



# Winter Weather Headlines

For Ongoing Lake Effect Snow Through Saturday Morning

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

## Key Messages

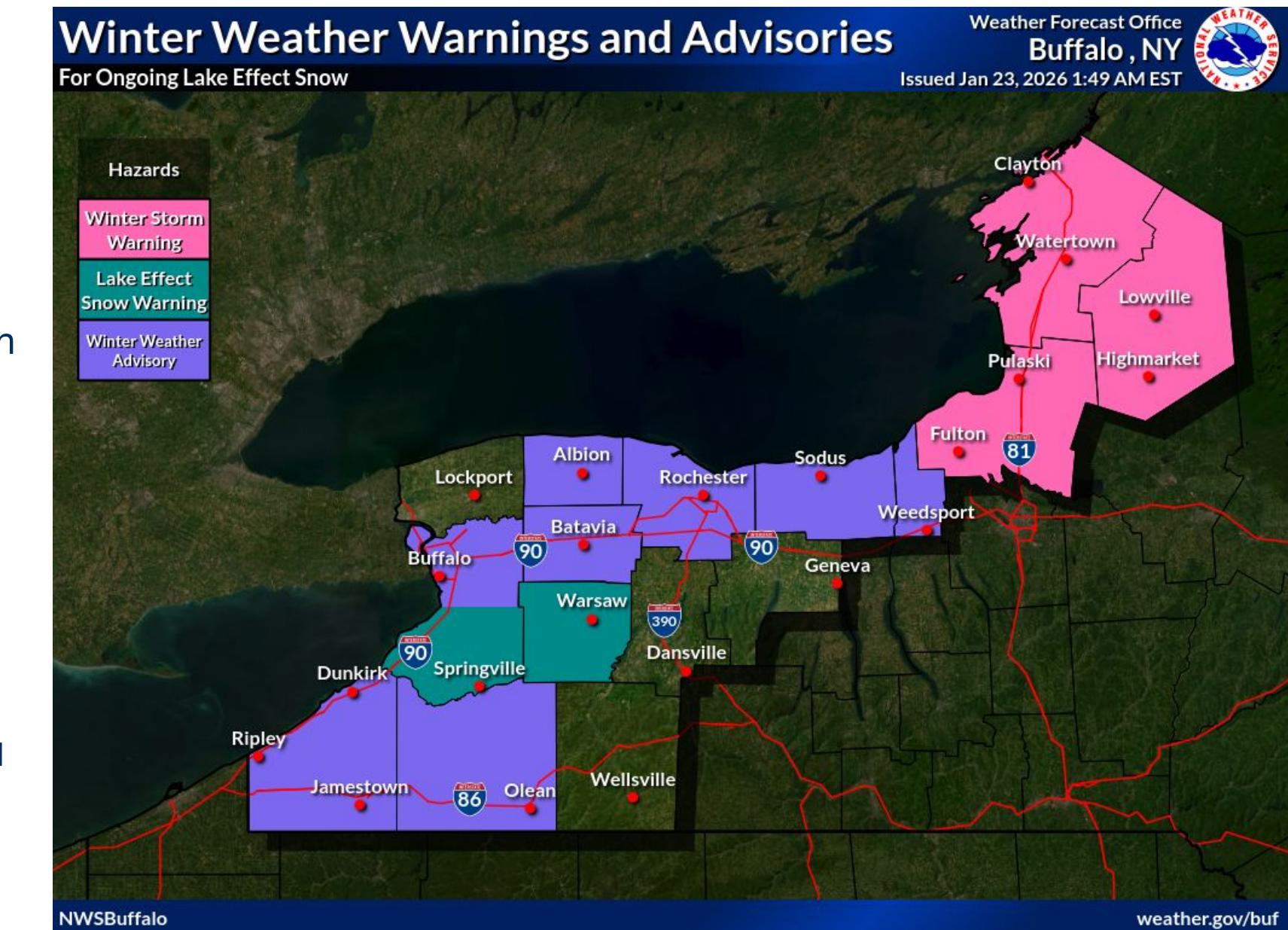
- Locally heavy lake effect snow will continue east of Lake Ontario today before moving south and weakening tonight
- Lake effect snow off Lake Erie will weaken quickly this morning
- Gusty winds will produce extensive blowing and drifting snow through early this evening, especially in open areas

## Warning & Advisory Timing:

- **Winter Storm Warning** in effect for Oswego, Lewis, and Jefferson counties through 7 PM Friday
- **Lake Effect Snow Warning** in effect for southern Erie and Wyoming counties through 1 PM Friday
- **Winter Weather Advisory** in effect for northern Erie, Genesee, Chautauqua, and Cattaraugus counties through 1 PM Friday
- **Winter Weather Advisory** for Orleans, Monroe, Wayne, and northern Cayuga counties from 3 PM Friday through 10 AM Saturday

## Important Updates

New Winter Weather Advisory issued for Orleans, Monroe, Wayne, and northern Cayuga counties



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

National Weather Service  
Buffalo, NY



# Winter Weather Headlines

For Extreme Cold Followed by Widespread Heavy Snow

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

## Key Messages

- Extreme cold develops today and lasts through Saturday night
- Widespread heavy snow possible Sunday through Monday evening

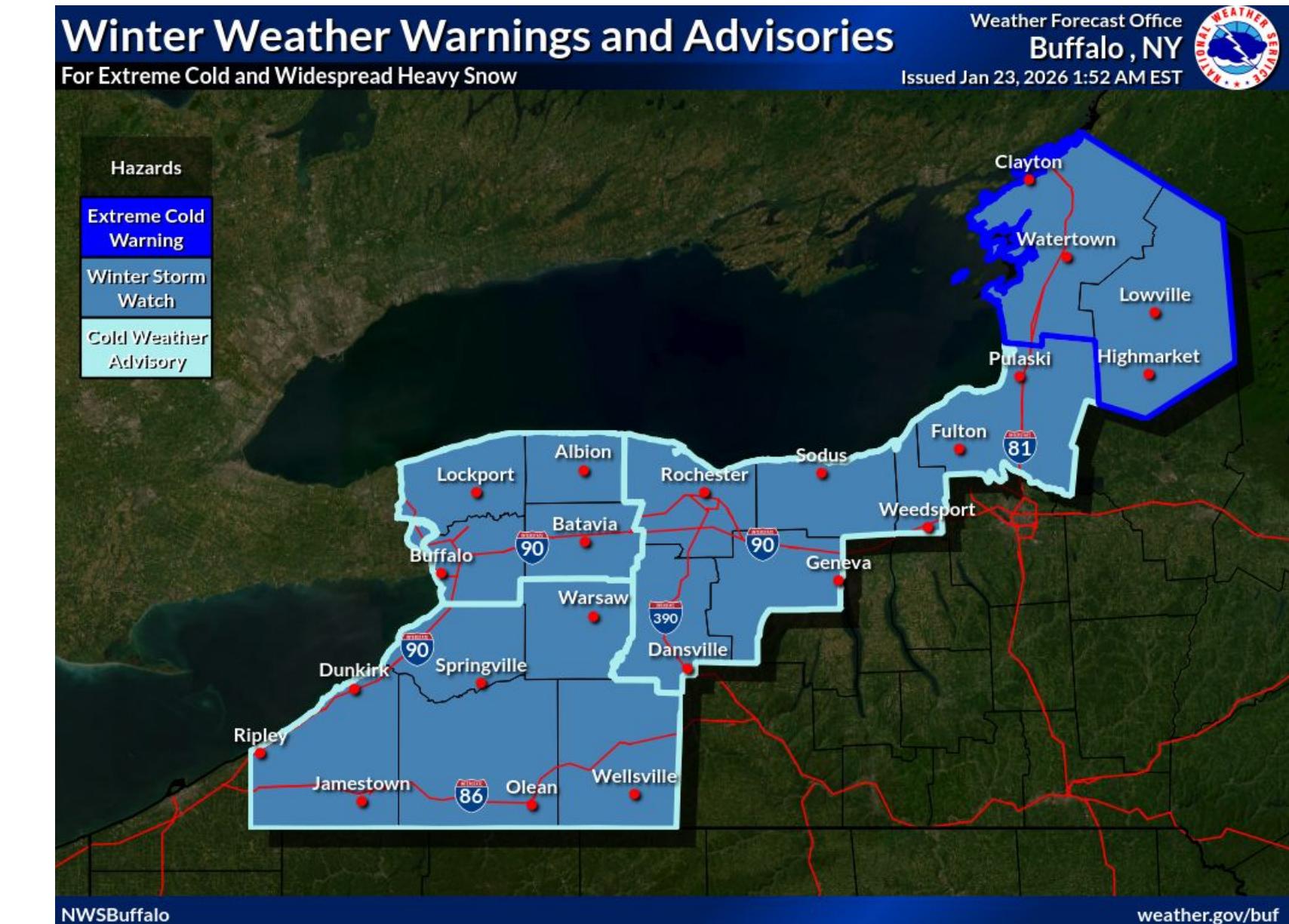
## Warning & Advisory Timing:

- **Extreme Cold Warning** for Jefferson and Lewis counties from 7PM Friday through 1PM Saturday
- **Cold Weather Advisory** for all of Western NY from 10 AM Friday to 10 AM Saturday
- **Cold Weather Advisory** for the Genesee Valley, western Finger Lakes, and counties southeast of Lake Ontario from 1 PM Friday to 10 AM Saturday
- **Winter Storm Watch** for all of Western and North Central NY early Sunday morning through Monday evening

NEW

## Important Updates

- Start time of Cold Weather Advisory moved earlier by a few hours today



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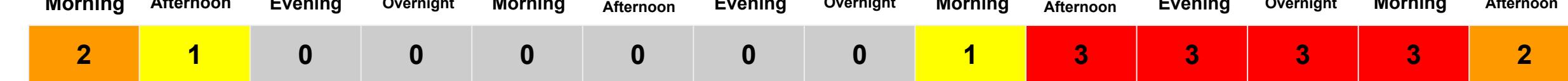
# Threats & Potential Impacts Timeline

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

Friday Through Monday



Snow -  
Lake Erie



Snow -  
Lake Ontario



Wind



Wind Chills



Marine



Impacts Levels Legend

0 - Little to None

1- Minor

2- Moderate

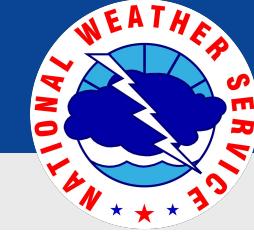
3- High

4- Extreme



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# Forecast Additional Snowfall

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

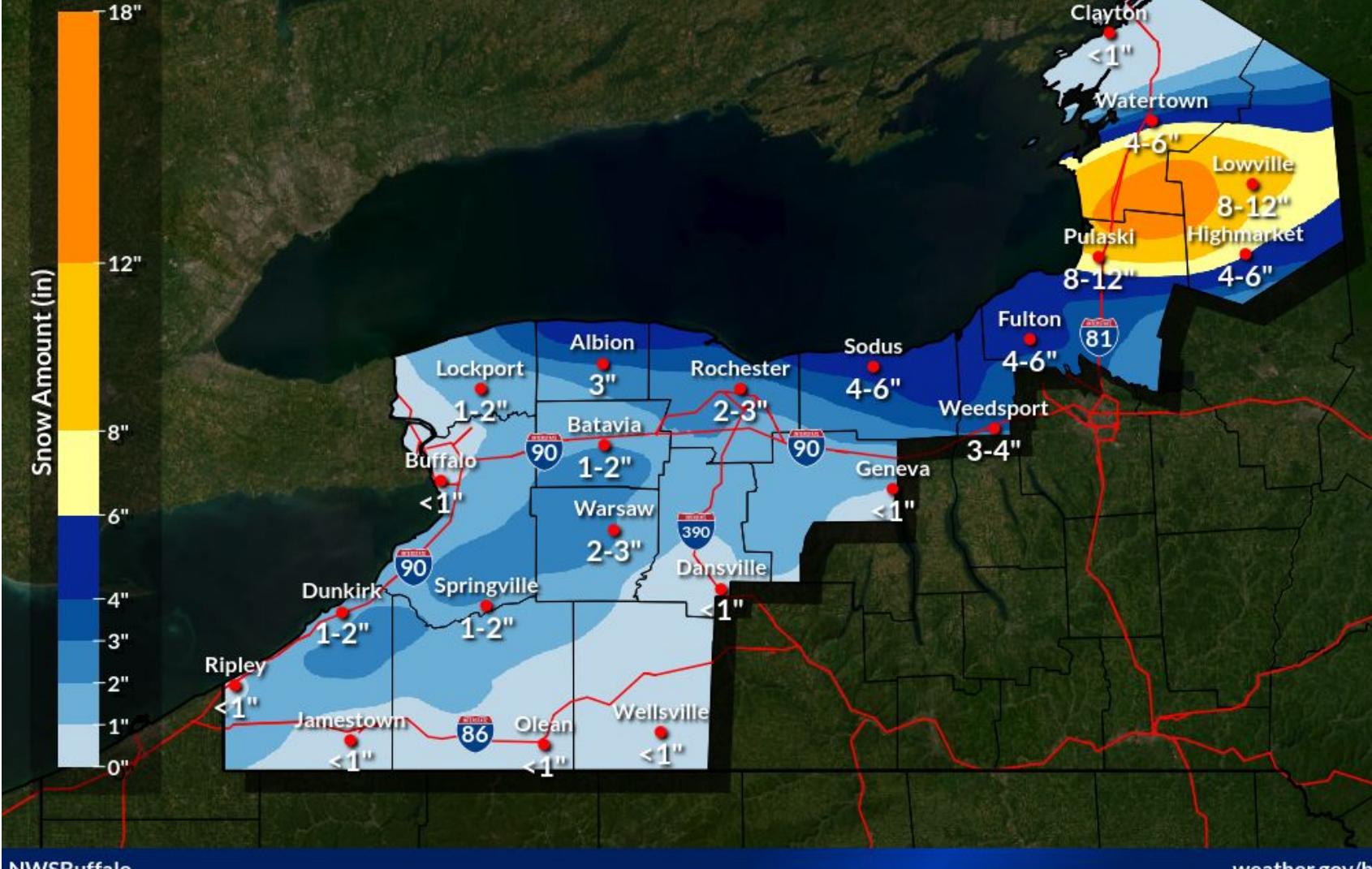
4 AM Friday Through 7 AM Saturday

## Forecast Additional Snowfall

4 AM Friday Through 7 AM Saturday

Weather Forecast Office  
Buffalo, NY

Issued Jan 23, 2026 1:54 AM EST



- **Off Lake Erie** - Additional accumulations will focus mainly across the higher terrain south of Buffalo, the Buffalo Southtowns, and southern Genesee County. Most of the additional snowfall will be early this morning
- **Off Lake Ontario** - The heaviest additional accumulations will focus across central and southern Jefferson County, northern Oswego County, and Lewis County today, with moderate accumulations tonight along the south shore of the lake



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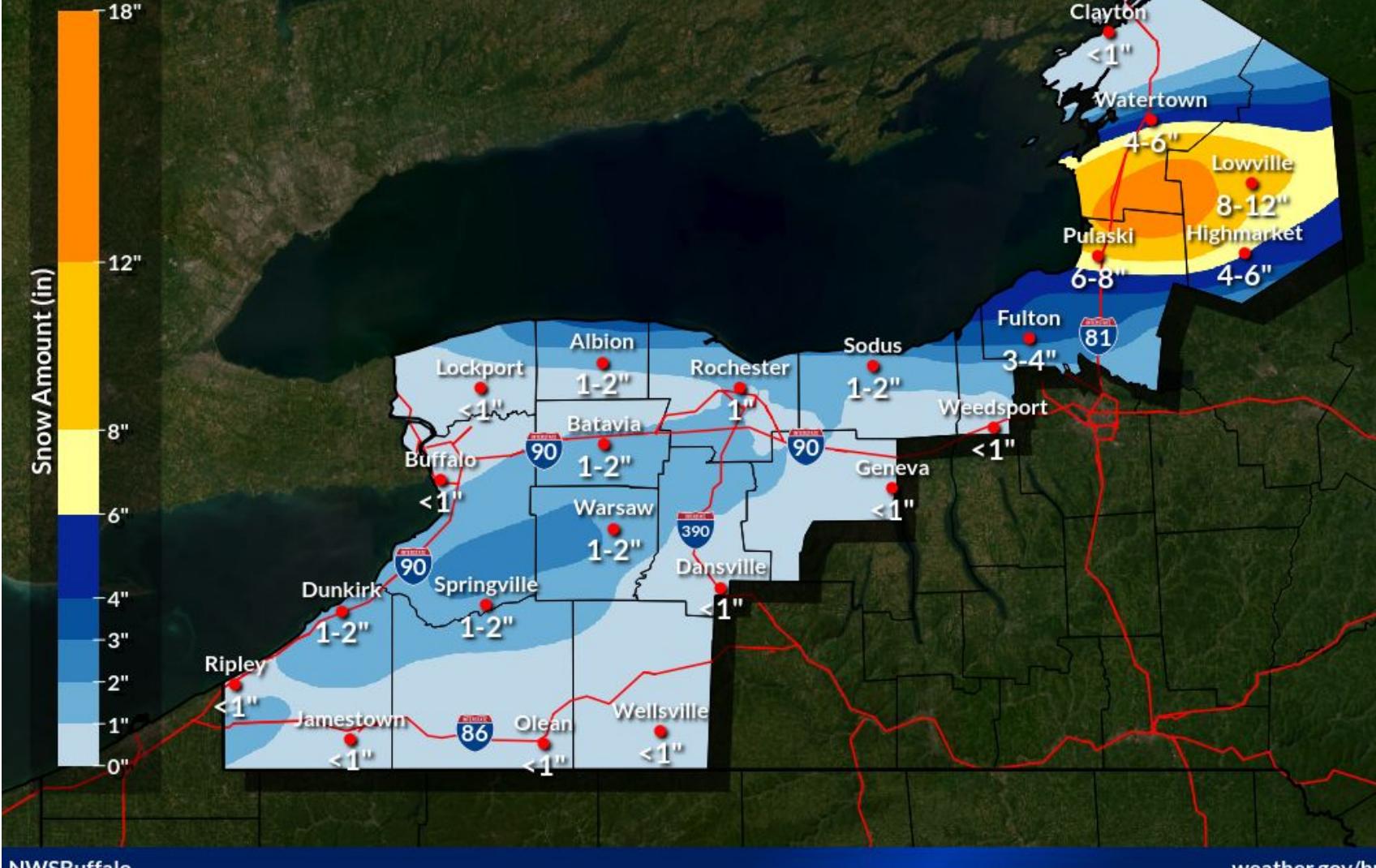
# Forecast Snowfall - Friday

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

4 AM Friday Through 7 PM Friday

## Forecast Snowfall Friday

4 AM Friday Through 7 PM Friday



### Off Lake Erie:

- ❑ Weakening lake effect snow south and southeast of Buffalo
- ❑ **Snowfall rates:** 1" to 2" per hour at times early this morning, weakening to less than 1/2" per hour

### Off Lake Ontario:

- ❑ Lake effect snow focuses across the Tug Hill Plateau most of the day
- ❑ **Late afternoon:** band moves south across Oswego County, and onshore along much of the south shore
- ❑ **Snowfall rates:** 2" to 4" per hour at times through early afternoon, 1" to 2" per hour at times late afternoon



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# Forecast Snowfall - Friday Night

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

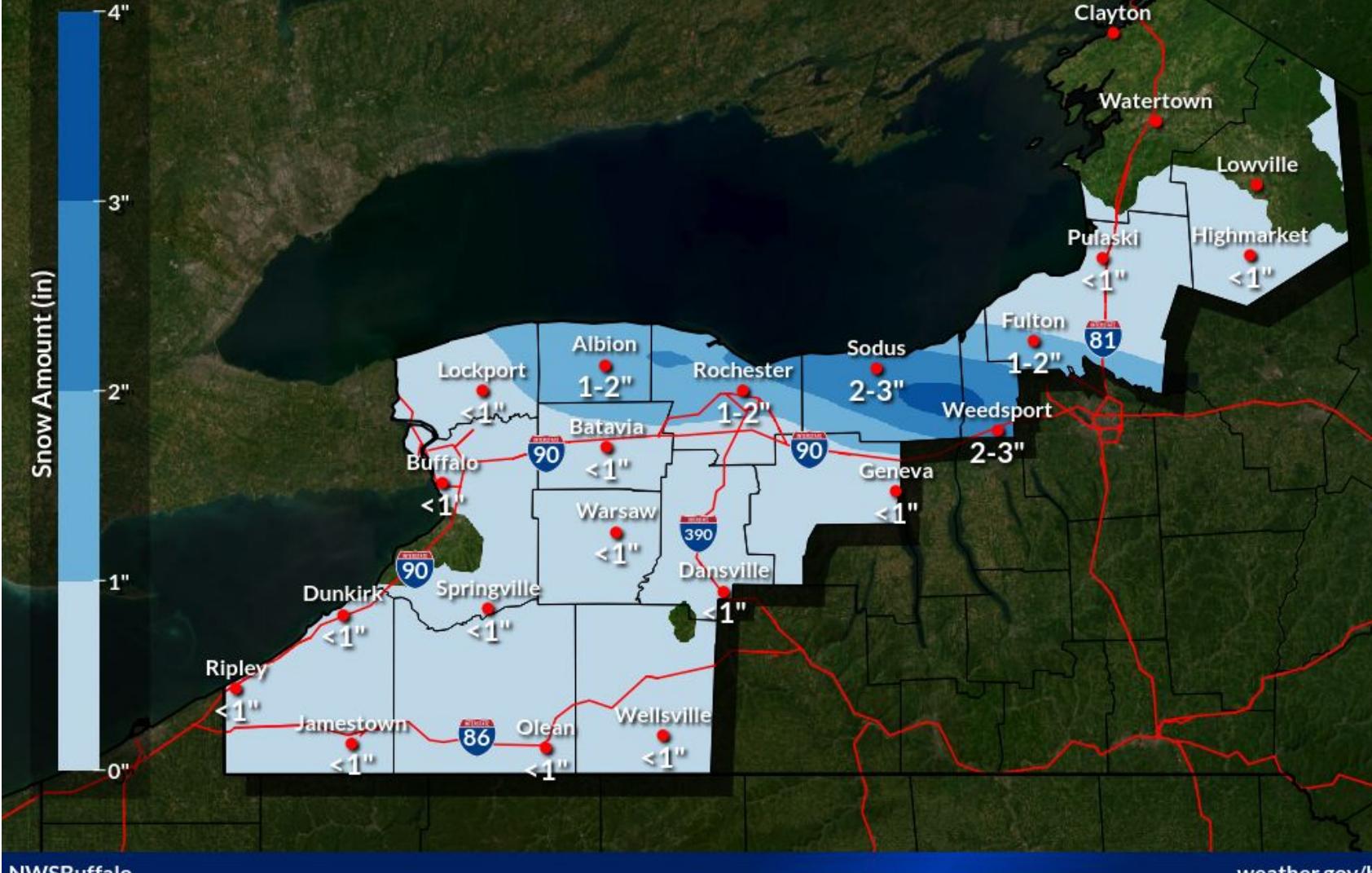
7 PM Friday Through 7 AM Saturday

## Forecast Snowfall Friday Night

7 PM Friday Through 7 AM Saturday

Weather Forecast Office  
Buffalo, NY

Issued Jan 23, 2026 2:00 AM EST



### Off Lake Erie:

- ❑ Minimal lake effect snow

### Off Lake Ontario:

- ❑ Lake effect snow moves onshore along the south shore early in the evening, with weaker bands overnight southeast of the lake
- ❑ **Snowfall rates:** 1" to 2" per hour at times early evening, then  $\frac{1}{2}$ " or less per hour overnight



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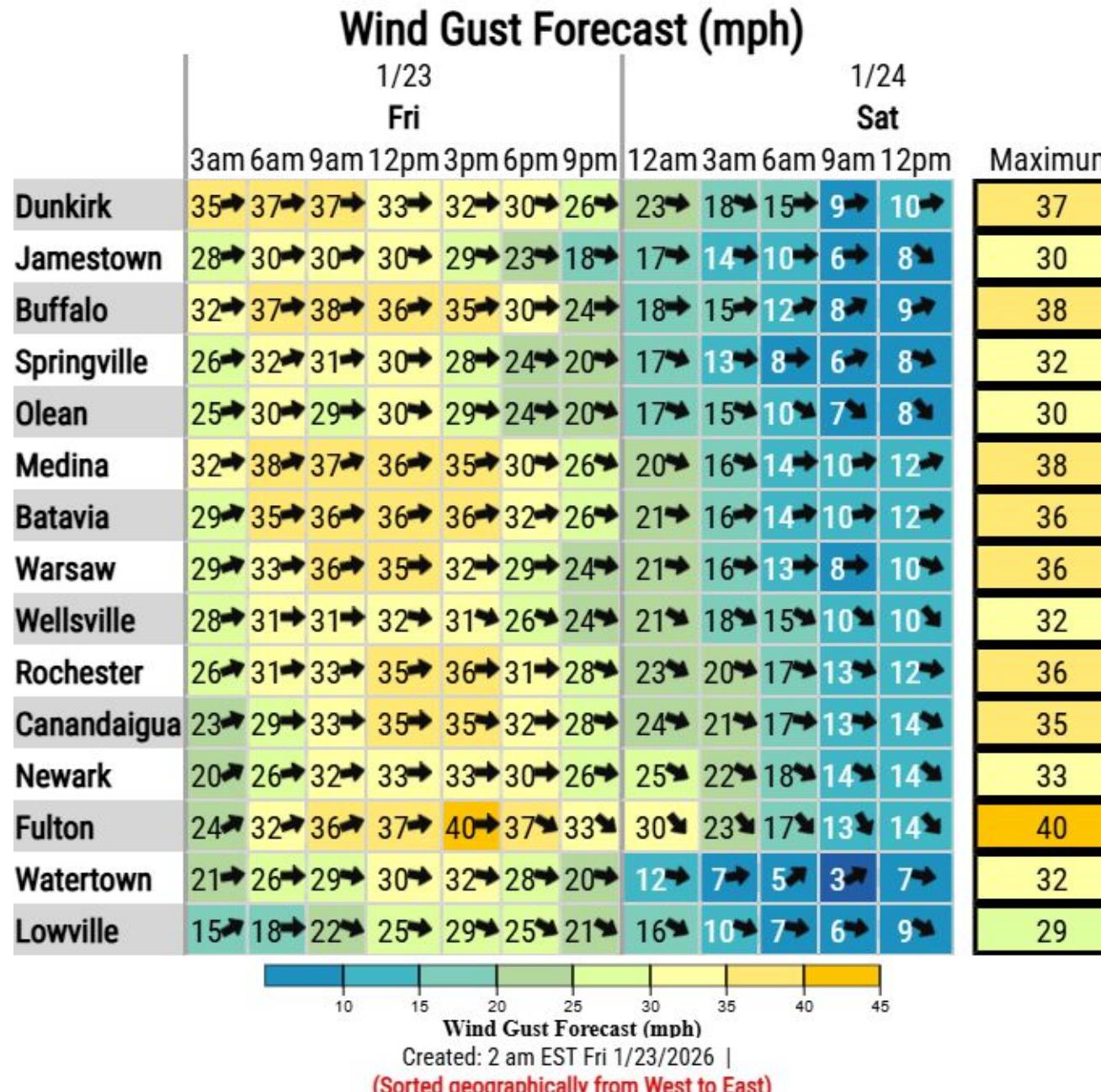
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# Forecast Peak Wind Gusts

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

Through Saturday Morning



- Wind gusts in the 30 to 40 mph range will continue through early this evening
- Gusty winds will produce considerable blowing and drifting snow in areas with fresh snow on the ground
- Winds will diminish this evening and especially overnight



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# Gale Warning for Lake Ontario



## WHERE/WHEN

→ All of the U.S. portions of Lake Ontario through 7PM Friday



## Wind

→ West winds to 35 knots



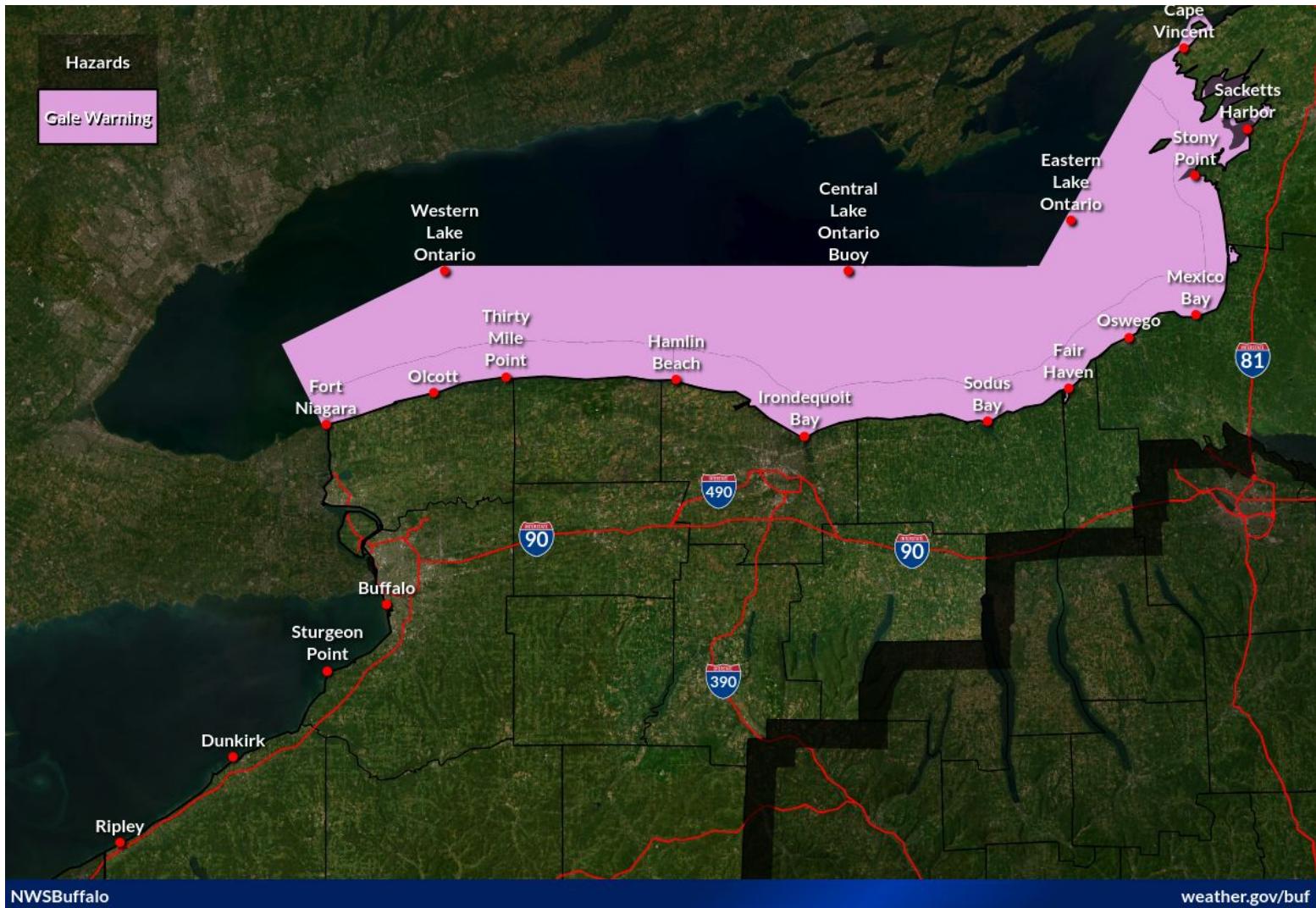
## Waves

→ 10 to 16 ft



## IMPACTS

→ Strong winds can create hazardous waves which can capsize or damage vessels and reduce visibility



***Mariners should consider altering plans to avoid hazardous conditions. Remain in port, seek safe harbor, or alter course.***



# Forecast Lowest Wind Chills

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

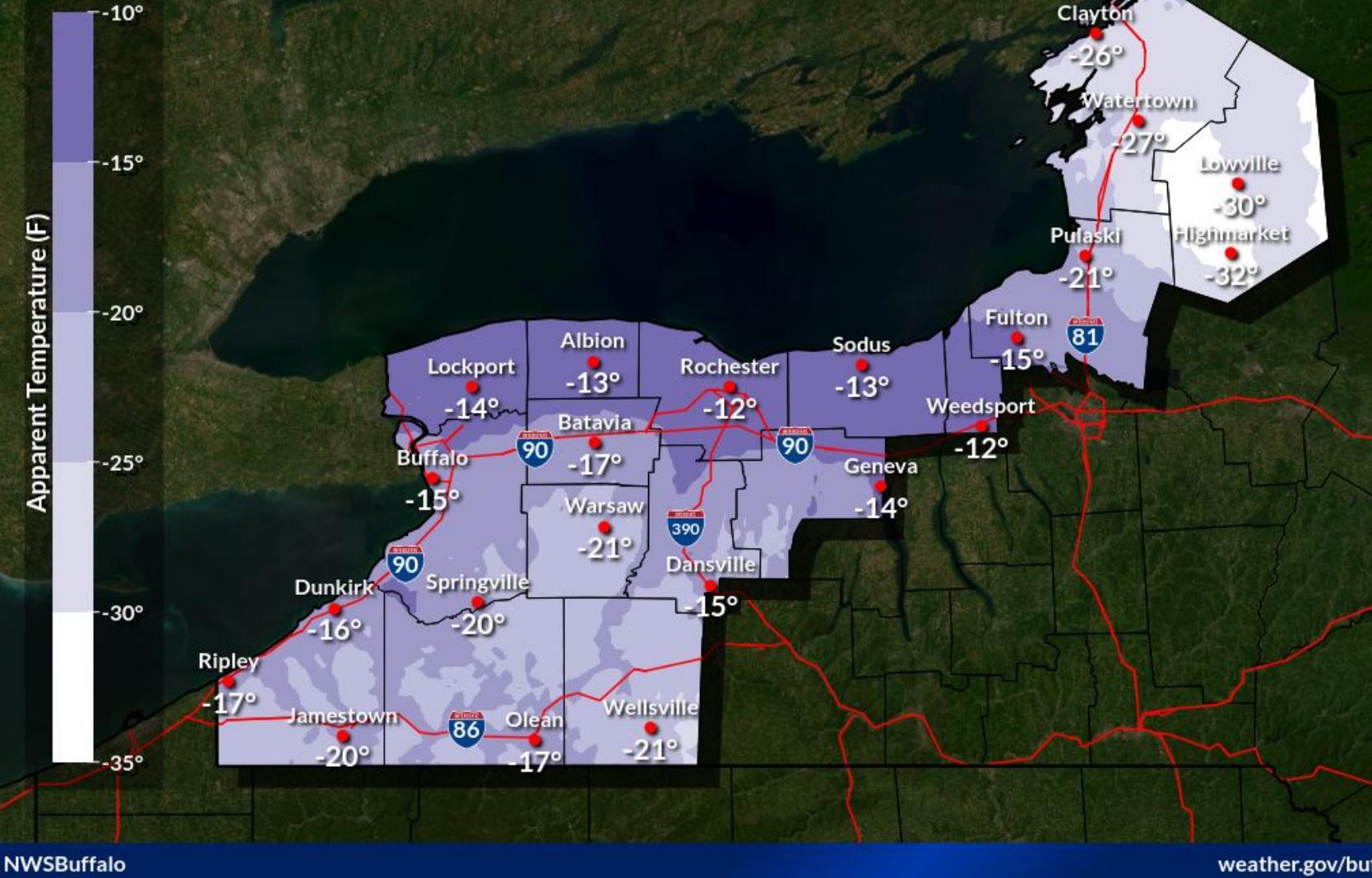
Friday Through Saturday Night

## Forecast Minimum Wind Chill

Friday Through Saturday

Weather Forecast Office  
Buffalo, NY

Issued Jan 23, 2026 2:06 AM EST

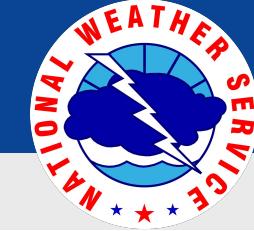


- Western NY:**
  - Timing:** Coldest wind chills Friday afternoon through Friday night
  - Wind Chills:** Coldest wind chills in the 10 below to 15 below range close to the lakes, and 15 below to 25 below across higher terrain
  
- East of Lake Ontario:**
  - Timing:** Coldest wind chills Friday night through Saturday morning
  - Wind Chills:** 25 below to 30 below range



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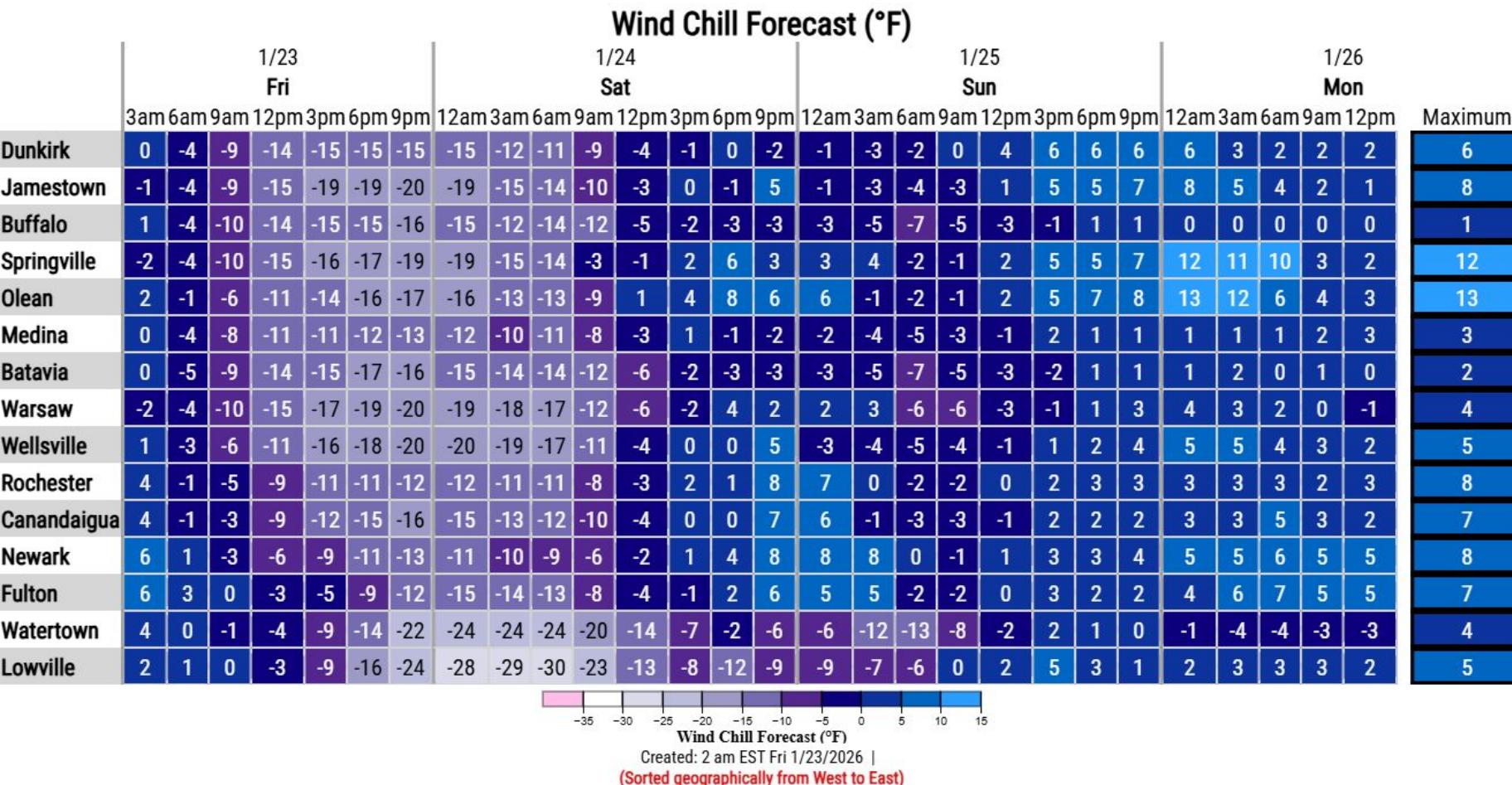
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# Forecast Wind Chills

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

Friday Through Monday



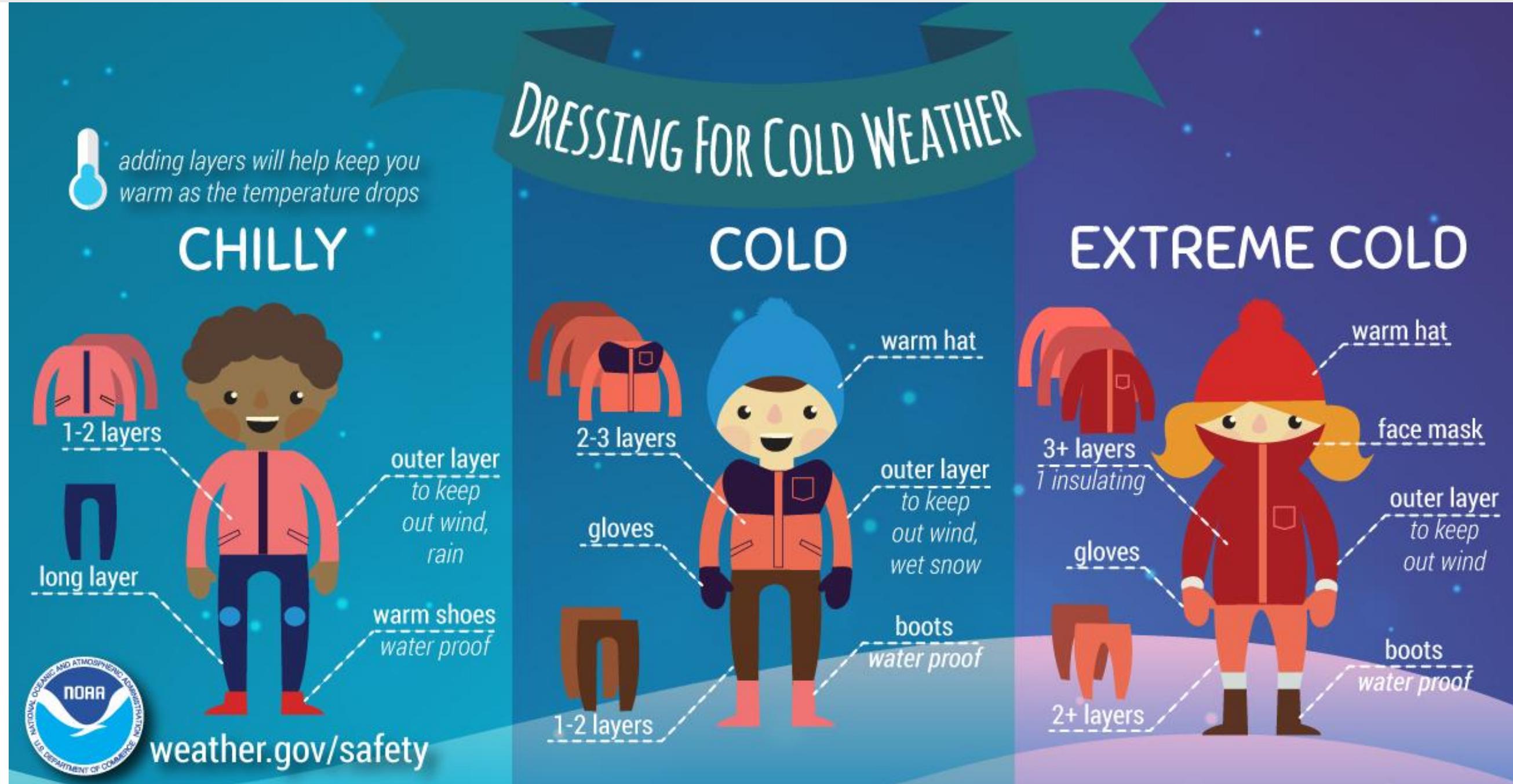
- Extreme cold peaks today through Saturday, with very cold temperatures lingering through early next week**
- High temperatures:**
  - Friday:** Teens early, falling to single digits
  - Saturday:** Single digits to low teens
  - Sunday and Monday:** Teens
- Extreme cold combined with gusty winds will create dangerously cold wind chills. The harshest wind chills will be Friday afternoon through Saturday morning**





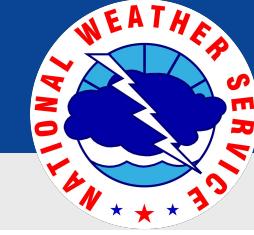
# Dressing for Cold Weather

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST



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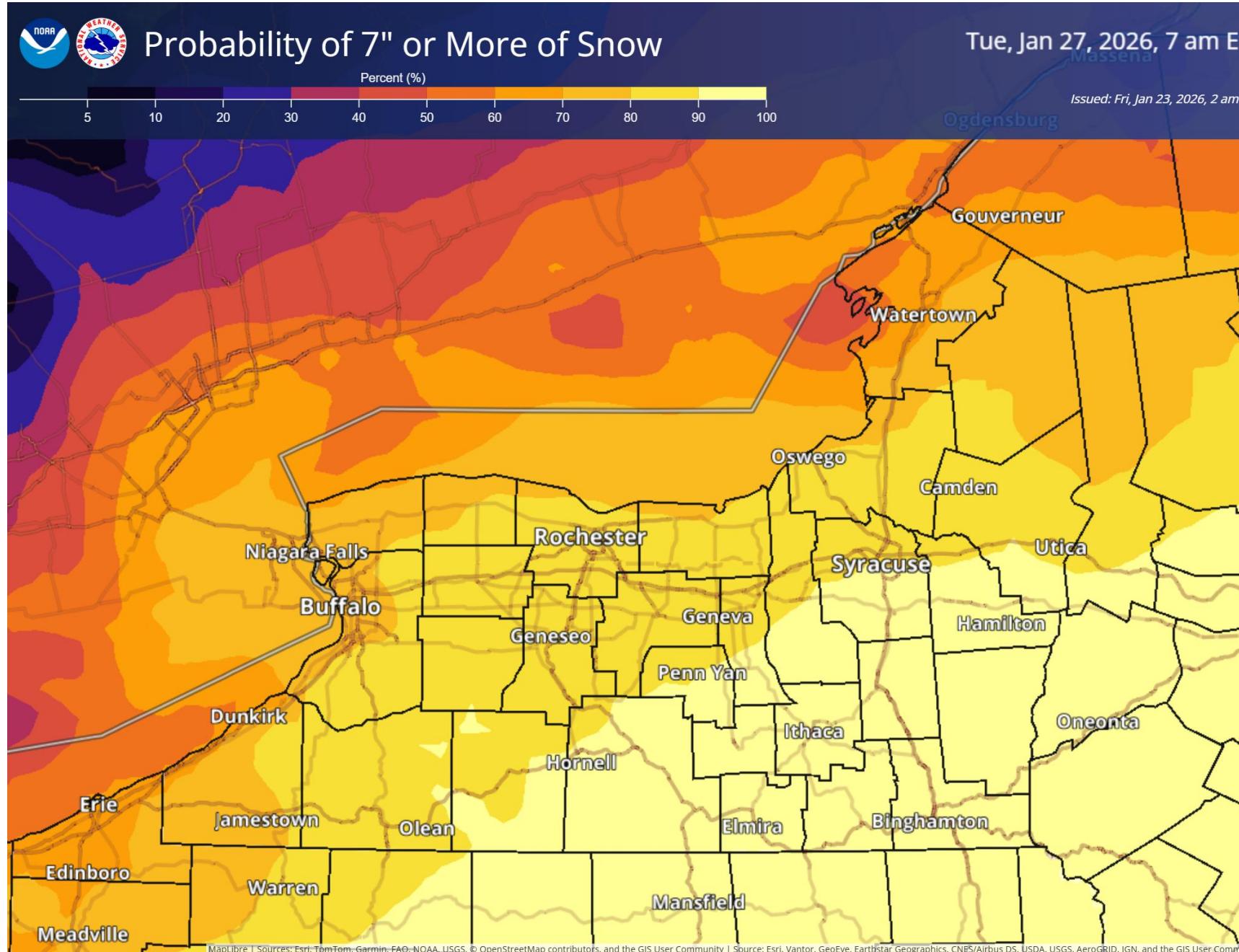
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# Widespread Heavy Snow Possible

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

Early Sunday Morning Through Monday Evening



- Widespread heavy snow is likely
- **Timing:** Snow will develop from south to north Sunday morning through midday, with the heaviest snow later Sunday afternoon through Monday morning
- **Confidence:** There remains some uncertainty with the track and intensity of this system, which will impact final snowfall amounts
- Lake enhancement may bring locally higher totals along the south shore of Lake Ontario



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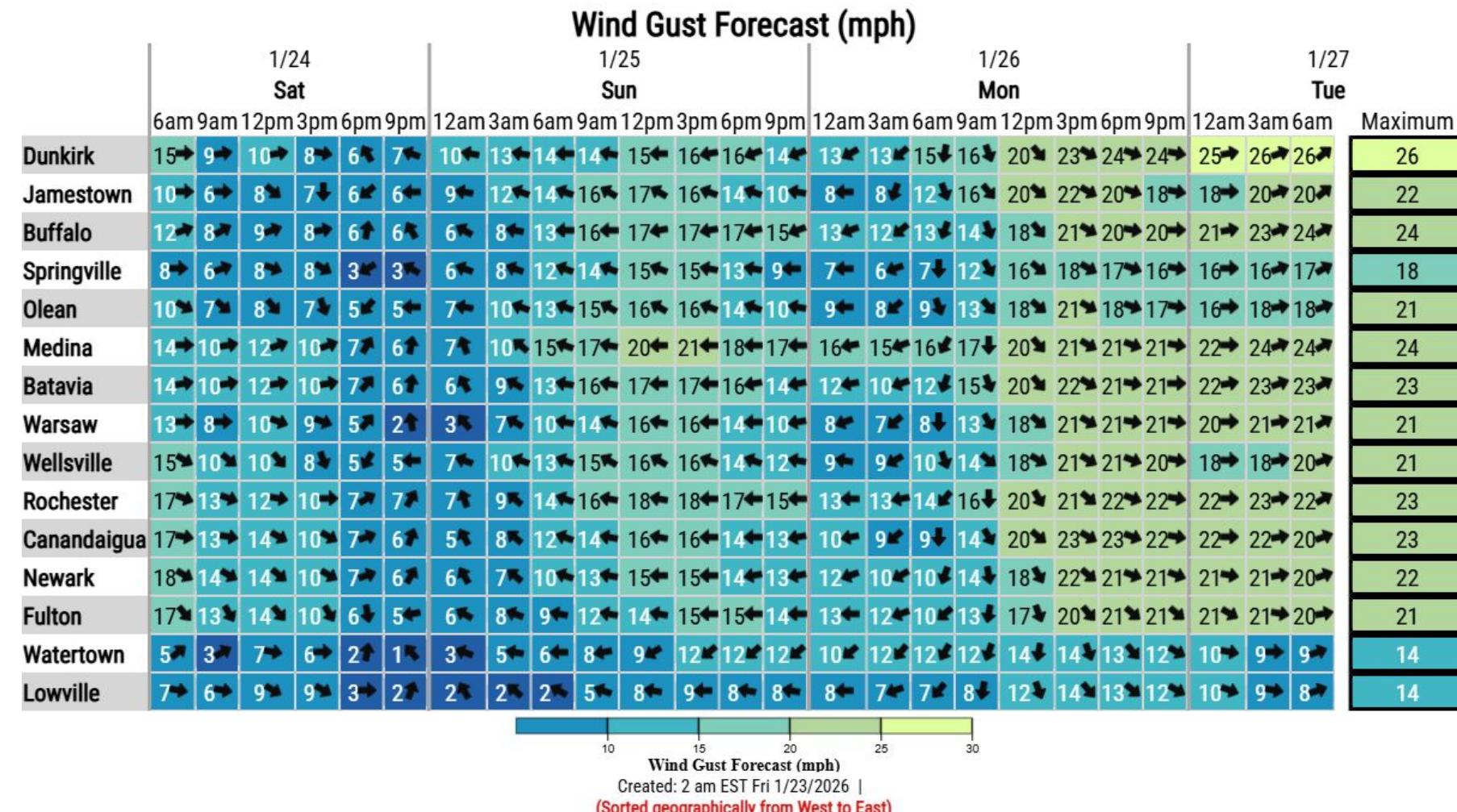
National Weather Service  
Buffalo, NY



# Forecast Peak Wind Gusts

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM EST

Saturday through Monday Night



- ❑ After a brief lull in the winds Saturday and Saturday night, winds will begin to increase Sunday through Monday Night
- ❑ Peak wind gusts will range between 20-25 mph
- ❑ Winds will not be as strong as recent days, but still enough to produce minor blowing and drifting snow



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# Contact and Next Briefing Information

January 23, 2026  
3:30 AM

For Western and North Central New York

## Next Briefing

→ Saturday, January 24, 2026 by 6 AM

## ! Disclaimer

- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
- Do Not Use After: 4 AM Saturday, January 24, 2026

## ⓘ Contact Information

### Web

→ [weather.gov/buf](http://weather.gov/buf)

### Phone

→ (716) 565-0204

### Email

→ [bufstorm.report@noaa.gov](mailto:bufstorm.report@noaa.gov)

### Facebook

→ [facebook.com/NWSBuffalo](https://facebook.com/NWSBuffalo)

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