



Winter Weather Briefing

January 22, 2026
3:32 PM

Decision Support Briefing #5 for the western Carolinas and northeast Georgia

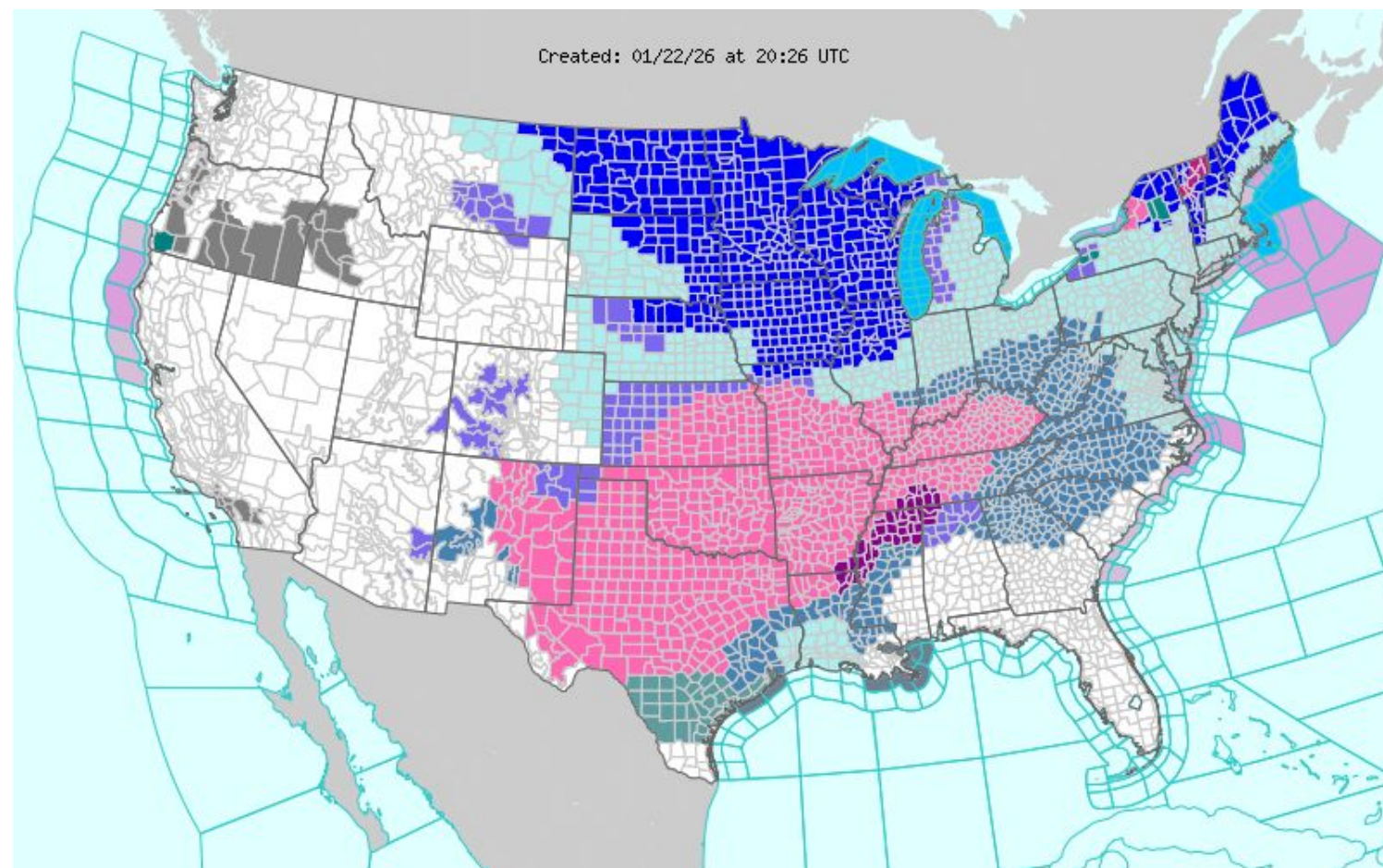
NEW

Important Updates

- No changes to Winter Storm Watch in our area.
- Forecast continues to trend toward greater impacts from ice/sleet and less impact from snow.
- First issuance of "most likely" (single-value) forecast snow/sleet and ice amounts.
- Next webinar scheduled for **4 PM Friday, January 23, 2026**. (Link to register on last page.)

Key Messages

- A major winter storm system is set to impact the entire area this weekend.
- Frigid temperatures next week could extend the threat for hazardous travel and impacts from power outages.



Snow Squall Warning
Ice Storm Warning
Heavy Freezing Spray Warning
Winter Storm Warning
Lake Effect Snow Warning
Gale Warning
Extreme Cold Warning

Winter Weather Advisory
Cold Weather Advisory
Flood Advisory
High Surf Advisory
Dense Fog Advisory
Small Craft Advisory
Brisk Wind Advisory

Wind Advisory
Freezing Fog Advisory
Freezing Spray Advisory
Winter Storm Watch
Rip Current Statement
Gale Watch
Extreme Cold Watch

Marine Weather Statement
Air Quality Alert
Air Stagnation Advisory
Hydrologic Outlook



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

National Weather Service
Greenville-Spartanburg, SC



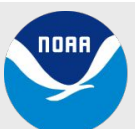
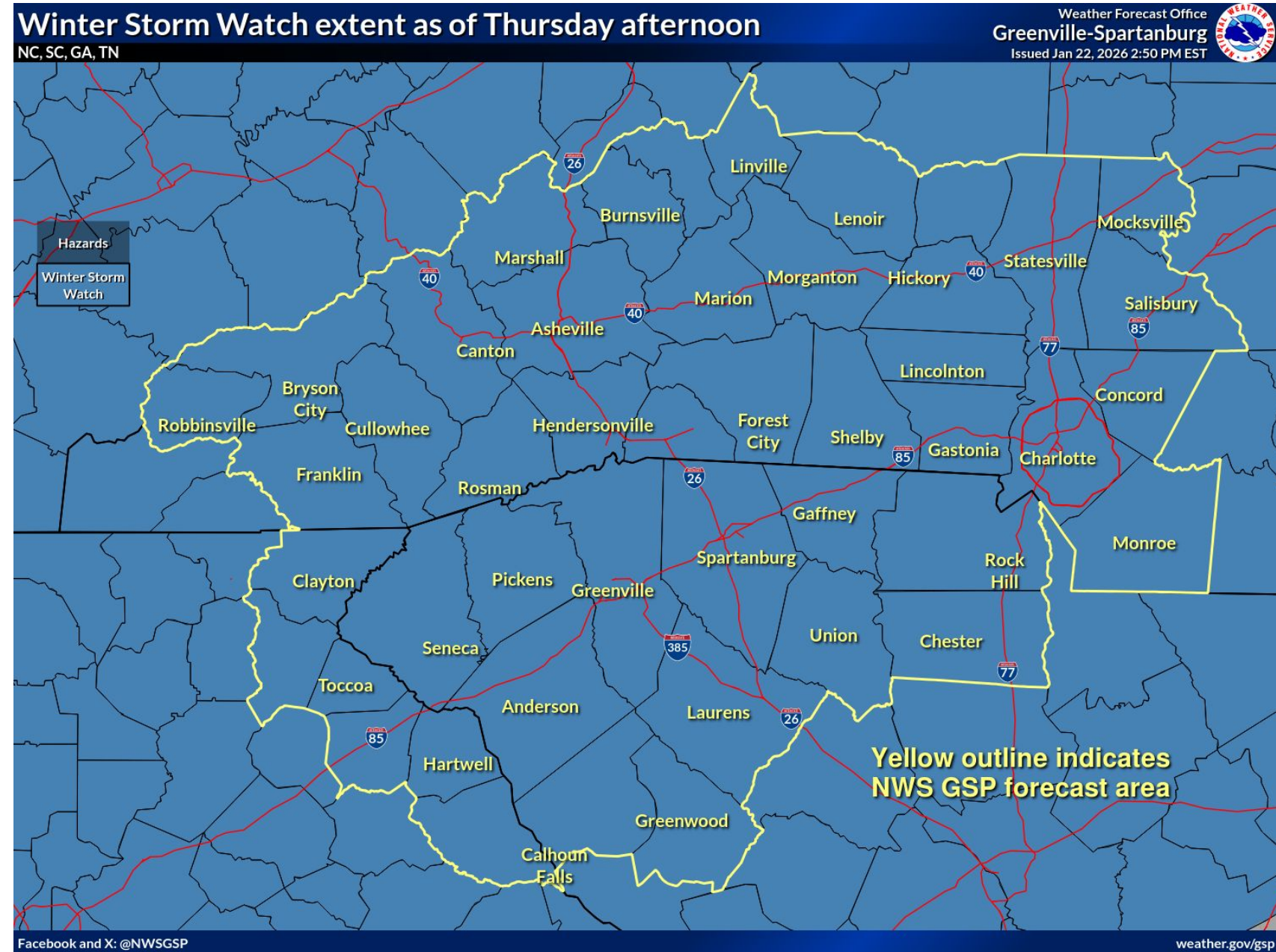
Winter Storm Watch

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For the entire NWS GSP forecast area, and surrounding counties

Key Messages

- A Winter Storm Watch remains in effect for our forecast area from 7 AM Saturday through 1 PM Monday. Watch in effect for all neighboring areas, but start/end time varies.
- Expected impacts include:
 - ◆ Significant ice accumulation on power lines and tree limbs, causing widespread and long-lasting power outages.
 - ◆ Treacherous, likely impassable ice and snow covered roadways lasting into the beginning of next week.
- Consider delaying all travel until after road conditions improve.
- Upgrades to Winter Storm Warning or Winter Wx Advisory could occur tonight.



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Atmospheric Administration
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Greenville-Spartanburg, SC



Precipitation Type Challenges

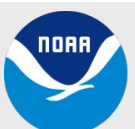
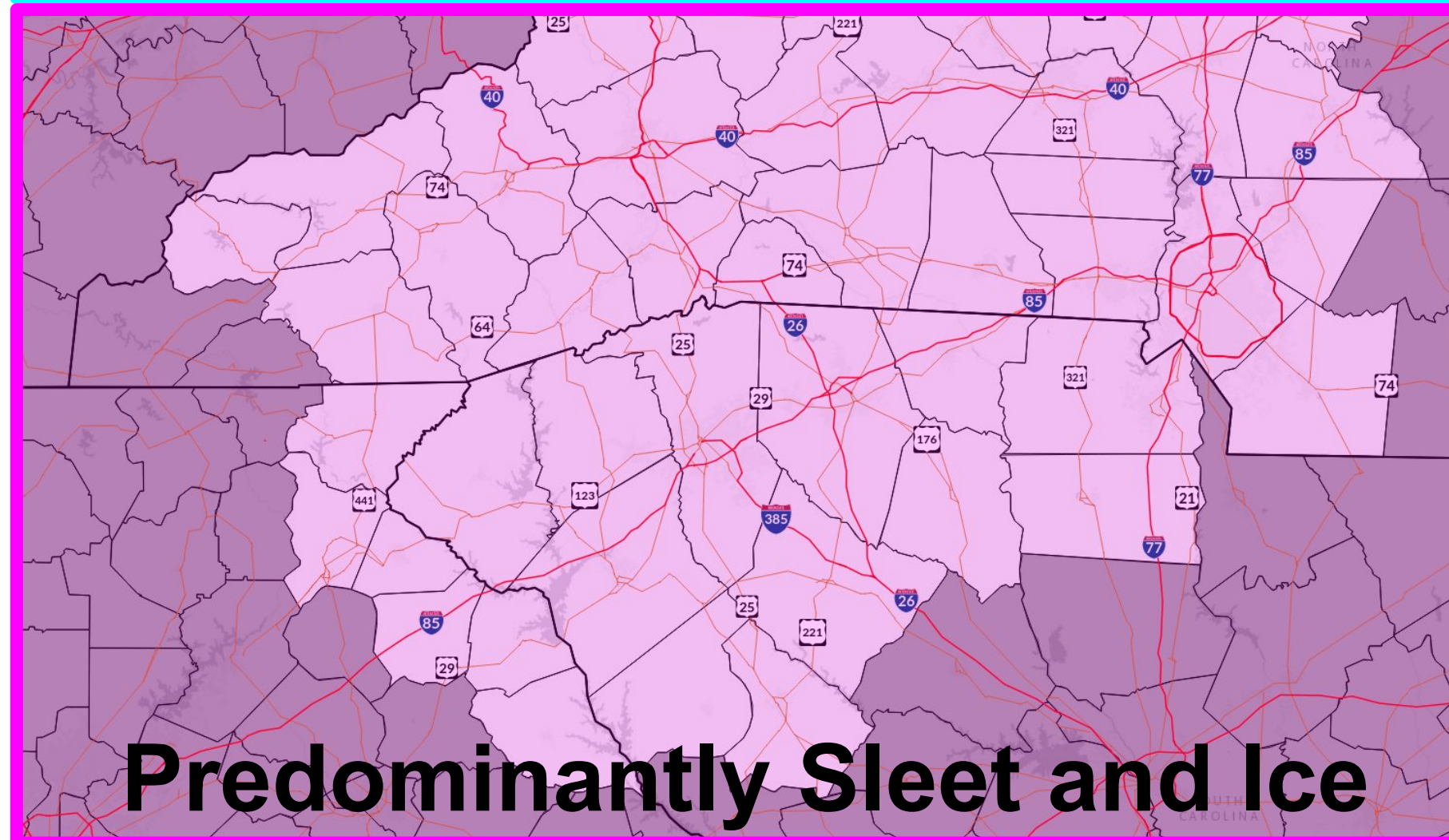
January 22, 2026

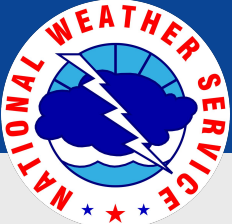
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Forecast continues to trend toward more sleet and ice, versus pure snow

Forecast Challenge

- Accumulations are highly dependent on where the transition zone sets up between snow and ice/sleet.
- That transition zone shifted farther north on last night's forecast, but did not change much today, and is in a similar location near or north of I-40.
- Confidence has increased that impacts across the area will be primarily due to freezing rain (ice) and sleet.
- We are not yet "buying" the warmer temperatures some models show as moving into the area Sunday.
 - ◆ Rain depicted in some forecasts could instead fall as freezing rain or sleet. Forecast totals eventually could increase for that reason.



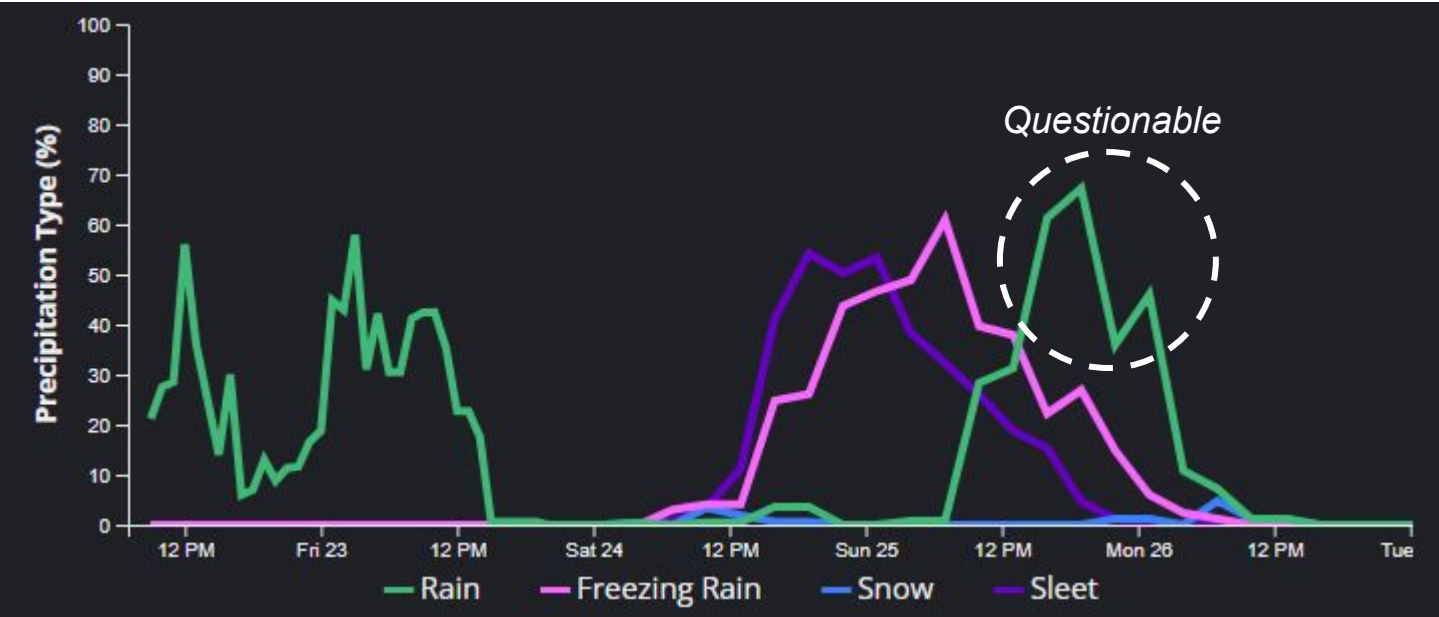


Precipitation Type: Relative Timing

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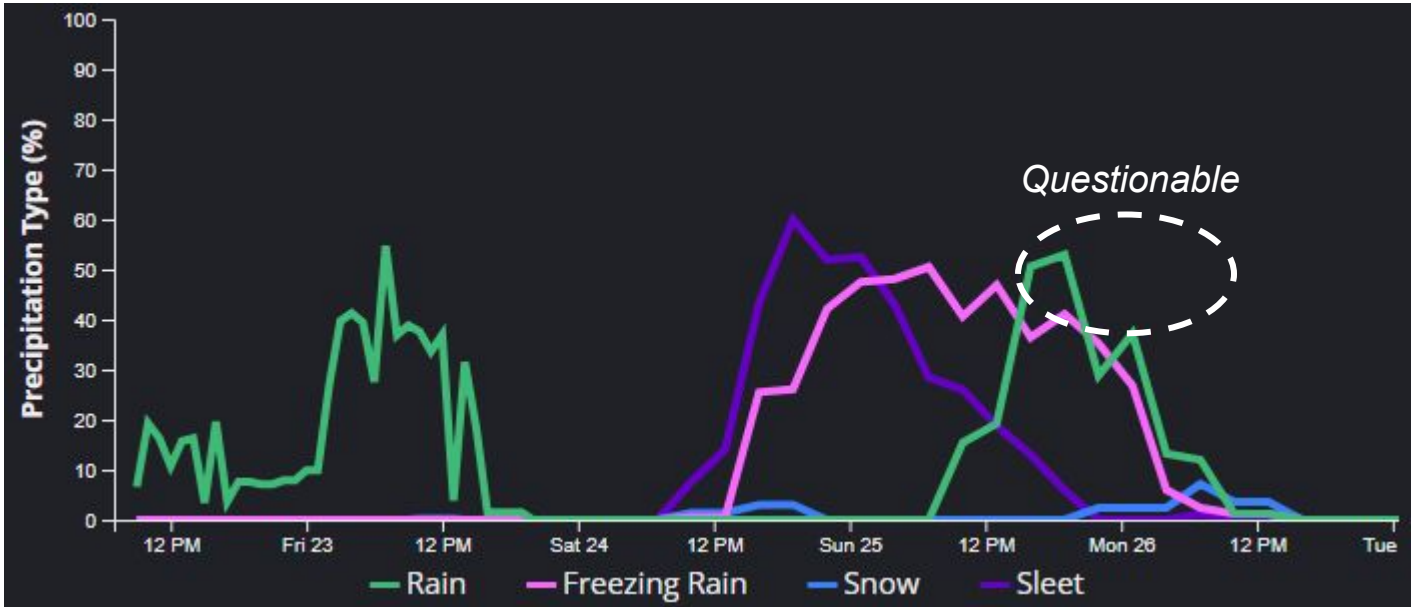
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

GSP Airport



FORWARD IN TIME

Charlotte



FORWARD IN TIME

HIGHER CHANCE



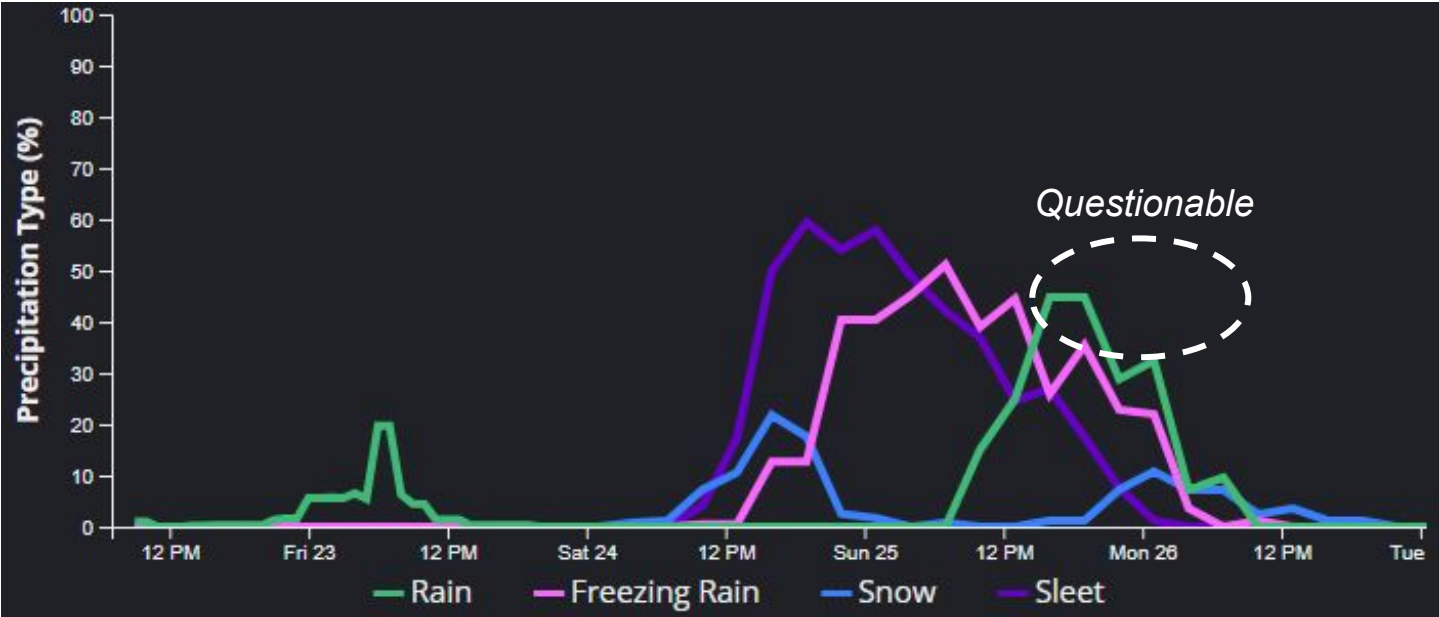


Precipitation Type: Relative Timing

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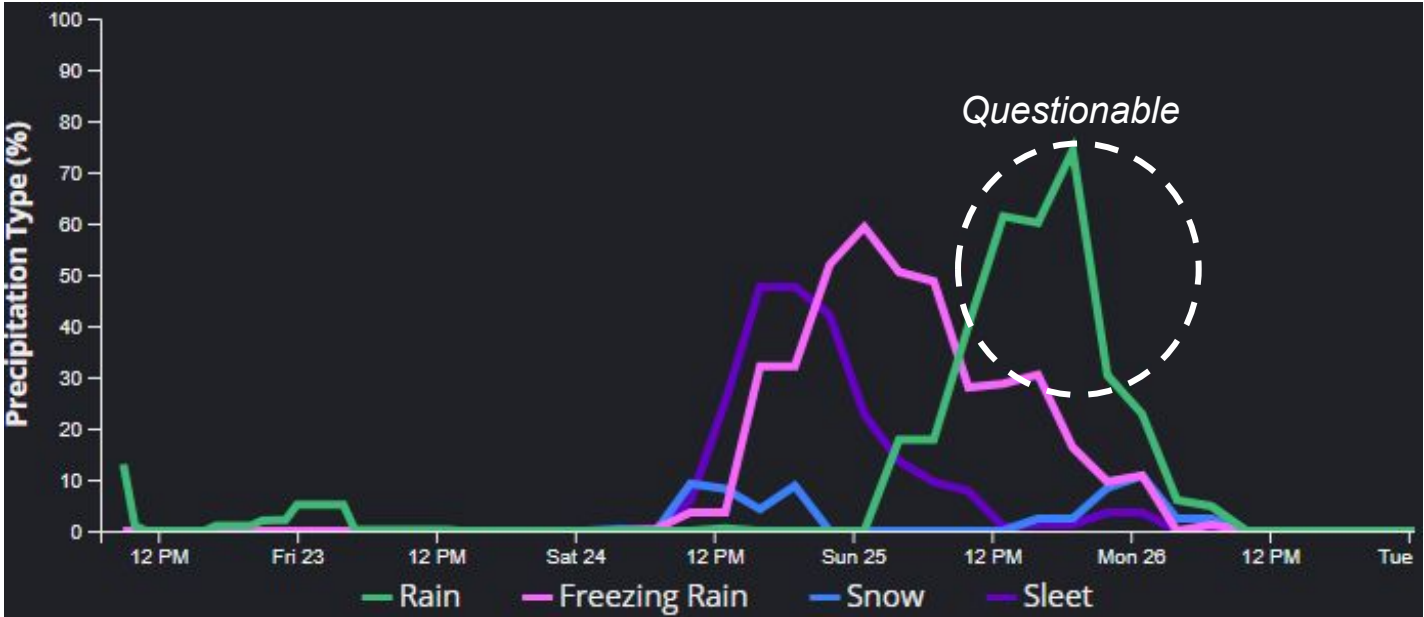
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Hickory



FORWARD IN TIME

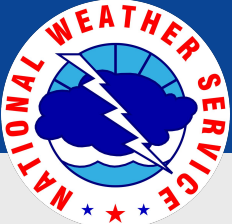
Asheville



FORWARD IN TIME

HIGHER CHANCE



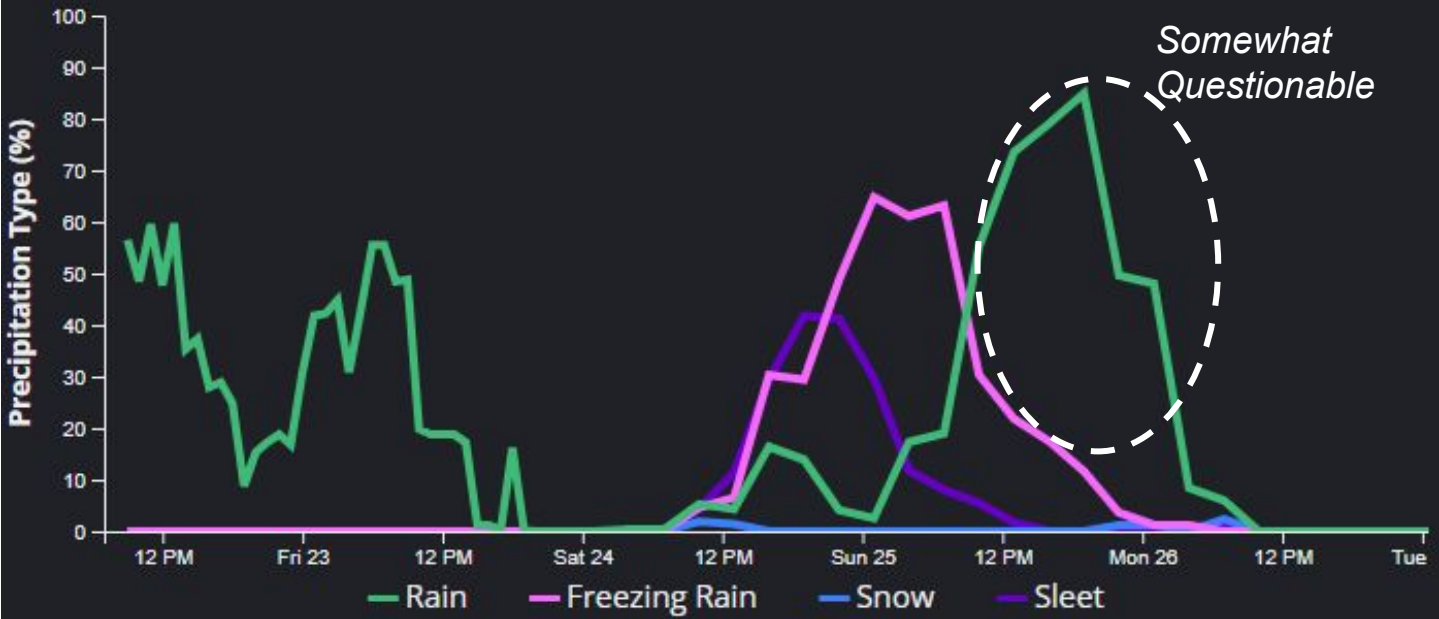


Precipitation Type: Relative Timing

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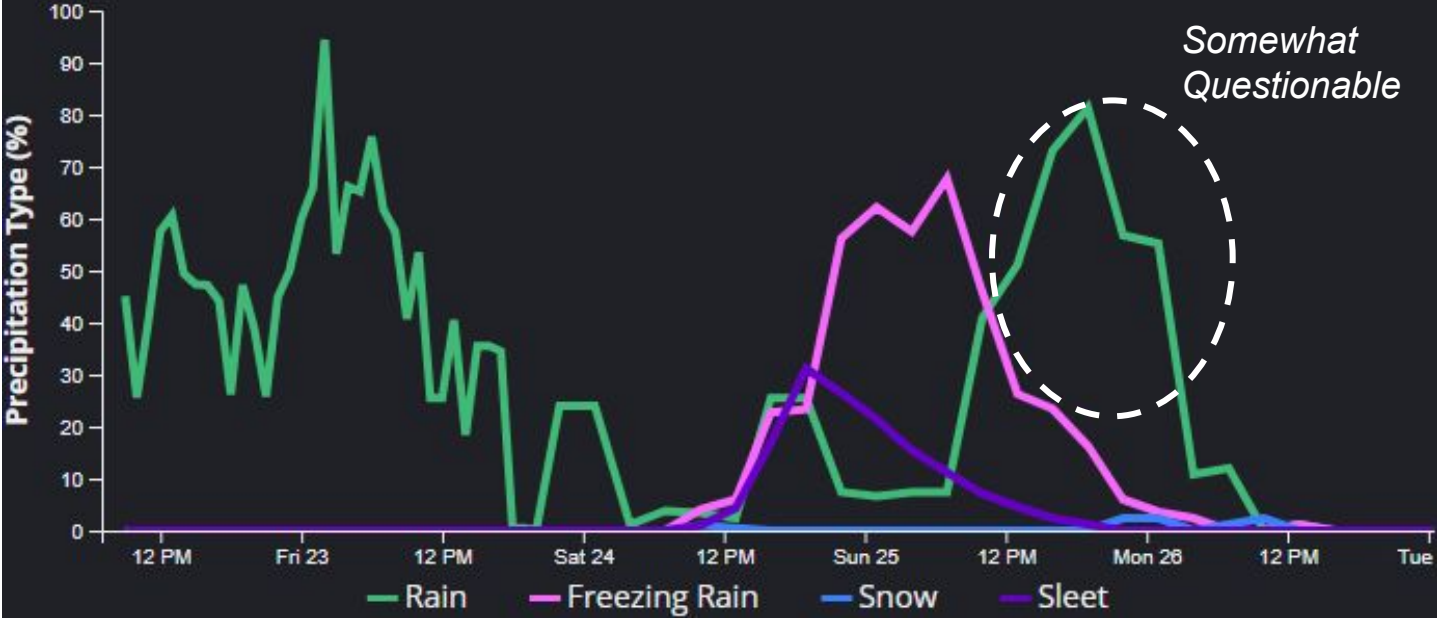
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Toccoa



FORWARD IN TIME

Elberton



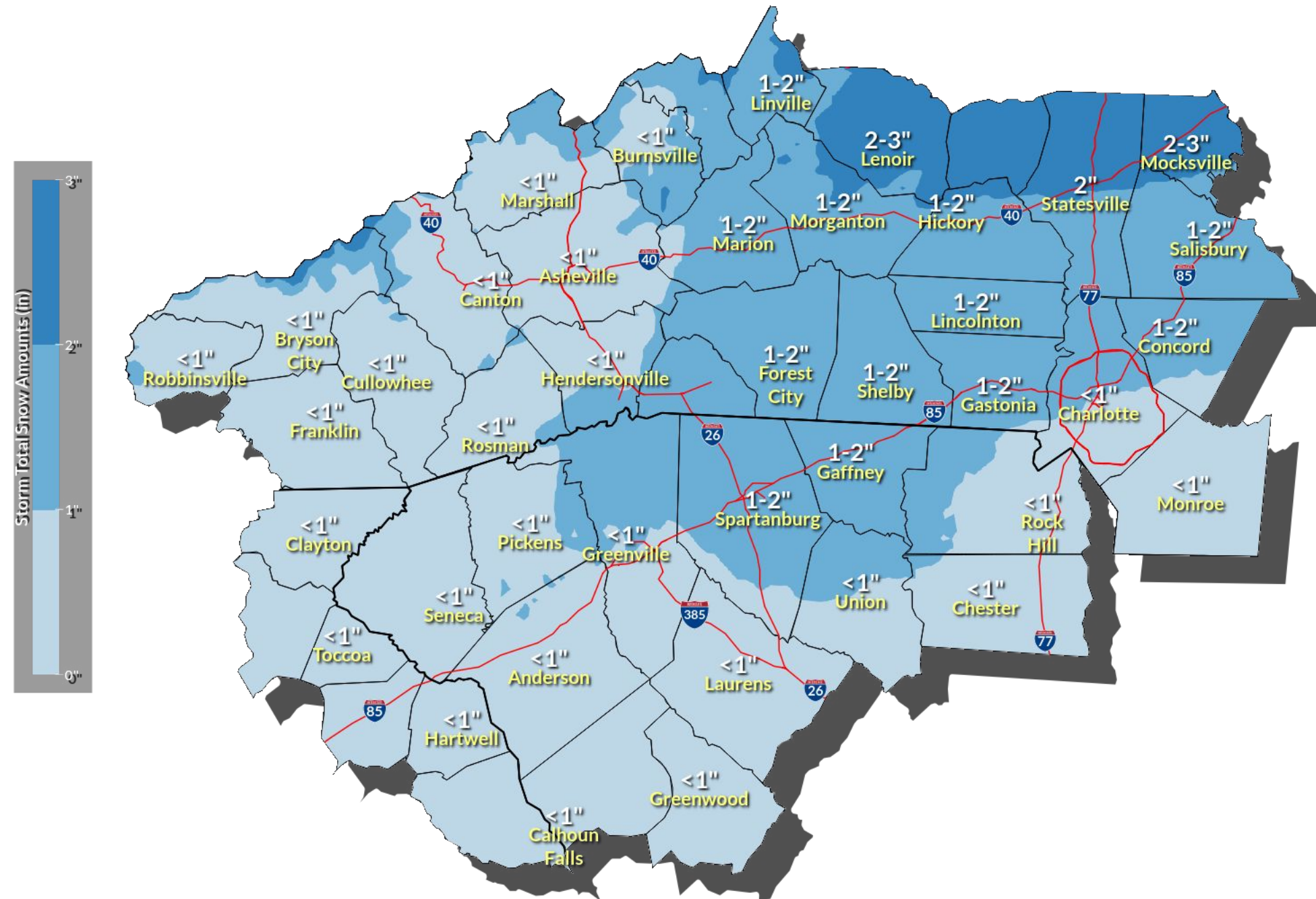
FORWARD IN TIME





For the period 7 AM EST Saturday to 7 AM EST Monday

- Sleet accumulation contributes to NWS forecast snow accumulation and climate data, **so the totals at right should be interpreted as total snow and sleet.**
- Over most of the area, these totals are almost entirely due to sleet, though some snow may mix in early in the event in areas north of I-40 and in high elevations along the TN border.
- Additional light snowfall may occur along the TN border Sunday night but that is insignificant considering the rest of the event.





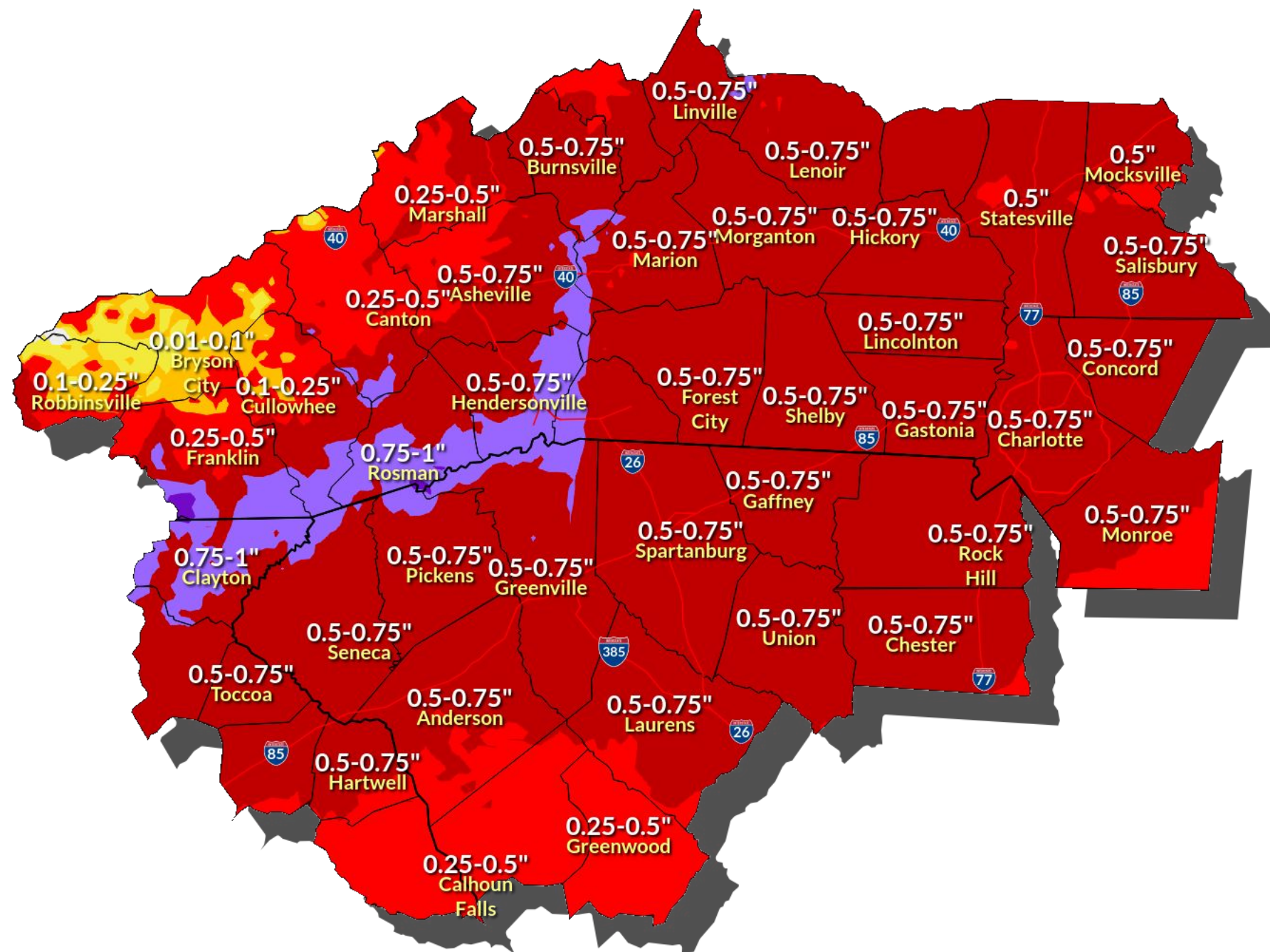
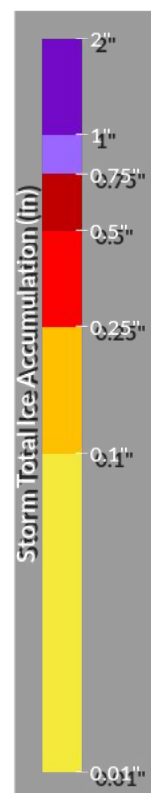
Storm Total Ice

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For the period 7 AM EST Saturday to 7 AM EST Monday

Key Messages

- Ice accumulation will result from freezing rain.
- Even 0.25" of ice is associated with widespread power outages, so there is high confidence power outages will be a public impact.
- Accumulated sleet/snow combined with freezing rain may lead to very thick icing on roadways which is slow to melt, even once temperatures rise above freezing.

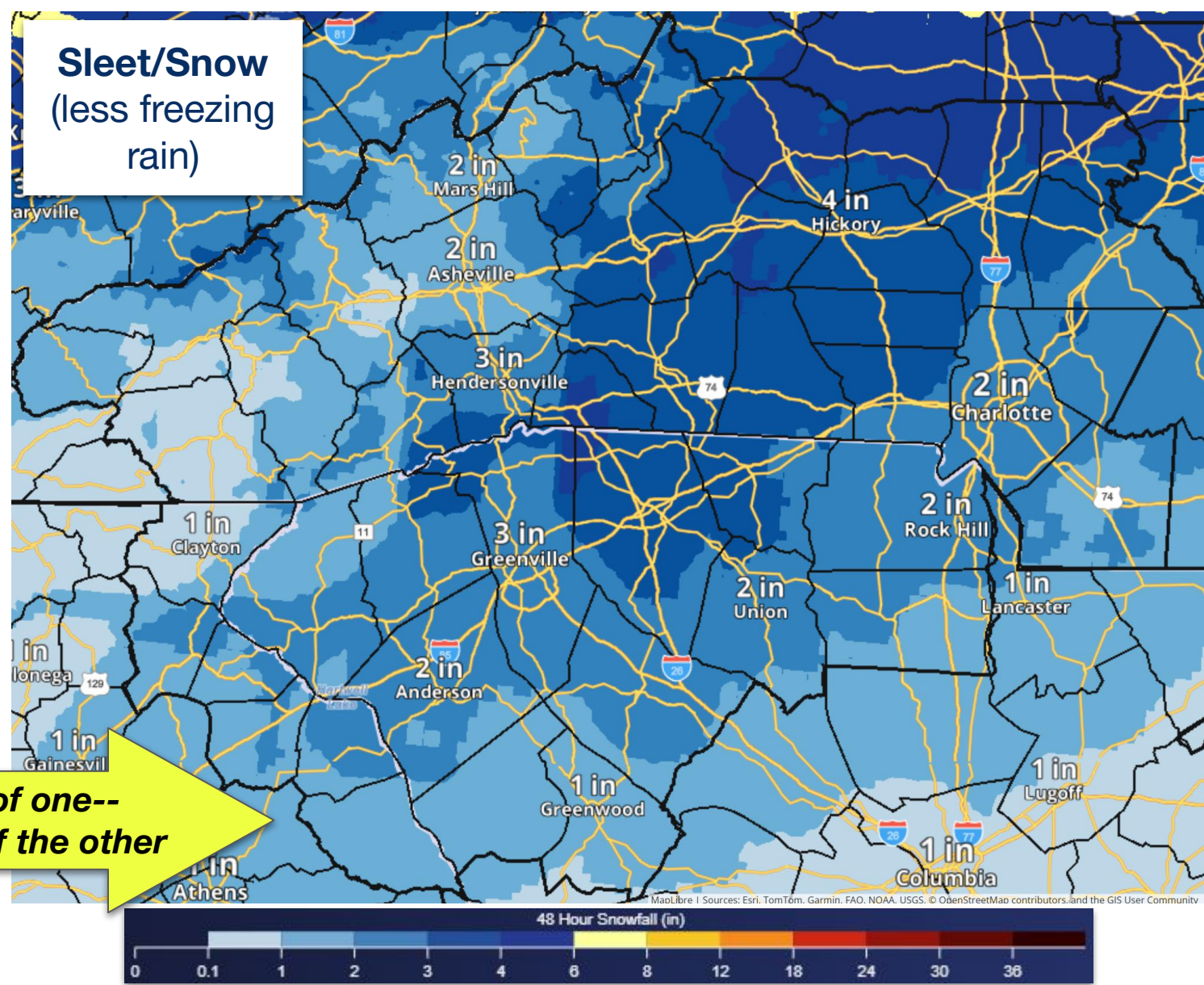
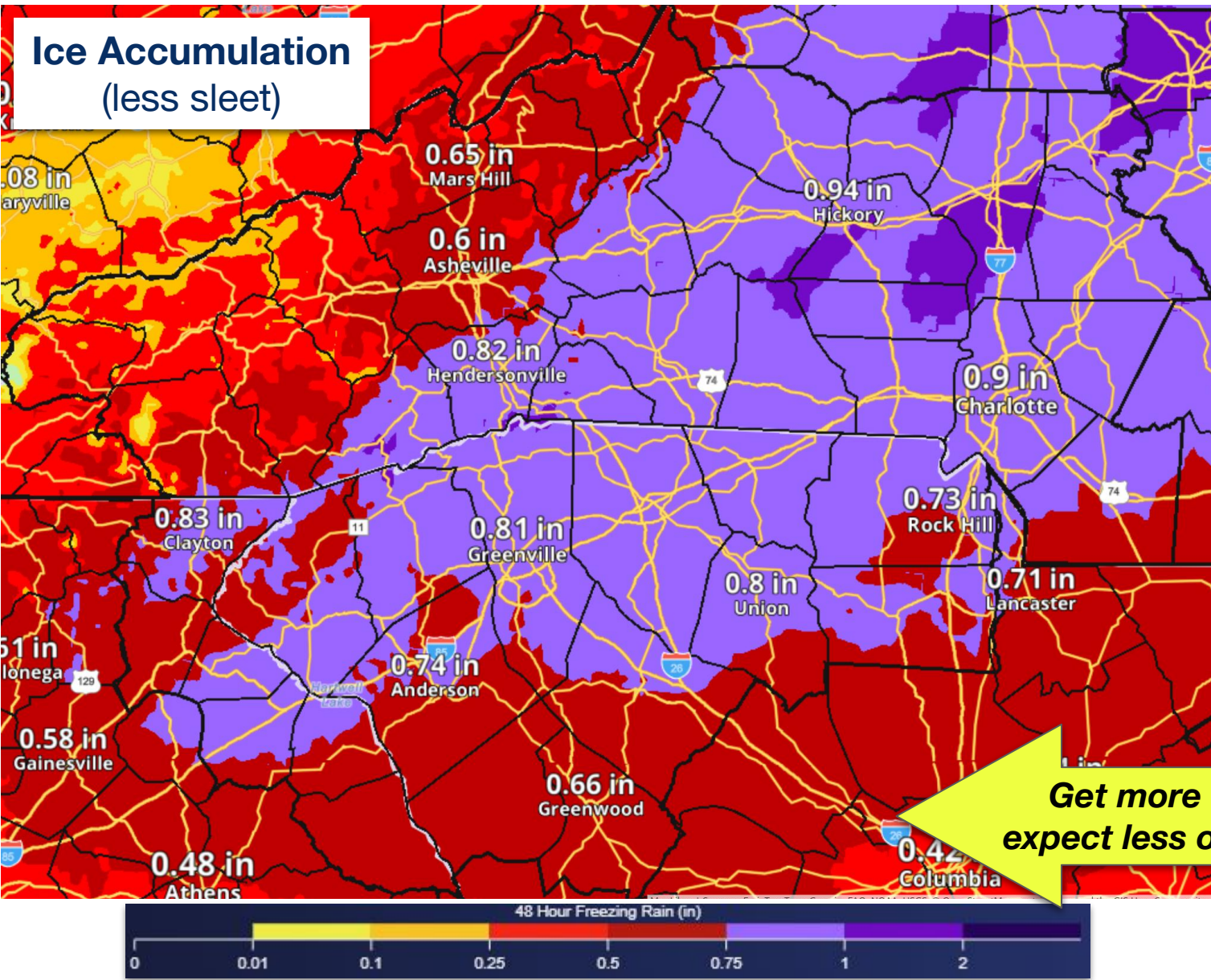




Reasonable High-End Amount

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Over the 48 hour period between 7 AM Saturday and 7 AM Monday



Get more of one--
expect less of the other

Not an official forecast: A representation of the potential for higher accum. amounts than what we believe is the most likely amount.
For locations outside the NWS GSP service area, consult the local NWS office's briefings or forecasts.



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Greenville-Spartanburg, SC



Most Likely Timing of Winter Precip. Onset

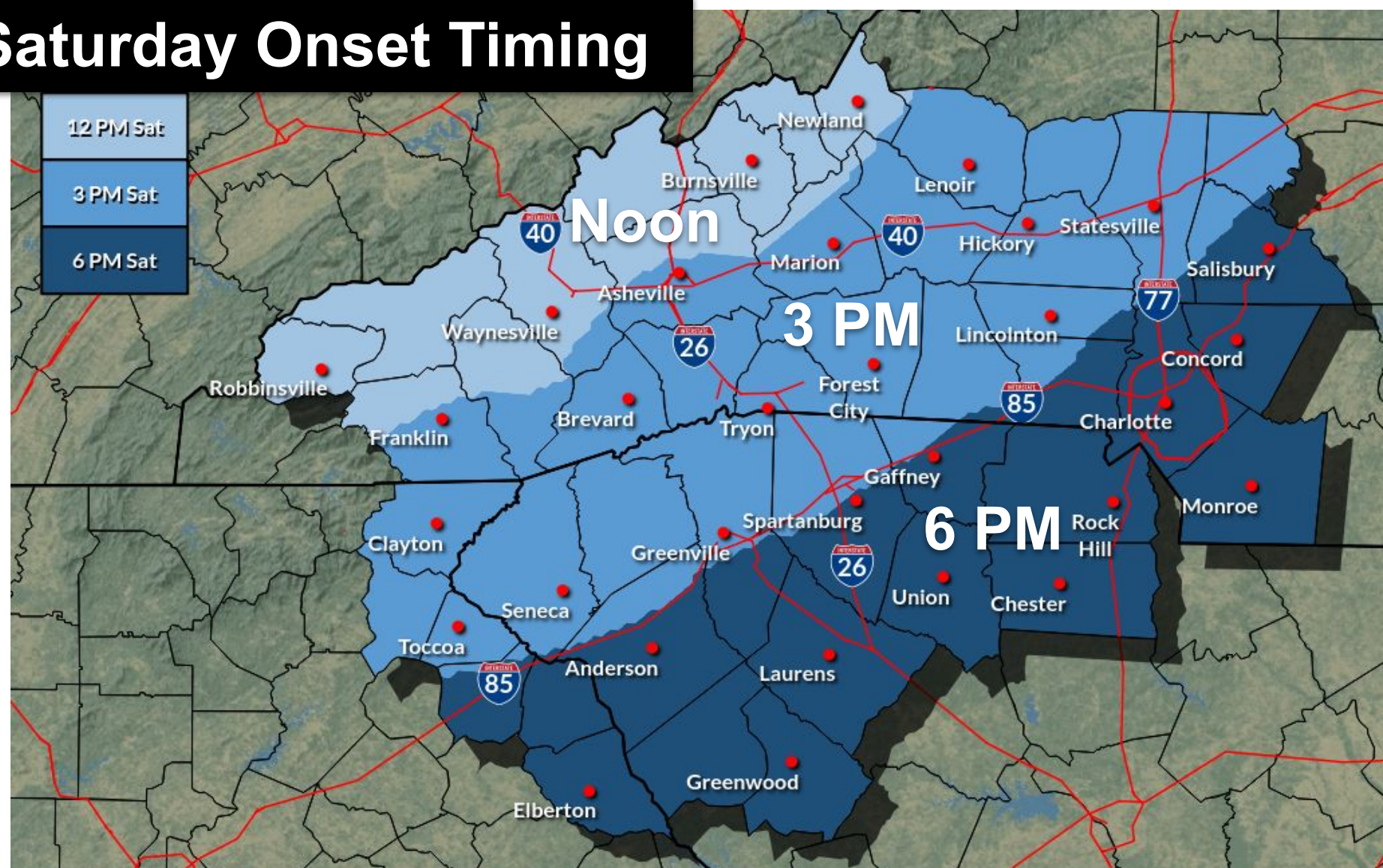
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SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Hazard Details

- Timing (at right) is based on when chance of *wintry precip* rises above 50% in our official forecast. For most areas, precip will begin as a mix of sleet and freezing rain.
- ***This timing still could change.***
- The best overall chances of wintry precip, and the fastest rates of accumulation, are Saturday night and Sunday (at this time).
- Regardless of how precipitation types change over the course of the event, precipitation is likely to end Sunday night.

Saturday Onset Timing





Cold Outlook for Next Week

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Temperatures likely to remain below normal Monday-Thursday

Post-Event Outlook

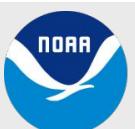
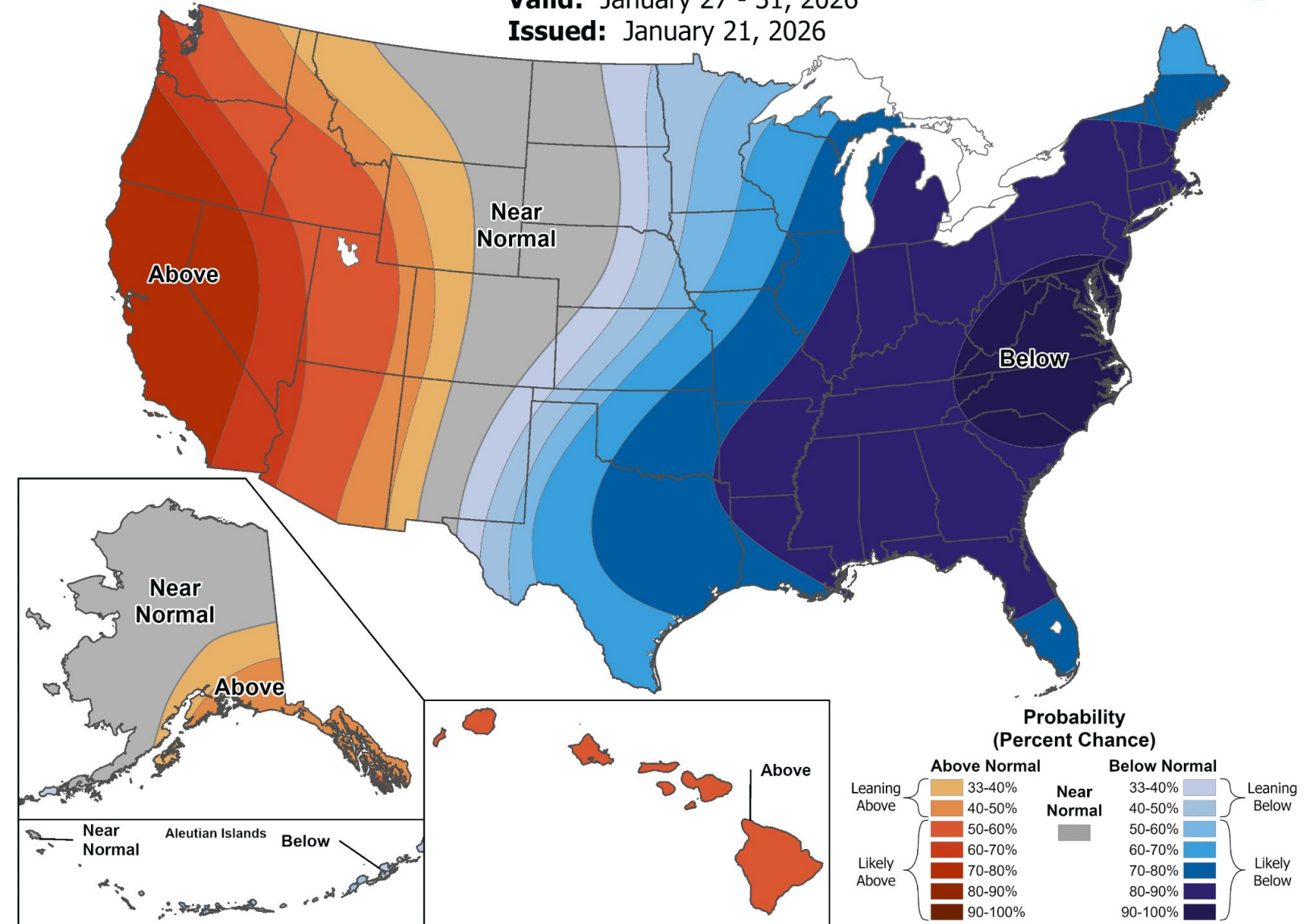
- Confidence is increasing that dangerously cold wind chills may develop Monday night into Tuesday morning, which could result in hypothermia or frostbite for those exposed to the elements.
- Snow and ice are likely to linger through early next week due to cold temperatures.
- Recovery, in terms of repairing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



6-10 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: January 27 - 31, 2026

Issued: January 21, 2026



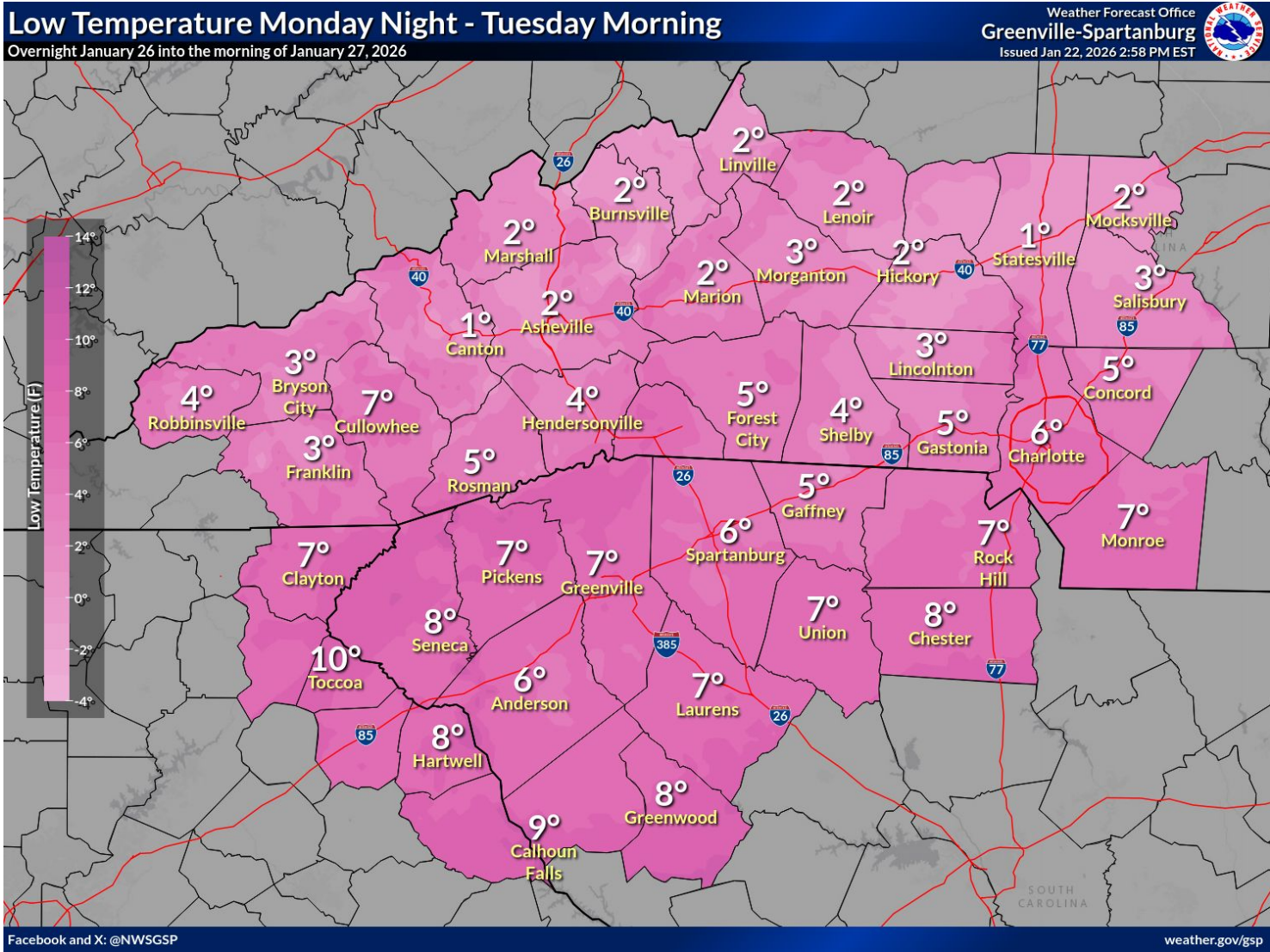


Exceptionally Cold Monday Night

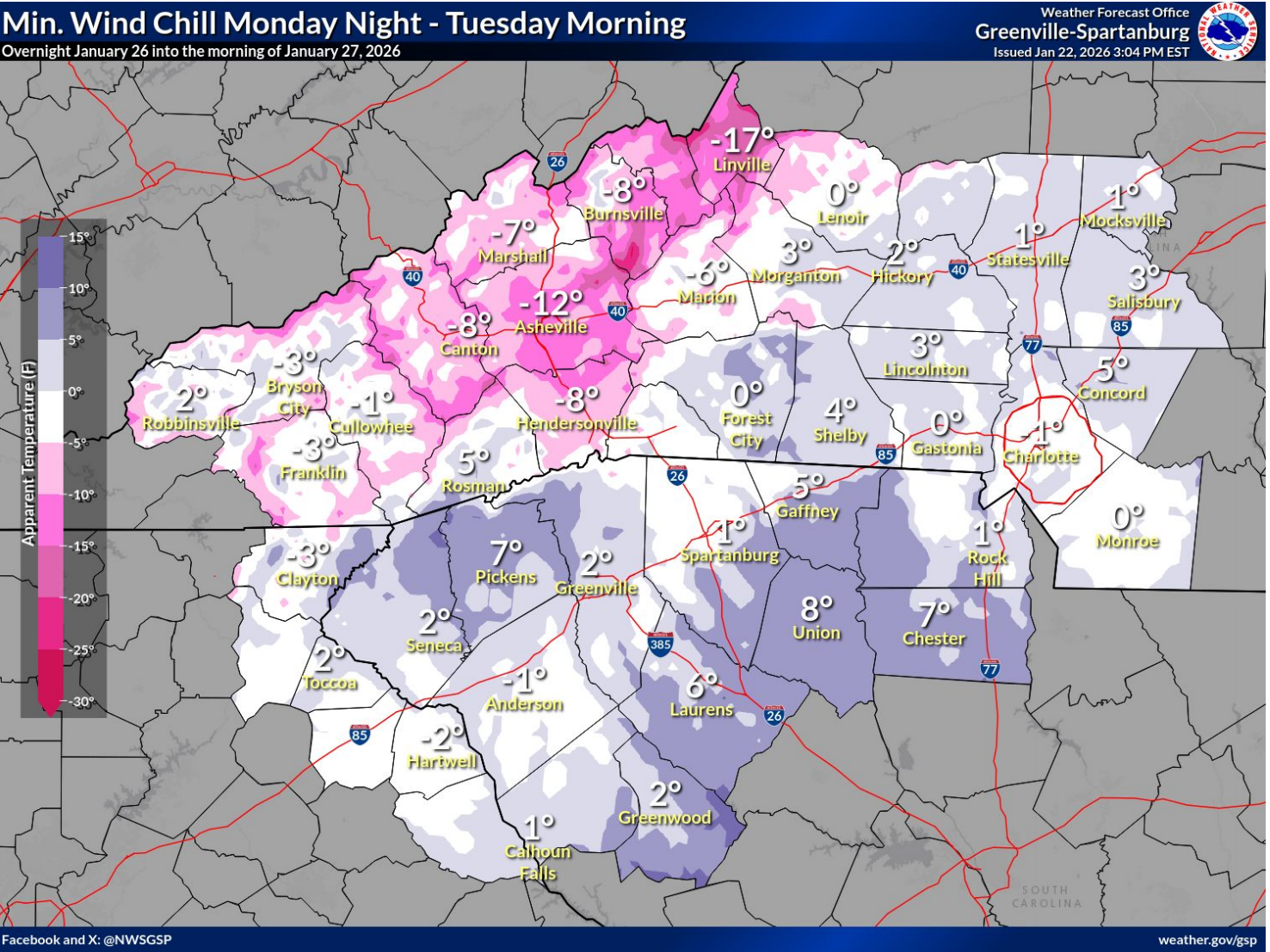
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into Tuesday morning

Low temperatures (air temp)



Minimum wind chill (7 PM Mon - 9 AM Tue)



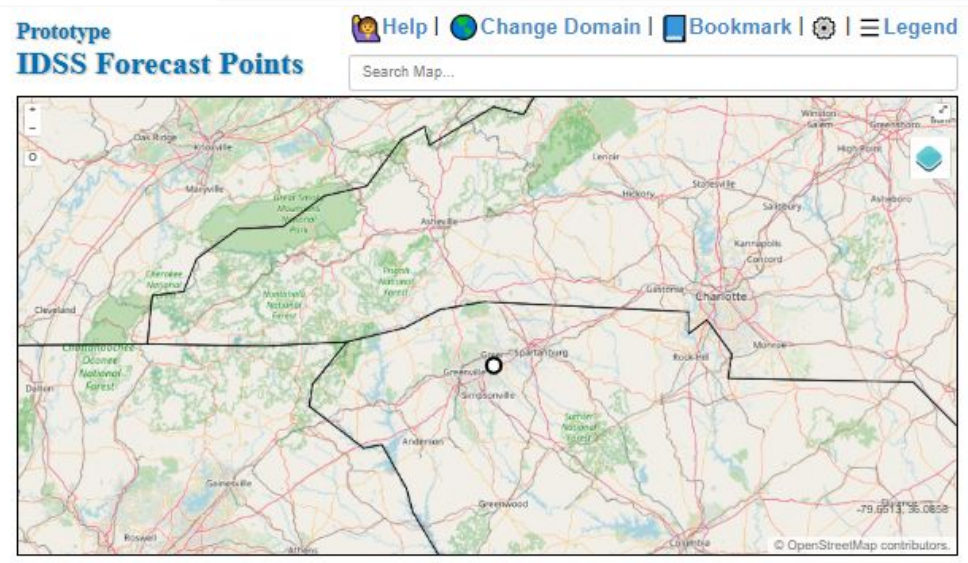


IDSS Forecast Point Page

For Point-Specific Forecasts

IDSS Forecast Points

- To get point-specific hourly forecast information, check out our IDSS Forecast Points page
- www.weather.gov/forecastpoints
- Can customize your hourly plot order/look for your specific thresholds

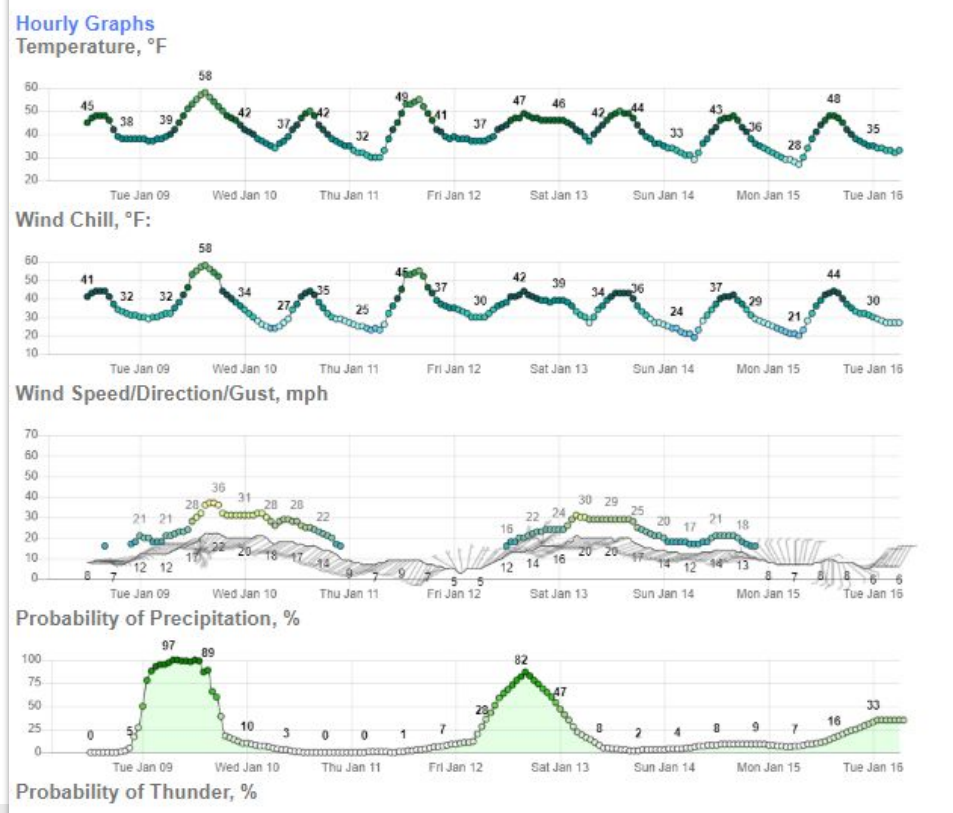


Wind Advisory from 1000 am EST Tue. 1/9/2024 to 1000 pm EST Tue. 1/9/2024
Flood Watch from 1200 am EST Tue. 1/9/2024 to 700 pm EST Tue. 1/9/2024
Table updated: 957 am EST Mon. 1/8/2024 (Last Update: 103 minutes ago)
[Click for Text Forecast](#)
[GSP Forecast Discussion](#)
4 miles S of Greer, SC

Weekly Summary							
	Mon Jan 8	Tue Jan 9	Wed Jan 10	Thu Jan 11	Fri Jan 12	Sat Jan 13	Sun Jan 14
Max Temp, °F	49	59	50	55	50	50	48
Min Temp, °F	38	37	34	30	37	36	29
Min Wind Chill, °F	31	29	24	23	30	27	19
Max Wind, mph	10	22	21	9	16	21	14
Min Wind, mph	7	12	9	5	3	14	9
Max Wind Gust, mph	18	37	32	14	24	31	21
Max Prob. of Precip., %	27	100	9	9	87	41	9
Max Prob. of Thunder, %	0	13	0	0	18	7	1
Max Dew Point, °F	30	54	35	35	43	42	24
Min Dew Point, °F	28	33	28	28	32	25	22
Max RH, %	74	100	82	94	91	90	73
Min RH, %	46	81	48	46	73	43	38
Max Cloud Cover, %	95	99	50	35	87	49	38
Min Cloud Cover, %	30	55	12	7	48	22	19
Outlooks							
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3				
Severe Thunderstorm	Not Expected	Marginal	Not Expected				
Excessive Rainfall	Marginal	Slight	Not Expected				

Day of week:	Monday 1/8												Tuesday 1/9				
Time:	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM	1AM	2AM	3AM
Weather:																	
Temperature (°F):	43	45	47	48	48	48	46	42	39	38	38	38	38	38	38	37	37
Wind Chill, °F:	38	41	43	44	44	44	41	37	34	33	32	31	31	30	30	29	30
Wind Speed (mph):	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	7	7	7	8	9	10	12	12	12	12
Wind Gust (mph):	13	13	14	14	15	16	15	13	13	14	15	17	18	21	20	20	18
Wind Direction (°):	60	80	90	90	90	90	80	70	70	70	70	60	60	60	60	60	60
Wind Direction:	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖	↖
Prob. of Precip. (%):	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	5	17	27	50	78	88	93
Prob. of Thunder (%):	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2
Precip. Amount (in.):	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Snow (in.):	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ice (in.):	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dew Point (°F):	29	29	28	28	28	28	29	29	29	29	29	30	30	30	32	33	35
RH (%):	57	53	48	46	46	46	52	59	65	69	71	71	74	78	81	87	92
Sky Cover (%):	37	43	49	37	34	30	47	49	60	72	87	94	95	96	97	97	98

⌂ Configure Plot Order ⌂ Configure Plot Look





Contact and Next Briefing Information

For the western Carolinas and northeast Georgia



Briefing Webpage

→ weather.gov/gsp/brief



Next Briefing

- By 5 AM Friday, January 23, 2026
- Method: Email PDF
- *Next Live Webinar: 4 PM Friday, January 23, 2026*
- Link to register:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4814247299479698784>

Disclaimer



Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive.

→ **Do Not Use After: 2 AM Friday, January 23, 2026**



Contact Information

Web

→ weather.gov/gsp

Phone

→ 864-848-3859

Email

→ nws.er.gsp.met@noaa.gov

Facebook

→ <https://facebook.com/NWSGSP/>

X

→ <https://x.com/NWSGSP>

