






# North American Public Avalanche Danger Scale

*Avalanche danger is determined by the likelihood, size, and distribution of avalanches.*

*Safe backcountry travel requires training and experience. You control your risk by choosing when, where, and how you travel.*

Danger Level		Travel Advice	Likelihood	Size and Distribution
5 - Extreme		<b>Extraordinarily dangerous avalanche conditions.</b> Avoid all avalanche terrain.	Natural and human-triggered avalanches certain.	Very large avalanches in many areas.
4 - High		<b>Very dangerous avalanche conditions.</b> Travel in avalanche terrain not recommended.	Natural avalanches likely; human-triggered avalanches very likely.	Large avalanches in many areas; or very large avalanches in specific areas.
3 - Considerable		<b>Dangerous avalanche conditions.</b> Careful snowpack evaluation, cautious route-finding, and conservative decision-making essential.	Natural avalanches possible; human-triggered avalanches likely.	Small avalanches in many areas; or large avalanches in specific areas; or very large avalanches in isolated areas.
2 - Moderate		<b>Heightened avalanche conditions on specific terrain features.</b> Evaluate snow and terrain carefully; identify features of concern.	Natural avalanches unlikely; human-triggered avalanches possible.	Small avalanches in specific areas; or large avalanches in isolated areas.
1 - Low		<b>Generally safe avalanche conditions.</b> Watch for unstable snow on isolated terrain features.	Natural and human-triggered avalanches unlikely.	Small avalanches in isolated areas or extreme terrain.