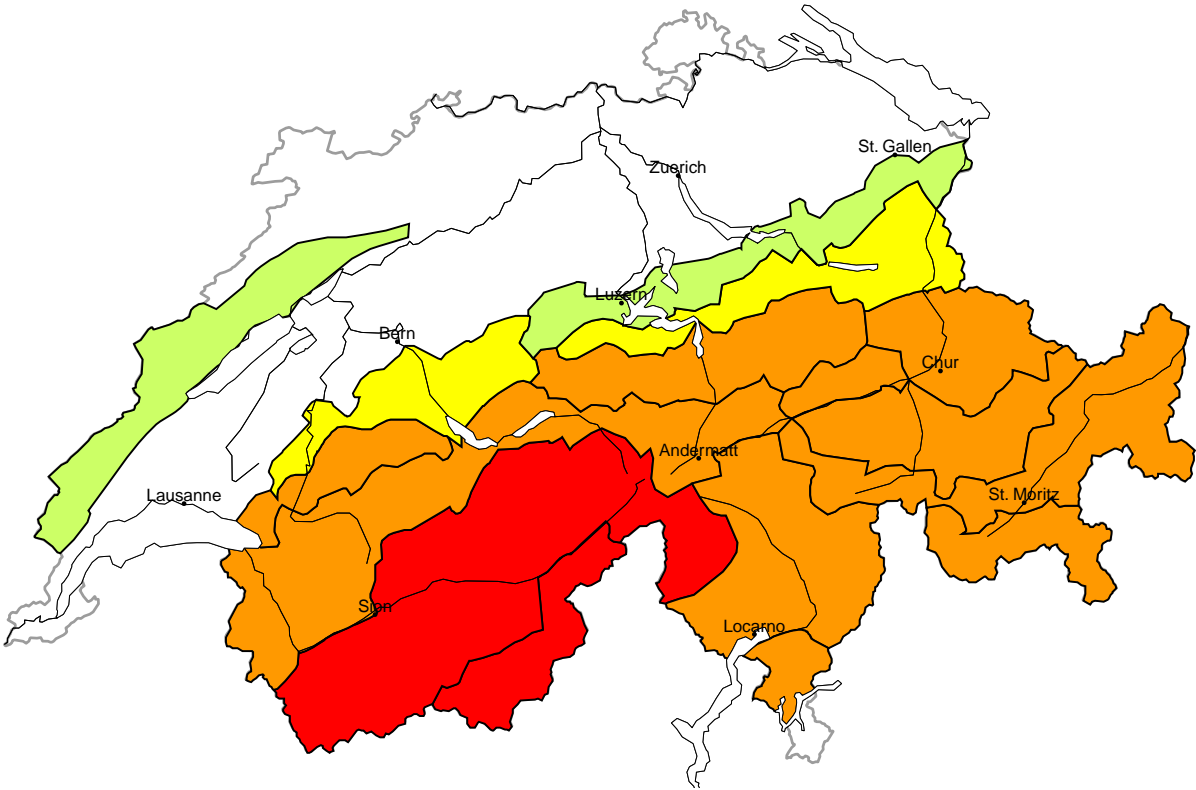


Avalanche danger

updated on 17.4.2025, 08:00



region A

High (4+)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



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. Numerous large and very large natural avalanches are to be expected. The avalanches can reach areas without any snow cover and endanger transportation routes that are exposed. This applies especially in case of releases originating from high-altitude, north facing starting zones that have retained the snow thus far. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are unfavourable.

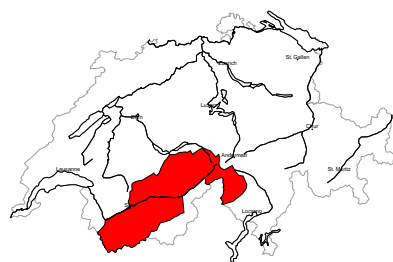
High (4)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

More wet avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. This applies in particular on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. In addition below approximately 2800 m, medium-sized and large gliding avalanches are to be expected. This applies on steep slopes in all aspects. Exposed transportation routes are endangered in some cases.

region B

High (4=)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



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. Large and, in isolated cases, very large natural avalanches are to be expected. These can in isolated cases reach areas without any snow cover and endanger transportation routes situated at relatively high altitudes. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are very critical.

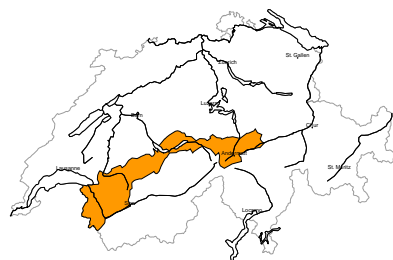
High (4)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

More wet avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. This applies in particular on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. In addition below approximately 2800 m, medium-sized and large gliding avalanches are to be expected. This applies on steep slopes in all aspects. Exposed transportation routes are endangered in some cases.

region C

Considerable (3+)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong southeasterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed above the tree line. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size in isolated cases. Natural avalanches are possible. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Considerable (3)

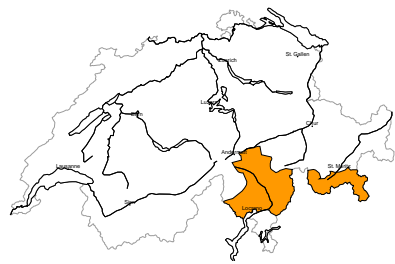
Wet snow, Gliding snow

More wet avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. This applies in particular on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. In addition below approximately 2800 m, medium-sized and large gliding avalanches are possible. This applies on steep slopes in all aspects. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.



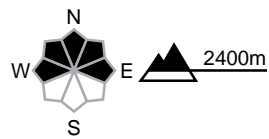
region D

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. 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

More wet avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. This applies in particular on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. In addition below approximately 2800 m, medium-sized and large gliding avalanches are possible. This applies on steep slopes in all aspects. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.

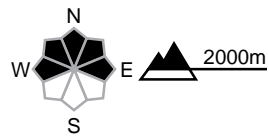
region E

Considerable (3-)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow is in some cases prone to triggering. Persons can release avalanches, including medium-sized ones. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night was reduced over a wide area. Wet and gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on very steep west, north and east facing slopes. The avalanches can reach medium size.

region F

Considerable (3)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

More wet avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. This applies in particular on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. In addition below approximately 2800 m, medium-sized and large gliding avalanches are possible. This applies on steep slopes in all aspects. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.

Moderate (2=)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

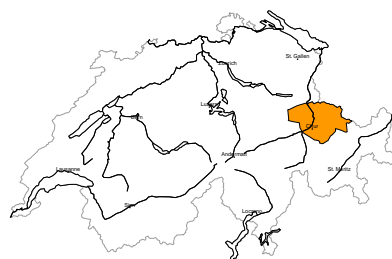


Danger description

As a consequence of a strong foehn wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed in some cases. The avalanche prone locations are to be found at the base of rock walls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

region G

Considerable (3)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night was severely restricted. Already in the late morning medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2600 m. Moist avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow by people.

In addition in all aspects, individual medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular below approximately 2800 m.

Low (1)

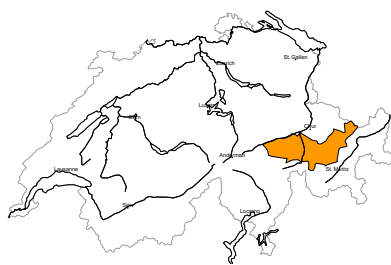
Wind slab

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.



region H

Considerable (3)



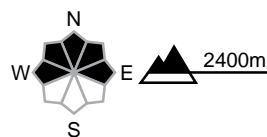
Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night was severely restricted. Already in the late morning medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2600 m. Moist avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow by people.
In addition in all aspects, individual medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular below approximately 2800 m.

Moderate (2-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



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. Defensive route selection is recommended.
In addition the more recent wind slabs should be taken into account. These are mostly small but can in some cases be released easily.

region I

Considerable (3)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night was severely restricted. Already in the late morning medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2600 m. Moist avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow by people.
In addition in all aspects, individual medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular below approximately 2800 m.

Moderate (2=)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

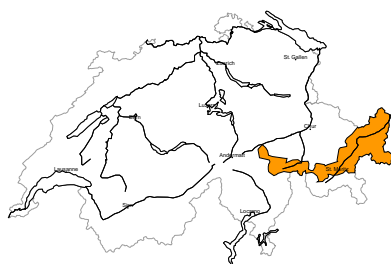


Danger description

As a consequence of a strong foehn wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed in some cases. The avalanche prone locations are to be found at the base of rock walls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

region J

Considerable (3)

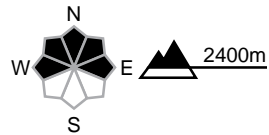


Wet snow, Gliding snow
Outgoing longwave radiation during the night was severely restricted. Already in the late morning medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2600 m. Moist avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow by people.
In addition in all aspects, individual medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular below approximately 2800 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 will form. 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.

region K

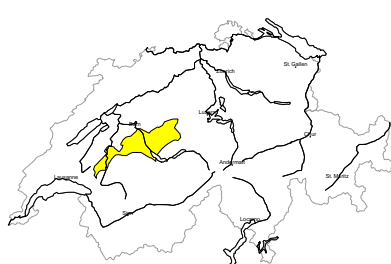
Considerable (3)



Wet snow, Gliding snow
More wet avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. This applies in particular on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. In addition below approximately 2800 m, medium-sized and large gliding avalanches are possible. This applies on steep slopes in all aspects. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.

region L

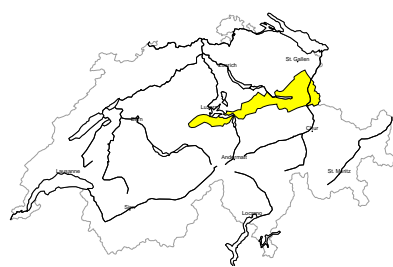
Moderate (2)



Wet snow
Outgoing longwave radiation during the night was reduced over a wide area. Wet and gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on very steep west, north and east facing slopes. The avalanches can reach medium size.

region M

Moderate (2)



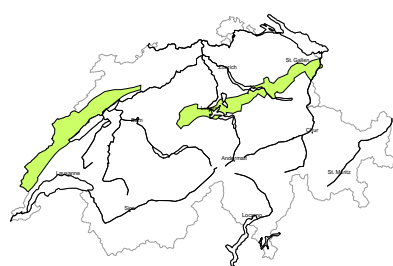
Wet snow
Outgoing longwave radiation during the night was reduced over a wide area. Wet and gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on very steep west, north and east facing slopes. The avalanches can reach medium size.

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.

region N

Low (1)



Wet snow
Wet snow slides and avalanches are possible, but they will be mostly small. This applies in particular on steep north facing slopes. Even a small avalanche can sweep people along and give rise to falls.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 16.4.2025, 17:00

Snowpack

After mild weather, overcast nights and rain in some regions, the snowpack has become increasingly water-saturated in recent days. On southern slopes, the snowpack is water-saturated up into the high Alpine regions, while on eastern and western slopes, the majority is water-saturated up to around 2800 m. On northern slopes, water saturation is under way up to altitudes of around 2400 m.

With large volumes of fresh snow and southeasterly winds, large snowdrift accumulations are forming above around 2500 m. This overlying snow can be expected to cause fractures in the old snowpack, in particular on northern slopes. This is especially the case in southern Valais, Ticino and in some regions of Grisons, where there are faceted layers deeper in the snowpack, but also in isolated cases in other regions.

Precipitation will be exceptionally heavy from Wednesday to Thursday midday in those regions most exposed to precipitation, causing a rapid increase in avalanche risk, especially overnight to Thursday.

Weather review for Wednesday

Precipitation became heavier in the south overnight to Wednesday, and then increasingly extended into the Bernese Oberland over the course of the day. The snowfall level was between 2200 and 2400 m on the central part of the southern flank of the Alps and between 2000 and 2200 m elsewhere. In the northeast, conditions were dry with sunny intervals.

Fresh snow

Snowfall above 2400 m from Tuesday to Wednesday afternoon:

- Mattmark, Simplon region, Binntal, southern Goms, Val Bedretto, Valle Maggia: 50 to 100 cm.
- rest of the Main Alpine Ridge from the Great St. Bernard to the San Bernardino Pass as well as the rest of Ticino, Lötschental, the Aletsch region and the rest of the Gotthard region: 30 to 50 cm.
- as much as 20 cm in adjacent areas to the north, mostly dry further north

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m between +1 °C in the northwest, +3 °C in the south and +7 °C in the east

Wind

- Strong to storm force south to southeasterly at high altitudes
- Strong foehn wind in the north overnight to Wednesday

Weather forecast to Thursday

Precipitation in the south and west will remain very heavy until midday on Thursday. The snowfall level will be between 1400 and 1600 m on the western part of the northern flank of the Alps and in Lower Valais, between 1600 and 2000 m on the central part of the northern flank of the Alps and in Upper Valais, and between 2000 and 2400 m on the central part of the southern flank of the Alps and in central and southern Grisons. In the northeast, conditions will remain mostly dry and there will be clear spells, both overnight and during the day.

Fresh snow

Snowfall above around 2400 m by Thursday afternoon:

- Main Alpine Ridge of Valais, Visp valleys, Aletsch region, Val Bedretto: 100 to 150 cm, and from the Monte Rosa region via the Saas valley and the Simplon region into Binntal up to 200 cm
- rest of Valais, rest of Northern Alpine Ridge west of the Reuss, Valle Maggia, Valle Leventina: 50 to 100 cm.
- adjacent regions to the north from Leysin via Gstaad, Adelboden, Lake Brienz, Hasliberg, Titlis, Schächental and along the Main Alpine Ridge from the Lukmanier Pass to Lower Engadine: 30 to 50 cm.
- as much as 10 to 30 cm in adjacent areas to the north, mostly dry in the far northeast

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m between -2 °C in the northwest, +2 °C in the south and +5 °C in the east

Wind

- Main Alpine Ridge, Upper Valais, eastern Bernese Oberland, central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps, Grisons: strong southeasterly at high altitudes
- Central and northern Lower Valais, Vaud and Fribourg Alps, western Bernese Oberland: light to moderate southeasterly

Outlook

Temperatures will fall on Good Friday and there will be little precipitation. There will be sunny intervals in the west and still mostly cloudy conditions in the east. Winds will drop significantly. The risk of dry avalanches will decrease. However, the situation is likely to remain critical for snow sports participants. The risk of wet avalanches will also decrease, although moist and wet avalanches from the fresh snow are to be expected, especially in the west, with higher daytime temperatures and sunshine.

On Easter Saturday, conditions will be mainly overcast in the south, but there will be little precipitation. In the north, conditions will be mostly sunny and milder again. There will be light to moderate winds from southerly directions. Avalanche risk will decrease further and will be increasingly subject to daytime changes, especially in the north.