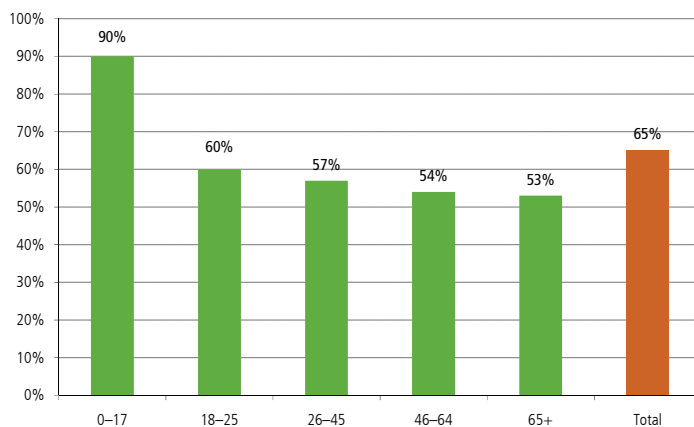


# bfu survey 2009

## Wearing quotas for protective items in skiing and snowboarding

**1 Helmet-wearing quota for skiers and snowboarders classified by age group, winter season 2008/09**



Source: bfu

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In the 2008/09 winter season, 2/3 of skiers and snowboarders wore a snowsport helmet. In contrast to previous years, the age difference was far less pronounced. However, as before, it was mainly younger snow-sportsmen and women who wore a helmet. In contrast, the difference in helmet-wearing quotas between German- and French-speaking regions of Switzerland is becoming ever greater (72 % vs. 46 %).

**2 Helmet-wearing quota for skiers and snowboarders according to winter season**



Source: bfu

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In comparison to previous years, the quota of helmet wearers in skiing and snowboarding increased once more. The increase compared to the previous year was higher for skiers (+15 %) than for snowboarders (+3 %). In skiing, it was mainly the upper age groups that showed a considerable growth rate. The coming years will show whether the decision to wear a helmet was influenced by the media echo on the fatal snowsport collision involving a German politician in Austria in 2009. Such events frequently produce only short-term behavioural changes.

**Method:** The bfu – Council for Accident Prevention surveys the wearing quota of protective items in skiing and snowboarding with the assistance of cableway companies in 20 Swiss snowsport regions. The survey was first conducted in the 2002/03 winter season and has been carried out at yearly intervals since the 2004/05 season. The findings are periodically supplemented with surveys on the use of other protective items and the reasons use. The figures for the 2008/09 season are based on approximately 5500 counts and 1550 questionnaires. Data is compiled from snowsport fans from inside and outside Switzerland.

### Helmet-wearing quota in per cent according to type of sport and winter season

Type of sport	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Skiing	14	28	40	49	55	63
Snowboarding	20	37	49	62	70	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>

Source: bfu

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### Helmet-wearing quota in per cent according to age group and winter season

Alter	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
0–17 years	44	62	73	79	87	90
18–25 years	14	25	39	45	57	60
26–45 years	6	16	29	39	49	57
46–64 years	1	11	19	31	44	54
65+ years	0	11	15	27	31	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>

Source: bfu

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### Helmet-wearing quota in per cent according to sex and winter season

Sex	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Male	17	32	43	52	58	63
Female	14	27	40	51	59	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>

Source: bfu

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### Helmet-wearing quota in per cent according to language region and winter season

Region	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
German-speaking Switzerland	17	32	42	55	63	72
French-speaking Switzerland	13	24	40	40	45	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>

Source: bfu

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### Wearing quotas for protective items (without helmet) in snowsport, in per cent according to type of sport and winter season

Skiers	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Goggles	...	95	...	96	93	97
Back protector/protective jacket	2	3	...	7	6	13
Bindings test/setting by specialists	52	47	...	50	47	...
Snowboarders	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Goggles	...	93	...	90	90	98
Back protector/protective jacket	7	21	...	38	41	38
Wrist protector	37	40	...	42	39	36

... Objects not surveyed

Source: bfu

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### Number of persons recorded

Observed	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Skiers	2729	4631	6379	7363	4096	4423
Snowboarders	749	1249	1696	1792	1003	1063
Surveyed	2002/03	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Skiers	927	1001	...	1028	861	955
Snowboarders	662	622	...	456	730	595

Source: bfu

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