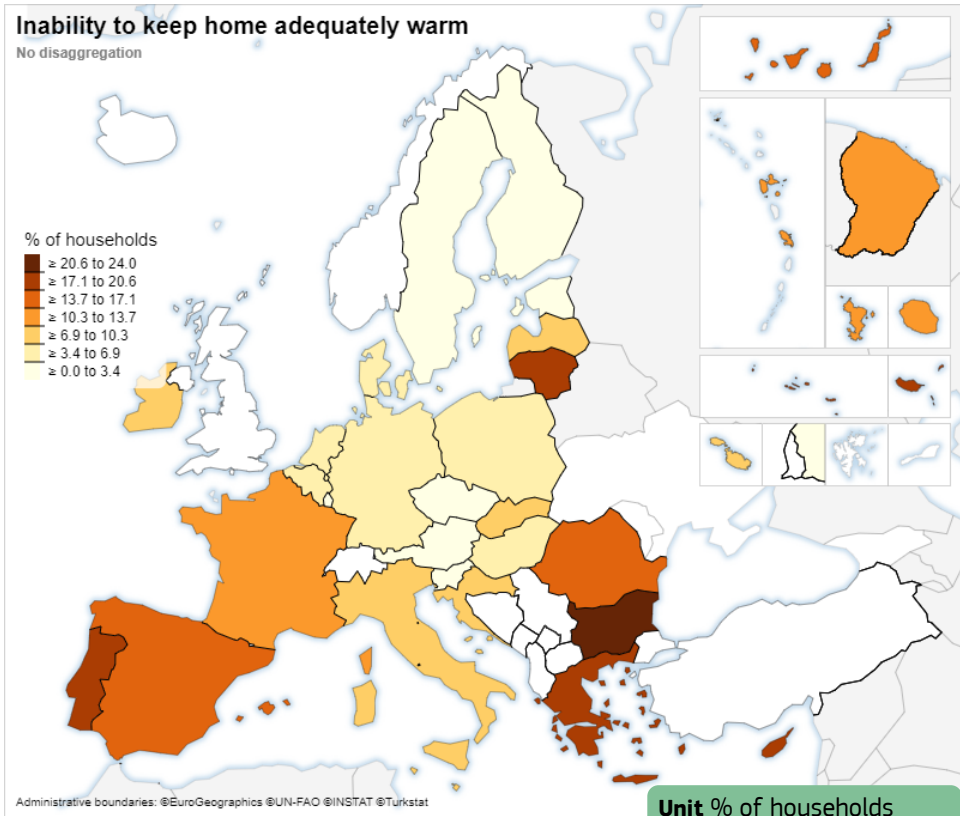
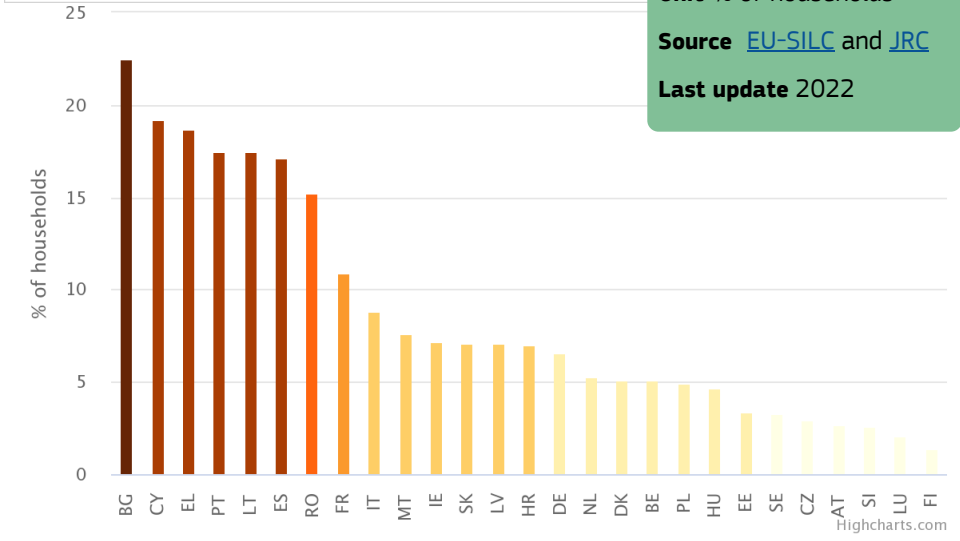


# National indicator - Inability to keep home adequately warm



**Unit** % of households  
**Source** [EU-SILC](#) and [JRC](#)  
**Last update** 2022



## DEFINITION

The “*inability to keep home adequately warm*” indicator represents the share of (sub-) population not able to keep their home adequately warm, based on the question “Can your household afford to keep its home adequately warm?”.

## LIMITS

The indicator is regularly measure and it provides important self-assessment of the household's energy poverty situation. However, it contains **limits**:



- It does not provide the causes for inability
- Adequate warmth is subjective and varies across countries, regions and households
- The dichotomous results do not capture the intensity and frequency of the problem
- Denial of reality in poor households might hinder the results

## NUMBERS



In 2021, **6.9%** of the **European Union** population presented **inability to keep home adequately warm** ([EUROSTAT, 2022](#)) corresponding to 30.8\* millions of Europeans.

\*considering that the European Union population in 2021 was 447.0 million, according to [EUROSTAT \(2022\)](#)

## EXAMPLES

An elderly person living alone, without any working heating equipment, only using blankets to keep warm.



A person in Germany, used to central heating, might find a particular temperature to be too cold, while a person in Portugal might find it comfortable and acceptable, as it is used to colder inside temperatures.

Two flat mates living in the same apartment with different social habits and standards of thermal comfort as a consequence.

More details and additional insights on the indicator are available in the EPAH report “[Energy Poverty National Indicators: Insights for a more effective measuring](#)”.

