



Member State Report Croatia

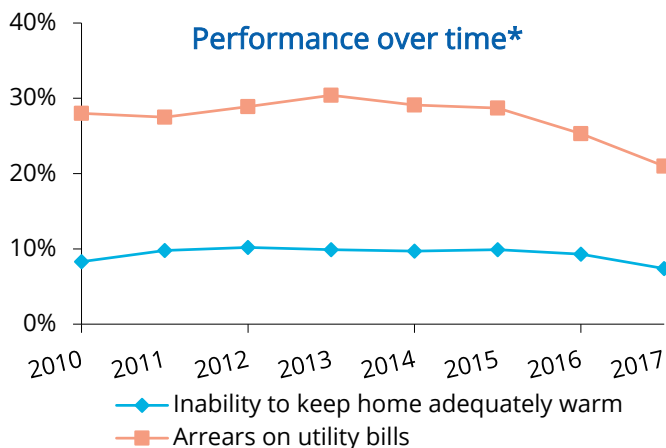
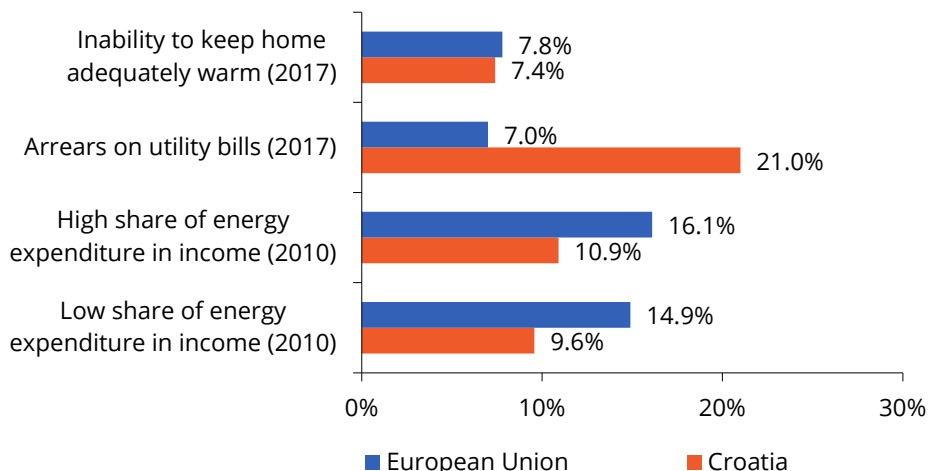
DATA & STATISTICS

This Member State Report of the EU Energy Poverty Observatory (EPOV) provides an overview of the energy poverty situation in Croatia at a glance. With key indicators, policies and publications, it offers an understanding of the key aspects of energy poverty in Croatia.

Croatia has mixed results compared to the EU average on the household-reported indicators. 7.4% of households were unable to keep the home adequately warm in 2017, and 21.0% were in arrears on utility bills.

Croatia performs better than the EU average for the expenditure-based indicators. 10.9% of households spend more than twice the median on energy, and 9.6% spend less than half the median.

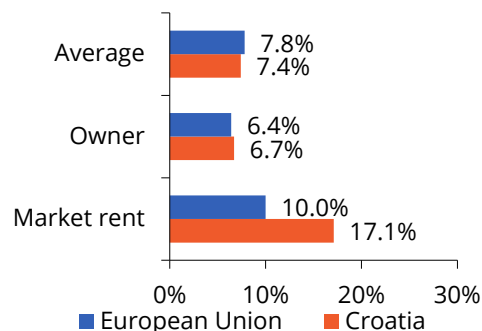
Performance relative to EU average*



Energy poverty has been fairly stable in Croatia since 2010. The percentage of households unable to afford adequate warmth has been around 7–10%. The number of households in arrears has been stable around 28–30% until 2015, but recently decreased to 21% in 2017.

Disaggregated data of the household-reported indicators suggest that energy poverty in Croatia is mostly a problem for private tenants, who struggle more than other tenure types. However, it should be noted that home ownership rate is relatively high in Croatia, so the group of private tenants is comparatively small. In addition, disaggregated data point to residents of detached housing and intermediate urbanisation as being more susceptible.

Inability to keep home adequately warm (2017)*



About the EU Energy Poverty Observatory

The EU Energy Poverty Observatory (EPOV) is an initiative by the European Commission to help Member States in their efforts to combat energy poverty. It exists to improve the measuring, monitoring and sharing of knowledge and best practice on energy poverty. EPOV has been developed by a consortium of 13 organisations. This report was authored by Navigant.

*Household-reported indicators taken from Eurostat [here](#) and [here](#) on April 16, 2019. Expenditure-based indicators calculated by EPOV based on HBS data. Disaggregated data of household-reported indicators calculated by EPOV based on Eurostat provided data.

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KNOWLEDGE &
RESOURCES

In Croatia, some attention is paid to energy poverty in publications and policies. An analysis of the national energy poverty situation in Croatia was carried out in 2016 in the context of the REACH project (Reduced Energy use and Change Habits) (Robić 2016). The most active NGO on the topic of energy poverty in Croatia, DOOR ("Society for Sustainable Development Design"), was involved in the production of these reports.

Energy poverty in Croatia is addressed primarily through direct financial assistance. The *Guaranteed Minimal Support* programme provides financial assistance to households to meet their basic needs and cover their housing costs, including costs for electricity, gas and heating. In addition, more targeted financial support is available for energy costs. Vulnerable consumers are entitled to receive support for their electricity costs up to a certain limit, and those who use wood for heating and receive social benefits can receive a *firewood allowance*. Furthermore, *one time support* may be granted in extenuating circumstances when extra costs, such as higher heating costs in winter or repairs/replacements for heating equipment, are incurred by residents.

Croatia also has multiple schemes to improve the energy performance of houses, many of which are part of larger energy renovation programmes. The *energy renovation programme* for family homes includes financial support for building insulation, replacement of old heating systems, and the installation of renewable energy systems. The energy renovation programme for residential apartment buildings provides financial aid for energy audits, energy efficiency renovations, and individual metering systems for district heating. The introduction of individual metering of energy consumption is important when it comes to improving energy efficiency activities in buildings as it gives consumers enhanced control over their energy bills.

Selected measures	Type of measure	Organisation	Target groups
Subsidy for outer envelope restoration, energy audits, heat metering and renewable energy	Building insulation, Energy audits, Heating system, Renewable energy	National government, Local government	Landlords, Owner-occupants, Apartment buildings
Electricity allowance for vulnerable consumers	Energy bill support	National government	Households on social benefits, Disabled
Firewood allowance	Energy bill support	National government, Local government	Households on social benefits, Low-income households
One time support	Social support	National government	Households on social benefits, Vulnerable households, Low-income households
Guaranteed Minimal Support (GMS)	Social support	National government, Local government	Low-income households
Housing cost support	Social support	National government, Local government	Households on social benefits, Vulnerable households, Low-income households

Selected Publications

- Robić, S. (2016) [Energy Poverty in South East Europe: Surviving the Cold](#)
- Robić, S. (2016) [Energy Poverty in Croatia: results of field research from Sisak-Moslavina County \(in Croatian\)](#)
- Robić, S., Rogulj, I., and Ančić, B. (2017) Energy poverty in the Western Balkans: adjusting policy responses to socio-economic drivers, in [Energy Poverty and Vulnerability: A Global Perspective](#)

For definitions of the terms used in this report [click here](#). The EPOV website provides an extensive collection of Knowledge & Resources. [Click here](#) for more information and to contribute additional policies, publications and other resources.

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