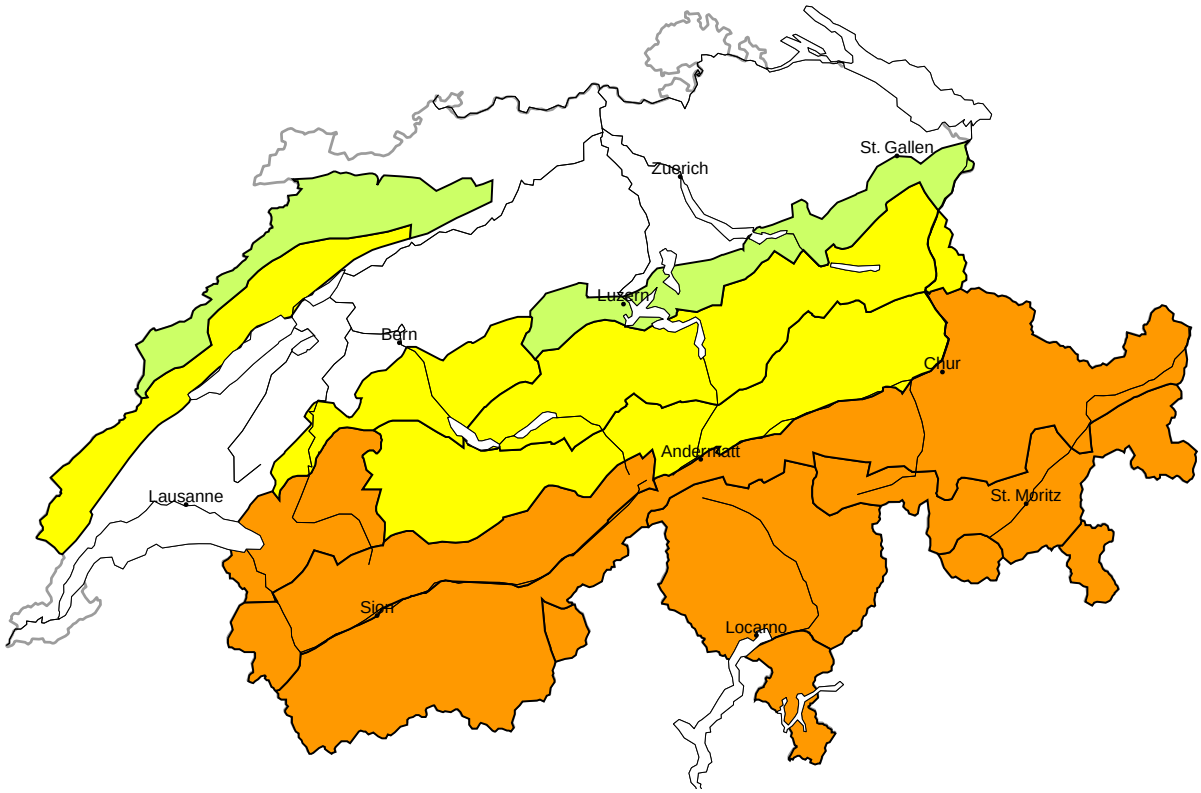
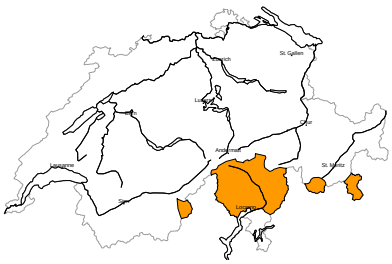
Avalanche danger

updated on 29.1.2026, 17:00



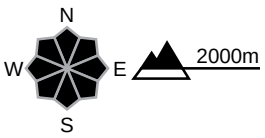
region A

Considerable (3+)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

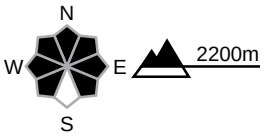
The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on steep west, north and east facing slopes. Avalanches can be released in near-ground layers and reach large size. The avalanche prone locations are prevalent. Remotely triggered avalanches are to be expected. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack and fresh avalanches indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

Danger levels 1 low 2 moderate 3 considerable 4 high 5 very high

region B — Considerable (3+)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

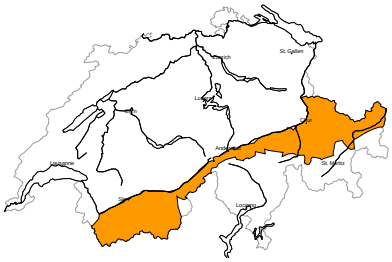
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

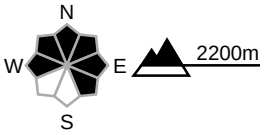
The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on steep west, north and east facing slopes. Avalanches can be released in near-ground layers and reach large size in isolated cases. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack and fresh avalanches can indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

region C — Considerable (3=)



Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



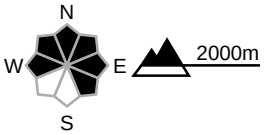
Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches. These can also be triggered in deep layers and reach dangerously large size. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region D — Considerable (3-)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



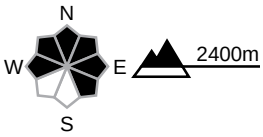
Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs are prone to triggering at elevated altitudes. The avalanche prone locations are sometimes covered with new snow and are therefore difficult to recognise. Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Caution is to be exercised in particular on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered north and east facing slopes, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region E — Considerable (3-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



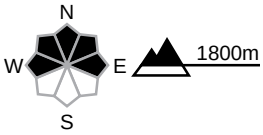
Danger description

The wind slabs of the last few days are prone to triggering at elevated altitudes. These avalanche prone locations are sometimes covered with new snow and are therefore difficult to recognise. Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach dangerously large size.
Caution is to be exercised in particular on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered north and east facing slopes, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region F — Considerable (3-)

New snow

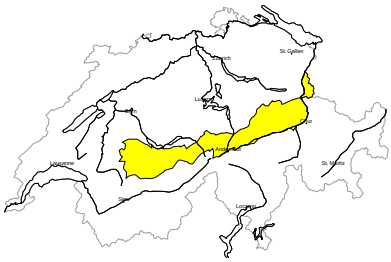
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

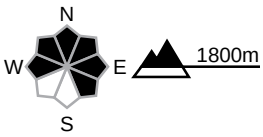
The new snow and wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on steep west, north and east facing slopes. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including medium-sized ones.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region G — Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



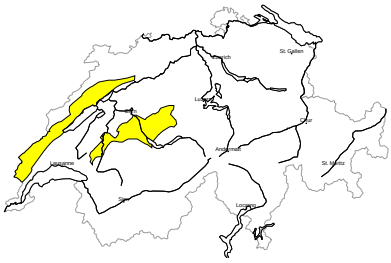
Danger description

The sometimes new snow-covered wind slabs of the last few days can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack. These avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise. Caution is to be exercised in particular on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered north and east facing slopes, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Avalanche bulletin through Friday, 30. January 2026

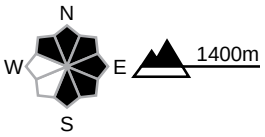
region H

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

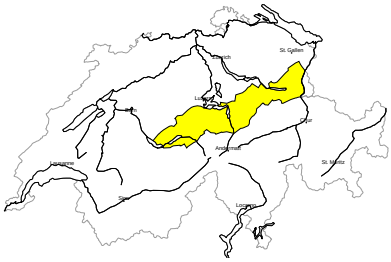


Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong westerly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

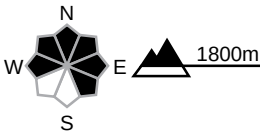
region I

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

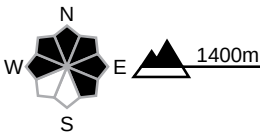
The sometimes new snow-covered wind slabs of the last few days can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. Additionally in very isolated cases avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise. Caution is to be exercised in particular on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered north and east facing slopes, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

region J

Low (1)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh wind slabs are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in extreme terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 29.1.2026, 17:00

Snowpack

On the southern flank of the Alps and in Upper Engadine, the last six days' fresh and drifted snow has been deposited on a weak snowpack, resulting in numerous medium-sized and indeed large spontaneous avalanches. In these regions, avalanches can still be triggered very easily in the old snowpack in many areas, including remotely. Avalanches are also to be expected deeper in the snowpack in the inneralpine regions of Valais and Grisons, especially on northern and eastern slopes. The avalanche situation requires patience.
North of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine, snowdrift accumulations, some of which are prone to triggering, have formed in recent days, and these are now covered with fresh snow. On Friday, the westerly winds will result in mostly small snowdrift accumulations. Weak layers deeper in the snowpack are less prone to triggering in these regions and such hazardous zones are rarer than in other regions.

Weather review for Thursday

In the south, precipitation ended during the night to Thursday, but only over the course of the day in the north. Conditions brightened up quickly in the west and south, while the east remained cloudy with light snowfall. The snowfall level dropped to between 600 and 1000 m.

Fresh snow
From Wednesday to Thursday afternoon, above approximately 1000 m:
- in the north 5 to 10 cm, locally up to 15 cm
- in the south and in Grisons 10 to 15 cm

In total, the following amounts have fallen above approximately 1500 m in the two days since midday on Tuesday:
- Jura, central part of the southern flank of the Alps, Upper Engadine, Val Bregaglia, Val Poschiavo: 20 to 40 cm
- otherwise a widespread 10 to 20 cm, with up to 30 cm in the far west
- northern flank of the Alps east of the Reuss, Prättigau, central parts of central Grisons: 5 to 10 cm

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around -6°C in the north and -3°C in the south

Wind
- Moderate to strong westerly to northwesterly at times in the north overnight, mostly light to moderate during the day
- Light to moderate northerly in the south, briefly moderate to strong northerly foehn wind in the morning

Weather forecast to Friday

In the west and north conditions will be mostly very cloudy with light precipitation from the morning onwards. The snowfall level will be between 600 and 1000 m. There will be sunny intervals on the Main Alpine Ridge in Valais and in the rest of Grisons, and it will be mostly sunny on the southern flank of the Alps and in Engadine.

Fresh snow
From Friday morning to Friday afternoon above approximately 1200 m:
- 5 to 10 cm in the west, with up to 15 cm in the far west of Lower Valais on the border with France and in the western Jura
- elsewhere less or dry

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around -4°C

Wind
- Freshening to moderate to strong westerly overnight in the west and north
- Light to moderate westerly to northwesterly in the south

Avalanche bulletin through Friday, 30. January 2026

Outlook to Sunday

On Saturday, conditions will be mostly cloudy in the west with light precipitation, especially in the Jura. The east will be very sunny at first, becoming increasingly cloudy as the day progresses. During the night to Sunday there will be some widespread precipitation in the west, with a total of 5 to 10 cm of snow falling above approximately 1200 m by Sunday morning. On Sunday, the north will be very sunny, with the west turning increasingly sunny. In the south, both days will be mostly sunny with broken cloud cover. Winds will be light to moderate from westerly directions.
There will be barely any change to the avalanche hazard on Saturday, but it will decrease somewhat in the north on Sunday. In inneralpine regions and in the south, avalanche hazard will decrease only very slowly due to the weak old snowpack. The situation for snow sports remains critical away from marked and open pistes.