



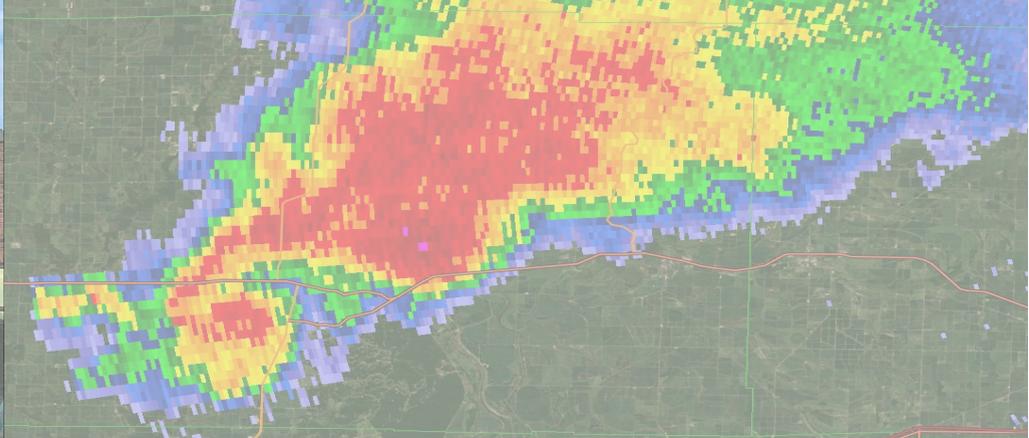
National Weather Service

Boston, MA

Emergency Management Briefing

Winter Storm Feb 22 - Feb 23

Friday 2/20/2026





Potential Coastal Storm Sun Night-Mon

February 21, 2026
5:15 AM

For Southern New England

Key Messages:

- Coastal storm likely impacts all of Southern New England with heavy snow and strong winds
 - Cannot rule out blizzard conditions for coastal Rhode Island and Massachusetts.



New Information/Updates

- Winter Storm Watches expanded to include all of southern New England.
- High Wind Watches continues for Cape Cod and the Islands.
- Storm Watches continue for all coastal waters except Boston Harbor (Gale Watch).
- Coastal Flood Watch continues for eastern MA coast.

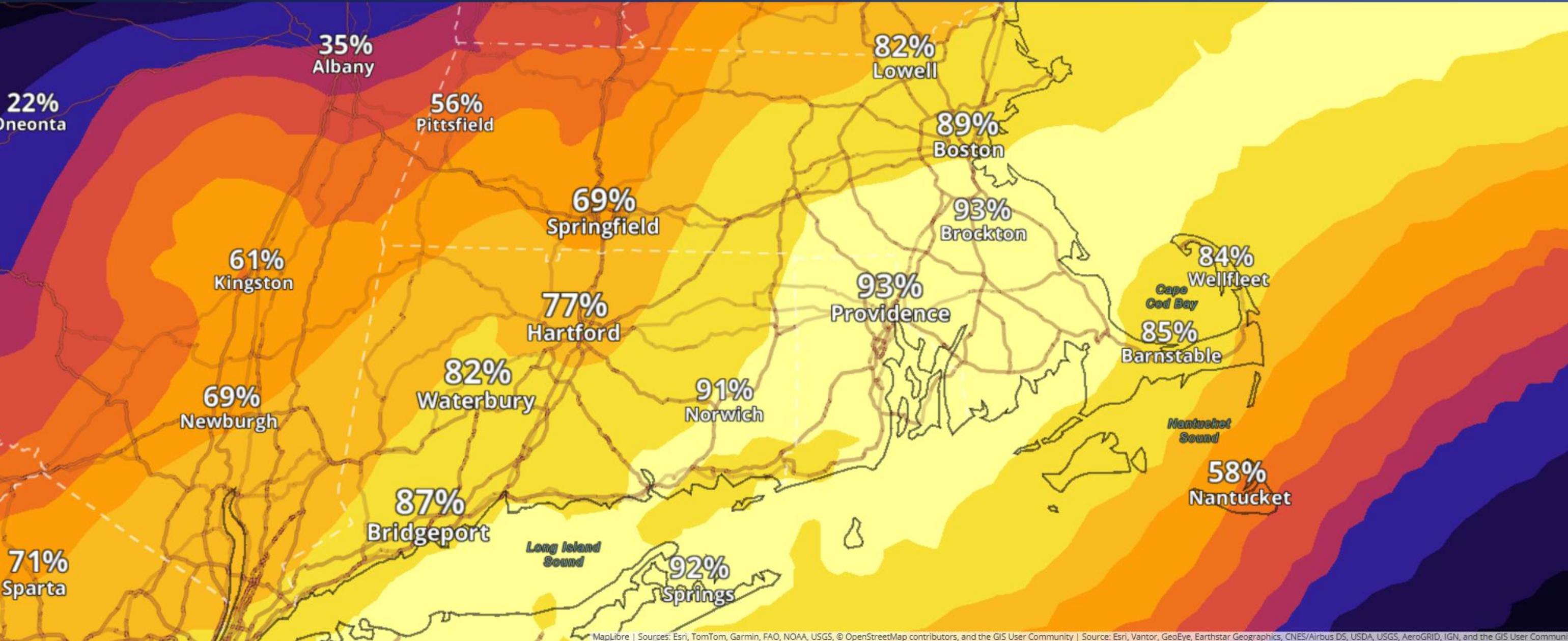




Probability of 6 inches of Snow or Greater Sun pm- Mon

Mon, Feb 23, 2026, 7 pm EST

Issued: Sat, Feb 21, 2026, 1 am EST



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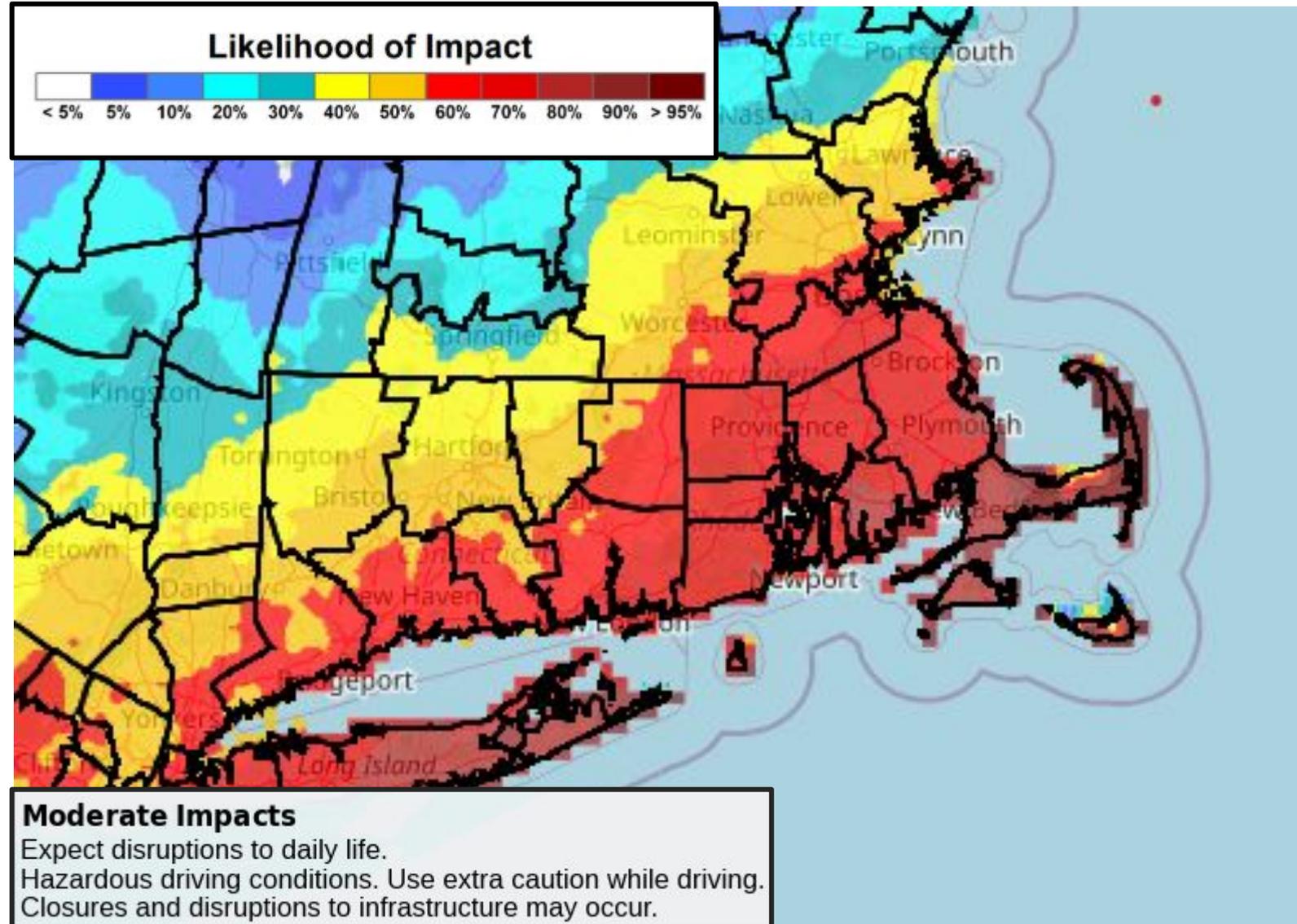
Potential Impacts

February 21, 2026
5:15 AM

Probabilistic Winter Storm Severity Index (P-WSSI)

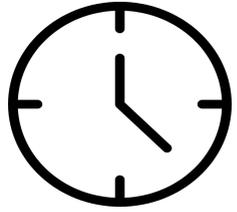
- Area of higher probability of moderate impacts has expanded NW.
 - Near 100% chance of at least moderate impacts for the Cape and Islands.
 - 60-70% chance of at least moderate impacts now includes Worcester, Providence, and Boston.
- Snow is expected to be wet and dense.
- Combination of strong winds with wet snow on trees will increase risk for tree damage and power outages.

Probability of Moderate Impacts (Sun Night-Mon)



Coastal Flood Watch

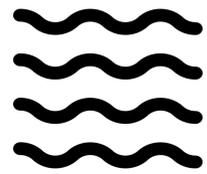
Valid 12 AM Tuesday through 7 AM Tuesday



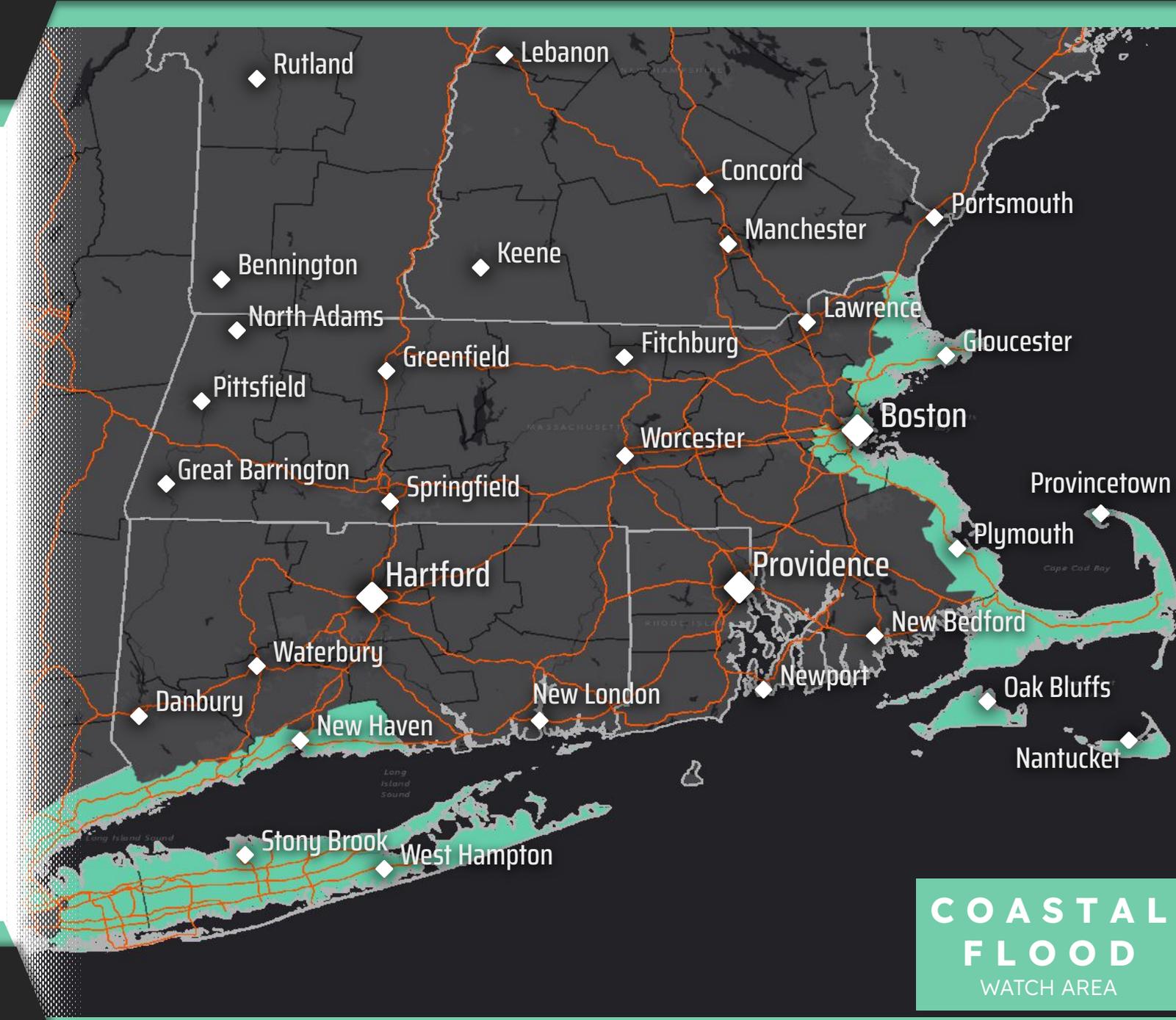
Monday & Tuesday High Tides



Eastern MA Coastline, Islands



- **Minor to moderate flooding of 2-3' possible.**
- **Beach Erosion & Minor Coastal Inundation Possible.**



**COASTAL
FLOOD
WATCH AREA**



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - BOSTON

Follow: @NWSBoston

Updated: February 21, 2026

- **Minor to Moderate coastal flooding for Monday and Tuesday high tide cycles.**
- **Potential storm surge 2-3 feet with offshore waves as high as 20 feet.**
- **[Refer to this webpage for more information](#) on coastal flooding and water levels**



Minor Coastal Flooding:

- Minor flooding of near shore roads, but most roads remain open and passable.
- Very few vulnerable basements and shore roads will see some flooding, but depth is shallow.
- Coastal Flood Advisories issued. Coastal Flood Statements issued if impacts are even less than this (ie. Splashover onto water adjacent roads/areas).



Moderate Coastal Flooding:

- Flooding of near shore roads, many closed around high tide.
- Many vulnerable basements flooded. Water may be 1-3 feet deep.
- Some damage of structures such as decks, porches, or weakened sea walls.
- Coastal Flood Watches or Warning are issued.



Major Coastal Flooding:

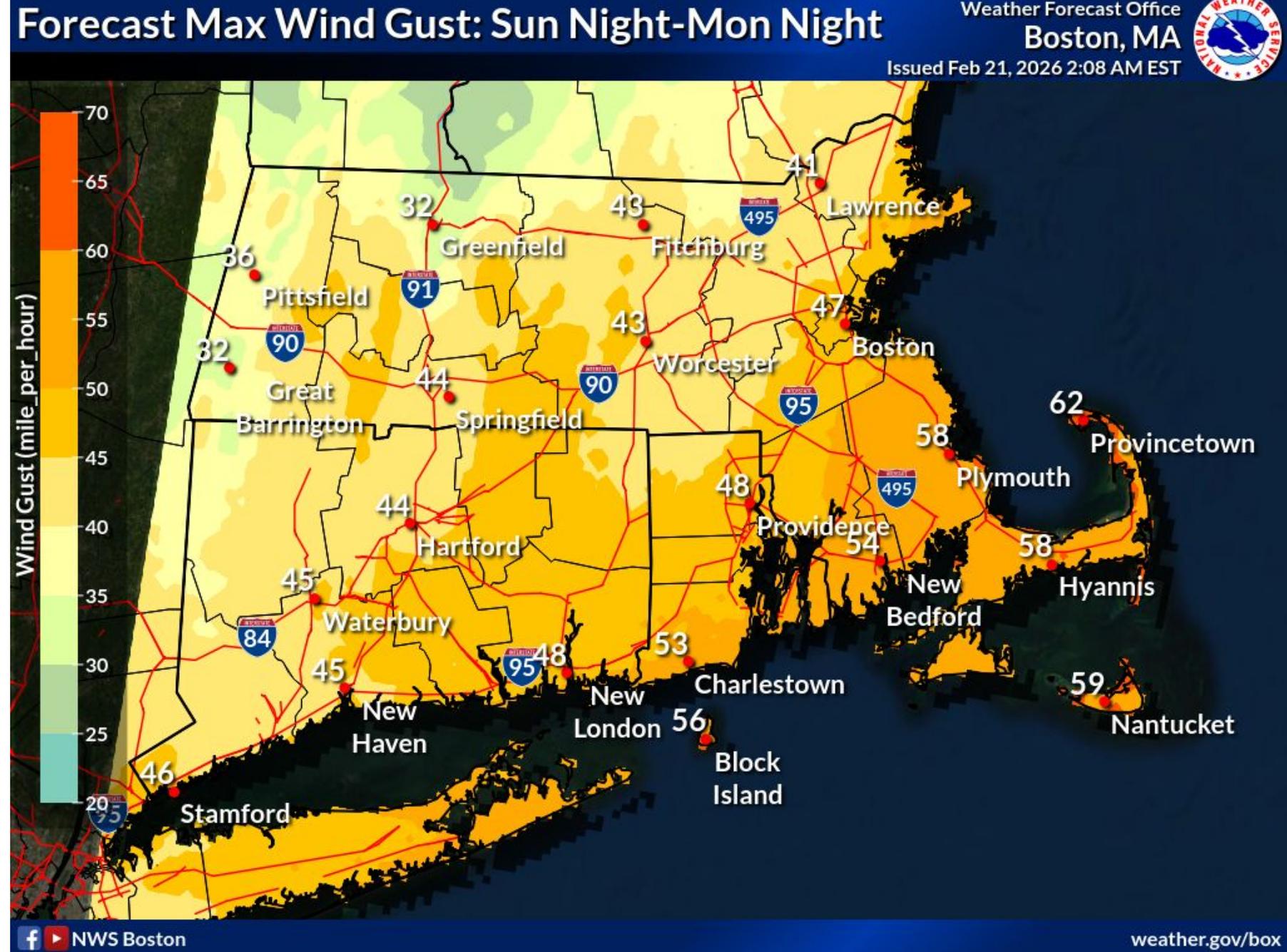
- Significant flooding of many shore roads & basements, more than 3 feet deep.
- Many roads impassable and may be washed out, isolated some neighborhoods
- Evacuations may be needed in areas! There is a significant threat to life and property.
- Coastal Flood Watches or Warnings are issued.



Strong North/Northeast Winds Expected

February 21, 2026
5:15 AM

- **Gusty winds expected to accompany offshore storm.**
 - Highest gusts over the water, south coast, and southwest RI & MA, especially Cape Cod & Islands.
- **Timing:**
 - Peak gusts early Monday morning through Monday Night.
- **Uncertainty:**
 - Wind gust forecasts have increased due to a closer storm track.
 - Inland extent of damaging winds
- **Impacts:**
 - Tree damage, especially in areas that receive significant accumulation of wet snow on trees.
 - Power outages

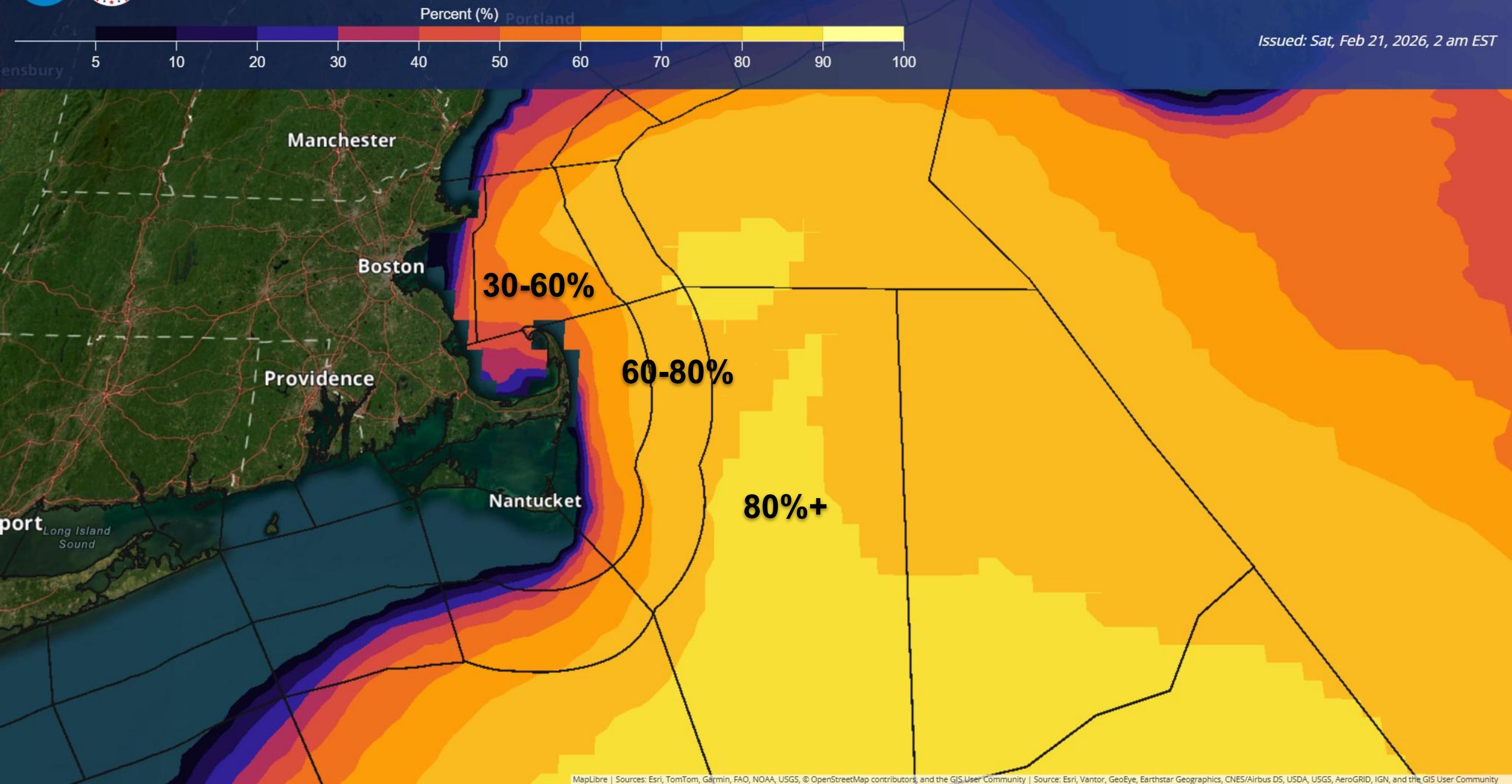




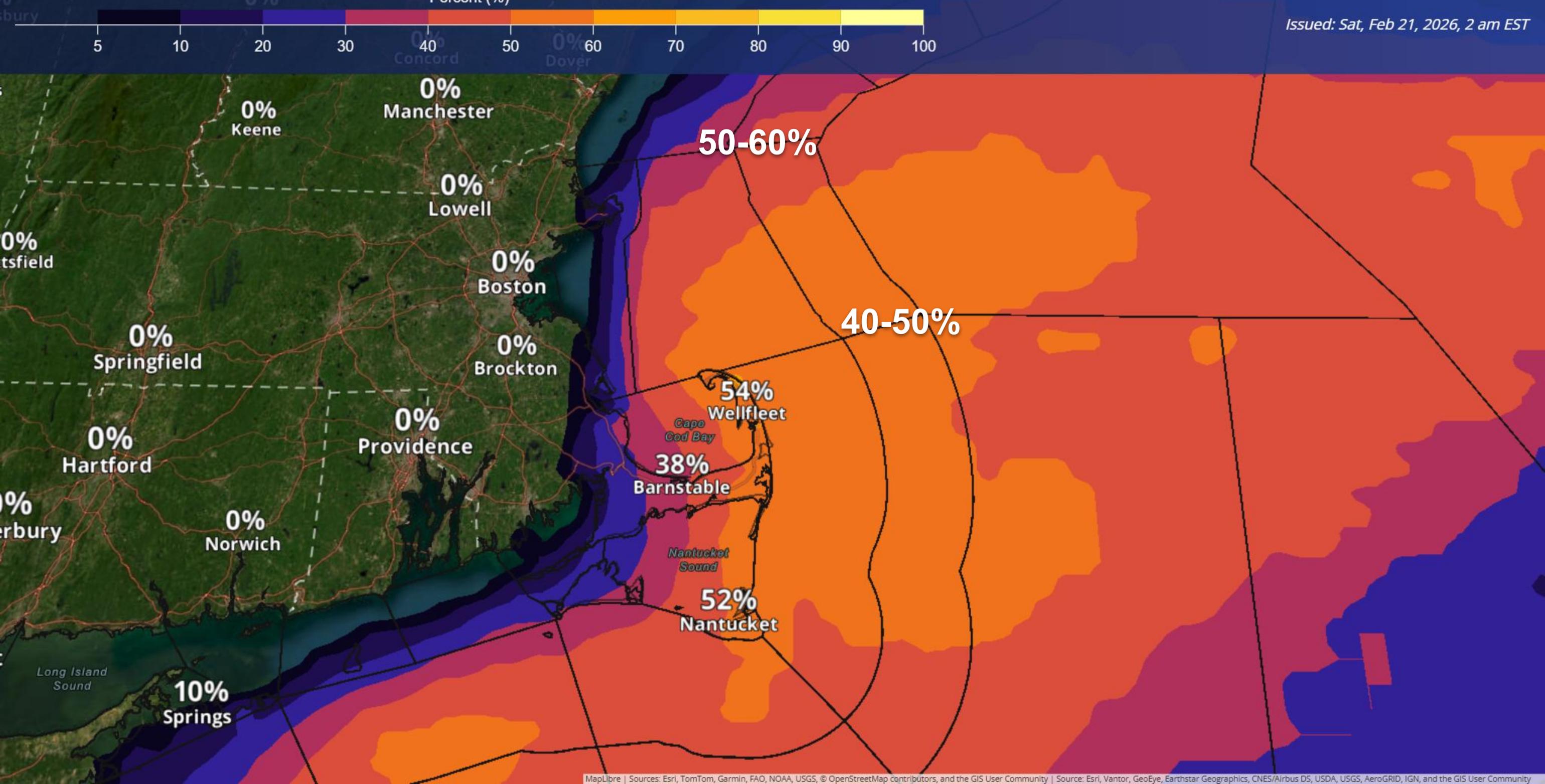
Probability of Wave Heights >20ft Early Sun AM-Mon PM

Mon, Feb 23, 2026, 4 pm EST

Issued: Sat, Feb 21, 2026, 2 am EST



Issued: Sat, Feb 21, 2026, 2 am EST



Storm Watch | Gale Watch

Valid 2 AM Monday through 12 AM Tuesday



- Storm Watch: Massachusetts and Rhode Island Coastal Waters
- Gale Watch: Boston Harbor



SEAS

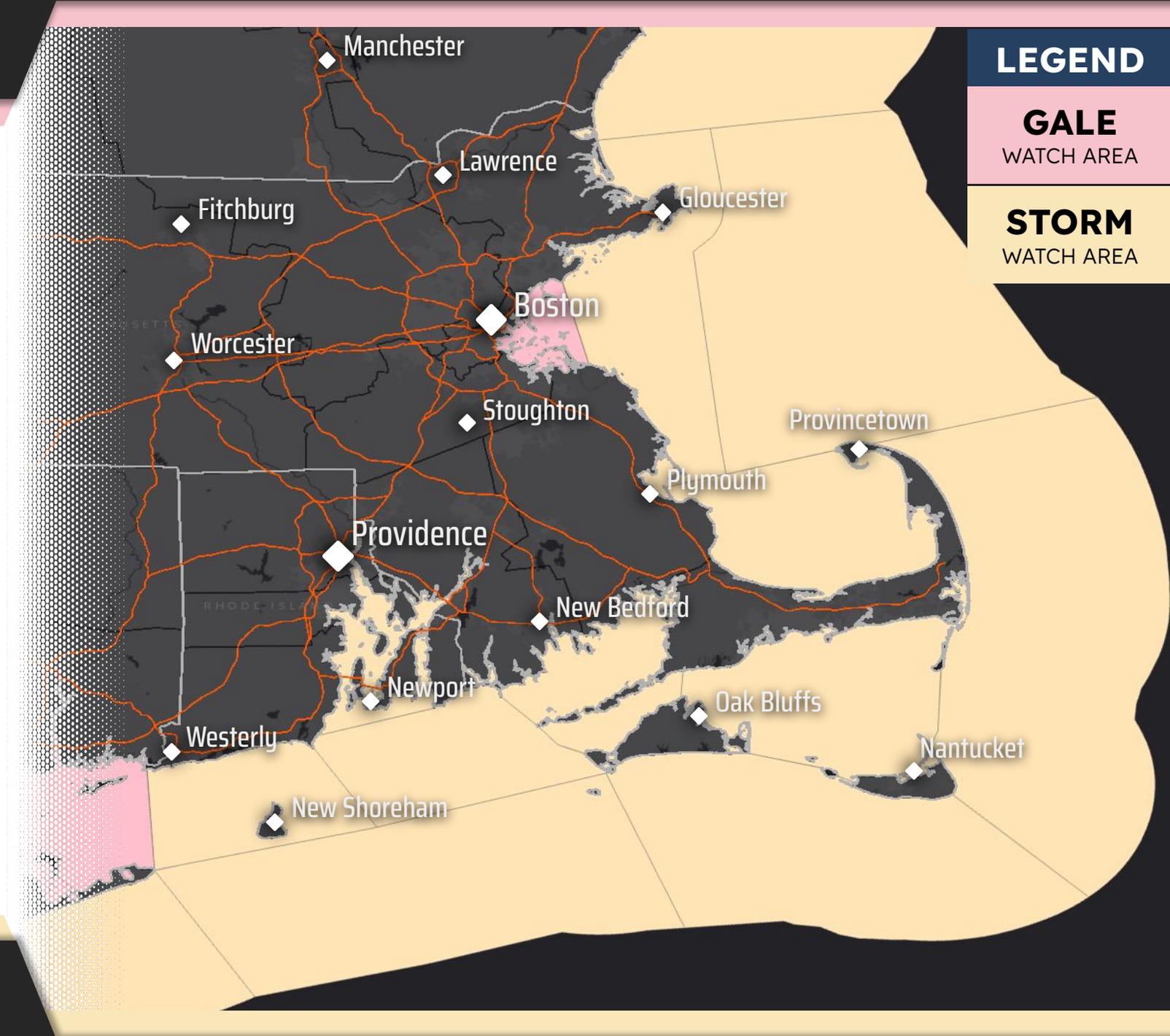
- 15-20 ft

WIND

- Sustained 40-50 knots, gusts to 55 knots



- Mariners should consider altering plans to avoid these hazardous conditions.
- Storm force winds and hazardous seas could capsize or damage vessels and reduce visibility.



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - BOSTON

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Updated: February 21, 2026



Contact and Next Briefing Information

February 21, 2026
5:15 AM

For Southern New England



Next Briefing

→ Saturday afternoon



Contact Information

Web

→ weather.gov/box

Phone

→ (508) 622-3280

Email

→ box.operations@noaa.gov

Facebook

→ www.facebook.com/NWSBoston

X

→ [@NWSBoston](https://twitter.com/NWSBoston)



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Boston / Norton, MA