12 people died in the US during the 2016-17 season
US Fatalities by state 2016-17

Source: Colorado Avalanche Information Center, CAIC
US Avalanche Fatalities last 30 years

Source: Northwest Avalanche Center, NWAC

~25% of normal snowpack - 11 dead
~200% of normal snowpack – 12 dead
50% dead in a 200% snow year - why?

Improved safety equipment
Social media campaigns
Avalanche education
Safety/awareness courses
Advisory issuance
”Less persistent problems”

Luck

“If our fatality rate had stayed steady while the use increased we might well expect over 200 U.S. avalanche fatalities per winter!” – The National Avalanche Center
Colorado accidents by avalanche problem 1999-2017

- PS: 65%
- DPS: 23%

Source: Colorado Avalanche Information Center

Utah accidents by avalanche problem 2000-2017

- PS: 44%
- DPS: 27%
- SS: 13%

Source: Utah Avalanche Center
US AVALANCHE FATALITIES BY DAY
2006-2017

Source: Colorado Avalanche Information Center