NWS Chicago Winter Weather Watcher Web Page



NWS Chicago/Romeoville

www.weather.gov/lot/winterweatherwatcher

Purpose

 Single location for the most important winter weather forecast information

- Similar layout/features to the spring/summer weather watcher page
- Organized by time period better point to the most pertinent products/tools



Navigation - Tabs

Webcams

Snowfall Reports

0-36 Hours

Days 1.5-4

Days 4-7+

Planning & Resources

Webcams

Snowfall Reports

0-36 Hours [Default Tab]

- Current and near term information
- Greatest amount of detail

Days 1.5-4

Details dependent on confidence

Days 4-7+

Least detail

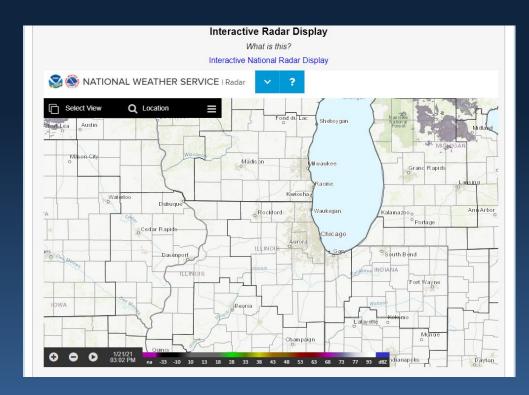
*Some information is replicated on several tabs to allow you to focus on a single tab based on your period of interest

Event Beginning or Ongoing

Interactive Radar

Interactive Radar

- pan/zoom
- Looping
- Click for more options



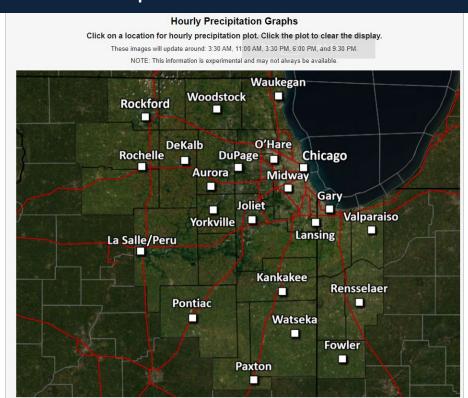
Hourly Precipitation Graphs

Click a city to display an hourly bar graph showing:

- Hourly precip accumulation
- Hourly precip type

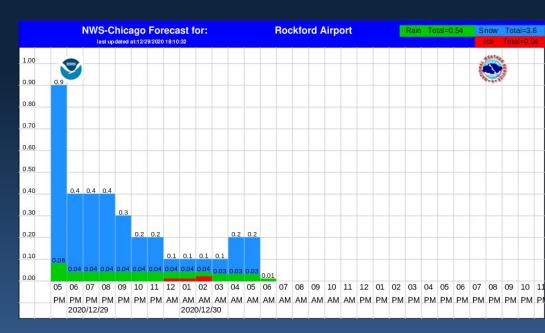
These forecasts currently go out to 30 hours.

See <u>next slide</u> for an example



Detailed Hourly Forecasts

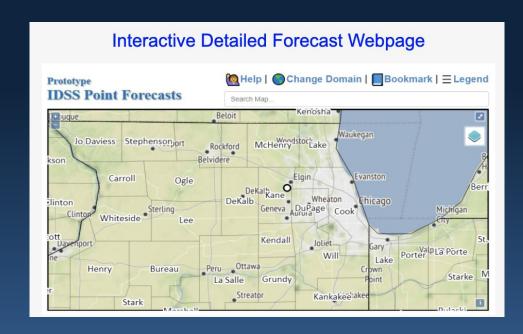
- Plot of hourly accumulation
- Currently will show liquid equivalent (rain) amounts regardless of precipitation type, but will be updated to only display when rain is expected.
- Snow amounts of ~0.7" or more in one hour represent very heavy rates.



Detailed Hourly Forecasts

 Click the map to access and be taken to weather.gov/forecastpoints

 Slides 9-11 provide more information on the features



Weekly Summary Table

www.weather.gov/forecastpoints

Table updated: 315 pm CST Thu. 1/14/2021 (Last Update: 31 minutes ago)

Click for Text Forecast LOT Forecast Discussion 4 miles W of Bolingbrook, IL

2092.00, 12							
Weekly Summary	Thu Jan 14	Fri Jan 15	Sat Jan 16	Sun Jan 17	Mon Jan 18	Tue Jan 19	Wed Jan 20
Max Temp, °F	39	35	36	30	29	34	31
Min Temp, °F	32	30	28	23	19	23	20
Min Wind Chill, °F	26	25	20	16	10	15	10
Max Wind, mph	12	9	14	8	8	12	9
Min Wind, mph	10	3	3	6	5	7	7
Max Wind Gust, mph	18	12	21	12	13	18	16
Max Cloud Cover, %	100	100	91	93	86	91	83
Min Cloud Cover, %	100	91	84	75	49	77	34
Max Prob. of Precip., %	90	42	60	48	11	29	7
Max RH, %	100	100	100	96	100	100	100
Min RH, %	85	85	85	81	75	78	72
Max Dew Point, °F	35	33	33	27	22	28	23
Min Dew Point, °F	34	28	28	22	19	23	20

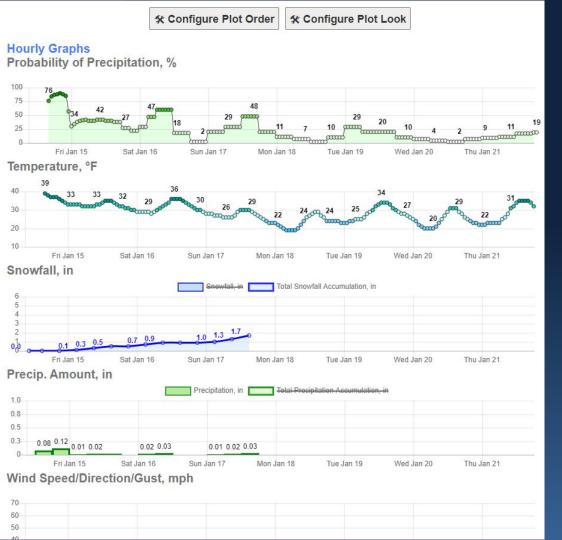
- Scroll down for Weekly Summary
- Valid for location of white dot on map
- Click on different location on map to display data for new location

Hourly Forecast Table

www.weather.gov/forecastpoints

Hourly Table																	
Day of week:	Thursday 1/14								Friday 1/15								
Time:	3РМ	4PM	5РМ	6РМ	7 PM	8РМ	9РМ	10 _{PM}	11PM	12AM	1 _{AM}	2 _{AM}	ЗАМ	4 _{AM}	5 _{AM}	6АМ	7A
Weather:	99	900	993	99	99	993	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Temperature (°F):	39	39	38	37	37	37	36	35	34	33	33	33	33	33	32	32	32
Wind Chill, °F:	32	32	31	30	30	30	29	27	26	25	25	25	26	26	25	25	25
Wind Speed (mph):	12	12	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	9	8	8	8	8	8
Wind Gust (mph):	18	17	15	14	13	13	13	13	13	13	12	9	8	8	8	8	8
Wind Direction (°):	140	150	150	150	150	170	210	210	210	210	200	190	180	180	170	170	16
Wind Direction:	K	*	*	*	*	1	*	*	*	*	*	1	1	1	1	1	4
Prob. of Precip. (%):	68	76	84	87	88	90	88	85	57	30	34	38	40	41	42	40	40
Prob. of Thunder (%):	-	-	-	-	-	-	0-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Precip. Amount (in.):		0.08		0.12 0.01													
Snow (in.):		0.0		0.0				0.1									
Ice (in.):		0.00		0.00				0.00									
Dew Point (°F):	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	34	34	33	33	33	33	32	32	31	31
RH (%):	85	85	89	92	92	92	96	96	100	100	100	100	100	96	100	96	96
Sky Cover (%):	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	10
	4																+

- Scroll down for Hourly Forecast
- Use slider bar at bottom to move forward/back in time



Hourly Forecast Graphs

www.weather.gov/forecastpoints

- Scroll down for hourly graphs
- Can configure plots
- Mouse over for hourly readout
- For additional configuration options, see the how-to document on the weather watcher page

Enhanced Hazardous Weather Outlook

- Enhanced Hazardous Weather Outlook
 Click an individual hazard block below for more information

 Snow and Sleet Ice Accumulation
 Fog Non-Thunderstorm Wind
 Excessive Cold Coastal Flooding

 Risk None Limited Elevated Significant Extreme
 Level Key
- Color coded display of hazards for the current day and night
- Click each box for a map of the threat area for that element
- Each map will display its own description of the threat level

Clicking the
"Excessive Cold"
box will bring up a
map of the threat
for excessive cold.



Graphical NOWCast

- Focus is on the next 1-4 hours
- May utilize radar imagery to highlight areas of interest, or webcams to depict ongoing/expected travel conditions
- Issued as needed



MS River - Davenport

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Moderate to heavy snow ongoing near the MS River
- · Precipitation transitioning to moderate to briefly heavy wet snow near the I-39 corridor as of 11:30am
- · Deteriorating conditions across northern Illinois this afternoon

ACTIONS

- ✓ Prepare for extra travel time
- √ Check road conditions
- √ Slow down & increase following distance when driving



National Weather Service - Chicago

I-80/I-74 Quad Cities

SitRep Criteria

Situation Report

- Higher impact winter weather (watch, warning, some advisories)
- *Extreme cold events
- *Widespread flood or flash flood events

Situation Report

No Situation Report is currently in effect.

*Forecaster discretion
Multiple lower impact threats or complex
scenarios may prompt a SitRep or
webinar





- Snow will move into portions of mainly northern Illinois late
 Tuesday afternoon into the evening, with accumulation of several inches possible just in that time mainly along/north of I-88
- Widespread mixed precipitation, including freezing rain, is likely overnight Tuesday into early Wednesday morning
- Light icing is probable across much of the area late Tuesday night
- Total snow accumulation in portions of far northern Illinois, especially near Rockford, of 4-7 inches are becoming likely



Important Forecast Changes

This is the initial issuance.

Click for a description of this product

Click to evaluate this product

Additional Graphics (if available)

- Several graphics are often available
- Click image to enlarge



Situation Report

No Situation Report is currently in effect.

Additional graphics (if active) will display below:







Snow Accumulation

 Expected snowfall for the time range specified at the top of the image

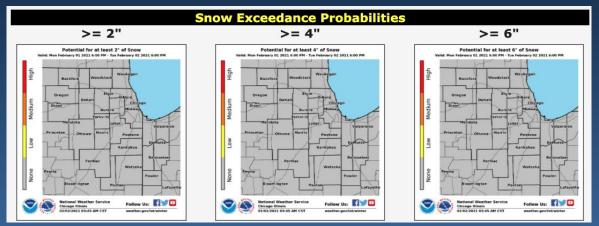
 In this example: Expected snowfall from 6 AM 2/4/2021 to 12 PM 2/5/2021 from a forecast issued at 3:35 PM on 2/2/2021



Snow Exceedance Probabilities

- Chance for snowfall to be equal to or greater than 2, 4 and 6 inches
- Intended to convey the range of possible amounts

 Pay close attention to the "Valid" time range at the top of each image



Ice Accumulation

 Expected ice accumulation for the time range specified at the top of the image

In this example: Expected ice accumulation from 6 AM 2/4/2021 to 6 AM 2/5/2021 from a forecast issued at 5:11 AM on 2/2/2021



0 - 36 Hours <u>Tab</u>

Ice Exceedance Probabilities

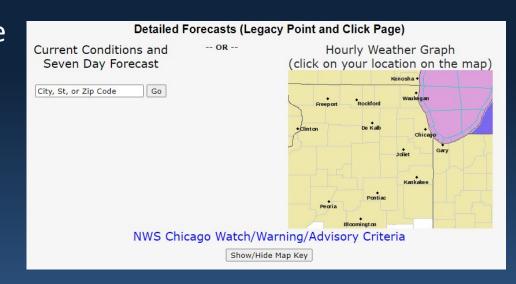
- Chance for ice accumulation to be equal to or greater than 0.1, 0.25 and 0.5 inch
- Tree and power line damage increases around 0.5"+

- Intended to convey the range of possible amounts
- Pay close attention to the "Valid" time range at the top of each image



Local Watches, Warning, and Advisories

- Click a point on the map to access the local forecast page for that location, or enter a location in the text box.
- Click the "Show/Hide Map Key" button to display a color-coded legend.
- Our local Watch, Warning, and Advisory criteria are linked as well.



Watch to Warning Phase

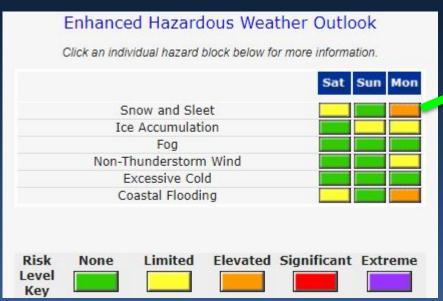
Hazardous Weather Outlook (HWO)

- Broken into sections
 - Today/Tonight
 - Days 2-7
- Use alongside Enhanced HWO
- Meant as a heads up/planning tool vs. providing specifics

Hazardous Weather Outlook Issued by NWS Chicago, IL Current Version | Previous Version | Graphics & Text | Print | Product List | Glossary On Versions: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 FLUS43 KLOT 220958 HWOLOT Hazardous Weather Outlook National Weather Service Chicago/Romeoville IL 358 AM CST Fri Jan 22 2021 ILZ003>006-008-010>013-019>021-023-032-033-039-103>108-INZ001-002-Winnebago-Boone-McHenry-Lake IL-Ogle-Lee-De Kalb-Kane-DuPage-La Salle-Kendall-Grundy-Kankakee-Livingston-Iroquois-Ford-Northern Cook-Central Cook-Southern Cook-Northern Will-Southern Will-Eastern Will-Lake IN-Porter-Newton-Jasper-Benton-358 AM CST Fri Jan 22 2021 /458 AM EST Fri Jan 22 2021/ This Hazardous Weather Outlook is for portions of North Central Illinois...Northeast Illinois and Northwest Indiana. .DAY ONE... Today and Tonight. Weather hazards expected... Limited Excessive Cold Risk. DISCUSSION... Wind chills will dip to zero to five below zero this morning, and zero to ten below zero tonight and Saturday morning across interior portions of northern Illinois. .DAYS TWO THROUGH SEVEN...Saturday through Thursday.

Enhanced Hazardous Weather Outlook

 Similar to 0-36 hr tab but with different days



Valid: 01/25/2021 06:00 AM - 01/26/2021 06:00 AM CST Waukegan Woodstock Rockford Elgin Oregon DeKalb Dixon Yorkville alparaiso Princeton Morris Ottawa Peotone Kankakee Rensselaer Pontiac Watseka Fowler Paxtor Lafavette **National Weather Service** weather.gov/lot Day 4 Snow and Sleet Risk No snow or sleet. Snow and/or sleet with less than 1 inch of accumulation expected. Snow and/or sleet with 1 to 5.9 inches of accumulation expected. Snow and/or sleet with 6 to 11.9 inches of accumulation expected. Snow and/or sleet with greater than or equal to 12 inches of

accumulation expected.

Snow Sleet Risk

Additional Graphics (if available)



A rapidly strengthening storm system will likely bring a variety of winter weather hazards to the area Thursday into early Friday. This includes accumulating snow potential near and north of I-80 and especially near and north of I-88. In addition, freezing rain and light ice accumulations are possible mainly south of I-80 Thursday morning. As the deepening low pressure area tracks to our northeast on Thursday night, rapidly falling temperatures and strong winds from the west will add to the hazards, with blowing snow and flash freeze potential to likely keep travel impacts going into Friday morning. Minimum wind chill values by Friday morning will be as cold as 10 below zero. Stay tuned for the latest forecast updates.

Additional graphics are in effect that may be relevant to your time period:





 At least one "Weather Story" is issued twice a day

 Additional Weather Story graphics may be issued to highlight specific weather hazards

 Up to 4 Weather Story graphics can be displayed, each of which is clickable to enlarge on the web page

Additional Graphics (if available)

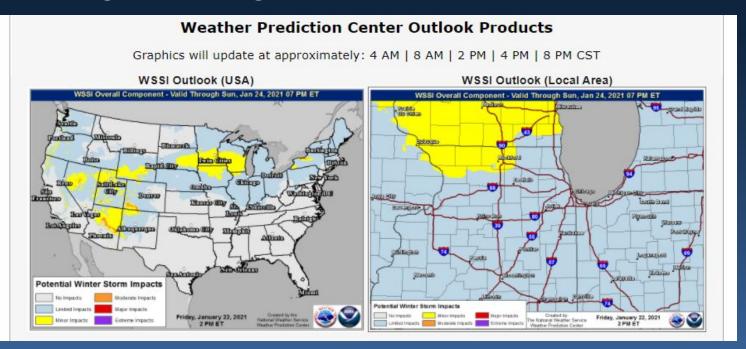


 Level of specificity in Weather Stories at this time range will depend on forecast confidence

Graphics may remain generalized, especially if confidence is low and in the days 3-4 range

Winter Storm Severity Index

- See next slides for details
- Click images to enlarge

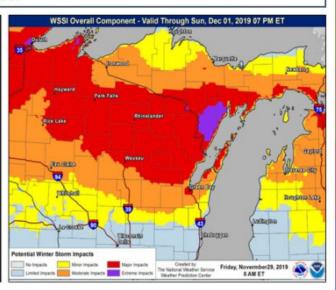


Product Description:

Combines our local NWS forecast with non meteorological and static databases such as <u>climatology</u>, <u>land-use</u>, and <u>local infrastructure</u> to create a graphical depiction of expected impacts due to winter weather.

What WSSI Is: A tool to help communicate a general level of societal impacts assuming minimal preparation activities are done, due to winter storms.

What WSSI Is NOT: WSSI is not a specific forecast for specific impacts, nor does it take into account antecedent conditions or combine the effects of multiple storms.



Potential Winter Storm Impacts

No Impacts

Impacts not expected.

Limited Impacts

Rarely a direct threat to life and property. Typically results in little inconveniences.

Minor Impacts

Rarely a direct threat to life and property. Typically results in an inconvenience to daily life.

Moderate Impacts

Often threatening to life and property, some damage unavoidable. Typically results in disruptions to daily life.

Major Impacts

Extensive property damage likely, life saving actions needed. Will likely result in major disruptions to daily life.

Extreme Impacts

Extensive and widespread severe property damage, life saving actions will be needed. Results in extreme disruptions to daily life.

Outlook Phase

Enhanced Hazardous Weather Outlook & Weather Stories

 Similar layout and functionality to the Days 1.5-4 tab

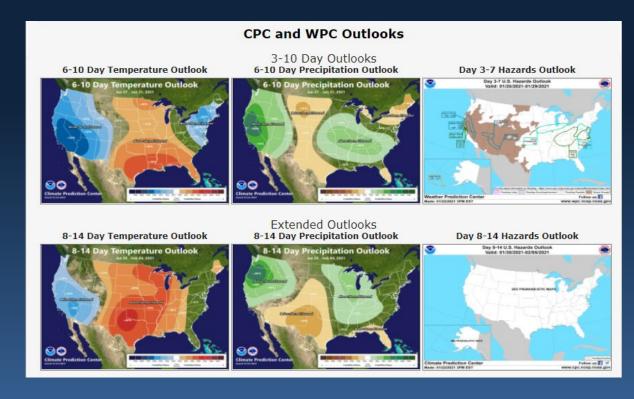
No Situation Report is available: these are typically not issued this far in advance of a winter event



CPC and WPC Outlooks

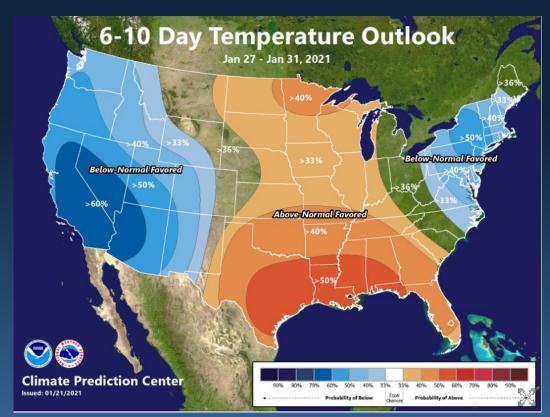
Click to enlarge

 More details on the following slides



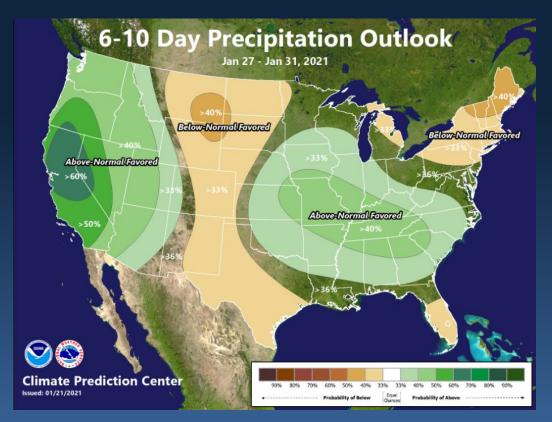
Temperature Outlooks

- Probability of being:
 - Above normal
 - Below normal
 - Around normal
- "Equal Chances"
 indicates no clear
 signal of being above,
 below or around
 normal



Precipitation Outlooks

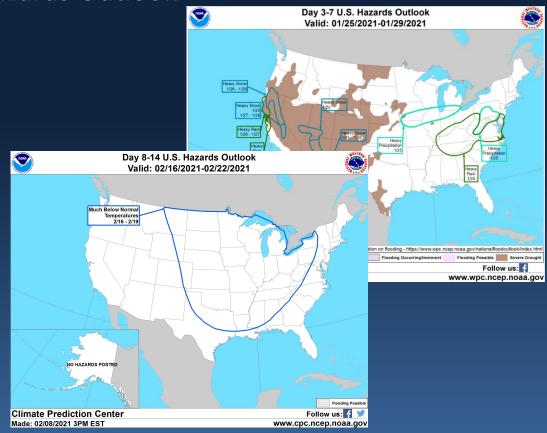
- Probability of being:
 - Above normal
 - Below normal
 - Around normal
- "Equal Chances"
 indicates no clear
 signal of being above,
 below or around
 normal



Hazards Outlook

 3-7 and 8-14 day "Hazards Outlooks" are issued daily by the Weather Prediction Center in College Park, MD

 Meant to outline general areas of potential hazards over the next one to two weeks



Webcams Tab

Webcams Tab

Selection of webcams across northern Illinois and northwest Indiana

All images are clickable to enlarge

Please be sure to check time stamps (where available)

Webcams Snowfall Reports 0-36 Hours Days 1.5-4 Days 4-7+ Planning & Resources

Webcams

Note: Webcams are provided through third parties and may not always be up to date. Please check the time stamp on each image (where available) to ensure the image is current. Not all webcams have time stamp labels.

Northwest and North Central Illinois

Rockford:







Downtown Rockford

State Street Webcam in Rockford

Rock River in Rockford



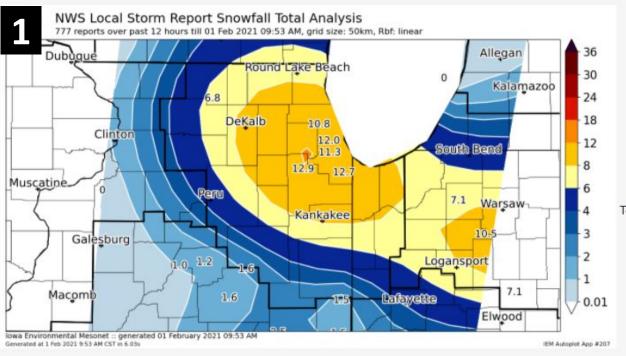
Rochelle Airport



I-39/80 Interchange near La Salle

Snowfall Observations

12-Hour Observed Snowfall Map (courtesy of IEM)



Color-Coded Local and National Snow Report

Map

Text Summary Issued: 02/01/2021 03:12:19 AM CST

S.EDA

S. BEROMA GENERAL GUA BAN-MAN-BERMEL-MEGSERION BERMELMEN

DER BERMEN GENERAL BER

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FOR SERION GENERAL BERMELLE

JOHN SERION GENERAL BERMELLE

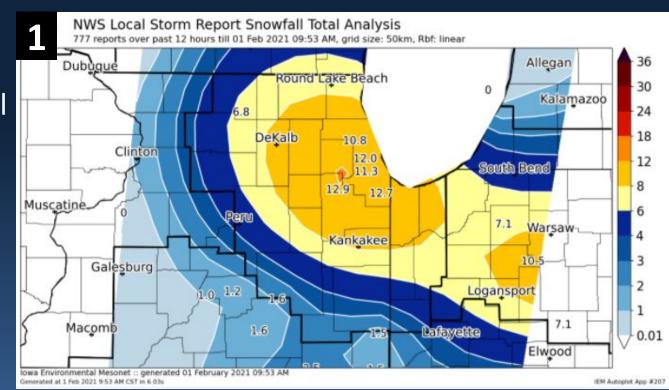
JOHN SERION GENERAL BERMELLE

LAMPAGEN GENERAL

LA

Snowfall map analysis based on NWS-issued snowfall reports over the last 24 hours.

May not be representative with few reports (early in an event).



6-hourly snowfall measurements at official reporting sites: Chicago O'Hare, Rockford, and NWS Chicago.

12PM 6AM MTD 6PM SF/SD SF/SD SF/SD SF/SD CHICAGO O'HARE 0.0 / 13 0.0 / 13 0.0 / 12 ROCKFORD 0.0 / 12 NWS ROMEOVILLE 0.0 / 0.0 /

6-hour Snowfall and Snow Depth Reports (O'Hare, Rockford, and NWS Chicago)

Updated around 12:20 AM/PM & 6:20 AM/PM.

New snowfall (SF) over the previous 6 hours is in the left column.

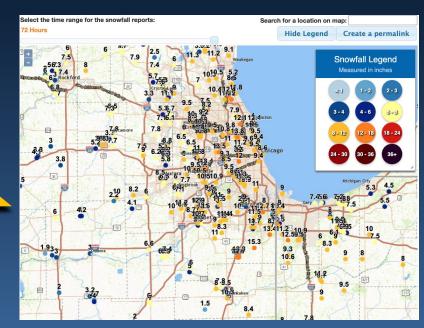
Snow depth (SD) is in the right column.

Interactive color-coded snowfall reports.

Map will update as new reports (called Local Storm Reports) for "Snow" or "Heavy Snow" are issued.

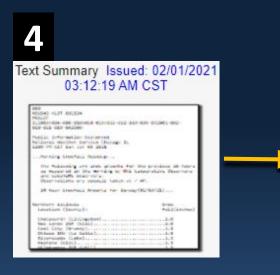


Drag the slider bar to display snowfall reports over a time range: This example shows all reports over the last 72 hours.



Event Text Summary

This is typically issued after an event has ended and may be updated in the following 1-2 days



Note This text product is used for a variety of messages such as equipment outages or monthly climate summaries, among others. You may need to navigate to older versions to display snowfall/ice accumulation information.

Public Information Statement National Weather Service Chicago IL 407 PM CST Mon Feb 1 2021

...STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL FROM JANUARY 30-31 2021 SORTED BY MAGNITUDE...

Location	Amount	Time/Date	Provider
Monee 5 SE	15.3 in		
Harwood Heights		0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Elmhurst 1 SE	13.5 in 13.4 in	0700 AM 02/01	
Crete 3 E	13.4 in		COCORAHS
Romeoville - NWS Chicago	12.9 in	0600 AM 02/01	Official NWS Obs
Downers Grove 1 NNW	12.7 in	0659 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Thornton	12.7 in	1100 PM 01/31	Trained Spotter
Peotone	12.7 in	0655 PM 01/31	Trained Spotter
St. John 3 SSE	12.5 in	0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Evanston 1 E	12.4 in		COCORAHS
Peotone	12.4 in 12.4 in	0700 AM 02/01	COOP
1 NNW Downers Grove	12.4 in	0600 PM 01/31	Cocorahs
Dyer	12.1 in	0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Morton Grove	12.1 in	0730 PM 01/31 0700 AM 02/01	Broadcast Media
Forest Park 1 ENE	12.0 in	0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Berwyn	12.0 in	1200 AM 02/01	
Deerfield	12.0 in	0500 PM 01/31	Public
Highwood	11.8 in	0600 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Park Forest 1 NNE	11.7 in	0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Chicago - West Ridge Homer Glen 1 NNE Flossmoor	11.5 in	0700 AM 02/01 0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Homer Glen 1 NNE	11.5 in	0600 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Flossmoor	11.5 in	0709 PM 01/31	Trained Spotter
Mokena 1 W	11.4 in	0709 PM 01/31 0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Roselle 1 NNW	11.4 in	0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Lindenhurst 1 NNW	11.4 in	0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Mokena	11.4 in	1200 AM 02/01	Trained Spotter
1 NNW Lindenhurst	11.4 in	0930 PM 01/31	Cocorahs
1 NNW Roselle	11.4 in	0930 PM 01/31 0600 PM 01/31	Cocorahs
Long Lake	11.3 in	0800 AM 02/01	
Midway 3 SW COOP	11.3 in	1200 AM 02/01	COOP
Riverwoods 1 NE	11.2 in	1200 AM 02/01 0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Grandwood Park 1 SE		0700 AM 02/01	
St. John	11.2 in	0600 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
DeMotte	11.2 in 11.2 in	0600 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Homewood	11.1 in		COCORAHS
Algonquin 1 NNW	11.1 in	0615 AM 02/01	
Franklin Park 0.5 SSE	11.0 in	0800 AM 02/01	
Mokena 2 WSW	11.0 in	0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Lockport 2 SE	11.0 in	0700 AM 02/01 0700 AM 02/01	COCORAHS
Glen Ellyn 1 W		0700 AM 02/01	
Lansing			
Morgan Park - Chicago	11.0 in	1200 AM 02/01 1000 PM 01/31	Public
Morgan Park - Chicago 2 N Homer Glen	11.0 in	0520 PM 01/31	Public
2 ENE Manhattan	11.0 in	0430 PM 01/31	