



Dangerous Cold and Winter Storm Briefing #1

January 22, 2026
5:00 AM EST

For Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and the Eastern Shore of Maryland

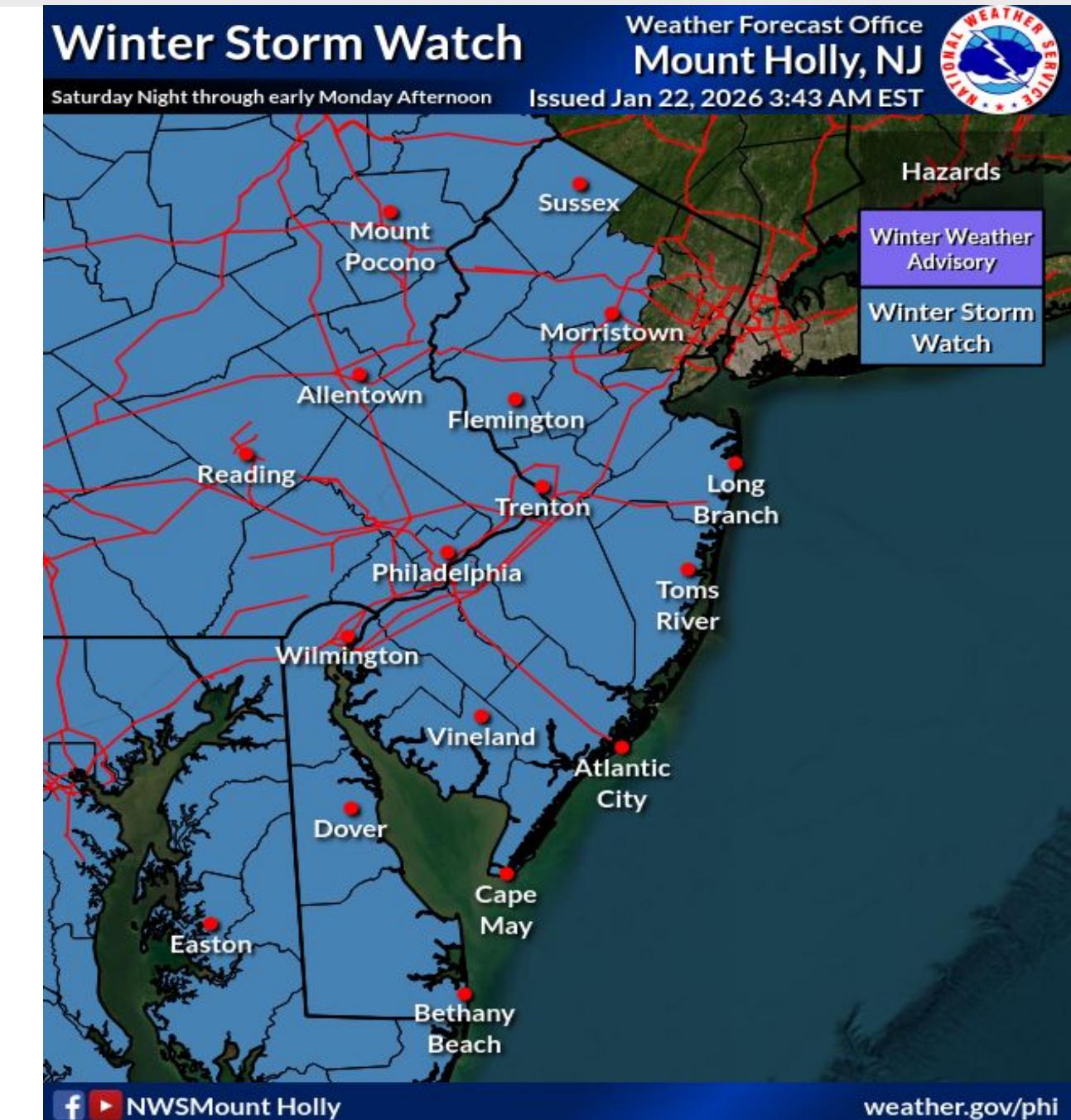
Decision Support Briefing #1

- As of 5 AM 1/22/2026

NEW

Important Updates

- **Winter Storm Watch** issued for eastern Pennsylvania, the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Delaware, and most of New Jersey
- Increasing confidence in a major winter storm affecting the area Saturday Night through Monday Morning.
- Increasing confidence in dangerous cold impacting the region leading up to the winter storm. The stretch of below normal temperatures likely continues through next week.



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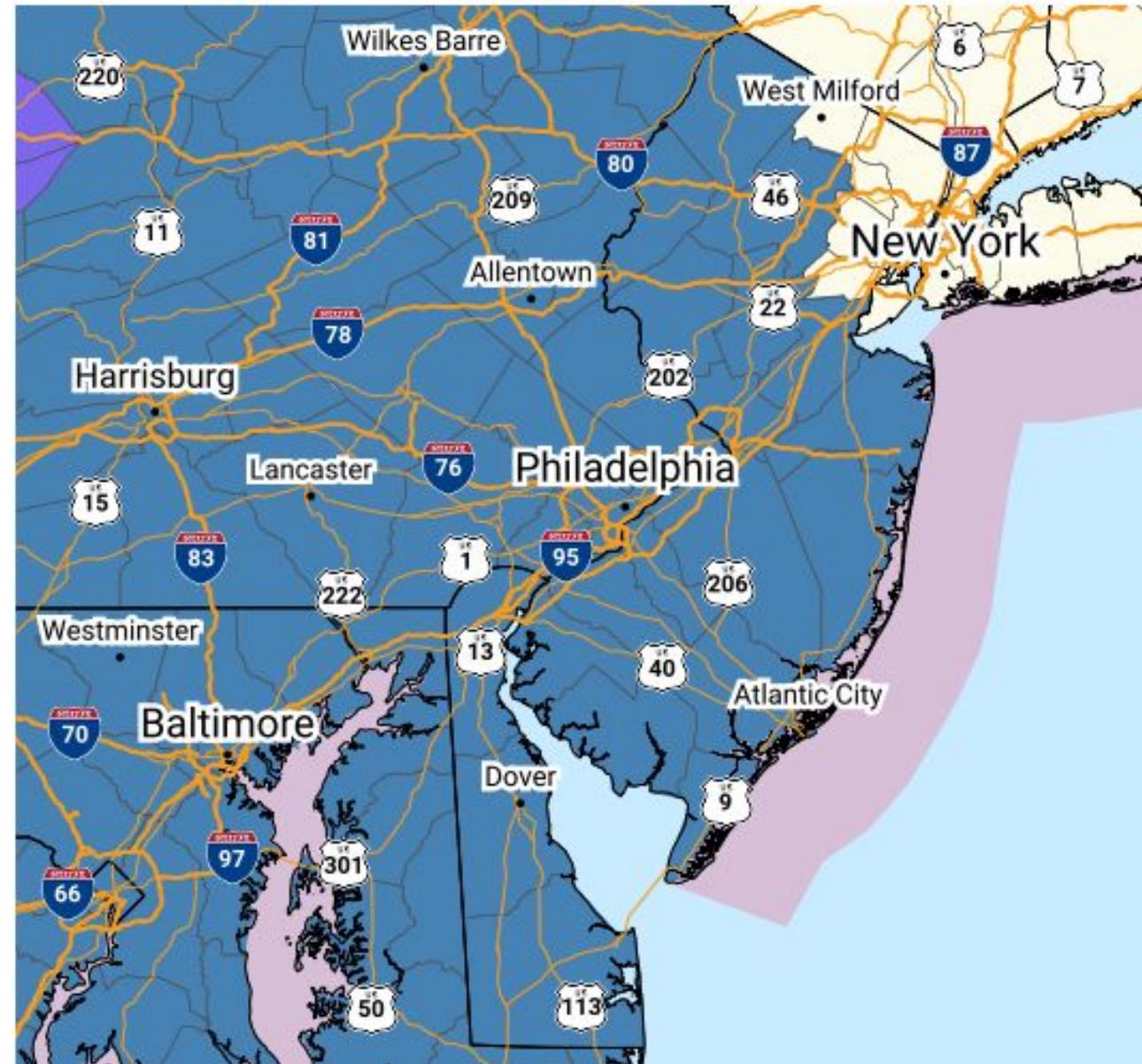
Watches & Warnings

January 22, 2026
5:00 AM EST

Winter Storm Watch valid Saturday Night through early Monday Afternoon



Current Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



Graphic Created
January 22nd, 2026
2:51 AM EST

Key Messages

- A Winter Storm Watch has been issued for the entire forecast area from 7 PM Saturday through 1 PM Monday.
- Significant snowfall accumulations are expected across the entire area.
- Snow may mix with or change to sleet or freezing rain across southeastern PA, southern NJ, and the Eastern Shore of MD during the day on Sunday, potentially reducing snow totals but further complicating travel.



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Main Points

January 22, 2026
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Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
Snow 	Significant snow accumulations will lead to very difficult travel conditions. Widespread closures and impacts to infrastructure.	Eastern PA, NJ, DE, and the Eastern Shore of MD.	Saturday night through early Monday afternoon.
Ice/Mixed 	Snow could mix with or change to sleet and freezing rain, contributing to hazardous driving conditions. Freezing rain could potentially lead to damage to trees and powerlines.	Southeastern PA, Southern NJ, DE, and the Eastern Shore of MD.	Most likely during the day on Sunday.
Blowing Snow 	Minor blowing and drifting snow could lead to reduced visibilities and snow drifts.	Eastern PA, NJ, DE, and the Eastern Shore of MD.	Sunday into Monday.
Cold/Wind Chill 	A prolonged period of dangerous cold could result in hypothermia if outside for long stretches. Impacts to infrastructure possible.	Eastern PA, NJ, DE, and the Eastern Shore of MD.	Friday Night through at least Wednesday Night
Flash Freeze/ Black Ice 	No flash freeze is expected with this event. Surfaces will likely be slow to melt with sub-freezing temperatures through most of next week	Eastern PA, NJ, DE, and the Eastern Shore of MD.	Friday Night through Thursday Temperatures could briefly get above freezing on Sunday over Delmarva and South Jersey
Coastal Flooding 	No tidal flooding is expected with this event.	No tidal flooding is expected with this event.	No tidal flooding is expected with this event.



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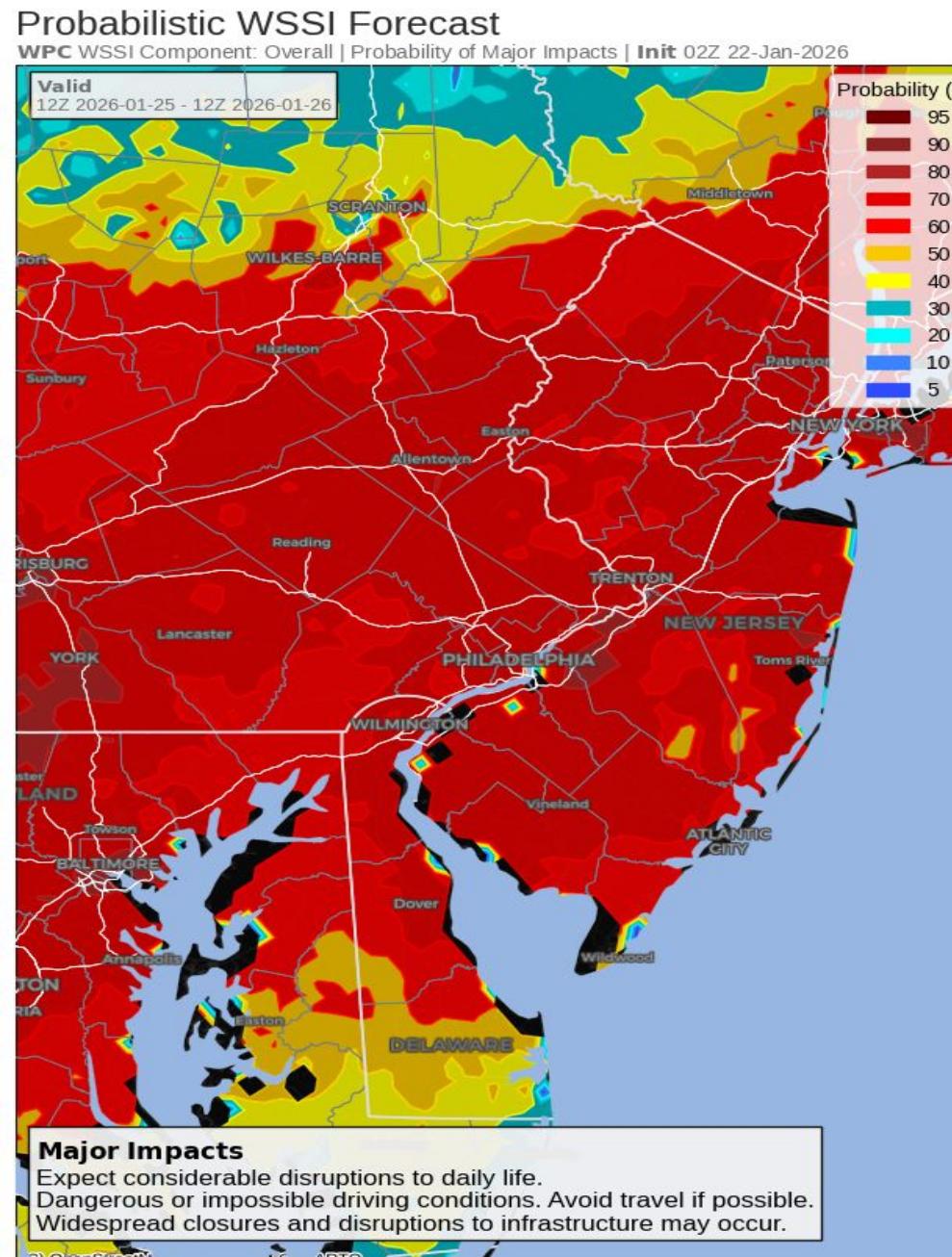
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Overall Winter Weather Impacts

January 22, 2026
5:00 AM EST

Probability of Major Impacts



Key Messages

- High confidence for most of the area (70-90%) seeing MAJOR impacts from the upcoming winter storm
- Moderate confidence (40-50%) in MAJOR impacts for lower Delmarva as mixing of precipitation types could result in lower snowfall amounts
- Snow covered roads and reduced visibility WILL cause widespread travel disruptions.



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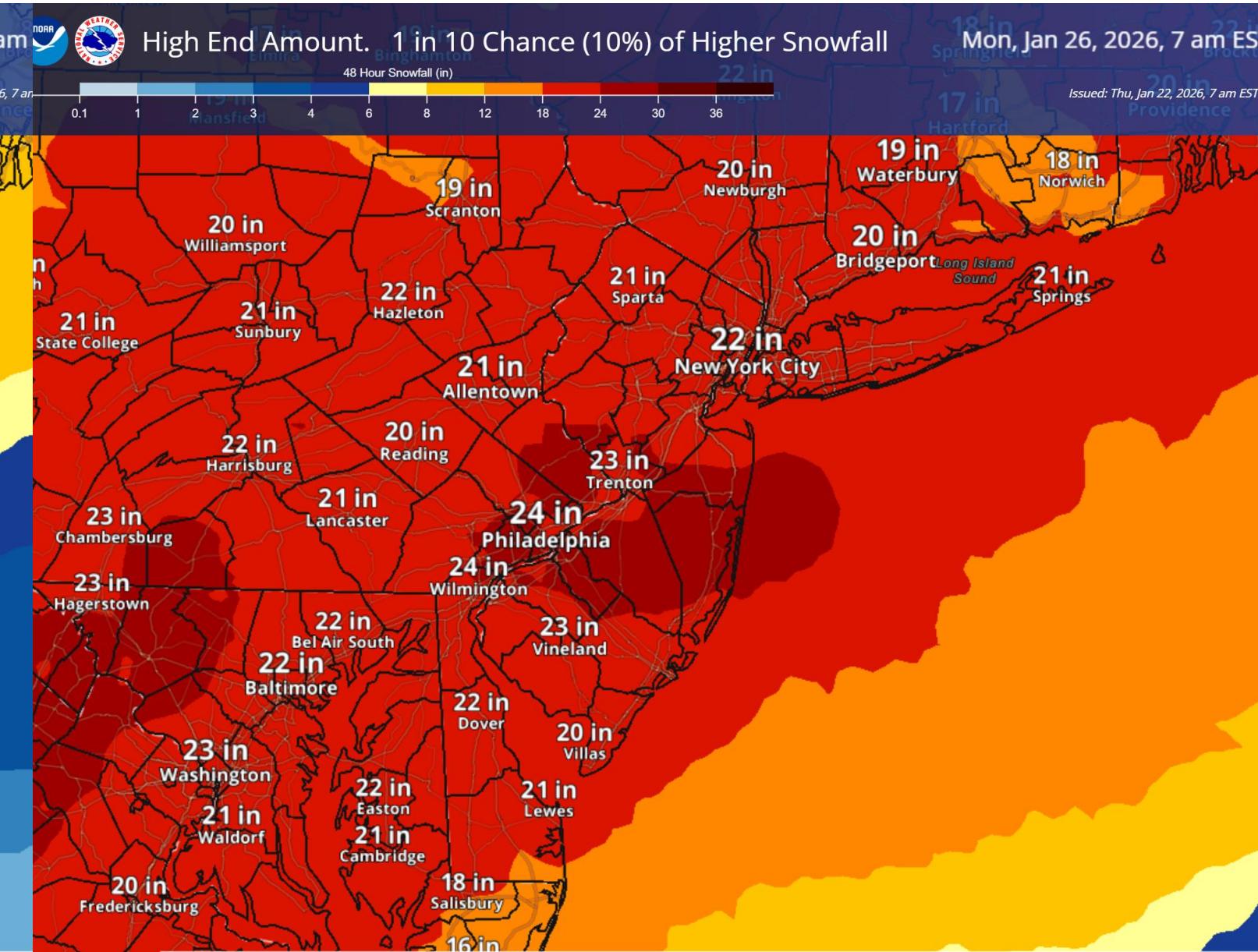
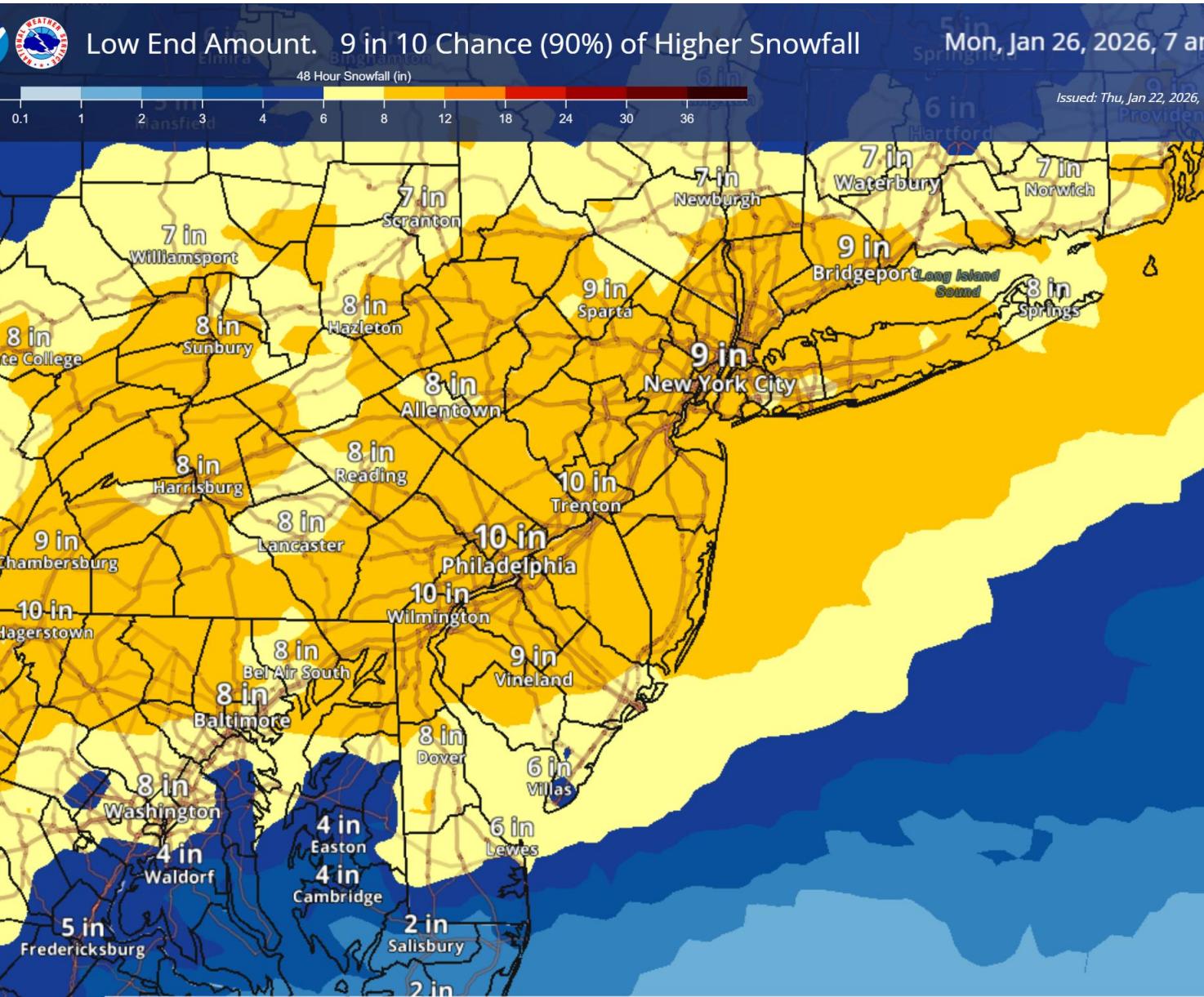
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Low & High End Snowfall Amounts

January 22, 2026
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Saturday Night through Monday Afternoon



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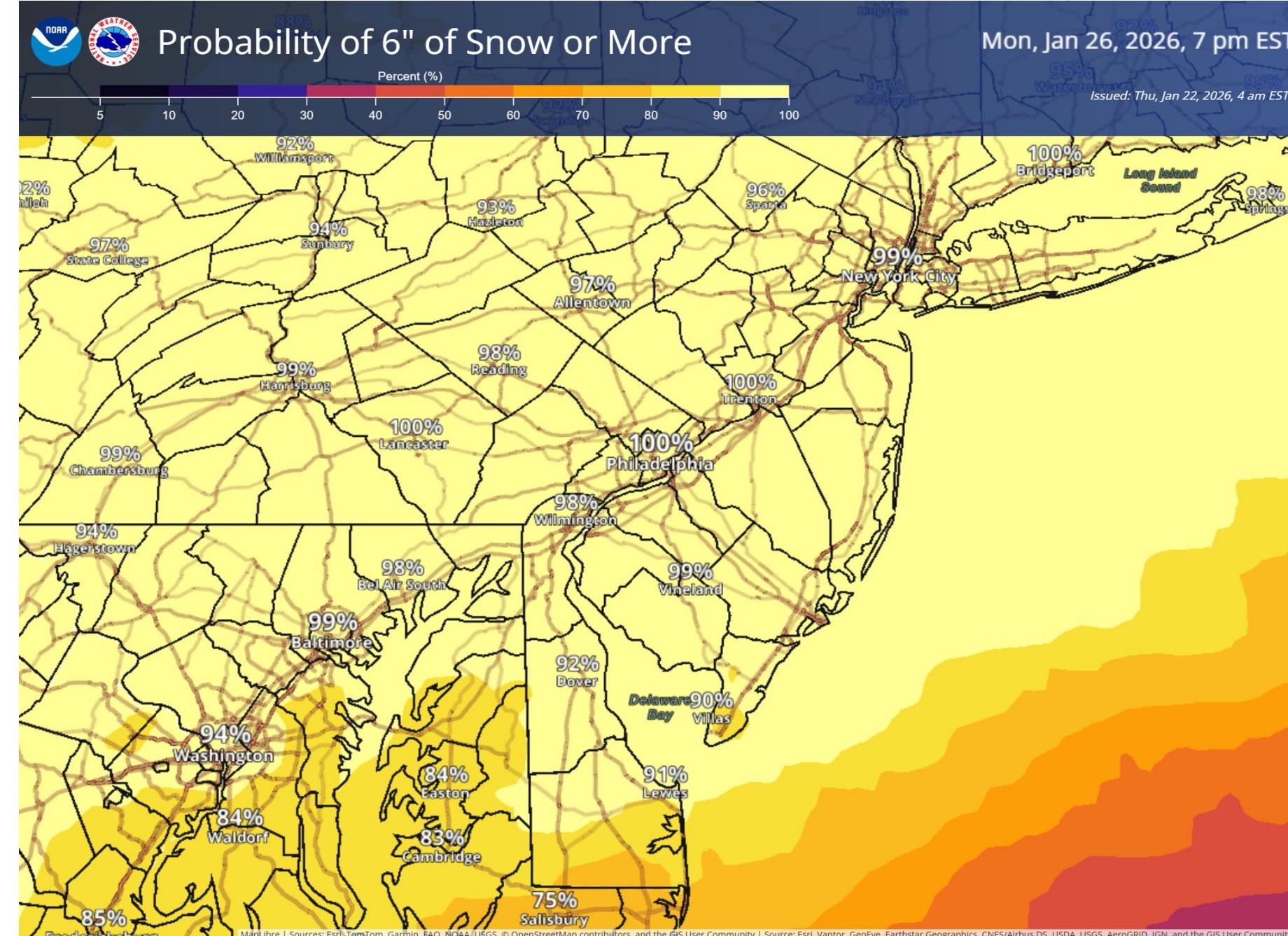
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Percent Chance of 6" Snow or More

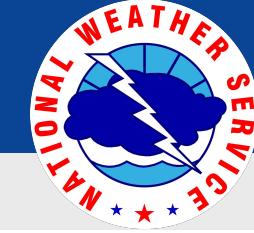
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Through Monday Night



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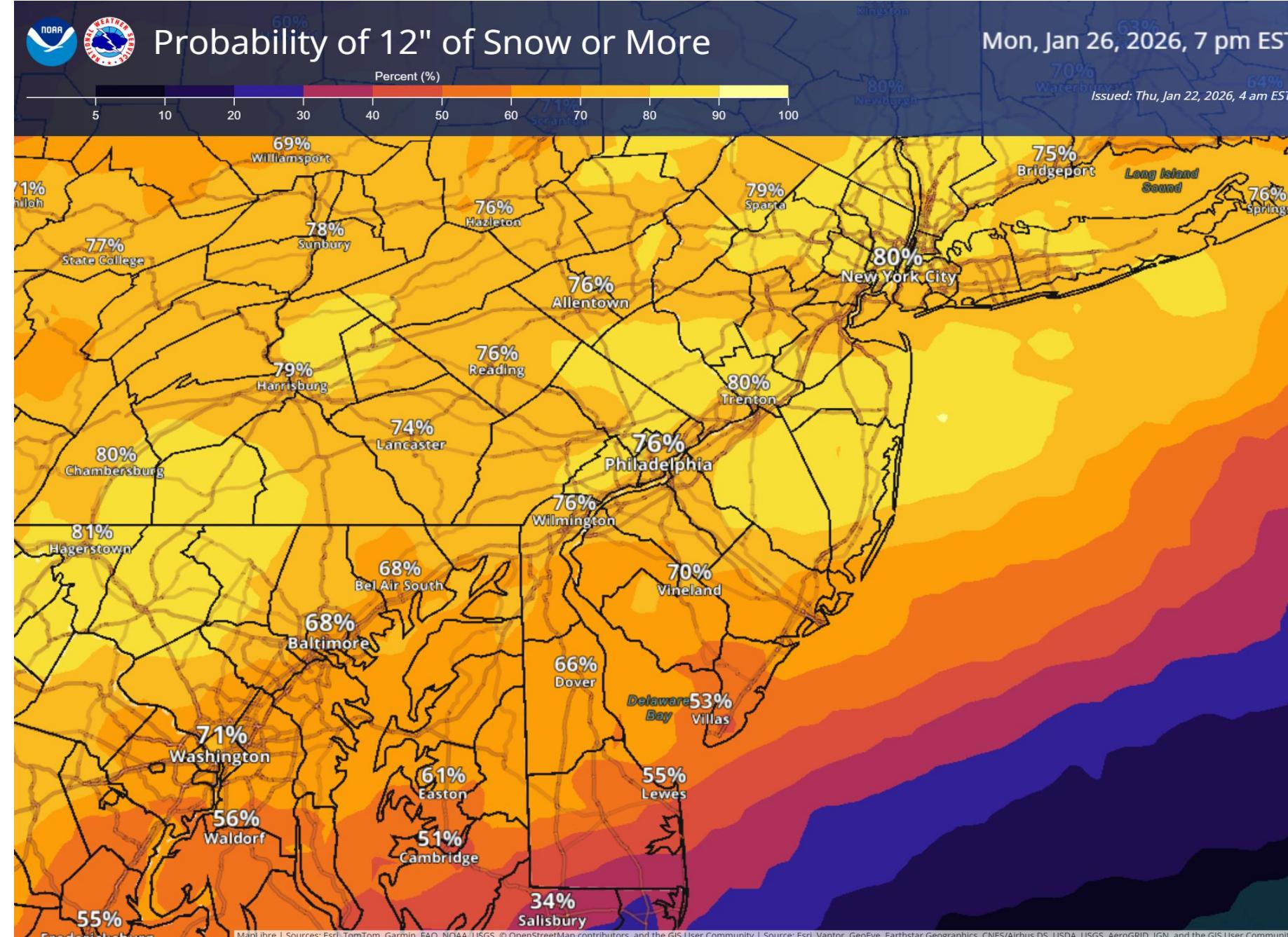


Percent Chance of 12" Snow or More

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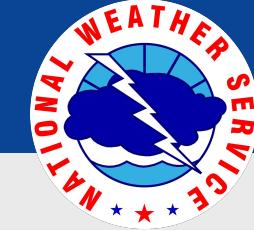
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Through Monday Night



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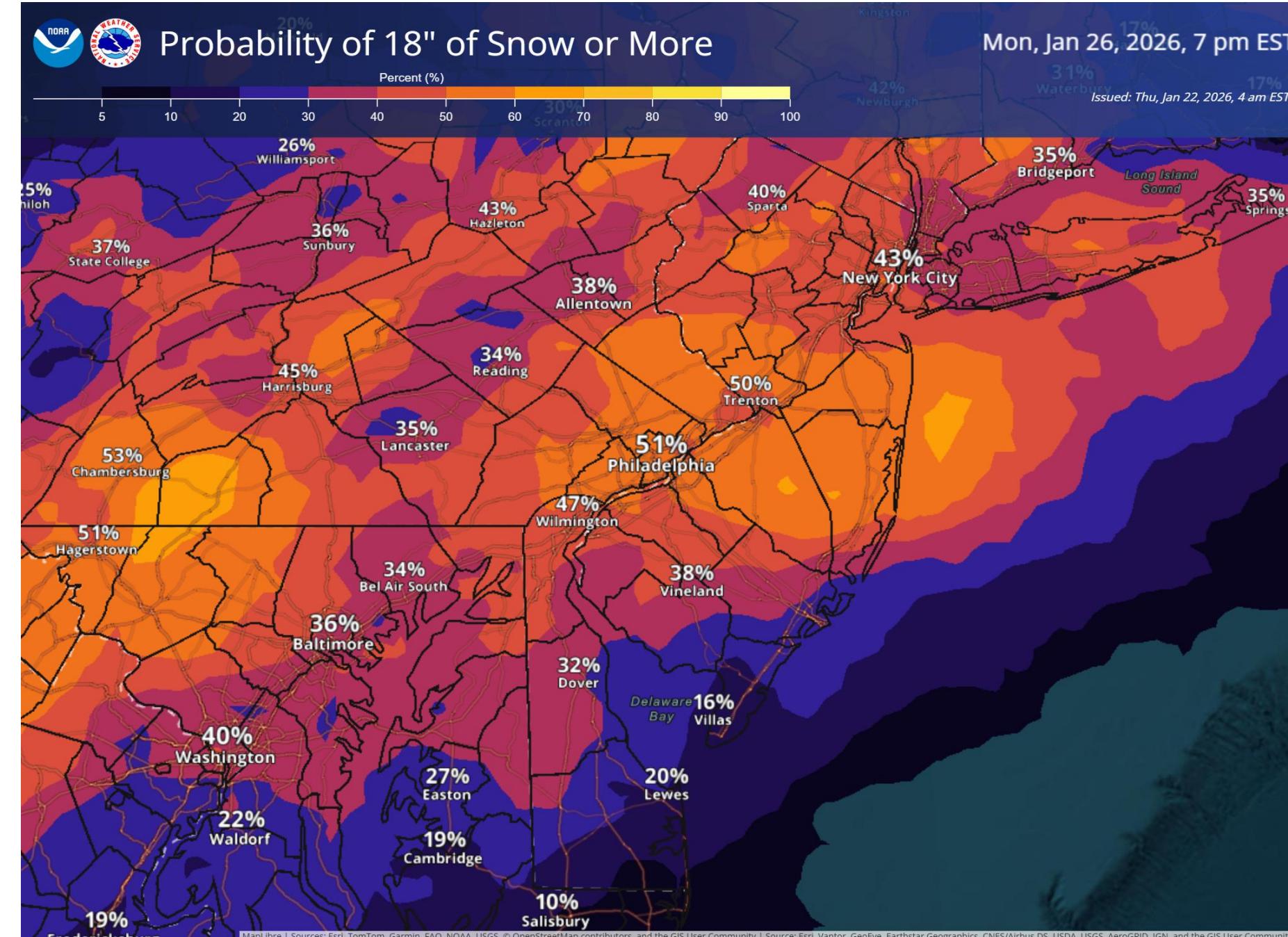
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Percent Chance of 18" Snow or More

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Through Monday Night



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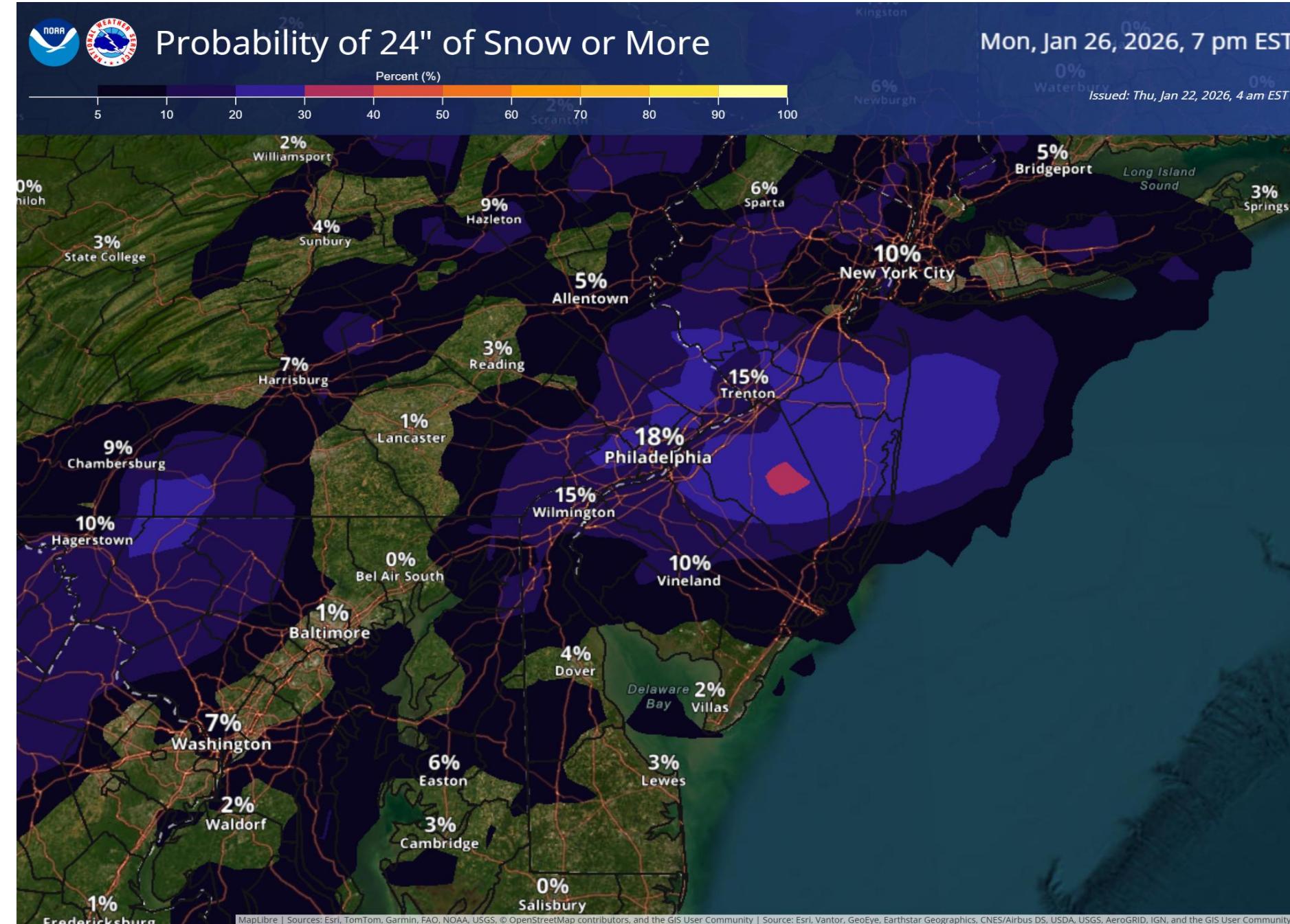


Percent Chance of 24" Snow or More

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Through Monday Night



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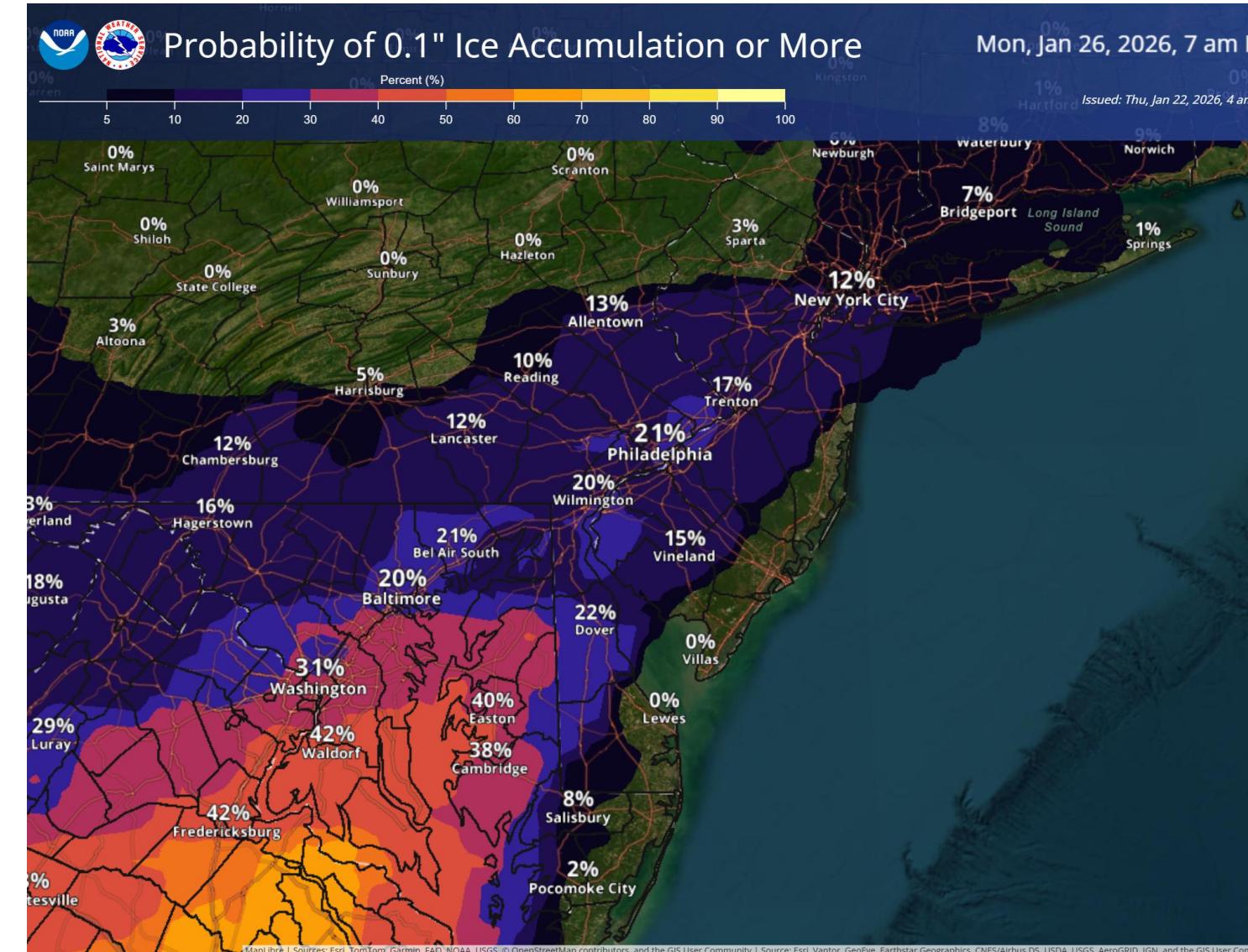
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Ice Accumulation

Through Monday Night

January 22, 2026
5:00 AM EST



Key Messages

- Some ice accretion is likely, especially over Delmarva
- Ice forecast is low confidence (10-20%). The amount of ice will depend on the track of the storm, which remains uncertain.
- Measurable ice could result in prolonged power outages and tree damage



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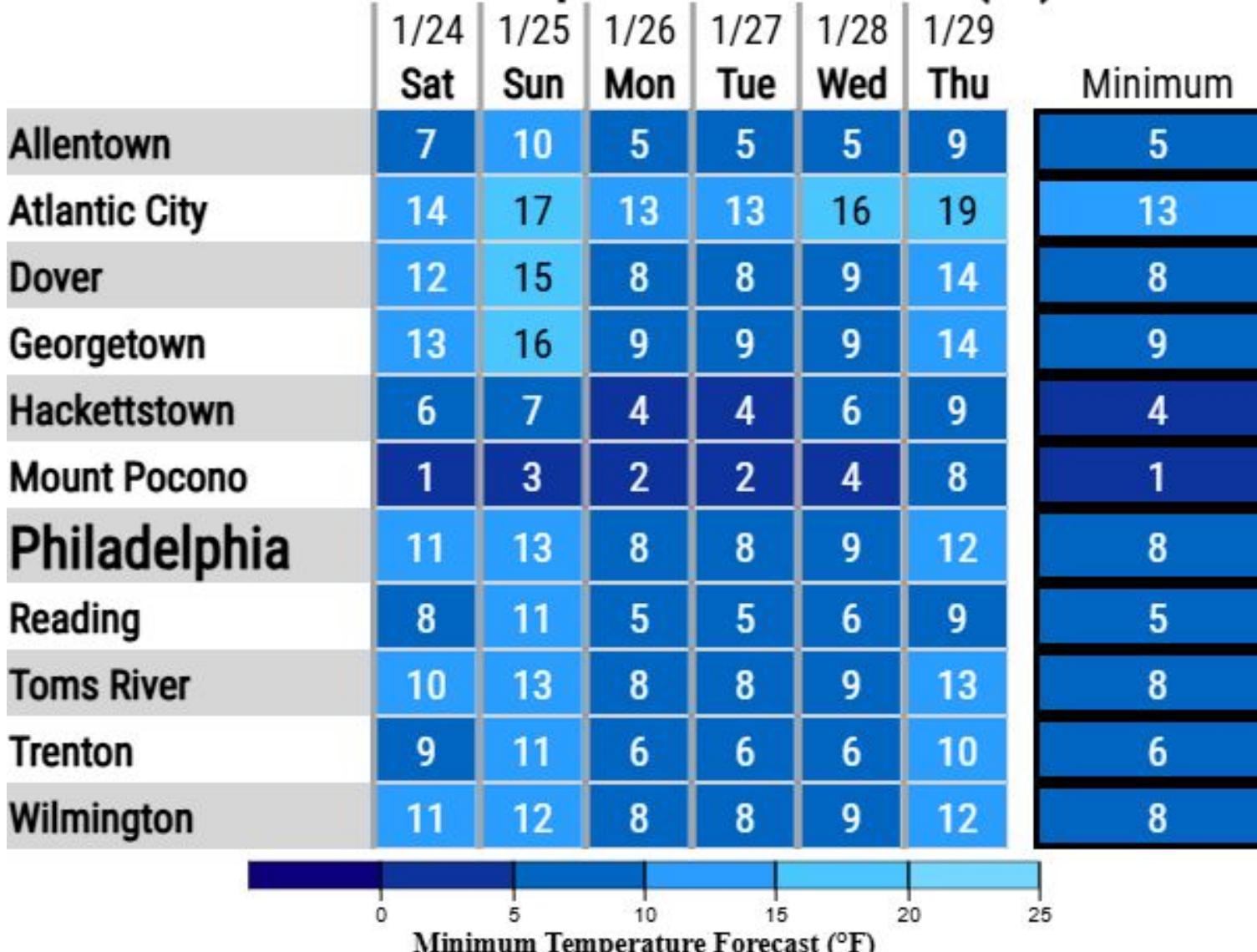


Dangerous Stretch of Cold

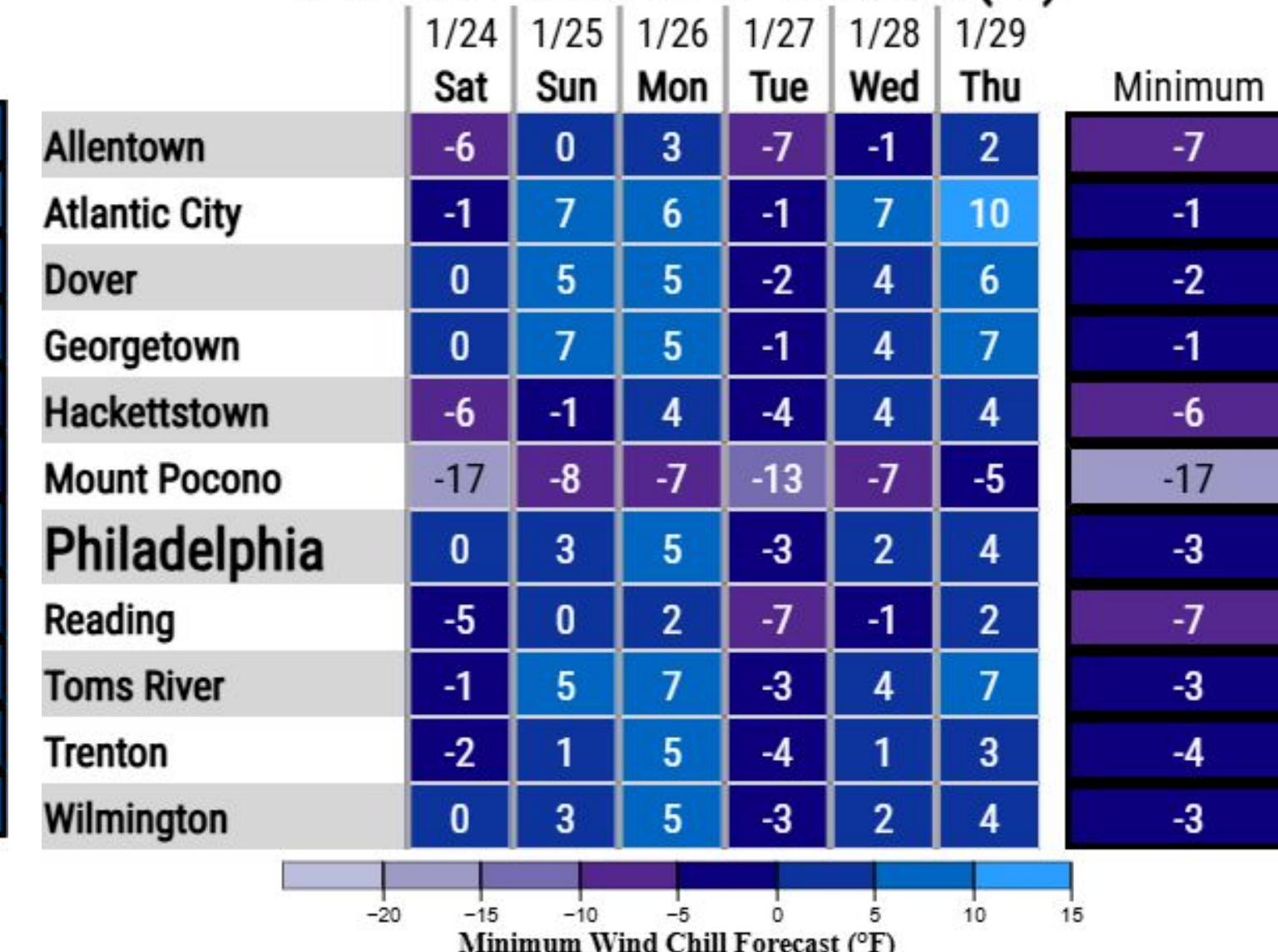
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Friday Night through Wednesday Night

Minimum Temperature Forecast (°F)



Minimum Wind Chill Forecast (°F)



Created: 3 am EST Thu 1/22/2026 | Values are minimums over the period beginning at the time shown.

Don't see your city? Check out weather.gov/forecastpoints



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Summary of Greatest Impacts

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Key Messages

- A significant winter storm is expected to impact all of eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and the Eastern Shore of Maryland Saturday night through early Monday afternoon. A **Winter Storm Watch** was issued for the entire region.
- There is increasing confidence in **major** snowfall accumulations across much of the area, making travel very difficult, and potentially resulting in widespread closures and infrastructure impacts.
- Precipitation may mix with or change to sleet and freezing rain across portions of southeastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, Delaware, and the Eastern Shore of Maryland, further complicating travel.
- In addition to the potential major winter storm, dangerous cold is expected, beginning on Friday Night. Wind chills in the single digits or below zero are expected for **several** nights. Prolonged exposure to dangerous wind chills could result in hypothermia if precautions are not taken. Cannot rule out impacts to infrastructure.



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Contact and Next Briefing Information

January 22, 2026
5:00 AM EST

For NWS Mount Holly/Philadelphia



Briefing Webpage

- www.weather.gov/media/phi/current_briefing.pdf



Next Briefing

- By: 5 PM January 22, 2026
- Method: Email



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- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
- Do Not Use After: 5 PM January 22, 2026



Contact Information

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