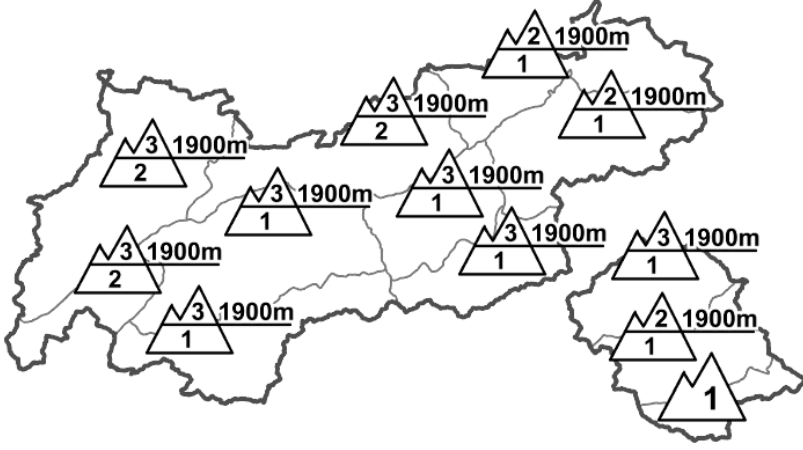












Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 21.01.2017 07:30 <span style="color: red;">All-Day</span>	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 old snow	 1900m  shady slopes
	 drifting snow	 2500m  esp. ridge line terrain
	<b>General Level</b> Tirol 	<b>Tendency</b> tomorrow  constant

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#) [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.2 - gliding snow](#)

### Treacherous old-snow problem above 1900m. High caution on shady slopes!

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

Above 1900m considerable danger prevails, below that altitude moderate, often low. The combination of beautiful weather, some powder snow and an extremely trigger-sensitive snowpack promise a day full of avalanche accidents. The main problem lies in the delicate old snow which begins on shady slopes as of 1900m (west and east facing slopes above 2300m, south slopes above 2600m) where even the weight of one sole skier can release slab avalanches which can grow to dangerously large size even in flat terrain. This applies most of all to shady slopes. In intensely wind-impacted regions, e.g. East Tirol, the proneness to triggering is less due to embedded hardened crusts. Other danger zones occur in the regions where snowfall has been heavy: gliding avalanches on steep, grass-covered slopes. At high altitudes in general, caution is urged in shady, ridgeline terrain towards fresh snowdrifts.

#### SNOW LAYERING

Snowpack analysis reveals a highly varied picture, extremely dependent on altitude and wind-exposure. Where there was no snow at the new year, the snowpack is generally compact, i.e. below 1900m in all aspects. With ascending altitude the old snow problem takes hold, particularly threatening on shady slopes. As of 2300m the problem also takes hold in other aspects. Inside the old snowpack are many old crusts between which lurk layers of faceted-crystal snow. Stability tests have shown a high likelihood of triggering.

#### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: superb winter sports weather in the mountains. Sunshine all day long, relatively mild temperatures this afternoon between 1000 and 1500m. Temperature at 2000m: -7 to -2 degrees; at 3000m: -7 degrees. Light to moderate S/SE winds, brisker in the classic foehn-influenced mountains.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

The old-snow problem will persist for awhile.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe