Natural hazard events affecting transportation networks in Switzerland from 2012 to 2016

Jérémie, Voumard[1], Marc-Henri, Derron[1], Michel, Jaboyedoff[1]

[1] Risk analysis group, Institute of Earth Sciences, FGSE, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Abstract

Switzerland is threatened by many natural hazards. Many events occur in built environments, affecting infrastructure, buildings and transportation networks, occasionally producing expensive damages. This expense is why large landslides are generally well-studied and monitored in Switzerland to reduce the financial and human risks. However, there is a lack of data on small events, which have recently affected roads and railways. Therefore, in this study, all of the reported natural hazard events that affected Swiss transportation networks since 2012 were collected in a database. More than 800 events affecting roads and railways were recorded within in a five-year period from 2012 to 2016. These events are classified into six classes: earth flow, debris flow, rockfall, flood, snow avalanche and "others."

Data from Swiss online press articles were sorted by Google Alerts. The search was based on more than thirty keywords in three languages (Italian, French and German). After verification that the article was related to an actual event that affected a road or a railway track, it was studied in detail. We collected information on more than 170 attributes of events, such as the event date, event type, event localization, meteorological conditions, impacts and damages on the track and human damages. From this database, a variety of trends over the five-year period can be observed in the event attributes, particularly the spatial and temporal distributions of the events, and their consequences on traffic (closure duration, deviation, costs of direct damage).

The database is imperfect due to the short period of data collection, but it highlights the non-negligible impact of small natural hazard events on roads and railways in Switzerland at a national level. This database contributes to understanding and quantification of these types of events and better integration in risk assessment.

Keywords

natural hazard events, floods, landslides, earth flows, rockfalls, debris flows, snow avalanches, transportation networks, Switzerland, database

1 Introduction

Natural hazards cause many damages to transportation networks worldwide (Nicholson & Du, 1997; Hungr et al., 1999; Dalziell & Nicholson, 2001; Karlaftis et al., 2007; Tatano et al., 2008; Erath et al. 2009; Muzira et al., 2010; Jelenius et al., 2012). Particularly in mountainous areas, floods, landslides (considered earth flows in this study), debris flows, rockfalls and snow avalanches (called avalanches in this paper) can seriously affect the traffic on roads and railway tracks, isolating villages or regions and generating infrastructure and economic damages (Bunce et al., 1997; Budetta et al., 2004; Evans et al., 2005; Collins, 2008; Salcedo et al., 2009; Guemache et al., 2011; Jaiswal et al., 2011; Michoud et al., 2012; Laimer, 2017b).

Large natural hazard events affecting roads and railways are generally well studied and documented, e.g., the Séchilienne landslide (Kasperski et al, 2010), La Saxe landslide (Crosta et al. 2014) or La Frasse landslide (Noverraz and Parriaux, 1990), but this is not the case for minor and medium-sized events with deposit material on the track ranging from a few cubic decimetres to a few thousand cubic metres. They are numerous and often too small, making them difficult to detect and expensive to monitor (Jaboyedoff et al. 2016a).

Generally, disasters events or events with any high social impact (death, high cost, highlighting societal problems, etc.) are collected in a database. The criterion to be listed in the main global disaster databases (EMD-DAT, Swiss Re, Dartmouth) illustrate this because at least ten casualties or other political or economic criteria are required (Guha-Sapir et al., 2015; Swiss Re, various dates; Dartmouth Flood Observatory, 2007). Insurance databases are more detailed, however, they are usually not publicly available, such as the NatCat from Munich Re reinsurance (Tchögl et al, 2006; Bellow et al., 2009; Munich R. E., 2011). At present, most worldwide, national and regional databases do not generally include small events that are considered insignificant to experts (Guzzetti et al. 1994, Malamud et al. 2004; Petley et al. 2005; Devoli et al. 2007; Kirschbaum 2010, Foster et al. 2012; Damm et al. 2014). There are also noteworthy exceptions such as the RUPOK database (Bíl et al. 2017), which collects information about the consequences of geohazards on transportation networks. The Swiss flood and landslide damage database (Hilker, 2009) contains small events, although events with direct damage costs less than EUR 8 500 are not considered. Moreover, there is no information about track and traffic effects.

Gall et al. (2009) highlighted that underreporting of small events induces bias in data. The director of the Global Resource Information Database at the UNEP recognized a problem in evaluating the true impact of natural hazards because the EMD-DAT database only records events with estimated losses greater than 100 000 US$ (Peduzzi, 2009). The Head of the UNISDR, R. Glasser, notes that governments underestimate low-cost disasters that significantly affect societies (Rowling, 2016).

To fill a gap in the knowledge about small events, in this study, we focused on the impacts of natural hazards on roads and railway tracks, collecting as much information as possible on the events that affected the Swiss transportation network since 2012.

The goal of this database is to determine the main trends of these events and evaluate the relevance of concerns.

2 Study area

The study is applied to all of Switzerland, which has a surface area of 41 285 km^2, with an elevation ranging from 193 m (Lake Maggiore) to 4 634 m a.s.l. (Dufourspitze). The Swiss geography can be divided into three major geomorphologic-climatic regions: the Alps, the Plateau and the Jura. The Alps cover 57% of the Swiss territory (23’540 km^2) with 48 summits over 4 000 m a.s.l. and many inhabited valleys. The Plateau, located northwest of the Alps, covers 32% of the territory (13 360 km^2) at an average altitude of approximately 500 m a.s.l. and is partially flat with numerous hills. Two-thirds of the Swiss population lives on the Plateau (13 360 km^2), which has a population density of 450 inhabitants per square kilometre. The Jura Mountains (11% of the territory, 4 385 km^2) is a hilly and mountainous range situated on the north-western border of the Plateau, with a top summit of 1 679 m a.s.l. (Mont-Tendre). The Swiss climate is a mix of oceanic, continental and Mediterranean climates, and varies greatly because of the relief. The average annual rainfall is approximately 900-1 200 mm years^{-1} on the Plateau, 1 200-2 000 mm years^{-1} on the Jura Mountains and 500 to 3 000 mm years^{-1} in the Alps (Bär, 1971). The Swiss average temperature is approximately 5.7°C (MeteoSwiss, 2018).

3 Data and methods

A database was constructed for the 5-year period of 2012 to 2016 and 846 events were collected. The minimum threshold for inclusion in the database was a traffic disruption (for example, a large-velocity reduction) for at least 10 minutes following a natural hazard event that reached a transportation track.

We used online press channels as information sources because of the ratio of simplicity and efficiency. An online press review was made every working day from 2012 to 2014; in May 2014, Google^{tm} Alerts (Google, 2018) was introduced with more than fifty keywords in German, French and Italian (see Table 1-SM in Supplementary material (SM)). These alerts (approximately ten per day) allowed for the collection of events from the Swiss online press.

Each alert contained an average of two online press articles with one of the fifty keywords. Each article was verified to identify whether the related information concerned a natural hazard event that affected a transportation network. If not, it was disregarded.

Approximately 10% of all these highlighted articles referred to a real natural hazard event. Approximately 800 articles were collected from mid-2014 until the end of 2016. The Swiss traffic information website was also periodically manually checked, as well as several social media pages that contained pictures of events, such as the official Facebook page of the commune of Montreux (Montreux, 2014). In addition, some events were collected directly in the field.

We classified natural hazards according to six categories:

- Static or dynamic flood with little sedimentation materials on the track, including a few hail events.
- Debris flow that is often not well described in the media and confounded with landslide or flood. It is often characterized using pictures from the press articles.
- Landslide: superficial or deep sliding of soil mass including shallow landslides.
- Rockfall refers to rock falls and rockslide.
- Avalanche refers to snow avalanches.
- “Other”: snowdrifts (mainly during February 2015 in west Switzerland) and falling trees (mainly during windstorms).

172 attributes were used to describe the events (Table 1; Figures 1-SM and 2-SM in the Supplementary material (SM)) and were subdivided into eight categories: date, location, event

characterization, track characterization, damage, weather, geology and sources. Data about the date, location, event characterization and damage were obtained from online press articles. Attributes of the database are presented in Table 1.

Images from the press articles were used to estimate many attributes such as the event classification and volume estimation of the deposit material, if it was not estimated or noted in the press article.

The analyses were performed in a Geographic Information System (GIS) environment, for spatial data, or using standard statistical methods for non-spatial data. To extract the general trends of the 846 events collected from 2012 to 2016, the data were characterized by basic statistics descriptors and displayed in histograms and charts.

Weather data were obtained from 24 weather MeteoSwiss stations. For each event, the reported weather conditions were not always from the closest station; data was obtained from a station with a similar topo-climatic situation. The average distance between weather stations and events was 20 km (SD of 18 km) and the average absolute elevation difference was 200 m (SD of 366 m). The rainfall data were given for the event day, the previous five days and the last ten days to provide the antecedent situations.

The deviation lengths for roads were measured using ArcGIS. Density maps were prepared using the kernel density function in ArcGIS with a search radius of 10 km for the events map and 20 km for the road density map, with a 500 m output cell size for both. The results were classified into 10 classes using the Jenks natural breaks method in ArcGIS.

The damage levels were characterized by four levels, partially based on Bíl et al. (2014). The first damage level was "no closure or no track damage". Events of this level generate only traffic slowdowns and small disruptions. They mainly comprise floods, often triggered by strong storms (vehicles can drive slowly on a flooded road without the need to close the track) (Figure 6E). The reduction of the traffic velocity generally lasts less than two hours. The second level refers to a complete or partial track closure because of material deposition on the track. If only one lane is closed, the second lane allows for alternated traffic moderated with temporary traffic lights or traffic regulators. Tracks with the second level of damage can reopen after evacuation work, without any repair work.

In addition to track closure, the third level, "partial damage", requires superficial repairs and/or minor stabilization of the track embankments because the events resulted in small damage to the tracks. Finally, the “total destruction” level indicates that, in addition to track closure, the track embankment must be reconstructed, requiring significant repair work.

The costs per square metre were attributed for each damage class according to the event intensity (small, middle and large) for both roads and railways. A surface area of deposit material on the track of 100 m^2 is assumed to be a small event, 200 m^2 is a medium event and 300 m^2 is a large event. The costs are given in Euros, with the mid-January 2018 value of 1 EUR = 1.17 CHF = 1.23 USD. On average, EUR 6 per square metre was estimated for the “no closure” class, EUR 230 for “closure”, EUR 400 for “partial damage”, EUR 1 000 for “total destruction” and EUR 230 for the “unknown” class (Table 2-SM). Direct damage cost evaluation was based on road and railway reports (Canton de Vaud et du Valais, 2012; SBB CFF FFS, 2017) and on repair work cost provided by an experienced Swiss civil engineer. Direct damage costs are difficult to assess (even more so for indirect damage costs), thus the proposed methodology to determine them must be considered a tool to compare the costs of the different damage classes. The cost values should not be considered as the true costs for all events but as an order of magnitude of the costs (see section 5.4).

Table 1: Attribute categories describing events in the database.

Attribute category	Question	Contains	Number of attributes	Main source
ID	Event ID	-	1	-
Date	Which date and time	Year, season, day part	15	Online press article
Location	Where did the event occur?	Region, topography, coordinates	21	Online press article and GIS[1]
Event characterization	Which natural hazard event?	Type of hazard, features, picture	12	Online press article
Track characterization	On which track?	Road/railway, features, deviation	17	Swisstopo[2]
Damage	Which kind of damage?	Damage on track, vehicle, people	11	Online press article
Weather	What was the weather?	Sun, rain, temp., storm, wind, snow	68	MeteoSwiss[3]
Geology	On what soil did it occur?	Soil features	11	Swisstopo[2]
Source	What are the information sources?	Addresses of online press articles	16	Online press article

[1] GIS: Geographic Information System
[2] Swisstopo: Swiss Federal Office of Topography
[3] MeteoSwiss: Swiss Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology

4 Results

4.1 Types of natural hazard processes

50% (421 events) of the 846 collected events are floods, including 1% (8 events) hail flooding events (Figure 1A). The second most frequent process was landslides (23%; 192 events), followed by rockfalls (11%; 96) and debris flows (8%; 68). The remaining were avalanches (2%; 15), and “other” processes (6%; 54) including snowdrifts (4.5%; 40) and falling trees (1.5%; 14). Snowdrifts mainly resulted from a unique event in February 2015.

4.2 Spatiotemporal conditions

4.2.1 Spatial distribution

Natural hazard events affecting the Swiss transportation network from 2012-2016 were equitably distributed over the geomorphologic-climatic regions of the Plateau and Alps (44% each; 371 and 377 events, respectively). The remaining 12% (98 events) occurred in the Jura area (Figure 1B and Figure 2 and; Table 3-SM). The spatial distribution of natural hazard events beside floods was proportional to the surface areas of Swiss regions: the Alps, with 60% of the Swiss territory surface, account for 64% of events except floods, the Plateau for 30% and 31%, and the Jura for 10% and 5% respectively. The kernel density maps of all event types and the road density map are shown in Figure 2-SM.

The majority of the floods (57%; 239 events) occurred in the Plateau. Debris flows occurred mostly in the Alps (96%; 66), as well as rockfalls (88%; 84) and avalanches (100%; 16), which is not surprising considering the presence of steep slopes. Landslides are more equally distributed, with only 55% (107) in the Alps because they usually occur on moderate slopes (Stark and Guzzetti, 2009). The “other” events (snowdrift and falling trees) occurred mostly on the Plateau (41; 79%).

Almost half of the events (49%; 412 events) occurred in a built environment (towns, agglomerations, villages and hamlets) and approximately half (51%; 434) of events occurred in a natural environment (countryside: 25%, 211; forest: 22%, 185; and mountain above the forest limit: 4%, 38) (Figure 1C; Table 4-SM).

In the risk ratios (Miettinen, 1972; Zhang and Kai, 1998; Spiegelman and Hertzmark, 2005) related to the surface of the regions, floods and “other” are over-represented in the Jura and in Plateau whereas debris flows, avalanches and rockfalls are over-represented in the Alps

(Figure 3A). The risk ratio related to the length of the roads of the three regions indicates that the Alps have over-represented debris-flows, landslides, rockfalls and avalanches (Figure 3B)

The slope angle distribution (Figure 1D; Table 5-SM), extracted from a 25 m DEM (Swisstopo, 2018), indicates that 40% (339 events) of all events affected tracks on slopes from 0° to 5° and that 30% (257 events) occurred from 5° to 15°. 62% (260 events) of floods affected tracks on an almost flat slope, from 0° to 5°, and 43% (30 events) of debris flows occurred on a 5°-15° slope. A third of landslides (63 events) and a third of rockfalls (30 events) occurred on a 15°-25° slope. 76% (12 events) of avalanches crossed tracks on a slope angle of 10°-30°. Two-thirds (36 events) of "other" processes were observed on a 0° to 5° slope.

Based on the Swisstopo maps, eight slope orientations were estimated to account for 72% (609 events) of the recorded events (Figure 3-SM). Slopes oriented to south, south-east and west accounted for 17% (144 events) each. The over-representation of these orientations is caused by debris flows occurring on the western slopes (mainly due to debris flows that occurred in the S-Charl valley in 2015). Landslides appeared to occur more often on south- and west-oriented slopes.

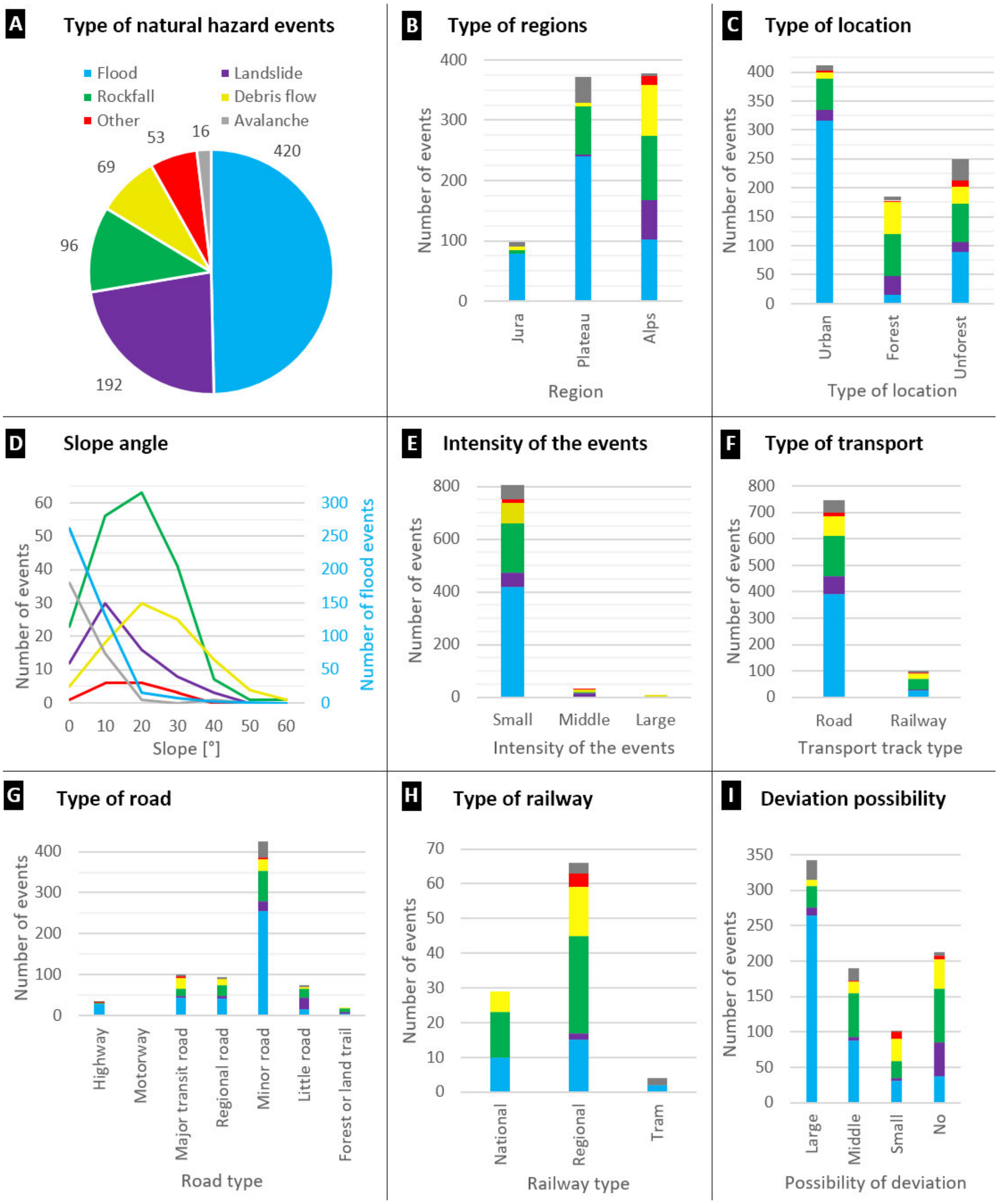

Figure 1: A: Number natural hazard events on the Swiss transportation network from 2012 to 2016. B: Distribution throughout the three large geomorphologic-climatic regions. C Distribution of the type of location. D: Slope angle distribution. Flood events are on the secondary vertical axis. E: Distribution of events according to intensity of the deposit material on the track. Small event: 0-10 m^3; middle event: 10-2000 m^3, large event: >2000 m^3. F: Transport mode distribution. G: Road type distribution. H: Railway type distribution. I: Distribution of the possibility of deviation. Large possibility of deviations: >3 possibilities; middle: 2-3, small: one possibility; no: no possibility.

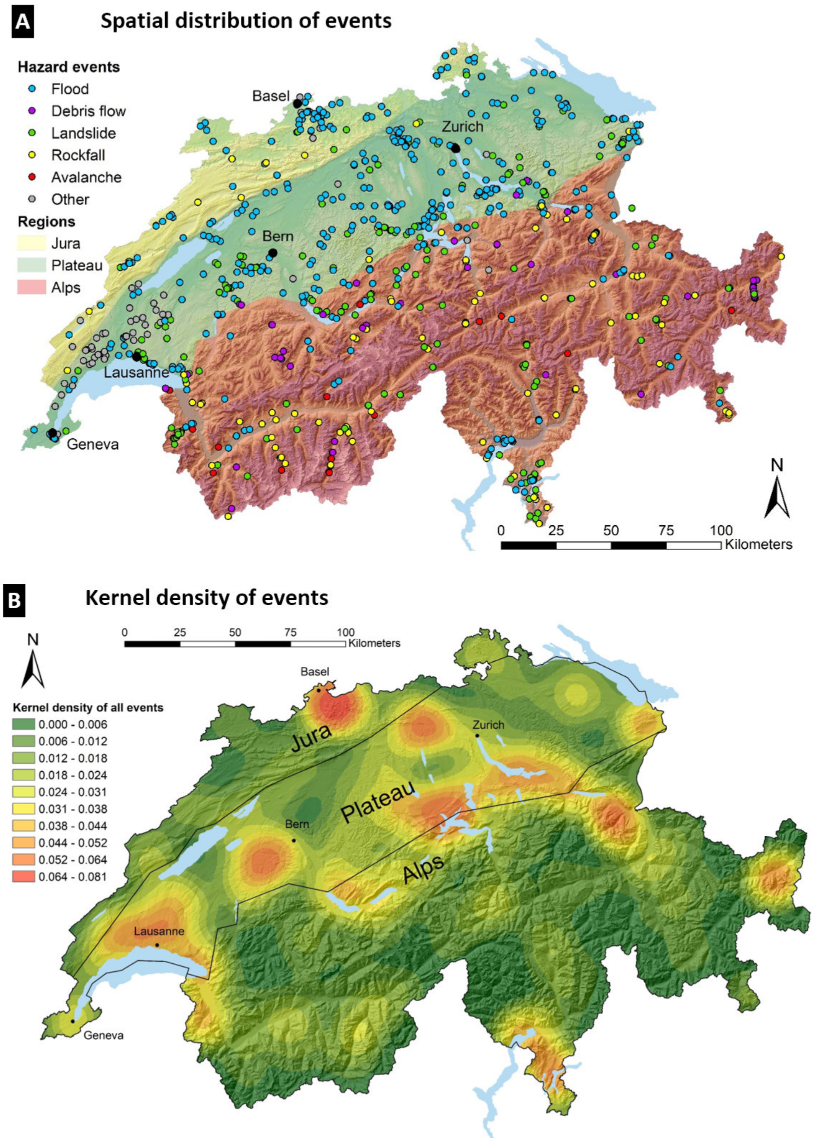

Figure 2: A: Spatial distribution of natural hazard events affecting roads and railways in Switzerland from 2012 to 2016. Map source: Swisstopo. B: Kernel density of the events (20 km search radius and results classified using 10 classes with the Jenks natural breaks method) based on ArcGIS functions.

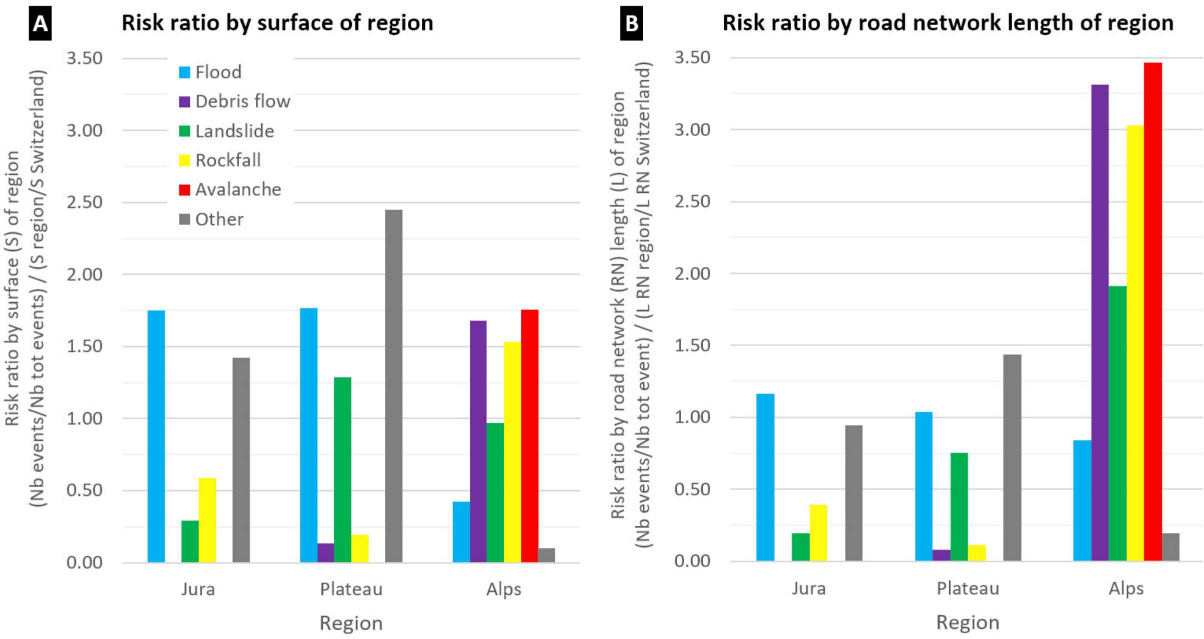

Figure 3: A: Risk ratio by surface of the three geomorphologic-climatic Swiss regions. B: Risk ratio by the road network (RN) length of the three geomorphologic-climatic Swiss regions.

4.2.2 Event intensity

The debris flow, landslide, rockfall and avalanche events were classified into three intensity classes (Figure 1E and Figure 4; Table 6-SM) defined by the volumes of deposit materials on the track:

- Small: less than ten m^3.
- Medium: from ten to two thousand m^3.
- Large: larger than two thousand m^3.

With one exception (medium intensity), floods were classified based on the water level and flooded area as small-intensity events (419 floods). “Other” events (snowdrifts and falling trees) were also all categorized as small events (53 events). 95% (804 events) of the events were classified as small, 4% (33) were medium and 1% (9) were large events. Note that a third (32) of rockfalls were large events.

Excluding floods, 39% (146 events) of the event sources were located more than 50 m from the track, 35% (185) were located 0 to 50 m away (Table 7-SM). A quarter (95) of the source locations are unknown. Almost all sources close to the tracks, representing 35% (185) of all events, can be considered human-induced natural hazard events. The sources of debris flows and avalanches in the Alps are located far from the track and were of natural origin (100% (69) for debris flow and 94% (15) for avalanche). Excluding floods, 80% (339) of the sources were located above the track, 7% (29) were below the track and 14% (58) were of unknown origin (Table 8-SM).

Figure 4: Examples of events affecting roads. Left: small event on the only road to the small village of Morcles (Canton of Vaud). Middle: middle-sized event on a minor road in Ollon (Canton of Vaud). Right: large event with an estimated volume of 3500 m^3 that cut a 50 m length on the international road between France and Canton of Valais near the Forclaz pass (Trient). The road closure was estimated at six weeks. Images taken on 24 January 2018 after a winter storm.

4.2.3 Rainfall

The average rainfall during the day of an event was 17 mm (Figure 5A; Table 9-SM). On average, the amount of rain during the event day was 22 mm, 17 mm, 14 mm, 5 mm and 4 mm for flood, landslide, debris flow, rockfall and avalanches, respectively. The maximum precipitation recorded (154 mm) in the database occurred in the Canton of Ticino in November 2014, which triggered a landslide.

The debris flows mostly occurred following strong convective summer storms after a quite sunny day. This means that the precipitation at the location of the debris flows may be higher than those recorded by the station. Landslides occurred after the highest amount of rainfall recorded in the last ten days preceding the event. The debris flows occurred several minutes to a few hours after heavy precipitations, floods occurred after approximately one day of heavy rainfall and landslides occurred up to several days after intense precipitations.

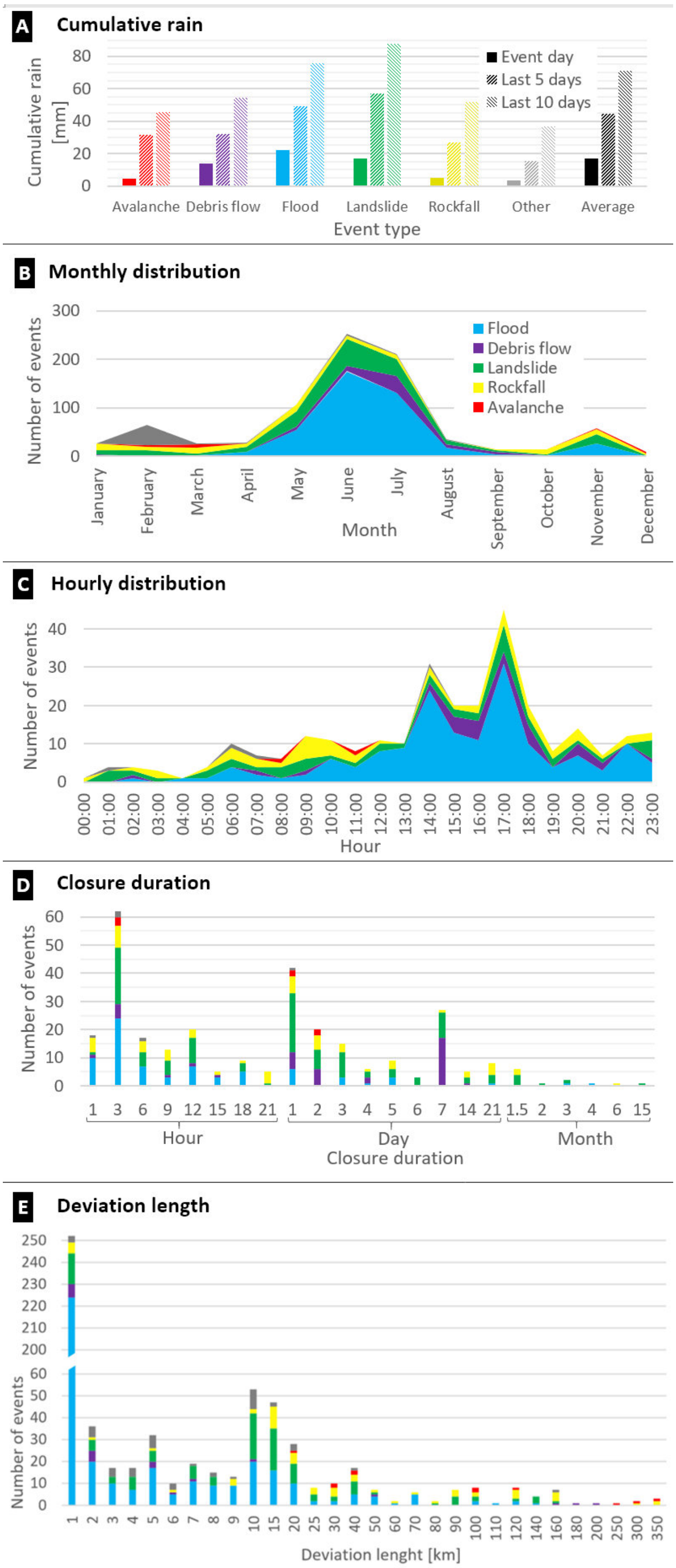

Figure 5: A: Cumulative rain [mm] distribution on the day of natural hazard events and previous five and ten days. B: Monthly distribution. C: Hourly distribution. D: Closure duration distribution. E: Shorter deviation length distribution of road closures. The vertical axis shows values from 60 to 200.

4.3 Temporal parameters

4.3.1 Clustering in time

Fourteen long-lasting rainfalls for a total of 111 days were selected during the five-year period (Table 2), with durations ranging from two to fourteen days. 60% (511) of events occurred during those 111 days of long-lasting rainfalls. Those 111 days correspond to 6% of the total number of days over the five-year period. This highlights the negative impact of long-lasting rainfalls, which generated an average of 4.6 events per day. A third of these 511 events were among the 50 major loss events worldwide, according to Munich Re Topic Geo annual reports.

Table 2: Long-lasting rainfalls resulting in 61% of the collected natural hazard events on the Swiss transportation network from 2012 to 2016.

Date	Number of days	Number of events	Avg. number of events per day[2]	Munich Re event[3]
2012.01.06-07	2	2	1	2012.01
2012.11.04-14	11	12	1.1	-
2013.06.01-03	3	26	8.7	2013.06
2014.02.15-18	4	4	1.0	2014.02
2014.06.03-12	10	10	1.0	2014.06
2014.07.04-15	12	44	3.7	-
2014.07.22-31	10	51	5.1	-
2014.11.13-18	6	35	5.8	-
2015.04.27-05.07	11	55	5.0	-
2015.06.05-15	11	75	6.8	-
2015.07.22-25	4	37	9.3	-
2016.06.02-09	10	80	8.0	2016.06
2016.06.15-25	14	49	3.5	-
2016.07.22-28	7	35	5.0	-
Total	111	511[1]	4.6	-

[1] 60% of all events.
[2] Event number/number of days.
[3] Sources: Munich Re, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2017.

4.3.2 Monthly distribution

The monthly distribution of events indicates an average of 71 events per month, with a median value of 32. It ranged from 9 events in December to 253 events in July (Figure 5B; Table 10-SM). Two-thirds of all events (68%; 570 events) occurred during the three months of May (13%; 107), June (30%; 253) and July (25%; 210).

85% (357 events) of floods and 64% (123) of landslides occurred from May to July. 89% (61) of debris flows occurred from May to August. 64% (61) of rockfalls occurred during the months of January, March, May, October and November. 50% (8) of avalanches occurred in March. 81% (43) of “other” events occurred in February.

4.3.3 Time of day and hourly distribution

The hour of occurrence were included for 33% (281) of the events (Figure 5C). 57% (89) of floods with a known hour of occurrence occurred between 2 pm to 7 pm, 61% (17) of debris flows occurred between 3 pm and 7 pm. Landslides and rockfalls were fairly well distributed during a day; 23% (10) of rockfalls occurred between 9 and 11 am.

4.4 Infrastructure parameters

4.4.1 Types of tracks

88% (747 events) of events affected road tracks and 12% (99) have affected railway tracks (Figure 1F; Table 11-SM). Among the events affecting roads, 53% (393) were floods, 20% (151) were landslides, 10% (76) were rockfalls, 9% (67) were debris flows and 8% (48) were "other" events. For the railway tracks, 42% (41) were landslides, followed by 27% (27) floods, 20% (20) rockfalls, 5% (5) "other", 4% (4) avalanches and 2% (2) debris flows. 79% (668) of all events occurred on minor roads or minor railway tracks and 21% (178) occurred on major roads or major railway tracks.

The risk ratio of the number of events by transportation network type (roads or railways, related to their respective lengths) indicates that events on railway tracks are over-represented (risk ratio of 1.67) and under-represented on roads (0.95 risk ratio).

4.4.2 Roads

The Swiss road network length is approximately 72 000 km, with 1 850 km managed by the Swiss Confederation, among which 1 450 km are highways and motorways, 25 000 km are major (cantonal) roads and regional roads, and approximately 45 000 km of roads are managed at the municipal level (Federal Statistical Office, 2018).

Swiss roads are classified into seven classes, according to the Swiss Federal Office of Topography (Figure 1G: Table 12-SM). Highways have separated traffic and a speed limit of 120 km/h and motorways have a 100 km/h speed limit. Both account for 3% of the road network length, accounting for 5% (36 events) of all events that affected roads. Major transit roads with a high traffic load (12% of the road network length) were affected by 13% (99) of the events. Roads of regional importance (22% of the road network length) accounted for 12% (94) of the events with a lower traffic load, both have a maximum speed of 80 km/h. The three remaining road classes (63% of the road network length) are based on the width of the road and are related to small roads with low traffic. 69% (518) of events that affected the road network were on this type of road.

Proportionate to the length of the different road types, the event frequency corresponds to one event per 200 km per year for highways and motorways and one event per 440 km, 860 km and 440 km per year for major, regional and minor roads, respectively. On average, roads were affected by one event per 480 km per year.

4.4.3 Railways

The Swiss railway network is 5 400 km long, including 130 km of cogwheel train track and 202 km of tram track (Federal Statistical Office, 2018).

Railway tracks are classified into three classes: major (34% of the railway network; 1850 km), minor (62%; 3350 km) and tram lines (4%) (CFF, 2018; Federal Statistical Office, 2018) (Figure 1H; Table 13-SM). The major tracks usually have two lanes, linking the main Swiss cities or crossing the Alps, and accounted for 29% (29 events) of railway events. The minor tracks, often with one lane, were affected by two-thirds (67%; 66) of railway events. Tram tracks in or around towns were affected by 4% (4) of railway events.

Proportionate to the length of the different track types, the event frequency along major railways tracks was one event per 320 km per year and the minor railway tracks and tram tracks were affected by one event per 250 km per year. On average, railway tracks were affected by one event per 275 km per year.

4.4.4 Possibility of deviation

For each event, we determined how easy it was to find a deviation track (an alternate route to reach the next village that avoids the closure area) (Figure 1I; Table 14-SM). For 40% (342 events) of the events, there were more than 3 possibilities of deviation. For 23% (190), there were 1 to 3 deviation possibilities, and for 12% (102), there was only one possibility. For 25% (212) of events, it was not possible to take an alternative track to bypass the closure because they occurred in valleys with only one track.

91% (383 events) of flood events and 90% (48) of “other” events could be bypassed. There were no deviation possibilities for 70% (48) of debris flows, 43% (41) of rockfalls and 40% (77) of landslides. This indicates that it is often impossible to find a deviation path for numerous debris flows, landslides, rockfalls and avalanches.

4.5 Impacts and damages

4.5.1 To track

80% (679 events) of all events generated track damages (Figure 6A and Table 15-SM). 18% (149) generated no closure or no track damage. 142 of those events were floods. 57% (483) of events generated track closures because of material on the tracks. In addition to closure, 17% of events (143) produced "partial damage" on the track (third damage level). The "total destruction" level accounted for 6% of all events (53). For 2% of events (18), direct damages could not be estimated.

35% (142 events) of floods caused no track closure and 62% (251) of floods generated only track closure. Floods generated the least damages. Many floods did not require track closure because vehicles or trains could pass through the water level. 39% (27) of debris flows generated partial damages and 25% (18) caused total destruction. Half (96) of landslides generated no track damages with a track closure and 39% (72) of landslides resulted in partial damage to the tracks. Half (48) of rockfalls generated only track closures and 39% (37) generated partial damages. 81% (13) of avalanches and 96% (51) of "other" events generated track closures due to the high percentage of snowdrifts (74% (39) of "other" events were snowdrifts).

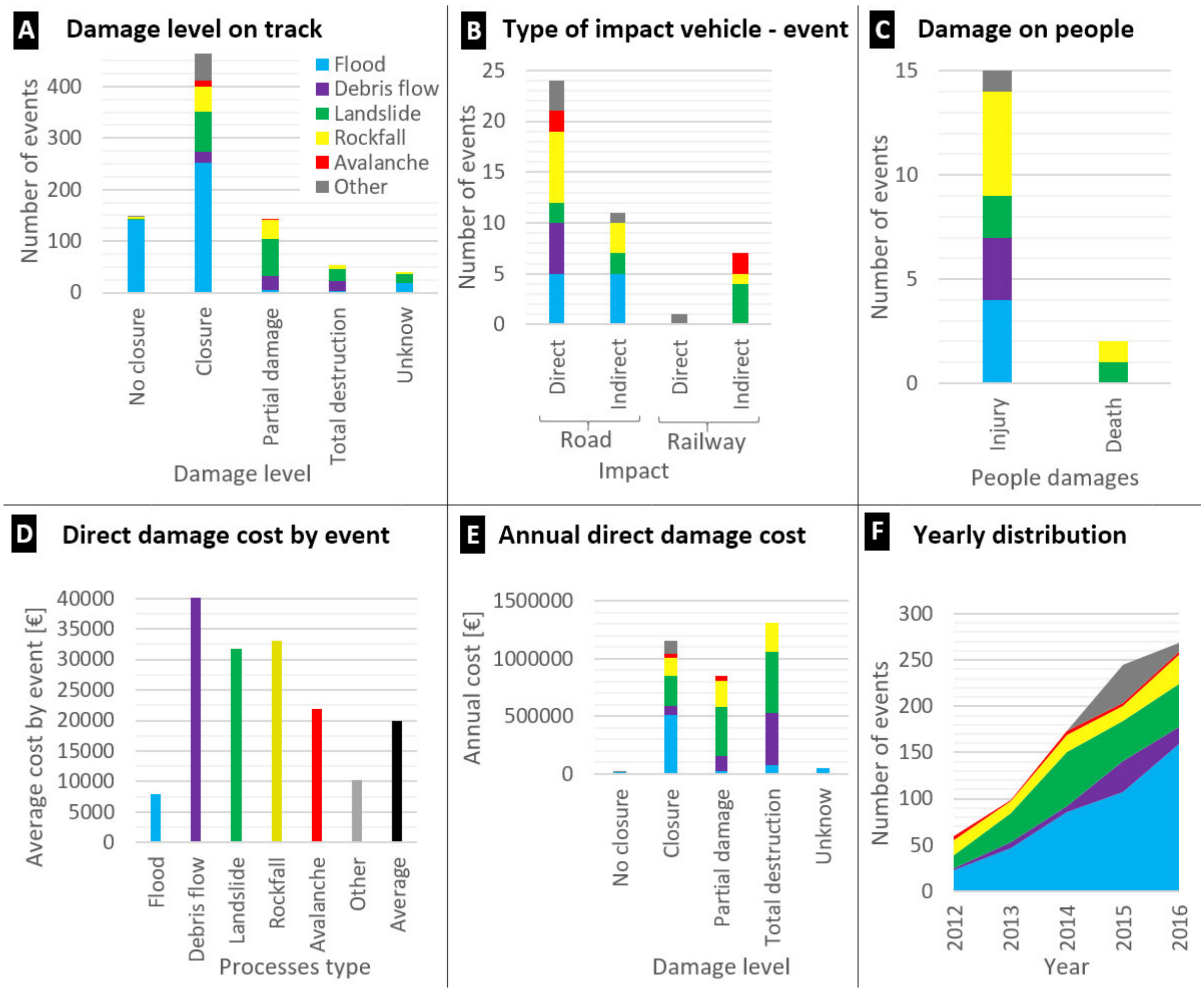

Figure 6: A: Damage distribution. B: Distribution of impact types for vehicles on roads or railways and natural hazard events. C: Distribution of injuries and deaths. D: Distribution of the average event direct cost. E: Distribution of the annual direct cost. F: Annual distribution.

4.5.2 To vehicles

5% (43 events) of all collected events generated damages to vehicles (Figure 6B and Table 16-SM). 3% (25) of events included direct impacts on vehicles and 2% (18) caused indirect impacts on vehicles (when a vehicle collides with material on the track). Except for a falling tree, which affected a tram directly, all direct impacts concerned roads. Two trains were affected indirectly by avalanches, four trains by landslides and one train by rockfalls. Only 1% (1 event) of events affecting railways caused a direct impact whereas 7% (7) of events caused indirect impacts. Conversely, 3% (24) of events affecting roads generated direct impacts and 1% (11) caused indirect impacts.

4.5.3 To people

People are rarely directly affected by events. 98.2% (831 events) of events did not cause injuries and 1.8% (15 events: 13 on roads and 2 on rail tracks) caused injuries (Figure 6C and Table 17-SM). 5.2% (5) and 4.3% (3) of events resulted in injuries; rockfalls and debris flows generated the highest percentage of injuries. Twenty injured persons were identified, 10 of which were in a train derailment in the Canton of Grisons due to a landslide in August 2014.

Two events (0.2%) caused death: the abovementioned event in Grison and an event where a coach without passengers was directly impacted by a rockfall, killing the driver instantly in March 2012 in Grisons. Only 0.1% (1) of events on roads caused death and 1% (1) of events killed people on railways.

4.5.4 Closure duration

The closure duration for 35% of events (296 events) was collected from online press articles. Half of the closures (148) lasted less than one day, and 41% (121) lasted one day to one week. 9% (27) of events lasted over one week, with a maximum of 15 months (Figure 5D). Thus, 87% (65) of floods induced closure durations of one day or less. This percentage decreased to 71% (5) for avalanches, 62% (36) for rockfalls, 59% (65) for landslides and 37% (15) for debris flows.

4.5.5 Deviation length for roads

For three quarters (638 events) of the cases in which a deviation was possible, the lengths varied from 1 km to 350 km (Figure 5E and Table 18-SM). Forty percent (255) of all deviation track lengths were 1 km or less. One quarter (159) of deviation lengths were 2 to 9 km, 16% (100) of lengths were 10 to 19 km and the remaining 19% (124) of deviation paths were over 20 km. The average deviation length was 40 km in the Alps, 9 km in the Jura and 7 km in the Plateau.

4.5.6 Direct damage costs

Direct damage costs include all costs directly related to the repair of the track to ensure normal traffic service, including the full repair costs of the tracks. They are difficult or almost impossible to assess; however, direct damage costs are important to determine an order of magnitude of the costs that are directly induced after a natural hazard event affecting a transportation track.

From 2012-2016, the annual direct damage costs for Swiss transportation track was estimated at EUR 3.4 million. For one event, the average direct cost was EUR 19 900. On average, it was EUR 8000 for floods, EUR 47 800 for debris flows, EUR 31700 for landslides, EUR 33 100 for rockfalls, EUR 21 900 for avalanches and EUR 10 200 for “other” events (Figure 6D and Table 19-SM). The annual costs correspond to EUR 1.3 million for “total destruction”, EUR 1.2 million for “closure” and EUR 0.8 million for “partial damage” (Figure 6E). On average, a “small” event costed EUR 15 800 and “medium” and a “large” events costed EUR 76 200 and EUR 175 700, respectively.

Small events (95% of all events; 804 events) represented 76% (2.6 mio EUR) of the total direct damage costs, middle events (4%; 33) represented 15% (0.5 mio EUR) of the costs, and large events (1%; 9) represented 9% (0.3 mio EUR) of the costs. Roads (93% of the total transportation network length) represented 73% (2.5 mio EUR) of the total cost and railway tracks (7% of all Swiss tracks) represented 27% (0.9 mio EUR) of all direct damage costs.

5 Discussion

5.1 Completeness of the database

The quality of the presented database is affected by several factors. The online press articles, the main source of this database, did not report all natural hazard events affecting the Swiss transportation network. This is particularly the case for events of small intensity. The reporting of such events in articles depends on the number of casualties, the severity of the injuries, the resources available for creation of the article, the preventive or educational interest, and the presence of images. Article occurrence was theoretically higher in summer, when the news activity is lower because of quieter political activity. In some cases, the sensitivity increased, for example, after two tourists were killed on Gotthard highway in 2006 when a portion of the Eiger summit collapsed. This made journalists prone to focusing on slope mass movements (RTS, 2006a and 2006b; Liniger and Bieri, 2006; Oppikofer et al., 2008). Conversely, when many events occur simultaneously during intense storms, only the most significant disasters are reported in the press. The event reporting likely depends on the perception linked to the region of occurrence and the type of transportation network. For instance, a 0.5 m^3 rockfall on a railway track in the Plateau has more media impact than one occurring on an alpine road, where such events are more common and the consequences on the traffic are lower.

The events collected from 2012-2016 ranged from 60 to 269 events per year (Figure 6F and Table 20-SM). This may be biased because Google Alerts were only used after May 2014. The data collection was less systematic for 2012 and 2013, with 60 and 99 events, respectively. With Google Alerts, the number increased to 245 and 269 for 2015 and 2016, respectively. With 173 events, 2014 was a transitional year, with Google Alerts used for approximately half of the year. An advantage of Google Alerts is the variety of the online sources from almost all the available online newspapers, which is better than the single source

(Badoux et al., 2016). Google Alerts allows for improving the event collection for floods. Moreover, the total number of events increased yearly, even after the use of Google Alerts, due to the increase in flood disruptions (Figure 6F). This shows that the use of Google Alerts is not fully responsible for the yearly increase in the number of events. These numbers depend strongly on the weather conditions that vary yearly. This demonstrates that the event distribution is strongly dependent on a limited number of meteorological events such as long rainfalls or severe storms.

Statistical predictions regarding a small sample of events are intrinsically imprecise (Davies 2013). The annual cost of damages from natural hazards in Switzerland (Hilker, 2009) from 1972-2007 shows great damage disparities over the years because extreme rainfall events or successive storms greatly increase the number of events in one year.

From a geographic point of view, the collected data should be considered a snapshot of a short time period capturing the background of “small” intensity events, representing 96% of the total events and 76% of the total direct damage costs.

Notably, a number of natural hazard events induce expensive maintenance operations without affecting the traffic, for example, by damaging protective infrastructure. Those events are not considered in this study because they do not generate traffic perturbation but they should be considered in risk management.

5.2 Event definition

The terminology of natural hazard events on roads and railways is partially inappropriate because, although the origin of the direct event is typically natural (e.g., rainfall), the indirect origin is often anthropic. The construction of a transportation network, its use, and maintenance induce severe changes or actions that potentially affect slope stability, according to the Terzaghi (1950) classification of the mechanism of landslides (Jaboyedoff et al., 2016a). These causes of destabilizations, such as slope re-profiling, groundwater flow perturbation, surface water overland flow modifications, land degradation, inappropriate artificial structures, traffic vibration and ageing of infrastructure affect the landslide occurrence (Larsen and Parks, 1997; Jaboyedoff et al, 2016). Furthermore, new infrastructure around tracks often induces an under-sizing of the existing drainage systems, which can induce the concentration of the surface or ground water flow and destabilize slopes. People are thereby very often responsible for aggravation of the hazard consequences for built areas without having sufficient knowledge of the natural hazards and associated risk. Laimer (2017b) indicated that, along Austrian railways, 72% of events are human-induced.

5.3 Event trends

Minor and medium-sized natural hazard events are not well documented because their direct consequences are often rapidly fixed, i.e., when the road can be re-opened within a few hours of the event or is only partially closed.

The slope angle values are lower than common values for natural hazard slopes because they are not the slope angles at the event origin but at the end of the propagation, as tracks are generally located much lower than the sources of propagation.

Several factors must be considered in the slope distribution. One explanation for the lower number of events on north-facing slopes is that there are fewer tracks due to the lower number of buildings on these slopes. Furthermore, north-oriented slopes receive less solar heat than south-oriented slopes and thus have fewer freeze-thaw cycles. This can partially explain the high number of rockfalls on west, south and east-oriented slopes.

The monthly distribution indicates that floods mostly depend on two meteorological conditions: thunderstorms and long-lasting rainfalls, which mainly occur in spring and summer, particularly in combination with snowmelt in summer. The near absence of floods in winter is the result of the Swiss winter climate, with a lack of long or brief but intense precipitations and precipitation in mountains falling as snow. However, exceptions are possible, such as floods caused by winter storms in January 2018 (RTS, 2018). Debris flows mostly occurred in summer as the result of powerful and stationary thunderstorms. Landslides mainly occurred in spring due to long-lasting rainfalls with the melting snow, generating water, saturated soils and low evaporation. Snowmelt is the second trigger of landslides after intense rainfalls on Austrian railway tracks for 2005-2015 (Laimer, 2017b). Laimer (2017b) has shown that intense precipitation is a trigger for 78% of landslides on railway tracks in Austria from 2005-2015. Freeze-thaw cycles during the winter are also a strong trigger of rockfalls.

Rockfalls do not follow the trend of occurring mainly in spring and summer. They occur in every season, mainly in autumn, winter and spring due to numerous freeze-thaw cycles during these seasons, which weaken the cohesion of rocks. Unsurprisingly, avalanches occurred mostly in winter. They occurred also in autumn as the result of fresh avalanches on soils that are not yet covered with snow and non-effective winter track closures of roads in the Alps. The absence of avalanches in the spring is likely due to the presence of road winter closures.

Floods mostly occurred in the afternoon, probably after strong thunderstorms. Debris flows mostly occurred in the evening, probably after strong thunderstorms in the late afternoon or in the early evening. Landslide event triggers were not time dependent as the other event processes were. Rockfalls appear to be triggered during thawing, which occurs mostly in the morning. Snowdrifts from the "other" category began in the afternoon, after a few hours of strong wind. This is why the "other" category events are concentrated in the afternoon. Notably, the time of the event does not always match the actual event time, especially for events occurring during the night or on tracks with little traffic such as country roads.

The high proportion of landslides on train tracks can be explained by the presence of soil embankments or unsuitable filled material along railway tracks and due to their inclination limitations. In addition, despite more protections than average, highways are proportionally more vulnerable than other roads because of the alignment with many imposing cuts and fills. Similar to motorways, railway tracks require a balanced gradient ratio and thus must run along valley sides over far distances. This requires long and steep cut slopes (Laimer, 2017b).

Regional railway tracks may suffer from a lack of maintenance on track embankments during recent decades, which caused landslides and rockfalls on old age infrastructures that were built long before the basics of soil mechanics were understood (Terzaghi, 1925; Michoud et al., 2011; Laimer 2017a, 2017b).

The higher number of direct impacts (24) than indirect (11) impacts on roads shows that drivers can generally stop their vehicles before being affected by a fallen event unlike trains, which cannot be stopped within a short distance and reach the fallen mass (7 indirect impacts and one direct impact). In addition, there is a much higher probability that a vehicle on a road would be directly impacted by an event than a train on a track because the road traffic is excessively denser than the railway traffic.

Deviation lengths for railways are difficult to evaluate. In the case of replacement buses, the distance of deviation is calculated using the distance of the replacement buses on the road. For 72 events on railways (75% of all events on train tracks), there were no possibilities of deviations using other train tracks. In cases of no replacement service, the deviation length for the railway was the distance of train track between the two stations on both sides of the track closure. The average distance of deviation for this configuration was 65 km.

An example of an event from our database can be summarized as follows: a flood event occurred in June during afternoon in the Plateau region on a small south-oriented slope with a minor road. It generated a road closure of several hours with a deviation distance of less than one kilometre and caused no injuries or deaths. The possibility of road deviation is large. On the day of the event, the sun shined for half of the day, 10 mm of rain fell (20 mm during the previous 5 days and 35 mm during the last 10 days) and the average temperature during the event was 20°C. There were approximately 1 000 lightings around the event location on the event day and the wind speed was 7 km/h in a north-east direction.

5.4 Direct damage cost estimation

Direct damage costs include all costs directly related to the rehabilitation of the track to ensure traffic service. All repair costs of the tracks are included. The estimated direct costs did not consider indirect costs such as vehicle repairs (the repair of a train costs a lot), implementation of deviations, replacement buses in case of railway closure, costs generated due to the traffic restriction for road and railway users or mitigation work and protective measures.

The estimation of direct damage costs depends on many factors that are difficult to estimate. The hour has an impact on the cost: repair work during the night or the weekend cost more than those during office hours. The event location also affects the costs, for example, costs in an alpine valley far from construction companies are higher than those in an agglomeration where construction machines and landfill for the excavated material are nearly. The date also impacts the costs: an event occurring during a period where weather conditions are difficult will last longer. The emergency of the situation also influences the direct costs, as damage on a secondary road or a highway will be treated with a different emergency level. There were also influences from traffic, the presence of damaged retaining walls and protective measures, the slope angle, the financial situation of the administration responsible for the repair work, and the necessity of work on the slope or cliff above the track. Work on railways costs more than that on roads because the access is often more difficult and because contact lines and rail repairs can be more expensive.

An estimation of the direct costs of the “small” events is more credible than the costs of events of higher damages because the main work is to clear the road of fallen materials. Cost estimation for the “middle” and “larges” events is more complicated because the repairs require large construction sites, which have their own characteristics that cannot be generalized.

The estimated costs must be considered as an order of magnitude of the direct costs generated by natural hazard events on the Swiss transportation network. These costs could be up to 10 times higher than the given cost estimation. However, the results are more refined than those of the previous study of Voumard et al. (2016), where costs of events below EUR 8500 were not considered.

Compared to the annual direct damage cost estimation of EUR 3.4 million for natural hazards on the Swiss transportation network, annual damages caused by natural disasters in Switzerland for 1972-2011 are estimated at EUR 290 million per year (OFEV, 2013). Switzerland allocates EUR 2.5 billion each year for protection against natural hazards, which corresponds to 0.6% of its GDP. 21% (EUR 0.5 billion) of this allocated amount concerns intervention and repair (OFEV/OFS, 2007; OFEV/OFS, 2011).

5.5 General discussion of natural hazards and transportation networks

There are several methods to quantify the costs of track closures (Nicholson, 1997; Erath 2009). However, they are unsatisfactory because the quantification of costs, especially the indirect costs, is difficult and the resilience must be carefully considered, as people often find solutions to bypass the track closure (deferred travel, meeting realized with digital technologies, alternative sources of supply, etc.).

The closure costs due to natural hazards, such as traffic congestion costs, are not compensated for in Switzerland. However, models must include the potential loss of income in taxes if the economy of the region is slowed. In addition, there are several ways to replace a transportation route or means. For example, trains can be replaced by buses between two stations. Using other train routes can be very complicated and long. Road deviation is usually much easier; however, in some valleys in the Alps, the deviation lengths can reach hundreds of kilometres and there may be no possibility of deviation. Notably, the increase of the travel duration in the case of railway closures is more relevant for passengers than the distance of deviation.

The spatial distribution (Figure 2) indicates a high density of events in populated areas, principally on the Plateau. This concentration of events around populated areas can be explained by various factors. First, when a meteorological event occurs in a densely populated area, it may primarily affect tracks because the transportation networks are dense in those areas. Conversely, a meteorological event that covers a similar surface but occurs in a sparsely populated area, for example, in an alpine lateral valley, will affect few tracks. Second, the number of people impacted, the associated economic consequences, the population sensitivity, the number of journalists available and the number of reporter-readers impact the media coverage of the natural hazard events. This leads to better media coverage of events in densely populated areas.

Davies (2013) notes the importance of the event in the context of the affected persons. A minor landslide that affects a person is unworthy of notice to the vast majority of the population but is considered momentarily catastrophic for the person, as it must reconsider its travel, find an alternative route or cancel its appointment.

Information acquisition is challenging in the development of such a database because it depends on several people working in the field, such as road menders, railway maintenance workers and forestry workers, who may have little time or interest in filling in the relevant attributes of the database. Hence, improvements to the database quality are possible using new tools such as off-line collaborative web-GIS (Balram, 2006; Pirotti et al., 2011; Aye et al. 2016; Olyazadeh et al., 2017), which can facilitate event data collection directly in the field using smart phones.

Furthermore, data acquisition and data analysis should distinguish the specific types of transportation networks. For instance, the sensibility to a natural hazard event on a railway track, where a 1 dm^3 rock can derail a train, is different from the sensitivity of an alpine road to the same volume of rock. Similarly, a landslide generating a track gauge change of 1 cm can lead to a train derailment whereas a landslide inducing track displacement of few tens of centimetres will probably not seriously affect the traffic of a mountain road. The liabilities in case of accidents on a railway track or road also differ. The railway manager and operator are responsible for the passengers' safety whereas the road manager allocates part of the responsibility to the driver. Therefore, compared to the road network, the railway network has a much higher sensitivity. The collection of the natural hazard events affecting roads and railways can be improved using different communication channels including social media such as the Facebook page of the Colorado Department of Transport (CDT) in the United States. This diffusion channel allows for the CDT to highlight natural hazard events that affect roads in Colorado department, informing drivers of their travel impacts.

6 Conclusions and perspectives

Using newspapers and Google Alerts, 846 natural hazard events that affected the Swiss transportation network from 2012 to 2016 were collected. They were characterized by 172 attributes, making them unique to Switzerland (Table 1). Our results highlight the impact of natural hazards on Swiss roads and railways, especially for small events with material deposits of less than 10 m^3 on the track that are rarely collected. They represent 95% of events in the database. The direct costs of all events were estimated at EUR 3.4 million per year with an average cost at EUR 19 900 per event. The direct costs of small events were estimated at EUR 2.5 million per year, which represents three quarters of the total direct costs.

Because of the increase in extreme meteorological events such as severe storms, climate change, rapidly growing infrastructure, increased traffic and the lack of funding for track maintenance, we expect increasing impacts of natural hazards on Swiss transportation networks. The key to reducing the natural hazard risk on tracks is financing.

The presented database and its event analysis can aid decision makers at the three Swiss political levels (the Confederation, the cantons and the municipalities) to plan and enforce protective measures in case of observable hot spots in the database.

Risk management in Switzerland may be improved by the existence of such a database. For example, it shows the important alternative ways to bypass obstacles. We highlighted that there were no deviation routes for one quarter of events. This proportion is high and must be considered by the authorities. The protection of all Swiss tracks against natural hazard processes would be too expensive. Thus, it is essential to ensure alternative tracks and fund protective measures according to the best ratio (cost/risk reduction). Minor roads often belong to the municipalities, which do not have a great interest in maintaining them. The Cantons and the Confederation would be advised to participate in or take over the maintenance of some roads that can be vital during the closure of main roads or railway tracks. This is particularly appropriate in the transportation corridor, where the minor road is located on the opposite side of the valley from the major road. This database aids in understanding the risk of transportation networks at the national scale rather than a track scale.

For this purpose, we created open access online maps of the events in Google Maps and ArcGIS Online (Figure 5-SM-AA and Figure 6-SM-AA) to promote this problematic issue. Our analysis also helps to elucidate the impacts of low-intensity events that had been considered almost insignificant and were largely unrecognized.

Data availability

The data used in this paper are available upon request.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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Supplementary Material

Table 1-SM: 51 key words (in red) used in the Google Alerts to create the database. The numbers between brackets in the following tables refer to the number of elements considered according to the line or column attribute.

English	French	German	Italian
avalanche	avalanche	Lawinne	valanga
bad weather	intempéries	Unwetter	
flood		Hochwasser	
hail	grêle	Hagel	
heavy rainfall	forte pluies	Heftige Regen	
ice avalanche		Eislawine	
inundation		Überflutung	
inundation	inondation	Überschwemmung	
landslide	glissement de terrain	Erdrutsch	frana
landslide		Hangrutsch	
landslide		Hachrutsche	
landslide		Rüfenniedergang	
landslip	glissement	Rutschung	
mountain	pan de montagne		
mud	boue	Schlamm	
mudflow	coulée de boue	Schlammlawine	
mudslide		Erdlawine	
pirock	caillou	Stein	massi
rockfall		Bergsturz	
rockfall		Felsabbruch	
rockfall	éboulement	Felsbrock	
rockfall	écroulement	Felsbrocken	
rockfall		Felssturz	
rockslide	chute de blocs	Steinschlag	cadono sassi
scree		Geröll	
scree	éboulis	Schutt	
storm	tempête	Sturm	
thunderstorm	orage	Gewitter	
under water	sous l'eau		
wind	vent	Wind	

Table 2-SM: Cost value estimation by square metre for the cost evaluation according to event importance, damage level and transport mode.

Damage level [EUR]	Cost per m^2, small event, road	Cost per m^2, middle event, road	Cost per m^2, large event, road	Cost per m^2, small event, train	Cost per m^2, middle event, train	Cost per m^2, large event, train
No closure	5	5	5	5	5	5
Closure	85	130	170	300	340	385
Partial damage	255	300	340	470	510	555
Total destruction	850	890	980	1065	1105	1145
Unknown damage	130	170	215	255	300	340

Table 3-SM: Distribution of event locations by Swiss geomorphologic-climatic region and event process.

Geomorphologic-climatic region	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Average
Jura (98)	19%	0%	3%	6%	0%	15%	12%
Plateau (371)	57%	4%	42%	6%	0%	79%	44%
Alps (377)	24%	96%	55%	88%	100%	6%	44%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 4-SM: Distribution of event locations by event process.

Event location	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Average
Town (151)	15%	0%	9%	1%	0%	6%	18%
Village (261)	46%	14%	12%	6%	13%	4%	31%
Forest (185)	4%	46%	38%	58%	13%	13%	22%
Unforested (249)	0%	6%	5%	12%	69%	0%	29%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 5-SM: Distribution of slope angle by event process.

Slope angle	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Average
0°-10° (339)	62%	17%	12%	5%	6%	68%	40%
10°-20° (257)	31%	43%	29%	19%	38%	28%	30%
20°-30° (131)	4%	23%	33%	31%	38%	2%	15%
30°-40° (85)	2%	12%	21%	26%	19%	0%	10%
40°-50° (26)	0%	4%	4%	14%	0%	2%	3%
50°-60° (6)	0%	0%	1%	4%	0%	0%	1%
60 and higher (2)	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 6-SM: Distribution of event importance by event process.

Location of process origin	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Average
Small[1] (804)	100%	78%	96%	24%	81%	100%	95%
Middle[2] (33)	0%	19%	3%	43%	19%	0%	4%
Large[3] (9)	0%	3%	1%	33%	0%	0%	1%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

[1] Small event: volume of deposit material on the track <10 m^3.
[2] Middle event: volume of deposit material on the track of 10-2000 m^3.
[3] Large event: volume of deposit material on the track > 2000 m^3.

Table 7-SM: Distribution of the distance of the process origin by event process.

Distance of the process origin	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Average
Near[1] (185)	0%	52%	33%	6%	100%	35%
Far[2] (146)	100%	11%	43%	94%	0%	39%
Unknown (95)	0%	37%	24%	0%	0%	26%
Total (426)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

[1] Near: 0-50 m from the track.
[2] Far: > 50 m from the track.

Table 8-SM: Distribution of the location of the process origin by event process.

Location of process origin	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Average
Above track (339)	100%	60%	89%	100%	100%	80%
Below track (29)	0%	14%	2%	0%	0%	7%
Unknown (58)	0%	26%	9%	0%	0%	14%
Total (426)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 9-SM: Rainfall [mm] during the natural hazard events.

Rainfall* [mm]	Flood	Debris flow	Landslide	Rockfall	Avalanche	Other	Average
Event day	22	14	17	5	4	4	17
Cum. last 5 days[1]	49	32	57	27	32	15	45
Cum. last 10 days[1]	76	55	88	52	46	36	71
Daily rain avg. last 5 days[2]	10	6	11	6	6	3	9
Daily rain avg. last 10 days[2]	7	5	9	5	5	4	7
Max daily rain last 5 days[3]	30	21	32	15	18	11	27
Max daily rain last 10 days[3]	33	26	36	20	21	15	30
Abs max daily rain[4]	100	65	154	42	13	39	-
Abs max daily rain last 5 days[4]	154	75	154	77	140	39	-
Abs max daily rain last 10 days[4]	154	75	154	109	140	39	-

* Average by event process except for absolute values (last three lines of the table).
[1] Cumulative rainfall 5 and 10 days prior to the event day.
[2] Daily rainfall average 5 and 10 days prior to the event day.
[3] Maximum daily rainfall 5 and 10 days prior to the event day.
[4] Absolute maximum rainfall recorded (i.e., for one event) on the event day, 5 and 10 days prior to the event day.

Table 10-SM: Monthly distribution of events by event process.

Year	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Average
January (27)	0%	4%	4%	15%	6%	0%	3%
February (65)	0%	1%	6%	6%	19%	81%	8%
March (26)	1%	0%	2%	13%	50%	2%	3%
April (28)	2%	0%	6%	7%	0%	2%	3%
May (107)	13%	10%	16%	15%	0%	2%	13%
June (253)	41%	16%	29%	7%	0%	8%	30%
July (210)	31%	51%	19%	8%	0%	2%	25%
August (35)	4%	12%	4%	1%	0%	2%	4%
September (14)	1%	6%	2%	2%	0%	0%	2%
October (14)	1%	0%	1%	10%	0%	0%	2%
November (58)	6%	0%	9%	11%	6%	2%	7%
December (9)	0%	0%	1%	4%	19%	0%	1%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 11-SM: Transport mode distribution by event process.

Transport mode	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Total
Road (747)	53%	9%	20%	10%	1%	7%	100%
Railway (99)	27%	2%	42%	20%	4%	5%	100%

Table 12-SM: Road class distribution by event process.

Road class	Flood (393)	Debris flow (67)	Landslide (151)	Rockfall (76)	Avalanche (12)	Other (48)	Average
Highway (34)	7%	0%	2%	1%	10%	2%	5%
Motorway (2)	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Major transit road (99)	11%	8%	11%	36%	36%	6%	13%
Regional road (94)	11%	7%	18%	18%	9%	8%	12%
Urban road (426)	65%	37%	48%	38%	36%	82%	57%
Minor road (72)	4%	42%	15%	4%	9%	2%	10%
Forest or land trail (20)	2%	6%	5%	5%	0%	0%	3%
Total (747)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 13-SM: Railway class distribution by event process.

Track class	Flood (27)	Debris flow (2)	Landslide (41)	Rockfall (20)	Avalanche (4)	Other (5)	Average
National (29)	37%	0%	32%	30%	0%	0%	29%
Regional (66)	56%	100%	68%	70%	100%	60%	67%
Tram (4)	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	40%	4%
Total (99)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 14-SM: Distribution of possibility of deviations by event process.

Possibility of deviation	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Total
Large (342)	63%	17%	15%	8%	0%	52%	40%
Middle (190)	21%	7%	32%	17%	7%	33%	23%
Small (102)	7%	6%	13%	32%	66%	4%	12%
No (212)	9%	70%	40%	43%	27%	11%	25%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 15-SM: Distribution of track damage by event process.

Damage level	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Total
No closure (149)	34%	0%	1%	3%	6%	4%	18%
Closure (483)	60%	35%	50%	50%	81%	96%	57%
Partial damage (143)	1%	39%	37%	39%	13%	0%	17%
Total destruction (53)	1%	26%	12%	8%	0%	0%	6%
Unknown damage (18)	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 16-SM: Distribution of damage and impact on vehicles by event process.

Damage and impact type on vehicles	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Total
No damage (803)	98%	93%	96%	89%	80%	89%	95%
Vehicle damage: direct impact[1] (25)	1%	7%	1%	7%	7%	7%	3%
Vehicle damage: indirect impact[2] (18)	1%	0%	3%	4%	13%	4%	2%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

[1] Direct impact: a vehicle is directly affected by a hazard.
[2] Indirect impact: a vehicle collides with an event mass already fallen on the track.

Table 17-SM: Distribution of injury and death by event process.

Injury and death	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Total
No damage on people (828)	99%	96%	98%	93%	100%	98%	98%
Injury (15)	1%	4%	1%	5%	0%	2%	2%
Death (3)	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 18-SM: Distribution of deviation length on roads by event process.

Deviation length	Flood (383)	Debris flow (21)	Landslide (116)	Rockfall (58)	Avalanche (11)	Other (49)	Mean
0-1 km (255)	58%	29%	12%	9%	0%	12%	40%
2-5 km (102)	14%	38%	16%	3%	0%	39%	16%
6-9 km (57)	9%	10%	9%	7%	0%	14%	9%
10-19 km (100)	9%	5%	34%	21%	0%	22%	16%
20-49 km (63)	5%	0%	17%	26%	45%	8%	10%
50-99 km (24)	3%	5%	5%	12%	0%	0%	4%
100-249 km (30)	2%	14%	6%	17%	18%	4%	5%
250-350 km (7)	0%	0%	0%	5%	36%	0%	1%
Total (638)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 19-SM: Direct damage cost distribution by events type.

Damage level [EUR]	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Total
	Annual cost [EUR]						
No closure (149)	12 665	340	85	765	255	170	14 280
Closure (483)	514 250	71 400	262 650	160 650	28 900	107 950	1 145 800
Partial damage (143)	25 500	127 500	425 000	227 800	40 800	0	846 600
Total destruction (53)	72 250	459 850	528 700	246 500	0	0	1 307 300
Unknown damage (18)	45 900	0	0	0	0	0	45 900
Annual cost [million €]	0.67	0.66	1.22	0.64	0.07	0.11	3.36
Avg. cost by event	8 000	47 800	31 700	33 100	21 900	10 200	19 900

Table 20-SM: Annual distribution of events by event process.

Year	Flood (420)	Debris flow (69)	Landslide (192)	Rockfall (96)	Avalanche (16)	Other (53)	Average
2012 (60)	5%	3%	7%	17%	25%	2%	7%
2013 (99)	11%	10%	16%	14%	6%	2%	12%
2014 (173)	20%	10%	30%	20%	25%	0%	20%
2015 (245)	25%	49%	22%	17%	25%	77%	29%
2016 (269)	38%	28%	24%	33%	19%	19%	32%
Total (846)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 21-SM: Summary of event process key features.

Attribute (with values of the greatest occurrence)	Flood	Debris flow	Landslide	Rockfall	Avalanche	Other	Mean
Event importance	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small
Yearly number of events	84	14	38	19	3	11	169
Months	6, 7	7, 6	6, 7, 5	1, 5, 3, 11, 10	3	2	6, 7
Season	Spring	Summer	Spring	Spring, Winter	Winter	Winter	Spring
Time of day	Afternoon	Afternoon	All day	All day	Morning	All day	Afternoon
Hour	12-19	15-19	0-24	0-24	8-13	0-24	14-19
Region	Plateau	Alps	Alps	Alps	Alps	Plateau	Alps, Plateau
Canton	Bern	Graubünden	Valais	Valais	Valais	Vaud	Bern
Slope angle	0-10	10-20	20-30	20-30	10-20	0-10	0-10
Slope orientation	S	W	S	W	N-W	S-E	S, S-W and W
Location	Village	Forest	Forest	Forest	Mountain	Country	Village
Damage on track	Closure	Partial dam.	Closure	Closure	Closure	Closure	Closure
Direct costs per event (Euro)	6 900	39 000	25 700	261 000	155 000	8 600	16 000
Track geometry	Str. line	Wide curve	Wide curve	Wide curve	Wide curve	S. line & w. curve	Wide curve
Crossing	Near	No	No	No	No	No	No
Closure duration	3 hours	1 week	1 day	3 hours	1-2 days	3 hours	3 hours
Possibility of deviation	Large	No	No	No	Small	Middle	Large
Deviation length	0-1 km	No deviation	No deviation	No deviation	250-350 km	2-5 km	0-1 km
Event origin distance	-	Far	Near	Far	Far	Near	Near
Event above below	-	Up	Up	Up	Up	Up	Up
Altitude [m a.s.l.]	525	1139	809	897	1274	614	701
Track type	Road	Road	Road	Road	Road	Road	Road
Track importance	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor
Rainfall event day [mm]	22	14	171	5	4	4	17

Figure 1-SM: Attributes of the database.

EventID **Date** Number of attributes: 15

Category		DATE							
Attribute	EventID	D_IDdate	D_Year	D_Month	D_Day	D_MonthWeek	D_DayName	D_Season	D_Hour
Description	Unique ID for each event	Unique ID for each event containing the date	Year of the event	Month of the event	Day of the event	Month divided into 4 quarters	Name of the day of the event	Season of the event	Hour of the event hourly rounded
Unit	-	y m d XX	year	month	day	-	-	-	h:m:s
Exemple	431	2015050400	2015	5	4	5-1	Monday	Spring	10:00:00
Comment	-	-	From 2011 to 2015	-	-	First quarter (1) of the 5th month (5)	Useful to categorise business day and weekend	-	-
Source	-	-	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Category	DATE						
Attribute	D_HourPrecise	D_DayPart	D_IDDay	D_IDEventSameDay	D_SameClimLongPeriod	D_SameClimShortPeriod	MuenichRe
Description	Hour of the event	Day part of the event	Unique ID for each event day (same ID when >1 event per day)	Unique ID for event occured the same day	Long time period in which the event is included	Short time period in which the event is included	Period given by MünichRe in which the event is included
Unit	h:m:s	-	y m d	-	y.m.d-y.m.d	y.m.d-y.m.d	y.m.d-y.m.d
Exemple	10:15:00	Morning	20150504	2	2015.04.27-2015.07.25	2015.04.27-2015.05.07	2014.06.03-2014.06.12
Comment		5 parts: morning, afternoon, evening, night and unknown	Allow to recognise the day when with several events	The maximal ID by event day gives the nb of events during this day			From MuenichRe yearly natural catastrophes analysis
Source	Online article	Online article	-	-	-	-	MünichRe
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Location Number of attributes: 21

Category										
Attribute	L_Canton	L_Commune	L_Detail	L_Precision	L_SitGeo	L_OriSlope	L_Urbanity	L_Slope	L_SlopeRound	L_Lanscape
Description	Canton where occurs the event	Commune where occurs the event	Detail to help the location	Precision of the location	Geographical situation of the event	If slope: orientation of the slope	Urbanity of the event	Slope angle average in an 25 meter radius around the event	Slope angle rounded to the nearest ten	Lanscape of the event locaiotn
Unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[°]	[°]	
Exemple	Valais	Bagnes	-	Accurate	Slope	North-East	Forest	13	13	Dry mountainous landscape of western central Alps
Comment	-	-	-	Three levels of accuracy: accurate, middle and communal accuracy	Four classes: plain, ridge, slope and valley bottom	Nine classes: north, north-east, south-east, south, south-west, west, noth-west and any slope	Seven classes: mountain, forest, country, hamlet, village, agglomeration and town	From 0 ° to 56°	From 0 ° to 60°	36 types
Source	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article and map	Map	Map	Map	GIS	GIS	GIS
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

LOCATION										
L_Areas	L_Area_reg	L_MN03_X	L_MN03_Y	L_MN03_Z	L_MN95_X	L_MN95_Y	L_MN95_Z	L_WGS84_Lo	L_WGS84_La	L_WGS84_Z
Areas of the event location	Regional area of the location	X coordinates in CH1903 coordinate system	Y coordinates in CH1903 coordinate system	Z coordinates in CH1903 coordinate system	X coordinates in CH1903+ coordinate system	Y coordinates in CH1903+ coordinate system	Z coordinates in CH1903+ coordinate system	Longitude in WGS84 coordinate system	Latitude in WGS84 coordinate system	ALtitude in WGS84 coordinate system
		[m]	[m]	[m]	[m]	[m]	[m]	[°]	[°]	[m]
Alpine region	Alps	588456	98247	1377	2588455	1098247	1377	7.289538659	46.03566307	1431
5 types: Alpine region, Swiss Plateau, Tabular Jura, Folded Jura and Independent	3 types: Jura, Plateau and Alps	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GIS	Map	GIS	GIS	GIS	GIS	GIS	GIS	GIS	GIS	GIS
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37

Event characterization Number of attributes: 12

Category	Event characterization											
Attribute	E_Type	E_TypePrec	E_UpDownst	E_UpDownst Risk	E_Provenan	E_Volume	E_Masse	E_Width	E_Importan	E_Other	E_PictureName	E_Picture
Description	Type of natural hazard event	Precise type of natural hazard event	Origin up or downstream of the natural hazard event	Origin up, downstream or only risk of the event	Estimation of the distance of the event origin	Volume of the event	Masse of the event	Width of the event mass on the track	Importance of the event	Other information	Picture name of the event	Picture
Unit	-	-	-	-	[m] or -	[m³]	[kg]	[m]	-	-	-	-
Exemple	Landslide	Landslide	-	-	-	-	-	-	Small	-	2015050400.jpg	-
Comment	6 types: rockfall, debris flow, landslide, avalanche, flood, other	8 types: rockfall, debris flow, landslide, avalanche, flood, hail, snowdrift, falling tree	3 classes: upstream, downstream and unknown	4 classes: upstream, downstream, risk (no event, only preventive closure) and unknown	3 classes: near (few meters to 10 meters, far (> 10 m) or prevention (only proventive closure)	Estimation of the falled volume on the track of the event	Masse of the event (only for rockfall)	-	3 classes: small, middle, big (huge event)	-	-	-
Source	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article or field visit
	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49

Track caracterization Number of attributes: 17

Category	Track caracterization																
Attribute	T_Type	T_TrainClasses	T_RoadClasses	T_MajorMin	T_Closure	T_DetailClosure	T_ClosureDuration	T_ClosureDurationRound	T_Deviation	T_DistDev	T_DistDevRound	T_DevDetai	T_PossDevi	T_PopDirAf	T_PopIndAf	T_Sinuosity	T_crossing
Description	Distinction between road and railway	Classes of the affected train tracks	Classes of the affected road tracks	Simplified classification of track importance	Track closure or not	Detail of the track closure	Time of track closure in hours	Ronded time of track closure in hours	Deviation or not	Distance of the deviation path	Rounded distance of the deviation path	Deviation detail	Capacity to have other deviation paths	Population directly affected by the track closure	Population indirectly affected by the track closure	Sinuosity og the affected track	Crossing near of the event or not
Unit	-	-	-	-	-	.	[h]	[h]	-	[km]	[km]	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exemple	Road	White	White	Minor	Yes	-	23	24	-	8	10	-	Large	Any	Small	NSC	NO
Comment	2 types: road or railwa	3 classes: national, regional, tram	8classes: highway, semi-highway, red, yellow, white, white dash and black	2 classes: minor and major	Three classes: yes, no, unknown	-	-	-	2 classes: yes or no	-	-	-	4 classes: large, middle, small, any	5 classes: very large, large, middle, small, any	5 classes: very large, large, middle, small, any	6 types: Straight Line, Wide Curve, Tight Curve, Near Wide Curve, Near Tight Curve	4 types: IN a crossing, NEAR a crossing, NO crossinf in the area and unknown (not enough location accuravy
Source	Online article	Map	Map	Map	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Map	Map	Map	Map	Map	Map	Map	Map	Map
	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66

Damage Number of attributes: 11

Category	Damage										
Attribute	D_Form	D_Injured	D_InjuredNb	D_Death	D_DeathNb	D_Vehicule	D_ImpactTy	D_VehiType	D_VehiNb	D_TrackDetail	D_Infras_type
Description	Form of track damage	Injured people?	Number of injured people	Killed people?	Number of killed people	Damage to vehicle	Type of impact between vehicle and event	Type of damaged vehicle	Number of damaged vehicle	Detail of track damage	Type of instrastructure damage
Unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Exemple	?	No	-	No	-	No	-	-	-		-
Comment	6 classes: ? (unknown), NC (no closure), C (closure due to sedimentation), P (partial damage), T (total destruction), and not studied	2 types: yes or no	-	2 types: yes or no	-	2 types: yes or no	Three types: no impact, direct impact or indirect impact	-	-		-
Source	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article	Online article		Online article
	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77

Weather Number of attributes: 68

Category																		
Attribute	M_Meteo	M_Sun	M_Sun_avg_5d	M_Sun_avg_10d	M_Sun_max_5d	M_Sun_max_10d	M_Sun_min_5d	M_Sun_min_10d	M_Rain	M_Rain_5d_cum	M_Rain_10d_cum	M_Rain_max_daily_5d	M_Rain_max_daily_10d	M_Rain_avg_daily_5d	M_Rain_avg_daily_10d	M_Storm_near	M_Storm_near_sum_5d	M_Storm_near_sum_10d	M_Strom_near_max_daily_5d
Description	Rain information for a given time period	Percentage of sun during the event day	Percentage of sun of the last 5 days from event	Percentage of sun of the last 10 days from event	Maximum percentage of sun of the last 5 days from event	Maximum percentage of sun of the last 10 days from event	Minimum percentage of sun of the last 5 days from event	Miximum percentage of sun of the last 10 days from event	Rain the event day	Cumulative rain of the last 5 days from event	Cumulative rain of the last 10 days from event	Maximum daily rain of the last 5 days from event	Maximum daily rain of the last 10 days from event	Average daily rain of the last 5 days from event	Average daily rain of the last 10 days from event	Number of near storms the event day	Number of near storms of the 5 days days from event	Number of near storms of the 10 days days from event	Maximum daily number of near storms of the 5 days from event
Unit		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	-	-	-	-
Exemple	-	4	29.4	34.1	77	98	0	0	0.2	28.7	38.4	19.9	19.9	5.74	3.84	0	0	0	0
Comment	Only for som events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Near storm: <3 km around the weather station	Near storm: <3 km around the weather station	Near storm: <3 km around the weather station	Near storm: <3 km around the weather station
Source	Sturmarchiv	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss
	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96

Weather																			
M_Strom_near_max_daily_5d	M_Strom_near_max_daily_10d	M_Storm_far	M_Storm_far_sum_5d	M_Storm_far_sum_10d	M_Strom_far_max_daily_5d	M_Strom_far_max_daily_10d	M_Storm_all	M_Storm_all_sum_5d	M_Storm_all_sum_10d	M_Strom_all_max_daily_5d	M_Strom_all_max_daily_10d	M_Temp_min	M_Temp_min_5d	M_Temp_min_10d	M_Temp_max	M_Temp_max_5d	M_Temp_max_10d	M_Temp_avg	M_Temp_avg_5d
Maximum daily number of near storms of the 5 days from event	Maximum daily number of near storms of the 10 days from event	Number of far storms the event day	Number of far storms of the 5 days days from event	Number of far storms of the 10 days days from event	Maximum daily number of far storms of the 5 days from event	Maximum daily number of far storms of the 10 days from event	Number of all storms the event day	Number of all storms of the 5 days days from event	Number of all storms of the 10 days days from event	Maximum daily number of allstorms of the 5 days from event	Maximum daily number of all storms of the 10 days from event	Minimum temperature the event day	Minimum temperature the last 5 days from event	Minimum temperature the last 10 days from event	Maximum temperature the event day	Maximum temperature the last 5 days from event	Maximum temperature the last 10 days from event	Average temperature the event day	Average temperature the last 5 days from event
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]
0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	3	10	1	5	7	1	-3	14	14	15	10	7
Near storm: <3 km around the weather station	Near storm: <3 km around the weather station	Far storm: >3 km around the weather station	Far storm: >3 km around the weather station	Far storm: >3 km around the weather station	Far storm: >3 km around the weather station	Far storm: >3 km around the weather station	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss
96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115

M_Temp_avg_10d	M_Temp_min_Corr	M_Temp_min_5d_Corr	M_Temp_min_10d_Corr	M_Temp_max_Corr	M_Temp_max_5d_Corr	M_Temp_max_10d_Corr	M_Temp_avg_Corr	M_Temp_avg_5d_Corr	M_Temp_avg_10d_Corr	M_Temp_amp_Corr	M_Temp_amp_5d_Corr	M_Temp_amp_10d_Corr	M_Wind_avg
Average temperature the last 10 days from event	Corrected minimum temperature the event day	Corrected minimum temperature the last 5 days from event	Corrected minimum temperature the last 10 days from event	Corrected maximum temperature the event day	Corrected maximum temperature the last 5 days from event	Corrected maximum temperature the last 10 days from event	Corrected average temperature the event day	Corrected average temperature the last 5 days from event	Corrected average temperature the last 10 days from event	Ttemperature amplitude the event day	Temperature amplitude the last 10 days from the event	Temperature amplitude the last 5 days from the event	Average wind speed the event day
[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	[km/h]
7	9	3	-1	16	16	17	12	9	9	9	12	15	8
-	Correction with height difference bewteen weather station and event location with lapse rate of -0.65 °C for + 100m altitude	Correction with height difference bewteen weather station and event location with lapse rate of -0.65 °C for + 100m altitude	Correction with height difference bewteen weather station and event location with lapse rate of -0.65 °C for + 100m altitude	Correction with height difference bewteen weather station and event location with lapse rate of -0.65 °C for + 100m altitude	Correction with height difference bewteen weather station and event location with lapse rate of -0.65 °C for + 100m altitude	Correction with height difference bewteen weather station and event location with lapse rate of -0.65 °C for + 100m altitude	Correction with height difference bewteen weather station and event location with lapse rate of -0.65 °C for + 100m altitude	Correction with height difference bewteen weather station and event location with lapse rate of -0.65 °C for + 100m altitude	Correction with height difference bewteen weather station and event location with lapse rate of -0.65 °C for + 100m altitude	-	-	-	-
MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss
116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129

M_Wind_avg_5d	M_Win_avg_10d	M_Wind_max	M_Wind_max_5d	M_Wind_max_10d	M_Wind_dir	M_Win_dir_5d	M_Win_dir_10d	M_Snow	M_Fresh_snow	M_Fresh_snow_5d	M_Fresh_snow_10d	M_Accronym_Stn_Weath	M_Alt_Stn_Weath	M_Diff_Alt_Stn_Weath_Event	M_Dist_Stn_Weath
Average wind speed the 5 last days from event	Average wind speed the last 10 days from event	Maximum wind speed the event day	Maximum wind speed the 5 last days from event	Maximum wind speed the last 10 days from event	Average wind direction the event day	Average wind direction the last 5 days from event	Average wind direction the last 10 days from event	Snow cover height the event day	Fresh snow cover height the event day	Fresh snow cover height the 5 last days from event	Fresh snow cover height the 5 last days from event	Accronym of the used weather station	Altitude of the used weather station	Altitude difference between the weather station and the even location	Distance between the weather station and the even location
[km/h]	[km/h]	[km/h]	[km/h]	[km/h]	[°]	[°]	[°]	[cm]	[cm]	[cm]	[cm]	-	[m] a.s.l.	[m]	[km]
9	10	32	38	46	47	48	63.9	0	0	0	0	ZER	1638	-261	36
-	-	-	-	-	0° = North, 90° = East, 180° = South, 270° = West	0° = North, 90° = East, 180° = South, 270° = West	0° = North, 90° = East, 180° = South, 270° = West	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss	MeteoSwiss
130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145

Geology Number of attributes: 11

Category	Geology										
Attribute	G_watershed	G_Geol	G_Tecto_f	G_Geol_f	G_Tec1_f	G_Tec2_f	G_Tec3_f	G_Acquifer	G_Hydrogeology	G_Productivity	G_Geology
Description	Watershed on the event			Geology	Tectonic 1	Tectonic 2	Tectonic 3	Aquifer	Hydrogeology	Productivity of the event field	General geology
Unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exemple	RHONE	er	pi	Gneiss et micaschistes (y compris migmatites et phyllites; princ. metasediments)	Nappes de socle cristallin penniques moyennes	Nappe du Mont-Fort	-	Aquifer reservoirs in coherent rocks	Sparsely productive aquifer reservoirs in non-karstified, cracked and porous coherent rocks	Variable productivity	Sericite gneiss
Comment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Source	Swisstopo	Swisstopo	Swisstopo	Swisstopo	Swisstopo	Swisstopo	Swisstopo	Swisstopo	Swisstopo	Swisstopo	Swisstopo
	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156

Source Number of attributes: 16

Category	Source															
Attribute	Source1	Source2	Source3	Source4	Source5	Source6	Source7	Source8	Source9	Source10	Source11	Source12	Source13	Source14	Source15	Source16
Description	Source 1 for the event	Source 2 for the event	Source 3 for the event	Source 4 for the event	Source 5 for the event	Source 6 for the event	Source 7 for the event	Source 8 for the event	Source 9 for the event	Source 10 for the event	Source 11 for the event	Source 12 for the event	Source 13 for the event	Source 14 for the event	Source 15 for the event	Source 16 for the event
Unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exemple	https://www.rts.ch/info/suisse/6749453-le-chablais-et-le-bas-valais-restent-en-etat-d-alerte-face-aux-pluies.html	http://www.24heures.ch/vaud-regions/riviera-chablais/A-Monthey-les-secours-sont-prets-a-evacuer-les-riverains-de-la-Vieze/story/22490259	http://www.24heures.ch/suisse/geneve-subit-grande-crue-arve-1935/story/10943703	http://www.24heures.ch/vaud-regions/monthey-reveille-soulagee-evacuation-300-personnes/story/19307318	http://www.lenouvelliste.ch/articles/valais/canton/inondation-a-st-gingolph-temoignages-du-president-et-de-restaurateurs-378561	https://www.letemps.ch/Page/Uuid/b0e525de-f0c0-11e4-8a43-4ad205b10b56/Les_eaux_en_furie_dans_toute_la_Suisse	http://www.arcinfo.ch/articles/regions/neuchatel-et-littoral/inondations-a-cornaux-et-a-lignieres-378552	http://www.romandie.com/news/Le-Chablais-fortement-touche-par-les-inondations/589780.rom	http://www.rts.ch/info/suisse/6749453-inondations-et-rivieres-en-crue-apres-les-fortes-pluies-.html	http://www.24heures.ch/suisse/suisse-romande/certaines-routes-valaisannes-fermees-cause-deluge/story/27182180	https://www.rfj.ch/rfj/Actualite/Region/20150501-La-Roche-Saint-Jean-a-deux-doigts-de-l-inondation.html	http://www.20min.ch/ro/news/romandie/story/25748211	-	-	-	-
Comment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Source	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts	Google Alerts
	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172

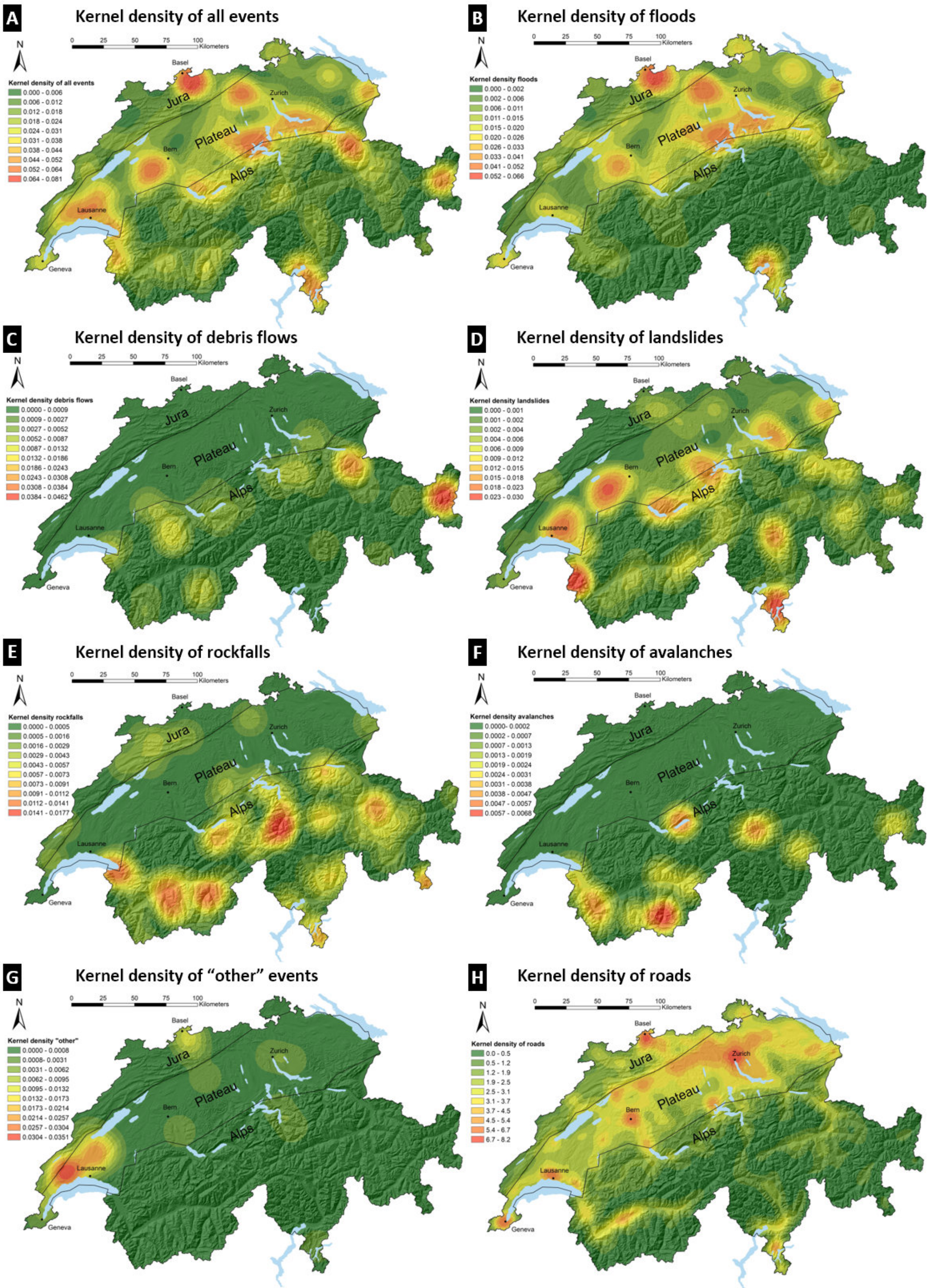

Figure 2-SM: Kernel density maps. Search radius for events: 20 km. Search radius for road network: 10 km. The results were classified using 10 classes with the Jenks natural breaks method. A: All events; B: Floods; C: Debris flows; D: Landslides; E: Rockfalls; F: Avalanches; G: "Other"; H: Roads. Hillshade and map ground sources: Swisstopo.

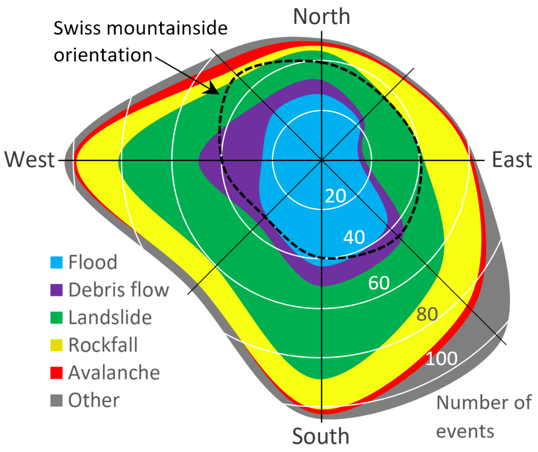

Figure 3-SM: Slope orientation distribution of natural hazard events on the Swiss transportation network from 2012 to 2016. The relative distribution of Swiss mountainside orientation is shown by the black dashed line.

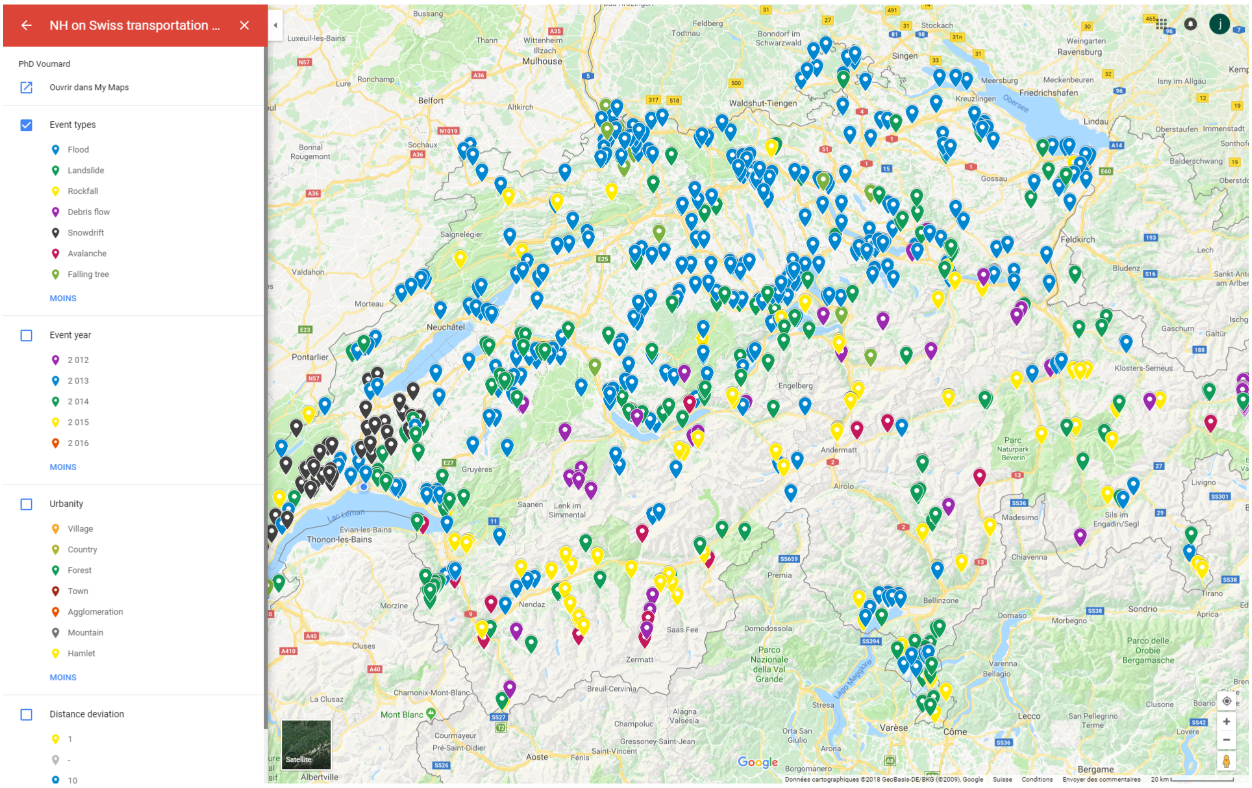

Figure 4-SM: Database on Google Maps. Available at (last accessed: 25 January 2018): https://www.google.ch/maps/@46.7199391,7.1246016,8z/data=!4m2!6m1!1s1qtu6LEYum-7ghpPg9WWzWwgPHYA?hl=fr, last access: 25 January 2018.

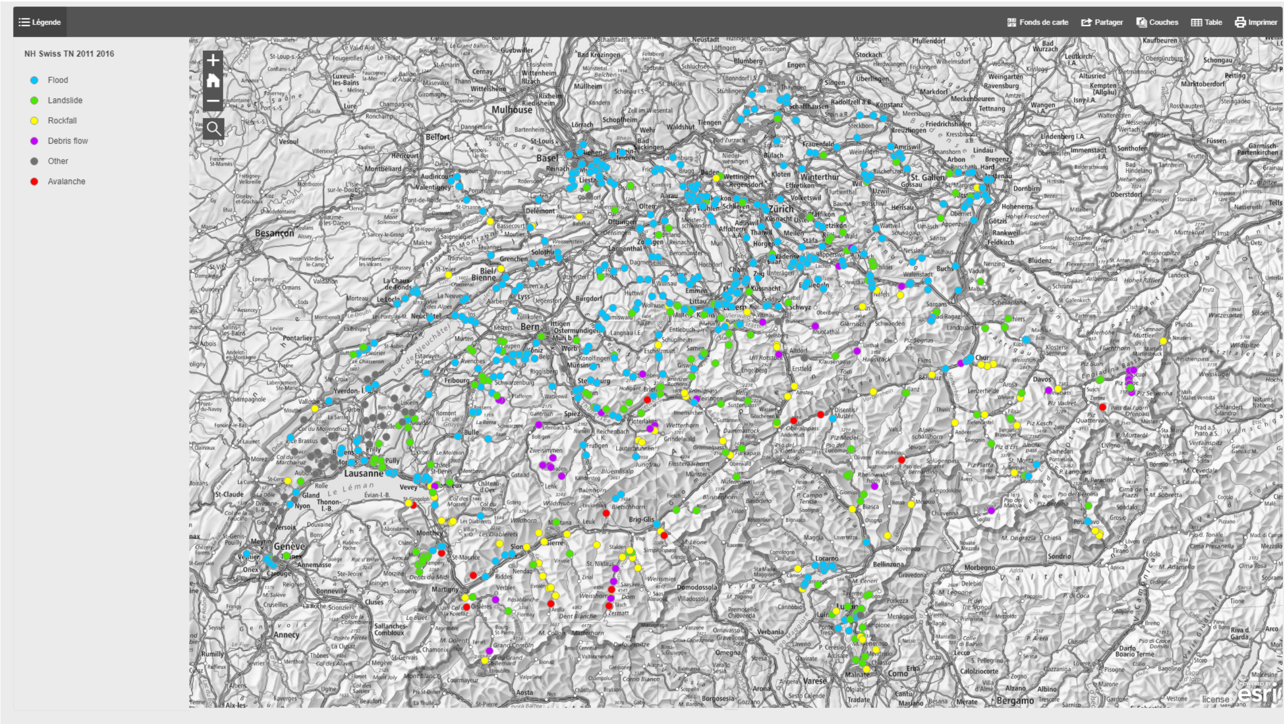

Figure 5-SM: Database on ArcGIS online. Available at (last accessed: 25 January 2018): http://unil.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapTools/index.html?webmap=34ee3eb719a647889abd34175969d781, last access: 25 January 2018.