				
5.1a	Does detailed meta-data exist for this data, in accordance with relevant national or international meta-data standards?	Yes for « meta-data exists » ; Not know for « relevant meta-data standard »;	Indicate relevant standards (e.g. NASA's Directory Interchange Format) and provide a link to the metadata.	ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/ghcn/v3/README
5.1b	Is there a stated quality assurance process or procedure for the dataset?	Yes	Indicate if relevant quality assurance standards are met (e.g., ISO9000) and give links.	https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/ghcnm/v3.php?show=quality At this time, the National Climatic Data Center does not maintain an online ftp archive of daily processed GHCNM versions. The latest version always overwrites the previous version and thus represents the latest data, quality control, etc. However, if you need to obtain a previous version, please email: NCDC.GHCNM@noaa.gov
5.1c	Is there a regular validation or calibration process or procedure for the data?	Yes	Indicate frequency and/or most recent date and give links	
5.1d	Is technical/usage guidance available?	Yes	Give links	https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/ghcnm/v3.php (ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov)
5.2 Data updates and version control				
5.2a	Is the data subject to updates?	Yes	List frequency	7 years The data is placed in their own separate directory, that is named according to the following specification: $ghcnm.v3.x.y.YYYYMMDD$ where x = integer to be incremented with major data additions y = integer to be incremented with minor data additions $YYYY$ = year specific dataset was processed and produced MM = month specific dataset was processed and produced DD = day specific dataset was processed and produced
5.2b	Is there a clear version control process and tracking of data provenance?	Yes for version control ; Not know for tracking of data	Describe version control and data provenance procedures	
5.2c	Are previous versions of the dataset accessible?	Yes	List previous versions	http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/ghcnm/v2.php
Accessibility				
6.1 Access requirements				
6.1a	Are the data available on-line for download?	All	Give links	http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/ghcnm/
6.1b	Are data made available in one or more standard (preferably open) formats?	Yes	List the formats available (at least one standard format is required);	Compressed (gzip) ASCII text file
6.1c	Are there restrictions (beyond user registration and acceptance of terms of use) on data use, re-dissemination, or reuse?	Not Known	If applicable, specify the type of restrictions and give relevant links	
6.1d	Is the data available for free or for a charge?	Free	if applicable, give link to price structure	
6.2 Additional information				
6.2a	Is user registration required or requested?	Neither	Give relevant links;	http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/about/open-access-clim
6.2b	Is attribution required or requested?	Not Known	Give relevant links;	
6.2c	Are versions of the data available through open interfaces (e.g., OGC Web Services, REST, SOAP)?	No	List interfaces and give links for specifications	
6.2d	Are levels of service (e.g., bandwidth, up time) available?	Not Known	Give links, e.g., to up time metrics	
6.2e	Is user support (e.g., help desk, frequently asked questions) available?	Yes	List user support services and links	For questions specific to GHCNM: ncdc.ghcnm@noaa.gov .
6.2f	Is documentation available in other languages?	Yes	Give links	http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/ghcnm
6.2g	What is the spatial domain of the dataset?	No	List languages (with links)	
6.2h			Specify bounding latitudes and longitudes	
Suggested improvements to this questionnaire				
Number	Section/row			
1	Many	Replace option list with selection box, where applicable.		