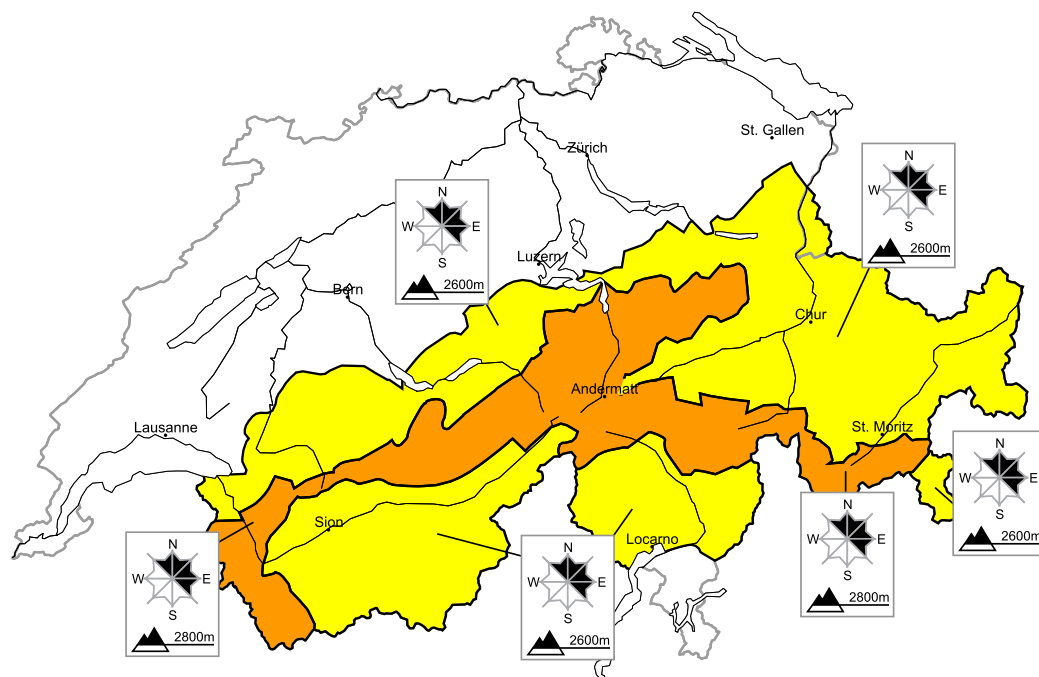


## At elevated altitudes a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 22.5.2021, 17:00 / Next update: 23.5.2021, 17:00

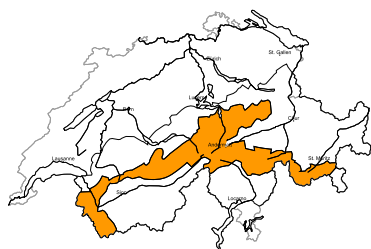
### Avalanche danger

updated on 22.5.2021, 17:00



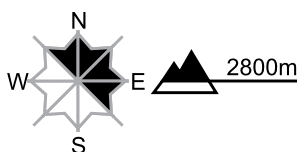
#### region A

#### Level 3, considerable



#### Wind slabs

##### Avalanche prone locations



##### Danger description

The conditions in high Alpine regions are wintry. Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. Mostly dry avalanches are medium-sized. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

#### Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of solar radiation numerous moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected as the day progresses, even medium-sized ones. This applies in all aspects.

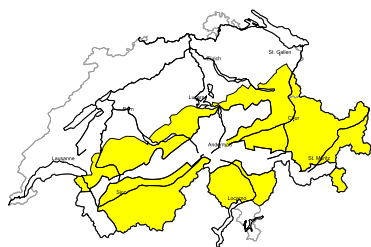
In addition further wet and gliding avalanches are possible. From starting zones where no previous releases have taken place in particular on north and east facing slopes these can in isolated cases reach large size.

#### Remarks

The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the field, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

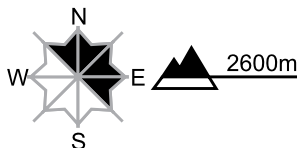
**region B**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The fresh and older wind slabs represent the main danger. Avalanches can be released by people, but they will be small in most cases. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Caution is to be exercised especially in high Alpine regions.

Careful route selection is recommended.

**Wet avalanches as day progresses**

As a consequence of solar radiation numerous moist snow slides are to be expected as the day progresses. This applies in all aspects. In addition further individual wet and gliding avalanches are possible. From starting zones where no previous releases have taken place in particular on north and east facing slopes these can in isolated cases reach large size.

**Remarks**

The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the field, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 22.5.2021, 17:00

### Snowpack

In the high alpine regions, conditions continue to remain wintery for this juncture of the season. Strong-velocity, to some extent storm-strength southwesterly winds at heightened altitudes, and in high alpine regions most of all, have transported the loosely-packed snow. As a consequence of the fresh fallen snow and wind, new snowdrift accumulations will be generated on Saturday night. Freshly generated and somewhat older snowdrift accumulations are prone to triggering in some places and can be triggered by persons. As a result of solar radiation, numerous moist-snow slides and avalanches are expected to release from the near-surface layers. In addition, small-to-medium sized wet-snow and gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2500 m on very steep slopes.

### Observed weather on Saturday, 22.05.2021

Following precipitation over widespread areas on Friday night, skies cleared up in the early morning hours on Saturday starting in the west. Subsequently, as a result of convective cloud build-up, it became rather sunny in the western regions, partly sunny in the southern and eastern regions.

#### Fresh snow

The snowfall level descended from approximately 2200 m down to 1400 m. Between Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, the following amounts of fresh snow were registered above approximately 2500 m:

- northern Alpine Ridge from Lower Valais into the Gotthard region and Main Alpine Ridge from the Gotthard region into the Bernina region and southwards therefrom: 15 to 30 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, 5 to 15 cm over widespread areas.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between 0 °C in the northern regions and +3 °C in the southern regions.

#### Wind

Winds were westerly to southwesterly,

- blowing at strong-velocity to storm-strength during the nocturnal hours;
- blowing predominantly at moderate strength at heightened altitudes in particular during the daytime hours.

### Weather forecast through Sunday, 23.05.2021

During the night, skies will be heavily overcast accompanied by precipitation over widespread areas. In the early morning hours it is expected to become sunny in the western regions, subsequently increasingly sunny also in the eastern regions, accompanied by convective cloud build-up. In the southern regions, following a night of overcast skies it is expected to be predominantly sunny during the daytime.

#### Fresh snow

The snowfall level will lie at 1200 to 1500 m. Between Saturday evening and Sunday midday, the following amounts of fresh snow are anticipated:

- furthestmost western part of Lower Valais, northern flank of the Alps, northern Grisons, Engadine and southern valleys of Grisons: 5 to 15 cm;
- remaining parts of Grisons, central Grisons, Ticino: for the most part less, or else it will remain dry.

#### Temperature

Temperatures are expected to rise during the daytime: to between +1 °C on the northern flank of the Alps and +5 °C in the southern regions, at midday at 2000 m.

#### Wind

Winds will be westerly to southwesterly,

- blowing predominantly at moderate strength at high altitudes;
- blowing intermittently at strong velocity in the high alpine regions.

**Outlook** through Tuesday, 25.05.2021

**Monday**

In the southern regions, skies will be heavily overcast, accompanied by precipitation. In the northern regions, it will be rather sunny to begin with. Subsequently, cloud cover will increase there as well during the course of the day. A moderate-to-strong velocity southwesterly wind will be blowing, in the Alpine valleys of the north there will be foehn wind. The danger of dry-snow avalanches is expected to remain at heightened levels in high alpine regions.

**Tuesday**

On Monday night, a small amount of precipitation is anticipated over widespread areas. During the daytime on Tuesday it will be dry and partly sunny in the northern regions, in the southern regions as a result of northerly winds, quite sunny. The danger of dry-snow avalanches needs to be evaluated with particular attentiveness on-site in the high alpine regions more than anywhere else.