



Weather Briefing: Snow / Cold

February 19, 2025
3:55 PM

For Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio, and Northern West Virginia

Decision Support Briefing

→ As of 4:00 PM Wednesday, February 19th, 2025

Important Updates

→ **NEW** A **Winter Weather Advisory** has been issued for the ridges of PA/WV from 4 AM Thursday to 7 AM Friday

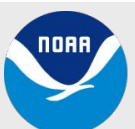
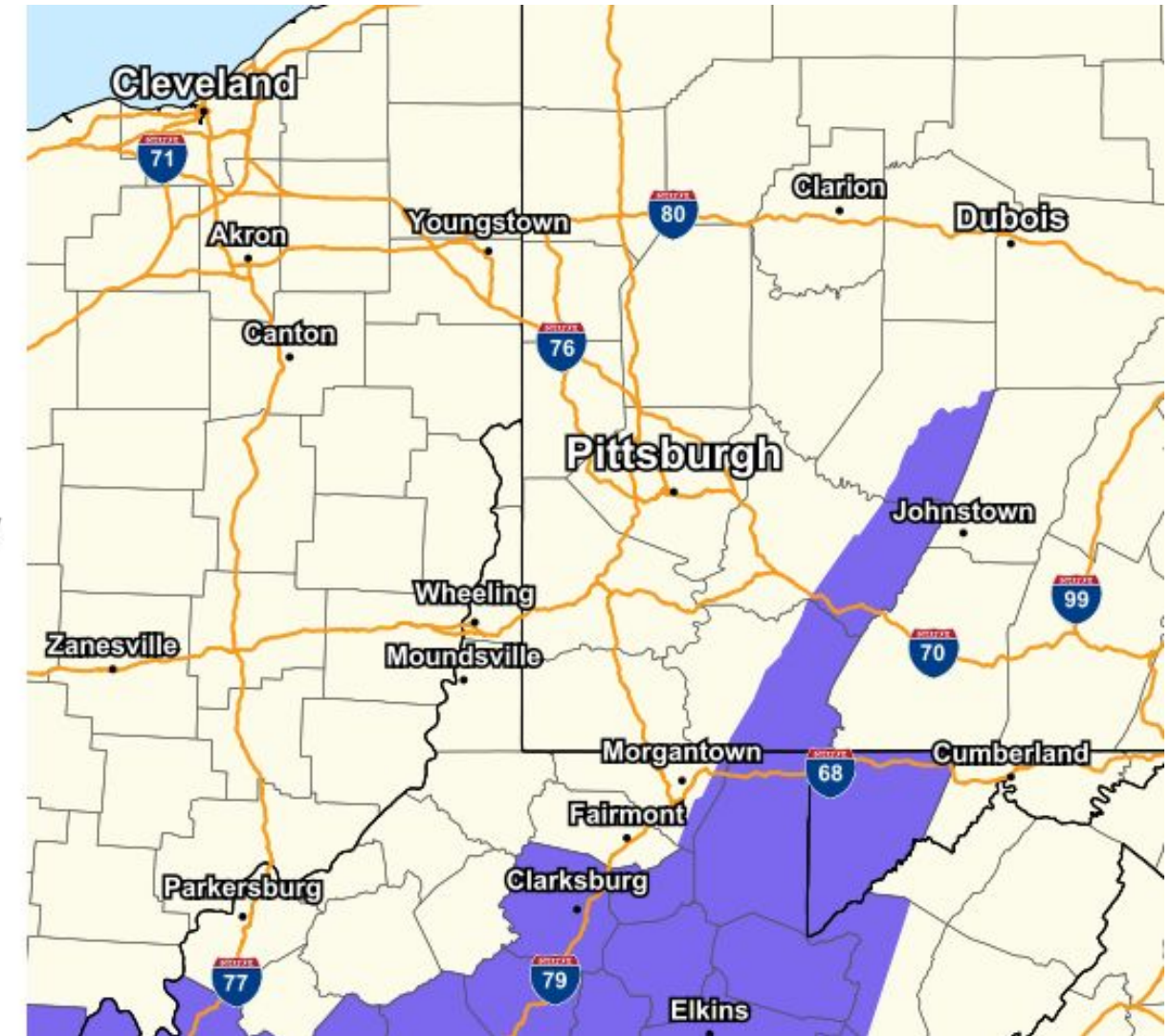
→ **NEW** A **Cold Weather Advisory** has been issued for eastern Tucker County from 7 AM Thursday to 10 AM Friday (not shown on map)

→ Accumulating snow expected across most of the area late Wednesday night through Thursday

→ Potential is increasing for convective snow showers Thursday afternoon with locally heavy rates that could impact the afternoon/evening commute

■ Winter Weather Advisory

Graphic Created
February 19th, 2025
2:00 PM EST



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

National Weather Service
Pittsburgh, PA



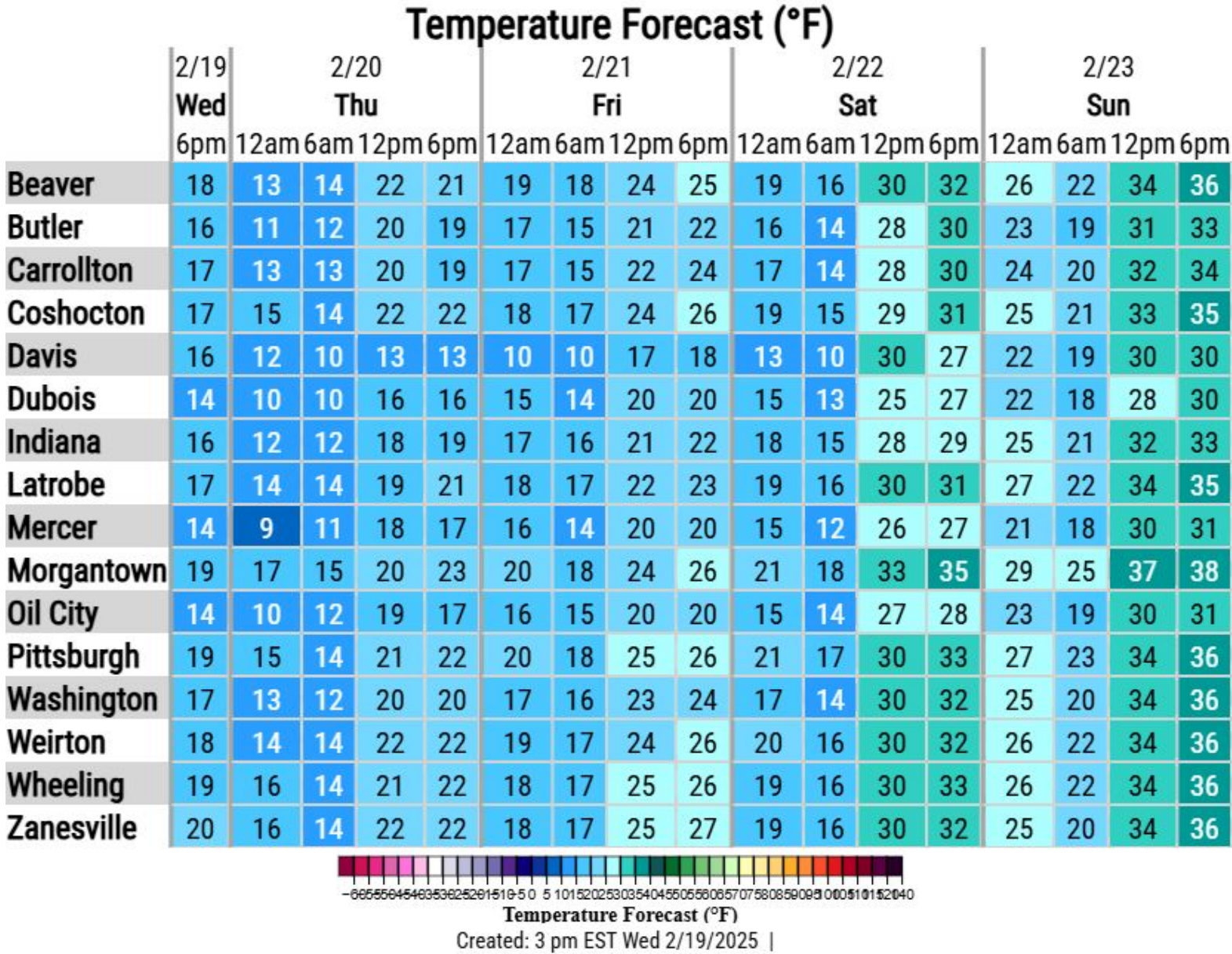
Cold Temperatures This Week

February 19, 2025
3:55 PM

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Summary

- A prolonged period of **well below normal temperatures** continues to close out the week
 - For context, the average high for Pittsburgh is 40°F and the average low is 24°F
- Temperatures will warm closer to normal values over the weekend and into next week





Thursday Night Minimum Wind Chill

February 19, 2025
3:55 PM

*Wind chills as low as 15 below zero in eastern Tucker County Thursday night (where a **Cold Weather Advisory** has been issued), and between zero and 10 below in other high elevation areas*





Expected Snowfall Amounts

February 19, 2025
3:55 PM

Key Points

- A shield of light snow will move through the area Thursday morning followed up by a transition to convective banded snow showers Thursday afternoon
- Confidence in snow amounts remains medium
 - ◆ The potential for the snow bands Thursday afternoon may lead to locally higher amounts than shown here
 - ◆ Difficult to say exactly where these heavier rates and amounts could occur, though at this time chances generally favor eastern Ohio and southwest PA

Confidence in Snow Amounts



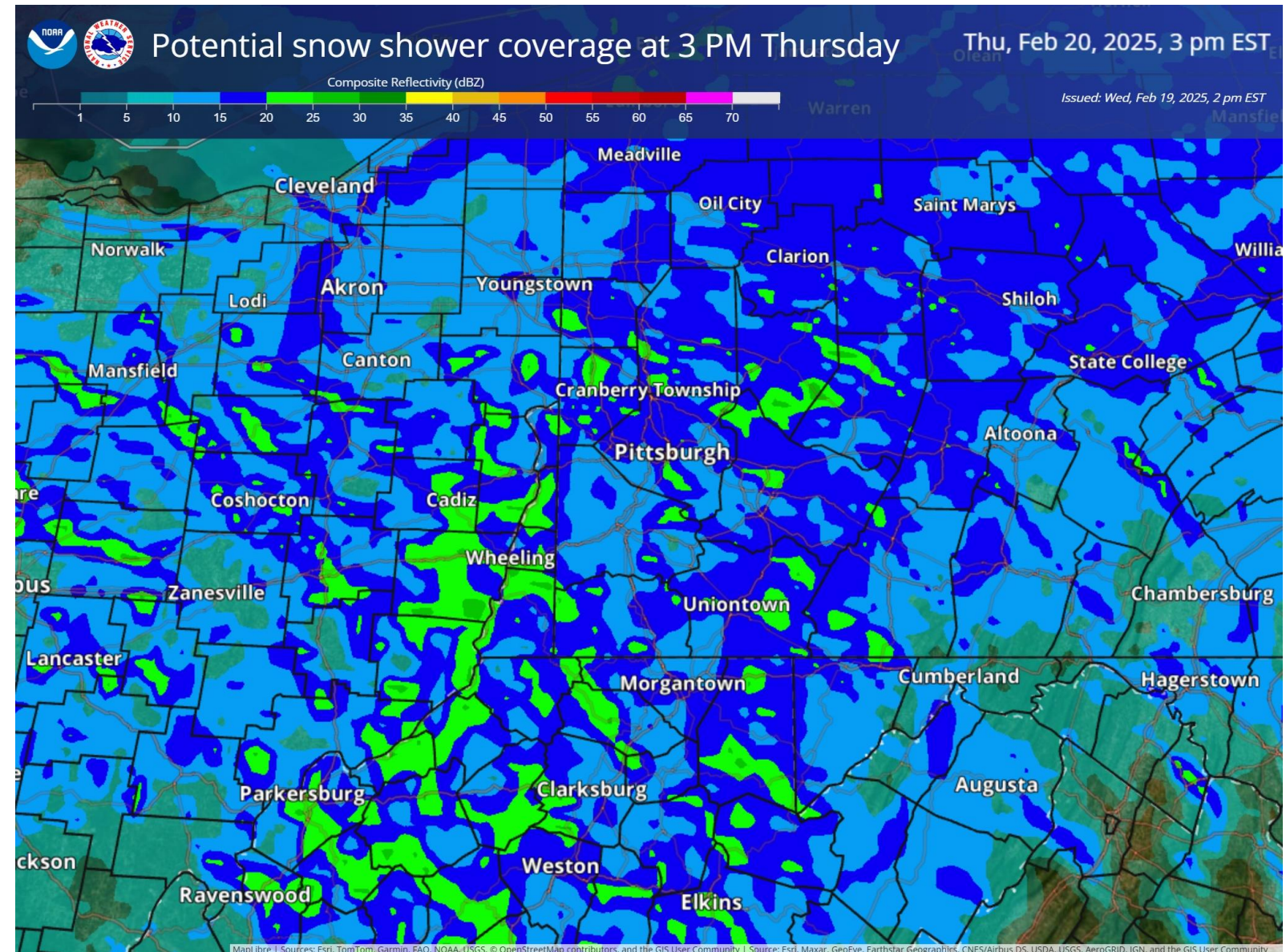


Thursday Afternoon Snow Showers

February 19, 2025
3:55 PM

Potential for heavy snow showers/snow squalls

- The image to the right illustrates the type of snow shower coverage we may see Thursday afternoon: cells and short bands
- Snowfall rates in the heavier showers **could exceed 1" per hour** for brief periods. This may cause very low visibilities and rapid accumulation on roads, leading to travel difficulties
- These snow rates could occur anywhere in the region, but **chances are highest in eastern OH, far southwest PA, and the northern WV panhandle**
- **Snow squall warnings** may be needed in some cases, particularly during the evening commute



(for illustrative purposes only)

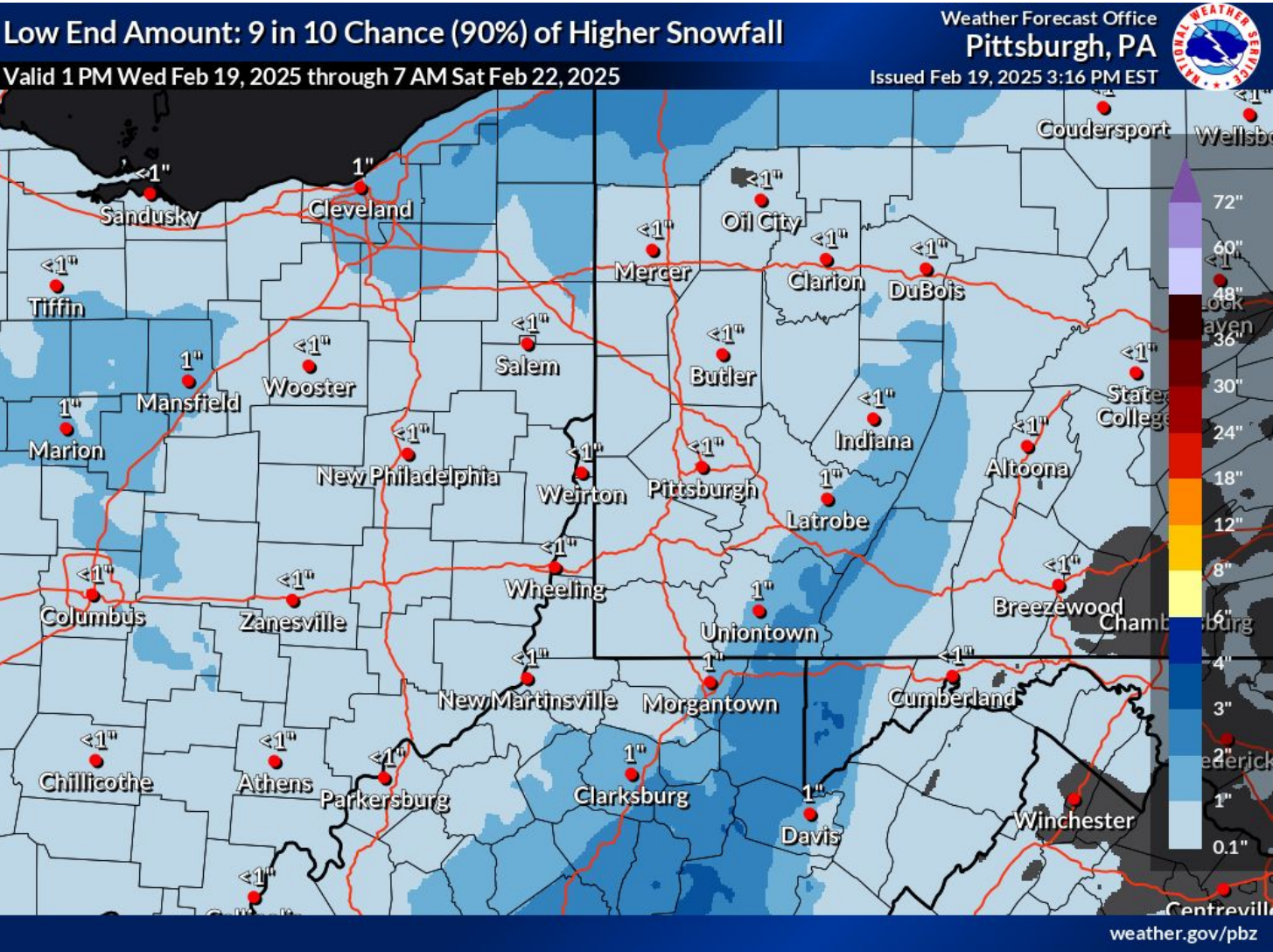




Lowest / Highest Snowfall Amounts

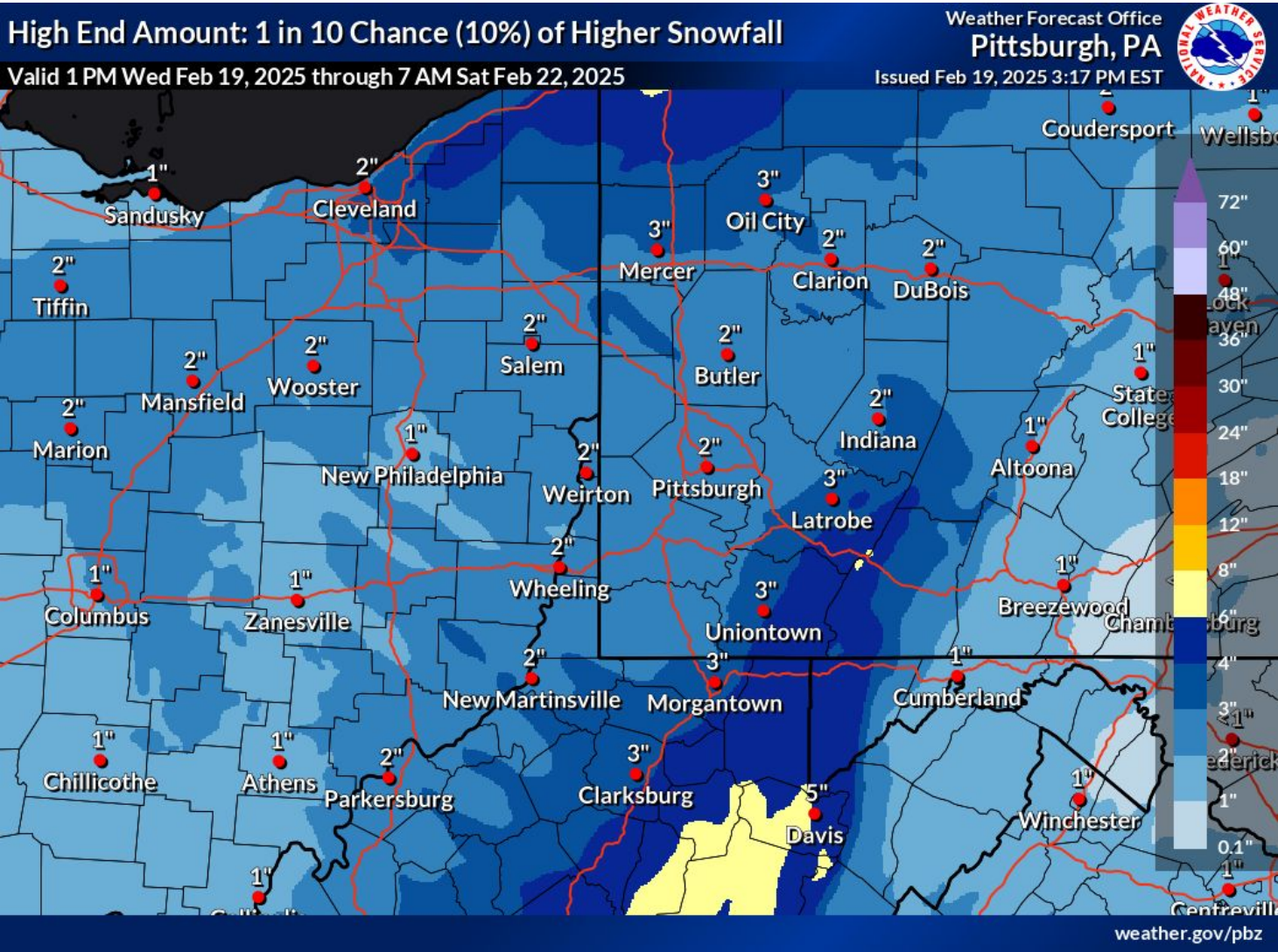
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3:55 PM

Narrow snow bands may result in locally higher totals



Low End Snow Potential

→ 90% chance of exceeding this amount



High End Snow Potential

→ Worst case scenario



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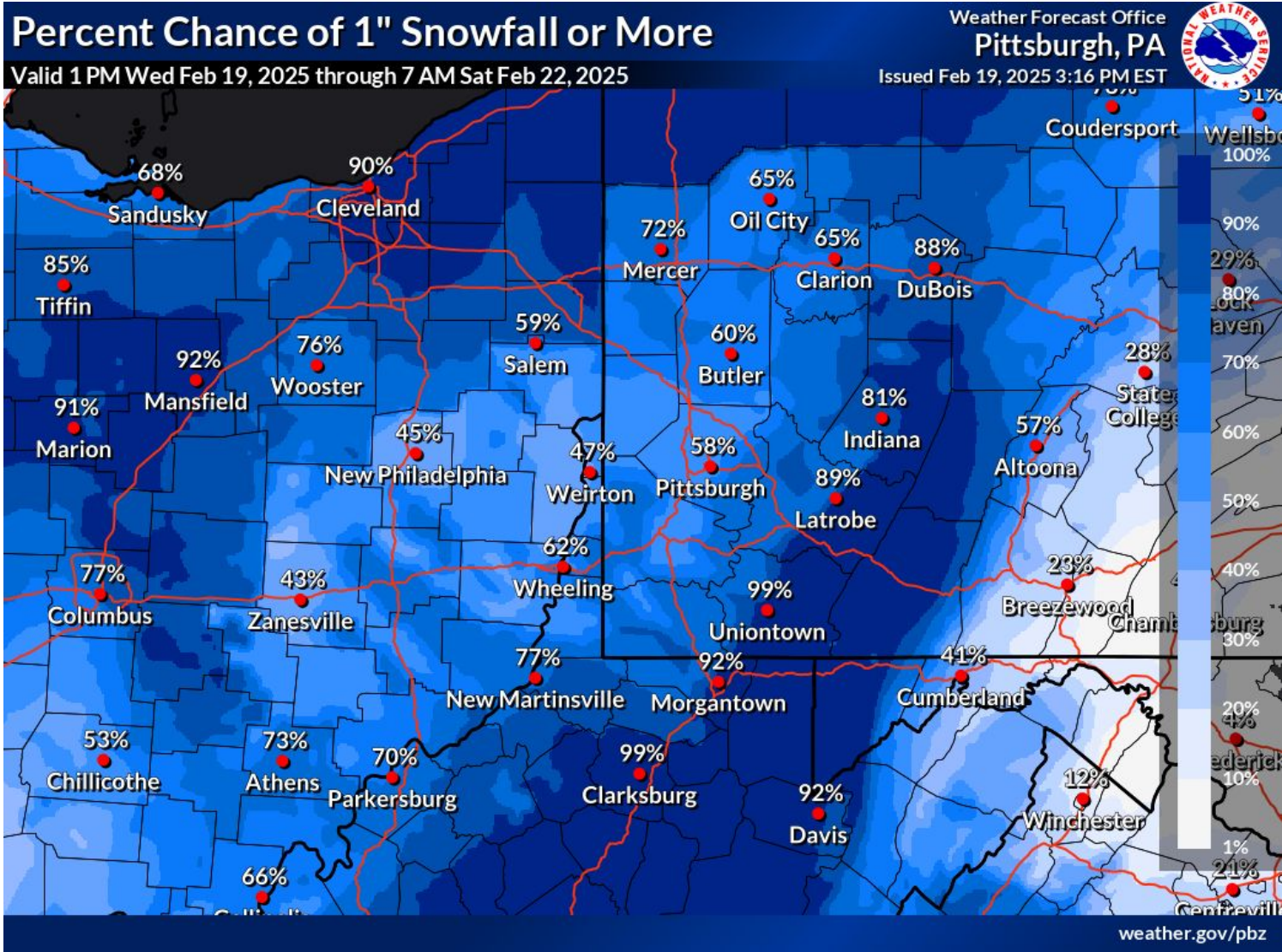
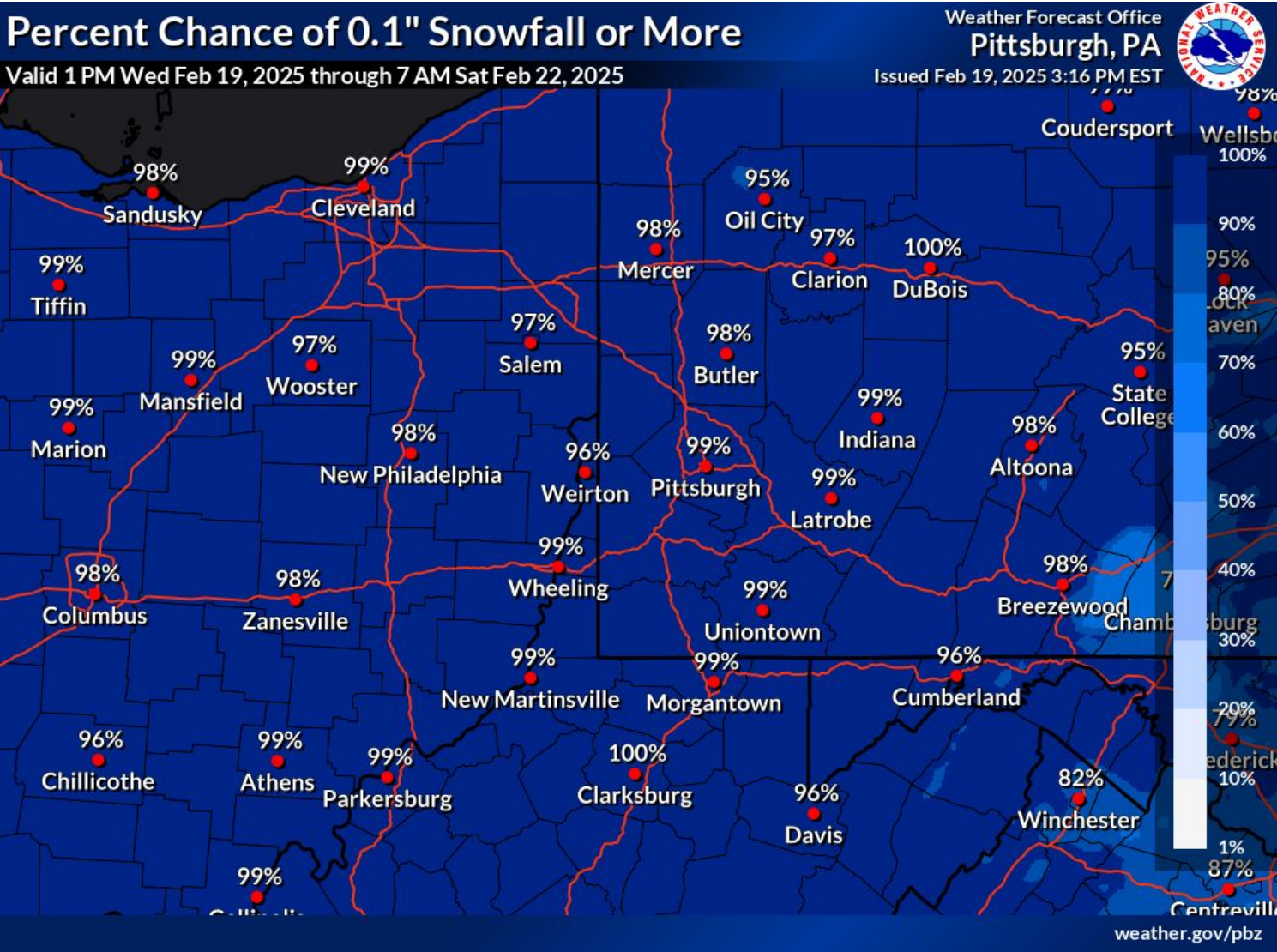
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Snowfall Probability

February 19, 2025
3:55 PM

Percent chance of reaching or exceeding 0.1 and 1 inch snowfall amounts

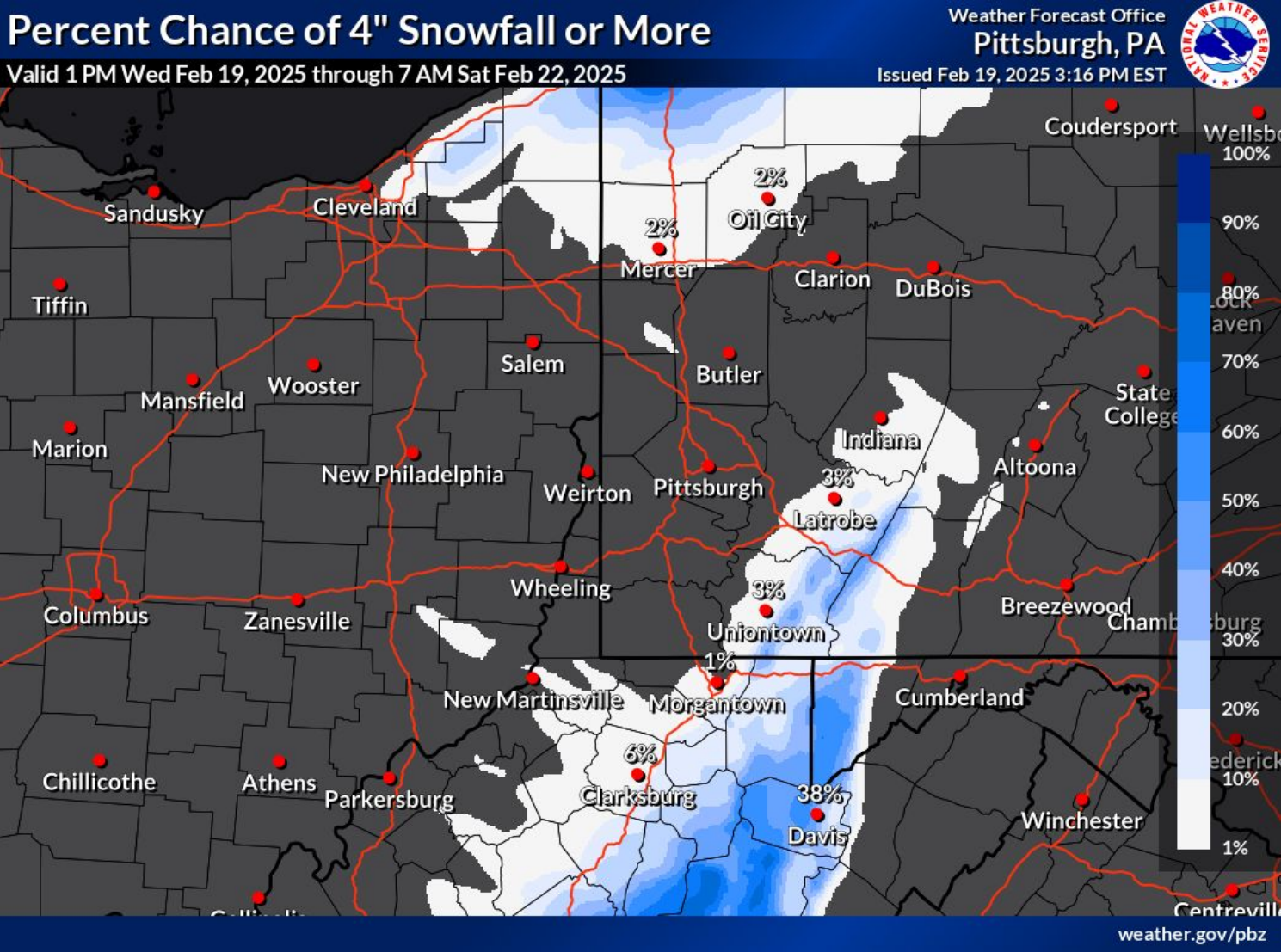
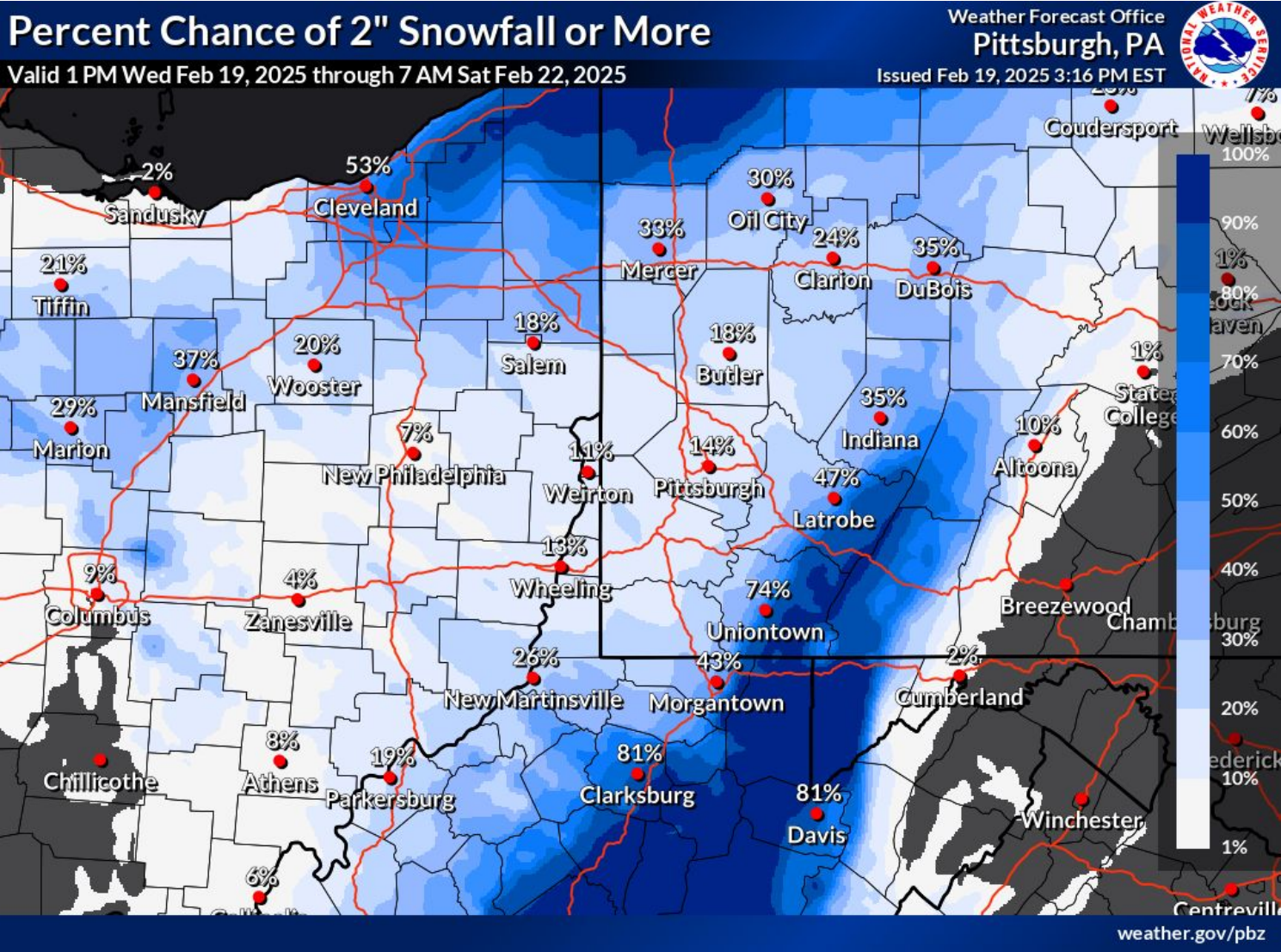




Snowfall Probability

February 19, 2025
3:55 PM

Percent chance of reaching or exceeding 2 and 4 inch snowfall amounts





Snowfall Probability

February 19, 2025
3:55 PM

Percent chance of reaching or exceeding 6 and 8 inch snowfall amounts



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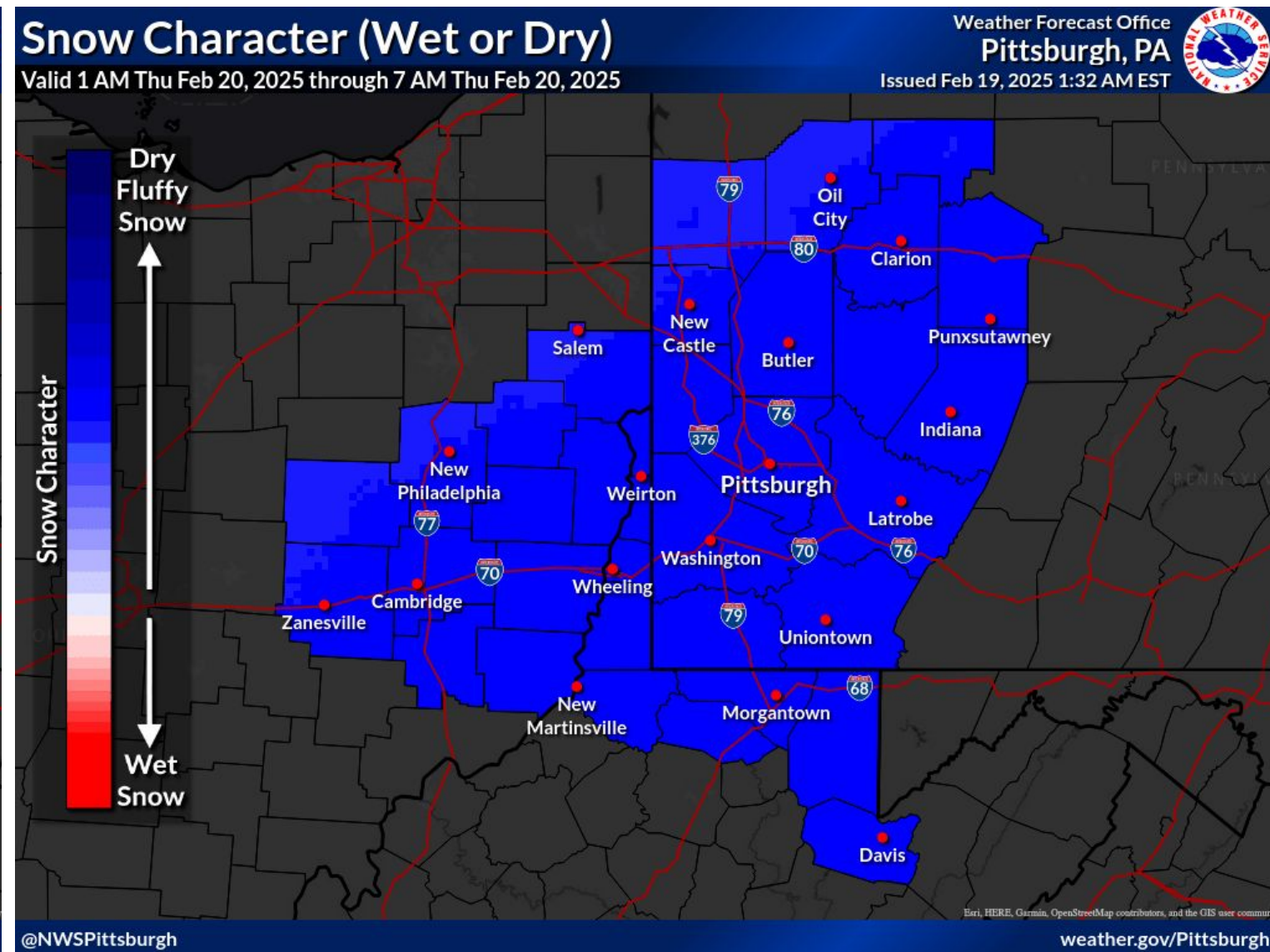
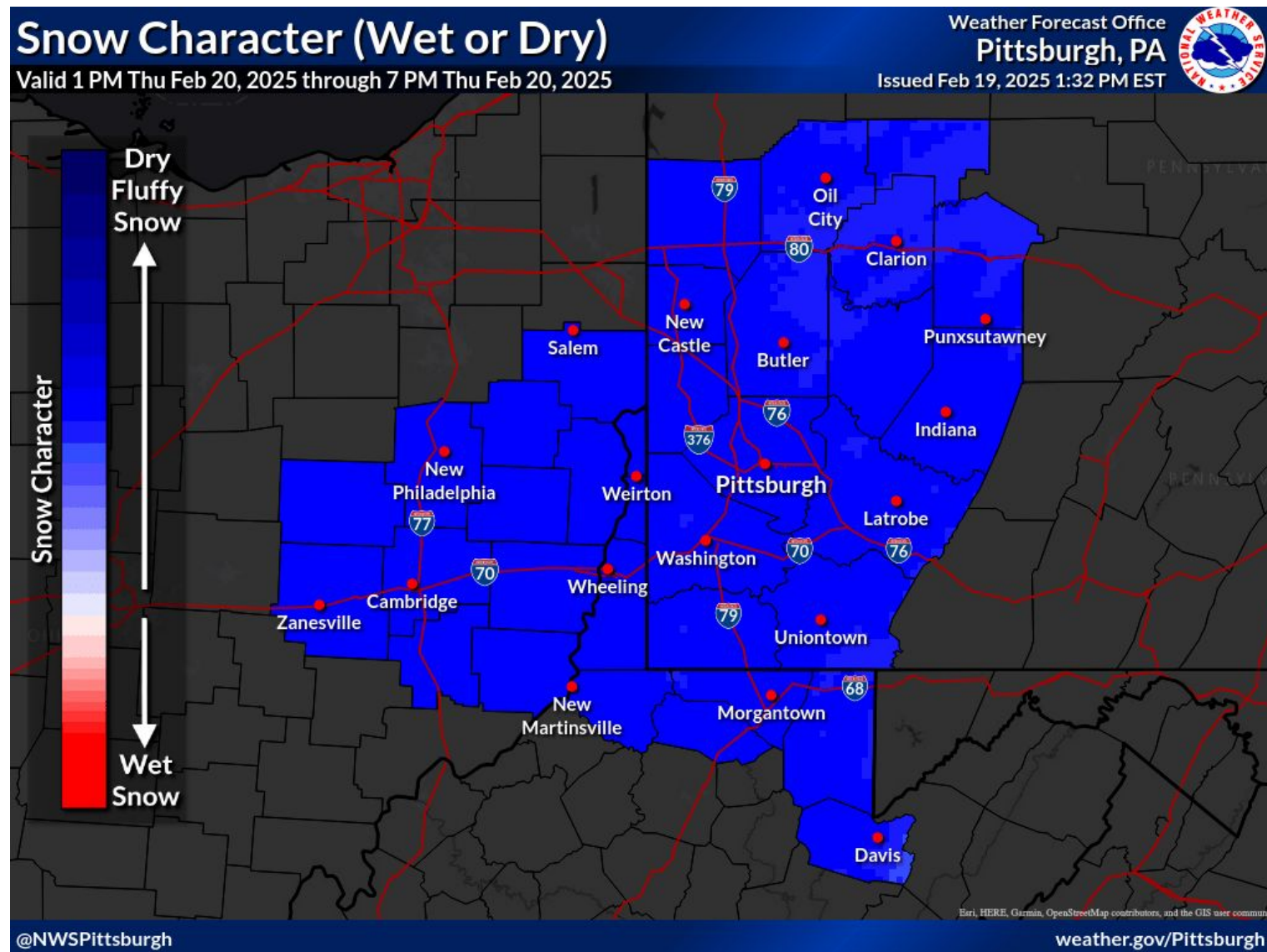
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Estimated Snow Character

February 19, 2025
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Wednesday Night - Thursday



There is high confidence that the snow character will remain dry and fluffy through the event



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Winter Driving Safety

February 19, 2025
3:55 PM

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM SNOW SQUALLS

 **If a Snow Squall Warning is issued, delay travel.**
If you're already driving, safely exit the road at the next opportunity.

If you cannot exit the road in time:




-  **Slow down,**
but avoid slamming the brakes
-  **Turn on your lights**
(low-beam headlights & hazards)
-  **Pull over safely to the side of the road,**
and remain in the vehicle with your seatbelt on



ICE & SNOW, TAKE IT SLOW

Each year in the U.S., there are over **1,000 deaths** and **100,000 injuries** due to vehicle crashes during winter weather.

DID YOU
KNOW?

-  **Clean off your vehicle before driving.**
Flying snow from cars causes accidents.
-  **Keep it slow, and don't use cruise control.**
Roads can be slick even if they just look wet.
-  **Leave extra distance between vehicles.**
Stay especially far from snow plows.





Contact and Next Briefing Information

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3:55 PM

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Contact Information

Web

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Twitter

→ @NWSPittsburgh

Next Briefing

- By 6AM Thursday February 20th, 2025
- Method: Email

Disclaimer

- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
- Do Not Use After: 6AM Thursday, February 20th, 2025

