

Significant Winter Storm

January 11, 2024

4:20 AM

Key Messages

Key Messages:

- Confidence in a significant winter storm in our area continues to increase.
 - **Friday AM:** burst of heavy snow near/N of I-80. 2-3 hour period of 1-2"/hr rates.
 - **Friday Afternoon - Night:** Worst conditions of the event develop.
- While temperatures on Friday afternoon will be similar to Tuesday's system, impacts are expected to be much more significant due to more prolonged and higher snowfall rates.
- Colder air and stronger winds arrive Fri. night → fluffier and blowing snow. Potential near-blizzard conditions.

NEW

What Has Changed:

- No significant changes. If confidence continues to increase, Winter Storm Warnings & Advisories will be needed later today.

Next Scheduled Update:

- Thursday January 11th by 4 PM CST



Photo: Colleen Heneghan Boyer

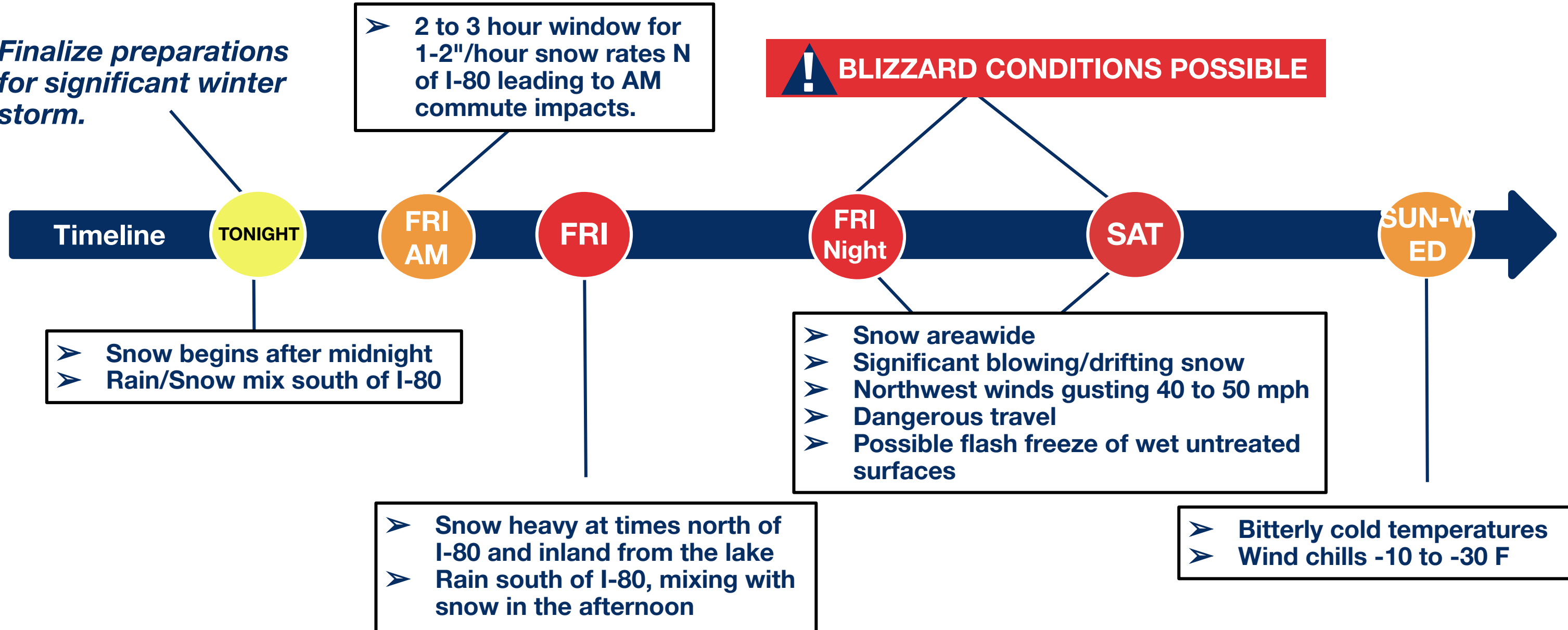


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Timeline of expected winter impacts late tonight through Sunday

Finalize preparations for significant winter storm.



Weather Impact

Little to None

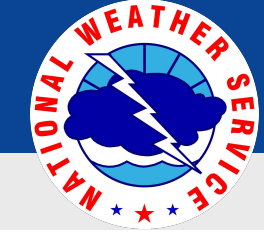
Minor

Moderate

Major

Extreme



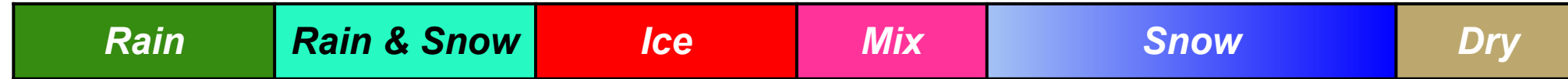


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Approximate Precipitation Type and Intensity Timeline.

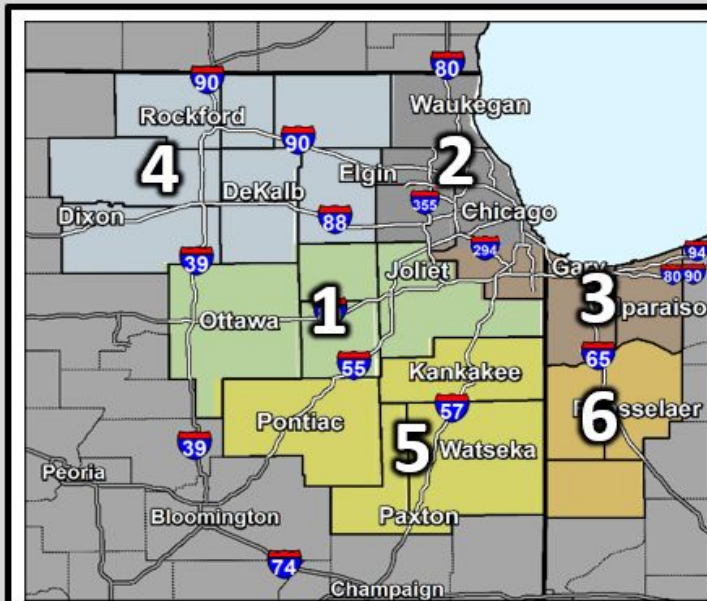
Times are estimates for each region



Approx. window for 1"/hr + rates

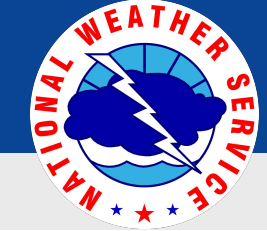
Low Rates → High Rates

Find your general location on the map, identify the number, and look at the corresponding line for a rough timeline of precipitation types and intensities.



- 1** La Salle, Morris, Grundy, Will
- 2** DuPage and Central/North Cook, Lake
- 3** Southern Cook, Lake (IN), Porter
- 4** Rockford Area, Kane, McHenry
- 5** Pontiac, Watseka, Kankakee Area
- 6** Benton, Newton, Jasper

	THU-6PM	THU-9PM	FRI-1AM	FRI-5AM	FRI-9AM	FRI-1PM	FRI-5PM	FRI-9PM	SAT-1AM	SAT-5AM
1										
2										
3						1"/hr+ rates dependent on rain/snow line!				
4										
5										
6										



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Summary of impacts Friday into Saturday morning

What To Expect



Accumulating and Blowing Snow

Wind gusts up to 40 to 50 mph Friday night



NEAR ZERO VISIBILITY



SNOW COVERED ROADS



DANGEROUS TRAVEL



Friday through Saturday Morning

Worst impacts likely late Friday afternoon - early Saturday



Northern IL and Northwest IN

Highest confidence for areas near/northwest of I-55/94 (red shaded area)

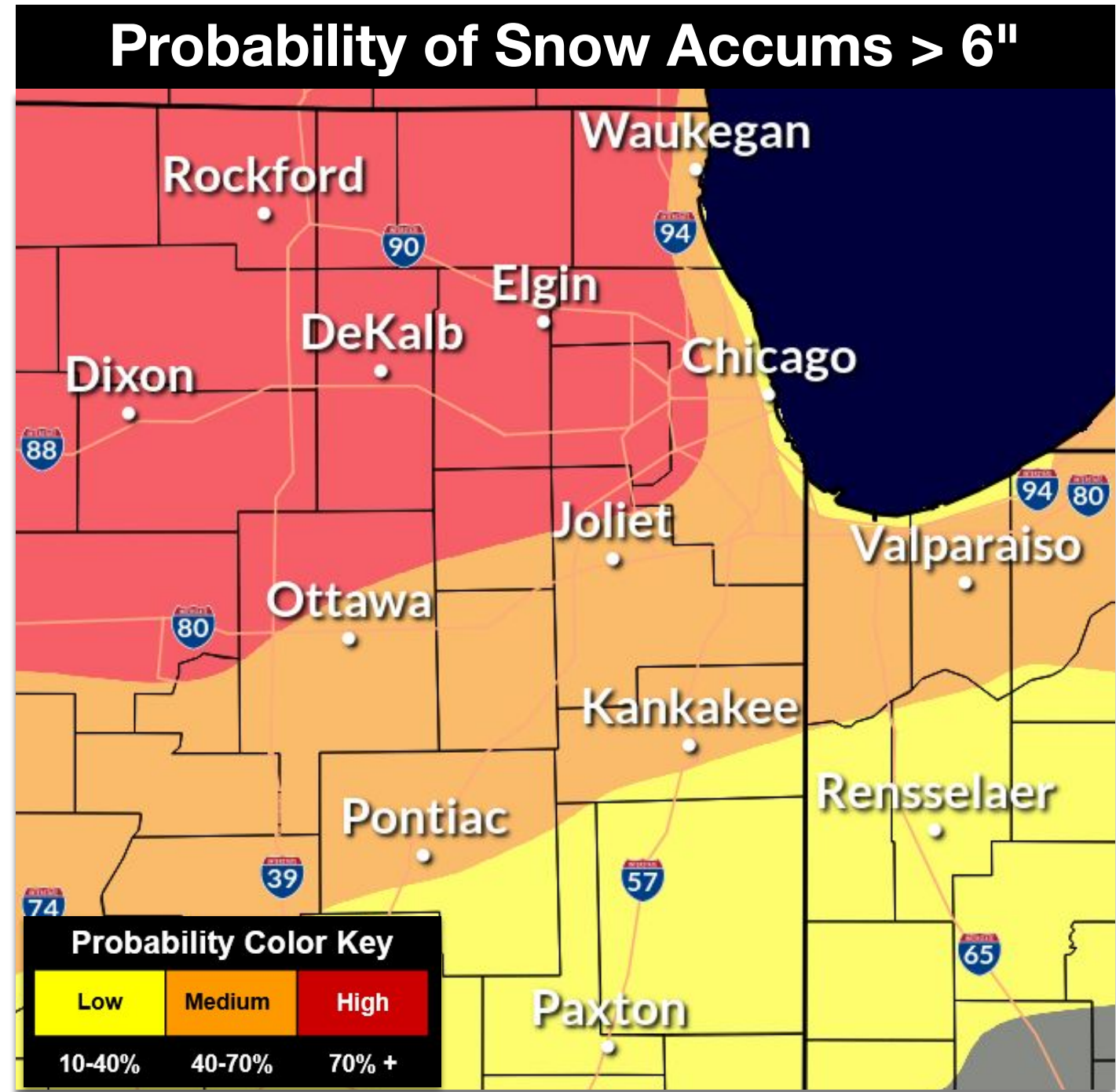
Main Uncertainties



1. Evolution of rain/snow line a bit uncertain: may move north of I-88 Friday midday, but expected to rapidly dive south through the afternoon.
2. Warm lake should limit significant accums. at immediate lakefront, but just how much remains unclear.

What You Should Do

- ✓ Prepare for possible travel impacts.
- ✓ Stay up to date on the forecast.





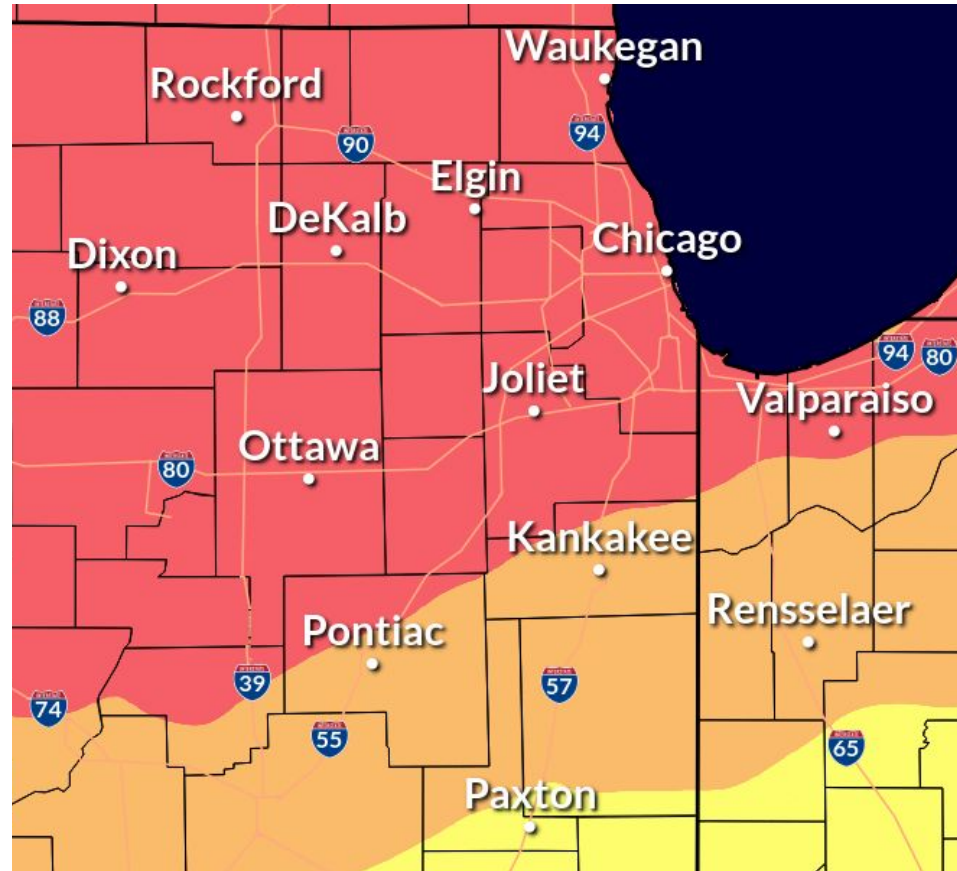
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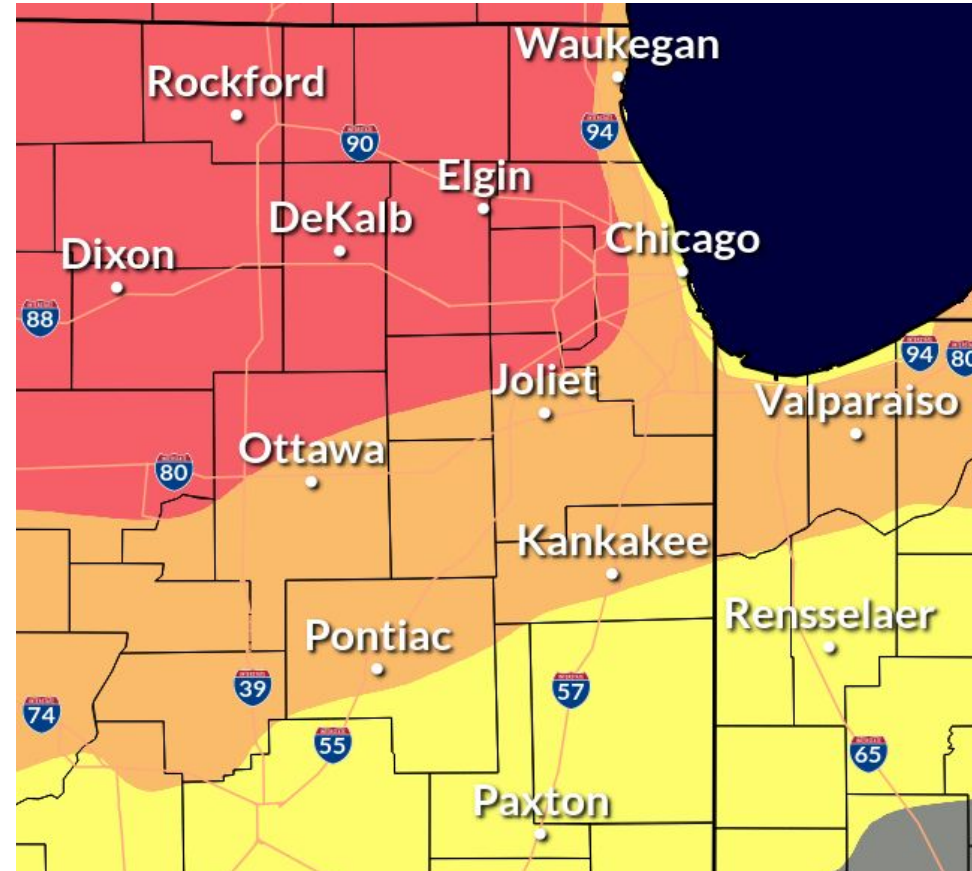
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Snow accumulation probabilities

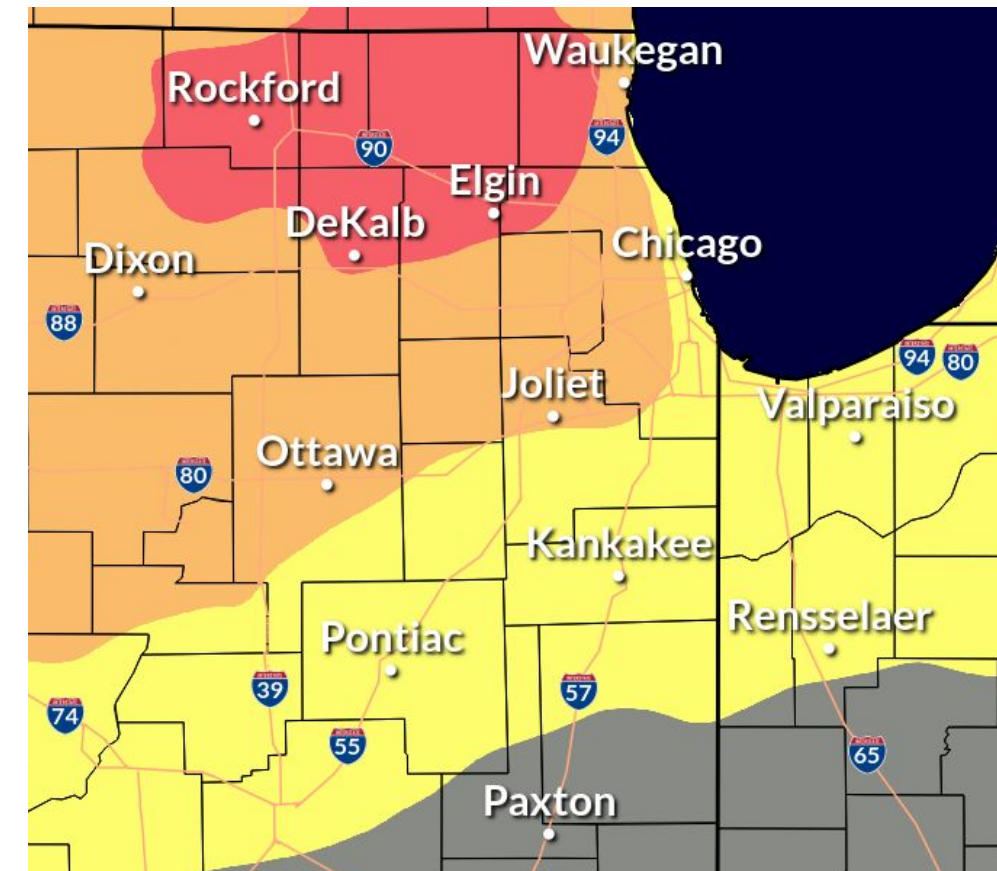
Probability of 4" or More of Snow



Probability of 6" or More of Snow



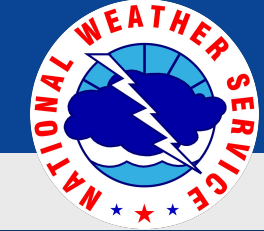
Probability of 8" or More of Snow



- *Temperatures (snow to liquid ratio) will impact totals*
- *Sharp gradient in accumulation closer to the lake*
- *Most accumulations near the lake may not occur until Fri. evening/night*

Probability Color Key		
Low	Medium	High
10-40%	40-70%	70% +





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Bitterly cold temperatures next week with wind chills colder than -30°F at times

TODAY	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
	 S of I-80		 CHANCE (20-30%)		
Blustery AM wind chills: teens	Significant winter storm develops	Snow tapers midday Wind chills near 0	<i>Wind Chills: -15 to -35°</i>		
H: 28-34°	H: 33-38°	H: 19-25°	H: 0 to 7°	H: -1 to 5°	H: 0 to 6°

Burst of heavy snow near daybreak N of I-80
L: 22-31°

Blowing Snow
Dangerous travel conditions!
L: 17-23°

L: -8 to 1°

L: -17 to -7°

L: -15 to -4°



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Bitterly cold temperatures this weekend into next week

Key Messages

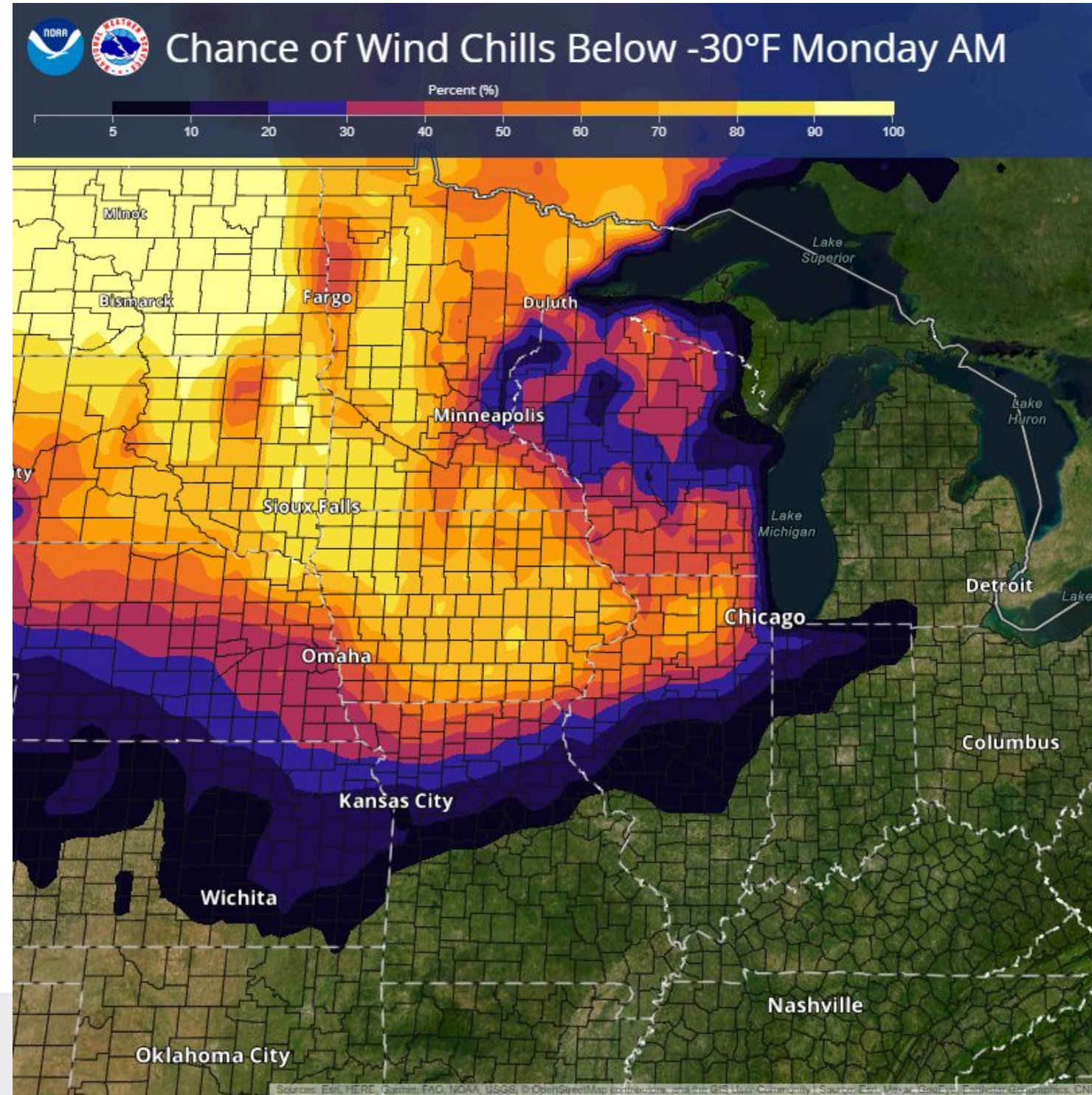
- **Sun AM-Next Week:** Arctic air will move into the area this weekend
- High temperatures in the single digits or colder are expected with lows below zero
- Coldest wind chills below -30°F in the morning
- Ice jams may develop on area rivers

What's Uncertain

- Exact temperature and wind chill values
- How long this arctic air may remain in place

What You Should Do

- ✓ Stay up to date on the forecast.
- ✓ Plan ahead for possible cold related impacts.



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

SEVERE WINTER STORMS

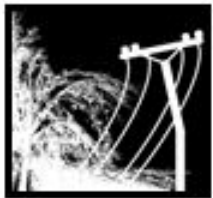
PREPARE NOW



Avoid unnecessary travel! Roadways can become snow or ice covered, making driving difficult or even hazardous!



Stock up on supplies! Severe winter storms can leave you homebound for a couple of days, have an emergency kit, including drinking water & non-perishable food items.



Power outages! Strong winds in winter storms can result in power outages. Have needed supplies should you lose power.



Monitor forecasts! Latest forecast information for the region can be found at www.weather.gov/chicago

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!
Avoid being caught in a storm by checking the forecast before venturing out.

weather.gov





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Additional Resources

Additional Resources

- [Winter Weather Safety & Preparedness](#)
Winter-related safety graphics and messaging
- [Winter Weather Liaison Webpage](#)
One-stop-shop for winter weather-related forecast information
- [Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)
Helps to determine which days you need to be mindful of hazardous weather
- [Official Snowfall Observations](#)
Six hourly snowfall observations for O'Hare, NWS Chicago, & Rockford



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