

NOUS41 KWBC 011530
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 26-75
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1130 AM EDT Tue Sep 1 2026

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Kathryn Gilbert, Deputy Director
 Weather Prediction Center

Subject: Experimental Probabilistic Precipitation Portal will Transition
to Operational Status on or about October 1, 2026

The National Weather Service (NWS) will transition the Experimental
Probabilistic Precipitation Portal (PPP) to operational status on or
about October 1, 2026.

The PPP is a website designed and maintained by the Weather Prediction
Center (WPC) to be a centralized location of NWS Probabilistic Winter
Precipitation Forecast (PWWF) and Probabilistic Quantitative
Precipitation Forecast (PQPF) information. PPP graphics are created
across the contiguous United States (CONUS), Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto
Rico, and are also displayed on NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) local
winter forecast pages and local QPF forecast pages. The underlying
ensemble information used by the PPP is the latest operational version of
the National Blend of Models (NBM).

The PPP produces 10% and 90% exceedance percentiles, representing a Low
End Amount (a 90% chance of higher snowfall/ice/QPF) and a High End
Amount (a 10% chance of higher snowfall/ice/QPF) to complement the
existing NWS deterministic snowfall/ice/QPF forecasts (the expected
amount). Narrow ranges between the minimum and maximum snowfall/ice/QPF
totals indicate higher forecast certainty, while large ranges between
minimum and maximum totals indicate lower forecast certainty. In
addition, 25%, 50%, and 75% exceedance percentiles will also be
displayable on the website.

The PPP produces the probability of exceeding the following amounts of
snow: 0.1", 1", 2", 4", 6", 8", 12", and 18", the following amounts of
QPF: 0.01", 0.1", 0.25", 1", 2", 3", 4", 6", 8", and 12", and the
following amounts of radial ice accumulation: 0.01", 0.1", 0.25", 0.50",
0.75", 1.0", 1.25", and 1.50".

The expected amount is the deterministic NDFD forecast. The PPP will
also allow a forecaster to show the expected amount as a range of two
values (the 25th to 75th percentile amounts) in an Impact-based Decision
Support Services graphic. Grids are valid for 6-, 12-, 24-, 36-, 48-,
and 72-hour periods out to 72 hours for PWWF and PQPF from 0000

Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) Day 1 beginning with the 2200 UTC issuance. They are valid from 1200 UTC Day 1 beginning with the 1100 UTC issuance and are updated once per hour. The snow percentile values are also sent as grids to the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD).

The PPP can be accessed here:

https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/Prob_Precip

The PPP snow, ice, and QPF data will be available for download in GRIB2 format for all timeframes and all types of data (deterministic amounts, exceedance probabilities, and exceedance percentiles). Exceedance percentiles of 5% and 95% are also created. The data will be available for download in KML and shapefile format at the 24-, 36-, 48-, and 72-hour periods out to 72 hours. This data will be accessible for end users via File Transfer Protocol (FTP) at:

https://ftp-wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/prob_precip_portal/co/	for CONUS
https://ftp-wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/prob_precip_portal/ak/	for Alaska
https://ftp-wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/prob_precip_portal/pr/	for Puerto Rico
https://ftp-wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/prob_precip_portal/hi/	for Hawaii

Note that this FTP site may not be fully populated until on or around the PPP operational implementation data of October 1, 2026.

For additional information, please see the PPP Service Description Document (SDD) at:

https://nsdesk.servicenowservices.com/api/g_noa/nwspc/res2/2527dbe9cf3e43503452f7f42f851ca3

For additional comments/questions, please contact:

WPC Services
Weather Prediction Center
Riverdale Park, MD
wpcservices@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

NNNN