

# Winter Storm Warning and Winter Weather Advisory

Decision Support Briefing #4  
As of: 7:00 AM Dec 24, 2020



## What to Expect

1. A wintry mix is possible today, as rain changes to snow from west to east.
2. A period of moderate to heavy snow will occur tonight in the Warning and Advisory areas.
3. Lake effect snow will continue in the Winter Storm Warning through Christmas Day.








## Timing the Wintry Mix Today



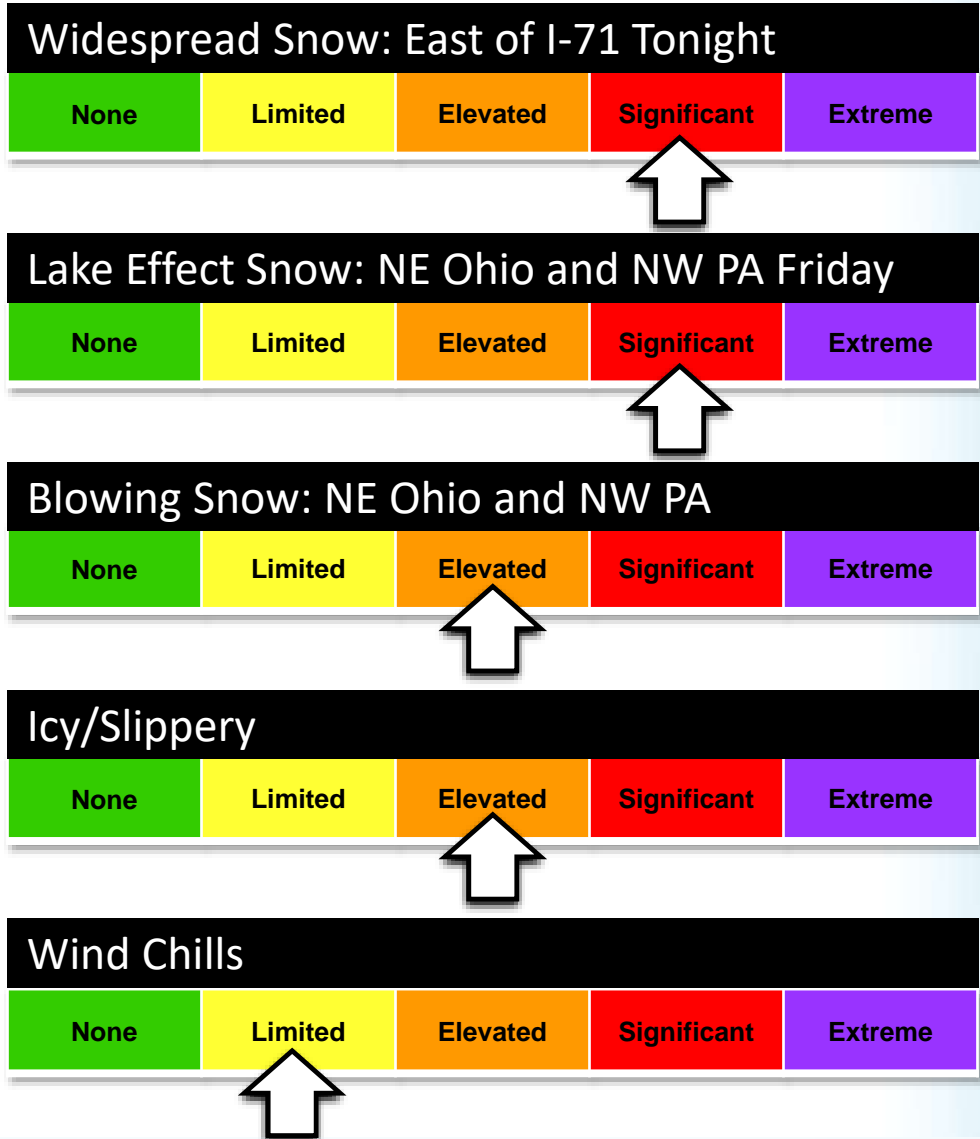
Temperatures will quickly fall below freezing behind the front

- ✓ A strong cold front will cross the area today, bringing much colder temperatures and wind chills.
- ✓ High temperatures will occur this morning then fall through tonight.
- ✓ Temperatures will quickly fall below freezing behind the front, which may lead to slick conditions.
- ✓ A brief wintry mix of sleet and freezing rain is possible along and east of I-71 before changing over to snow.

# Main Points

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
<b>Widespread Snow</b> 	Roads may become snow covered and slippery as temperatures fall below freezing. Snow may be heavy at times.	NE Ohio and Northwest Pennsylvania	Thursday Afternoon - early Friday Morning
<b>Lake Effect Snow</b> 	Heavy snow will cause hazardous driving conditions. Travel should be rerouted away from the area if possible.	Winter Storm Warning	Friday – Saturday Morning
<b>Blowing Snow</b> 	Westerly wind gusts up to 30 mph will lead to blowing and drifting snow and reduced visibilities near Lake Erie.	NE Ohio and NW Pennsylvania	Friday - Friday night
<b>Icy/Slippery</b> 	Temperatures will rapidly drop below freezing, leading to potential for flash freeze conditions.	Area-wide	Thursday
<b>Wind Chills</b> 	Single-digit wind chills expected due to cold temperatures and gusty winds.	NW and North Central Ohio tonight, expanding to all areas Friday Night	Thursday Night – Saturday

# Summary of Greatest Impacts





# Lake Effect Snow Friday Morning Through Saturday Afternoon



- ✓ Widespread snow will transition to lake effect snow by Friday morning.
- ✓ NE Ohio: Winter Storm Warning in effect 1 PM Thursday to 7 AM Saturday.
- ✓ NW PA: Winter Storm Warning in effect 4 PM Thursday to 1 PM Saturday.
- ✓ Gusts to 30 mph possible, especially along the lakeshore. Snow will be drier in consistency so blowing snow will be likely.
- ✓ There remains uncertainty in where the heaviest bands will set up along the lakeshore.

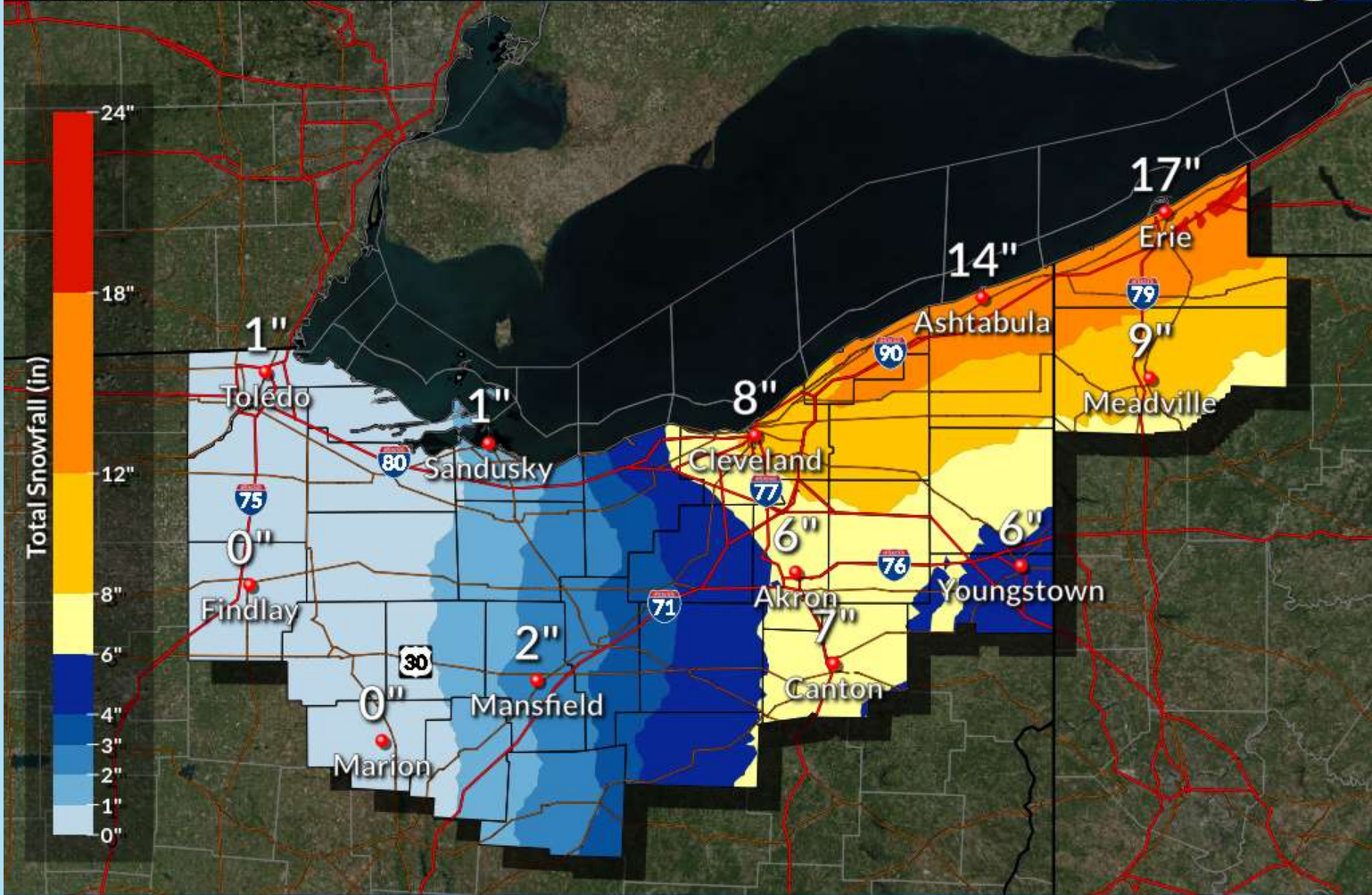


## Storm Total Snowfall

Thursday through Saturday Afternoon

Weather Forecast Office  
Cleveland, OH

Issued Dec 24, 2020 7:21 AM EST



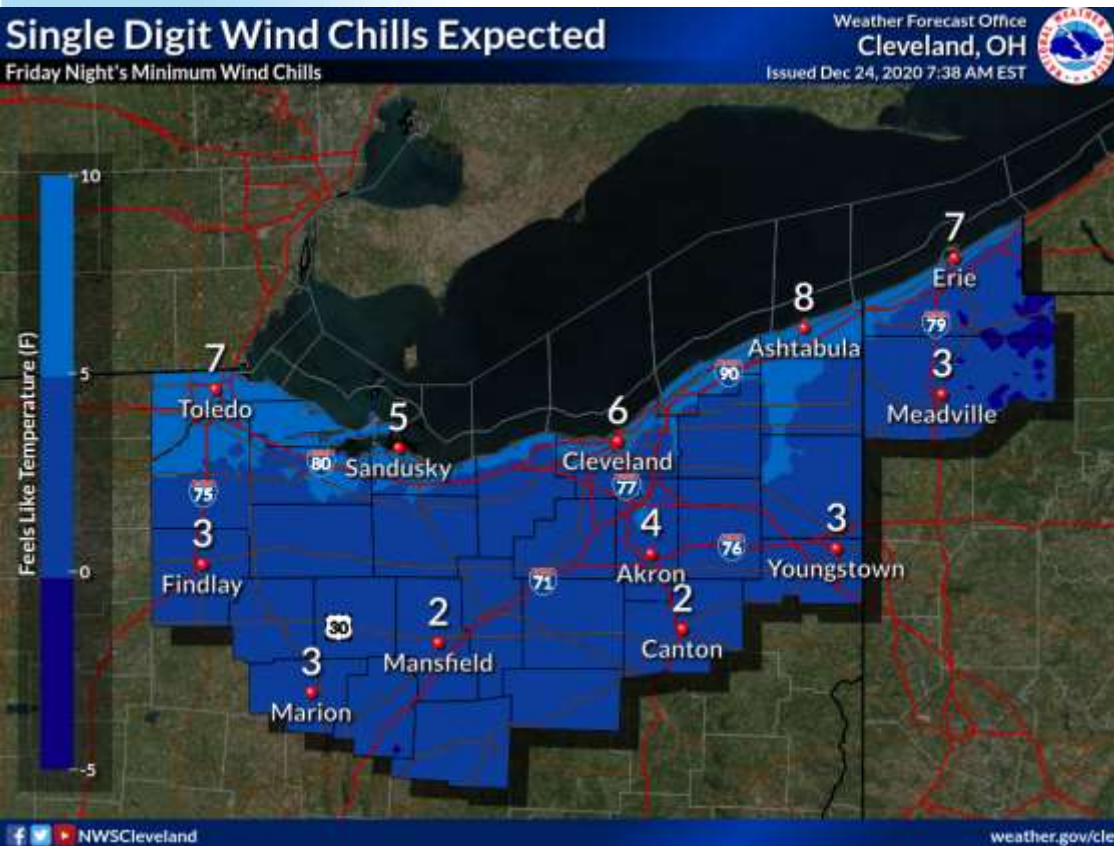
NWSCleveland

[weather.gov/cle](http://weather.gov/cle)

# Trending Much Colder by Friday



# Coldest Air of the Season Expected



- ✓ Portions of Northwest and North Central Ohio will see wind chills in the single digits as early as tonight.
- ✓ Single digit wind chills expand to all areas by Friday night.

## Event Summary

- ✓ Rain will transition to snow from west to east Thursday morning and afternoon. Locations east of I-71 may experience a brief wintry mix of sleet and freezing rain.
- ✓ Widespread snow in NE Ohio and Northwest Pennsylvania may be heavy at times tonight.
- ✓ A transition to lake effect snow will occur across the snowbelt by Friday morning and continue through Saturday morning.
- ✓ This will result in significant snowfall across the snowbelt region of NE Ohio and NW PA.
- ✓ Christmas Eve and Christmas Day travel will be impacted.
- ✓ Westerly winds will gust to 30 mph, which will produce blowing snow and reduced visibilities, especially closer to Lake Erie.
- ✓ Flash freeze possible as temperatures rapidly drop on Thursday and Thursday night.
- ✓ Single-digit wind chills expected Thursday night through Saturday.



# Contact and Next Briefing Information



**Next Briefing**  
When: By Friday Morning, or as needed  
Method: Email



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**Disclaimer:** *The information contained within this briefing is time-sensitive. Do not use after 7 AM Friday (12/25/2020).*