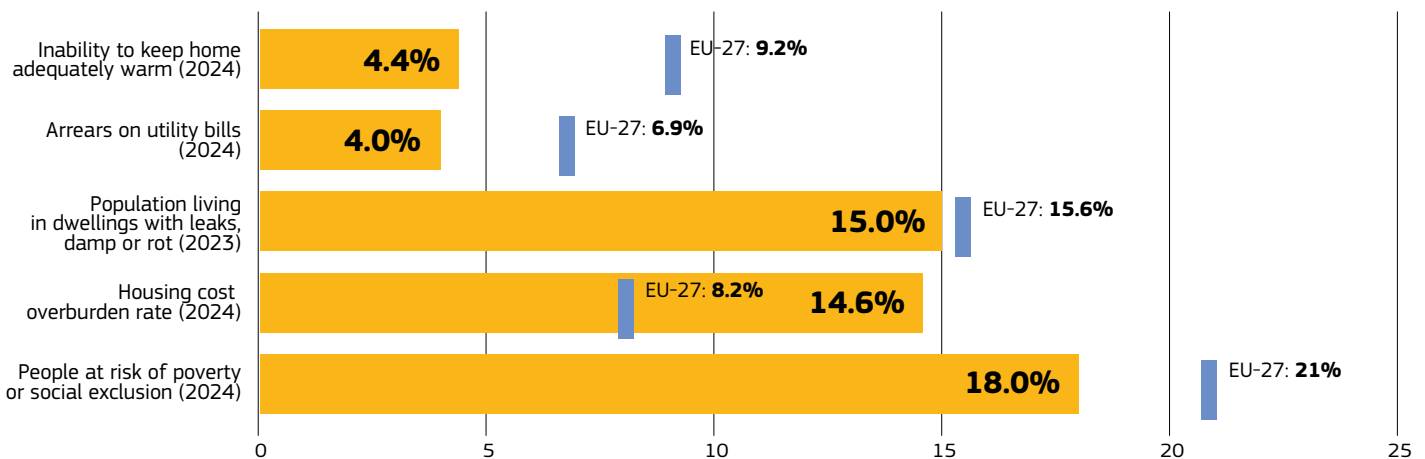


NATIONAL ENERGY POVERTY DEFINITION

To date, Denmark has not adopted a legally binding definition of energy poverty. Still, in October 2025, a [draft Executive Order on requirements for public financial activities targeted at energy renovations and on prioritizing low-income households with a certain energy burden in certain activities to promote energy efficiency](#) was formally submitted by the Danish Energy Agency which introduces a definition of energy poverty, referred to as “low-income households with an energy burden”. This proposed definition follows two criteria: i) equivalised disposable income below 50% of the national median, and ii) Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of E or lower.

ENERGY POVERTY EPAH INDICATORS

A selection of indicators, based on the Commission Recommendation (EU) 2020/1563 on energy poverty.



[EPAH'S ENERGY POVERTY INDICATORS DASHBOARD](#)



NATIONAL ENERGY POVERTY INDICATORS AND TARGETS

Denmark has not established energy poverty targets. Furthermore, national authorities do not routinely monitor or publish the evolution of energy poverty indicators. The assessment of energy poverty, for instance in the [National Energy and Climate Plan for 2030](#), is performed through three indicators (described below). These are combined into two different models, leading to estimates of between 7,000 and 29,000 energy-poor households, corresponding to approximately 0.2-0.9 % of all Danish households in 2022.

1. A family is low-income if the equivalised disposable income is less than 50% of the median of the population for that year.
2. Buildings with energy label E or worse are considered as low energy performance.
3. High energy consumption is considered when households' energy use is more than double of the Danish median. Energy consumption is calculated as the household's energy use divided by the equivalised number of persons in the household.

NATIONAL ENERGY POVERTY GOVERNANCE
KEY POLICIES ADDRESSING ENERGY POVERTY

YEAR	LAW	DESCRIPTION
2020	Long-Term Building Renovation Strategy	Outlines the country's approach to improving the energy performance of its building aligned with the EU Renovation Wave. Defines national measures for vulnerable groups, including targeted renovation programs, financial support, public awareness campaigns, and integration with social policies.
2024	Electricity Supply Act, the Gas Supply Act and the Penal Code	Introduces consumer protection and heating sector provisions, referencing vulnerable customers and improving disconnection safeguards, transparency, and coordination with social services.
2024	National Energy and Climate Plan for 2030	Describes energy poverty mainly as a social policy issue. The plan recognises the issue but sets no specific targets or measures to address it. It refers to existing social-welfare schemes as the tools for support and includes only limited protective actions.
2025	Act on the Promotion of Efficient Energy Use and GHG Reduction	Transposes parts of the EED recast, ensuring that building renovation and heating-upgrade schemes prioritise vulnerable households. It designates the Council for Energy-Efficient Transition as the national advisory network, including for improving energy efficiency among low-income households.
Ongoing	Social Climate Plan	Denmark is developing its Social Climate Plan. Denmark received support from the European Commission's Technical Support Instrument (TSI) to develop its Social Climate Plan.

NATIONAL ENERGY POVERTY OBSERVATORY

Denmark does not have a National Energy Poverty Observatory.

EPAH ANTENNAS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

EPAH Antenna: EPAH has partnerships with energy poverty stakeholders in all Member States. In Denmark, the Antenna is the EC Network. It has extensive experience working with sustainable energy at the European, national, and local levels in Denmark, including, for instance, supporting municipalities in their local energy and climate plans with an emphasis on energy poverty.

Website: www.ecnetwork.dk. Contact: ecnetwork@ecnetwork.dk. Check [EPAH's Organisations List](#) to discover other energy poverty stakeholders in the country.

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NATIONAL MEASURES AND ILLUSTRATIVE PRACTICES

This section highlights a selection of ongoing national measures and local initiatives addressing energy poverty. Further projects and updated information are available in the online EPAH Atlas database.

EPAH ATLAS DATABASE


MEASURES	DESCRIPTION
Varmetillæg (heating allowance) <i>[since early 2000s]</i>	A social welfare benefit that works as a subsidy for heating costs, including for electricity, gas, oil, and district heating. Public pensioners and those granted early retirement can apply to this support. Both tenants and owners are eligible. It only covers a part of the heating costs when these are above a defined threshold according to household composition and heating source.
Boligstøtte (housing support) <i>[since 1991]</i>	A tax-free housing subsidy that helps renters with low or moderate incomes pay their housing costs. It varies depending on income, rent level, household size, and whether the recipient is a pensioner or not.
Varmepumpepuljen (heat pump pool) <i>[since 2023]</i>	The heat pump pool is a state subsidy scheme to support the installation of heat pumps. The application must be submitted by the homeowner, and the existing heating system must be oil, gas, biomass or electric. It is distributed on a first-come, first-served basis and does not include specific provisions for energy-poor households.
Energirenoveringspuljen (energy renovation pool) <i>[since 2023]</i>	The energy renovation pool is a grant scheme for private homeowners to improve energy efficiency, covering interventions related to insulation, windows, ventilation system, water-based space heating, and energy label. The house must have a valid and updated energy label in category D, E, F or G. It does not include specific provisions for energy-poor households.
Landsbyggefonden (national building fund) <i>[since 1967]</i>	The national building fund is an independent institution founded by the public housing organizations. It finances large-scale renovation in social housing, including energy retrofits, modernization, and outdoor areas. The fund is financed by rent payments, benefitting lower- to moderate-income tenants.

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NATIONAL MEASURES AND ILLUSTRATIVE PRACTICES

ILLUSTRATIVE PRACTICES	DESCRIPTION
The Little Green Book: Affordable Energy Renovation in Denmark's Social Housing Sector	<p>“The Little Green Book” is a national handbook helping Danish social housing associations carry out energy renovations. The initiative supports over one million residents living in public housing, many of whom are low-income households at risk of energy poverty. It introduces practical models for cost-neutral renovation where energy savings pay back investments without increasing rent or energy bills, providing a replicable model for housing associations.</p>
COHEAT – Collective Green Heating and Citizen-Led Renovation in Rural Denmark	<p>COHEAT is an EU LIFE-CET project (2023-2028) supporting citizen-driven heating and renovation initiatives in rural Denmark. The project helps communities plan and finance collective renewable-heating systems and energy renovations. It demonstrates how community ownership, trust, and cross-sectoral cooperation can make the green transition inclusive and financially viable for vulnerable rural areas.</p>
EPAH Technical Assistance	<p>The Ishøj Kommune received technical support from EPAH to provide ethnic minorities with affordable advice on energy saving and to develop a training program to address winter vulnerability.</p>

FURTHER READING

- [The links and entanglements of energy vulnerability in Denmark: Unpacking the consequences of the energy crisis in Denmark](#)
- [Energy renovation of buildings: Realising the untapped potential of the built environment](#)
- [Energy communities can accelerate the green transition with public support](#)
- [Energy poverty in the Nordic countries](#)
- [Energifællesskab Avedøre – Denmark's First Citizen-Led Energy Community](#)

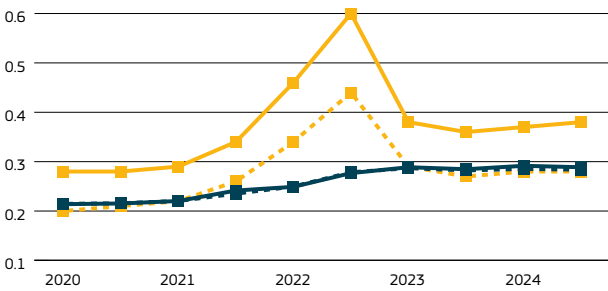
MEMBER STATE BACKGROUND

Denmark is a Nordic country in Northern Europe with a temperate climate. The country has a population of [5,961,249 people](#). The real GDP per capita in 2024 was [58,160 euros](#), which is above the EU-27 average value (33,650 euros). Denmark has a Gini coefficient of [28.6](#) (a measure of economic inequality), which is below the EU-27 average value of 29.4.

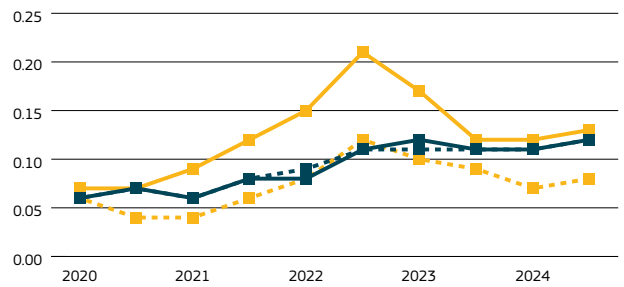
ENERGY PRICES

—●— Denmark (in EURO)
 - - -●- - - Denmark (in PPP)
 —■— EU-27 (in EURO)
 - - -■- - - EU-27 (in PPP)

ELECTRICITY PRICES FOR HOUSEHOLD CONSUMERS

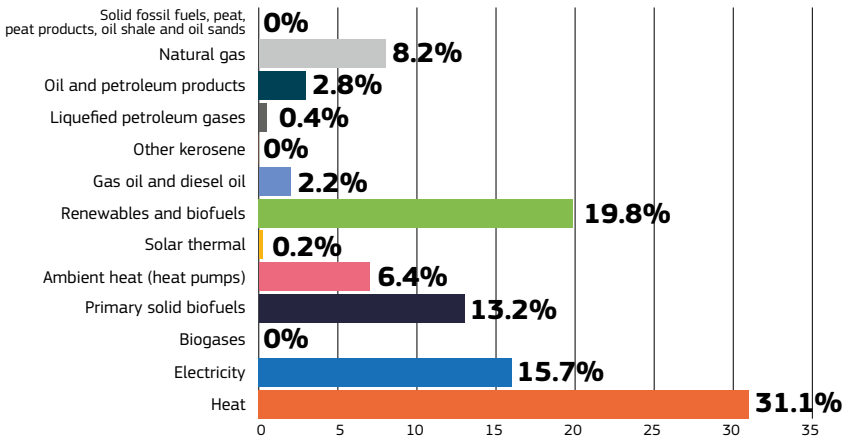


GAS PRICES FOR HOUSEHOLD CONSUMERS

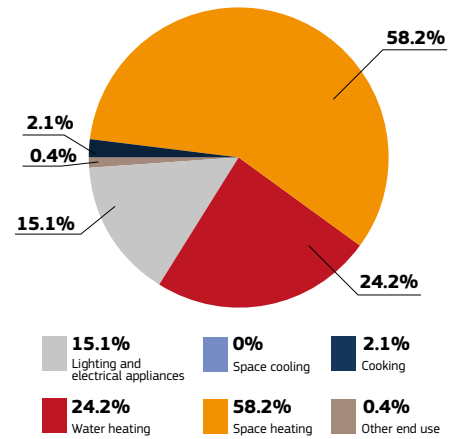


HOUSEHOLDS ENERGY CONSUMPTION

FINAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN HOUSEHOLDS BY ENERGY SOURCE (2024)



FINAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN HOUSEHOLDS BY END USE (2024)



VULNERABLE AND HARD TO REACH

Note: All data shown as a share of the total population of the country (2024). [Source](#).

	Low income	34%
	Low education	15%

	Rural households	33%
	Elderly households	20%
	Young households	18%
	Single parents	6%

	Migrants	14%
	Unemployed persons	5%
	Ill-health and disabilities	32%
	Tenants	39%