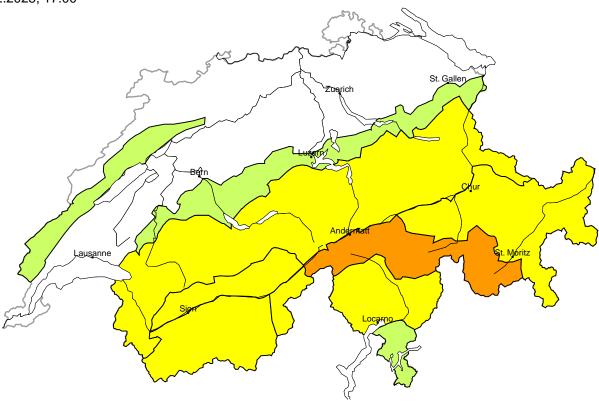
Avalanche danger

updated on 7.2.2025, 17:00



region A

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

Danger description

As a consequence of a strong southerly wind, further wind slabs will form. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are prone to triggering in particular on shady slopes. Avalanches can be released easily. They can penetrate even deep layers and reach a dangerous size. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep south facing slopes individual small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

5 very high

region B

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strong southerly wind, clearly visible wind slabs will form also in areas not adjacent to ridgelines. These will be deposited on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack on shady slopes. They can in some cases be released by a single winter sport participant. Avalanches can reach medium size. The wind slabs in steep terrain are to be bypassed. Careful route selection is required.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep south facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region C

Moderate (2+)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

Danger description

Weakly bonded old snow represents the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach large size in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow, and in little used terrain.

As a consequence of a strong southerly wind, wind slabs will form. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep south facing slopes individual small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

5 very high

region D

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strong southeasterly wind, clearly visible wind slabs will form also in areas not adjacent to ridgelines. These will be deposited on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack on shady slopes. They can in some cases be released by a single winter sport participant. Avalanches can reach medium size.

The wind slabs in steep terrain are to be bypassed. Careful route selection is required.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep south facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region E

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

W E 2000m

Danger description

Weakly bonded old snow represents the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach large size in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow, and in little used terrain.

As a consequence of a sometimes strong southerly wind, further wind slabs will form. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

5 very high

Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep south facing slopes individual small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

水水

Danger levels



2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

nigh

2 moderate 3 cons

region F

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

N W E 2000m

Danger description

Weakly bonded old snow represents the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach large size in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow, and in little used terrain.

As a consequence of a sometimes strong southerly wind, further wind slabs will form. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

region G

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain at elevated altitudes. The somewhat older wind slabs are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in terrain where there is a danger of falling.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep south facing slopes individual small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region H

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on extremely steep shady slopes at elevated altitudes. Mostly the avalanches are small.

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.

region I

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain at elevated altitudes. The somewhat older wind slabs are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in terrain where there is a danger of falling.

水水

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

5 very high

Snowpack and weather

updated on 7.2.2025, 17:00

Snowpack

The surface of the snowpack has become faceted this week, especially on shady slopes. On Friday, southerly winds created small localised snowdrift accumulations. With little fresh snow in the south and strong southerly winds in the north, these are still continuing to grow a little.

The old snowpack varies from region to region:

- in those regions south of a line Rhone to Rhine, there are weak layers in the lower part of the snowpack. These are particularly pronounced in Ticino, central Grisons, Engadine and the southern valleys of Grisons on wind-protected shady slopes and it is in particular here that avalanches may sweep away the entire snowpack. In the last few days, only a few avalanches have been triggered in the old snowpack, but some of these were dangerously large.
- in those regions north of a line Rhone to Rhine, avalanches are possible, especially in the upper part of the snowpack. Fractures in deeper layers of the old snowpack are unlikely here.

Gliding avalanches are still possible, and can be large in isolated cases.

Weather review for Friday

In the north and east, conditions were mostly sunny in the mountains with sunny spells in Valais. It was cloudy in the south, but still largely dry.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m around +1 °C in the north and -7 °C in the south.

Wind

From the south:

- moderate and locally strong in the north at high altitudes with a rising foehn wind in the upper valleys
- elsewhere light to moderate.

Weather forecast to Saturday

In the north, there will be sunny spells with longer periods of sunshine in regions exposed to the foehn wind. In the south, it will be very cloudy with light precipitation. The snowfall level will increase from 500 m to 1000 m.

Fresh snow

Until Saturday afternoon, above approximately 1200 m:

- central part of the southern flank of the Alps 5 to 10 cm
- a few centimetres along the Main Alpine Ridge

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between 0 °C in the north and -5 °C in the south

Wind

- Strong from the south to southwest at high altitudes, strong foehn wind in the valleys of the north
- In the south light to moderate southerly



Outlook

On Sunday, the foehn wind will make conditions brighter in the north and east, with sunny spells in the west. There will be heavy cloud cover on the southern flank of the Alps and 10 to 20 cm of snow will fall above approximately 1200 m but amounts are still uncertain. The wind will subside somewhat but remain moderate at higher altitudes. On Monday, cloud cover will be broken to heavy. Above approximately 1000 m, a further 5 to 10 cm of snow will fall in the south while a few centimetres will fall locally over the course of the day in the north. The southwesterly wind will freshen as the day progresses.

Avalanche danger will increase slightly on Sunday in the south with fresh snow but will not change significantly elsewhere. Persistent weak layers will remain in Valais, Ticino and Grisons.

