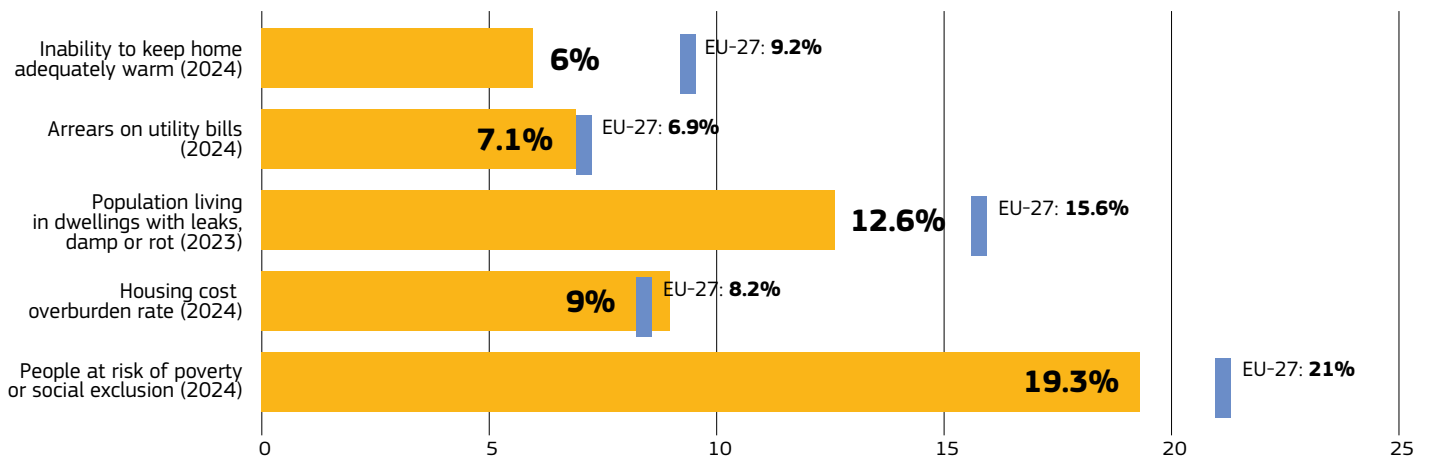


NATIONAL ENERGY POVERTY DEFINITION

The [National Energy and Climate Plan for 2030 \(published in 2024\)](#) introduces the concept of energy poverty in Hungary. A household is considered to fall into energy poverty if it has the following characteristics: 1) lack of adequate heating in the home among the particularly vulnerable population, 2) arrears in utility bills among the particularly vulnerable population, particularly vulnerable people living in dwellings with leaking roofs, damp walls, floors or foundations, or with rotting window frames or flooring, and 3) people with an income below 60% of the median equivalised income after social transfers (particularly vulnerable population).

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

Hungary has not defined energy poverty targets. Still, the [National Energy and Climate Plan](#) states that around 300,000 people may be energy-poor (3% of the population), highlighting the role of the energy price-cap system in shielding households from high prices. Two household typologies have been identified as being particularly affected by energy poverty, namely large families living in detached houses in small settlements, and elderly people living alone in apartment buildings or in detached houses.

NATIONAL ENERGY POVERTY GOVERNANCE**KEY POLICIES ADDRESSING ENERGY POVERTY**

YEAR	LAW	DESCRIPTION
2020	Long-Term Building Renovation Strategy	The LTRS aims to achieve a renovation rate of 3% per year for the total housing stock by 2030. The strategy sets out 35 actions with monitoring to be performed by a Building Renovation Monitoring System (ÉMOR). While energy poverty is not explicitly mentioned in the document, the strategy frames the need for special attention to vulnerable and low-income groups.
2024	National Energy and Climate Plan for 2030	The NECP briefly mentions energy poverty, highlighting consumer protection through an electricity and gas price-cap mechanism which encompasses most residential energy consumption. The NECP outlines measures for housing construction, renovation, heating modernisation, and energy efficiency. The Plan identifies the key drivers of energy vulnerability in Hungary as the predominance of natural gas heating, the inefficiency of residential buildings, and the challenges regarding energy supply.

NATIONAL ENERGY POVERTY OBSERVATORY

Hungary does not currently have a National Energy Poverty Observatory. As of September 2025, the EU-funded [LIFE NEXUS](#) project aims to establish an energy poverty observatory in the country.

EPAH ANTENNAS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

EPAH Antenna: EPAH has partnerships with energy poverty stakeholders in all Member States. In Hungary, the Antenna is the Reflex Environmental Association. It provides comprehensive support for advancing energy poverty initiatives, including the promotion and dissemination of projects, capacity-building and technical assistance for affected communities, knowledge development and data collection, and policy analysis.

Website: <https://reflexegyesulet.hu/>. Contact: bea.lugosi@gmail.com, veroninemeth@gmail.com.

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
<p>Szociális Tüzelőanyag-támogatás (social fuel subsidy) <i>[since 2011]</i></p>	<p>The Social Fuel Programme is a state subsidy that provides low-income or otherwise vulnerable families with fuel (wood or coal) during the winter heating season. The program is implemented at the municipal level in small settlements (fewer than 5,000 inhabitants), and families must apply for assistance from their local government. The scheme provides support to around 200,000 households each year to reduce their fuel costs.</p>
<p>Otthonfelújítási Program (home renovation grant) <i>[since 2024, earlier versions since 2021]</i></p>	<p>This government-backed scheme supports energy-efficiency renovations of privately owned houses. Eligible homeowners can receive a combination of a non-refundable grant plus an interest-free loan for works such as insulation, window/door replacement, heating, and water heating system modernisation.</p>
<p>Vidéki Otthonfelújítási Program (rural home renovation grant) <i>[since 2025]</i></p>	<p>This programme targets owner-occupied houses in small municipalities (under 5,000 inhabitants), providing a non-repayable grant covering up to 50% of renovation or energy-upgrade costs, often complemented by preferential loan options. It aims to support rural households in renovating inefficient housing, including energy efficiency works and solar installations.</p>
<p>Napenergia Plusz Program (solar plus programme) <i>[2024-2025]</i></p>	<p>A national subsidy launched to support households (owners of single-family houses, semi-detached or small row/condominiums) who install new solar PV and optional storage systems. The subsidy covers 66% of eligible investment costs, encouraging uptake of solar energy.</p>
<p>Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme – EEOS <i>[since 2021, reformed in 2025]</i></p>	<p>The Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme (EEOS) serves not only to achieve energy efficiency targets and reduce the country's final energy consumption, but also contributes to economic growth, the creation of new jobs, and the improvement of the living conditions, including the reduction of household utility bills. In addition, it promotes the involvement of both businesses and households, enabling all stakeholders to take an active role in the country's sustainable development. Since the 2025 residential-focused reform of the EEOS, the renovation of 50,000 households was completed either without self-funding or at a reduced cost. The target for 2026 is the further energy-efficient renovation of another 50,000 households.</p>

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NATIONAL MEASURES AND ILLUSTRATIVE PRACTICES

ILLUSTRATIVE PRACTICES	DESCRIPTION
Emerging Settlements Programme	<p>Launched in 2019, this programme targets the 300 most disadvantaged Hungarian settlements for comprehensive social inclusion, development and support. In 2020, the programme installed its first social solar plant in Tiszabó as a pilot model. The revenue from energy sales is allocated to a support fund. Following, prepaid electricity meters are credited during winter to cover households' electric heating needs.</p>
Community Energy Knowledge Space	<p>SHAREs was an EU-funded Horizon 2020 project (2021–2024) whose goal was to support “local heroes” in setting up or expanding energy communities across six partner countries. It produced a community energy knowledge space for Hungary (Közösségi Energia Tudástér) to serve as a one-stop-shop with legal, financial, organisational guidance for energy communities which remains active to date.</p>
EPAH Technical Assistance	<p>The Bukkszentkereszt Municipality applied for the EPAH technical assistance programme and received support from the ELTE University and Environmental Planning & Education Network. This small village faces significant energy poverty problems, with most homes relying on firewood for heating. The project aimed to improve air quality by moving away from unhealthy wood burning. It deployed action days, community planning and explored alternative heating technologies.</p>

FURTHER READING

- [RENOVERTY Rural Renovation Roadmaps – Hungary](#)
- [Fit for 55 and energy poverty: The effects of the European Union’s building energy reforms and related policies on domestic energy poverty](#)
- [Energy poverty and energy transition in Hungary: The same systemic solutions to reduce fossil energy dependence and housing poverty](#)
- [The Hungarian utility cost reduction programme: An impact assessment](#)
- [Comparative analysis of the subsidy schemes supporting the energy efficient renovation of residential buildings – First report: case studies of Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary and Romania](#)

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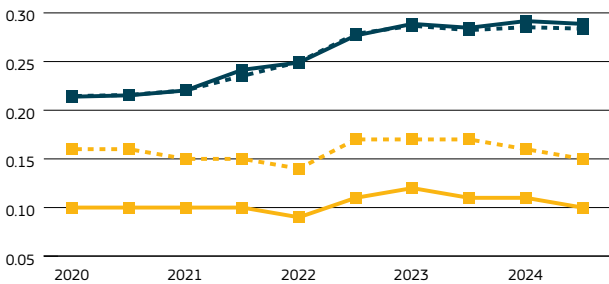
MEMBER STATE BACKGROUND

Hungary is a Central European country with a predominantly continental climate, featuring hot summers and cold winters. The country has a population of [9,584,627 people](#). The real GDP per capita in 2024 was [16,190 euros](#), which is below the EU-27 average value (33,650 euros). Hungary has a Gini coefficient of [28.0](#) (a measure of economic inequality), which is below the EU-27 average value of 29.4.

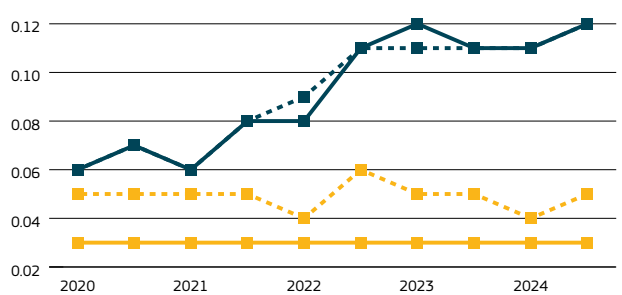
ENERGY PRICES

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

ELECTRICITY PRICES FOR HOUSEHOLD CONSUMERS

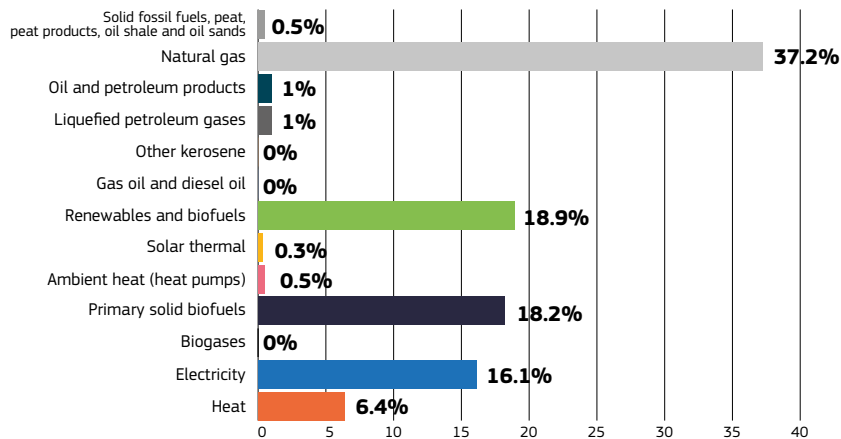


GAS PRICES FOR HOUSEHOLD CONSUMERS

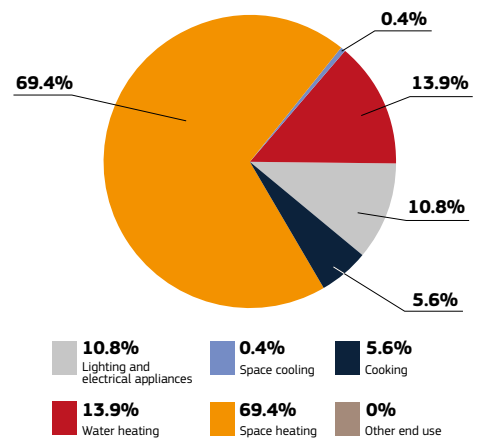


HOUSEHOLDS ENERGY CONSUMPTION

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	27%
	Low education	11%

	Rural households	32%
	Elderly households	15%
	Young households	9%
	Single parents	4%

	Migrants	7%
	Unemployed persons	4%
	Ill-health and disabilities	31%
	Tenants	8%