



Member State Report Greece

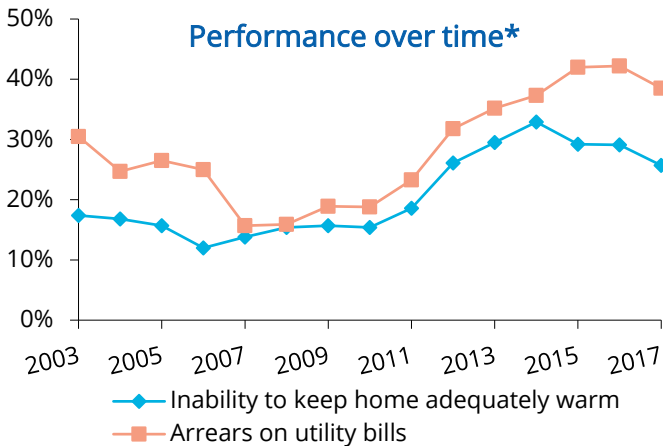
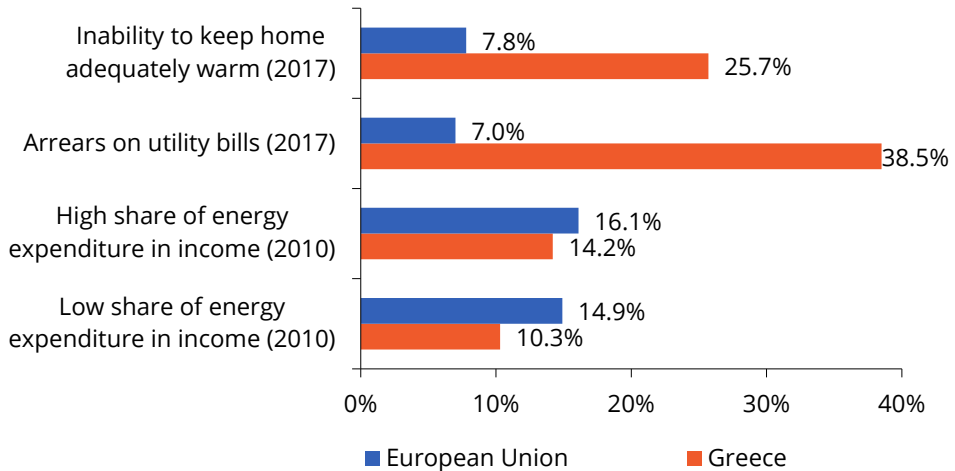
DATA & STATISTICS

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

Greece scores worse than the EU average on the household-reported indicators. 25.7% of households were unable to keep the home adequately warm in 2017, and 38.5% were in arrears on utility bills.

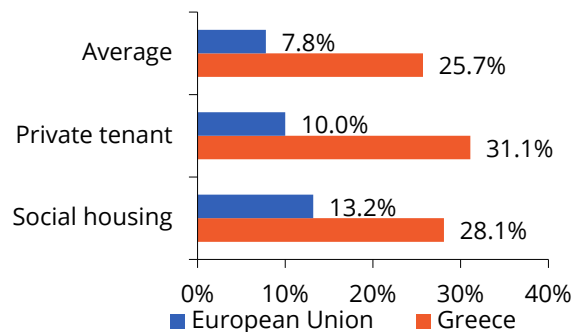
Greece is slightly better than the EU average for the expenditure-based indicators. 14.2% of households spend more than twice the median on energy, and 10.3% spend less than half the median.

Performance relative to EU average*



Energy poverty in Greece has fluctuated since 2004 and worsened since 2011, which is likely due to the financial crisis. The percentage of households unable to afford adequate warmth increased from 12% in 2006, to 19% in 2011 and further to 33% in 2014. The number of households in arrears grew from 19% in 2010 to 39% in 2017.

Inability to keep home adequately warm (2017)*



Disaggregated data of the household-reported indicators suggest that energy poverty in Greece is particularly a problem for households that rent their dwellings but energy poverty can be found in most socio-economic groups.

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

Greece has an active research community in the field of energy poverty and related issues. Initial studies on the topic were published around 2008, and in recent years there have been multiple studies on the impact of the financial crisis on energy poverty in Greece. A Greek Energy Poverty Observatory was also set up that aims to inform the public and policymakers about the level of energy poverty in Greece.

The national government facilitates financial support to households to pay their energy bills. A social tariff has been instated, which is provided by all power suppliers. The social tariff targets low-income households and vulnerable households, such as the disabled and chronically diseased. Furthermore, the *heating oil allowance* covers the heating oil costs of low-income households during in the winter months (October–April). The heating oil allowance was disbursed to 380,000 beneficiaries between mid-October 2016 and mid-January 2017. A set amount of electricity was provided to indebted households after the financial crisis for free as a temporary measure.

In addition, national and regional programs have been developed to improve the energy efficiency of housing in low-income households, such as the *replacement of existing heating oil boilers* with natural gas boilers. The *Building the Future* program aims to facilitate the improvement of energy efficiency of housing by ensuring more affordable prices for energy efficiency interventions.

Finally, a recently implemented *Law on energy communities* facilitates the set up of energy communities, which are organisations that aim to promote solidarity and innovation in the energy sector, including for energy poverty measures.

Selected measures	Type of measure	Organisation	Target groups
Energy Efficiency at Household Buildings Programme	Building insulation, Heating system	National government	Low-income households,
Law on Energy communities	Building insulation, Heating system, Renewable energy, Transport	National government, NGO	Vulnerable households
Heating oil allowance	Energy bill support	National government	Low-income households
Replacement of heating oil boilers with natural gas boilers in buildings	Heating system	National government	Low-income households
Building the Future	Information and awareness	National government	No specific target group
Social Residential Tariff	Social Tariff	National government, Energy suppliers, Regulator	Vulnerable households, Low-income households

Selected Publications

- Panas E. (2012) [Research on energy poverty in Greece \(in Greek\)](#)
- Santamouris, M. et al (2013) [Financial crisis and energy consumption: A household survey in Greece](#)
- Dagoumas, K., and Kitsios, F. (2014) [Assessing the impact of the economic crisis on energy poverty in Greece](#)
- Atsalis, A. et al. (2016) [Fuel poverty in Greece: Quantitative analysis and implications for policy](#)
- Papada, L., Kaliampakos, D. (2016) [Measuring energy poverty in Greece](#)
- Boemi, S., Avdimiotis, S., Papadopoulos, A. (2017) [Domestic energy deprivation in Greece: A field study](#)
- Corovessi, A., Touloupaki, E., Chrysogelos, N., and Metaxa, K. (2017) [Energy Poverty in Greece: Social Innovation Recommendations to tackle the phenomenon](#)

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.