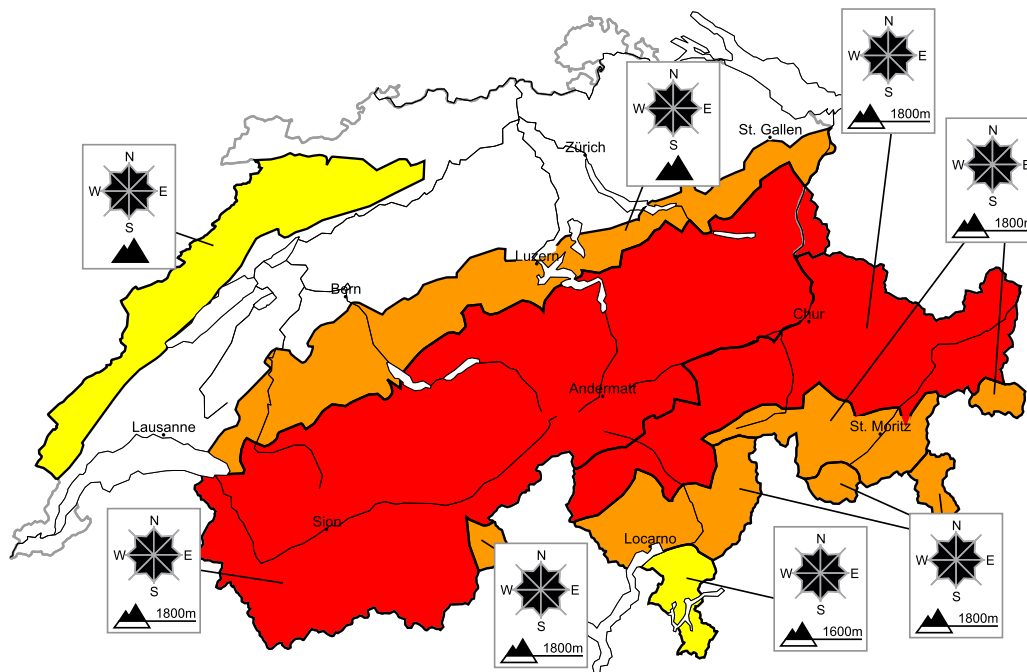


## High avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 29.1.2021, 08:00 / Next update: 29.1.2021, 17:00

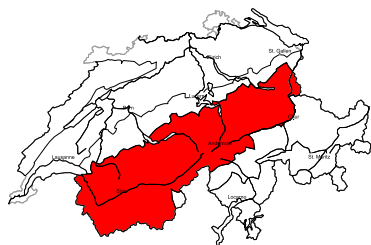
### Avalanche danger

updated on 29.1.2021, 08:00



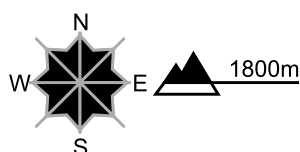
**region A**

**Level 4, high**



#### New snow, old snow

##### Avalanche prone locations



##### Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are very prone to triggering. Additionally avalanches can also be triggered in the old snowpack. More natural avalanches are to be expected. From starting zones where no previous releases have taken place in particular these can reach very large size. In the typical avalanche paths avalanches can reach as far as the valley bottom.

The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are very dangerous. Exposed transportation routes are endangered. The instructions of the local authorities must be followed.

#### Wet avalanches

Medium-sized to large wet and gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m. Exposed transportation routes can be endangered.

**Danger levels**

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high

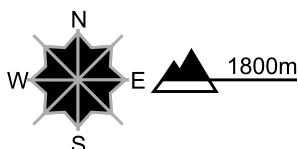
**region B**

**Level 4, high**



**New snow, old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

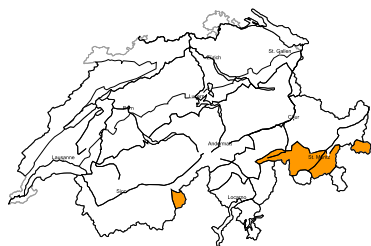
Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are very prone to triggering. Additionally avalanches can also be triggered in the old snowpack. More natural avalanches are possible. From starting zones where no previous releases have taken place in particular these can in isolated cases reach very large size. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are dangerous. Exposed transportation routes can be endangered.

**Wet avalanches**

Medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 1800 m. Exposed transportation routes can be endangered.

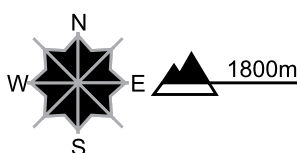
**region C**

**Level 3, considerable**



**New snow, old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering. Additionally avalanches can also be released in deep layers. Isolated natural avalanches are possible. Avalanches can reach large size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

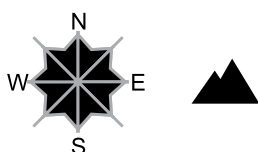
**region D**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Wind slabs, wet avalanches**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The new snow and wind slabs represent the main danger. The avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in all aspects above approximately 1800 m. Avalanches can occur easily or triggered naturally. Avalanches can reach large size in isolated cases. Backcountry touring calls for experience and restraint. As a consequence of the rain more medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 1800 m. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.

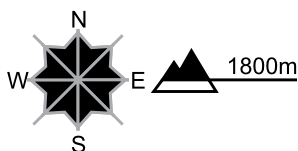
**region E**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**

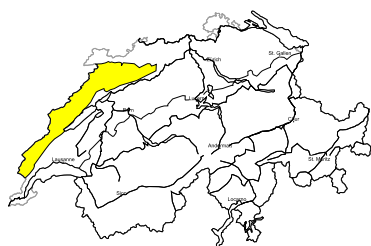


**Danger description**

The fresh wind slabs represent the main danger. They are prone to triggering. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches, including dangerously large ones. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

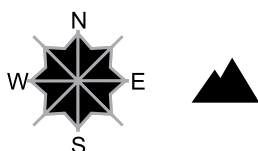
**region F**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wet avalanches, wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

As a consequence of new snow and a strong westerly wind, rather small wind slabs will form. These are in some cases prone to triggering. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on northwest to north to southeast facing aspects above approximately 1400 m.

As a consequence of the rain more wet and gliding avalanches are possible, even medium-sized ones. Caution is to be exercised on steep slopes.

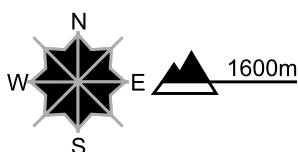
**region G**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The older wind slabs are in some cases still prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Avalanches can reach medium size. Ski touring and snowshoe hiking call for careful route selection.



## Snowpack and weather

updated on 28.1.2021, 17:00

### Snowpack

The large amounts of fresh snow and freshly generated snowdrifts are extremely unstable. They have been deposited on top of a weak old snowpack surface over widespread areas. In the Valais and in the northern regions, quite numerous naturally triggered avalanches were observed already on Thursday, including many large-sized releases. As a result of the persistent precipitation and mild temperatures, avalanche activity is expected to remain very high. Particularly in the avalanche starting zones which have not yet discharged, isolated extremely large-sized avalanches are still possible. Below approximately 1800 m the snowpack has been weakened by intensive rainfall in the northern and the western regions in particular. During the night, numerous continuing wet-snow avalanches can be expected. As a result of descending temperatures during the course of the day, the snowpack will incrementally stabilize below this altitude. In the furthestmost southern regions, only a small amount of fresh snow is expected. The snowpack structuring, moreover, is more favourable.

### Observed weather on Thursday, 28.01.2021

Intensive precipitation has been registered over widespread areas. Only in the furthestmost southern regions did it remain predominantly dry. The snowfall level ascended during the course of the day to 1800 to 2000 m over widespread areas, in the inneralpine regions to approximately 1500 m.

#### Fresh snow

Between Tuesday evening and Thursday afternoon, above approximately 2000 m:

- northern Alpine Ridge from Les Diablerets into the Glarner Alps, regions in the lower valleys of Visp, Zermatt, Monte Rosa, Goms, Gotthard region: 70 to 100 cm;
- remaining parts of the northern flank of the Alps, remaining parts of Valais not including Chablais, northern and central Grisons, Lower Engadine, remaining parts of northern Ticino: 50 to 70 cm;
- Chablais, remaining parts of Grisons not including the southern valleys of Grisons: 30 to 50 cm;
- further to the south, less.

In the Jura region, about 40 mm of rainfall was registered.

#### Temperature

The temperatures ascended during the course of the day. At midday at 2000 m, it was -2 °C in the western regions, 0 °C in the eastern regions, and -2 °C in the southern regions.

#### Wind

In the western and northern regions, winds were blowing at strong to storm strength, in the other regions of Switzerland predominantly at moderate to strong velocity, from westerly directions.

## Weather forecast through Friday, 29.01.2021

Precipitation is anticipated over widespread areas, which will be intensive in the northern regions and in the Valais. The snowfall level is expected to gradually descend during the nocturnal hours from approximately 1800 m down to approximately 1400 m. In the southern regions it will be partly sunny.

### Fresh snow

Between Thursday afternoon and Friday afternoon:

- Valais not including Simplon region and not including southern Goms, northern Alpine Ridge west of the Tödi: 30 to 50 cm; in the furthestmost western part of Lower Valais as much as 60 cm;
- remaining parts of the northern flank of the Alps, remaining parts of Valais, northern Prättigau, Silvretta, Samnaun: 20 to 40 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, 10 to 20 cm over widespread areas; in the Ticino and the southern valleys of Grisons, less.

In the Jura region, 30 to 50 mm of precipitation is anticipated, most of which will fall as rain.

### Temperature

Temperatures are expected to drop. At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in the northern regions and 0 °C in the southern regions.

### Wind

Winds will be blowing at strong to storm strength from westerly to northwesterly directions.

## Outlook through Sunday, 31.01.2021

### Saturday

Following a brief interval in precipitation on Friday night, intensive precipitation is expected to recommence in the northern regions and in the Valais. In the southern regions, skies will be heavily overcast and a small amount of snowfall is expected. The snowfall level will ascend temporarily to 1500 m on the northern flank of the Alps during the course of the day. Winds will be blowing at moderate to strong velocity from westerly to northwesterly directions.

The avalanche situation is expected to remain very critical due to the persistent precipitation in the northern regions, in the Valais and in the northern parts of Grisons. In the southern regions the avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

### Sunday

On Saturday night above approximately 1000 m, more snowfall is expected. During the morning hours on Sunday the precipitation will come to an end from the west. In the southern regions it will be quite sunny as a result of the intermittently strong-velocity northerly winds. In the other regions of Switzerland, winds will be predominantly light to moderate from the west.

As of the moment the precipitation comes to an end, the naturally triggered avalanche activity will decrease. The avalanche situation will nonetheless remain quite critical. In the southern regions the avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.