



# Member State Report Romania

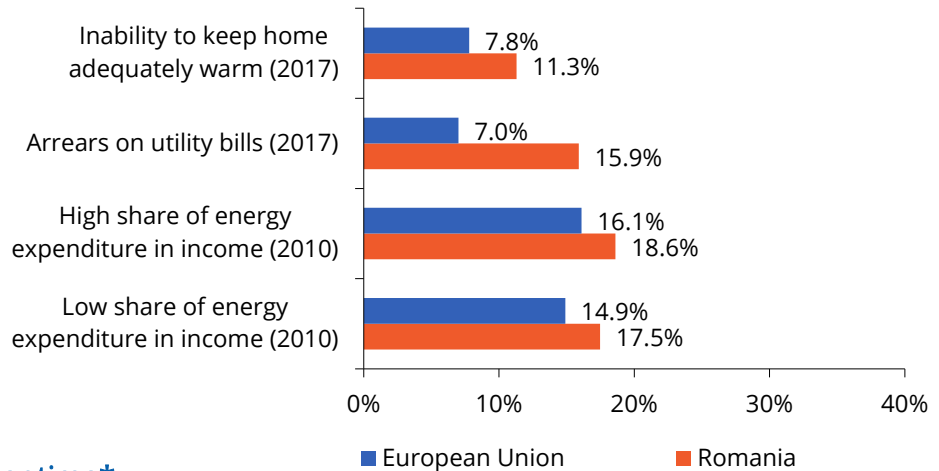
## DATA & STATISTICS

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

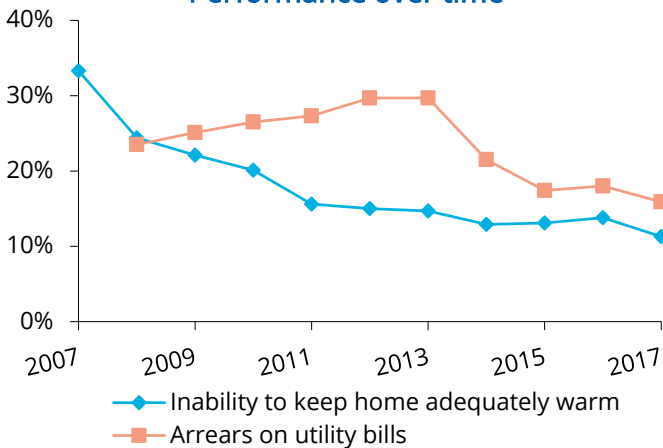
Romania performs worse than the EU average on the household-reported indicators. 11.3% of households were unable to keep the home adequately warm in 2017, and 15.9% were in arrears on utility bills.

Romania scores above the EU average for the expenditure-based indicators. 18.6% of households spend more than twice the median on energy, and 17.5% spend less than half the median.

### Performance relative to EU average\*

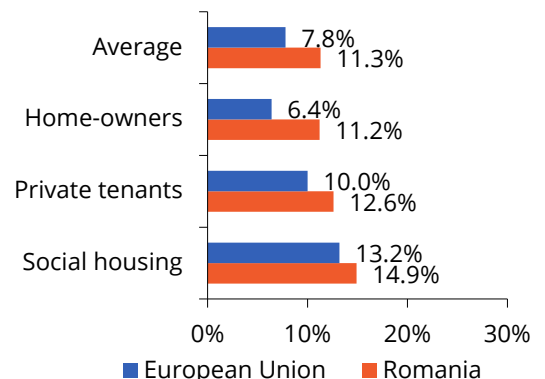


### Performance over time\*



In Romania, the percentage of households unable to keep the home adequately warm has decreased in recent years, from 33% in 2007 to 11% in 2017. The number of households in arrears on utility bills increased from 24% in 2008 to 30% in 2013, but decreased more recently to 16% in 2017.

### Inability to keep home adequately warm (2017)\*



Disaggregated data of the household-reported indicators suggest that energy poverty in Romania is a larger problem for households that rent their housing. This is particularly true for those in social housing. In addition, data points to detached housing as being the dwelling type most susceptible to energy poverty.

### 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.



# Member State Report Romania

KNOWLEDGE &  
RESOURCES

In Romania, research on energy poverty has become more prevalent in recent years. An extensive report on energy poverty in Romania was published in 2017 (Murea, Sinea, Jigla and Badescu 2017) and attention to the topic has been growing.

Energy poverty is addressed mainly on a national level through financial support to low-income households. The *social tariff* provides financial assistance for electricity bills for low-income households. Around 11% of Romanian households benefitted from the social tariff in 2016. Furthermore, the *heating aid* provides support to households to pay their heating bills in the winter (1 November–31 March). The Romanian government also provides a *minimum income* to low-income households to ensure a minimum standard of living.

In addition to financial support, electricity suppliers are prohibited from disconnecting vulnerable consumers from the grid. The program *Improving Energy Efficiency in Households and Low-Income Communities in Romania* focused on integrating energy poverty in Romanian policies, as well as carrying out energy efficiency measures in specific locations. Other energy efficiency programs exist, but these do not target energy poor households in particular. Examples include the *Program for energy efficiency renovations in apartment buildings* and the *Ordinance on energy efficiency improvements financed with loans*.

Selected measures	Type of measure	Organisation	Target groups
<a href="#">Program for energy efficiency renovations in apartment buildings</a>	Building insulation, Energy audits, Heating system	National government, Local government	Apartment buildings
<a href="#">Ordinance on energy efficiency improvements financed with loans</a>	Building insulation, Heating system	National government	No specific target group
<a href="#">Improving Energy Efficiency in Households and Low-Income Communities in Romania</a>	Building insulation, Information and awareness	National government	No specific target group
<a href="#">Disconnection protection vulnerable consumers</a>	Disconnection protection	National government	Vulnerable households
<a href="#">Heating aid during winter</a>	Energy bill support	National government	Low-income households, Vulnerable households
<a href="#">Minimum income</a>	Social support	National government	Low-income households
<a href="#">Social tariff</a>	Social tariff	National government	Low-income households

## Selected Publications

- Poputoaia, D., and Bouzarovski, S. (2010) [Regulating district heating in Romania: Legislative challenges and energy efficiency barriers](#)
- Househam, I., and Musatescu, V. (2012) [Fuel poverty \(in Romanian\)](#)
- Househam, I., and Musatescu, V. (2012) [Improving Energy Efficiency in Low-Income Households and Communities in Romania: Fuel Poverty Draft assessment report](#)
- Murafa, C., Sinea, A., Jigla, G. and Badescu, G. (2017) [Energy poverty and the vulnerable consumer: How far are we from Europe?](#)

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.

Contact us:  
[www.energypoverty.eu](http://www.energypoverty.eu)  
[contact@energypoverty.eu](mailto:contact@energypoverty.eu)  
Twitter at @EPOV\_EU

EU  
ENERGY POVERTY  
Observatory

