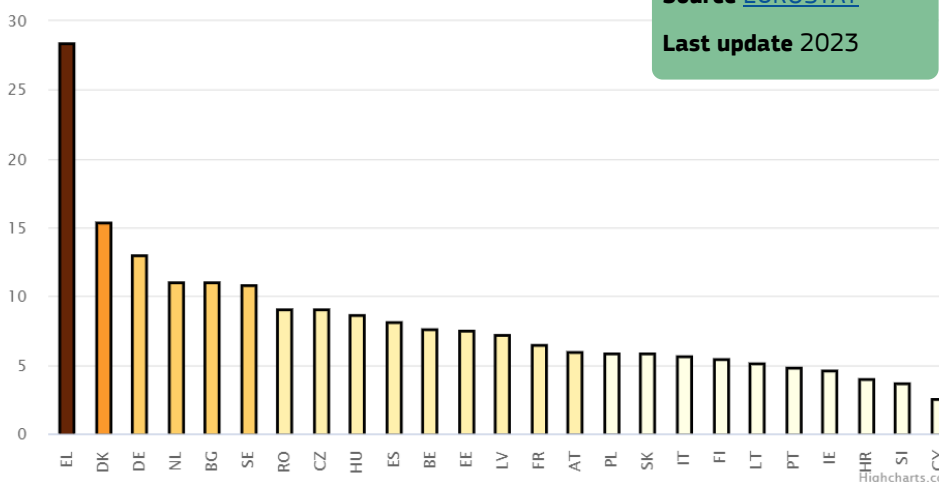
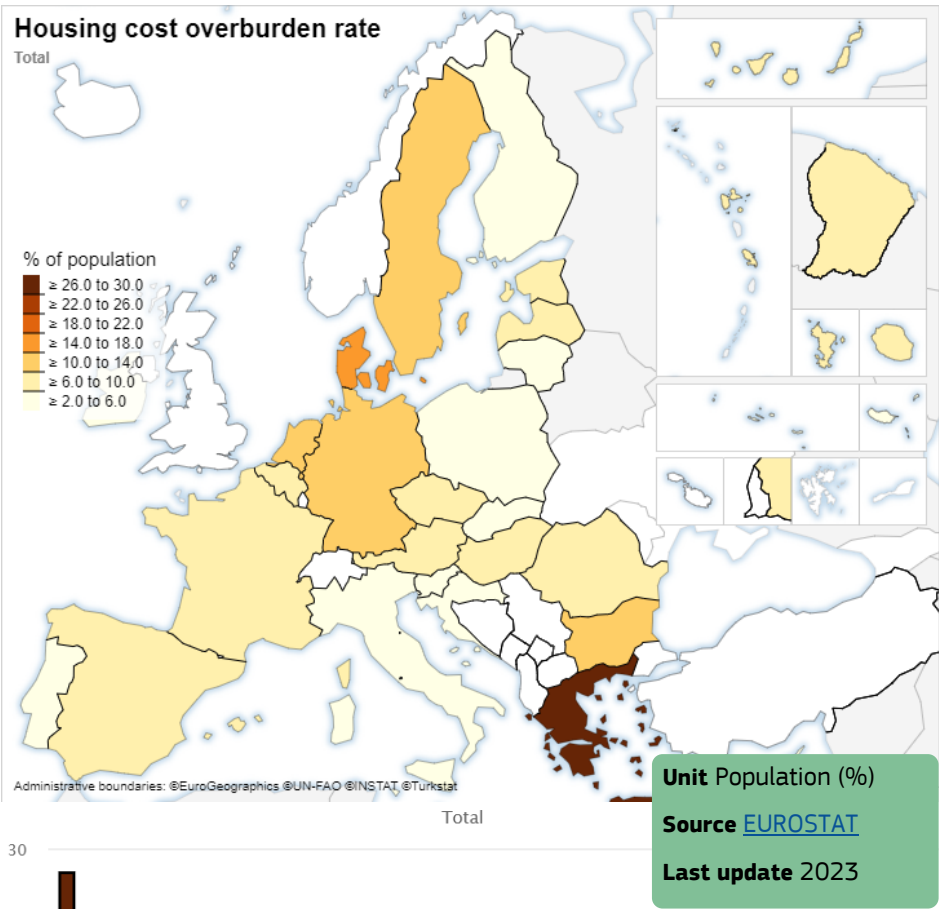


National indicator - Housing cost overburden rate



DEFINITION

The “Housing cost overburden rate” indicates the percentage of the population living in a household where the total housing costs (net of housing allowances) represent more than 40% of the total disposable household income.



LIMITS

- It is a measure of housing affordability
- It can be the result of an income drop, rent or mortgage increase or household decision
- Housing cost overburden may result in self-restriction of other basic needs
- It does not provide direct information about energy affordability
- Need to compare with income, energy efficiency, energy affordability and ability to maintain thermal comfort indicators to identify EP



NUMBERS

- In 2021, 8.3% of the European Union population lived with overburdened housing costs, corresponding to 37.1* million Europeans.
- *considering that the European Union population in 2021 was 447.0 million, according to EUROSTAT (2022)



EXAMPLE

A household spending a large portion of their income on housing costs due to high rents or mortgages due to rising interest rates may have to restrain energy consumption from making ends meet, thus being in a situation of energy poverty

More details and additional insights on the indicator are available in the EPAH report [“Energy Poverty National Indicators: Uncovering New Possibilities for Expanded Knowledge”](#).

