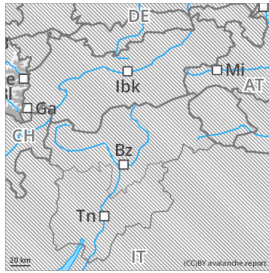


## Danger Level 3 - Considerable



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Saturday 21 December 2024



Wind slab



Treeline



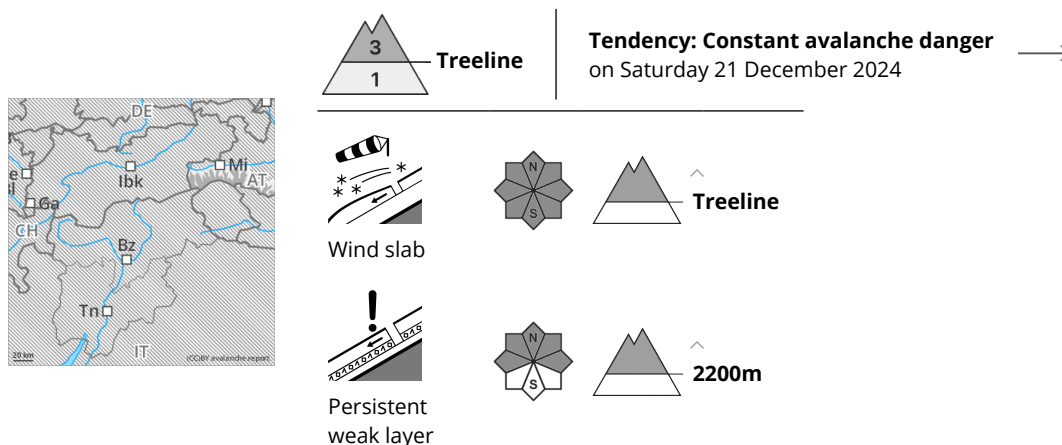
Persistent  
weak layer



2200m

**Weak layers in the old snow are the major danger.**

## Danger Level 3 - Considerable



### Slab avalanches in the snowdrifts can fracture down to deeper weak snowpack layers

#### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is considerable, below that altitude danger is low. Snowdrift accumulations are the main problem. Slab avalanches of medium size can in some places be triggered even by minimum additional loading, i.e. the weight of one person. In some places they can fracture down to deeper weak layers in the old snow and therefore grow to large size. Danger zones can be difficult to recognize due to diffuse light conditions. They occur also distant from ridgelines and on slopes in all aspects. Caution required at the edges of forest zones. In transitions from shallow to deep snow, slab avalanches in the old snow can be triggered by one single person.

#### Snowpack

The fresh fallen snow is being heftily transported. Inside the fresh snow, short-lived weak layers are forming near the surface. At high altitudes the fresh snow is falling atop a generally wind-compressed snowpack surface where the bonding is good. In wind-protected zones the old snowpack surface can be loosely packed and thus, constitute a weak layer. Deeper down inside the old snowpack fundament there are soft layers lodged between hard layers at high altitudes. At low and intermediate altitudes the old snowpack beneath the fresh fallen snow is melt-freeze encrusted. The snow base evidences no marked weak layers. However, the entire snowpack can start to glide over steep rock plates or grassy slopes.

#### Weather

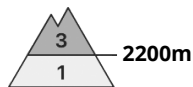
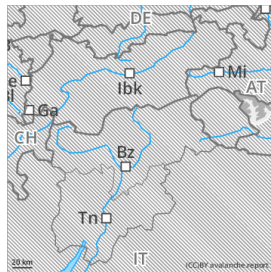
On Thursday evening precipitation will spread, the focal point will come at about midnight. The snowfall level will lie initially over 1000m, then gradually drop down to the valley floors. Widespread 20-35 cm of fresh snow is anticipated. On Friday, visibility in the mountains will often be reduced due to dense clouds and snow shower. In the afternoon, intermittent dry phases are expected, even a few bright intervals. On the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom, strong-to-storm strength winds from the north. At

2000m: -9 degrees; at 3000m: -17 to -13 degrees.

## Tendency

Snowdrift accumulations remain prone to triggering.

## Danger Level 3 - Considerable

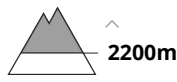


**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →

on Saturday 21 December 2024



Wind slab



Persistent  
weak layer



## Circumvent freshly generated snowdrift accumulations

### Danger assessment

Due to fresh snowfall and increasingly stormy winds, far-reaching snowdrift accumulations are being generated, particularly at the foot of rock cliffs and behind protruberances in the landscape. These can be easily triggered in all aspects above 2200m or else trigger naturally. In addition, avalanches can fracture down to more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack, especially along the Salzburg border where medium-sized releases are possible. Whumpf noises and glide-cracks when you tread upon the surface can be indicators of immediate danger. Frequency and sizes of danger zones tend to increase with ascending altitude.

### Snowpack

#### Danger patterns

dp.6: cold, loose snow and wind

dp.4: cold following warm / warm following cold

Up to 20 cm of snowfall is expected from place to place. The widespread snowdrift accumulations on shady wind-protected slopes above 2200m are being deposited atop a weak old snowpack surface. At mid-level inside the old snowpack on shady, wind-protected slopes there are faceted, expansively metamorphosed weak layers evident. The snowpack is highly irregular even over small areas.

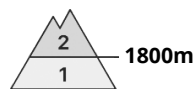
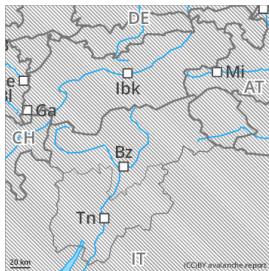
### Weather

On Friday, early morning clouds will be dense, visibility poor. The snowfall level lie generally lie at 800m. Strong northerly winds will prevail, reaching storm strength in exposed terrain. At 2000m at midday: -8 degrees; at 3000m: -15 degrees.

### Tendency

Evaluate snowdrift accumulations with great caution

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate

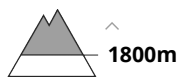


**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →

on Saturday 21 December 2024



Wind slab



### Fresh snowdrift!

### Danger assessment

Moderate avalanche danger above 1.800 m. Increasing danger spots during the night and on Friday morning are expected. These are located in the sectors north and southeast. Snowdrift is the main problem there. In the beginning of gullies and bowls and individual person can trigger a slab avalanche which can have a size of 1 to 2.

### Snowpack

The snow cover has formed a crust due to the temperature drop. snowfall during the night, winds and low temperatures are called. The new snow is drifting and shows only poorly bonded layers to the old snow which has already settled. Depending on the altitude the snow cover can be moist/wet in the inner layers.

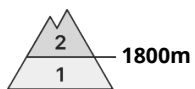
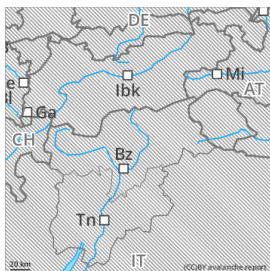
### Weather

A coldfront is called for the Northwest of Styria during Thursday night. Before that heavy rainshowers on the northern side of the alps are forecasted, then the snow line drops during the night to 1.600 m in the valleys. On the south side of the alps a short timed low-pressure area causes rainshowers. in the early morning little snow in Mur- Mürztal is called. In the south rain is persistent, the snow line is sinking to 800 m. Stormy winds during the night due to the coldfront are expected. Between Schladminger Tauern and Totes Gebirge 30 cm new snow is possible. North side of the Alps stormy, cold winds with little snow. South of the Alps only partially little snow. Wind peaks between 70 and 100 km/h. Temperatures in 2.000m will be -9 degrees.

### Tendency

Slab avalanche danger in high altitudes doesn't change.

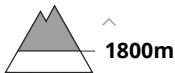
## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Saturday 21 December 2024



Wind slab



## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Treeline

**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →

on Saturday 21 December 2024



Wind slab



Gliding snow



Treeline

**Avalanche danger is mostly low. Isolated glide-snow avalanches.**

### Weather

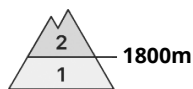
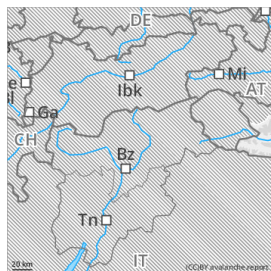
During the nighttime hours it will remain variably cloudy and dry. On Thursday, conditions will be pleasant from the start, and some foehn impact will be felt. Clouds will become denser during the daytime, some light precipitation is expected in late afternoon. At 2000m: from +6 to -1 degree. Brisk to strong-velocity W/SW winds at high altitudes.

### Tendency

Avalanche danger will increase slightly on Friday due to fresh fallen snow and wind impact.



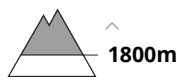
## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Saturday 21 December 2024



Wind slab



## Evaluate snowdrift accumulations on shady slopes with great caution

### Danger assessment

Due to fresh snowfall and increasingly stormy winds, far-reaching snowdrift accumulations are being generated, particularly on shady slopes above 1800m: easily triggered or triggering naturally. Gullies and bowls are unfavorable, since weak layers are evident inside the old snow. Avalanches are mostly small-sized. Apart from the risk of being buried in snow masses, you also need to take the dangers of being swept along and forced to take a fall into consideration.

### Snowpack

#### Danger patterns

dp.1: deep persistent weak layer

Especially along the Italian border, up to 25cm of fresh snow is anticipated, locally more. The snowdrift accumulations blanket a weak old snowpack on shady slopes above 1800m. The old snowpack is faceted and highly irregular over small areas.

### Tendency

Av

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Saturday 21 December 2024



Wind slab



Treeline

### Freshly generated snowdrifts require attentiveness

#### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger levels above the treeline are moderate, below that altitude danger is low. Snowdrifts are the major problem. Slab. avalanches of medium size can be triggered even by minimum additional loading, particularly near to ridgelines on N/E/SW facing slopes. Danger zones are difficult to recognize due to diffuse light conditions.

#### Snowpack

The fresh snow is being transported far-reachingly. Inside the fresh snow, short-lived weak layers are forming near the surface. At high altitudes the fresh snow is falling atop a generally wind-compressed snowpack surface where the bonding is good. In wind-protected zones the old snowpack surface can be loosely packed and thus, constitute a weak layer. Deeper down inside the old snowpack fundament there are soft layers lodged between hard layers at high altitudes. At low and intermediate altitudes the old snowpack beneath the fresh fallen snow is melt-freeze encrusted. The snow base evidences no marked weak layers. However, the entire snowpack can start to glide over steep rock plates or grassy slopes.

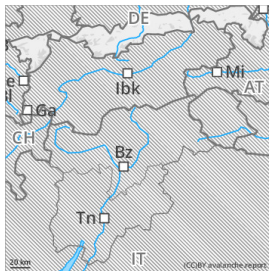
#### Weather

On Thursday evening precipitation will spread, the focal point will come at about midnight. The snowfall level will lie initially over 1000m, then gradually drop down to the valley floors. Widespread 20-35 cm of fresh snow is anticipated. On Friday, visibility in the mountains will often be reduced due to dense clouds and snow shower. In the afternoon, intermittent dry phases are expected, even a few bright intervals. On the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom, strong-to-storm strength winds from the north. At 2000m: -9 degrees; at 3000m: -17 to -13 degrees.

#### Tendency

Snowdrift accumulations will remain prone to triggering

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Wind slab



Treeline

### Isolated small danger zones in old snowpack at high altitudes.

#### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger is low. In some places, weak layers persist in the old snowpack which can be triggered on few, very steep high altitude slopes in N-E aspects. Mostly, high additional loading will be necessary and avalanches tend to remain small. Small wet loose sluffs can trigger naturally. Small glide snow avalanches can release on steep smooth grass-covered slopes.

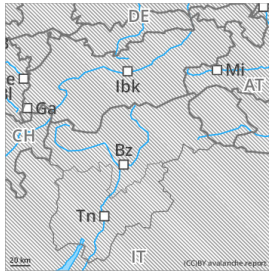
#### Snowpack

At intermediate altitudes the snowpack is completely soaked, and at high altitudes superficially moist. During the night, a thin melt-freeze crust can form at the snowpack surface which softens again during the day. Where the snowpack borders the ground, it is often wet, in particular at intermediate altitudes; therefore it can start gliding over smooth ground. In the vicinity of thin rain crusts and melt-freeze crusts embedded in the snowpack at high altitudes there are layers consisting of faceted crystals; some of them are prone to triggering. Snow depths vary. Ridges and crests are blown bare; south-facing slopes are becoming increasingly bare. All in all, there is little snow.

#### Tendency

Due to snowfall and wind fresh snowdrifts will be generated on Friday; avalanche danger will increase.

## Danger Level 1 - Low



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →

on Saturday 21 December 2024



No distinct  
avalanche  
problem



## Generally good weather conditions-little snow!

### Danger assessment

Low avalanche danger. Due to cooling the snow cover forms a crust. Risk of falling! No high amounts of new snow are expected in this area. Small snowdrift deposits adjacent to rigelines could be triggered.

### Snowpack

Snow base is still thin without significant weak layers. During the night surface hoar will form. A few centimeters new snow layer can accumulate on surface hoar.

From Turracher Höhe till souther Niedere Tauern 10 cm - in Vitsch area 5 cm new snow are expected.

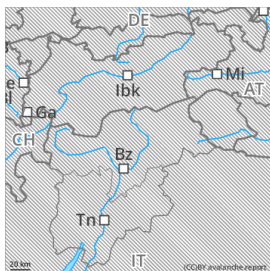
### Weather

A coldfront is called for the Northwest of Styria during Thursday night. Before that heavy rainshowers on the northern side of the alps are forecasted, then the snow line drops during the night to 1.600 m in the valleys. On the south side of the alps a short timed low-pressure area causes rainshowers. in the early morning little snow in Mur- Mürztal is called. In the south rain is persistent, the snow line is sinking to 800 m. Stormy winds during the night due to the coldfront are expected. North side of the Alps stormy, cold winds with little snow. South of the Alps only partially little snow. Wind peaks between 70 and 100 km/h. Temperatures in 2.000m will be -9 degrees.

### Tendency

No significant change of the avalanche danger.

## Danger Level 1 - Low



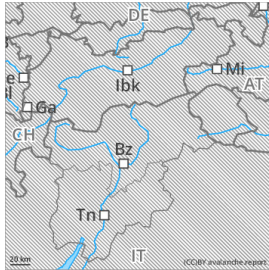
**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Saturday 21 December 2024



Wind slab



## Danger Level 1 - Low



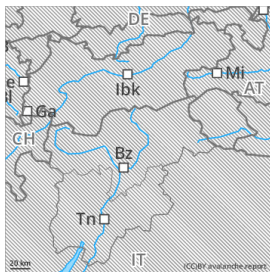
**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Saturday 21 December 2024



Persistent  
weak layer



## Danger Level 1 - Low



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Saturday 21 December 2024



No distinct  
avalanche  
problem

