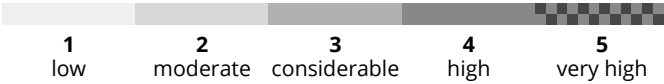
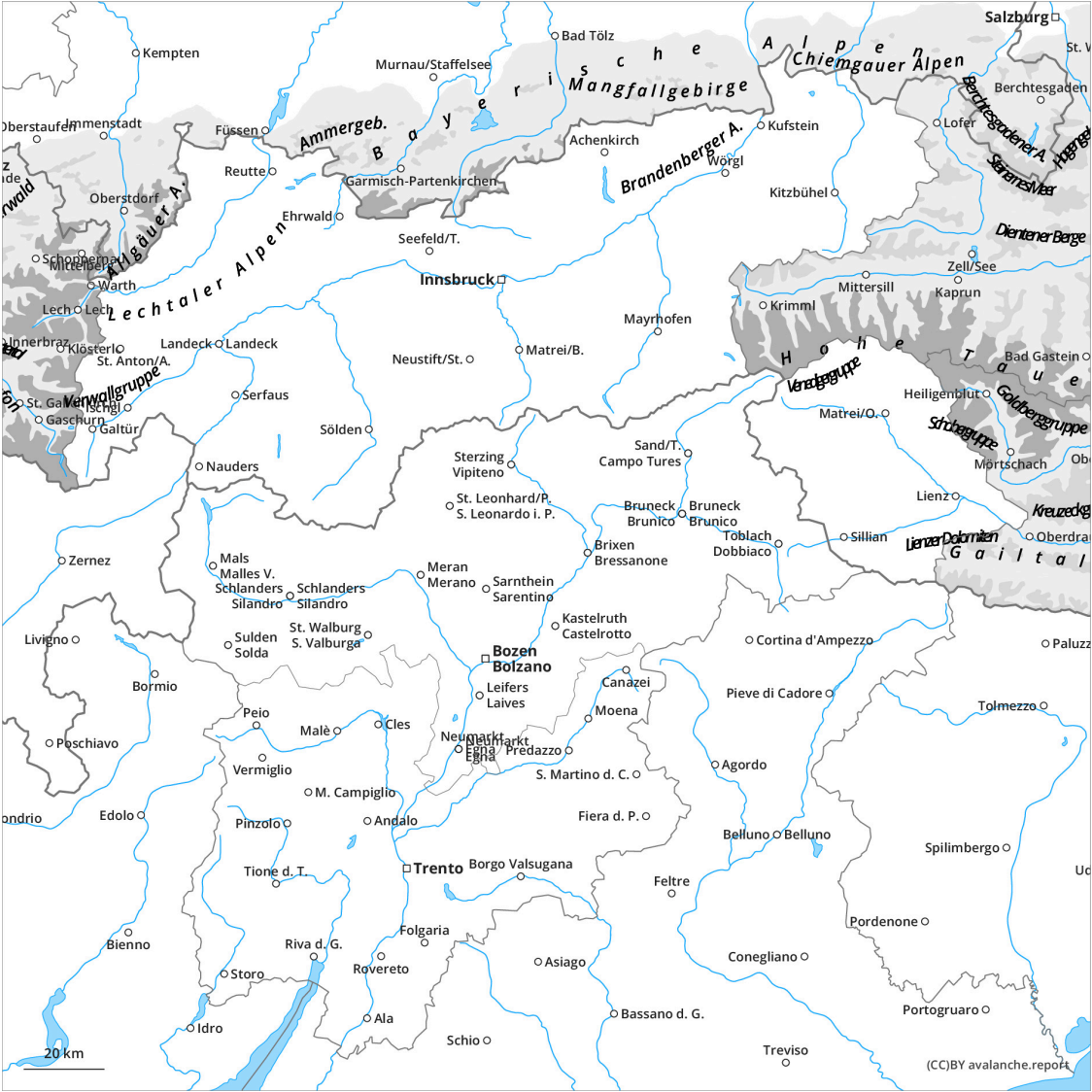


Published 20 Dec 2024, 17:00:00  
Valid from 20 Dec 2024, 17:00:00 until 21 Dec 2024, 17:00:00



## Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Treeline

**Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger**  
on Sunday 22 December 2024


Wind slab



Treeline

Persistent  
weak layer

2200m

## 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 heavily 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



Treeline

**Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger**  
on Sunday 22 December 2024



Wind slab



Treeline

Persistent  
weak layer

2200m

## Fresh snowdrifts are the main danger

### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is considerable, below that altitude danger is low. Snowdrift accumulations above the treeline can be easily triggered even by one single winter sports enthusiast and grow to medium size. Slab avalanches can often fracture down to more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack and grow to large size. Danger zones occur particularly behind protruberances in the landscape, in gullies and blows and on wind-loaded slopes. These have been covered by fresh snow in many places, making them difficult to recognize. Whumpf noises and glide-cracks when the snowpack is stepped on are signals of danger. At low and intermediate altitudes on steep grass-covered slopes, small glide-snow avalanches are possible.

### Snowpack

Since yesterday there has been 40-45cm of fresh snow registered in the barrier cloud regions, elsewhere 25-30cm. Due to strong-to-storm strength W/NW winds there has been wide-reaching transport. During the daytime due to brisk-to-strong NW winds, and tomorrow W/SW winds, additional trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations have been generated and will continue to be. The drifts lie deposited atop a weak old snowpack on high-altitude shady slopes, on sunny slopes often atop a thin melt-freeze crust. Weak layers can occur on high altitude slopes where the old snowpack was previously loose and also inside the snowdrifts themselves. During the daytime, in addition, graupel showers will pass through. At low altitudes the fresh snow and drifts lie deposited atop a moistened old snowpack surface with better consolidation.

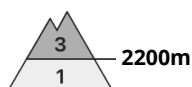
### Weather

Dry weather far and wide in the mountains, lots of cloud cover and diffuse visibility but generally free of fog at summit levels. Sunshine only intermittently. The heavy frost will become milder. On Saturday night, snowfall is anticipated which can be persistent and heavy. At 2000m: -6 degrees. Moderate NW winds at high altitudes. In the evening, winds will shift to westerly and during Saturday night intensify.

## Tendency

Following a brief improvement in weather conditions on Saturday, renewed precipitation will set in during Saturday night, accompanied by strong-to-storm strength W/NW winds. Avalanche danger levels are expected to increase significantly over widespread areas.

## Danger Level 3 - Considerable



**Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger**  
on Sunday 22 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.

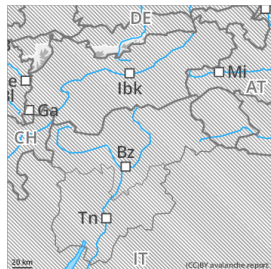
### Weather

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 3 - Considerable



Treeline



Wind slab



Treeline



New snow



## Avoid fresh snowdrifts.

### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is moderate, below that altitude danger is low. Fresh snowdrifts are the main problem. Snowdrifts can be triggered as medium-sized slab avalanches even by minimum additional loading. Avalanche prone locations are found in steep ridgeline terrain in N/E/S aspects and in wind-loaded gullies and bowls. At high altitudes, avalanches can fracture down to weak layers embedded in the old snow. Small glide snow avalanches still possible on steep smooth grass-covered slopes.

### Snowpack

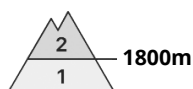
Stormy northwesterly winds will transport 10 cm to 20 cm of new fallen snow; in orographic barrier zones in Allgäu up to 30 cm of new fallen snow. When precipitations cease the wind will abate. Therefore, the snowdrifts are partly loosely blanketed and difficult to detect. At intermediate altitudes these are deposited on bare ground, in particular in south aspects, or on a moist old snow surface with which they will bond well. Weak layers are here mainly found embedded in the snowdrifts. Whereas in particular at high altitudes, these are often deposited atop a thin melt-freeze crust, under which a layer consisting of faceted crystals has formed which is prone to triggering. More deeply embedded in the snowpack there are also weak, expansively metamorphosed layers close to crusts. At intermediate altitudes the snowpack is wet down to the ground.

### Tendency

Slight decrease of avalanche danger by Saturday. Slight decrease of avalanche danger by Saturday.



## Danger Level 2 - Moderate

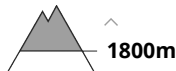


**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →

on Sunday 22 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.

### Weather

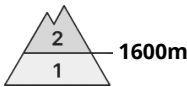
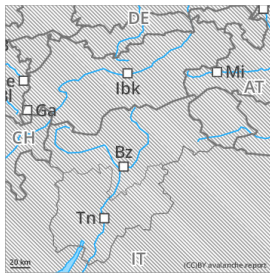
On Friday, early morning clouds will be dense, visibility poor, light snowfall regionally. The snowfall level lie generally lie at 500-800m. Precipitation will rapidly ease off, in the afternoon the clouds will disperse gradually in the southern mountain massifs. Strong northerly winds will prevail. At 2000m at midday: -8 degrees.

### Tendency

Avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.



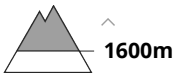
Danger Level 2 - Moderate



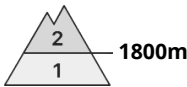
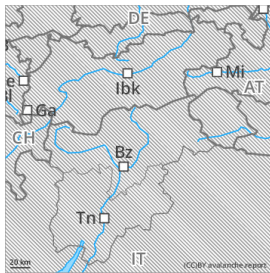
**Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger**  
on Sunday 22 December 2024



Wind slab



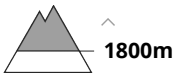
Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Sunday 22 December 2024

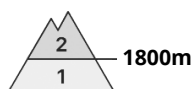


Wind slab



1800m

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate

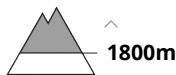


**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →

on Sunday 22 December 2024



Wind slab



### Fresh snowdrift!

#### Danger assessment

Moderate avalanche danger above 1.800 m. Wind slab problem! The danger spots are located in the sectors north to southeast. In the beginning of gullies and bowls an individual person can trigger a slab avalanche which can have a size of 1 to 2.

#### Snowpack

About 30 cm new snow has fallen during low temperatures in the last 24 hours. Due to strong winds it has drifted to the sectors east and north. Potential weak layers within the snowdrift layer on the edge to the old snow are possible.

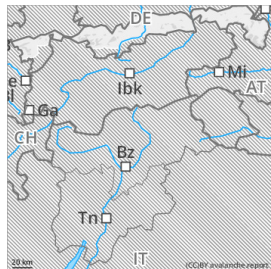
#### Weather

Clear skies in the morning, couldn't in the northern region are dissolving quickly. Around noon new clouds and fog in lower altitudes are forming. The most sunshine can be expected in the south. Temperatures in 2.000 m will be around noon-7 degrees.

#### Tendency

Slab avalanche danger in high altitudes doesn't change.

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Treeline



Wind slab



Treeline



New snow



### Avoid fresh snowdrifts.

### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is moderate, below that altitude danger is low. Fresh snowdrifts are the main problem. Snowdrifts can be triggered as medium-sized slab avalanches even by minimum additional loading. Avalanche prone locations are found in steep ridgeline terrain in N/E/S aspects and in wind-loaded gullies and bowls. At high altitudes, avalanches can fracture down to weak layers embedded in the old snow. Small glide snow avalanches still possible on steep smooth grass-covered slopes.

### Snowpack

Stormy northwesterly winds will transport 10 cm to 20 cm of new fallen snow; in orographic barrier zones in Allgäu up to 30 cm of new fallen snow. When precipitations cease the wind will abate. Therefore, the snowdrifts are partly loosely blanketed and difficult to detect. At intermediate altitudes these are deposited on bare ground, in particular in south aspects, or on a moist old snow surface with which they will bond well. Weak layers are here mainly found embedded in the snowdrifts. Whereas in particular at high altitudes, these are often deposited atop a thin melt-freeze crust, under which a layer consisting of faceted crystals has formed which is prone to triggering. More deeply embedded in the snowpack there are also weak, expansively metamorphosed layers close to crusts. At intermediate altitudes the snowpack is wet down to the ground.

### Tendency

Slight decrease of avalanche danger by Saturday.

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Treeline

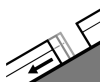
**Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger**  
on Sunday 22 December 2024



Wind slab



Treeline



Gliding snow



## Freshly generated snowdrifts require attentiveness.

### Danger assessment

Avalanche danger above the treeline is moderate, below that altitude danger is low. Snowdrift accumulations above the treeline can be triggered by one single skier and in isolated cases grow to medium size. Danger zones occur especially behind protruberances in the landscape, in gullies and bowls, and on wind-loaded slopes. Size and frequency of these avalanche prone locations tend to increase with ascending altitude. They have been blanketed in some places, making them difficult to recognize. Below the treeline avalanche danger is low. At low altitudes small glide-snow avalanches are possible on steep grass-covered slopes.

### Snowpack

Since yesterday there has been 25-30cm of fresh snow registered. Due to strong-to-storm strength W/NW winds there has been wide-reaching transport. During the daytime due to brisk-to-strong NW winds, and tomorrow W/SW winds, additional trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations have been generated and will continue to be. The drifts lie deposited atop a weak old snowpack on high-altitude shady slopes, on sunny slopes often atop a thin melt-freeze crust. Weak layers can occur on high altitude slopes where the old snowpack was previously loose and also inside the snowdrifts themselves. During the daytime, in addition, graupel showers will pass through. At low altitudes the fresh snow and drifts lie deposited atop a moistened old snowpack surface with better consolidation.

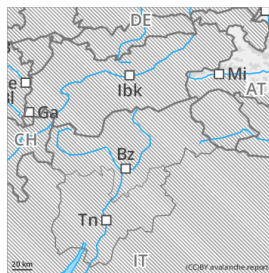
### Weather

Dry weather far and wide in the mountains, lots of cloud cover and diffuse visibility but generally free of fog at summit levels. Sunshine only intermittently. The heavy frost will become milder. On Saturday night, snowfall is anticipated which can be persistent and heavy. At 2000m: -6 degrees. Moderate NW winds at high altitudes. In the evening, winds will shift to westerly and during Saturday night intensify.

### Tendency

Following a brief improvement in weather conditions on Saturday, renewed precipitation will set in during Saturday night, accompanied by strong-to-storm strength W/NW winds. Avalanche danger levels are expected to increase significantly over widespread areas.

## Danger Level 2 - Moderate



**Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger**  
on Sunday 22 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

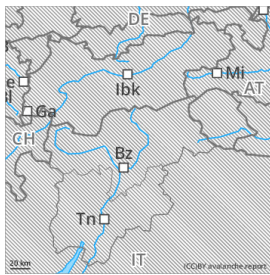
On Thursday evening precipitation will spread, the focal point will come at about midnight. The snowfall level will lie initially over 1000m, then gradually drop down to the valley floors. Widespread 20-35 cm of fresh snow is anticipated. On Friday, visibility in the mountains will often be reduced due 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 1 - Low



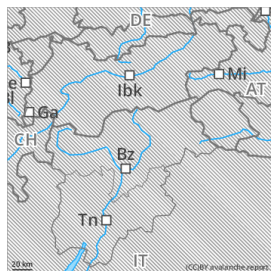
**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Sunday 22 December 2024



No distinct  
avalanche  
problem



## Danger Level 1 - Low



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Sunday 22 December 2024



Wind slab



## New snow and snowdrift in high altitudes!

### Danger assessment

Low avalanche danger. A little more danger spots formed due to snowdrift. These are located in gullies and bowls above 1.800 m mainly in the sector east. Slab avalanches can be triggered by high additional loads.

### Snowpack

In the last 24 hours it had 10 - 20 cm new snow. The biggest amount was in the area of Hochschwab. In Niedere Tauern and Turrach it had around 10 cm. The new snow landed on surface hoar - on the sunny side on grass. The snow base is thin and shows no significant weak layers.

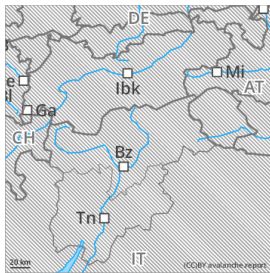
### Weather

Clear skies in the morning, couldn't in the northern region are dissolving quickly. Around noon new clouds and fog in lower altitudes are forming. The most sunshine can be expected in the south. Temperatures in 2.000 m will be around noon -7 degrees.

### Tendency

No significant change of the avalanche danger.

Danger Level 1 - Low



**Tendency: Constant avalanche danger** →  
on Sunday 22 December 2024

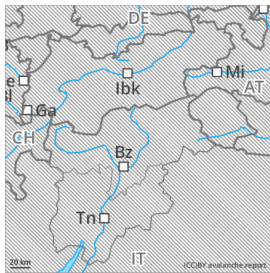


Wind slab



1600m

Danger Level 1 - Low



**Tendency: Increasing avalanche danger**  
on Sunday 22 December 2024



Wind slab



1600m