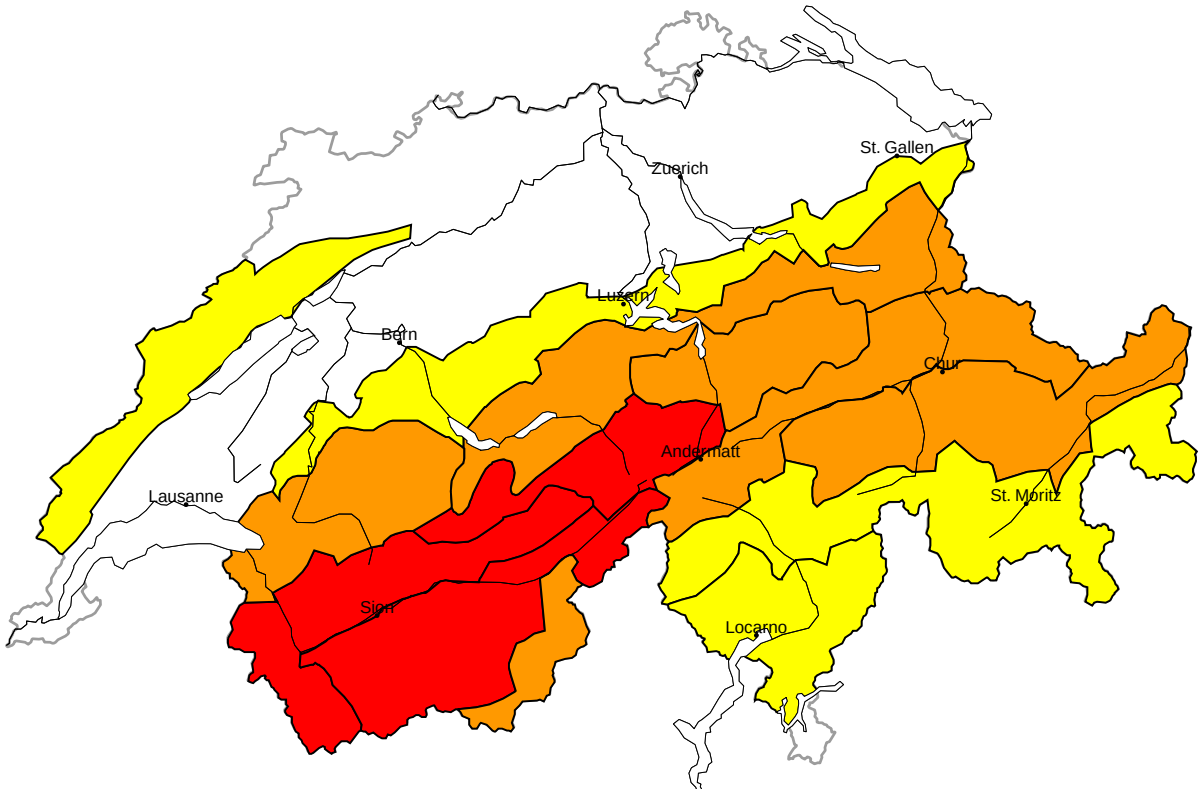
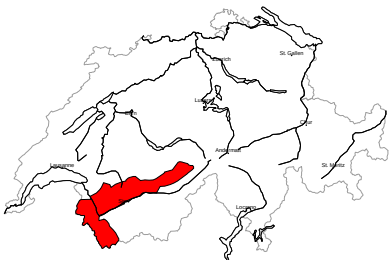
Avalanche danger

updated on 10.1.2026, 08:00

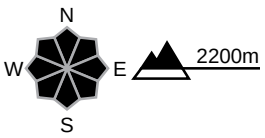


region A — High (4=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



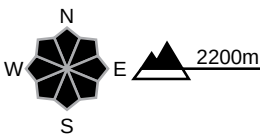
Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are poorly bonded with the old snowpack in many places. Large and, in isolated cases, very large natural avalanches are to be expected. In the typical avalanche paths these can reach the valleys and in some cases endanger transportation routes that are exposed. The conditions are very critical for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities outside marked and open pistes.

region B — High (4-)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

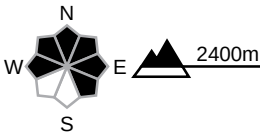
Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are poorly bonded with the old snowpack in many places. Remotely triggered and natural avalanches are to be expected. Medium-sized and large avalanches are to be expected. The danger exists primarily in alpine snow sports terrain. Avalanches capable of reaching valley bottoms and endangering exposed transportation routes are unlikely to occur. The conditions are very critical for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities outside marked and open pistes.

Danger levels 1 low 2 moderate 3 considerable 4 high 5 very high

region C — High (4-)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

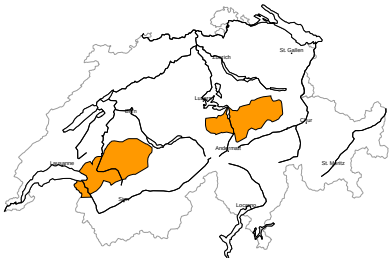
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

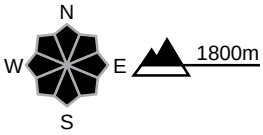
The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released over a wide area easily by individual winter sport participants. Remotely triggered and natural avalanches are to be expected. In many cases avalanches are large.
The danger exists primarily in alpine snow sports terrain. Avalanches capable of reaching valley bottoms and endangering exposed transportation routes are unlikely to occur. The conditions are very critical for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities outside marked and open pistes.

region D — Considerable (3+)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



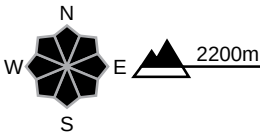
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed over a wide area. On Saturday these will increase in size additionally. Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can also be triggered in the old snowpack. This applies especially on west, north and east facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. Avalanches can in some cases reach large size. Avalanches can in many places be released, even by a single winter sport participant or triggered naturally. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

region E — Considerable (3+)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

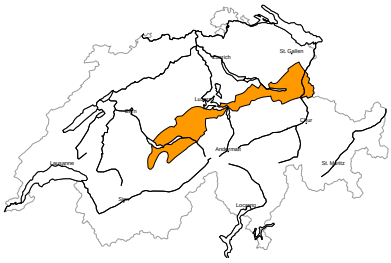


Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can in many places be released in the old snowpack and reach large size in isolated cases. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack indicate the danger. Remotely triggered and natural avalanches are possible.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

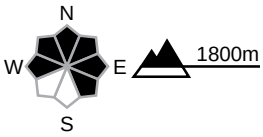
Avalanche bulletin for Saturday, 10. January 2026

region F — Considerable (3=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



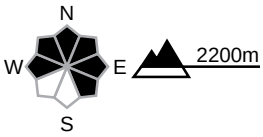
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed over a wide area. On Saturday these will increase in size additionally. Mostly avalanches are medium-sized. They can in many places be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Individual natural avalanches are possible.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience and restraint.

region G — Considerable (3=)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

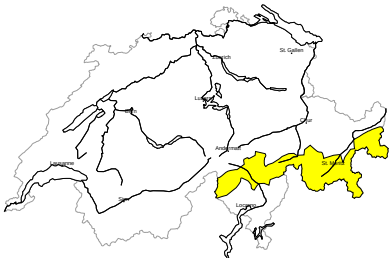
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

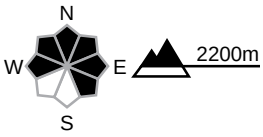
The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can in many places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible.
Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region H — Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

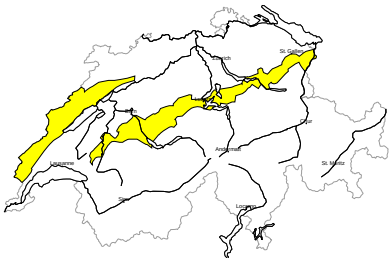
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

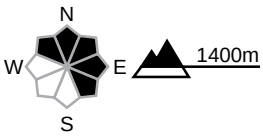
Some fresh snow and the mostly small wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can be released by people. Small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized avalanches are possible. The wind slabs in steep terrain are to be bypassed as far as possible.

region I — Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong westerly wind, small wind slabs will form. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep 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.

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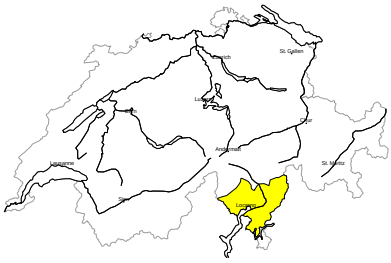
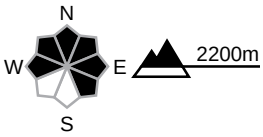
region J

Moderate (2-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and older wind slabs are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain. Avalanches can additionally in very isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow also. Avalanches can in isolated cases reach medium size. Careful route selection is recommended.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 9.1.2026, 17:00

Snowpack

Especially on wind-protected shady slopes, fresh and drifted snow is lying on an old snow surface that is faceted in many places, and sometimes also on surface hoar. The connection to the old surface of the snowpack is poor in many places. Deeper layers of the snowpack are relatively well consolidated in the extreme west of Lower Valais and on the northern flank of the Alps. South of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine, the entire snowpack is often faceted and loose. Where fresh and drifted snow is deposited on this weak snowpack, avalanches can start deeper in the snowpack.

Weather review for Friday

There were clear spells, especially in Grisons, otherwise conditions were mainly heavily overcast. There was sometimes heavy snowfall during the night in the west and north. There were snow showers but also some breaks in the precipitation during the day.

Fresh snow
From Thursday afternoon to Friday afternoon, 20 to 40 cm fell in Valais and on the northern Alpine ridge, and up to 60 cm in the extreme west of Lower Valais. This means that the following amounts of snow have fallen above around 1500 m since precipitation began on Wednesday evening:

- northern Alpine ridge from Les Diablerets to the Aletsch region, extreme west of Lower Valais, Main Alpine Ridge of the Valais from Val Ferret to Monte Rosa: 40 to 60 cm, locally up to 80 cm
- rest of northern flank of the Alps apart from the Prealps, rest of Valais, Gotthard region, northern Grisons, Samnaun: 20 to 40 cm
- Jura, Prealps, central Grisons, Engadine apart from Samnaun: 10 to 20 cm
- elsewhere less or dry

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around -5°C

Wind
Westerly:

- moderate to strong in the west and north
- mainly light to moderate in the south and in Grisons

Weather forecast to Saturday

Conditions will be mainly heavily overcast with snowfall down to low altitudes in the north while in the south there will be variable cloud cover with bright spells over the course of the day.

Fresh snow
From Friday afternoon to Saturday afternoon above approximately 1200 m:

- western Jura, extreme west of Lower Valais, northern Alpine ridge: 20 to 40 cm
- eastern Jura, rest of Valais west of the Mattertal, other regions of the northern flank of the Alps, northern Prättigau: 15 to 30 cm
- Visp valleys, Simplon region, southern Goms, southern Gotthard region, rest of northern Grisons, northern Lower Engadine: 5 to 15 cm
- further south a few centimetres or dry

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around -10°C in the north and -7°C in the south

Wind
Strong westerly to northwesterly, especially in the west and north

Avalanche bulletin for Saturday, 10. January 2026

Outlook to Monday

Snowfall will pick up again in the north overnight to Sunday. Between Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, another 20 to 40 cm of snow may fall on the northern flank of the Alps. On Sunday, there will be sunny spells in the north while conditions will be mainly sunny in the south. On Monday, conditions will mainly be overcast in the north, but with only little snowfall. There will be sunny spells in the far south on Monday.
Avalanche danger will increase overnight to Sunday on the northern flank of the Alps where naturally triggered avalanches are to be expected. Avalanche risk will slowly decrease in the north on Sunday and Monday. Especially in those regions to the south of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine, the weak old snowpack means that this decrease will be only very slow.