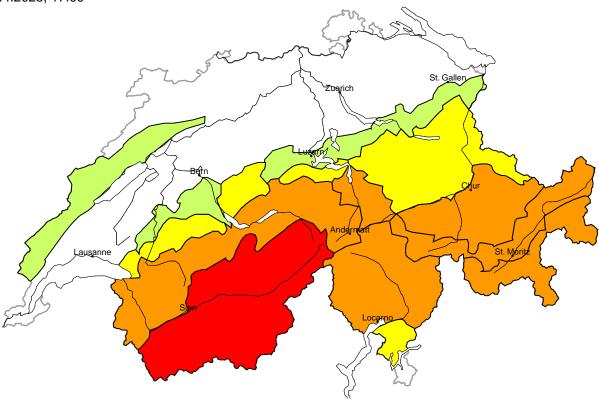
Avalanche danger

updated on 17.4.2025, 17:00



region A

High (4-)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

W E 2200m

Danger description

The large quantity of fresh snow and the extensive wind slabs are prone to triggering. Dry avalanches can also be triggered in the old snowpack. During the night large and, in isolated cases, very large natural avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach the valleys and endanger transportation routes situated at relatively high altitudes. By the early morning the natural activity of dry avalanches will appreciably decrease.

The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes remain very critical.

High (4)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Wet avalanches are to be expected, even very large ones in isolated cases. This applies in particular below approximately 2400 m. In addition below approximately 2800 m, medium-sized and large gliding avalanches are possible. Exposed transportation routes are endangered in some cases.



Danger levels





region B

Considerable (3=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The large quantity of fresh snow and the extensive wind slabs are prone to triggering. Dry avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size. In addition during the night individual natural avalanches are possible.

Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Considerable (3)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. Caution is to be exercised in particular on sunny slopes below approximately 3000 m, and on shady slopes below approximately 2400 m. Also at intermediate altitudes medium-sized gliding avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation.

region C

Considerable (3=)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and the extensive wind slabs are prone to triggering. Dry avalanches can also be triggered in the old snowpack. Individual medium-sized to large natural avalanches are possible, this applies in particular during the night. Even single persons can release avalanches, including large ones. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Considerable (3)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced. Wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. Caution is to be exercised in particular on sunny slopes below approximately 3000 m, and on shady slopes below approximately 2400 m.



Danger levels



2 moderate

3 considerable



5 very high

region D

Considerable (3=)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering. Dry avalanches can also be triggered in the old snowpack. Even single persons can release avalanches, including large ones. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Considerable (3)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced. Already in the late morning medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. Moist avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow by people. Caution is to be exercised in particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, and on north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m.

region E

Considerable (3)



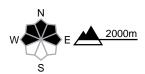
Wet snow, Gliding snow

Wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. Caution is to be exercised in particular on sunny slopes below approximately 3000 m, and on shady slopes below approximately 2400 m. Also at intermediate altitudes medium-sized gliding avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation.

Moderate (2=)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Dry avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size.

Careful route selection is recommended.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

5 very high

region F

Considerable (3)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced. Already in the late morning medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. Moist avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow by people. Caution is to be exercised in particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, and on north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m.

Moderate (2-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

W E 2400m

Danger description

In isolated cases dry avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Caution is to be exercised in particular on very steep shady slopes in little used backcountry terrain. The avalanche prone locations are rather rare but are difficult to recognise. Careful route selection is recommended. In addition the more recent wind slabs should be taken into account. These are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering.

region G

Considerable (3)



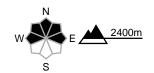
Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced. Already in the late morning medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. Moist avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow by people. Caution is to be exercised in particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, and on north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m.

Moderate (2+)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong southeasterly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs formed. These can be released by people. Additionally in isolated cases dry avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. This applies in particular on very steep shady slopes in little used backcountry terrain. Backcountry touring calls for defensive route selection.

水水

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

iigh

region H

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Dry avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size.

Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced. Wet and gliding avalanches are possible. The avalanches can reach medium size.

region I

Moderate (2)



Wet snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced. Wet and gliding avalanches are possible. The avalanches can reach medium size.

region J

Moderate (2)



Wet snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced. Wet and gliding avalanches are possible. The avalanches can reach medium size.

Low (1)

Wind slab

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in extremely steep terrain. Fresh wind slabs are only small. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in extreme terrain. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Danger levels



3 considerable



5 very high

region K

Low (1)



Wet snow

Wet snow slides and avalanches are possible, but they will be mostly small. Even a small avalanche can sweep people along and give rise to falls.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 17.4.2025, 17:00

Snowpack

There has been considerable snowfall in the west and south over the last 3 days, with very heavy falls in the west overnight to Thursday. With sometimes strong southeasterly winds, large snowdrift accumulations have formed at high altitudes. In those regions most exposed to precipitation, there have been numerous naturally triggered avalanches, some very large and advancing down into the valleys. Naturally triggered avalanches are still possible in these regions, especially overnight to Friday. These may start in the old snowpack, especially in high-altitude, shady slope catchment areas, and may become very large and advance down into the valleys. In the inneralpine regions of Grisons, where there has been only little fresh snow, weak layers in the old snowpack are still sometimes prone to triggering.

The old snowpack is water-saturated on southern slopes in the high Alpine regions and on eastern and western slopes up to around 2800 m. On northern slopes, most of the old snowpack is water-saturated up to around 2400 m. At intermediate altitudes, the fresh snow fell widely on snowless ground. Gliding and wet avalanches are still to be expected and may become large in those regions most exposed to precipitation.

Weather review for Thursday

Snow fell heavily to form deep accumulations In Valais and on the western part of the northern flank of the Alps. Snowfall subsided from midday. The snowfall level dropped to between 1000 and 1300 m during the night in the west and in some cases down to low altitudes in the Rhone Valley and the Bernese Oberland. In the south, it dropped to around 1900 m and, in the east, was 1500 to 2000 m. In the northeast, conditions were changeable with some snowfall during the day.

Fresh snow

Snowfall from Wednesday to Thursday afternoon, in the west above around 1400 m and in the south above around 2400 m:

- southern Valais, western Ticino, also Northern Alpine Ridge from Montana to the Aletsch region: 80 to 120 cm, in the Simplon region up to 150 cm
- rest of Valais, rest of the Northern Alpine Ridge from the Trento region to the Grimsel Pass: 60 to 80 cm.
- adjacent regions to the north from the Chablais to the eastern Bernese Alps: 40 to 60 cm, as much as 20 to 40 cm in the western Prealps
- Main Alpine Ridge from the Urseren to the Bernina region: 15 to 30 cm.
- elsewhere less or dry

Total snowfall from Tuesday to Thursday afternoon, in the west above around 2000 m and in the south above around 2600 m:

- southern Upper Valais except for Obergoms, also western Ticino: 120 to 180 cm.
- southern Lower Valais, Obergoms, northern Lower Valais from Montana to the Aletsch region: 80 to 120 cm, and 60 to 80 cm in adjacent regions to the north
- as much as 20 to 40 cm in the western Prealps, 20 cm on the Jura highlands
- central part of the northern flank of the Alps, Main Alpine Ridge from the Urseren to Val Müstair: 20 to 40 cm.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m around -2 °C in the west, +4 °C in the east and +2 °C in the south

Wind

Moderate, sometimes strong at high altitudes from southeast to east



Weather forecast to Friday

Precipitation will come to an end in the west during the night. On Friday, conditions will be cloudy at first and increasingly sunny from the west as the day progresses. In the east there will still be a little precipitation until midday with conditions becoming brighter in the afternoon. The snowfall level during the night will be between 1200 and 1400 m in the north and between 1600 and 1800 m in the south. During the day, it will rise to around 1800 m in the northeast.

Fresh snow

Snowfall from Thursday to Friday afternoon above around 1800 m:

- southern Upper Valais, central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps, Grisons, southern flank of the Alps: 5
 to 15 cm.
- elsewhere: up to 5 cm.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m around 0 °C in the west, -2 °C in the northeast and +2 °C in the south

Wind

Light to moderate, in the high Alpine regions moderate westerly

Outlook

On Saturday, conditions will be mostly cloudy in the south, but there will be little precipitation. The snowfall level will be around 2000 m. In the north, conditions will be mostly sunny and milder again. The southerly wind will be light to moderate, rising to strong in the afternoon. Fresh snowdrift accumulations will be prone to triggering. The risk of naturally triggered dry avalanches will decrease significantly. The risk of wet and gliding avalanches will be subject to daytime changes, especially in the north.

On Sunday, there will be sunny intervals in the north while there will be heavy cloud with precipitation in the south. The snowfall level will be around 2000 m. On the Main Alpine Ridge in Valais and in Ticino, 20 to 30 cm of snow is expected at high altitudes. There will be a moderate to strong southerly wind. Avalanche risk may increase somewhat in the south but will otherwise remain largely unchanged.

