



Winter Weather Briefing

January 21, 2026
2:23 AM

Decision Support Briefing #2 for the western Carolinas and northeast Georgia

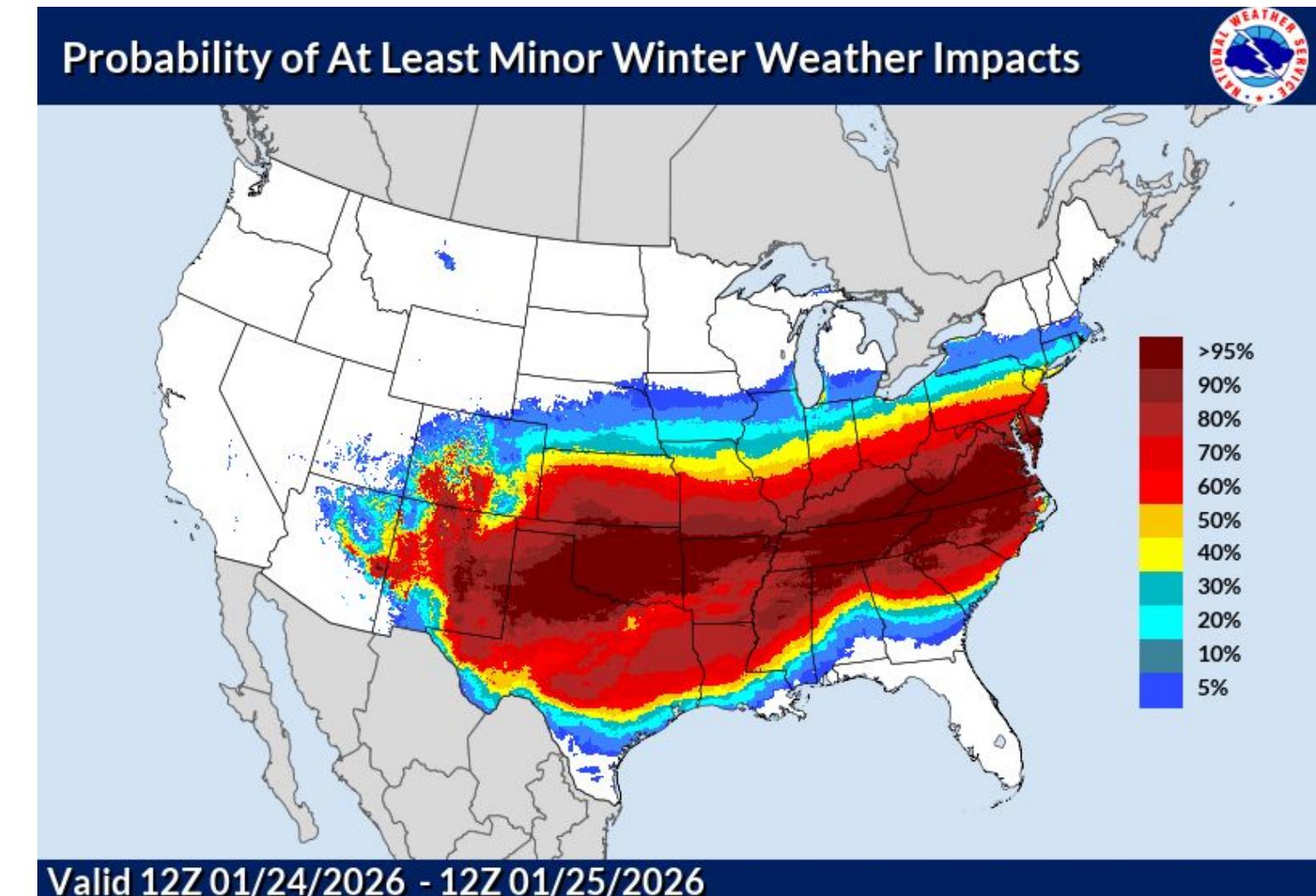
NEW

Important Updates

- Confidence continues to increase regarding the potential for significant wintry precipitation **Saturday through Sunday night.**
- Live webinar on the upcoming storm will be held at **4 PM Wednesday, January 21, 2026.** (Link to register on last page).

Key Messages

- A major winter storm system is set to impact the entire area this weekend, with details regarding precipitation amounts and type uncertain.
- Confidence is increasing that significant wintry precipitation will result in **moderate winter storm impacts, including hazardous travel and power outages.**
- Frigid temperatures next week could extend the threat for hazardous travel and impacts from power outages.



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Greenville-Spartanburg, SC



Weekend Winter Storm

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Precipitation types for the entire area

Forecast Challenge

- Precipitation types are highly dependant on where the transition zone occurs from snow to ice/sleet.
- Current model trends are pointing to a **shift northward** of the greater snow amounts, bringing the highest snow potential north of the NC/SC stateline. The line **shifts southward** for more ice/sleet that includes Upstate SC and northeast Georgia.
- *This transition line **will change** as the event gets closer and will determine final precip accumulations.*
- See accumulation probabilities on the next page.



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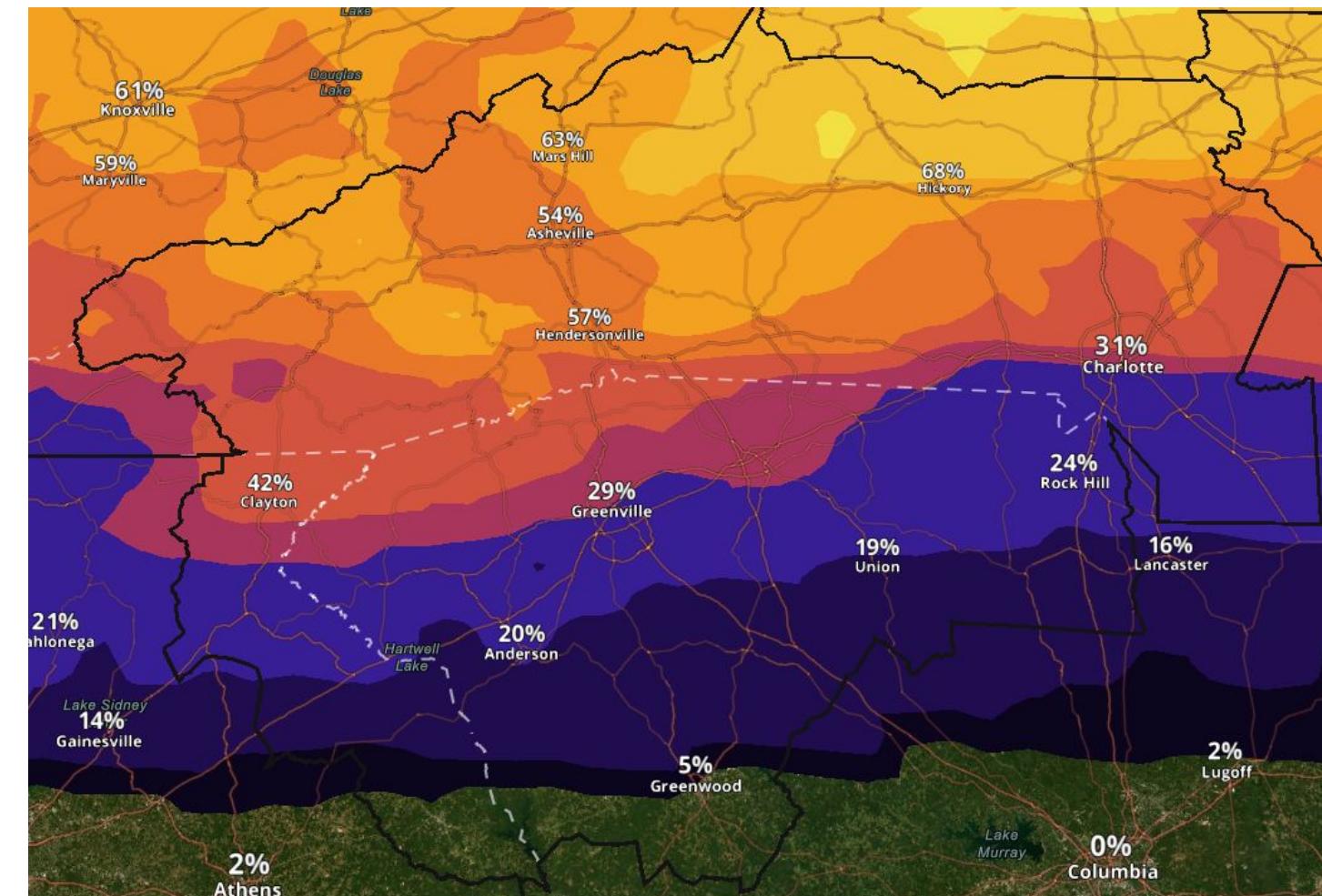


Accumulation Probabilities

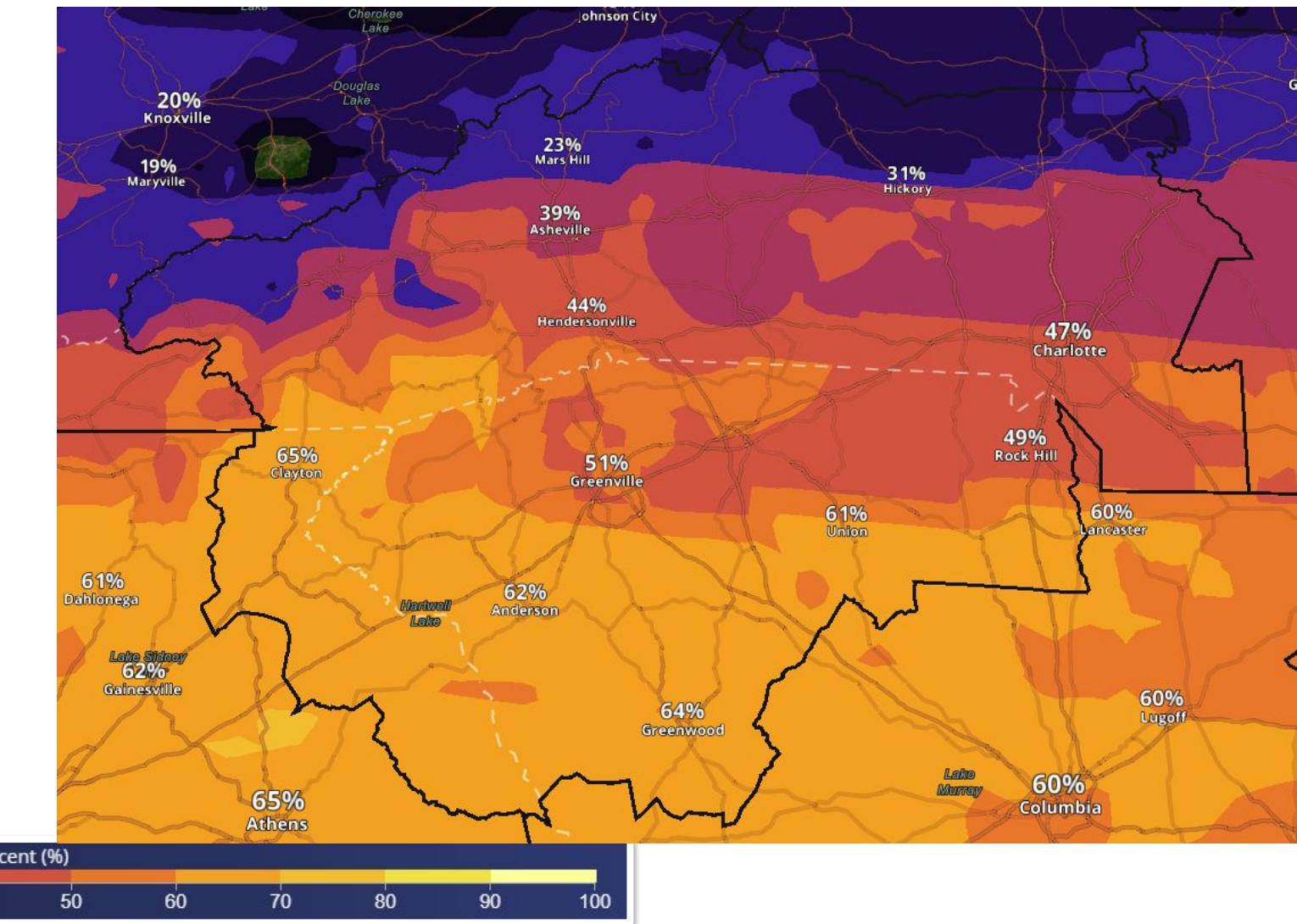
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Over the 48 hour period between 7 PM Friday and 7 PM Sunday

Likelihood of 4 inches of snow or greater



Likelihood of 0.25 inch of ice accumulation or greater



Not an official forecast: The above images are a numeric representation of our confidence that these thresholds will be reached.
For locations outside the NWS GSP service area (bold black line), consult the local NWS office's briefings or forecasts.



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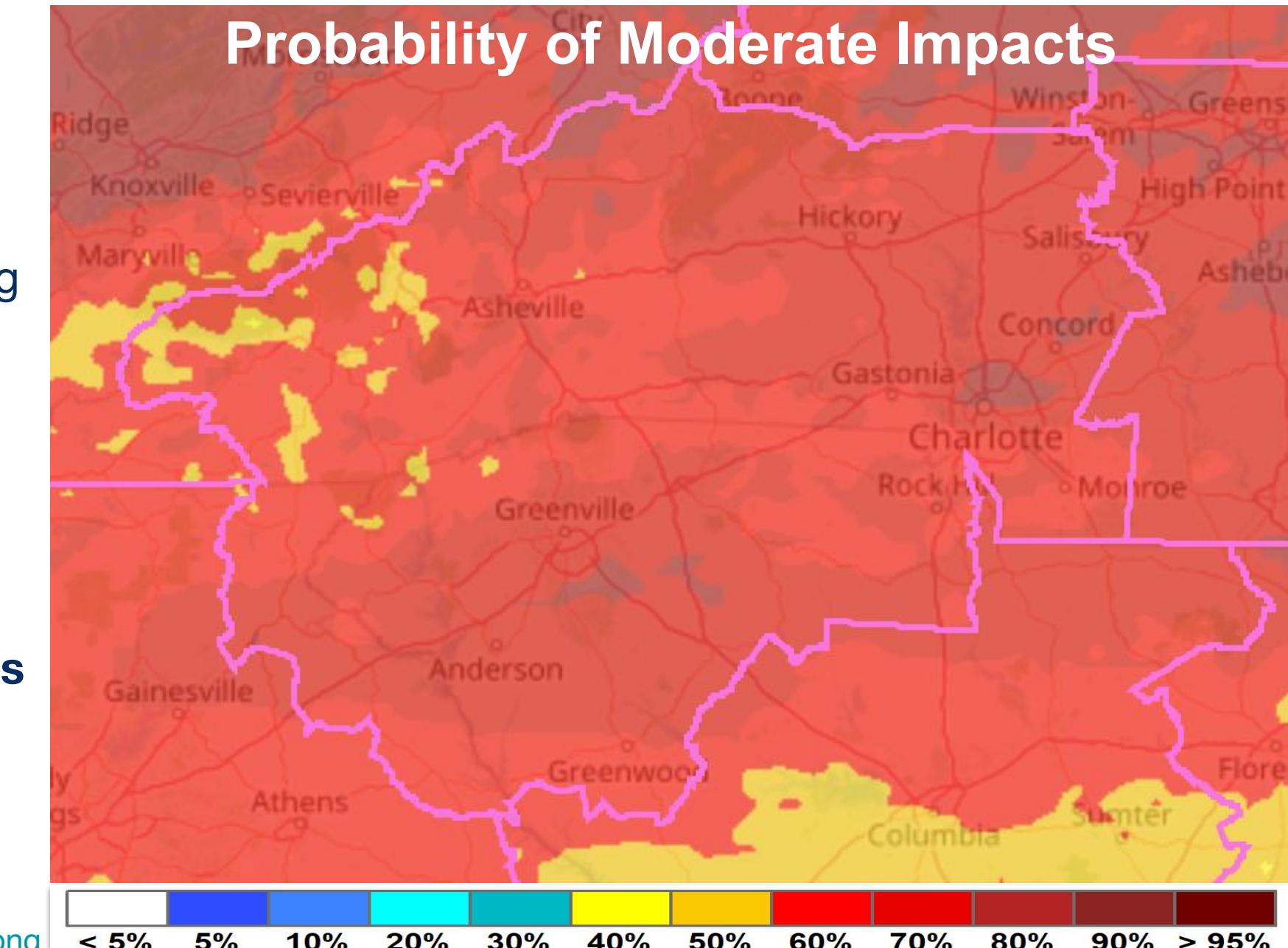
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Precipitation impacts most likely to begin early Saturday and peak Saturday night

Key Messages

- Confidence is increasing (60-70%) on at least moderate impacts from the higher amounts of snow, sleet, and ice occurring Saturday through Sunday.
- Confidence is high for the area receiving minor impacts (90%+) as well.
- Moderate winter storm impacts are disruptions to daily life that include: **hazardous driving conditions, road closures, and infrastructure disruptions like power outages.**



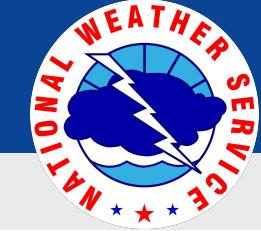
Explanation of the product at right:

<https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/wwd/wssi/WSSI-P-infographic.png>



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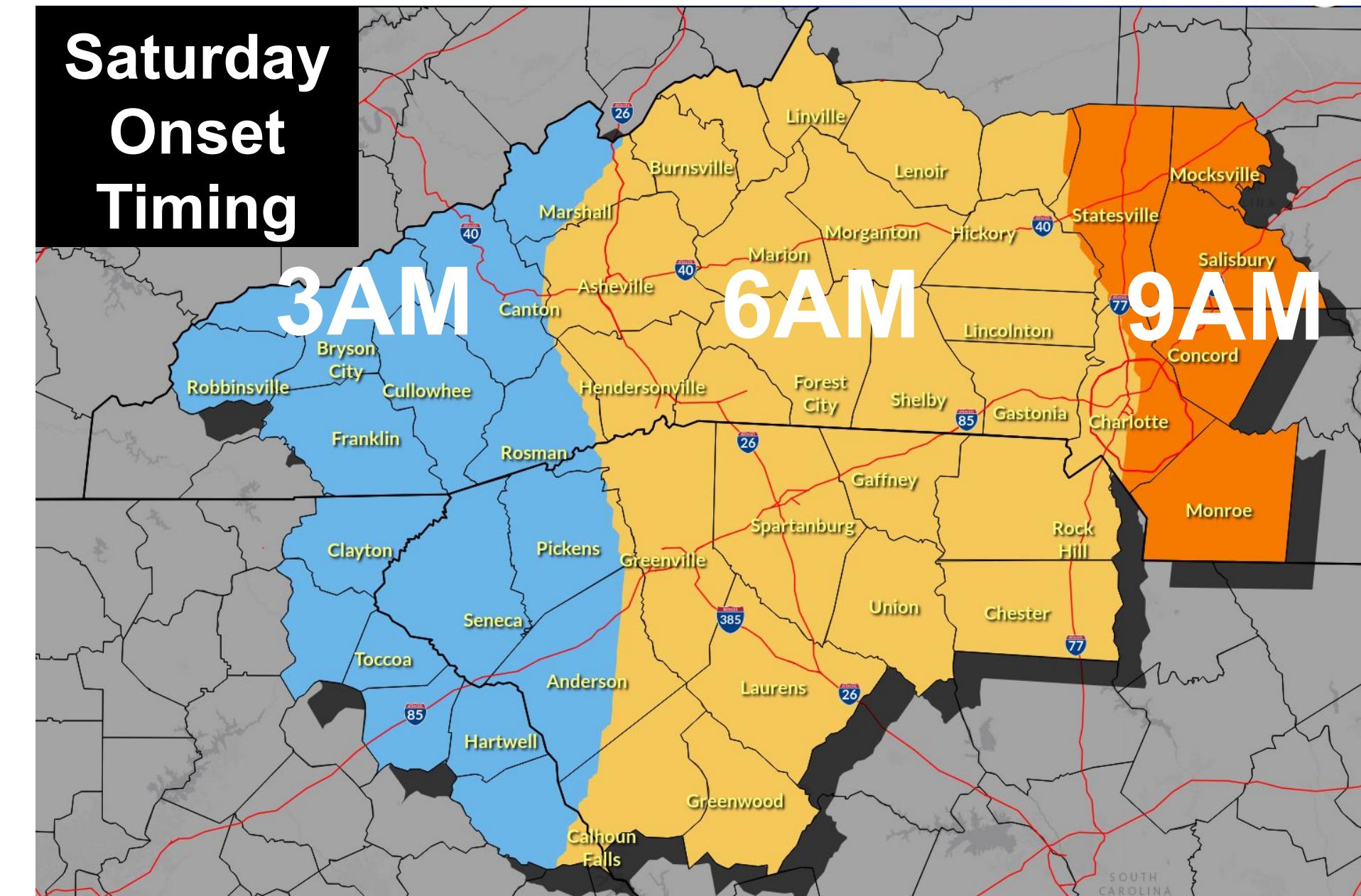
Timing of Winter Precip Onset

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Most likely onset timing of winter storm

Hazard Details

- **SUBJECT TO CHANGE.** The onset timing (right) shows when there is a 50% chance of snow/sleet in our official forecast.
- ***The main wintry precip could begin earlier or later depending on where the system tracks over the next few days.***
- Wintry precipitation is expected Saturday through Sunday and should taper off Sunday night.
- The heaviest amount of precip looks to be Saturday night into Sunday morning (at this time).



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Cold Outlook for Next Week

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Temperatures likely to remain below normal Monday-Thursday

Post-Event Outlook

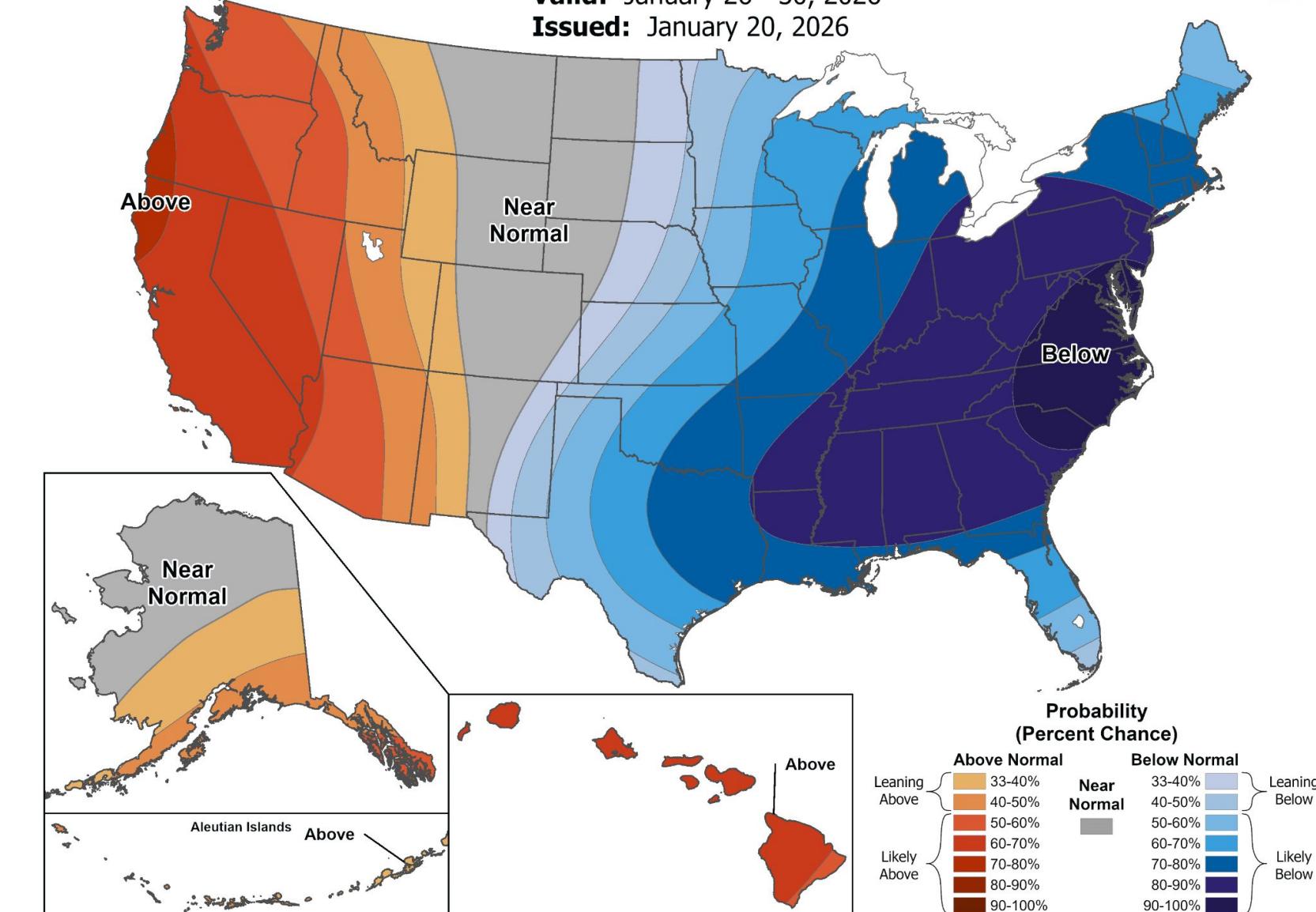
- Dangerously cold wind chills may develop Monday night into Tuesday morning which could result in hypothermia or frostbite for those exposed to the elements.
- Snow and ice are likely to linger through early next week due to cold temperatures.
- Recovery, in terms of repairing any power outages or clearing roads, could be slower than usual.



6-10 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: January 26 - 30, 2026

Issued: January 20, 2026



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Contact and Next Briefing Information

For the western Carolinas and northeast Georgia



Briefing Webpage

- weather.gov/media/gsp/YouTube/brief.pdf



Next Briefing

- By 5 PM Wednesday, January 21, 2026
- Method: Email PDF
- Live Webinar: **4 PM Wednesday, January 21, 2026**
- Link to register:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7680988573377121376>



Disclaimer

- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive.
- **Do Not Use After: 5 PM Wednesday, January 21, 2026**



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