

High share of energy expenditure in income (2M)



Definition

The “high share of energy expenditure in income”, also called the “2M” indicator represents the proportion of households whose share of energy expenditure in income is more than twice the national median.

Examples

Imagine two households with the same energy expenditure share, but one does not pay for housing expenses and has an energy-efficient home. Their vulnerability has different levels. One might be spending energy on basic services and the other for leisure activities.

If overconsumption is a common practice within a population, using the median might hide the ones who only slightly overconsume and will not be identified as energy-poor.

Additional insights in the EPAH report: [“Energy Poverty National Indicators: Insights for a more effective measuring”](#)

Limits

It does not capture cases of under-consumption/energy self restriction.

It is a dynamic and relative indicator, as results depend on the population condition.

Its relative nature might hide certain energy-poor households.

Difficult to compare between countries as national statistics are used, which internalise local realities.

It does not reflect social, environmental, and infrastructural dimensions of the problem.

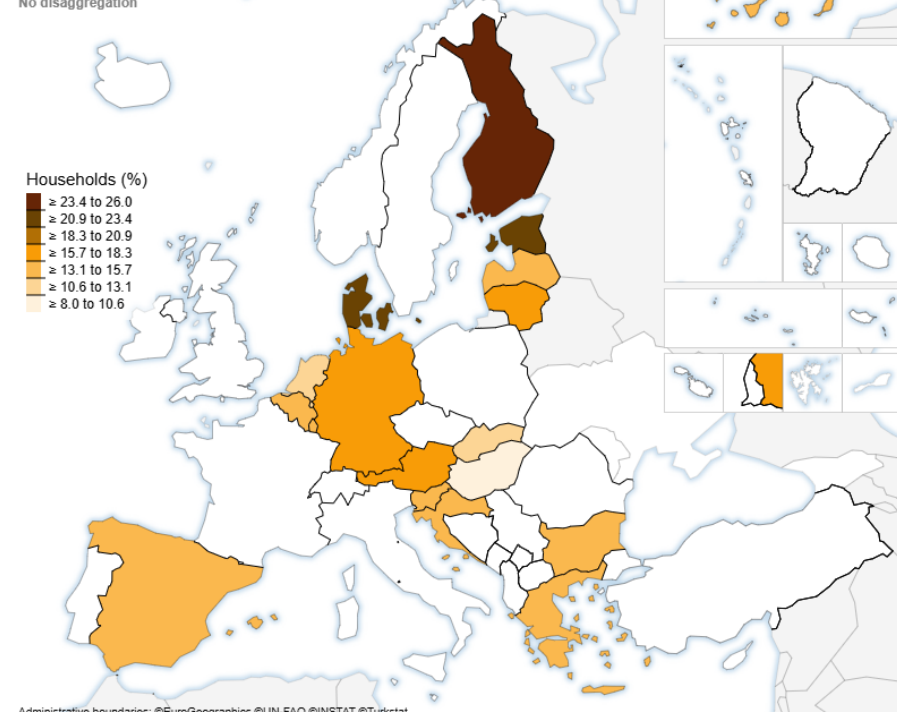
Numbers

In 2015, 14.6% of the European Union households presented high share of energy expenditure in income (EPOV, 2020) corresponding to 32 001.2* thousands of Europeans’ households.

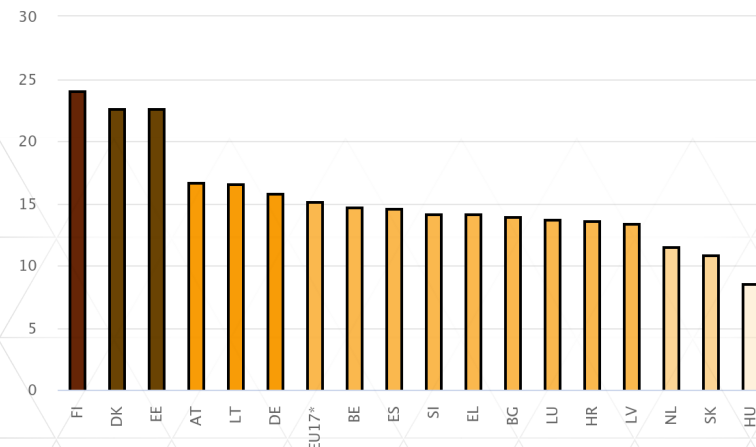
**considering that the European Union number of households in 2015 was 219 186.3 thousands, according to [EUROSTAT \(2022\)](#).*

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No disaggregation



Administrative boundaries: ©EuroGeographics ©UN-FAO ©INSTAT ©Turkstat



Unit: Households (%) | Source: HBS | Last update: 2020

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