

Situation Update 1-3-25

Things remain fluid in forecasting. The current trend has Franklin County receiving around 4-6 inches of snow and about .33" of ice. The timing of the storm has also changed. We could see freezing rain as early as 6am on Saturday. Right now, freezing rain/sleet is forecast to start around noon on Saturday. This will be the main hazard for the day. Sunday morning around 6am we should be looking for the transition to snow. The snow will start to exit around 6pm but we could see flurries all the way up to midnight on Sunday. Winds will be gusting 30-40 so expect whiteout conditions. Monday we will have dangerously cold weather with windchills in the -10 degrees area.

Current Watches and Warnings

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE National Weather Service Topeka KS 225 PM CST Thu Jan 2 2025

- ...WINTER STORM WATCH NOW IN EFFECT FROM SATURDAY MORNING THROUGH SUNDAY EVENING...
- * WHAT...Heavy mixed precipitation possible. Total snow accumulations between 4 and 11 inches, sleet accumulations around one quarter of an inch, and ice accumulations up to one half of an inch possible. Winds could gust as high as 50 mph.
- * WHERE...Portions of central, east central, north central, and northeast Kansas.
- * WHEN...From Saturday morning through Sunday evening.
- * IMPACTS...Roads will likely become slick and hazardous. Whiteout conditions are possible and may make travel treacherous if not impossible and potentially life-threatening. Power outages and tree damage are likely due to snow, ice and strong wind gusts.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

Monitor the latest forecasts for updates on this situation.

Persons should delay all travel if possible. If travel is absolutely necessary, drive with extreme caution and be prepared for sudden changes in visibility. Leave plenty of room between



you and the motorist ahead of you, and allow extra time to reach your destination. Avoid sudden braking or acceleration, and be especially cautious on hills or when making turns. Make sure your car is winterized and in good working order. Consider taking a winter storm kit along with you, including such items as tire chains, booster cables, flashlight, shovel, blankets and extra clothing. Also take water, a first aid kit, and anything else that would help you survive in case you become stranded.



There is high confidence that a winter storm will affect the region this weekend. There is the potential for significant winter weather with accumulations of snow and ice. Highest snow totals north of I-70 with highest ice potential south of I-70





WIND CHILLS:

Dangerous wind chills as low as -15°F are expected by Monday through the middle of next week.

TIMING:

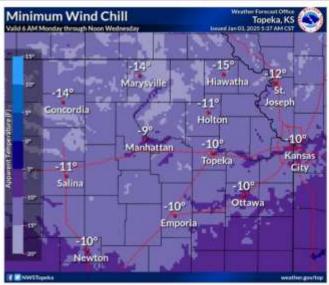
Monday morning with the coldest wind chills expected by Wednesday morning.

IMPACTS:

Bundle up even if outside for short periods of time! With wind chills in the -15°F range, frostbite can occur in just 15 minutes.

For More Forecast Information: weather.gov/topeka

For More Cold Weather Safety Information: weather.gov/safety/winter



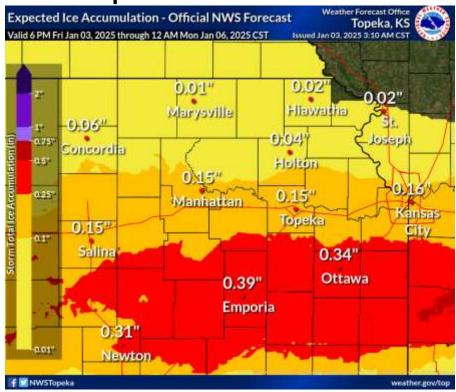
A bitterly cold air mass is forecast to move into the region early next week. The coldest periods will be from Monday through Wednesday mornings. Wind chill values are expected to fall as low as 15 degrees below zero across the area. Be prepared for the cold weather.



Expected Snow Forecast

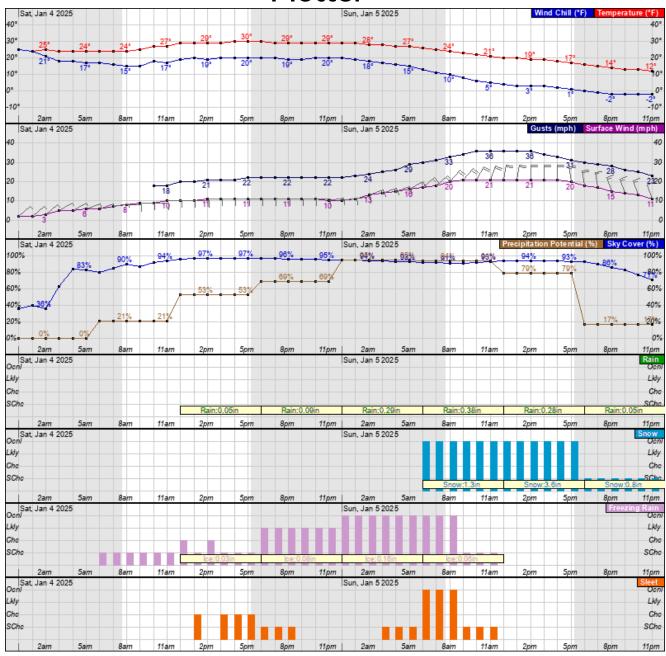


Expected Ice Forecast





Plotter





5 Day Forecast

Today

Mostly sunny, with a high near 37. Calm wind becoming north around 5 mph.

Tonight

Mostly cloudy, with a low around 23. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph after midnight.

Saturday

A chance of freezing rain and sleet before 2pm, then a chance of freezing rain between 2pm and 3pm, then a chance of freezing rain and sleet after 3pm. Cloudy, with a high near 30. East wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Saturday Night

Freezing rain likely, possibly mixed with sleet before 9pm, then freezing rain between 9pm and 3am, then freezing rain, possibly mixed with sleet after 3am. Low around 19. East wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%.

Sunday

Snow, possibly mixed with freezing rain and sleet, becoming all snow after noon. The snow could be heavy at times. Patchy blowing snow after 9am. High near 27. Blustery, with a north wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%.

Sunday Night

A 20 percent chance of snow before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 3. Blustery, with a north wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Monday

Sunny, with a high near 14. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Monday Night

Mostly clear, with a low around -3. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday

Mostly sunny, with a high near 16. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tuesday Night

Partly cloudy, with a low around -3.

Wednesday

Sunny, with a high near 17.

Wednesday Night

Partly cloudy, with a low around -1.

Thursday

Mostly sunny, with a high near 24.



Preparedness



Today is the last day to get ready before wintry weather begins to impact the region Saturday. Take a moment and think about what you can do to minimize the impacts of the snow and ice.