



# Member State Report Malta

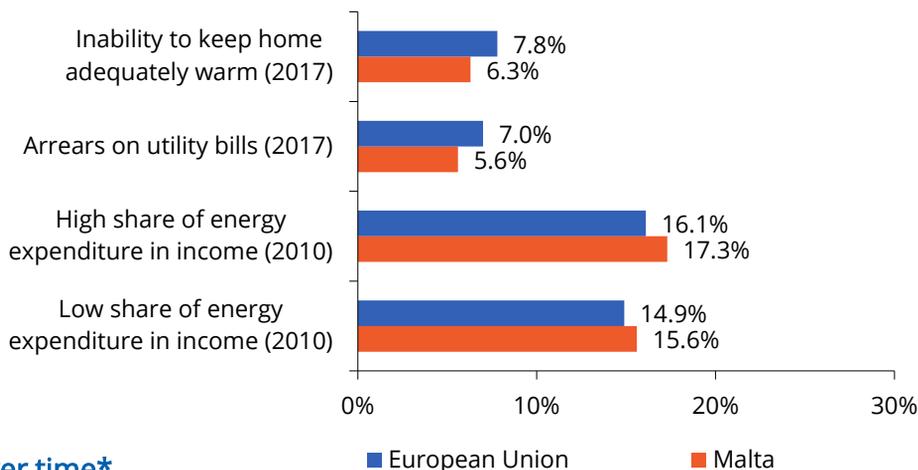
## DATA & STATISTICS

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

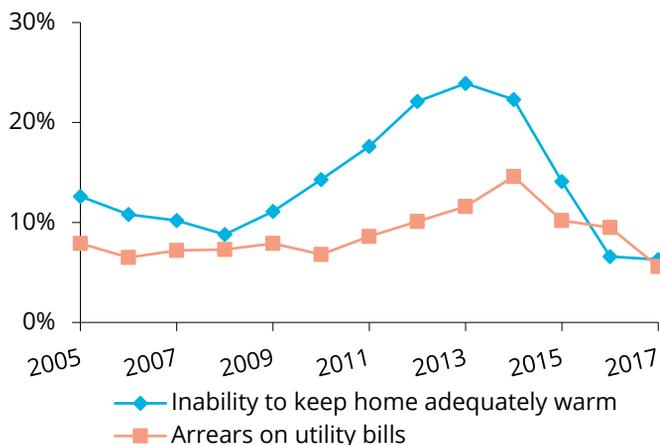
Malta performs better than the EU average on the household-reported indicators. 6.3% of households were unable to keep the home adequately warm in 2015, and 5.6% were in arrears on utility bills.

Malta scores around the EU average for the expenditure-based indicators. 17.3% of households spend more than twice the median on energy, and 15.6% spend less than half the median.

### Performance relative to EU average\*



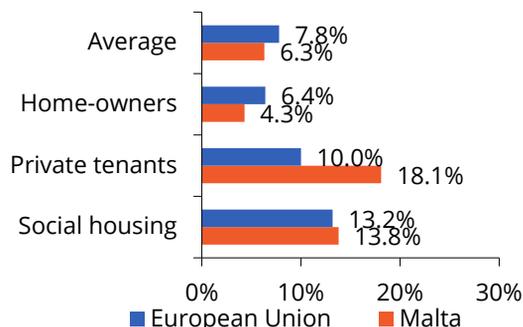
### Performance over time\*



The percentage of households in Malta unable to keep the home adequately warm increased from 9% in 2008 to 24% in 2013, which is likely due to the financial crisis. However, this indicator then substantially decreased to 7% in 2016 as a result of large investments in energy infrastructure. The development is somewhat similar for households in arrears on utility bills. It should be kept in mind that the arrears on utility bills indicator might not capture the ability to pay for LPG which is used in more than 50% of households for heating.

Disaggregated data of the household-reported indicators suggest that energy poverty in Malta is particularly a problem for households that rent their dwelling. In particular, private tenants are most likely to live in energy poverty in Malta.

### 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 Malta, specific research on energy poverty has yet to be developed. No publications were found that analyse energy poverty in Malta. However, indicators on energy poverty are included in Malta's Strategic Policy for Poverty Reduction and for Social Inclusion (2014-2024).

The most important instrument addressing energy poverty in Malta is the *energy benefit*, which provides financial assistance to households to pay for their electricity and LPG bills. The measure focuses on specific vulnerable groups, such as pensioners, the disabled, and the unemployed.

In addition, there are programs to stimulate energy efficiency and renewable energy in households. The *Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme* requires electricity and natural gas suppliers to achieve a certain amount of energy savings. In this scheme, the national government may require a share of energy efficiency measures to be implemented as a priority in households affected by energy poverty. The support schemes for renewable energy and insulation provides financial assistance to households to invest in renewable energy and energy efficiency options even though these are not specifically targeted to energy poor households.

The *Energy Efficiency in Low Income Households in Mediterranean* (ELIH-Med) project has also been active in Malta. The ELIH-Med focussed on large-scale identification and experimentation on a set of practical and innovative technical options and financial mechanisms targeted to develop energy efficiency in low-income housing. Another European project in Malta, SMART-UP (Consumer empowerment in a smart meter world), encourages the active use by vulnerable consumers of smart meters and in-home displays to change their energy behaviour. Social workers and other frontline staff have been trained within the project to advise and empower vulnerable households to become more energy efficient.

Selected measures	Type of measure	Organisation	Target groups
<a href="#">Support schemes for renewable energy and insulation</a>	Building insulation, Heating system, Renewable energy	National government	No specific target group
<a href="#">Energy Benefit</a>	Energy bill support	National government	Disabled, Households on social benefits, Low-income households, Pensioners, Unemployed
<a href="#">Energy efficiency obligations</a>	Information and awareness	Energy suppliers, Grid operator	No specific target group

### Selected Publications

- No publications found for Malta in the field of energy poverty.

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.