



January 24, 2026

National Weather Service - New Orleans/Baton Rouge

State Winter & Cold Weather Briefing

10:00 AM

Saturday, January 24, 2026

Prepared by:
NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge



Key Messages

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM

Sat Morning thru Sun night: Wintry impacts

Sun thru Tue: Extreme cold prolongs hazards

Ice & Cold Weather Overview:

- Significant impacts from ice caused by freezing rain likely across northern half of LA; could reach I-10/12 corridor west of Baton Rouge (worst case-scenario)
- New Orleans metro: No ice accumulation. Baton Rouge: Monitoring rain/freezing rain transition Sunday - greater confidence to the north.
- Hard freezes/wind chills: statewide Sun–Tue mornings

Impacts

- Roads/Bridges: Hazardous to locally impossible travel Sat Morning–Sun; black ice/bridge glazing a concern.
- Infrastructure/Power: Tree damage & outages likely across northern LA.
- Duration: Prolonged sub freezing temps in the north may extend travel & infrastructure issues into early next week

Confidence & Unknowns

- High confidence: Arrival of very cold air, hard freezes, and dangerous wind chills.
- Increasing confidence for significant icing risk across northern LA.
- Lower: Precip type/amounts and just how far south the ice axis gets across central & southern LA.





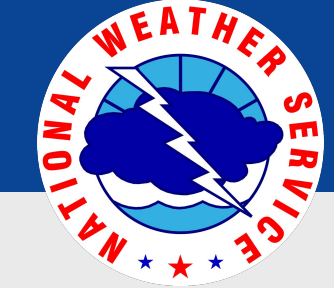
Weather Hazard Overview

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM CST

Through the middle of next week.

	Saturday, Jan 24	Sunday, Jan 25	Monday, Jan 26	Tuesday, Jan 27	Wednesday, Jan 28
Cold		EXTREMELY COLD. Lows in the teens north of the I-10/12 corridor to single digits near and north of the I-20 corridor on Monday & Tuesday mornings.			
Wind Chill		DANGEROUS WIND CHILLS. Teens along and south of I-10/12. Single digits to near zero north of the I-10/12 corridor primarily in the morning hours, especially on Monday.			
Freezing Rain	SIGNIFICANT ICE ACCUMULATIONS (>0.25") from freezing rain and sleet likely along and north of a line from Natchez to DeRidder		Ice accumulations could be slow to thaw leading to prolonged travel impacts.	Heavier ice/sleet accumulation areas in North LA will struggle to thaw	Any remaining ice/sleet accumulation melts
Strong to Severe Storms	A few strong to locally severe storms along coastal southern or southeastern Louisiana.				

Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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Happening This Morning:

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM

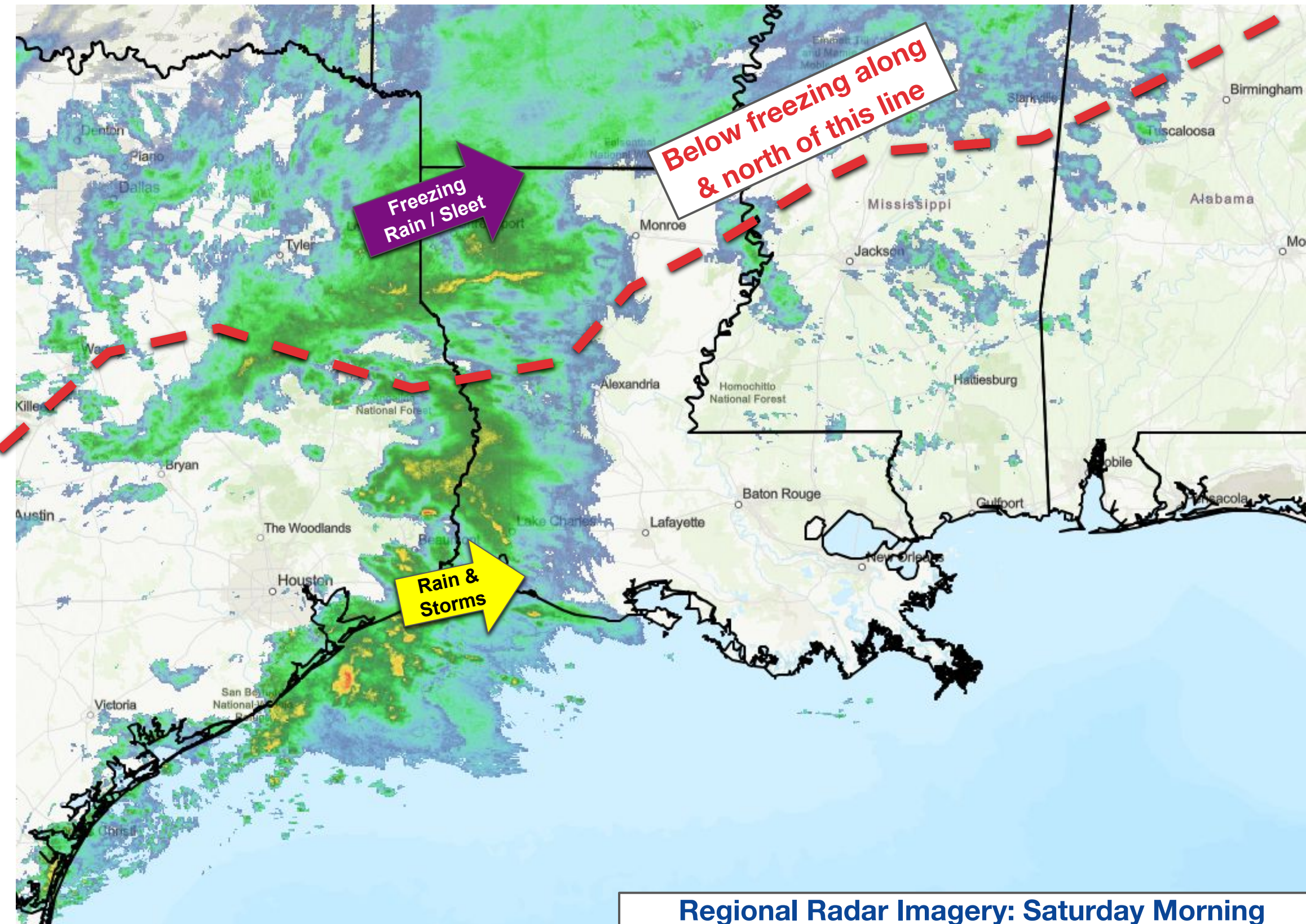
- **Shreveport Area:** We are seeing mostly sleet, and are starting to message higher-end sleet totals across northern LA (generally Mansfield to Monroe) of 1-3" of sleet (probably closer to the higher side). Several scattered instances of 4" of sleet possible.
- **Still concerned about the next wave tonight could still be freezing rain. Significant ice accumulations expected.**



Conditions this Morning

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM

Hazardous, icy conditions to begin across northern LA today



Regional Radar Imagery: Saturday Morning

- **Rain spreading in:** Showers move in from Texas
- **Northern LA:** With surface temps already below freezing, icy conditions & sleet will continue. **Conditions will become dangerous today through tonight into Sunday.**
- **Freezing line shifting south:** The freeze line will continue to drift south into central Louisiana this afternoon/evening, bringing expanding icy conditions southward.

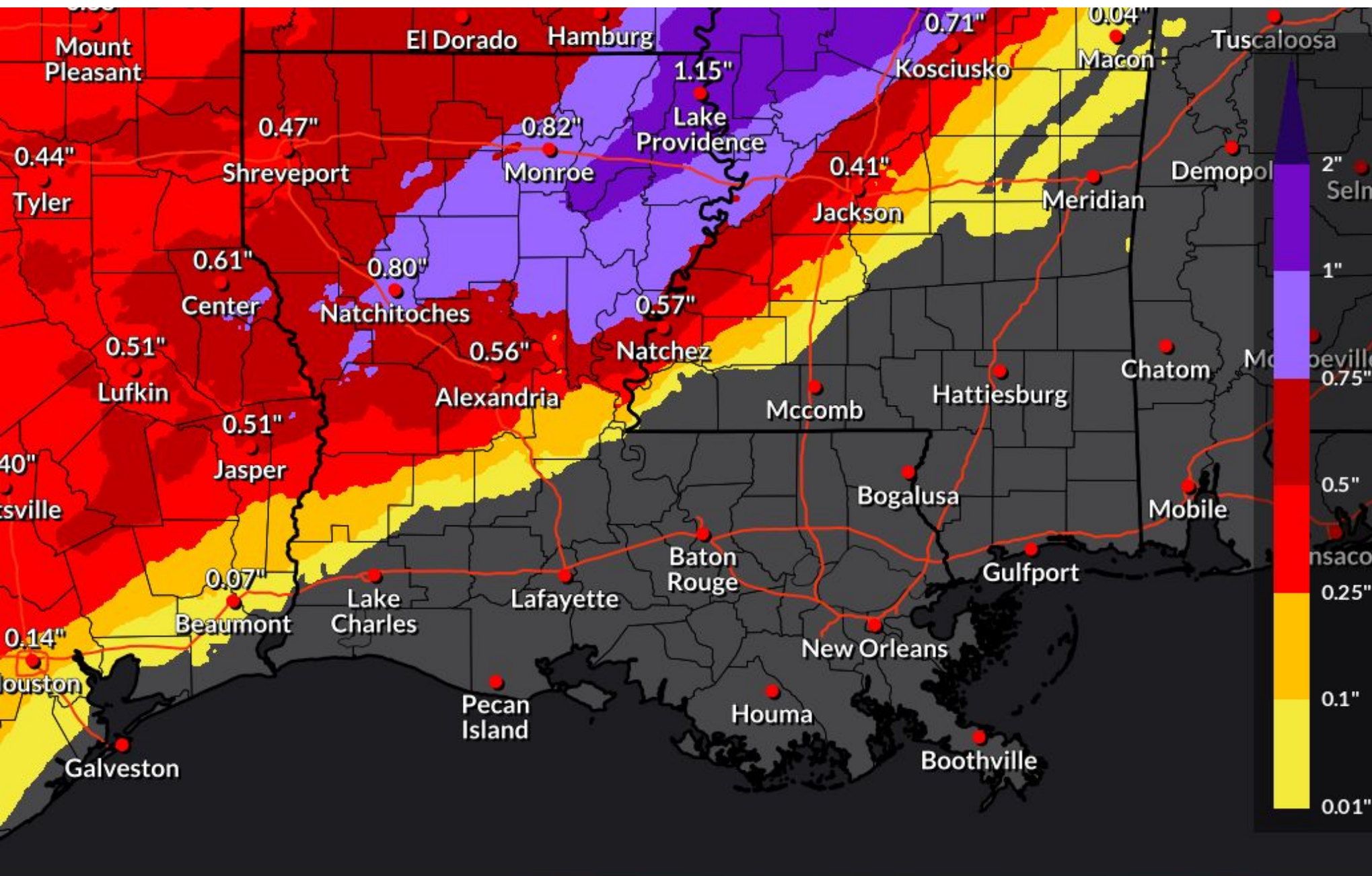




Most Likely Scenario Ice Accumulations

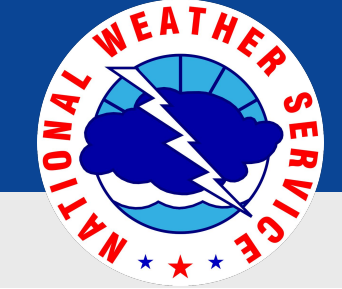
January 24, 2026
10:00 AM

Forecast valid Now through 6PM Sunday.



- Significant ice accumulations (between 0.5 to 1 inch) across the northern half of LA with localized ice totals in excess of 1", especially in northeast LA.
- A glazing of ice upwards of 0.1 to 0.25 inches could extend as far south as along a line from Bunkie to DeRidder.
- Onset has begun this morning and will spread southeast through Sat/Sun before clearing out Sunday evening.

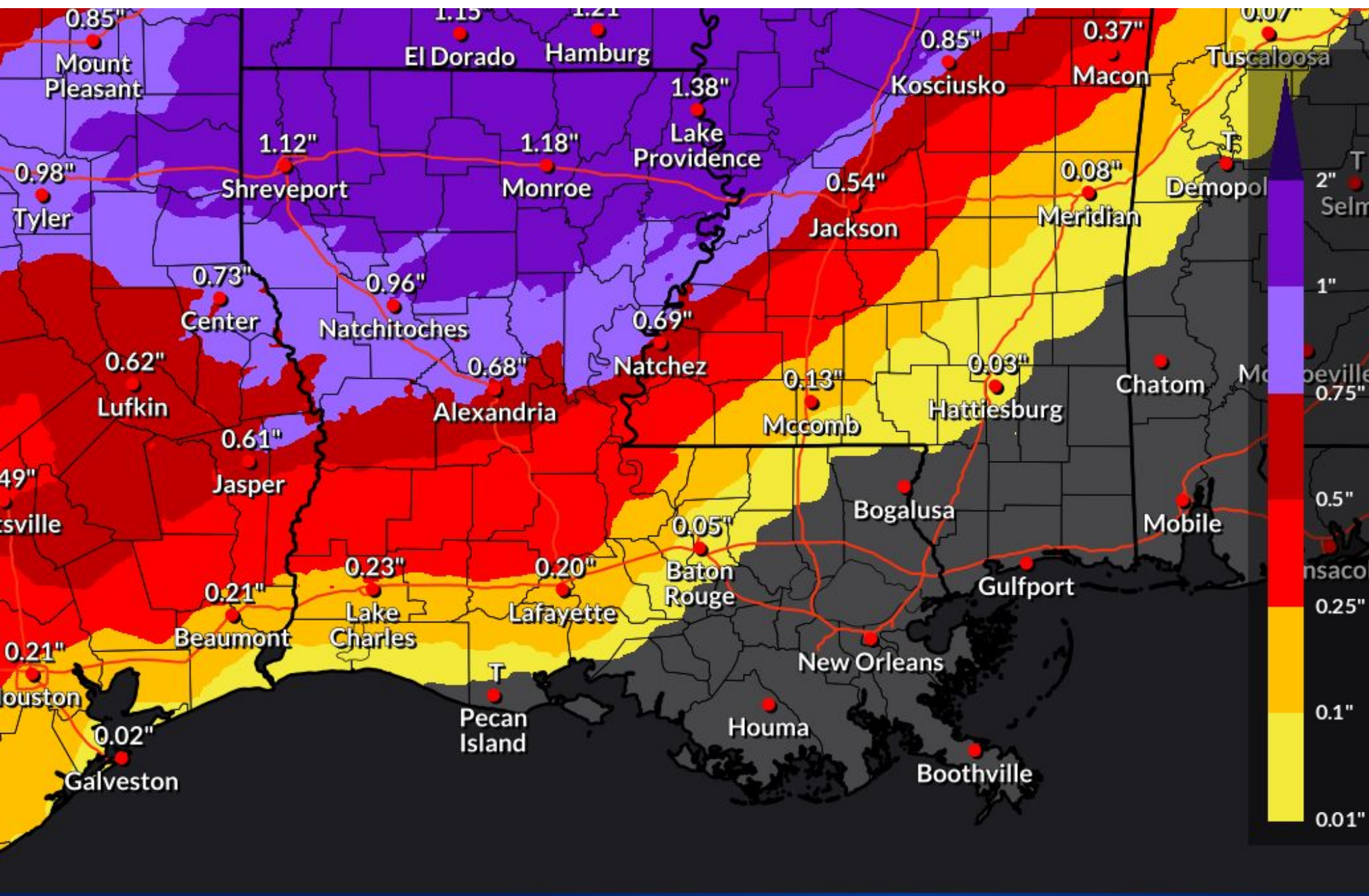




Most Dangerous Scenario Ice Accumulations

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM

Forecast valid Now through 6PM Sunday.



- Destructive ice accumulations (>1 ") in Northern LA with isolated accumulations up to 1.5" in northeast LA.
- A glazing of ice upwards of 0.1 to 0.25 inches could extend as far south as the I-10 corridor west of Baton Rouge.
- Onset has begun this morning and will spread southeast through Sat/Sun before clearing out Sunday evening.

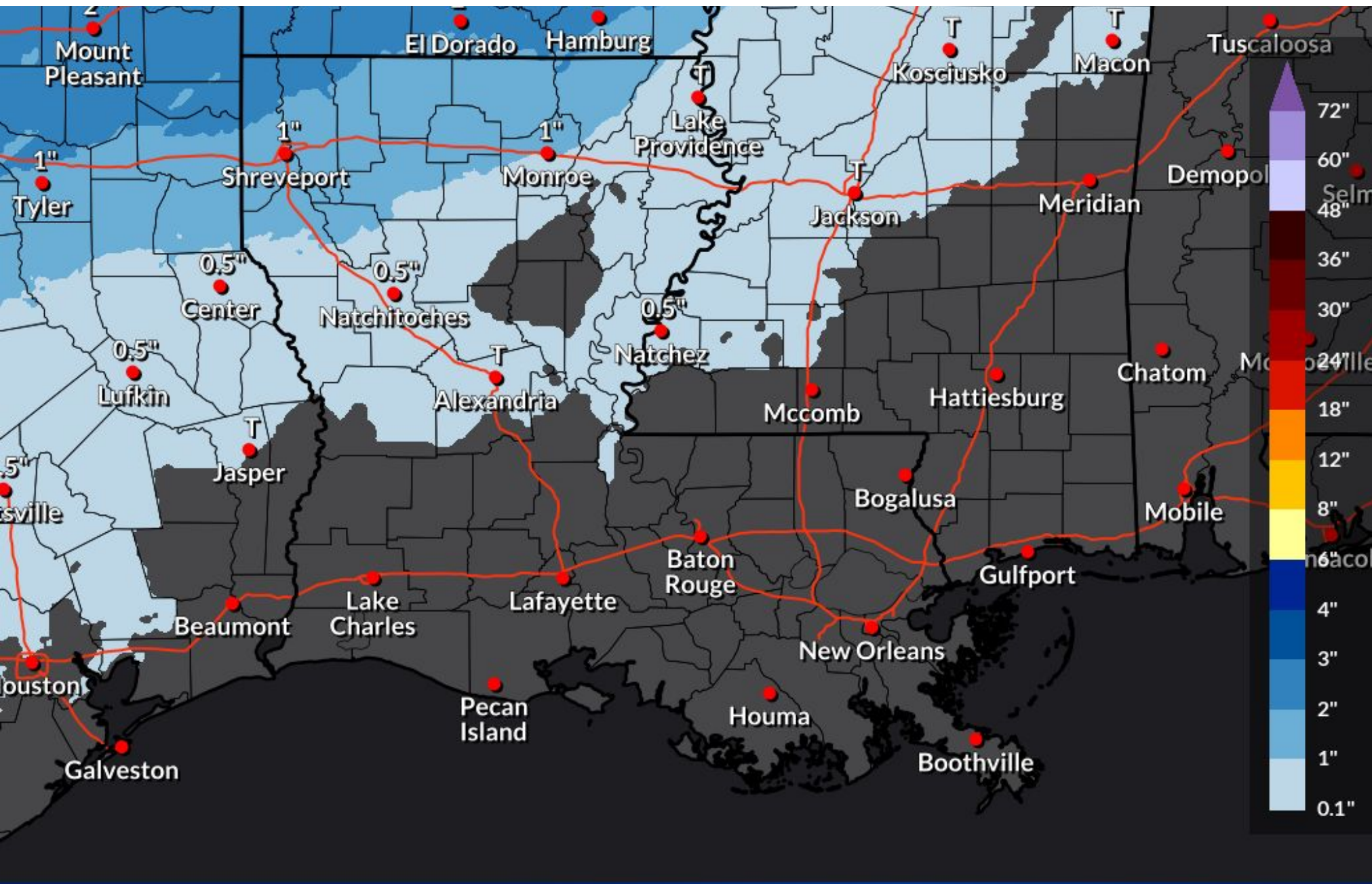




Most Likely Snow Accumulations

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM

Forecast valid Now through 6AM Monday.



- Any snow accumulation would likely be on the back side of the precipitation as colder air settles into the region on Sunday.
- Ice will remain the main impacts with this system.

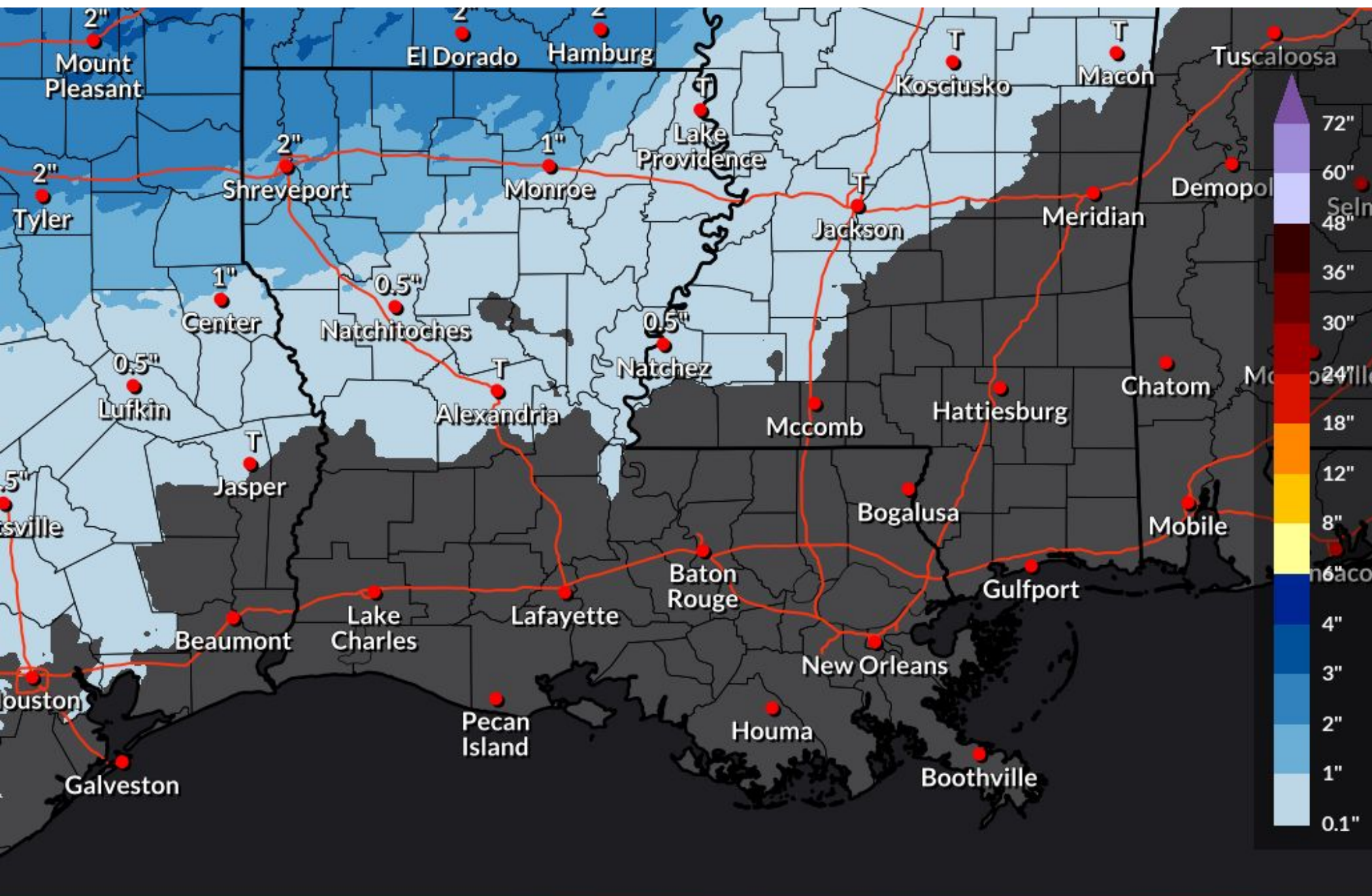




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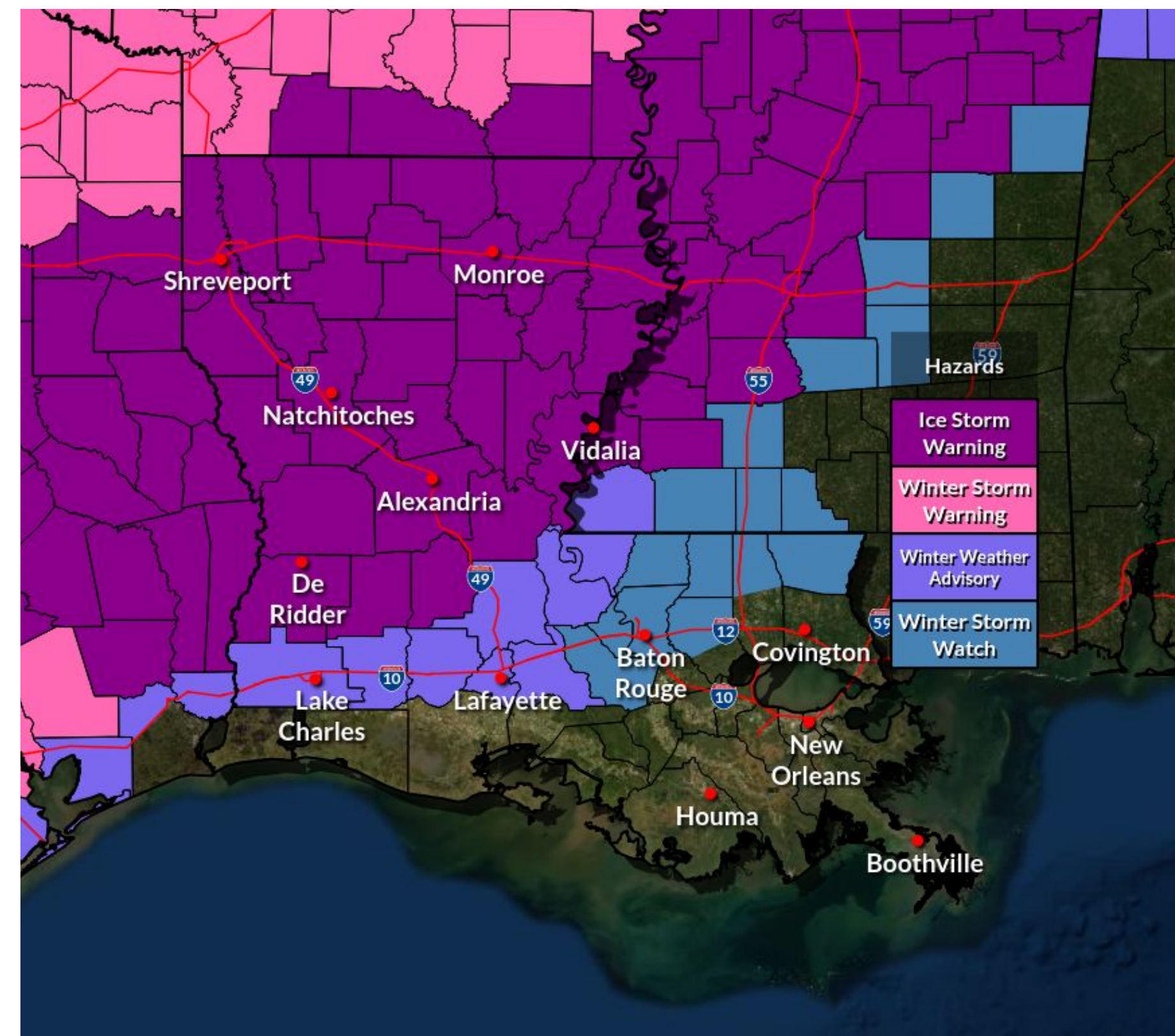




Winter Weather Headlines in Effect

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM

As of 6AM CST



Northern Louisiana:

- **Ice Storm Warning:** North LA: Ice accumulations of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ ", with isolated totals near one inch. Central LA: Ice accumulations of 0.10 to 0.50" expected.
 - Impact to roadways and infrastructure expected.

Southwest Louisiana:

- **Winter Weather Advisory:** Mixed wintry precipitation. Ice accumulations up to 0.10" possible.

Southeast Louisiana:

- **Winter Storm Watch:** Total ice accumulation between a light glaze and locally higher amounts up to one tenth inch possible.

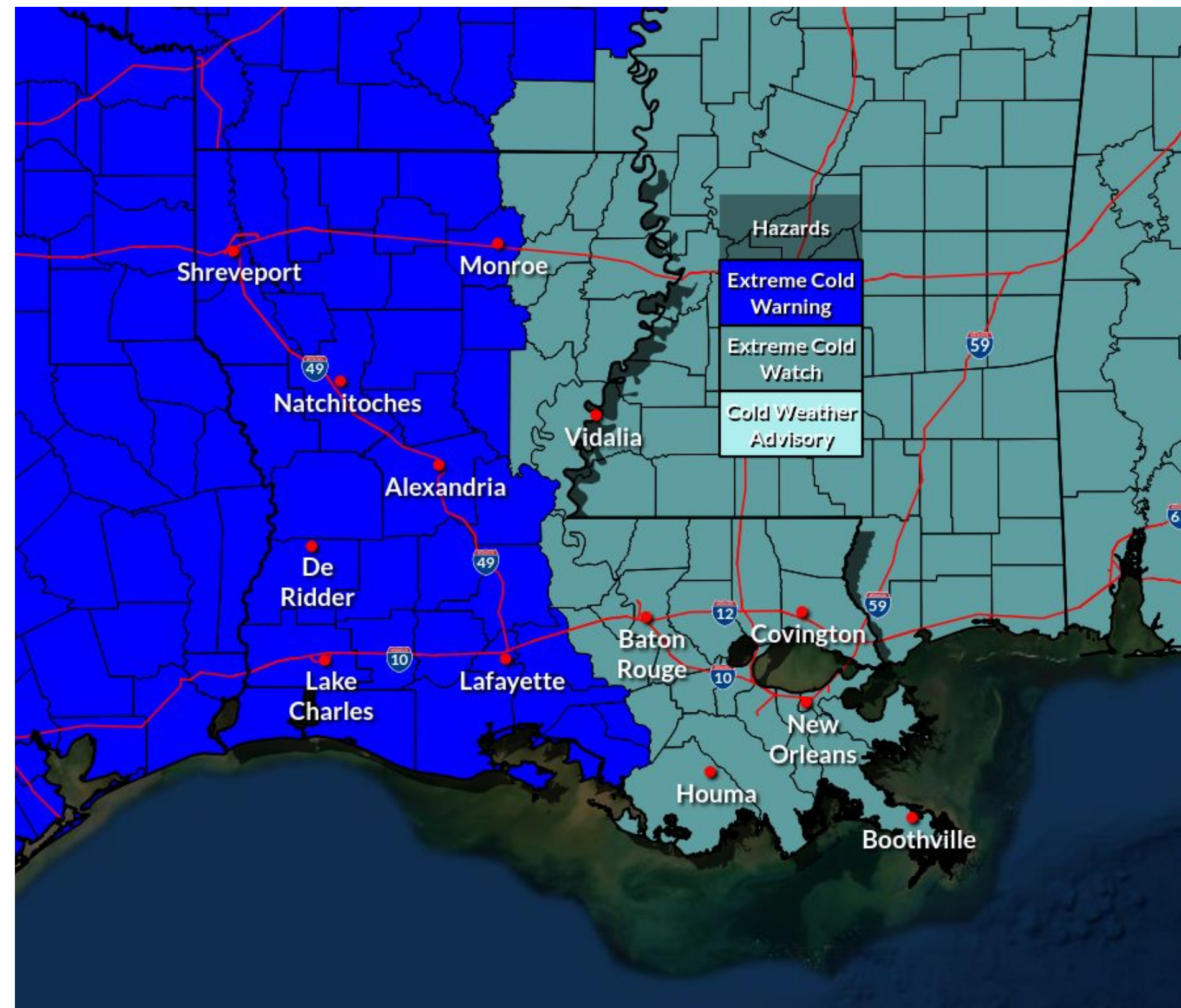




Cold Weather Headlines in Effect

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM

As of 3AM CST



All of Louisiana:

- **Extreme Cold Watch/Extreme Cold Warning:**
 - Dangerously cold temperatures as low as 0 degrees possible across northern and central LA, wind chills as low as 15-25 for southern LA.
 - **Impacts:** Frostbite and hypothermia will occur if unprotected skin is exposed to these temperatures. An extended period of freezing temperatures could cause ruptured water pipes.

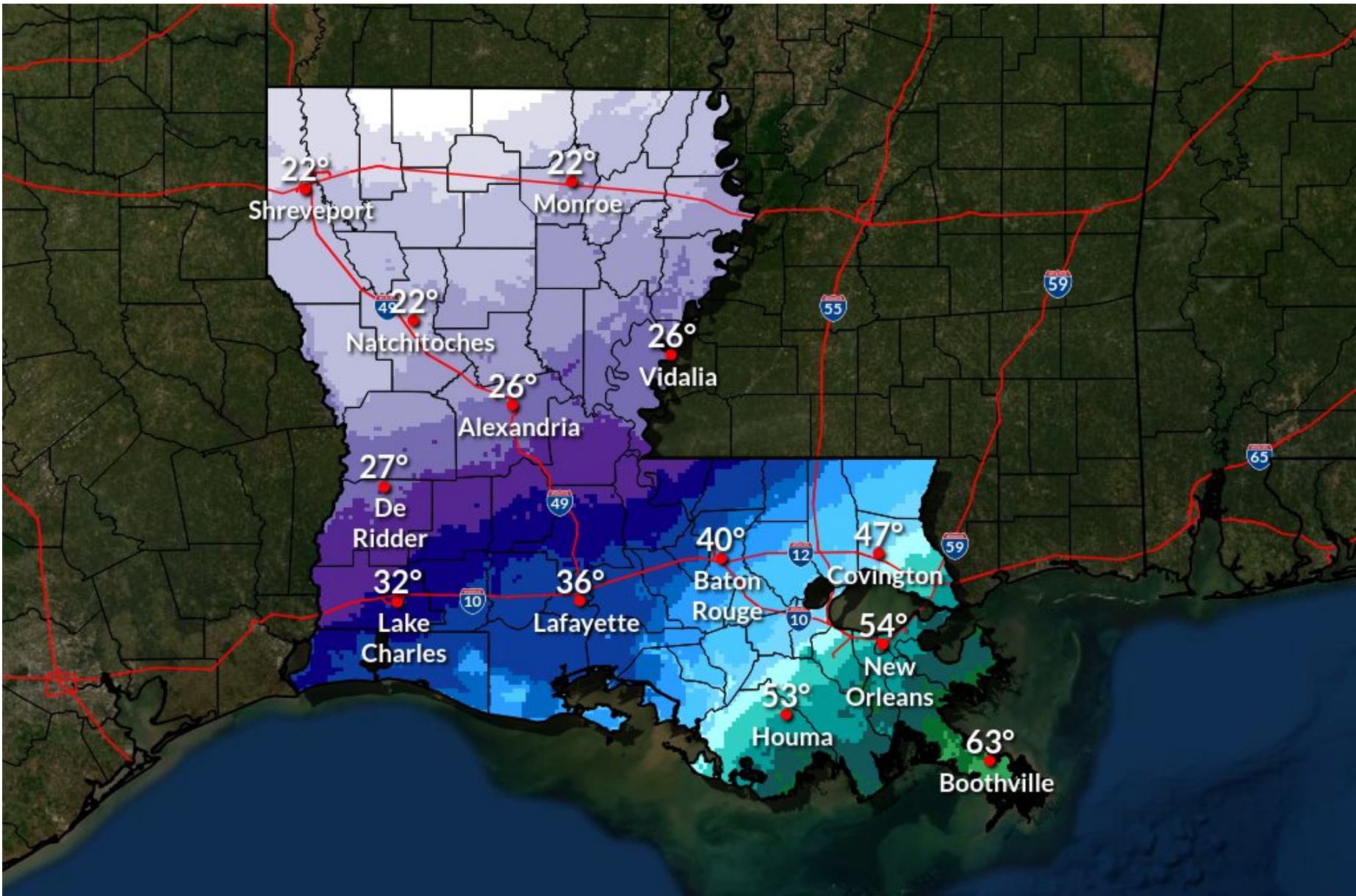




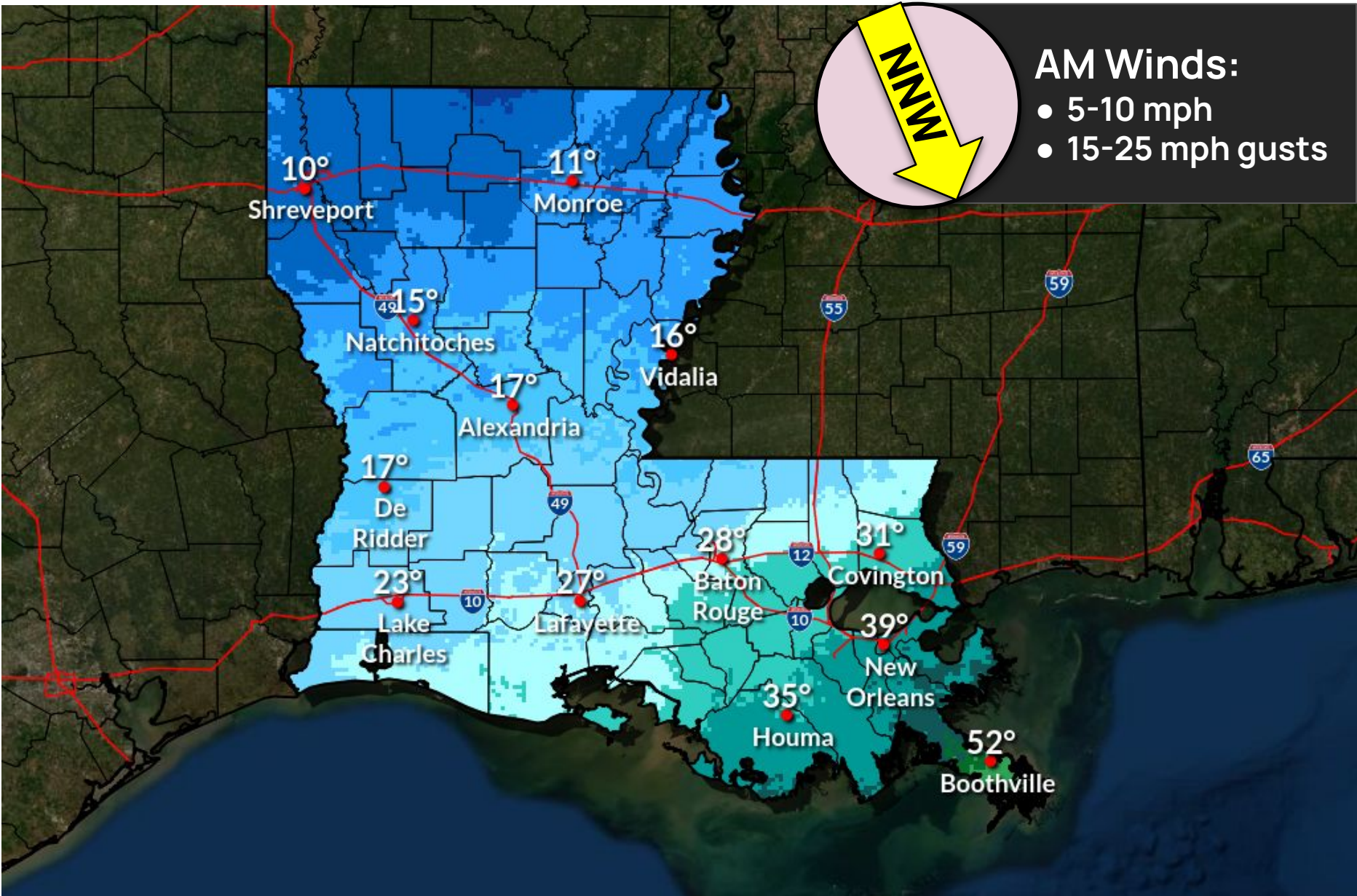
Sunday Morning Lows & Wind Chills

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM CST

Forecast Low Temps



Forecast Min Wind Chills



Min Wind Chill Approx Timing

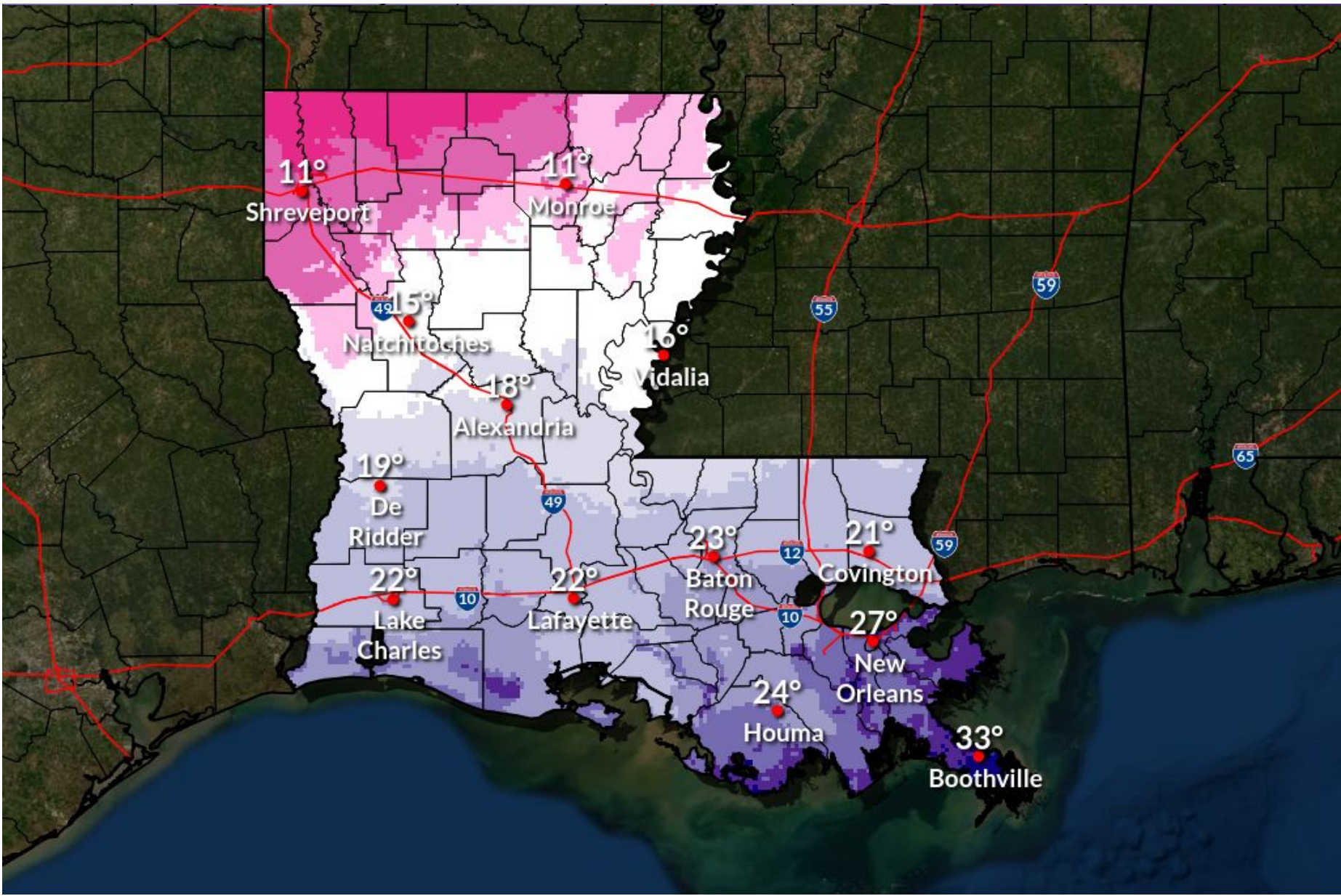




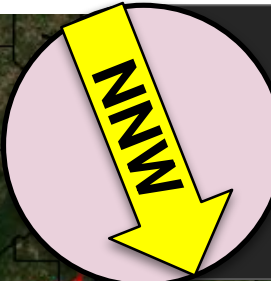
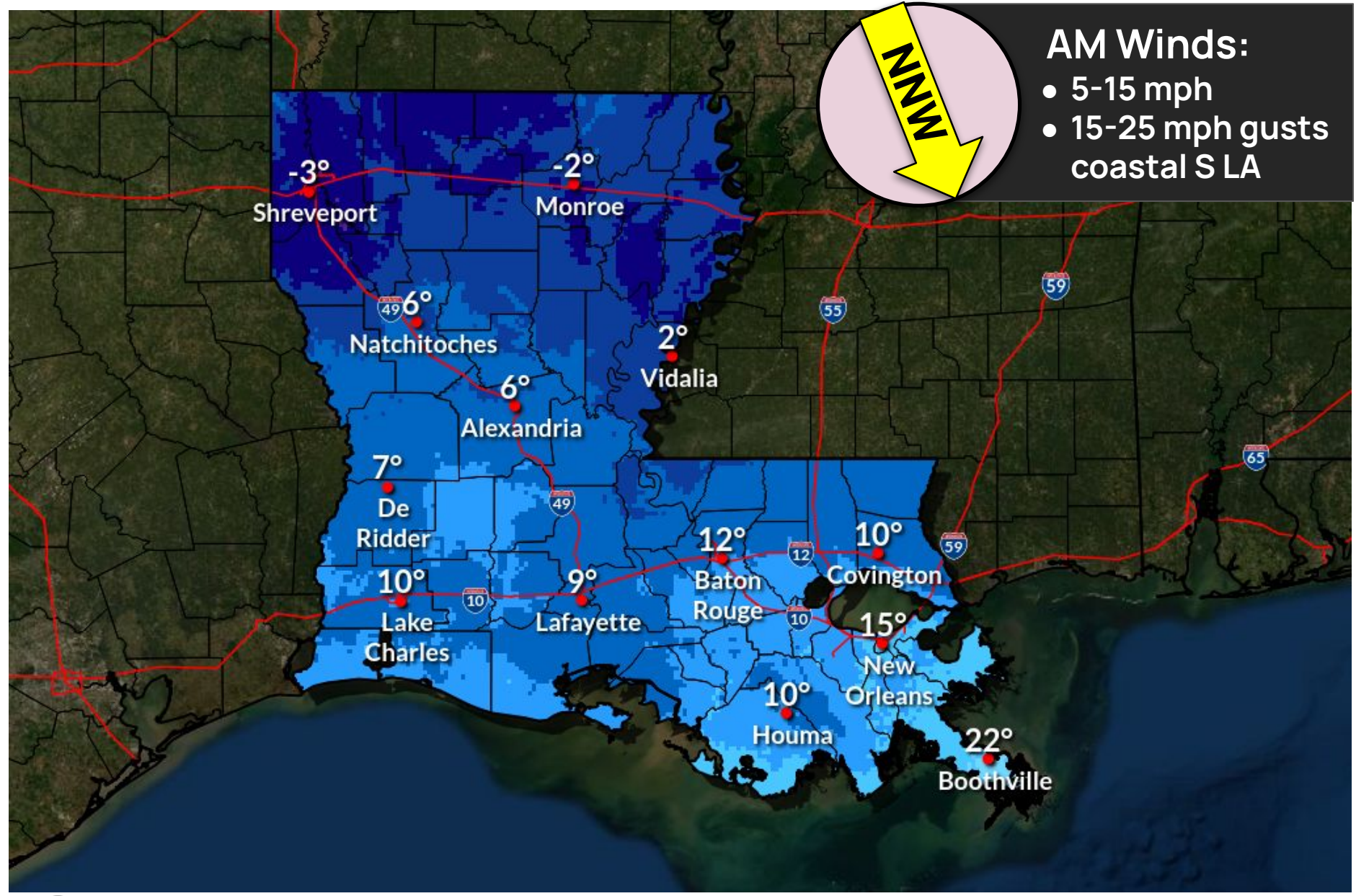
Monday Morning Lows & Wind Chills

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM CST

Forecast Low Temps



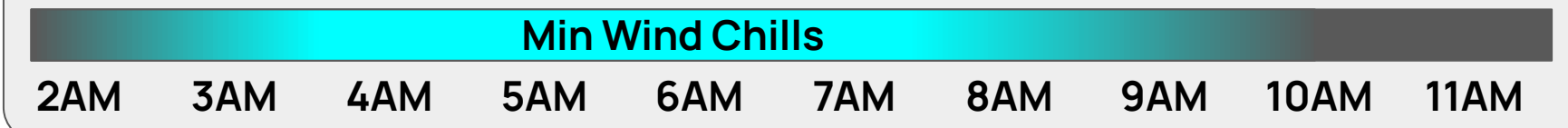
Forecast Min Wind Chills



AM Winds:
• 5-15 mph
• 15-25 mph gusts
coastal S LA



Min Wind Chill Approx Timing



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

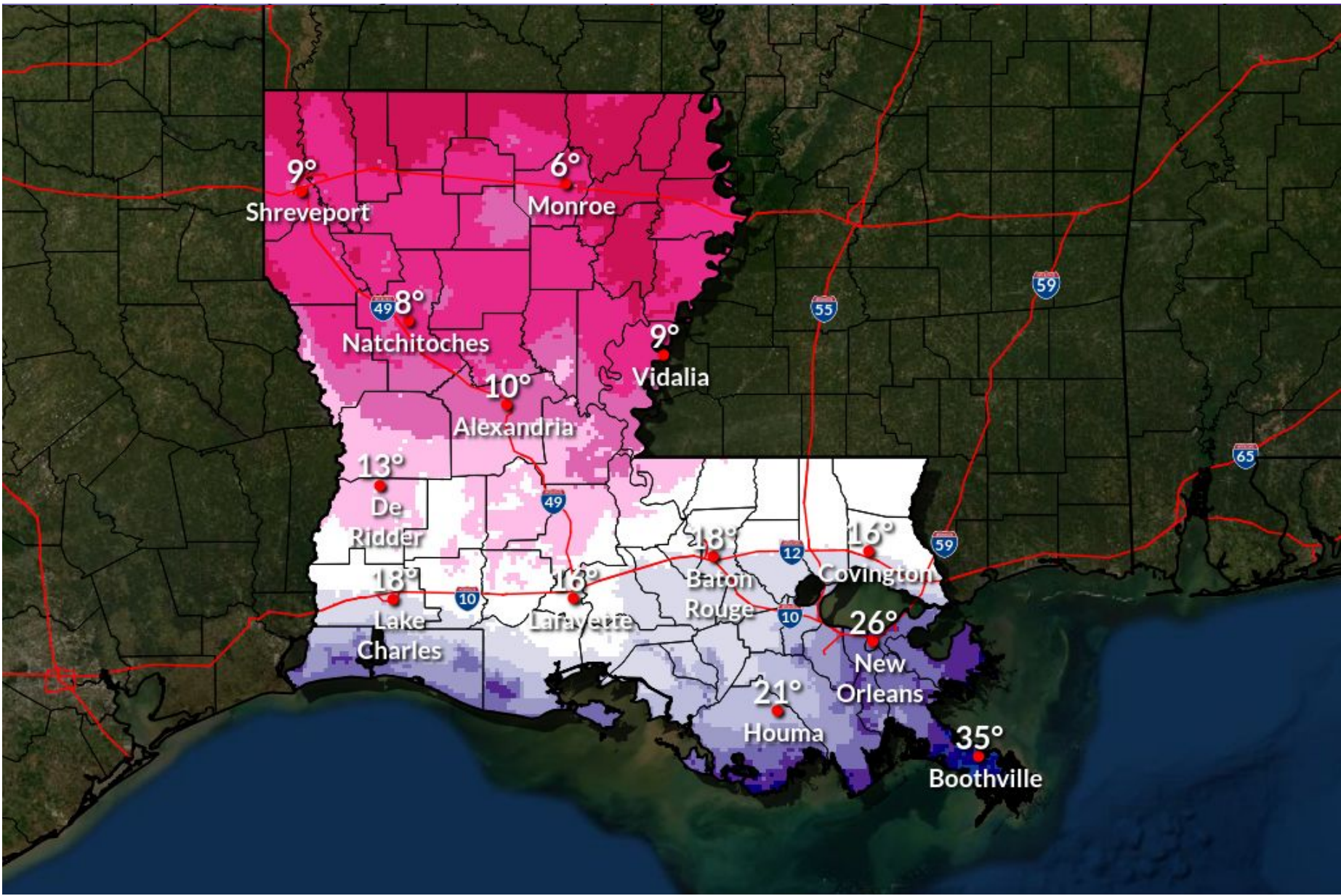
National Weather Service
New Orleans/Baton Rouge



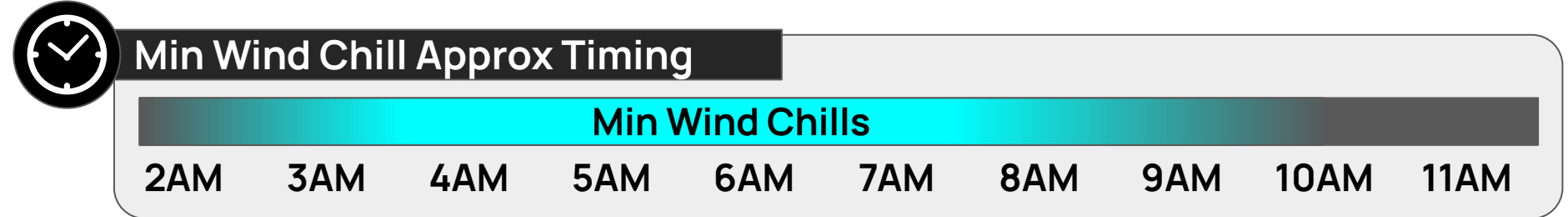
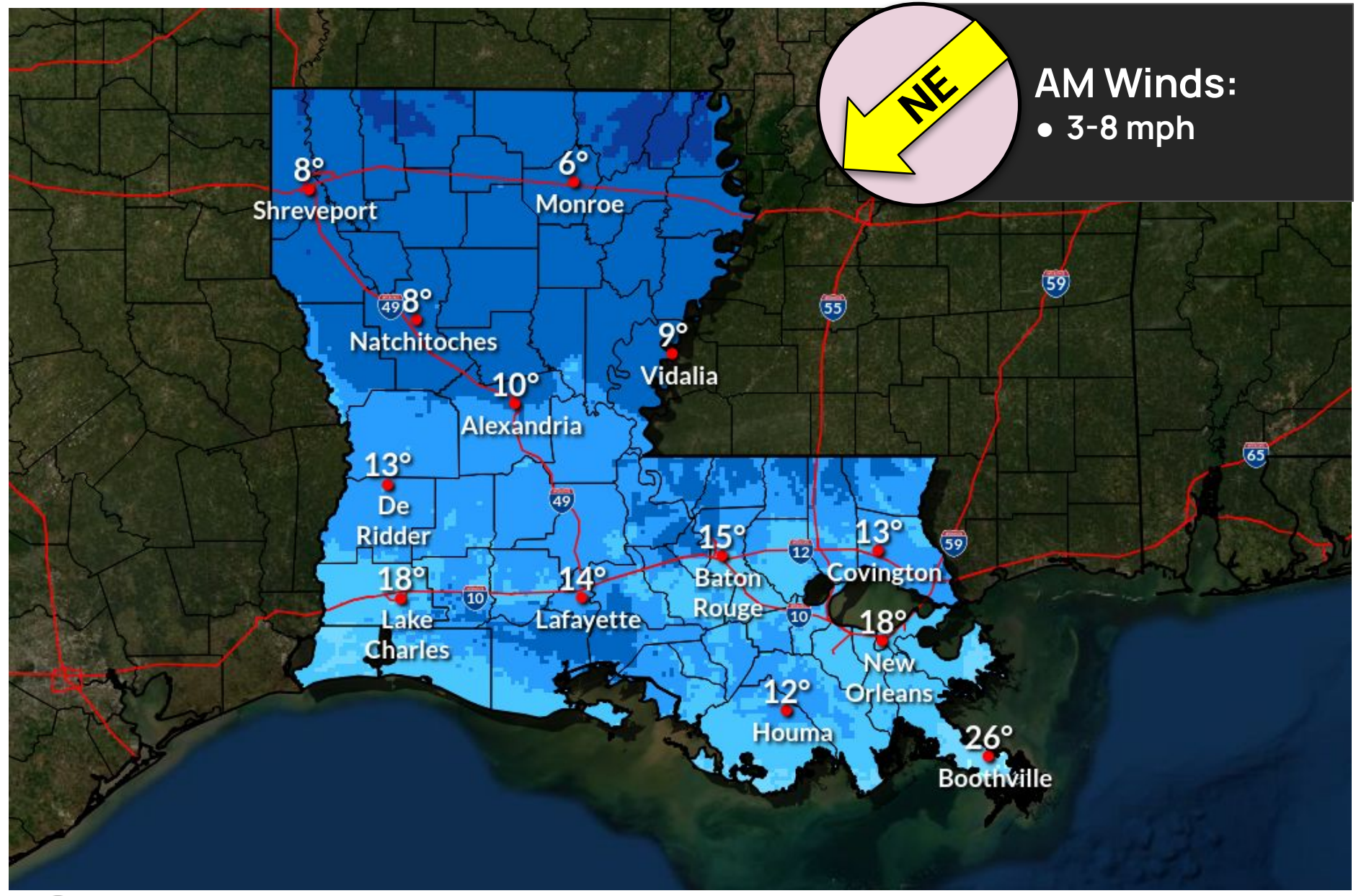
Tuesday Morning Lows & Wind Chills

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM CST

Forecast Low Temps



Forecast Min Wind Chills

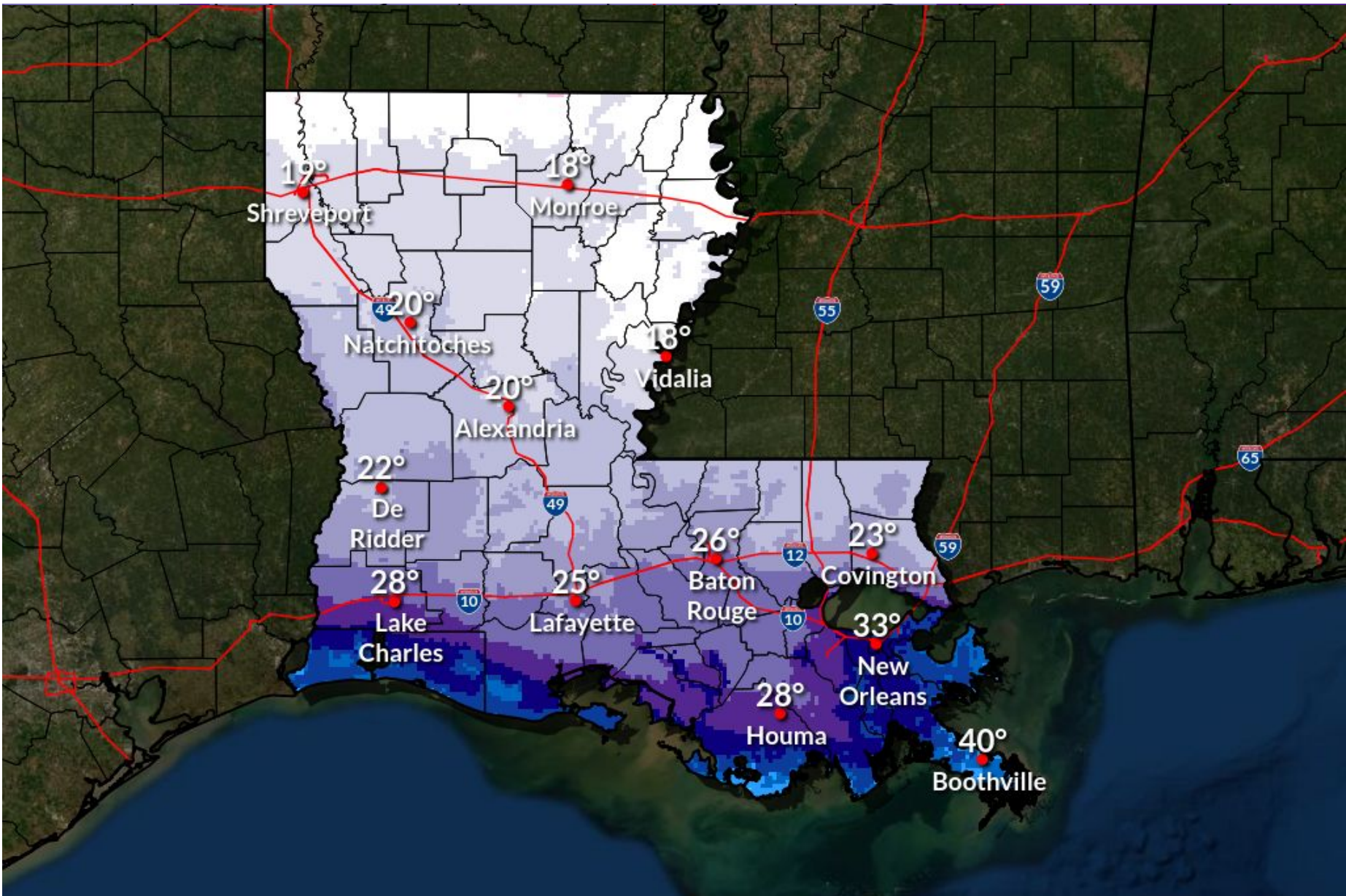




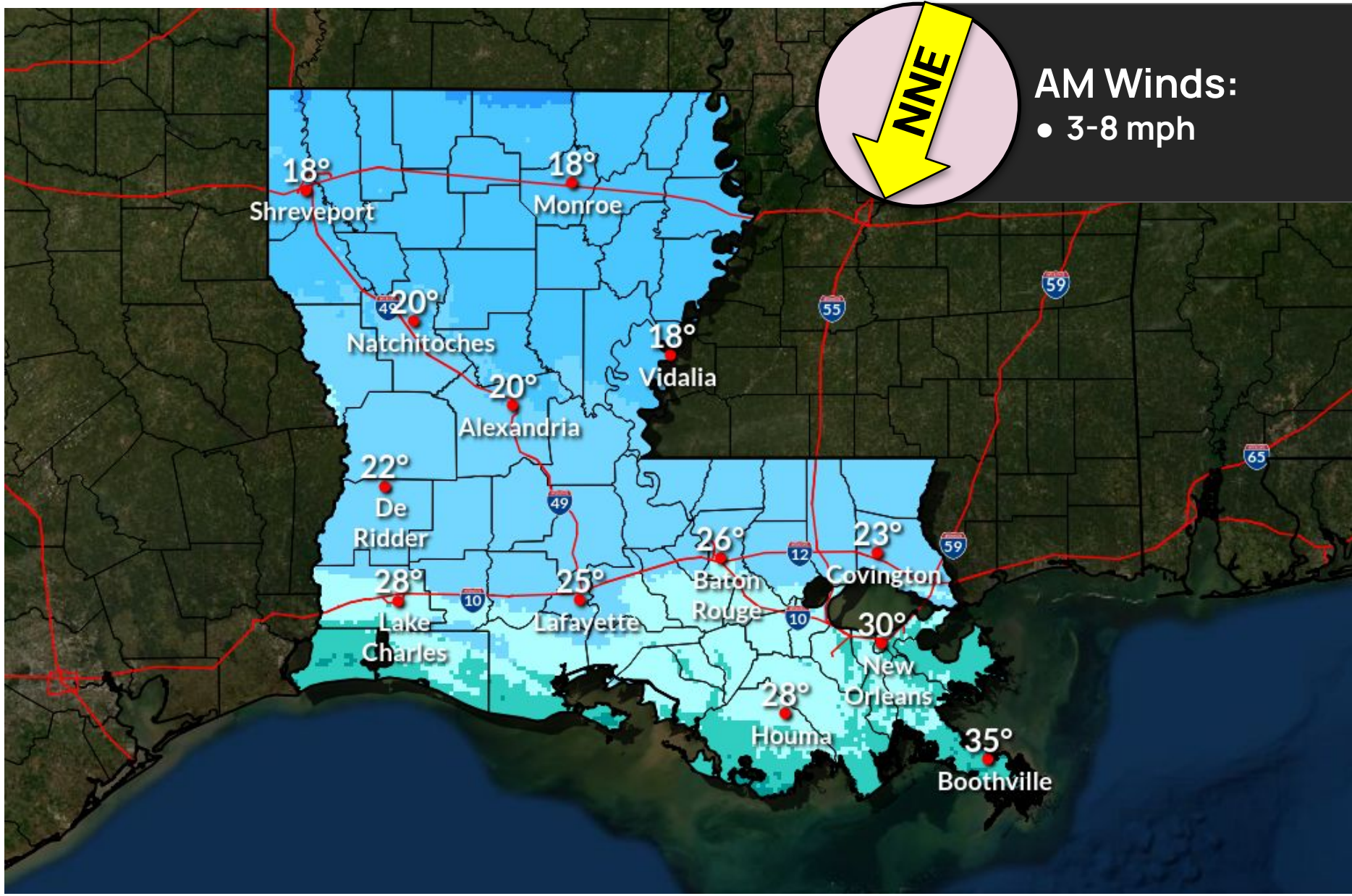
Wednesday Morning Lows & Wind Chills

January 24, 2026
10:00 AM CST

Forecast Low Temps



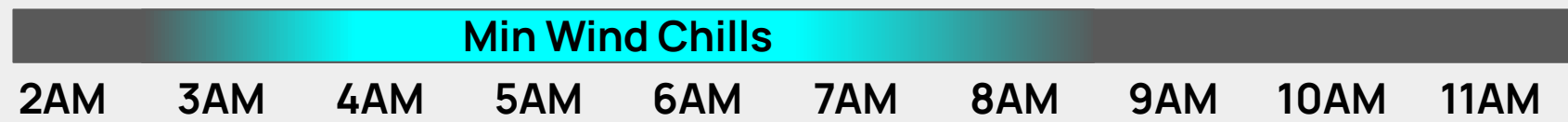
Forecast Min Wind Chills



AM Winds:
• 3-8 mph



Min Wind Chill Approx Timing





Questions?

Contact NWS New Orleans at
504-522-7330 or 985-649-0429



Web: www.weather.gov/neworleans



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