



Dangerous Cold & Potential Blizzard Conditions

December 20, 2022
5:10 AM

Key Messages

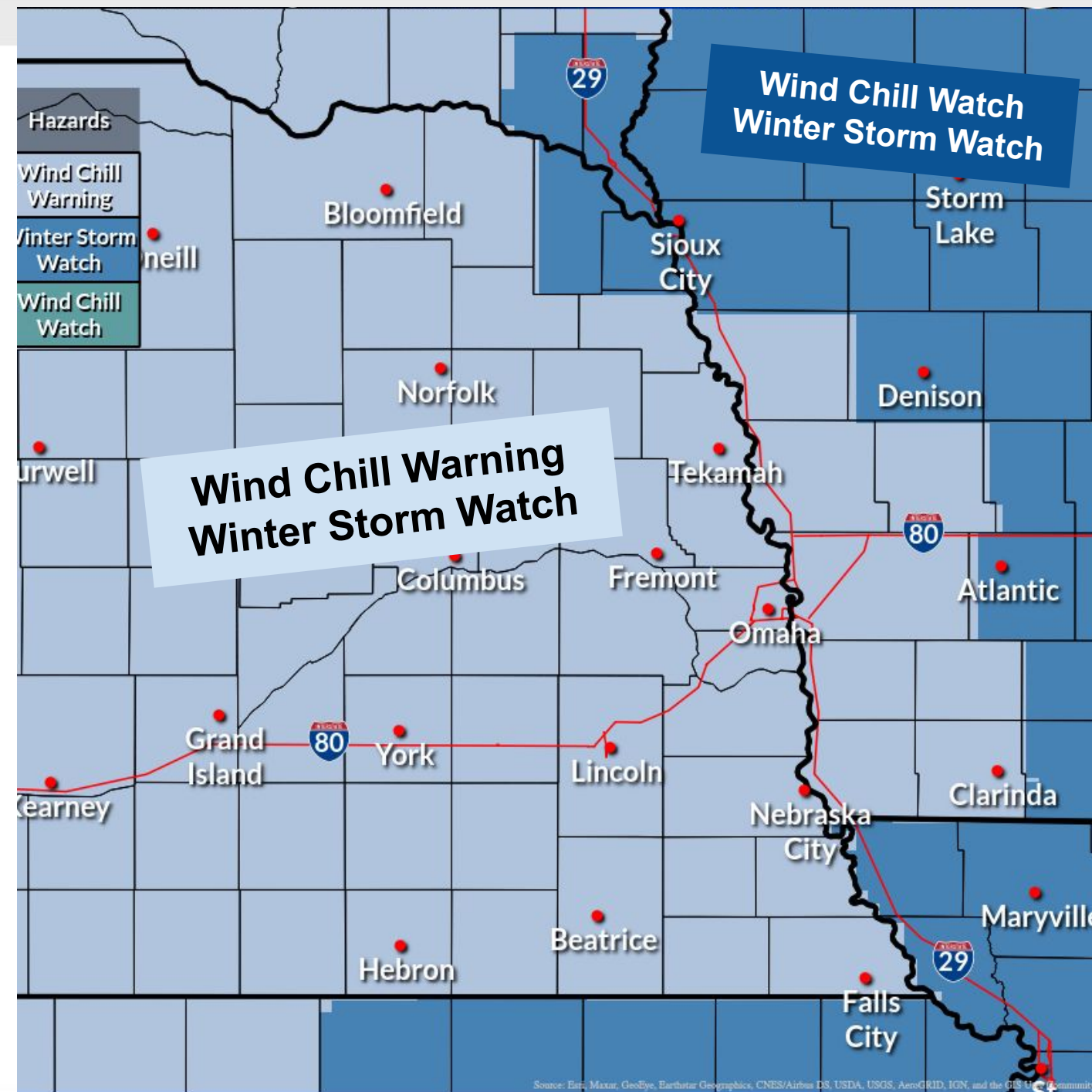
- Extremely cold conditions will occur (95%), especially from Wed. night through Sat.
 - ◆ Wind chills of -30 to -50 degrees
- Blizzard conditions are possible (60% chance) late Wednesday into Thursday. Several inches of snow and winds up to 50 mph expected.
 - ◆ **Travel will be dangerous if not impossible!**

Important Forecast Changes

- Freezing Drizzle/Light Snow Wednesday, before switching to all snow.
- Lowered snowfall totals slightly.

It will not take much snow to create dangerous, if not impossible travel conditions!

Overall Forecast Confidence



Source: Earthstar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

National Weather Service
Omaha, NE



National Oceanic and
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Dangerous Wind Chills - Wed. & Wed. Night

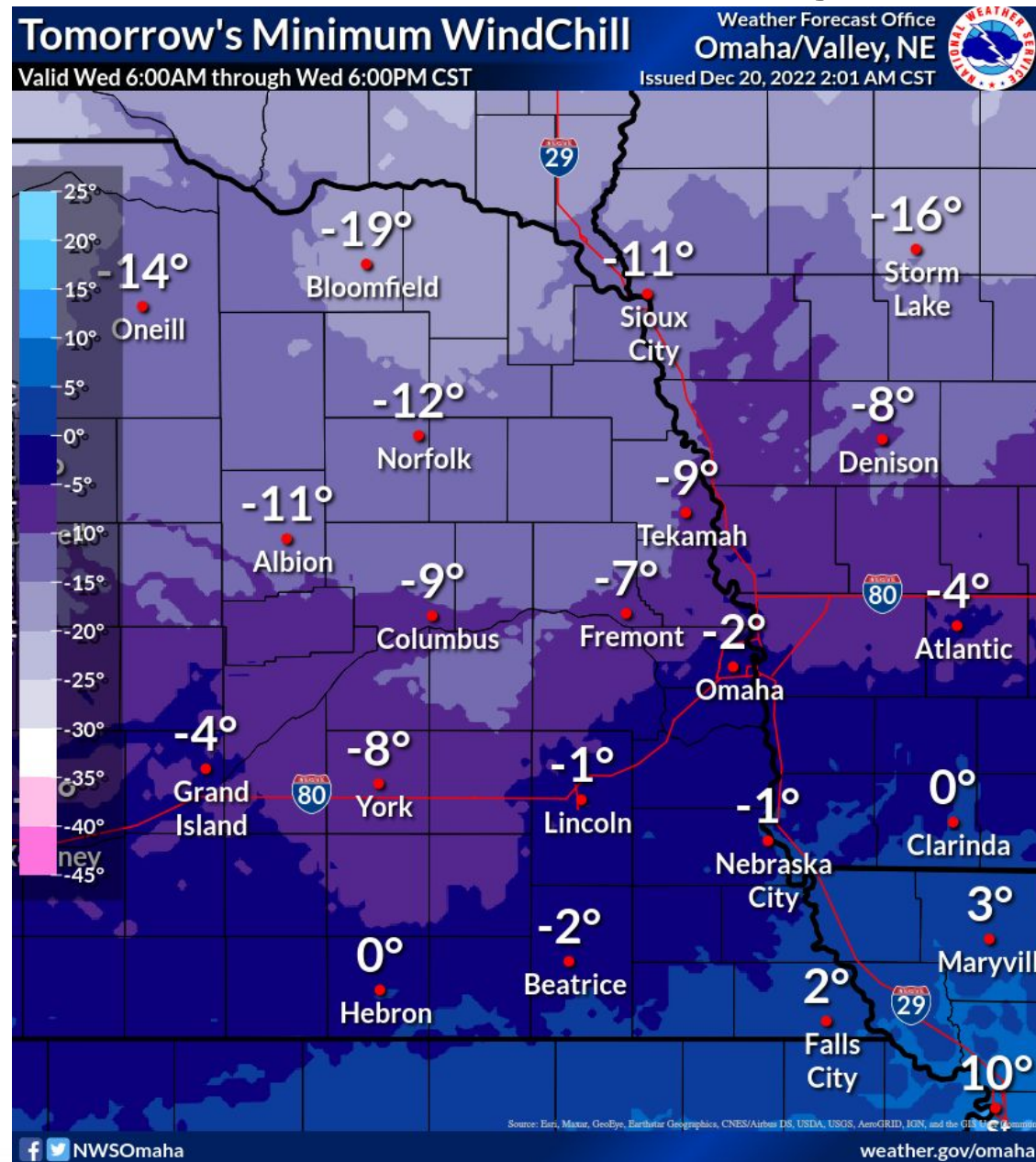
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COLDEST WIND CHILLS

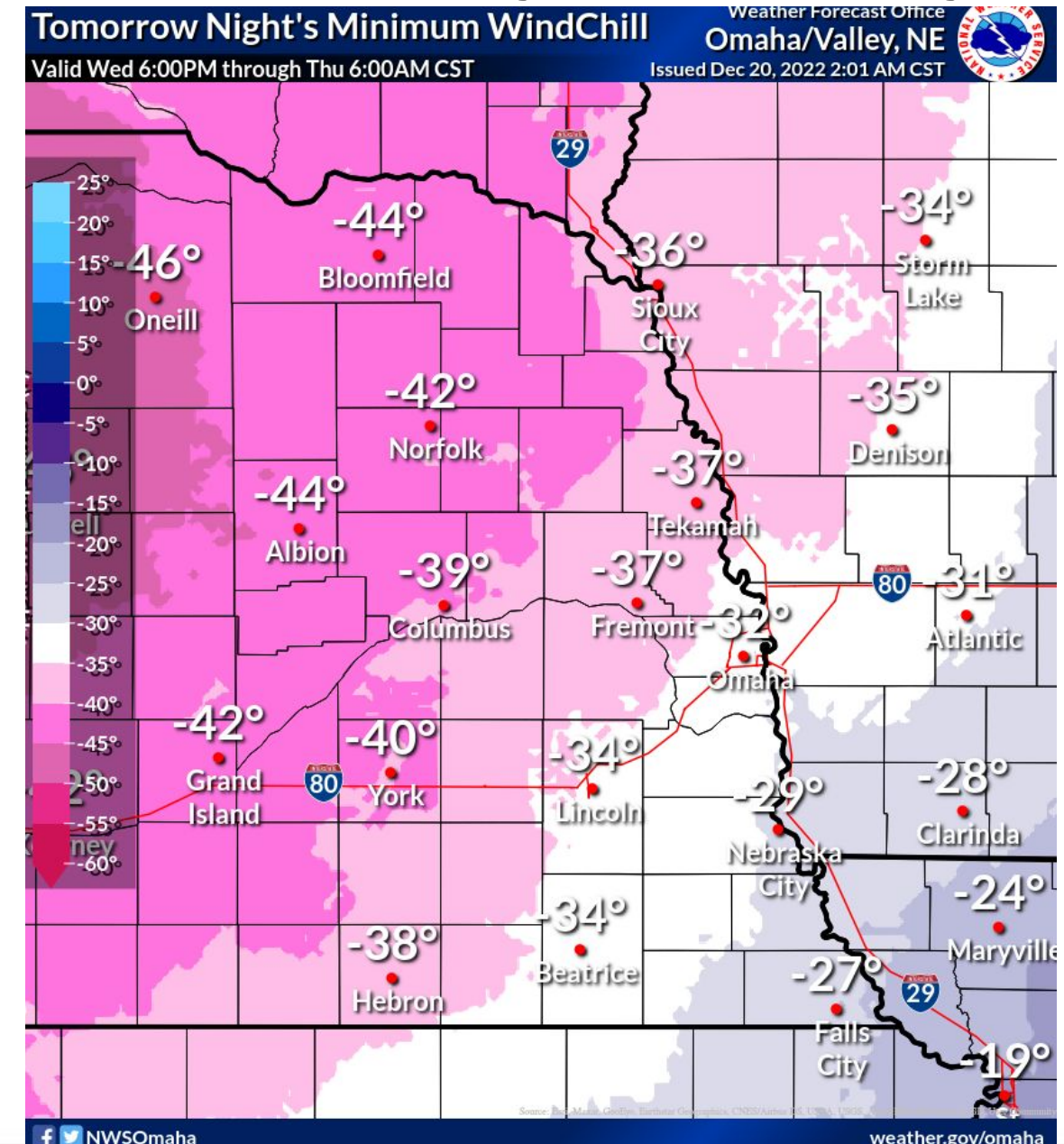
Details

- Daytime wind chills as low as -1 to -20 over northeast NE on Wednesday.
- Wind chills drop to -30 to -45 Wednesday night.

6 AM - 6 PM Wednesday



6 PM Wednesday - 6 AM Thursday



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Dangerous Wind Chills - Thursday & Friday

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COLDEST WIND CHILLS

6 AM Thursday - 6 AM Friday

6 AM Friday - 6 AM Saturday

Details

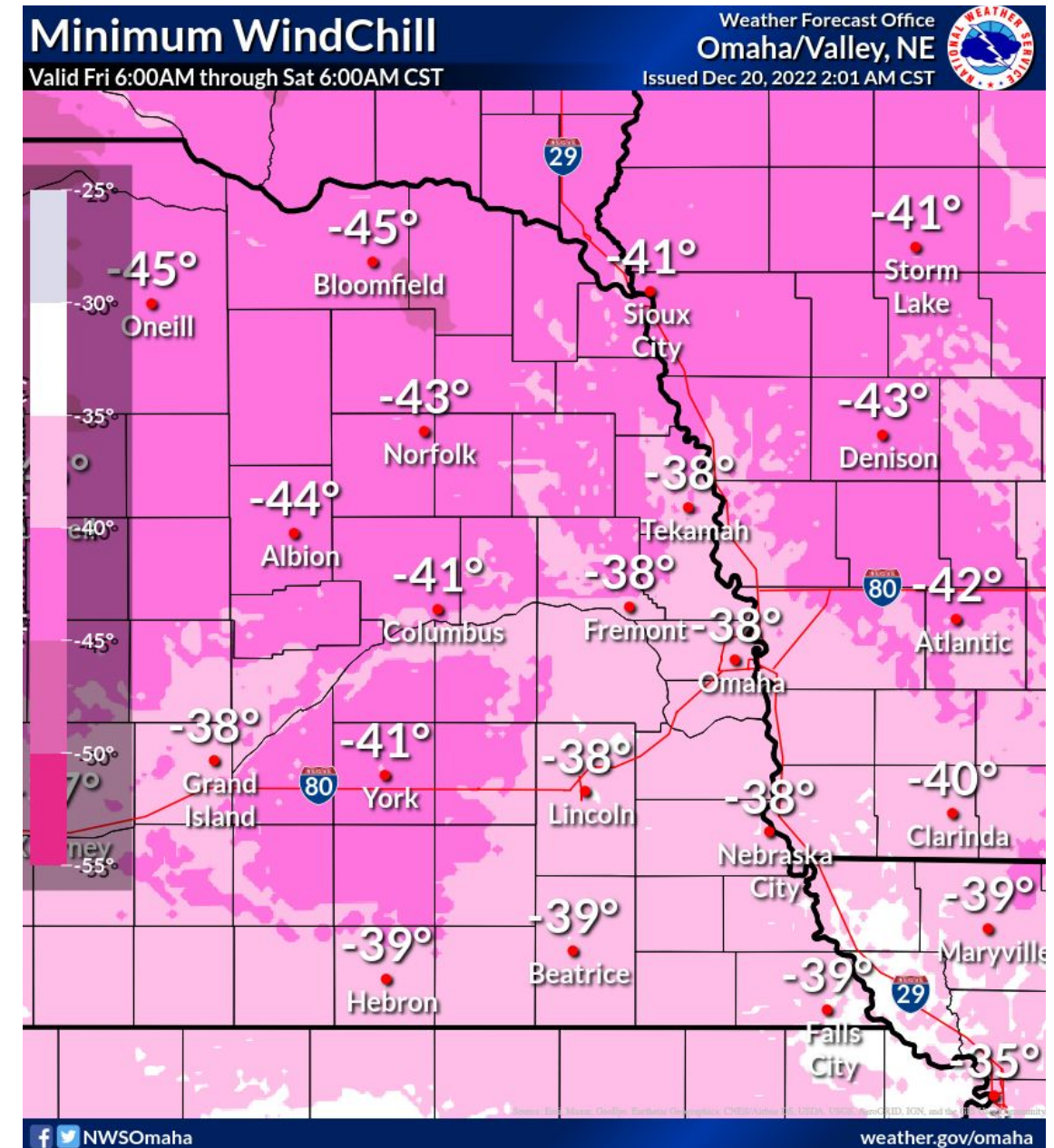
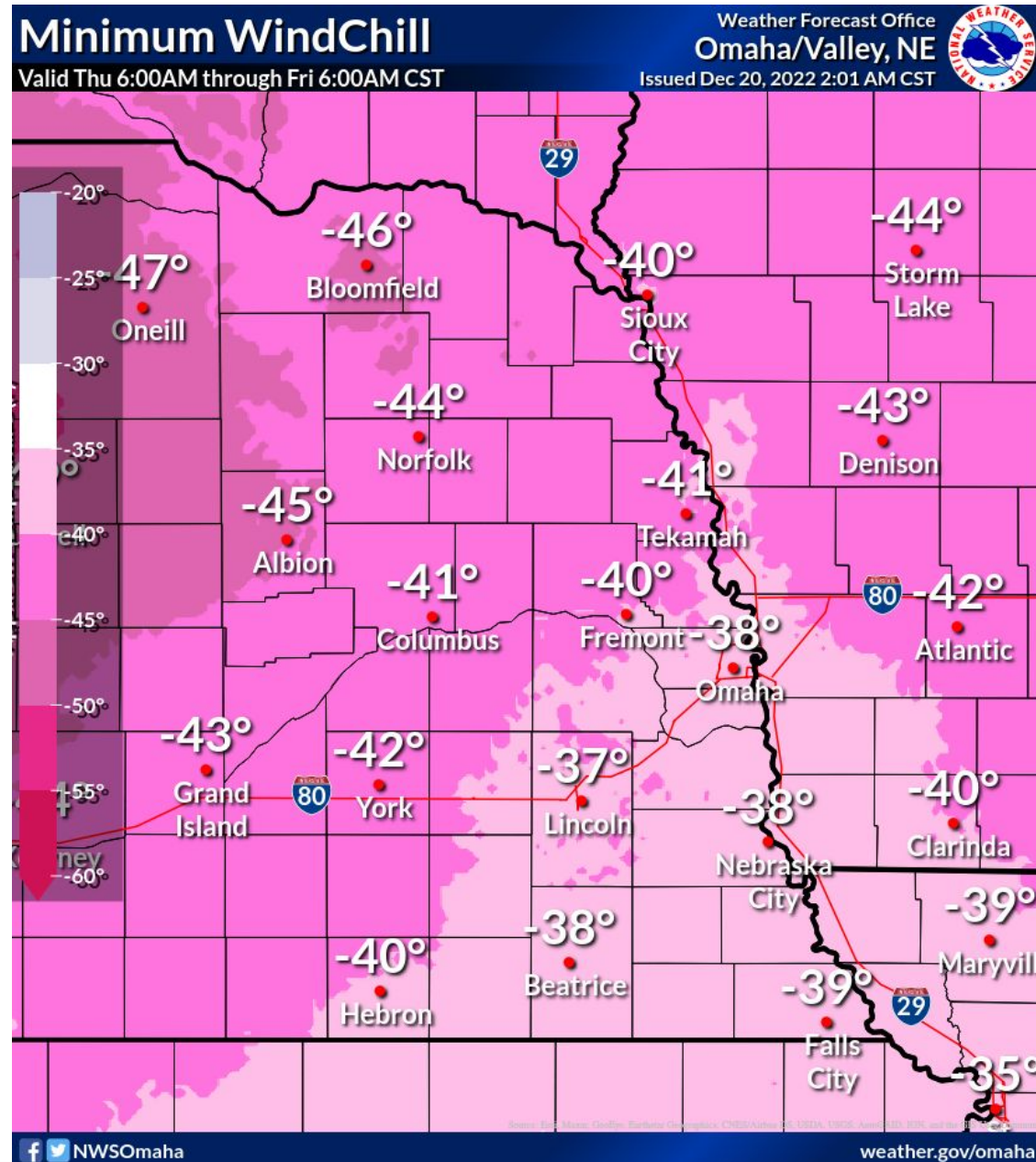
→ The *warmest* wind chills on these days will be in the -20s and -30s!

→ For reference: Omaha last had a wind chill of -40 during the great cold snap of February 16, 2021.



◆ Prior to that, it was February 2, 1996.

◆ Only once in the past 25 years!



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Dangerous Wind Chills- Saturday & Christmas

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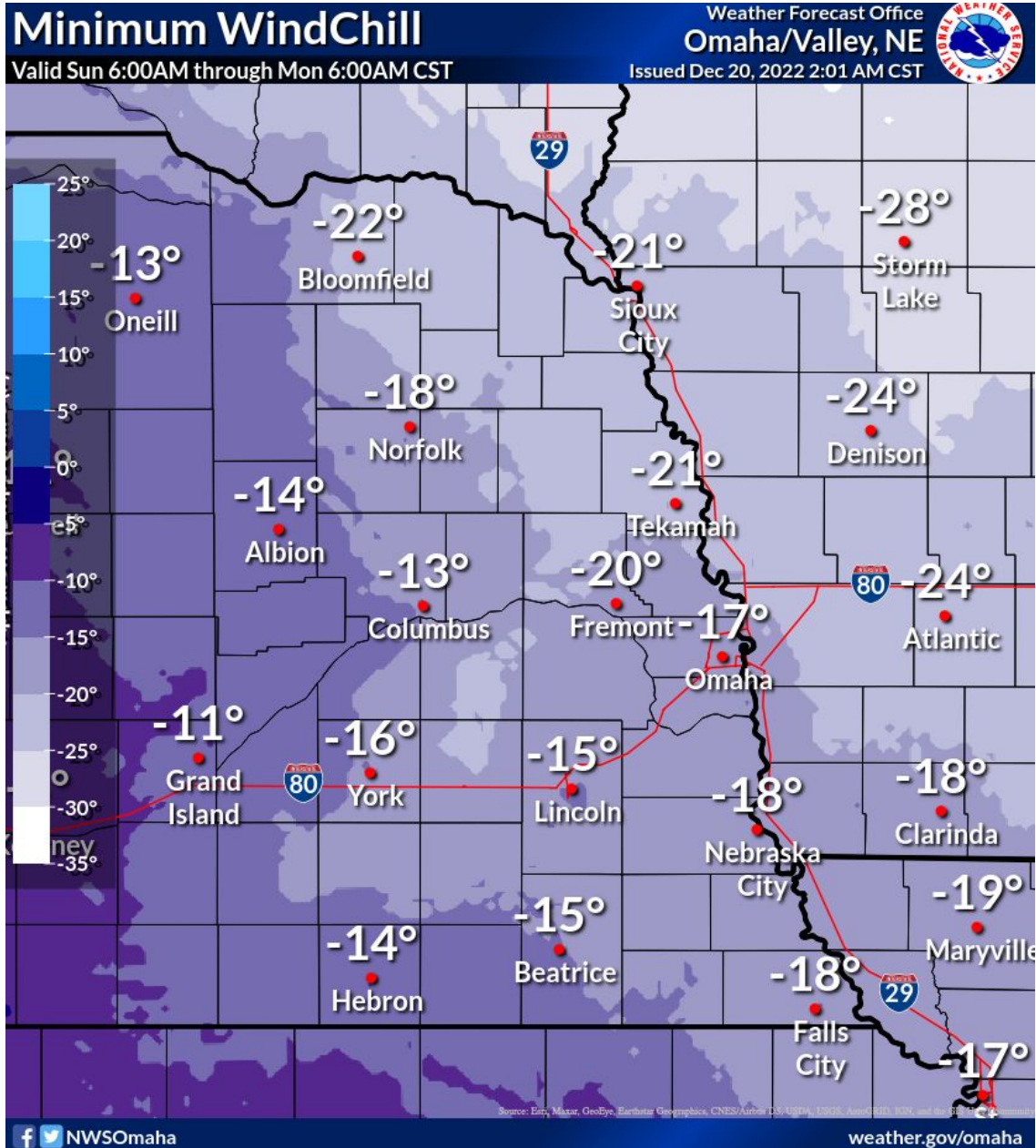
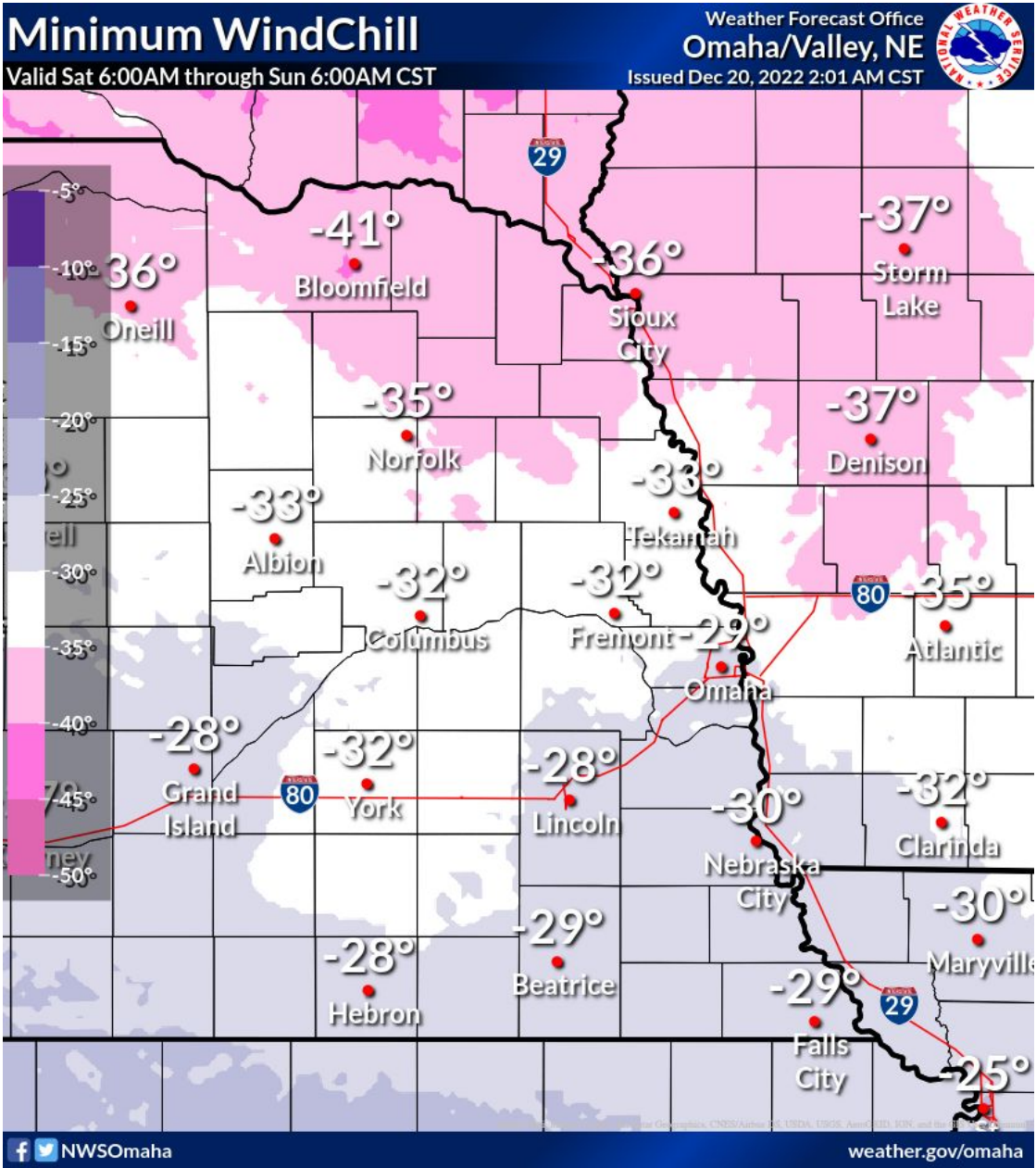
COLDEST WIND CHILLS

6 AM Saturday - 6 AM Sunday

6 AM Christmas Day - 6 AM Monday

Details

→ Daytime wind chills from -10 to -20 on Saturday and single digits above and below 0 on Sunday.





Detailed Wind Chill Forecast

December 19, 2022
5:13 PM

Extreme Cold, Especially Thursday and Friday, but Continuing Through The Weekend

Details

→ Extremely cold conditions will occur (95%), especially from Wed. night through Sat.

◆ Wind chills of -30 to -50

→ Even as conditions warm slightly, the weekend will remain dangerously cold.

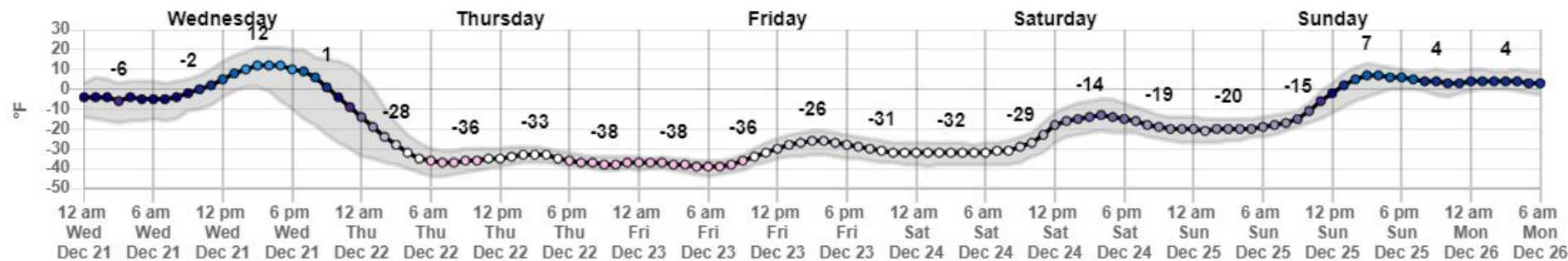
→ Blizzard conditions are possible (60% chance) late Wednesday into Thursday. Several inches of snow and winds up to 50 mph expected.

Expected Impacts

→ **Dangerous travel conditions expected with potential whiteout conditions.**

→ **Combined with the extreme cold, you do not want to be stranded in this dangerous weather.**

Regional Wind Chill Forecast



Minimum Wind Chill Forecast

	12/21 Wed				12/22 Thu				12/23 Fri				12/24 Sat				12/25 Sun				12/26 Mon				Minimum
	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am			
Omaha Metro	-2	-2	6	-3	-31	-35	-34	-35	-37	-37	-29	-30	-30	-29	-19	-17	-18	-17	-3	5	5	2			-37
Lincoln	-1	0	12	-4	-34	-36	-34	-35	-36	-36	-27	-27	-28	-27	-12	-14	-15	-14	3	9	9	7			-36
Norfolk	-12	-12	-1	-27	-42	-44	-39	-41	-42	-43	-33	-35	-36	-35	-20	-21	-21	-18	2	4	3	1			-44
Beatrice	-1	-2	11	-5	-34	-37	-34	-36	-38	-39	-26	-28	-29	-29	-12	-15	-16	-15	3	8	8	7			-39
Fremont	-9	-7	2	-15	-37	-39	-36	-40	-40	-38	-29	-34	-33	-32	-19	-22	-22	-20	-2	1	2	2			-40
Columbus	-9	-9	2	-22	-41	-42	-37	-40	-41	-41	-30	-33	-33	-32	-16	-20	-20	-17	3	6	6	5			-42
Falls City	3	3	14	12	-27	-31	-31	-36	-39	-39	-25	-30	-31	-28	-14	-19	-19	-18	0	2	3	5			-39
Nebraska City	-1	0	9	1	-29	-33	-32	-36	-38	-39	-28	-31	-31	-30	-15	-19	-20	-17	-2	4	5	3			-39
Red Oak	-3	-2	9	6	-29	-32	-34	-37	-39	-39	-30	-32	-32	-31	-21	-23	-23	-21	-7	0	2	0			-39
Harlan	-7	-7	1	-4	-34	-36	-38	-40	-43	-44	-34	-36	-36	-36	-25	-25	-24	-24	-12	-4	-2	-3			-44
Tekamah	-12	-9	2	-16	-37	-38	-38	-39	-41	-38	-32	-35	-34	-33	-21	-25	-24	-21	-5	-1	-1	-2			-41
Yankton	-17	-16	-6	-30	-41	-43	-39	-40	-41	-41	-35	-38	-39	-38	-27	-27	-27	-23	-3	0	-2	-3			-43

*Table values in °F

**Created: 3 am CST Tue 12/20/2022

***Values are minimums over the period beginning at the time shown.



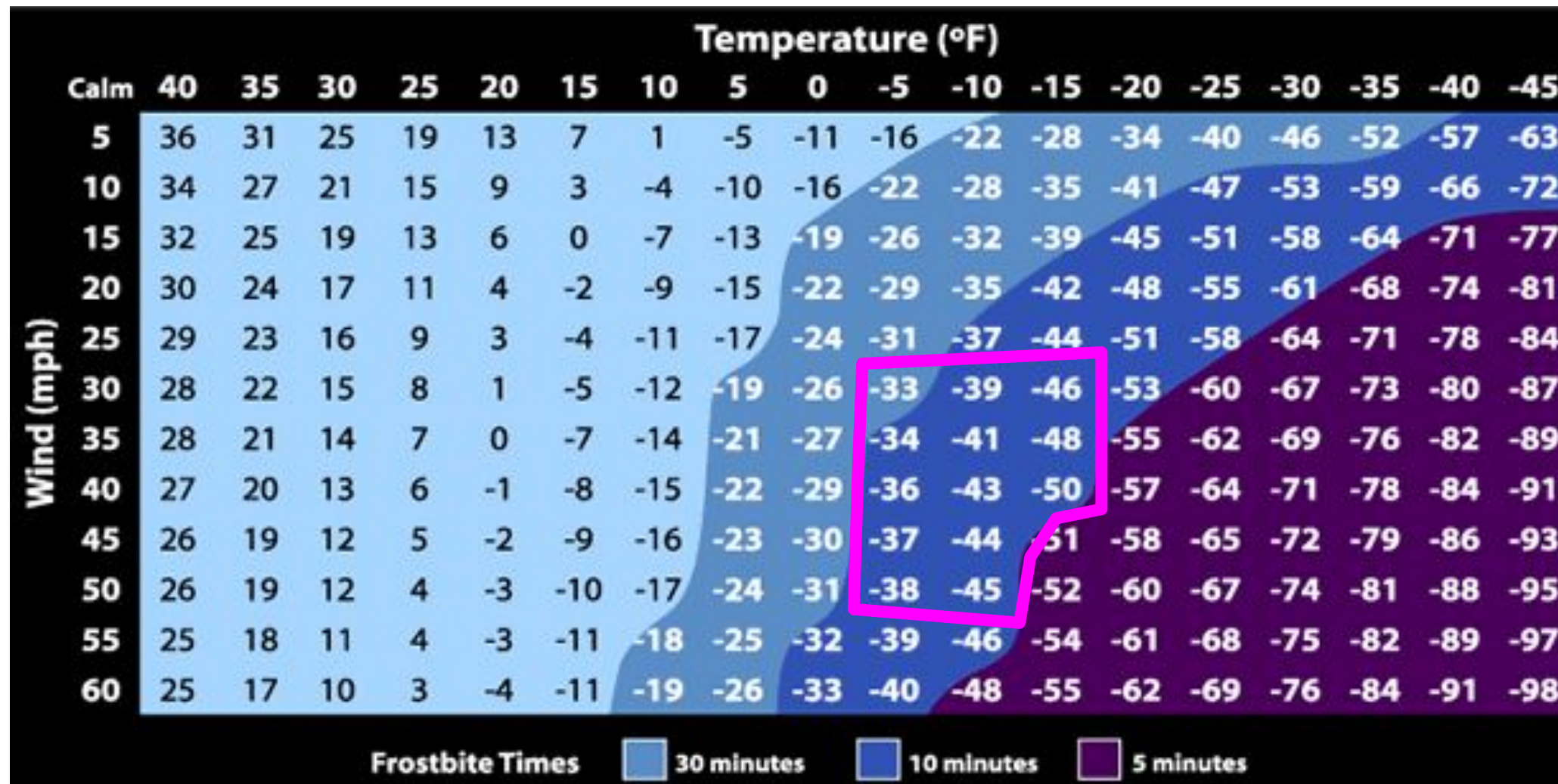
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U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Omaha/Valley, NE



Wind Chill and Frostbite Information

December 20, 2022
5:10 AM



Frostbite will be possible in as little as 10 minutes!





Blizzard Conditions Possible Wed - Thu

December 20, 2022
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Forecast Details

- Winds gusting up to 40-50 mph
- Several inches of snow
- Dangerously cold wind chills: -40 to -50

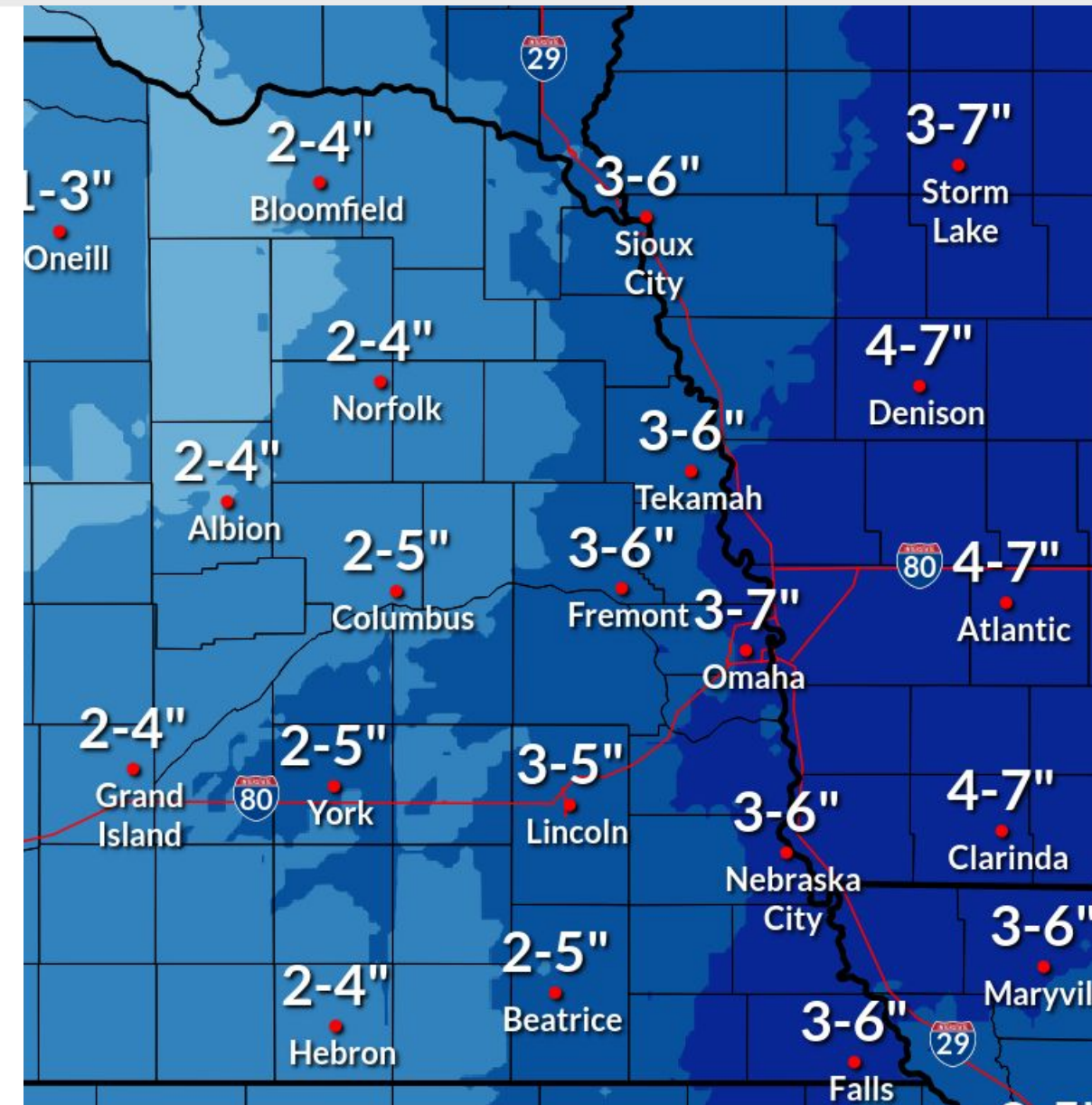
Timing

- Light snow and freezing drizzle begins Wednesday morning in northeast NE and spreads southeast through the day.
- Greatest impacts expected late Wednesday night through Thursday evening as winds ramp up.

Impacts

- Dangerous, if not impossible travel conditions expected with potential whiteout conditions.
- **Combined with the extreme cold, YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE STRANDED IN THIS!**

Forecast Snowfall Totals



***** WITH 40-50 MPH WINDS IT WILL NOT TAKE MUCH SNOW ***
TO MAKE TRAVEL DANGEROUS , IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE!**



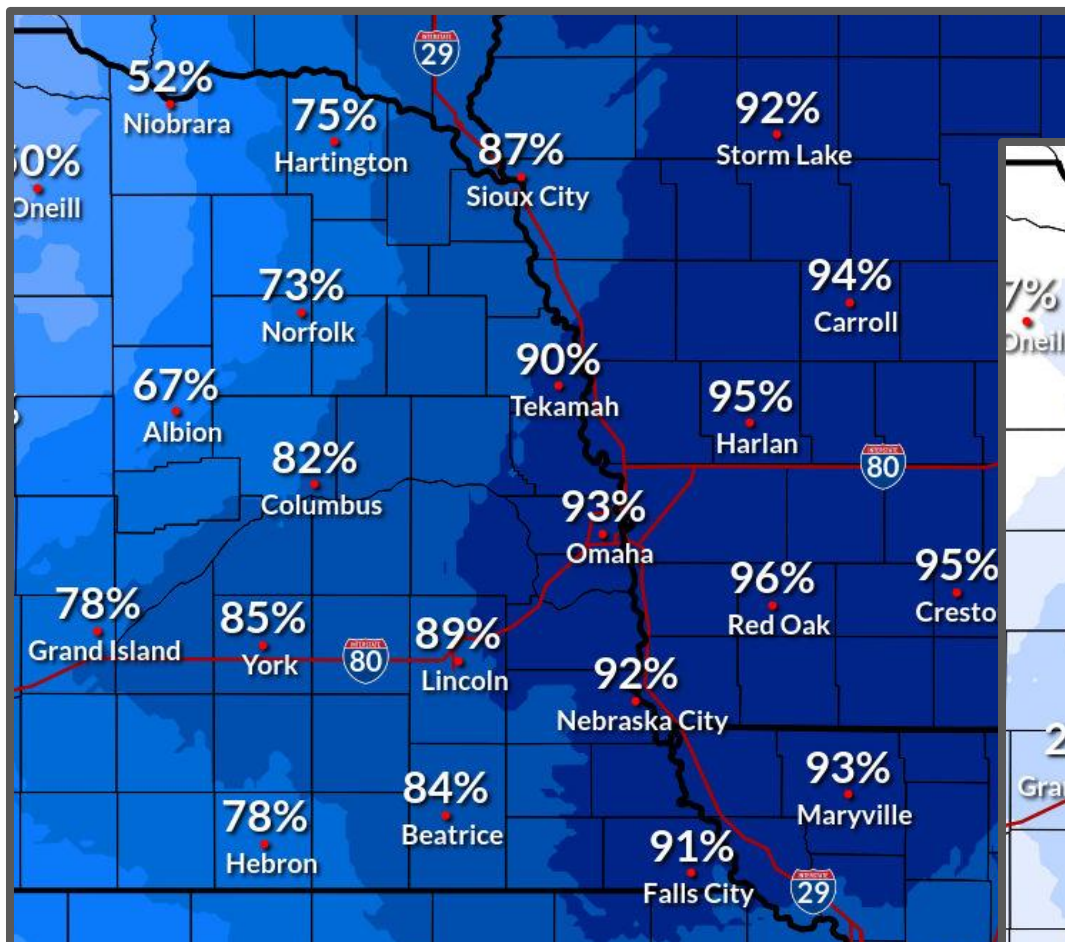


Snow Amount Potential

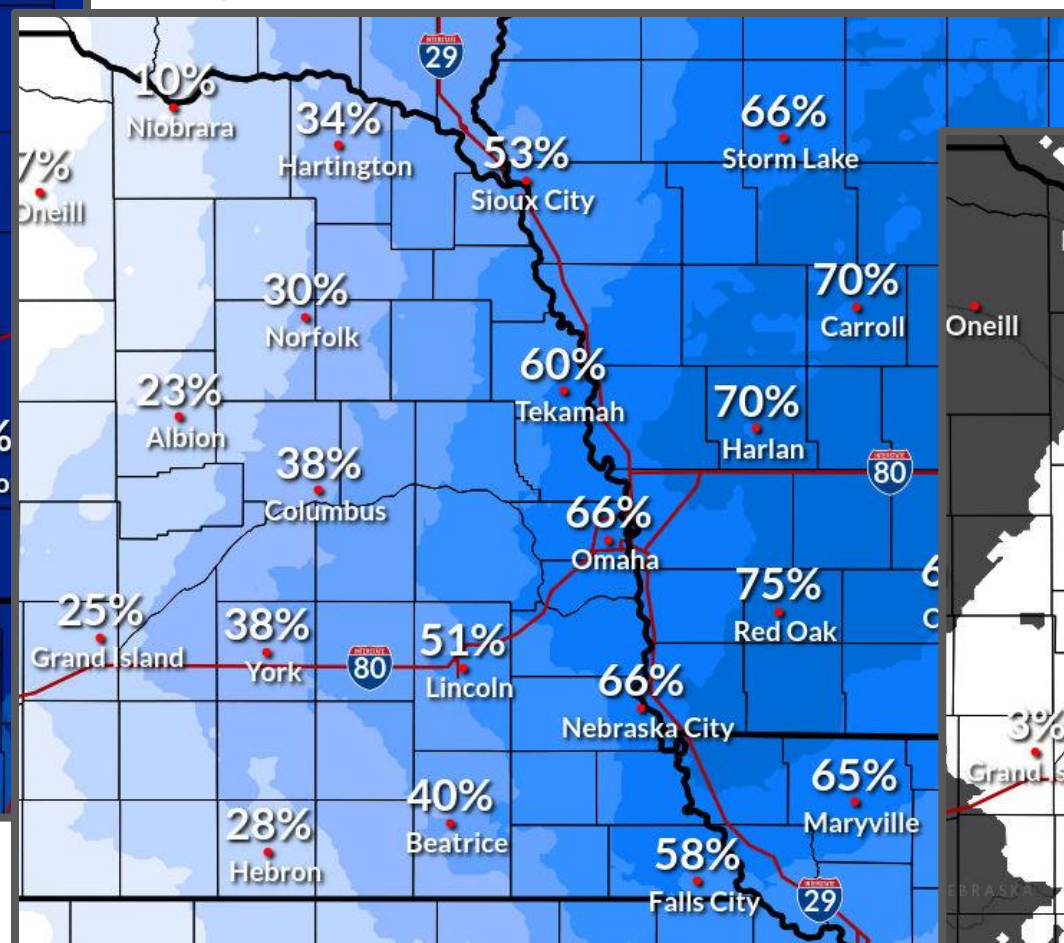
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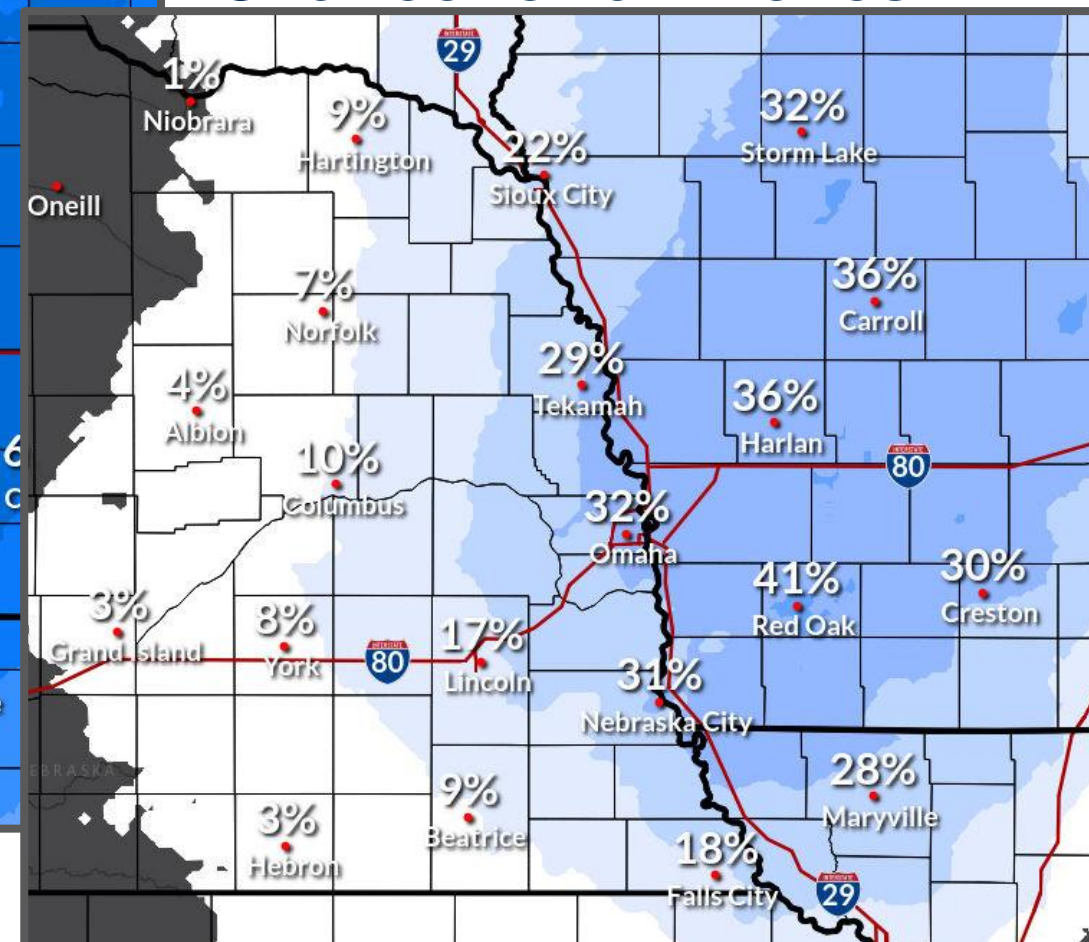
Chance for 2+ inches



Chance for 4+ inches



Chance for 6+ inches



Additional information available at weather.gov/omaha/winter



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Omaha, NE



Timing of Worst Travel Conditions

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	Wed 6 AM - Noon	Wed Noon - 6 PM	Wed 6PM-Midnight	Thur 12AM - 6 AM	Thur 6AM - Noon	Thur Noon - 6 PM	Thur 6PM-Midnight	Fri 12 AM - 6 AM	Fri 6 AM - Noon	Fri Noon - 6 PM	Fri 6PM-Midnight
Northeast NE Norfolk, Wayne											
East Central NE Columbus, Fremont											
Metro Area Omaha, Council Bluffs											
Southeast NE Lincoln, Falls City											
West Central IA Harlan, Onawa											
Southwest IA Red Oak, Shenandoah											
Risk Levels	Little to None		Minor		Moderate		Major		Extreme		

The worst conditions, including the combination of wind, snow, extreme cold, and reduced visibility look to focus late Wednesday night through early Thursday afternoon. The wind continues to be very strong through Friday, and will continue to cause issues with blowing and drifting snow all the way through the day on Friday.





Strong Winds Thursday

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Areas of blowing snow possible

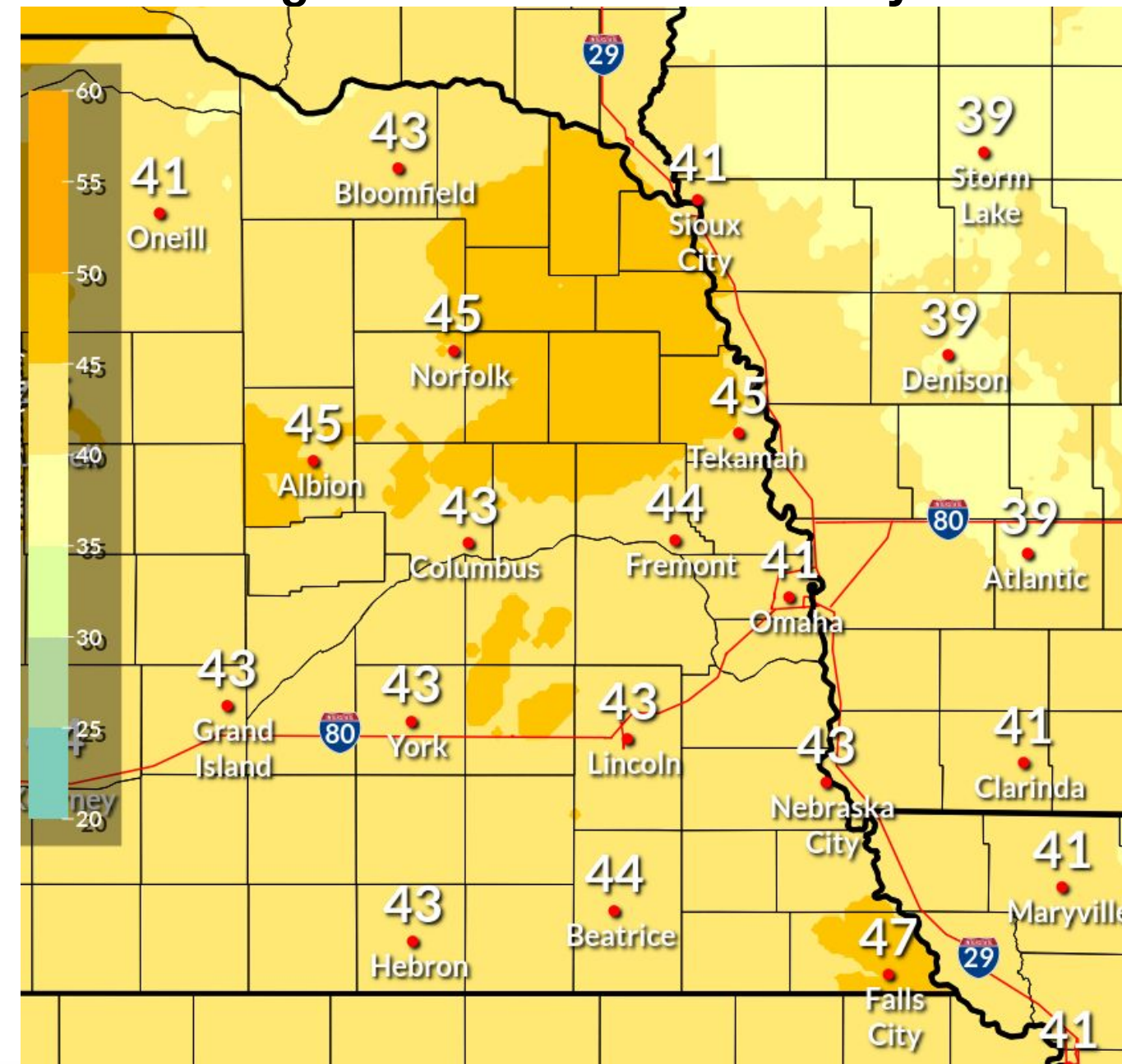
Wind Details

- Strong northwest winds - with gusts of 40 to 50 mph likely on Thursday.
- Visibility reductions are likely due to the interaction between the strong winds and newly fallen snow.

Impacts

- Significant travel impacts possible due to blowing and drifting snow.
- **Blizzard conditions/whiteouts could persist even after the snow stops falling.**
- **Snow cleanup could take extra time.**
- Some power outages may occur. Never run generators indoors (or in garage)

Highest Wind Gusts Thursday



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Omaha, NE



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Forecast Confidence

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Forecast Confidence in Extreme Cold



Forecast Confidence in Snow Amounts



Forecast Confidence in Dangerous Travel Conditions





Points to Remember

- It doesn't take much snow to create dangerous travel conditions with strong winds and extreme cold.
- Stay informed. Please reach out to us with additional questions.

Additional Resources

- [NWS Omaha Web Page](#)
- [NWS Omaha Winter Page](#)
- [Winter Storm Severity Index](#)
- [Winter Weather Safety](#)
- [Reporting Winter Weather](#)
- [Recent Snowfall Reports](#)
- [NE 511](#) | [IA 511](#)

Social Media: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

WINTER STORMS

What Can I Do?

Prepare Your Home

Make your home winter ready. Buy needed supplies before the storm arrives. Have a plan in case you lose power or are unable to leave your home.



Monitor Your Forecast

Stay up to date with the latest forecast information as the storm approaches, monitor your favorite source for weather information.



Prepare Your Vehicle

Make your vehicle weather ready. Be sure to include a safety kit, cold weather gear, and all the necessities you may need to deal with the storm ahead.



Have A Plan

Before weather threatens, be sure to have a communications plan, change travel plans, and prepare for the impacts to your routine.



Know The Terms

Winter Storm Watch: There is potential of a significant winter weather event. Conditions are possible but not imminent.

Winter Weather Advisory: Winter weather is imminent and may cause inconveniences.

Winter Storm Warning: A significant winter storm is imminent and is a danger to life and property.

Blizzard Warning: A significant winter storm with strong winds, snow, and low visibility is imminent and is a danger to life and property.

Ice Storm Warning: Dangerous ice accumulations are imminent



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

www.weather.gov/winter





Extreme Cold, Blizzard Conditions Possible

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Worst Conditions Late Wednesday Night Through Thursday

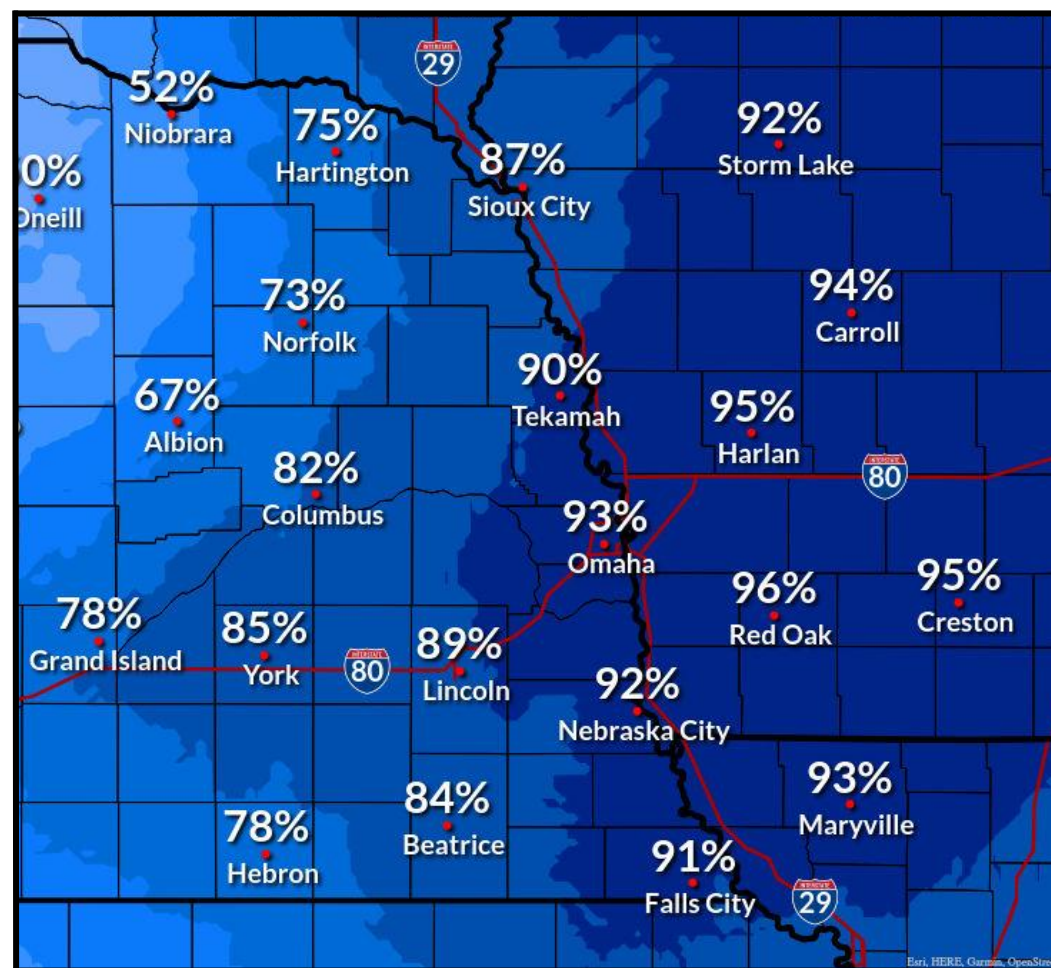
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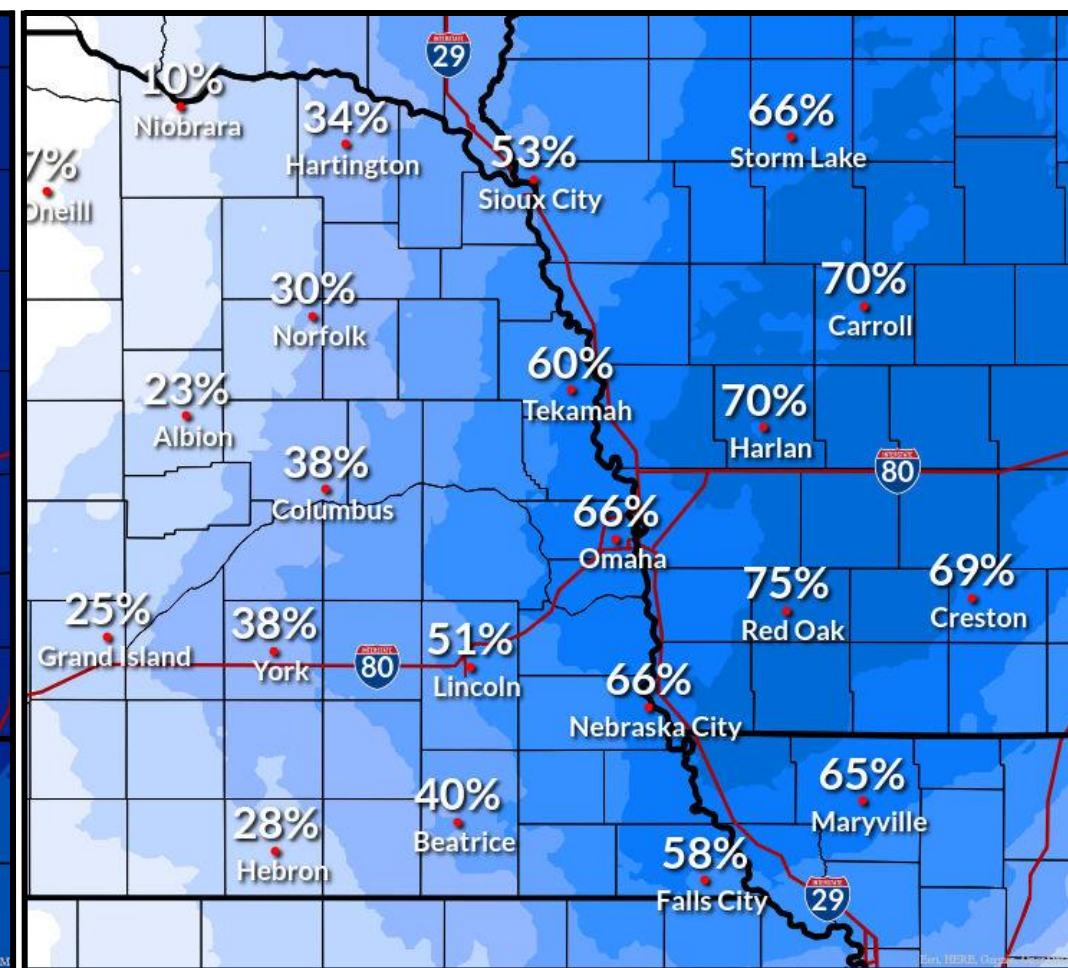
Impacts

- Dangerous travel conditions expected with potential whiteout conditions.
- **Combined with the extreme cold, you do not want to be stranded in this.**

Chance Of At Least 2"



Chance Of At Least 4"



Timing

- Start: Wednesday morning north, later Wednesday elsewhere
- Peak: Late Wednesday evening through Thursday noon
- End: Snow ends early Thursday afternoon. Blowing snow through Friday

