



Member State Report Cyprus

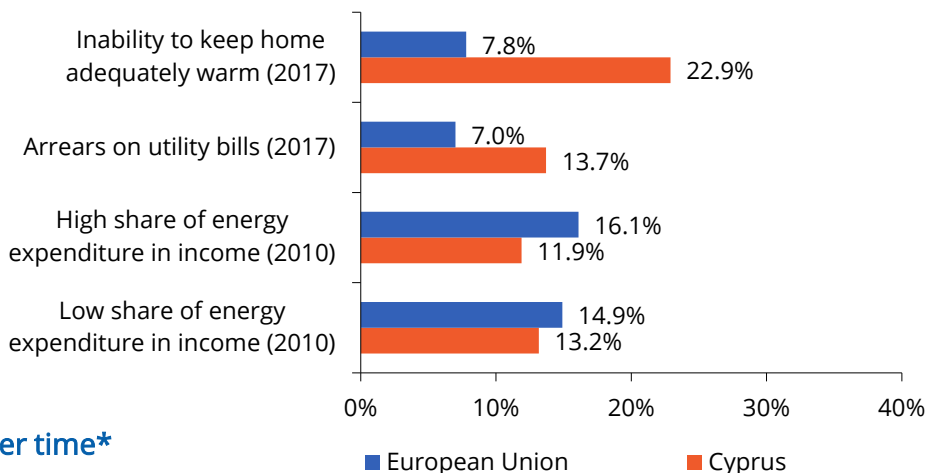
DATA & STATISTICS

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

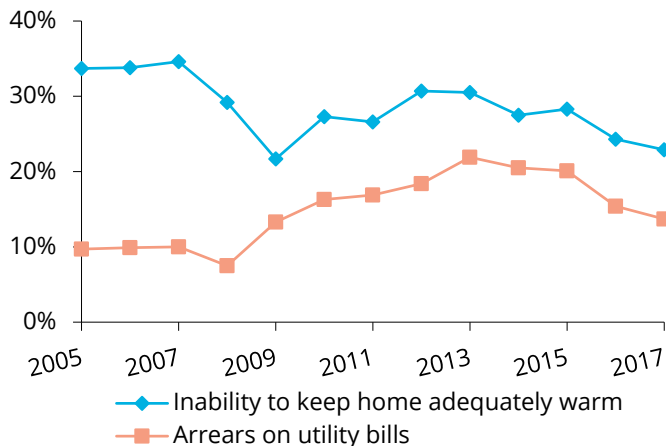
Cyprus performs worse than the EU average on the household-reported indicators. 22.9% of households were unable to keep the home adequately warm in 2017, and 13.7% were in arrears on utility bills.

Cyprus is slightly better than the EU average for expenditure-based indicators. 11.9% of households spend more than twice the median on energy, while 13.2% spend less than half the median.

Performance relative to EU average*



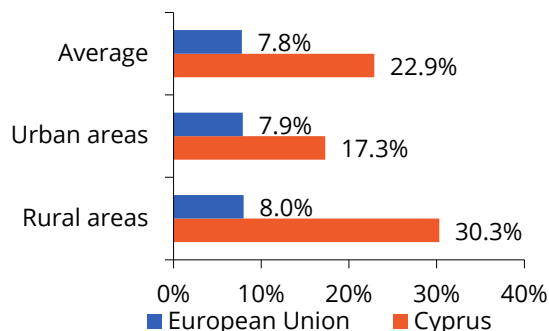
Performance over time*



The portion of households unable to afford adequate warmth in Cyprus has shown an overall decreasing trend since 2005, reaching 23% in 2017. The number of households in arrears increased from 8% in 2009 to 22% in 2013, but recently decreased to 14% in 2017.

Disaggregated data of the household-reported indicators suggest that energy poverty in Cyprus is primarily a problem for rural households, who struggle more than other urban demographics. In addition, disaggregated data indicate that tenants are especially susceptible to energy poverty. However, there is no dwelling type where energy poverty is clearly more prominent.

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

Cyprus is one of the first countries in the European Union to have official definitions for vulnerable consumers and energy poverty. The definition of vulnerable consumers includes large households with children, households on social benefits, and persons with certain disabilities and illnesses. These vulnerable households are eligible to receive a reduced electricity tariff. This *special tariff* is financed through a general electricity levy on electricity prices. In addition, vulnerable households also receive protection from disconnection in certain critical periods.

Furthermore, there are multiple programmes that provide financial assistance to households to improve the energy efficiency of their dwellings. In some cases, these programmes include additional provisions to facilitate the participation of vulnerable households. In the *Saving Energy - Upgrading of Households* programme, vulnerable households can receive 25% more funding than regular households for deep renovation of their dwellings (75% investment coverage compared to 50%). Moreover, implementation of individual energy saving measures for vulnerable households are also funded by the scheme. In another programme (*Energy production from renewable sources for self-consumption*), vulnerable households receive an extra financial aid to install a photovoltaic system of €900/kWp, with a maximum of €3,600.

There is relatively little research on energy poverty in Cyprus. Some studies on thermal comfort of low income households have been conducted, but overall reports assessing the energy poverty situation in Cyprus are lacking. In addition, there are few NGOs working on the topic. However, EU-funded programmes that cover Cyprus and address energy poverty-related topics include ELIH-MED, FIESTA, SAVES2 and ENERFUND.

Selected measures	Type of measure	Organisation	Target groups
Imposing a reduced VAT rate (5%) on the renovation and repair of private dwellings	Building insulation	National government	No specific target group
Saving Energy - Upgrading of Households	Building insulation, Cooling system, Heating system, Renewable energy, Energy audits, Household appliances	National government	Households on social benefits, Households with children, Vulnerable households, Low-income households, Disabled
Disconnection protection for vulnerable consumers in critical periods	Disconnection protection	National government, Regulator, EAC	Households on social benefits, Vulnerable households, Low-income households, Disabled
Support scheme for installation or replacement of solar water heating systems for houses	Heating system, Renewable energy	National government	Owner-occupants
Energy production from renewable sources for self-consumption	Renewable energy	National government	Households on social benefits, Households with children, Vulnerable households, Low-income households, Disabled
Special tariff for vulnerable customers	Social tariff	National government, Regulator, EAC	Households on social benefits, Vulnerable households, Low-income households, Disabled

Selected Publications

- C.K. Chatzinikola, G. Pignatta, M. Santamouris and D.K. Serghides (2016) [Winter Indoor Thermal Comfort in Low Income Households in Cyprus](#)
- G. Pignatta et al. (2017) [Analysis of the indoor thermal quality in low income Cypriot households during winter](#)

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.