



February 22-23 Winter Storm - Briefing #5

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

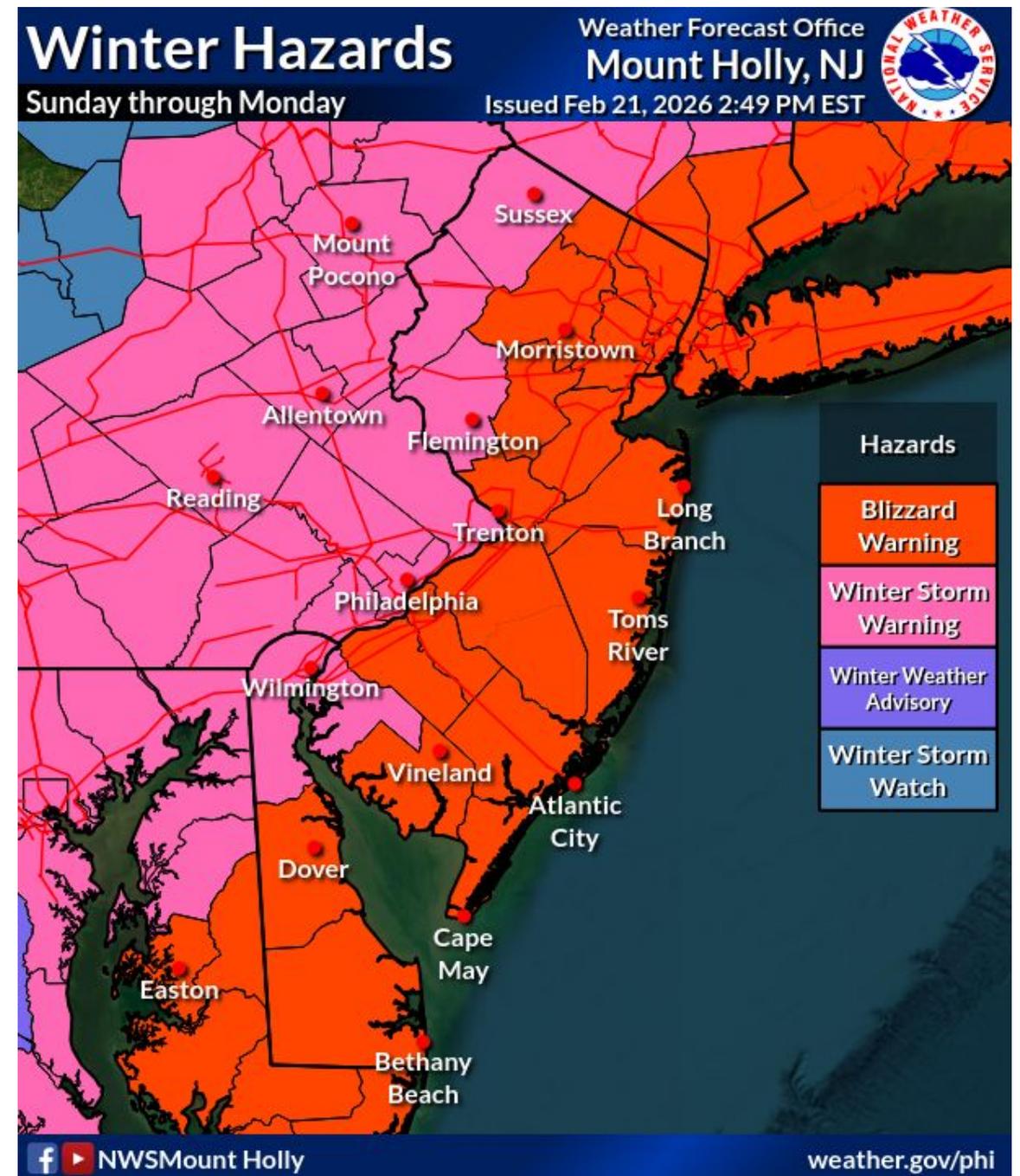
For Delaware, New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and the Eastern Shore of Maryland

Decision Support Briefing #5

→ As of 5:00 PM Saturday, February 21, 2026

NEW Important Updates

- Further upgrades to **Blizzard Warnings** and **Winter Storm Warnings** for the area.
- Upgrade to **Storm Warnings** and **Gale Warnings** for marine areas.
- Upgrade **Coastal Flood Watches** to **Coastal Flood Warnings** for tidal areas.
- High confidence in a significant winter storm affecting the area Sunday into Monday. Impacts include heavy snow, strong winds, and coastal flooding.

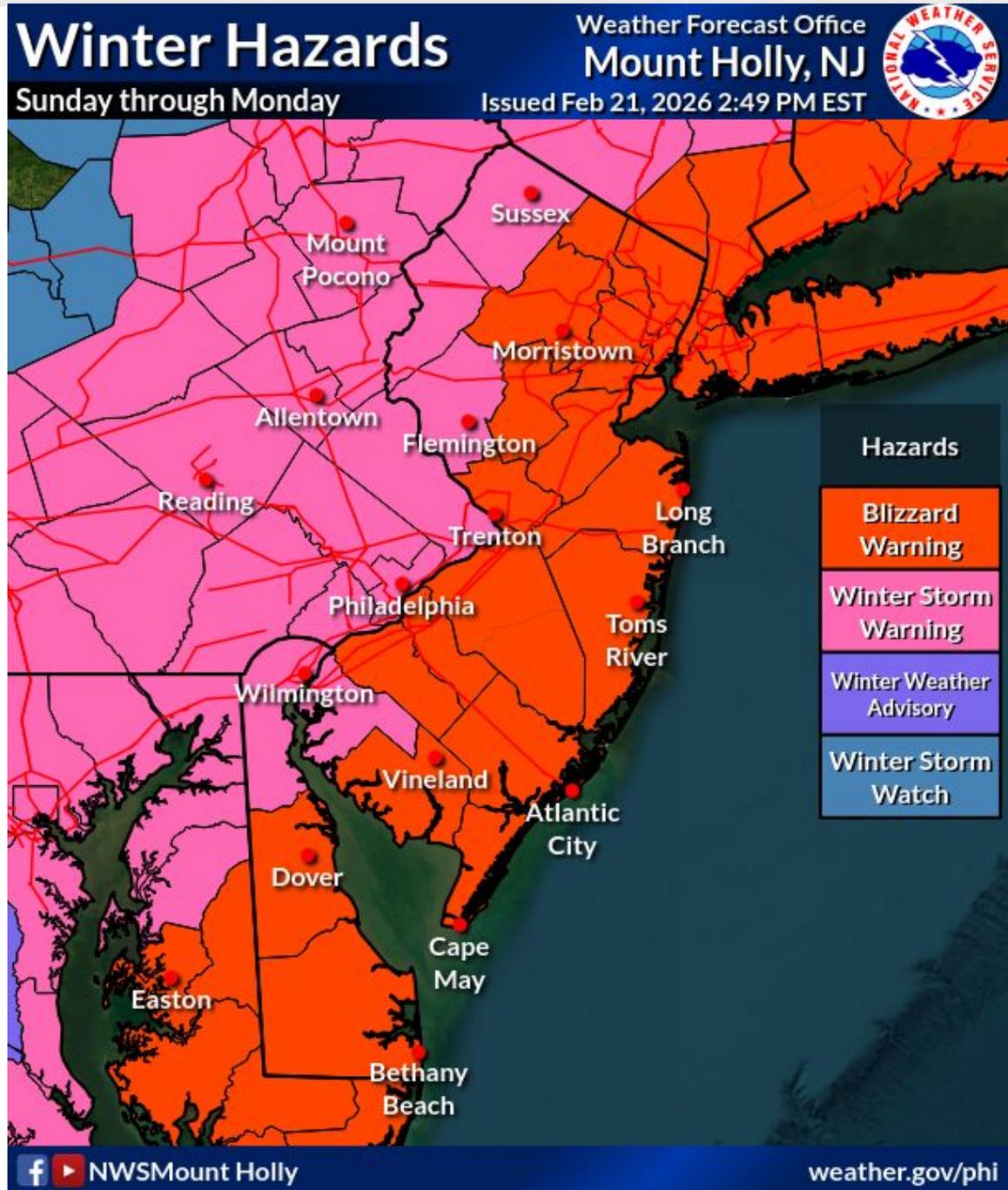




Watches, Warnings, & Advisories

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

Sunday Morning through Monday Afternoon



Key Messages

- **Winter Storm Warnings** have been upgraded to **Blizzard Warnings** for Morris, Somerset, Middlesex, northwest Burlington, Camden, Gloucester and Cumberland Counties in NJ; and Kent County in DE.
- **Winter Storm Watches** have been upgraded to **Winter Storm Warnings** for Carbon, Monroe, Northampton, Lehigh and Berks Counties in PA; and Kent, Queen Anne's Counties in MD.
- **Winter Storm Watches** have been upgraded to **Blizzard Warnings** for Caroline and Talbot Counties in Maryland.
- All other previous **Winter Storm Warnings** and **Blizzard Warnings** remain unchanged.

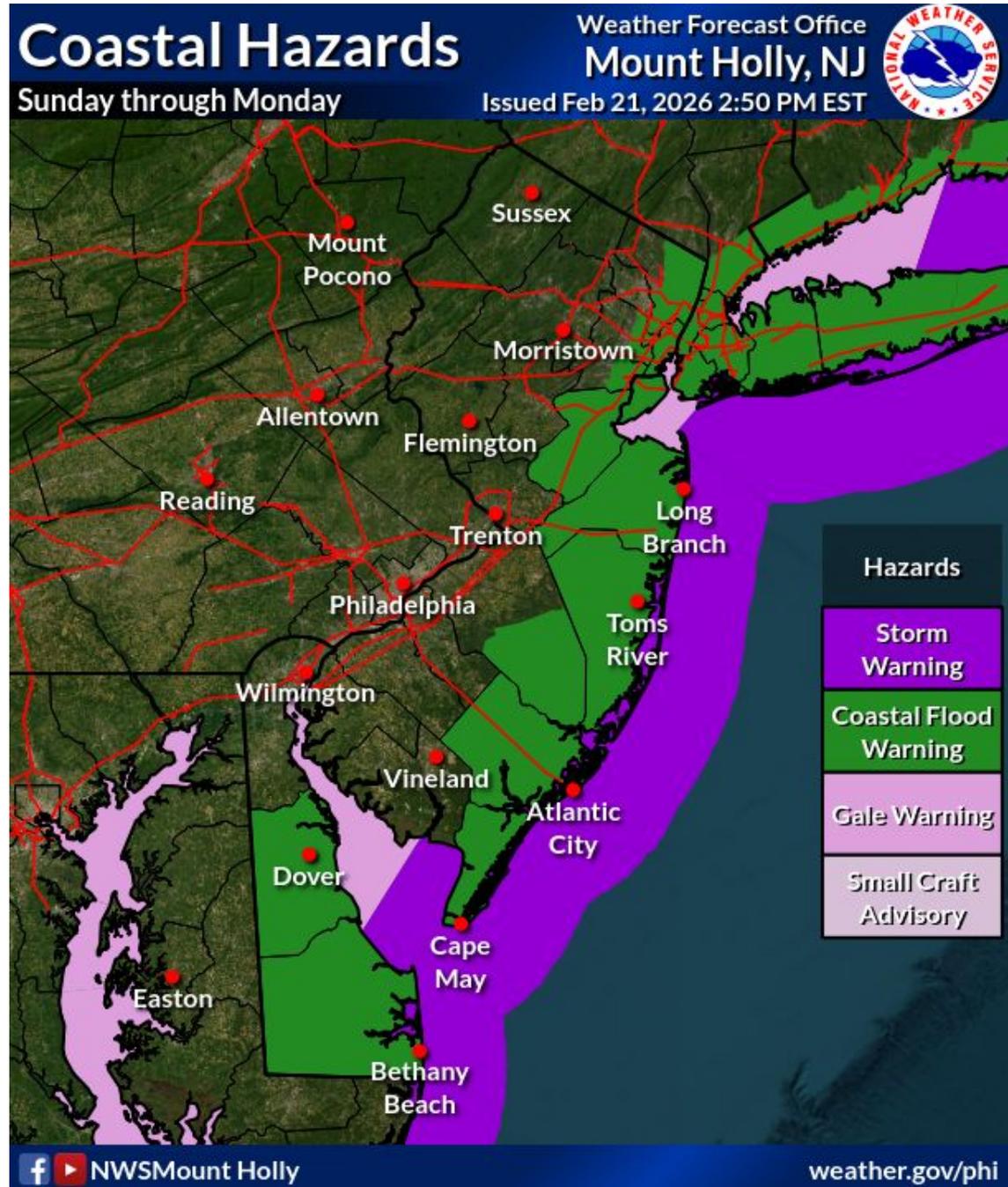




Watches, Warnings, & Advisories

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

Sunday through Monday



Key Messages

- **Storm Watches** have been upgraded to **Storm Warnings** for all Atlantic Coastal Waters and the lower Delaware Bay.
- The **Gale Watch** has been upgraded to a **Gale Warning** for the upper Delaware Bay.
- **Coastal Flood Watches** have been upgraded to **Coastal Flood Warnings** for all of Atlantic coastal New Jersey and Delaware, and Kent County, DE.





Main Points for Winter Storm

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

Sunday through Monday

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
Blizzard Conditions 	<p>Blizzard conditions will lead to very difficult to impossible travel conditions. Snowfall rates of 2" or greater are likely. Widespread closures and impacts to infrastructure likely. Blowing and drifting snow. Winds gusting up to 55 mph.</p>	<p>Along and southeast of the I-95 corridor, central and southern Delaware, portions of the Eastern Shore of Maryland (Areas covered by Blizzard Warning)</p>	<p>Snow beginning as early as Sunday morning continuing through Monday afternoon; heaviest snowfall Sunday night into Monday morning.</p>
Heavy Snow 	<p>Heavy snowfall may lead to very difficult to impossible travel conditions. Snowfall rates of 2" or greater are possible. Widespread closures and impacts to infrastructure possible. Blowing and drifting of snow possible. Winds gusting up to 40 mph.</p>	<p>Extreme northwest New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania, northeastern Maryland, and northern Delaware. (Areas covered by Winter Storm Warning)</p>	<p>Snow beginning as early as Sunday morning through Monday afternoon; heaviest snowfall Sunday night into Monday morning.</p>
Coastal Flooding 	<p>Minor to moderate coastal flooding is likely, especially with Sunday night's high tide. Spotty major coastal flooding possible. Further coastal flooding may linger into Monday.</p>	<p>Along the Atlantic coastal communities of New Jersey and Delaware and associated back bays.</p>	<p>Peak tidal flooding will occur Sunday night into Monday morning. Further minor flooding may linger into Monday afternoon and evening.</p>

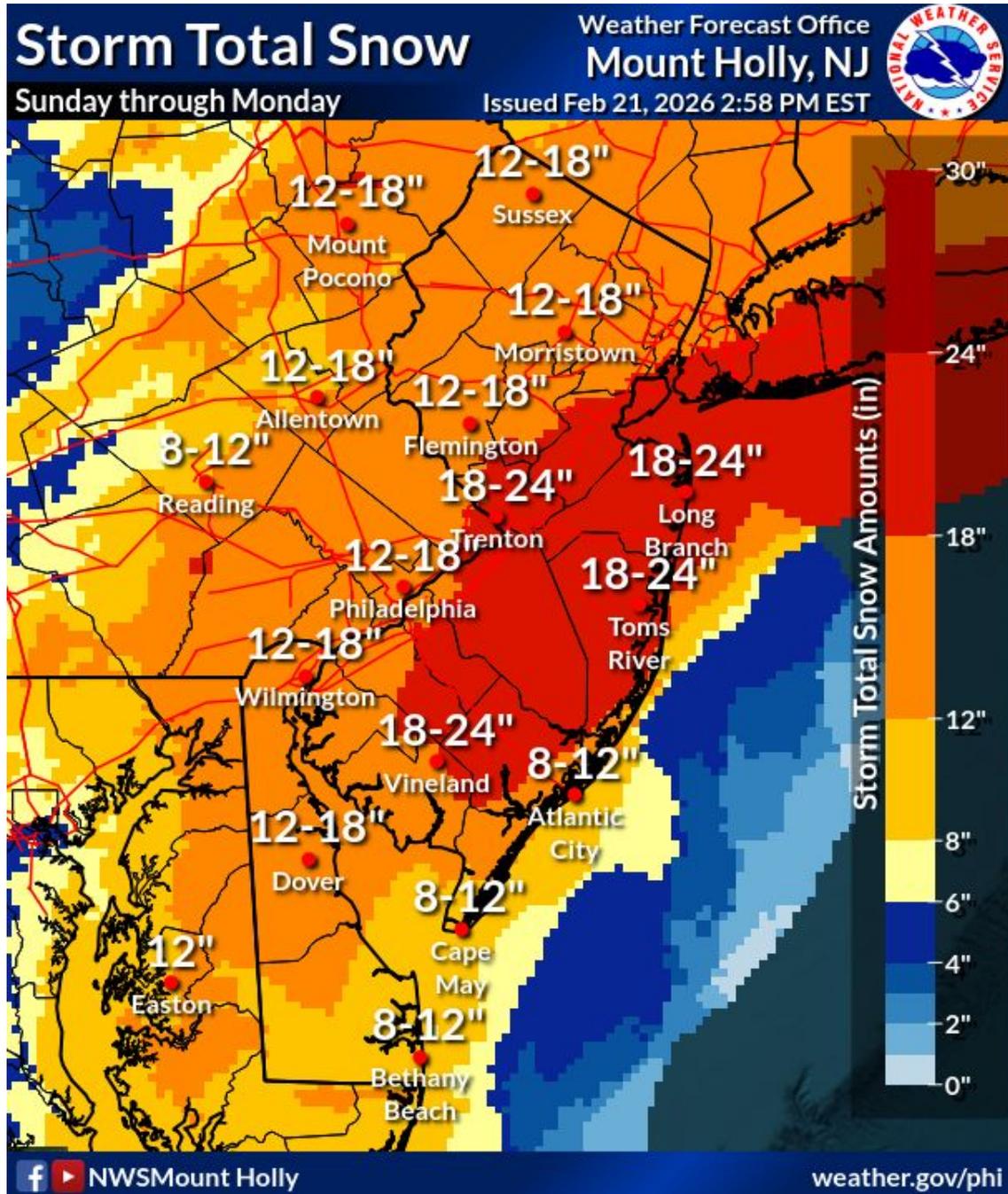




Expected Snow Accumulations

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

Sunday Morning through Monday Afternoon



Key Messages

- Precipitation is expected to begin Sunday morning, continuing into Sunday night and Monday morning. Precipitation winds down by Monday afternoon.
- Precipitation could begin as rain near and south of I-78. There will likely be at least some rain at precipitation onset near and southeast of I-95.
- Heaviest snowfall is likely to occur between Sunday evening and Monday morning.
- Heaviest snow accumulations focused across New Jersey and adjacent areas of SE Pennsylvania and northern Delaware. **Snow will impact the Monday morning commute, and potentially the Monday evening commute.**

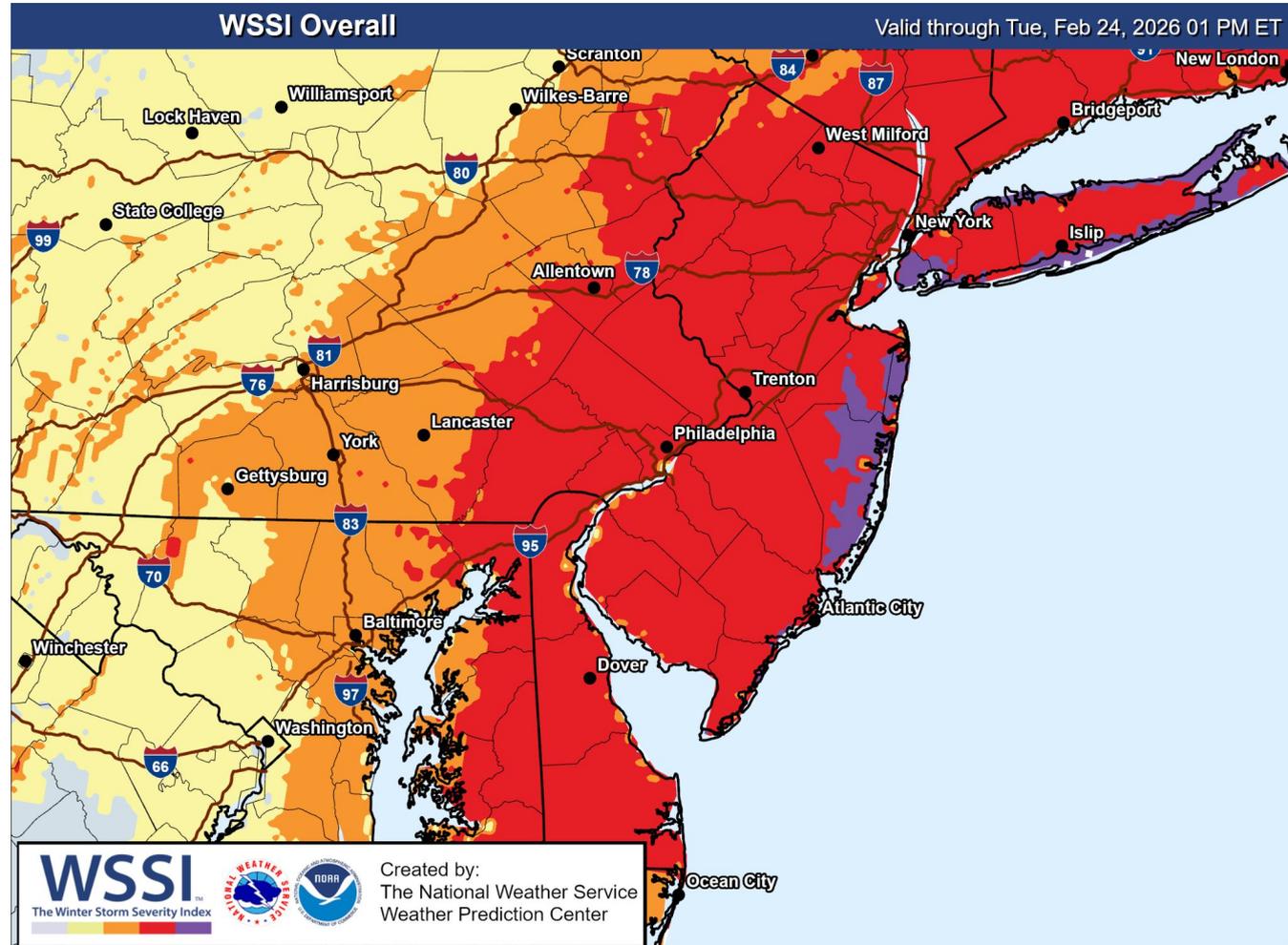




Overall Winter Weather Impacts

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

Winter Storm Severity Index (WSSI) - Sunday, February 22 through Monday, February 23



Key Messages

- Widespread moderate to major impacts are likely with this storm.
- Extreme impacts are possible, especially along the New Jersey coast.
- Snow covered roads and gusty winds will yield to reduced visibility, which will cause widespread travel disruptions and closures.

Potential Winter Storm Impacts		Winter Storm Severity Index (WSSI)		Issued: Sat, Feb 21, 2026 01 PM ET	
Winter Weather Area Expect winter weather. • Winter driving conditions. Drive carefully.	Minor Impacts Expect a few inconveniences to daily life. • Winter driving conditions. Use Caution while driving.	Moderate Impacts Expect disruptions to daily life. • Hazardous driving conditions. Use extra caution while driving. • Closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.	Major Impacts Expect considerable disruptions to daily life. Dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Avoid travel if possible. Widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.	Extreme Impacts Expect substantial disruptions to daily life. Extremely dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Travel is not advised. Extensive and widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur. Life-saving actions may be needed.	





Snow Onset Timing

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

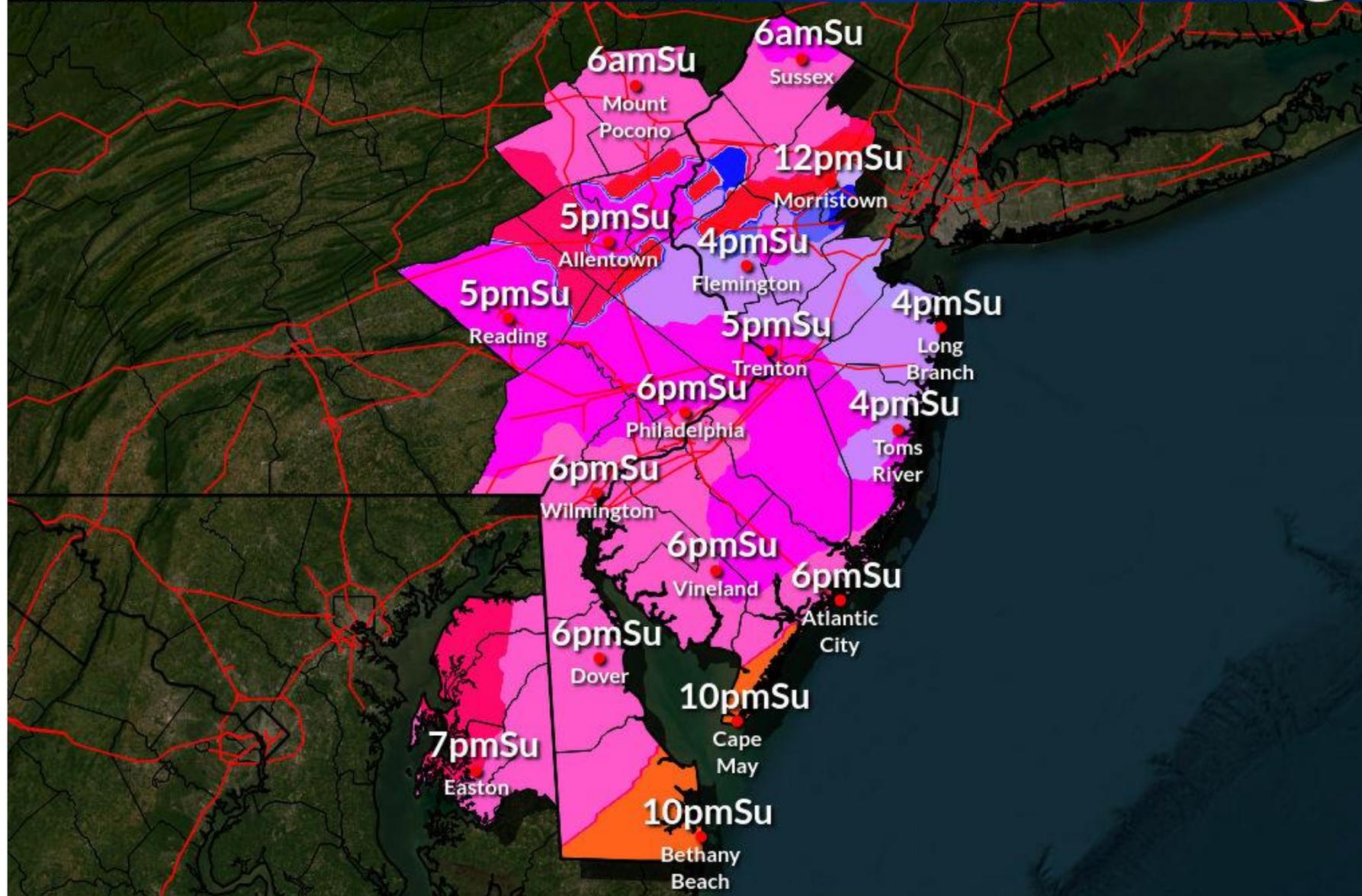
On Sunday, February 22nd

Winter Precipitation Onset Time

Valid 1 AM Sun Feb 22, 2026 through 12 AM Mon Feb 23, 2026 EST

Weather Forecast Office
Mount Holly, NJ

Issued Feb 21, 2026 3:38 PM EST



NWSMount Holly

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

National Weather Service
Philadelphia/Mount Holly



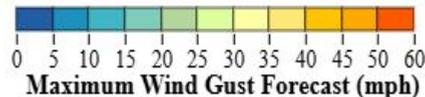
Maximum Wind Gusts

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

Sunday Morning through Tuesday Morning

Maximum Wind Gust (mph) Forecast

	2/22 Sun								2/23 Mon								2/24 Tue			
	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am
Allentown, PA	2	5	10	17	22	23	22	23	26	30	32	33	31	30	25	22	20	17	20	21
Atlantic City, NJ	6	8	15	26	33	39	45	48	53	53	51	47	39	31	28	29	28	26	28	28
Bethany Beach, DE	6	8	15	24	31	40	46	51	54	54	51	46	39	33	29	30	30	29	28	26
Dover, DE	5	7	10	20	25	30	35	38	40	40	39	37	35	32	26	24	23	23	23	25
Easton, MD	5	6	10	17	23	26	30	35	37	38	37	37	33	31	25	25	25	24	24	25
Georgetown, DE	5	7	12	23	30	35	37	41	44	44	41	40	37	32	25	23	22	22	22	24
Hackettstown, NJ	5	7	14	20	22	23	25	31	35	38	39	39	33	31	28	25	23	21	21	22
Lewes, DE	6	8	15	24	31	39	43	47	52	54	49	45	40	33	30	31	30	30	30	29
Mount Pocono, PA	7	10	15	23	24	24	28	31	36	40	44	44	41	41	40	38	35	32	31	30
Philadelphia, PA	2	3	10	18	25	28	30	33	35	37	37	36	30	26	23	22	18	17	18	23
Reading, PA	2	3	9	17	22	24	24	26	29	33	35	36	33	31	26	24	22	21	23	23
Toms River, NJ	5	7	15	26	30	33	39	40	43	45	45	44	37	28	22	22	18	20	21	23
Trenton, NJ	2	5	10	20	26	26	29	32	33	36	36	36	31	26	22	21	17	16	18	21
Wilmington, DE	2	5	8	17	23	26	29	32	32	35	36	36	32	29	24	22	20	18	22	24



Key Messages

- Northeast winds will begin to increase on Sunday and persist through Monday, before diminishing into Monday night
- The strongest of winds are expected to occur Sunday night into Monday morning.
- Location of the strongest winds will be along the coast, where gusts up to 55 mph are possible.
- Wind gusts up to 40 mph are possible inland.
- Gusty winds may lead to a power outages and some localized tree damage.

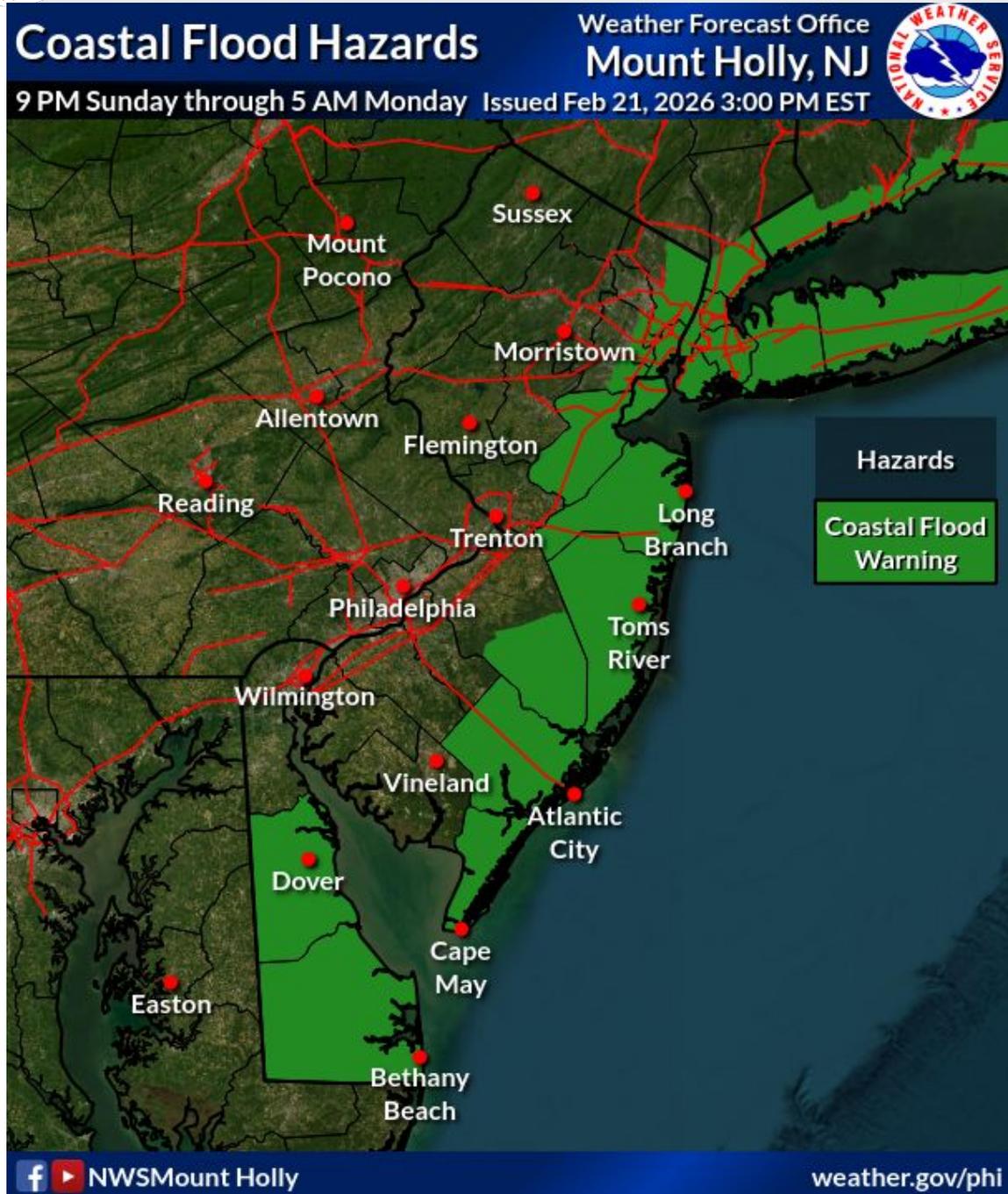




Coastal Flood Watches, Warnings & Advisories

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

Sunday Evening through Monday Morning



Key Messages

- **Coastal Flood Watches** have been upgraded to **Coastal Flood Warnings** for Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, southeast Burlington, Atlantic, and Cape May Counties in NJ; and for Kent and Sussex Counties in DE.
- One to two feet of inundation above ground level is possible in low-lying areas near shorelines and tidal waterways.
- Widespread roadway flooding occurs in coastal and bayside communities and along inland tidal waterways. Many roads may become impassable and some damage to vulnerable structures may begin to occur.
- Additional minor coastal flooding may continue with future high tide cycles on Monday.





Coastal Flood Threat

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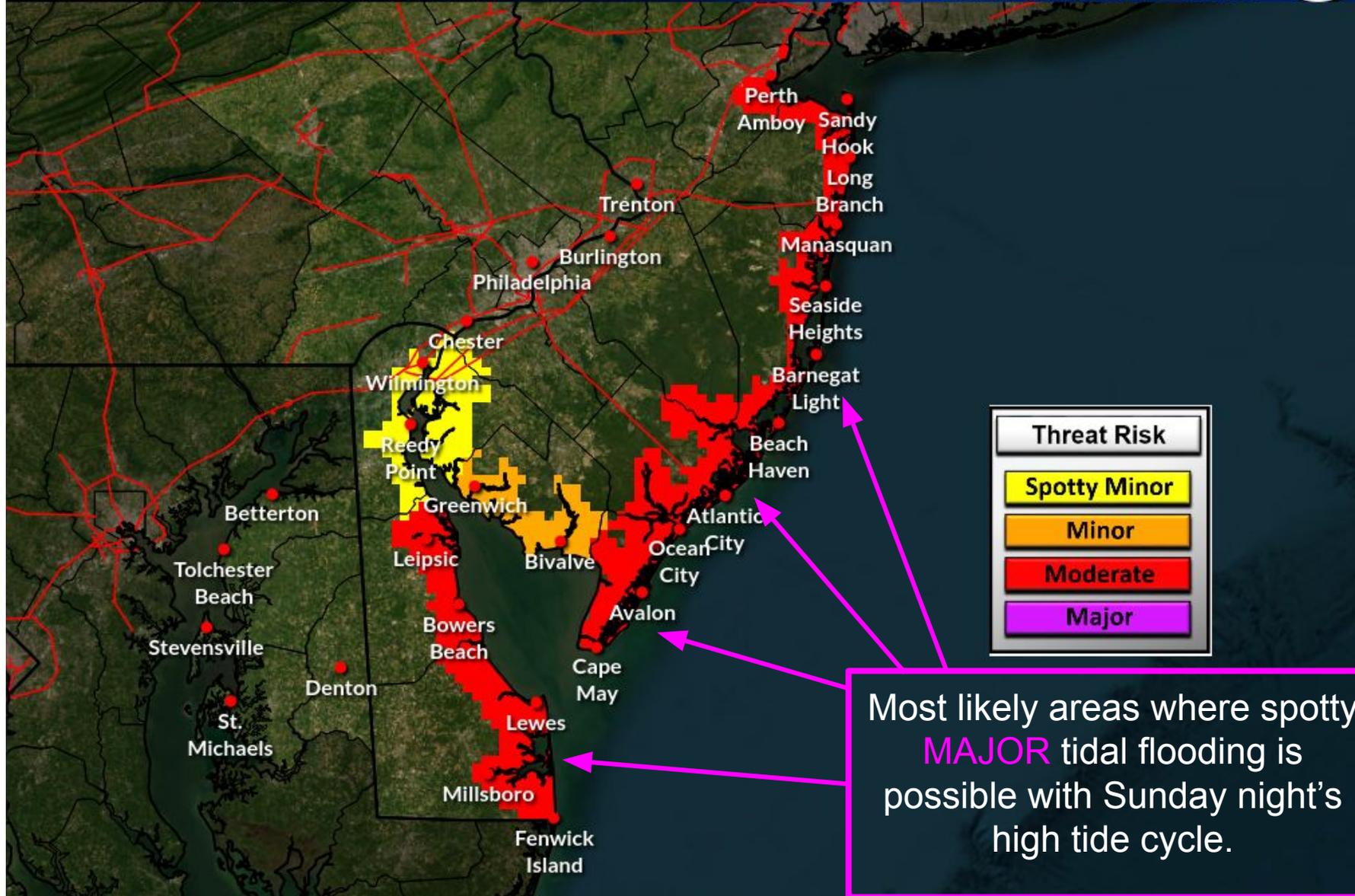
Sunday Evening through Monday Morning

Coastal Flood Threat

Valid Sun 1:00AM through Mon 12:00AM EST

Weather Forecast Office
Mount Holly, NJ

Issued Feb 21, 2026 3:38 PM EST



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

National Weather Service
Philadelphia/Mount Holly



Summary of Greatest Impacts

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

Key Messages

- A significant winter storm is forecast to impact all of eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland Sunday through Monday with moderate to major impacts; and possible extreme impacts.
- Widespread heavy snowfall is forecast. Blizzard conditions for most areas along and southeast of the I-95 corridor. Blowing and drifting snow is likely for many areas. Significant disruptions to travel and infrastructure are likely.
- Precipitation will likely begin as a period of light rain for most areas, before changing over to snow late Sunday morning into Sunday afternoon from north to south. For areas north of I-78, precipitation will likely remain all snow.
- Strong winds and coastal flooding are also forecast for the Atlantic coast. Coastal Flood Warnings are now in effect for the entire Atlantic coast where widespread Moderate impacts are likely with potentially Major coastal flood impacts possible.





Contact and Next Briefing Information

February 21, 2026
5:00 PM EST

For Delaware, New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and the Eastern Shore of Maryland



Briefing Webpage

→ https://www.weather.gov/media/phi/current_briefing.pdf



Next Briefing

- By 7:00 AM Sunday, February 22, 2026
- Method: Email



Disclaimer

- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
- Do Not Use After: 7:00 AM Sunday, February 22, 2026.



Contact Information

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