

# Final energy consumption in households by energy use

## Definition

The “Final energy consumption in households” indicator refers to the amount of energy consumed by households for final consumption purposes. The energy consumed by households can be for a variety of purposes, including space heating and cooling, water heating, cooking, lighting, and electrical appliances.

## Numbers

In 2023, the primary use of energy by households was for heating their homes (62.5% of final energy consumption in the residential sector), with renewables accounting almost a third (33%) of European Union (EU) households’ space heating consumption.

Natural gas accounted for 29.5% of the EU final energy consumption in households, electricity for 25.9%, renewables and biofuels 23.4%, and oil and petroleum products 10%.

## Limits

It can provide information on energy services’ type, level, and sustainability.

It leaves out the informal use of fuels like biomass.

At the household level, it can help identify families in difficulty.

When aggregated at the regional or national level, it can hide problems of under- and overconsumption.

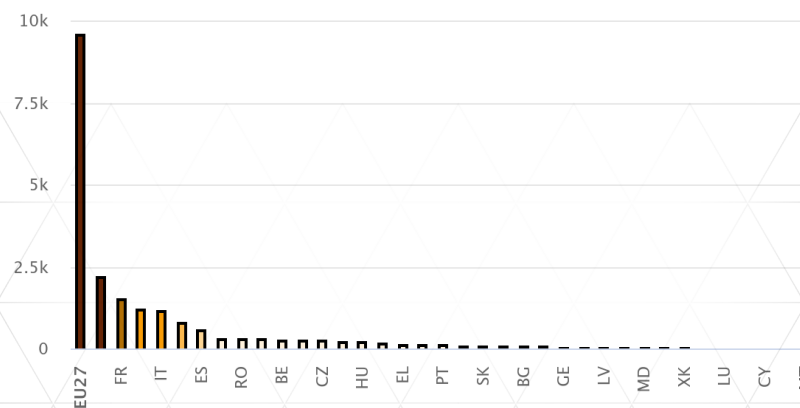
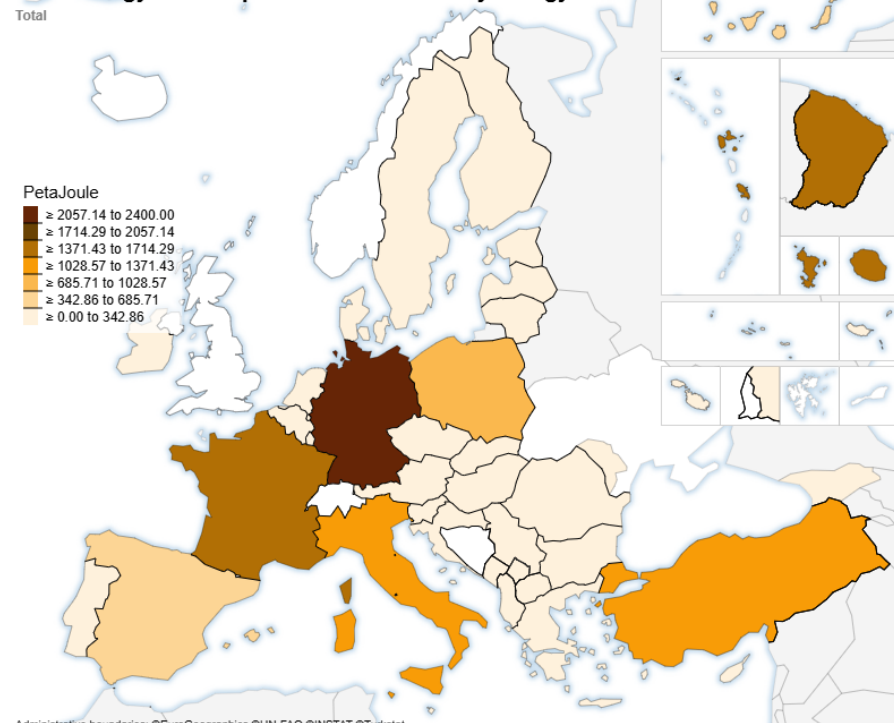
Needs to be analysed in conjunction with dwelling characteristics and energy efficiency, income, household composition, or self reported thermal comfort indicators.

## Example

A household may record regular energy consumption levels compared to average, but if it is composed of a large number of family members living in a cold climate region and in a poorly insulated home, it can be battling against a situation of energy poverty.

Additional insights in the EPAH report: [“Energy Poverty National Indicators: Uncovering New Possibilities for Expanded Knowledge”](#)

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Unit: [PJ] PetaJoule | Source: Eurostat | Last update: 2023

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