

# National Weather Service Boston, MA

## Emergency Management Briefing Winter Storm Jan 25-26th

Date: 1/22/2026



# Incoming Cold and Late Weekend Storm

January 22, 2026  
2:14 PM

For Southern New England

## Decision Support Briefing:

### Key Messages

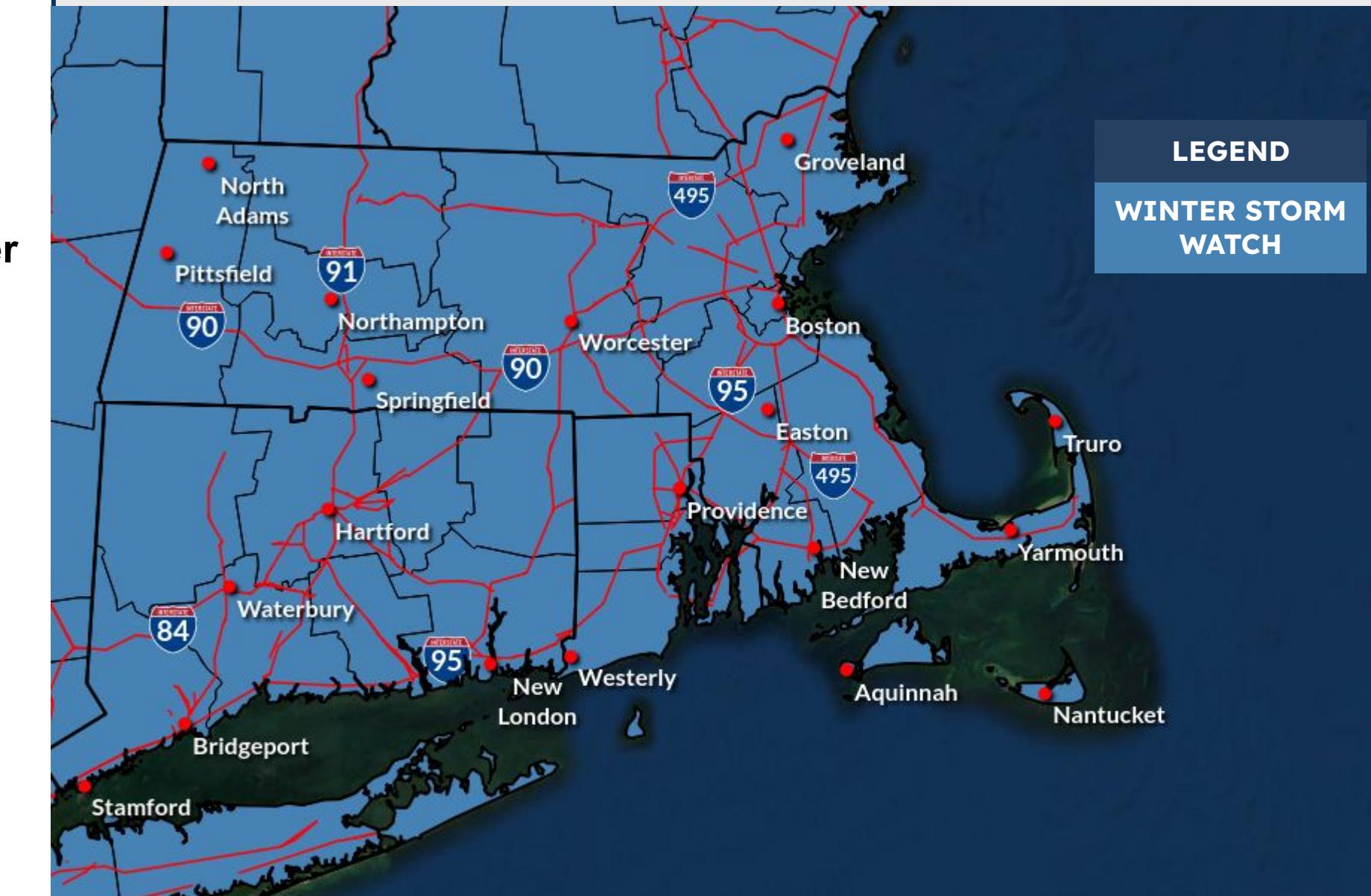
- Cold temperatures/hazardous wind chills Friday night-Saturday.
- Increasing confidence for impactful winter storm Sunday-Monday.
  - Difficult travel, especially Sunday Night-early Monday (early Mon commute).



### New Information/Updates

- Winter Storm Watches issued for southern New England.
- Next Briefing: Friday 2/23

## Current Headlines



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

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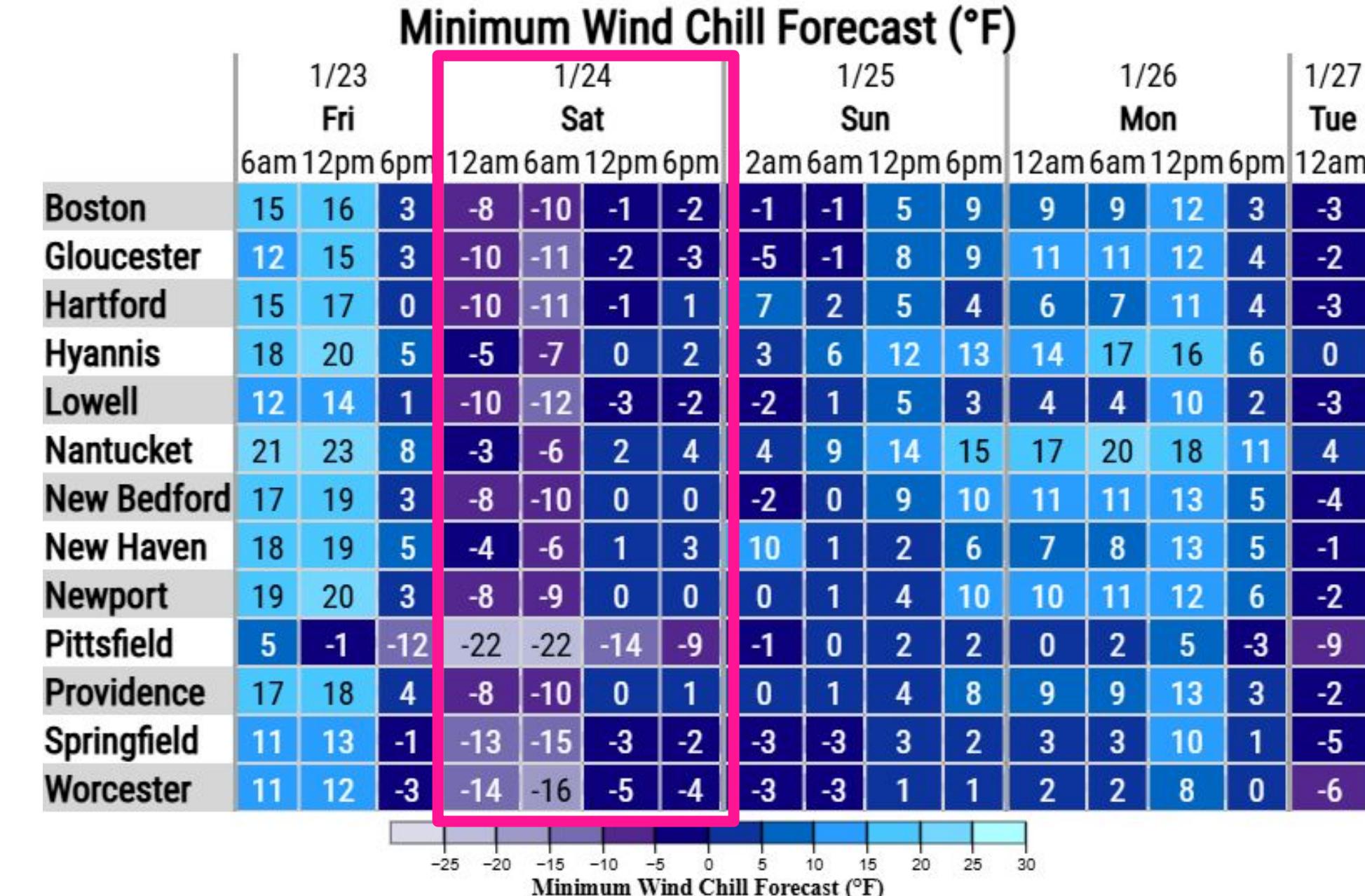
# Forecast Minimum Wind Chills

January 22, 2026  
2:14 PM

Hazardous Wind Chills Friday Night into early Saturday

## Key Messages

- Combination of well below normal temperatures and gusty winds will bring bitter cold wind chills Fri Night into the weekend.
- Hazardous wind chills, especially for east slope of Berkshires.
- Extreme Cold Warning and Cold Advisories in effect Friday Night-Saturday AM.

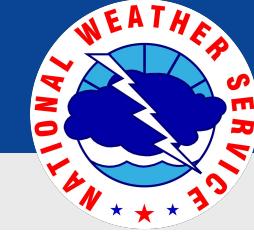


Created: 9 am EST Thu 1/22/2026 | Values are minimums over the period beginning at the time shown.



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# Extreme Cold Headlines

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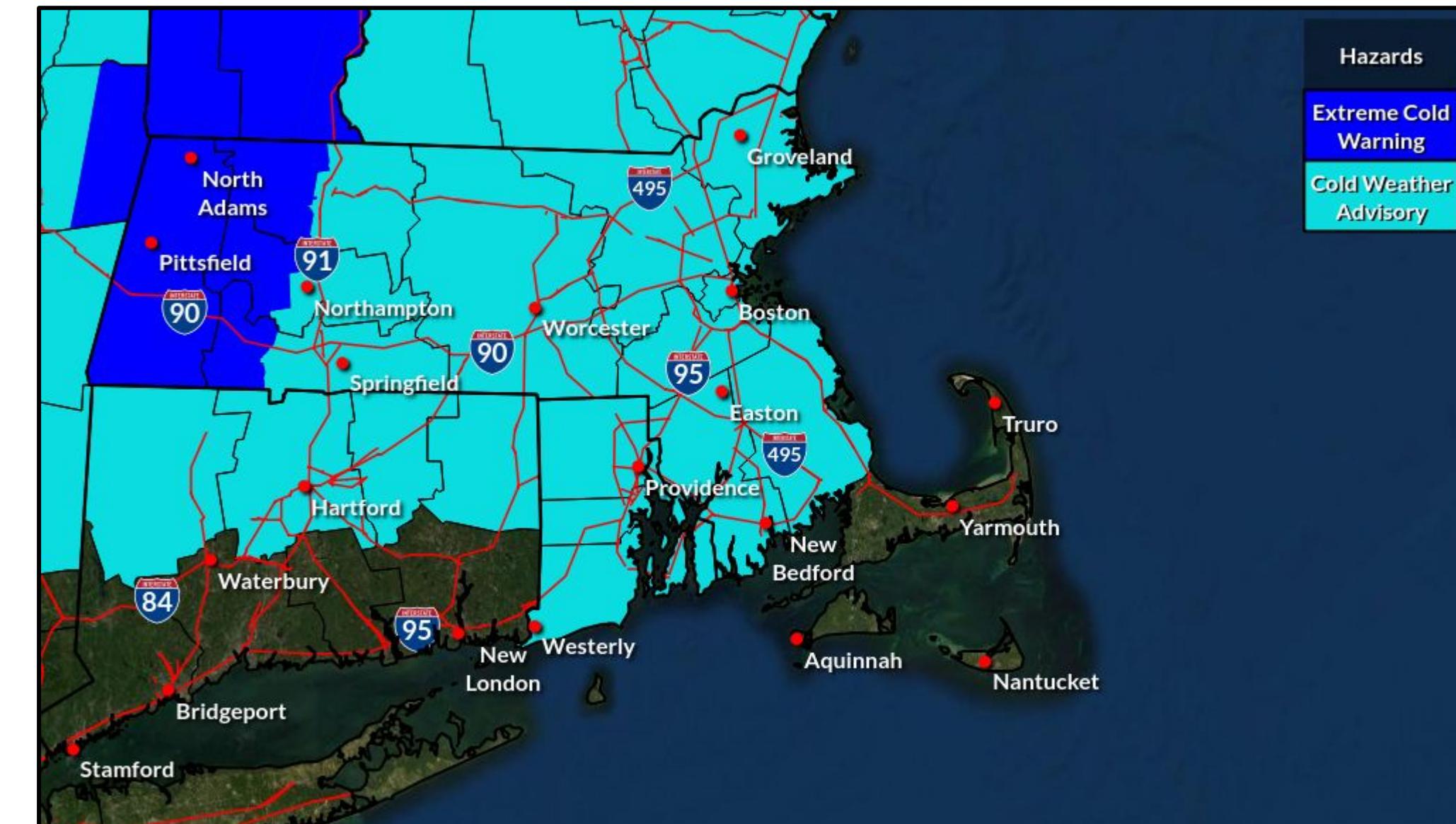
Friday Night Through Saturday Morning

- **Extreme Cold Warning:** East Slope of Berkshires.

- Wind chills as low as  $-25^{\circ}\text{F}$
  - May cause frostbite on exposed skin in as little as 30 minutes.

- **Cold Weather Advisory:** Rest of southern southern New England (except Cape and Islands).

- Wind chills as low as  $-20^{\circ}\text{F}$
  - May cause frostbite on exposed skin in as little as 30 minutes.



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# Confidence Levels

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## Timing

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Snow likely arrives Sun AM into early afternoon.
- Timing of heaviest snow: Sun night-early Mon.
- Light to moderate snow likely lingers through much of Mon.

## Snow Amounts

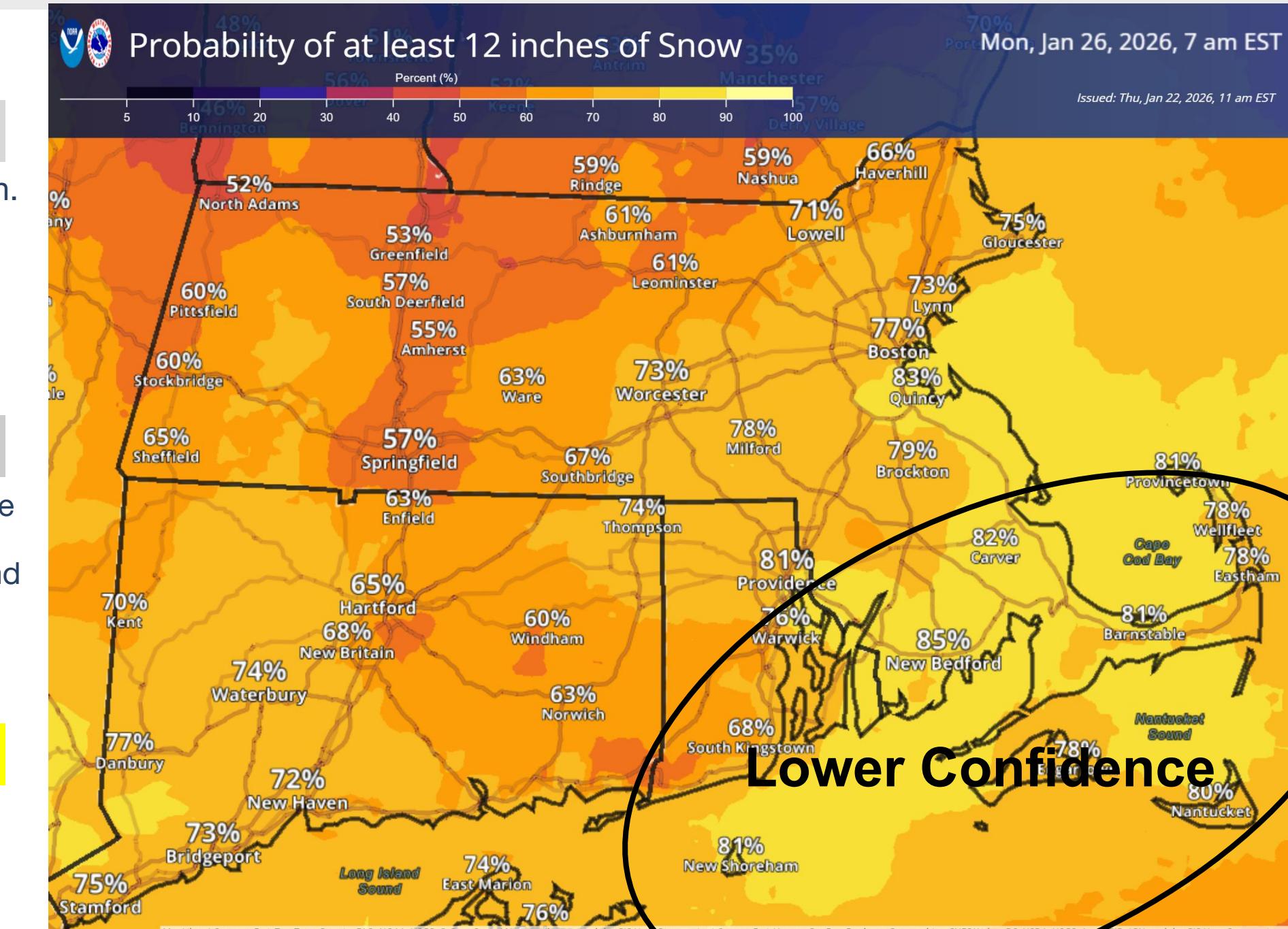
LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Medium confidence (~60-70%) for a foot or more of snow.
- Lower confidence in amounts for south coast and Cape and Islands due to potential for mixed precipitation.

## Travel Impacts

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

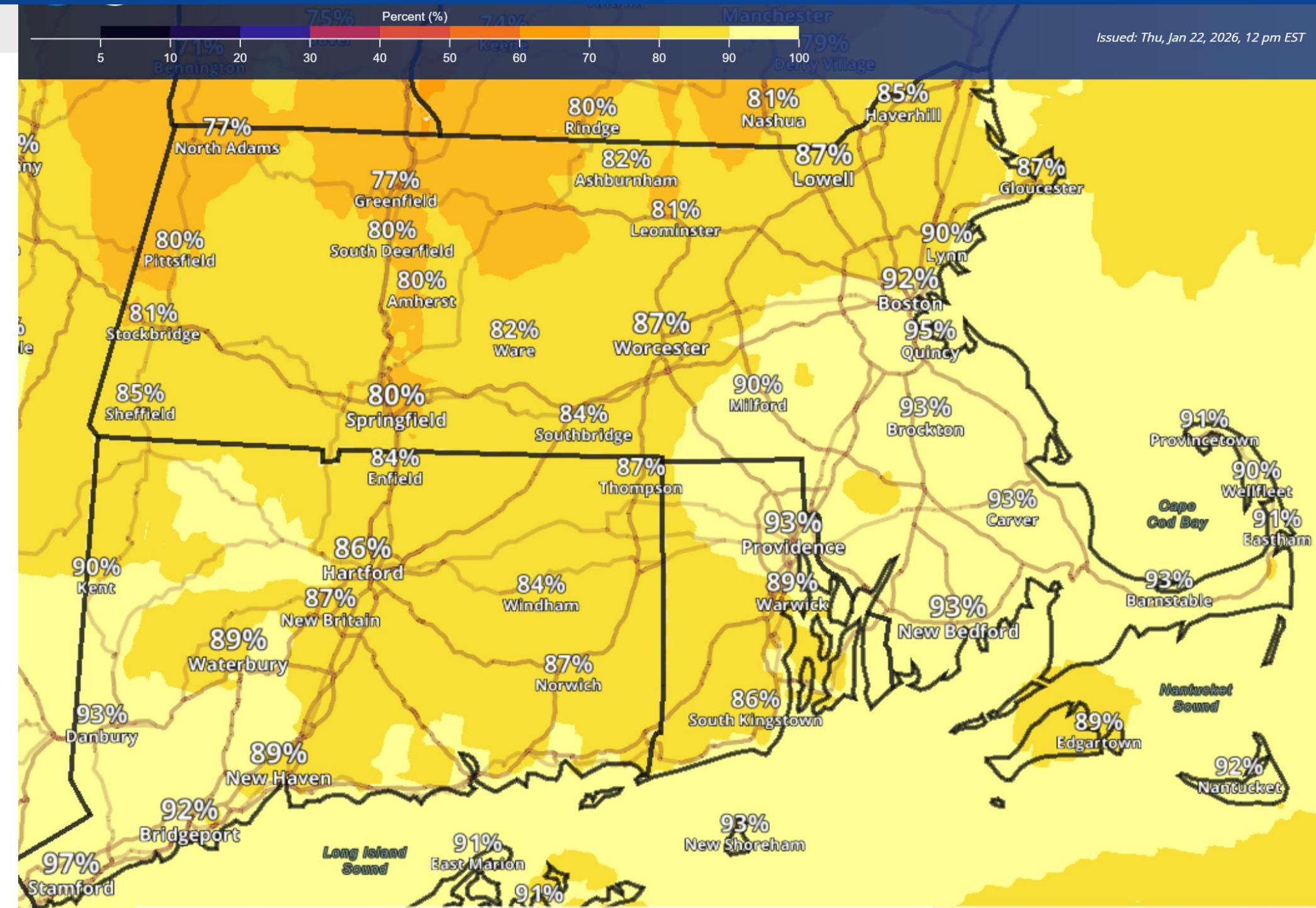
Travel will be difficult, especially Sunday night into Monday morning when snowfall accumulation rates will be highest.





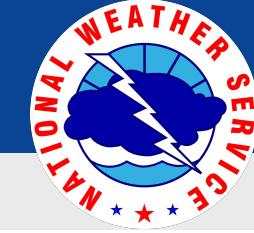
# Probability of at least 8 inches of Snow

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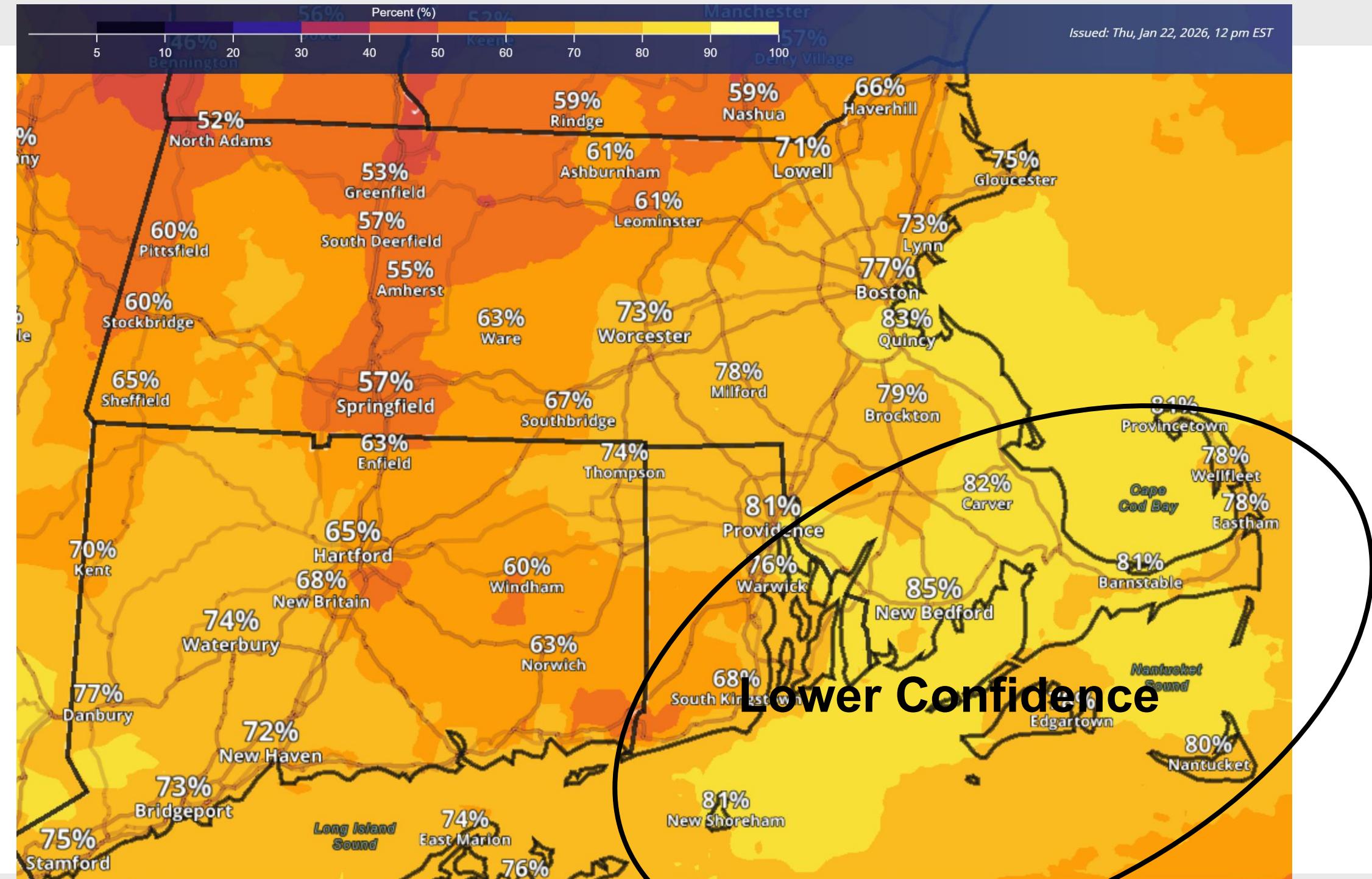
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# Probability of at least 12 inches of Snow

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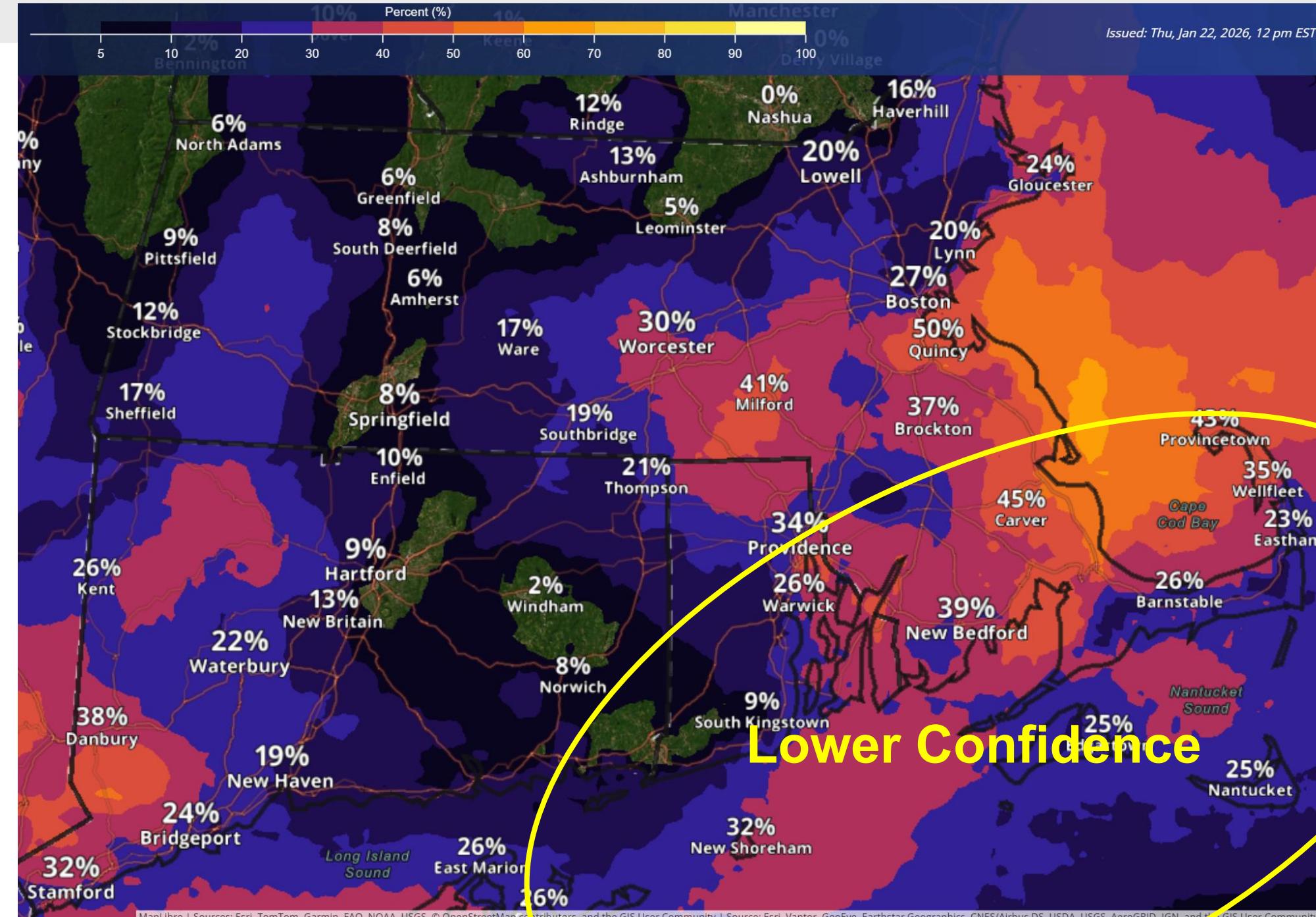
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# Probability of at least 18 inches of Snow

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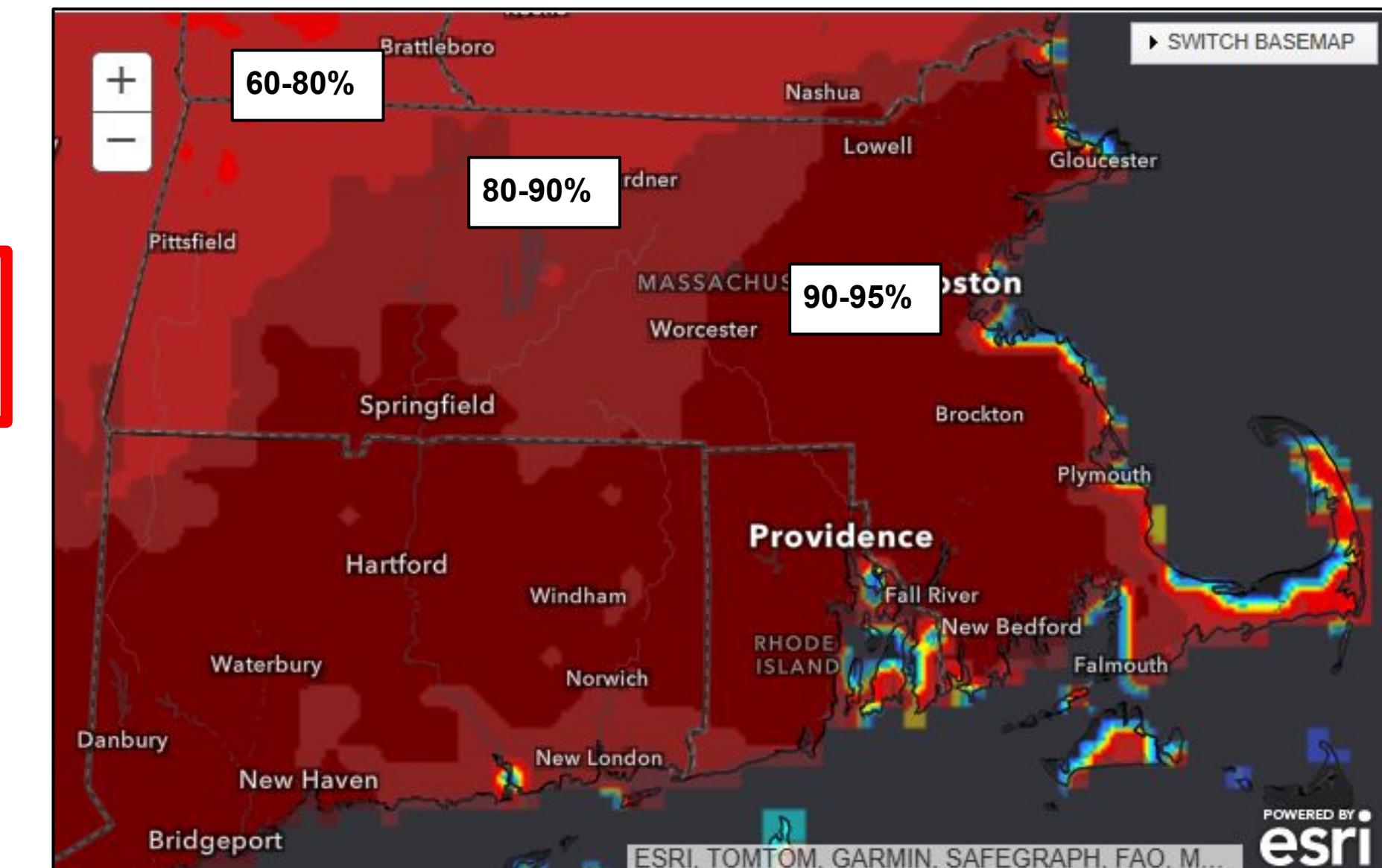


# Probability of Moderate Winter Storm Impacts

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Potential Winter Storm Impacts	
<b>Winter Weather Area</b>	Expect Winter Weather. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Winter driving conditions. Drive carefully.</li></ul>
<b>Minor Impacts</b>	Expect a few inconveniences to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Winter driving conditions. Use caution while driving.</li></ul>
<b>Moderate Impacts</b>	Expect disruptions to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hazardous driving conditions. Use extra caution while driving.</li><li>Closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.</li></ul>
<b>Major Impacts</b>	Expect considerable disruptions to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Avoid travel if possible.</li><li>Widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.</li></ul>
<b>Extreme Impacts</b>	Expect substantial disruptions to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Extremely dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Travel is not advised.</li><li>Extensive and widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.</li><li>Life-saving actions may be needed.</li></ul>

24 HR Forecast Valid 3 PM Sunday - 3 PM EST Monday



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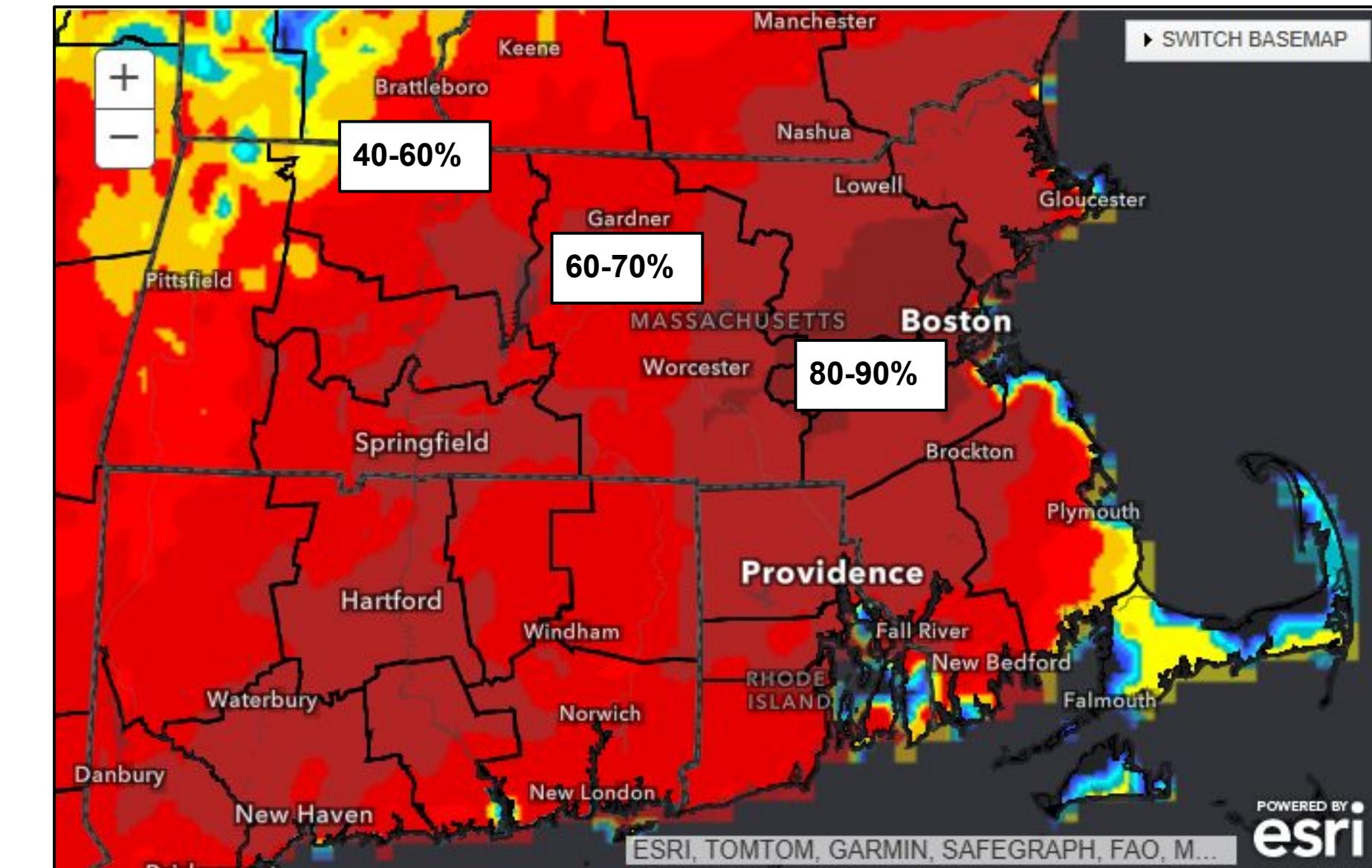


# Probability of Major Winter Storm Impacts

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2:14 PM

Potential Winter Storm Impacts	
<b>Winter Weather Area</b>	Expect Winter Weather. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Winter driving conditions. Drive carefully.</li></ul>
<b>Minor Impacts</b>	Expect a few inconveniences to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Winter driving conditions. Use caution while driving.</li></ul>
<b>Moderate Impacts</b>	Expect disruptions to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hazardous driving conditions. Use extra caution while driving.</li><li>Closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.</li></ul>
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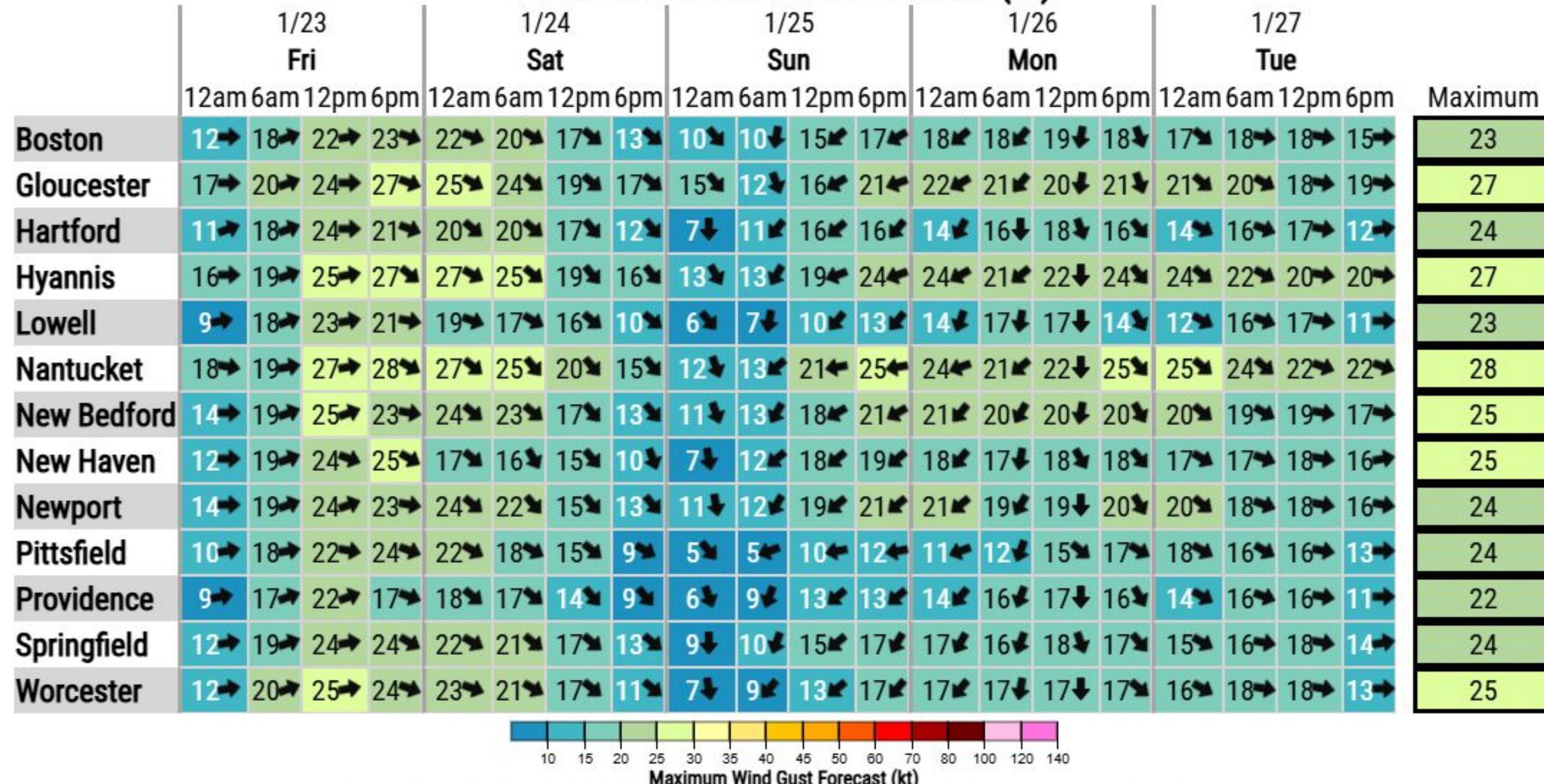
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# Maximum Wind Gust Forecast

## Maximum Wind Gust Forecast (kt)

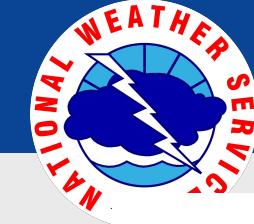


Created: 1 pm EST Thu 1/22/2026 | Values are maximums over the period beginning at the time shown.



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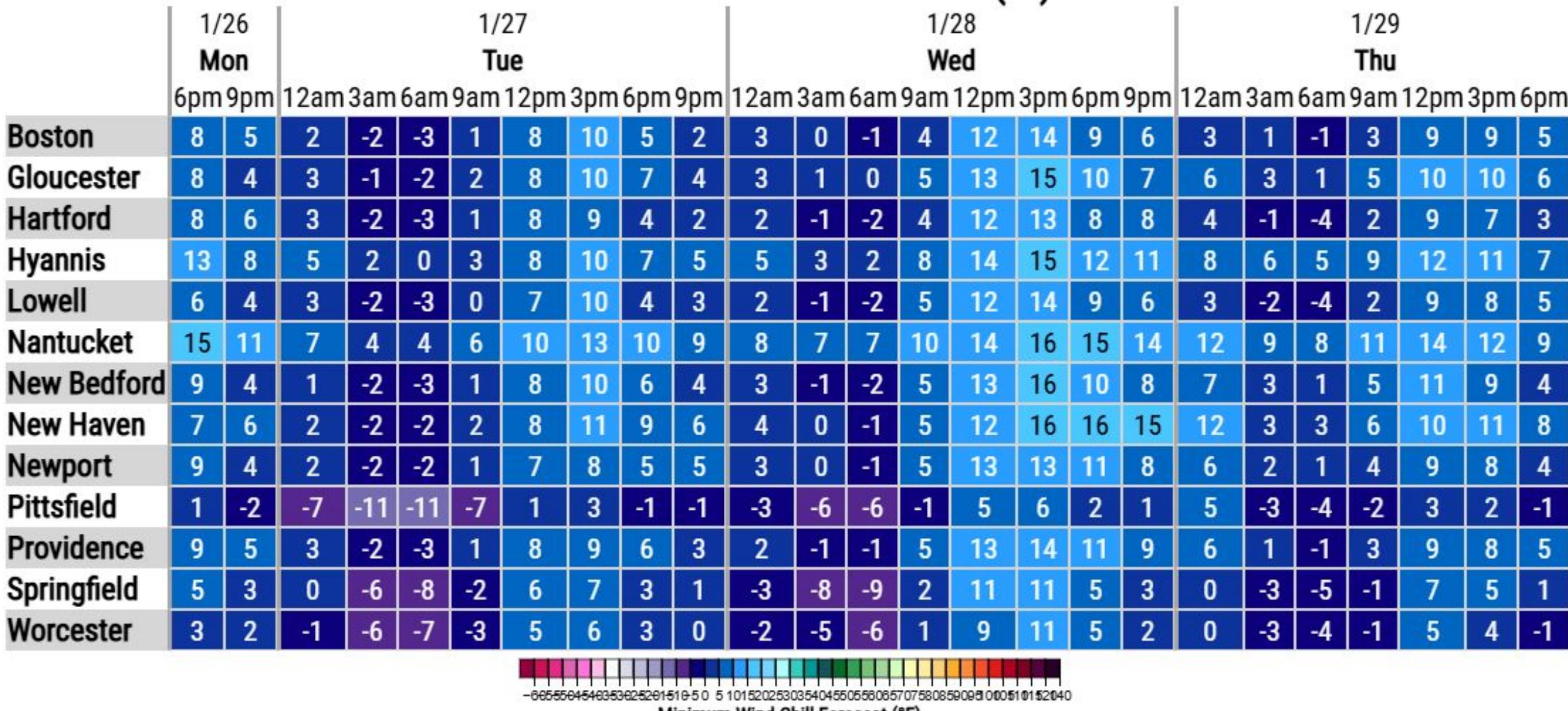
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# Wind Chill Forecast after the Storm

## Minimum Wind Chill Forecast (°F)



Created: 2 pm EST Thu 1/22/2026 | Values are minimums over the period beginning at the time shown.



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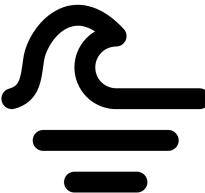
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# Gale Warning

Friday Afternoon through Saturday Morning



- Massachusetts and Rhode Island Coastal Waters



## SEAS

- Potential for up **WIND** to 15 FT for east • Up to 40 kts outer waters

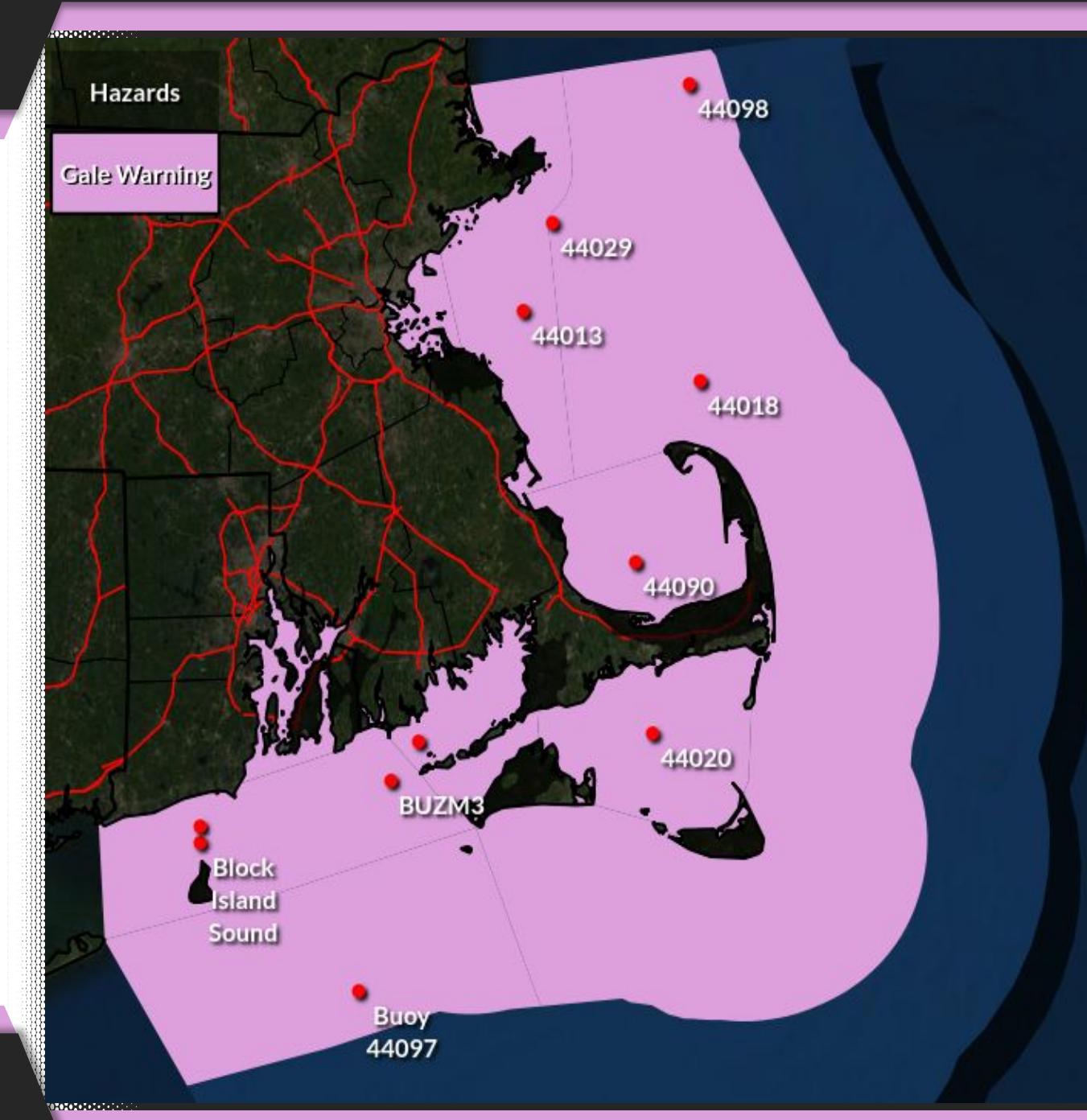


- Wind and wave conditions will be hazardous for small craft.
- Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in these conditions.



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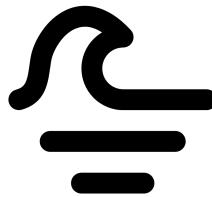
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# Heavy Freezing Spray Warning & Advisory

Friday Night through Saturday



- Massachusetts and Rhode Island Coastal Waters



- Moderate -heavy freezing spray expected

**SEAS**

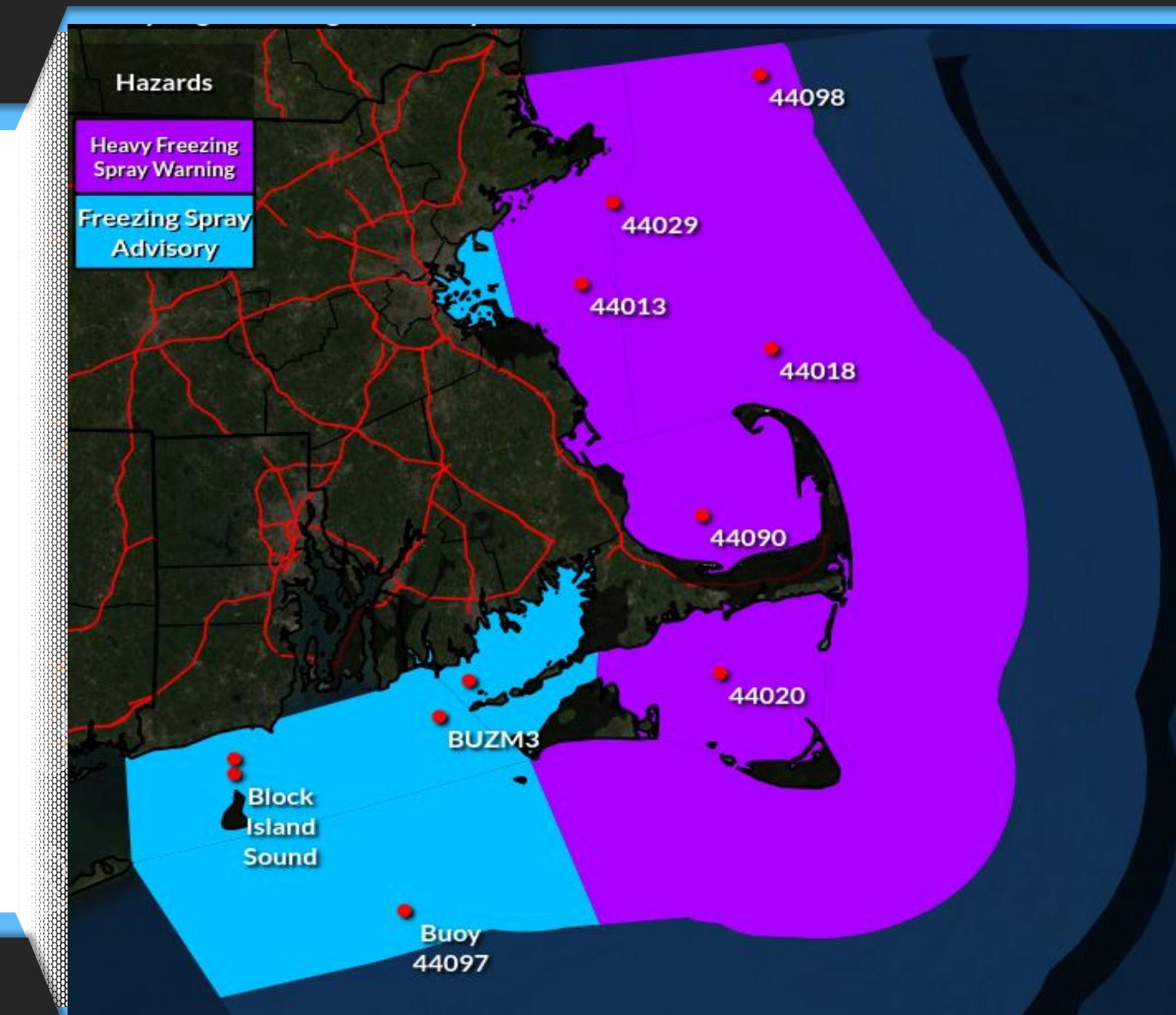
- Rough seas

**WIND**

- Up to 40 KT



- Rapid ice accretion on decks and superstructures may result in a catastrophic loss of stability.



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