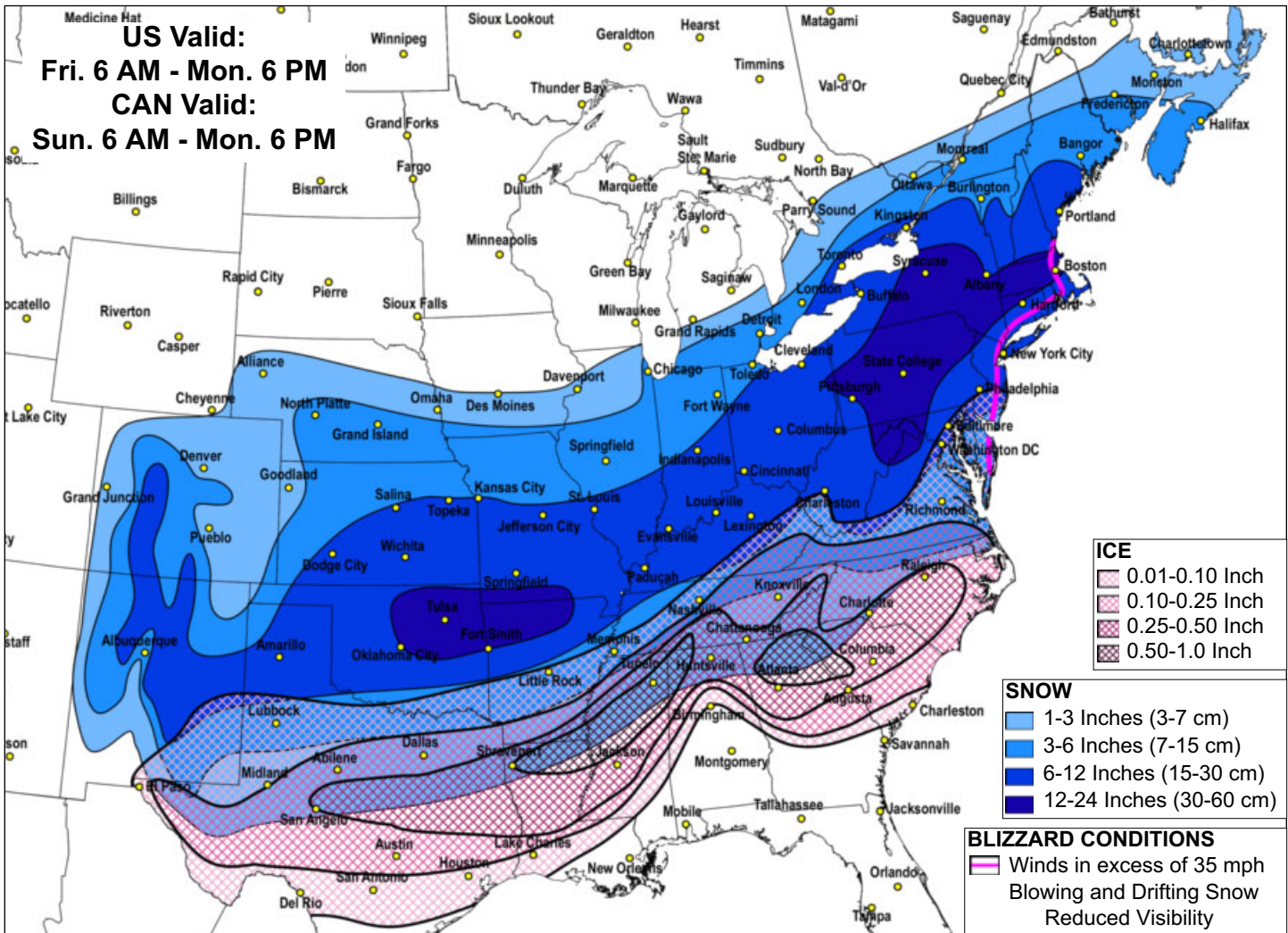


# Significant Snow and Ice to Impact Plains to Mid-Atlantic

Day: 1/23/2026 Time: 5:00 AM CT Forecaster: Lavery



**HISTORIC STORM TO BRING SIGNIFICANT SNOW AND ICE TO CENTRAL AND EASTERN U.S. THIS WEEK!**

## IMPACTS AND TIMING:

The primary adjustments to this update include increasing snowfall totals across the entire northern extent of the SPN, adding a higher snowfall area in the Southern Plains, expanding the area of blizzard conditions, and increasing ice totals across portions of the mid-Atlantic and Northeast.

A destructive storm system will bring widespread snow and ice accumulations from the Plains through the Mississippi Valley, and the East Coast into Canada late this week through the weekend.

A major winter storm will develop across the High Plains this morning, bringing heavy snow to portions of the Southern Rockies before quickly spreading east into the Central and Southern Plains by this evening, the Mississippi Valley through the overnight hours, the Tennessee and Ohio Valleys on Saturday, the Southeast into the mid-Atlantic by Saturday night, and the Northeast into Canada by Sunday morning. Snowfall accumulations of 6-12 inches (15-30 cm), falling at rates to 1"/hr (2.5 cm/hr), will occur across central New Mexico, the Texas Panhandle, Oklahoma into the Ozark Mountains, the northern Tennessee and southern Ohio Valley, much of the mid-Atlantic into the Northeast and New England, and southern Ontario. The heaviest snowfall of 12-24 inches (30-60 cm) will fall at rates to 1.5"/hr (4 cm/hr) in portions of the central Appalachians. Blizzard conditions will occur along coastal portions of the mid-Atlantic into New England Sunday night through Monday morning with wind gusts over 35 mph causing reduced visibility and whiteout conditions from blowing and drifting snow. An AccuWeather Local Storm Max™ of 30 inches is expected in the higher elevations of the Appalachians. The southern fringe of the snow bands will consist of a mix of sleet and snow, with the possibility for several inches of sleet accumulation.

Freezing rain will develop across the Southern Plains this evening, spreading east through the Lower Mississippi Valley tonight, much of the Southeast by Saturday, and the Carolinas and southern Virginia into southern New Jersey by Saturday night. A broad swath of up to 0.10 inch of ice accretion is expected with more significant ice accretion of 0.10-0.25 inch across central Texas, much of the Lower Mississippi Valley, northern portions of the Southeast, and the Carolina Piedmont. Ice accretion of 0.25-0.50 inch will occur across a narrower swath through the aforementioned regions with the highest accretion of 0.5-1 inch in the Lower Mississippi Valley and in northern Georgia where long duration, widespread power outages are expected. Gusty northerly winds will lead to increased tree and power line damage due to ice accretion.

The snow and ice amounts from this storm, spread over a large area generally unaccustomed to seeing winter storms of this magnitude, will bring transportation and logistical operations to a virtual standstill. Delays and cancellations may halt air, ground and rail travel for days. Severe disruptions to logistical operations are expected due to heavy snowfall, sleet, and significant ice accumulations, leading to widespread days-long power outages, road and major interstate closures, and extended transportation delays.

An update to this Storm Potential Notice (SPN) will be sent this afternoon.