

Member State Report Estonia

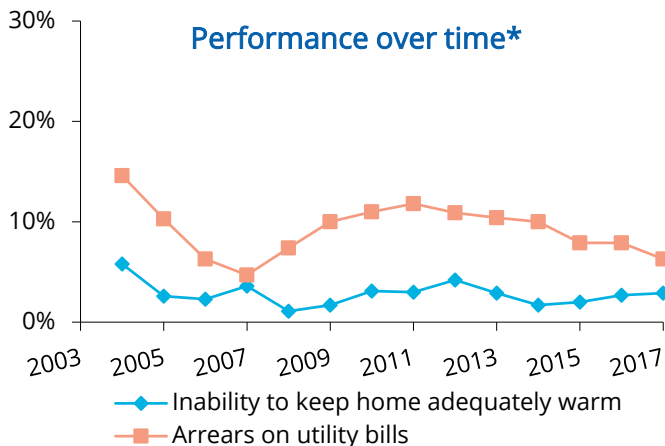
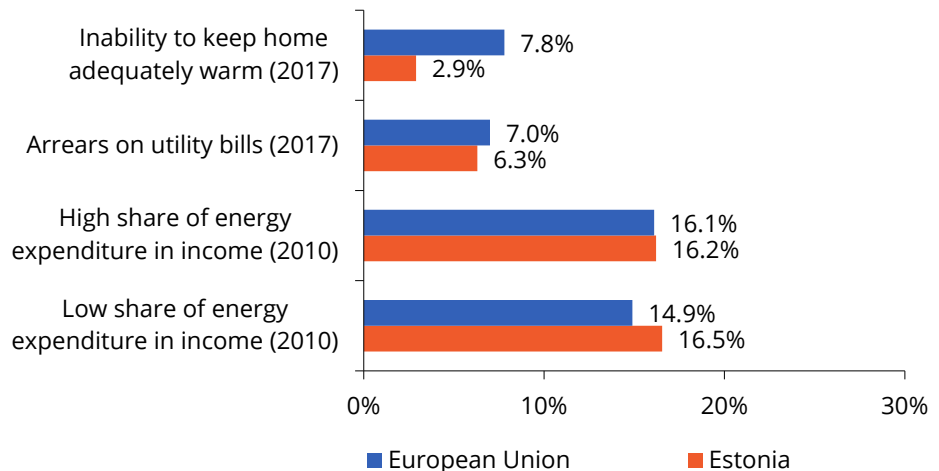
DATA & STATISTICS

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

Estonia performs better than the EU average on the household-reported indicators. Only 2.9% of households were unable to keep the home adequately warm in 2017, and 6.3% were in arrears on utility bills.

Estonia is comparable to the EU average for the expenditure-based indicators. 16.2% of households spend more than twice the median on energy, and 16.5% spend less than half the median.

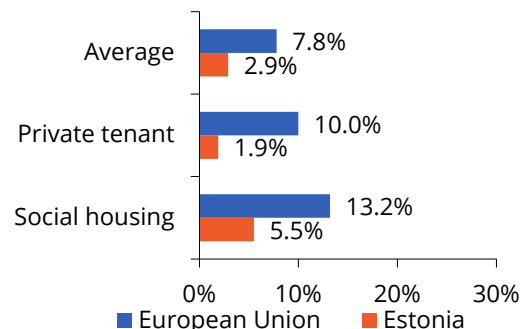
Performance relative to EU average*



Energy poverty in Estonia has fluctuated since 2004. The percentage of households unable to afford adequate warmth increased from 1% in 2008 to 4% in 2012, but dropped to 2% in 2015. The number of households in arrears also shows a similar pattern, first decreasing from 15% in 2004 to 5% in 2007, then increasing to 12% in 2011 and lastly decreasing to 6% in 2017.

Disaggregated data of the household-reported indicators suggest that energy poverty in Estonia is mostly a problem for social housing tenants, who struggle more than other tenure types. However, there are no clear dwelling types or urbanisation densities in which energy poverty is most 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

In Estonia, energy poverty is mainly addressed through social policies. Certain persons, such as the disabled and pensioners, can apply for financial assistance to meet their living costs. Otherwise, there are programmes that aim to improve energy efficiency in households, but these do not target to energy poor households. The *Reconstruction Support* programme is aimed at the renovation of apartment buildings. In another programme, financial support is provided for the replacement of liquid fuel boilers with heating equipment that uses renewable energy sources. Also, a *renewable energy subsidy* is provided to households for the production of electricity using renewable energy sources.

The *Scenery programme* targets one potentially vulnerable group, namely rural households. It provides financial assistance to households not connected to the electricity grid so that they can install decentralised power sources, such as solar panels and energy storage.

Research on energy poverty in Estonia is limited. There are also no NGOs active on the energy poverty topic.

Selected measures	Type of measure	Organisation	Target groups
Reconstruction support	Building insulation, Energy audits, Heating system, Renewable energy	National government	Landlords, Social housing
Support for renovation of heating systems for small houses	Heating system	National government	Owner-occupants, Landlords
Renewable energy subsidy	Renewable energy	National government	No specific target group
Scenery programme	Renewable energy	National government	Rural households
Social support	Social support	National government	Disabled, Households with children, Pensioners

Selected Publications

- Buildings Performance Institute (2015) [Renovation in practice](#)

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.