

Energy Prices

District Heating Prices

Definition

This indicator measures the average household price per kWh from district heating, reflecting the cost of centralised heat supply as a key determinant of energy affordability for households connected to district heating networks.

Examples

A low-income household connected to an expensive or inefficient district heating system may face high heating costs with limited capacity to switch to alternative solutions, due to significant technical, administrative, and financial barriers, increasing vulnerability to energy poverty.

A household in a country where district heating prices are regulated or subsidised may be partially shielded from energy poverty conditions, illustrating how pricing governance can significantly affect household vulnerability.

Additional insights in the EPAH report: **“Energy poverty national indicators: Insights for a more effective measuring”**

Numbers

Comparable MS-level household district heating price data is currently available up to 2015. Updated data across Member States remains limited, partly reflecting the geographical concentration of district heating networks in Northern and Eastern Europe.

Limits

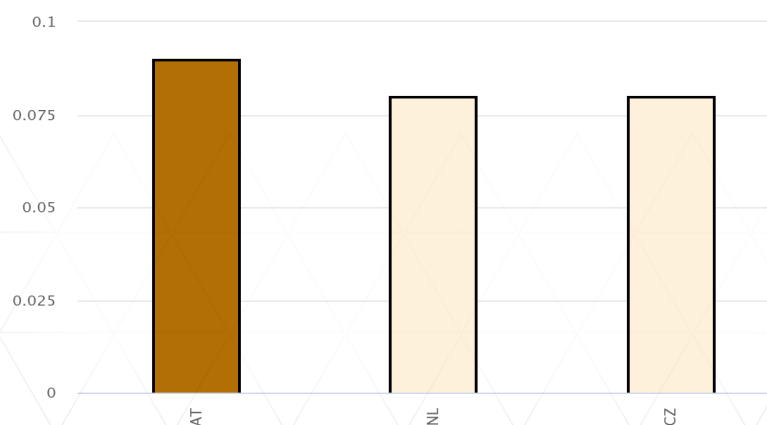
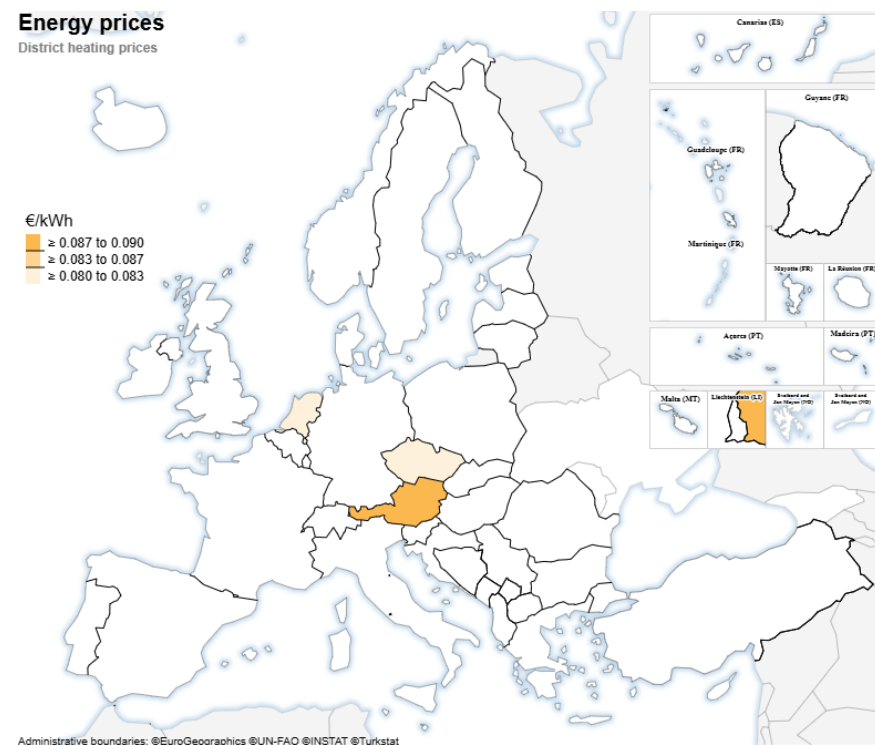
Comparable EU-level household district heating price data is only available up to 2015, limiting the ability to assess recent trends and current affordability conditions.

Technical, administrative, and financial barriers to switching from district heating to alternative heating modalities vary significantly across countries, affecting households' capacity to respond to price increases.

Cross-country comparisons based on nominal prices may be misleading without adjustment for differences in purchasing power across Member States.

This indicator does not capture the fuel and technology mix at the national level, which is necessary to contextualise district heating prices within broader household energy expenditure patterns.

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Unit: €/kWh | **Source:** Building Stock Observatory | **Data reporting period:** 2004-2015

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