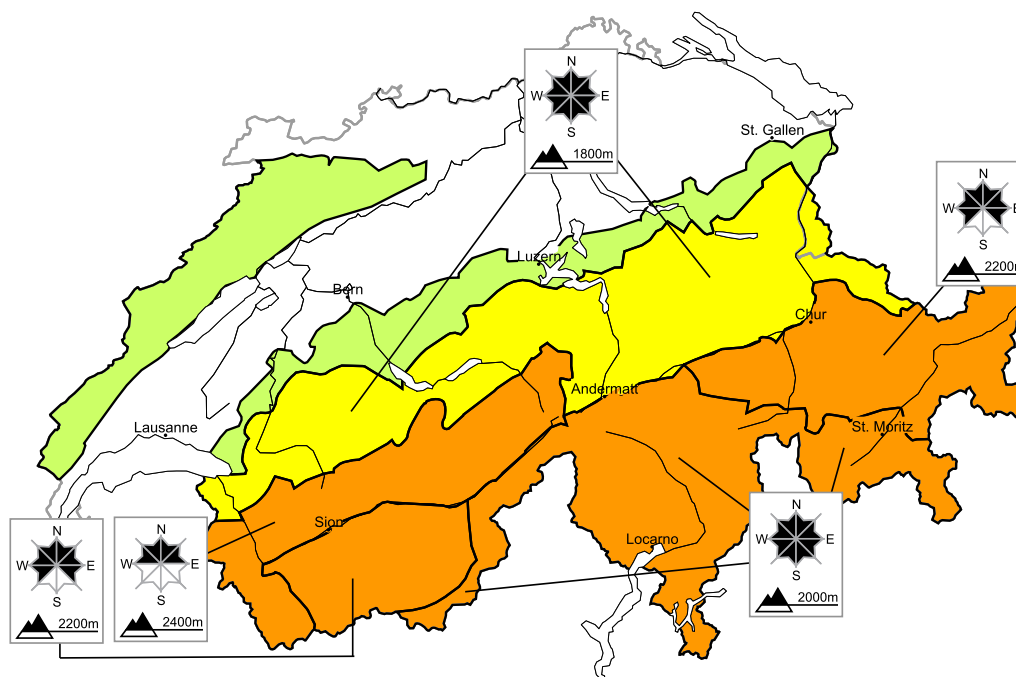


# At elevated altitudes a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 7.2.2021, 08:00 / Next update: 7.2.2021, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 7.2.2021, 08:00



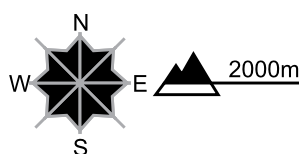
### region A

### Level 3, considerable



#### New snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

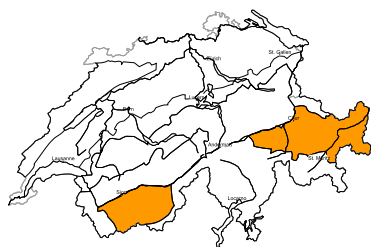
The new snow and wind slabs represent the main danger. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size in isolated cases. Individual natural avalanches are possible as the day progresses. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

#### Gliding avalanches

More gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m. Upper Engadine: Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.

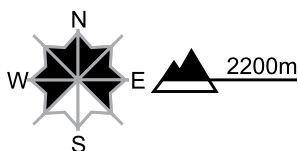
**region B**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

In some cases avalanches can be triggered in deep layers of the snowpack and reach large size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack and in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. In addition the fresh wind slabs are prone to triggering in some cases.

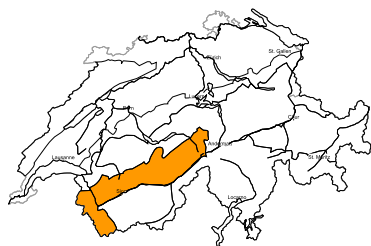
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

**Gliding avalanches**

More gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.

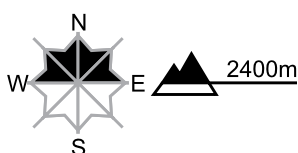
**region C**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

As a consequence of a strong to storm force southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form at elevated altitudes. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size.

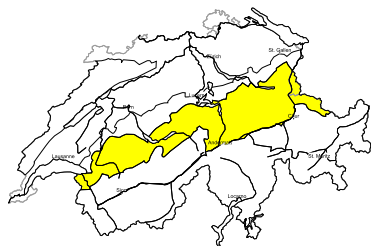
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

**Gliding avalanches**

More gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.

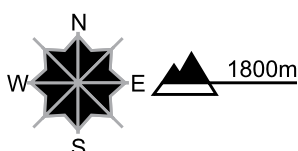
**region D**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

As a consequence of a strong to storm force southerly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form. These can be released easily in some cases. The fresh wind slabs are to be bypassed as far as possible.

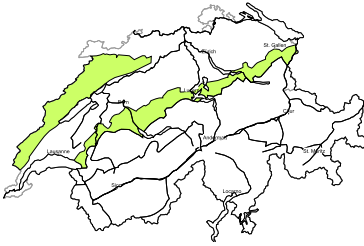
**Gliding avalanches**

More gliding avalanches are possible, even medium-sized ones. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.



**region E**

**Level 1, low**



**Gliding avalanches**

Isolated gliding avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

In the course of the day mostly small wind slabs will form in some localities.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 6.2.2021, 17:00

### Snowpack

The snowpack at intermediate and high altitudes is deeper than average over widespread areas. Particularly above approximately 2200 m, there are marked weak layers deeply embedded inside the snowpack which in some places can be triggered as avalanches, especially in the southern Valais and in Grisons. Avalanches which fracture down to these layers can sweep away the entire snow cover and grow to large size. On the southern flank of the Alps the snowpack structuring is more favourable. Fractures deeper down in the old snowpack are no longer expected. As a result of strong to storm-velocity southerly winds on Saturday night, the fresh fallen snow and, in northern regions, the loosely-packed snow will be transported.

Below approximately 2000 m the snowpack manifests immense effects of warmth and rainfall. As a result of the lower temperatures, the danger of wet-snow avalanches will decrease. Gliding avalanches continue to be possible.

The southerly winds transported sand and dust from the Sahara desert to the Alps which was then deposited on top of the snowpack together with the precipitation which coloured the snow surfaces brown.

### Observed weather on Saturday, 06.02.2021

Skies were predominantly overcast, accompanied by intermittent light showers in the furthestmost western regions. In the eastern regions it was partly sunny during the morning hours, then turned increasingly cloudy during the course of the day.

#### Fresh snow

In the furthestmost western regions, maximum 5 cm.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, +5 °C in the northern regions and -1 °C in the southern regions.

#### Wind

- Winds during the night in the Jura region and on the northern Alpine Ridge were blowing at moderate to strong velocity, in the other regions predominantly at light to moderate strength from southerly-to-southwesterly directions.
- Strong southerly winds will develop at heightened altitudes during the course of the day, in the foehn-exposed regions increasing in strength to moderate-to-strong velocity during the afternoon.

### Weather forecast through Sunday, 07.02.2021

In the western and the southern regions, skies will be heavily overcast for the most part, accompanied by precipitation. The snowfall level will descend in the western regions on Saturday night from 1800 m down to approximately 1000 m. On the southern flank of the Alps the snowfall level will lie at 1200 m, in the upper Alpine valleys at 700 m.

In the foehn-exposed regions of the north, skies will still be bright to some extent in the morning hours, subsequently from the west increasingly overcast with precipitation approaching.

#### Fresh snow

Between Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon, above approximately 1400 m:

- Main Alpine Ridge from the Matterhorn into the Bernina region and southwards therefrom, Val Müstair: 20 to 40 cm;
- remaining regions of the Main Alpine Ridge and remaining parts of Upper Engadine, southern Lower Engadine: 10 to 20 cm;
- remaining regions of the Alps and the Jura: as much as 10 cm.

#### Temperature

Temperatures are expected to descend, at midday at 2000 m between -4 °C in the western regions and -2 °C in the eastern and the southern regions.

#### Wind

- Winds during Saturday night will be blowing at strong to storm strength from southerly directions at high altitudes, in the foehn-exposed regions of the north at strong to storm strength;
- on Sunday, winds are expected to slacken off and be blowing at moderate strength from southerly-to-westerly directions.

**Outlook** through Tuesday, 09.02.2021

**Monday**

On Sunday night, an additional amount of snowfall is expected over widespread areas down to low-lying areas. During the daytime on Monday in the northern regions, skies will be variably cloudy as a result of westerly winds, accompanied by light precipitation in the morning hours in particular, and sunny intervals during the afternoon. The snowfall level will lie at 600 m. In the southern regions it will be partly sunny during the course of the day. Avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

**Tuesday**

In the northern regions, skies will frequently be overcast; in the inneralpine regions, more extended bright intervals are anticipated. In the southern regions, it is expected to be partly sunny. It will remain cold. Avalanche danger levels will decrease.