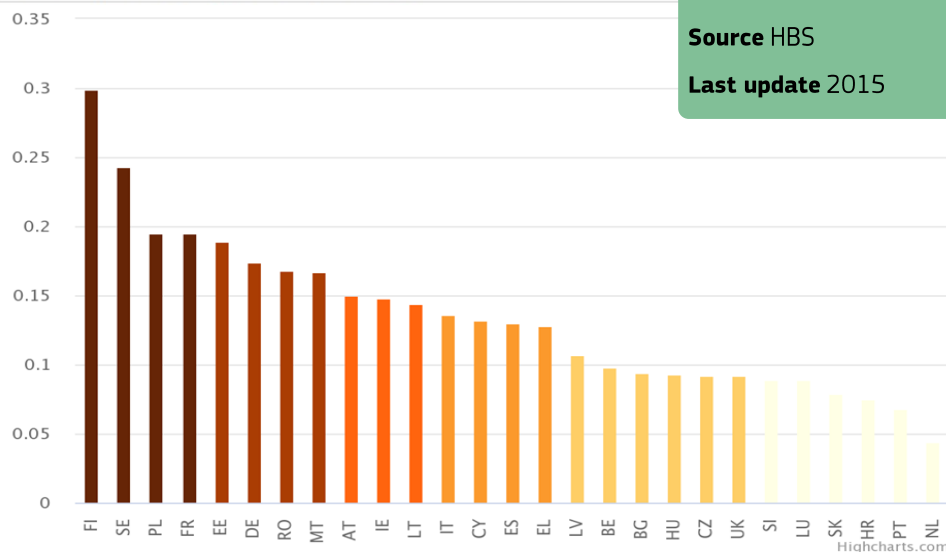
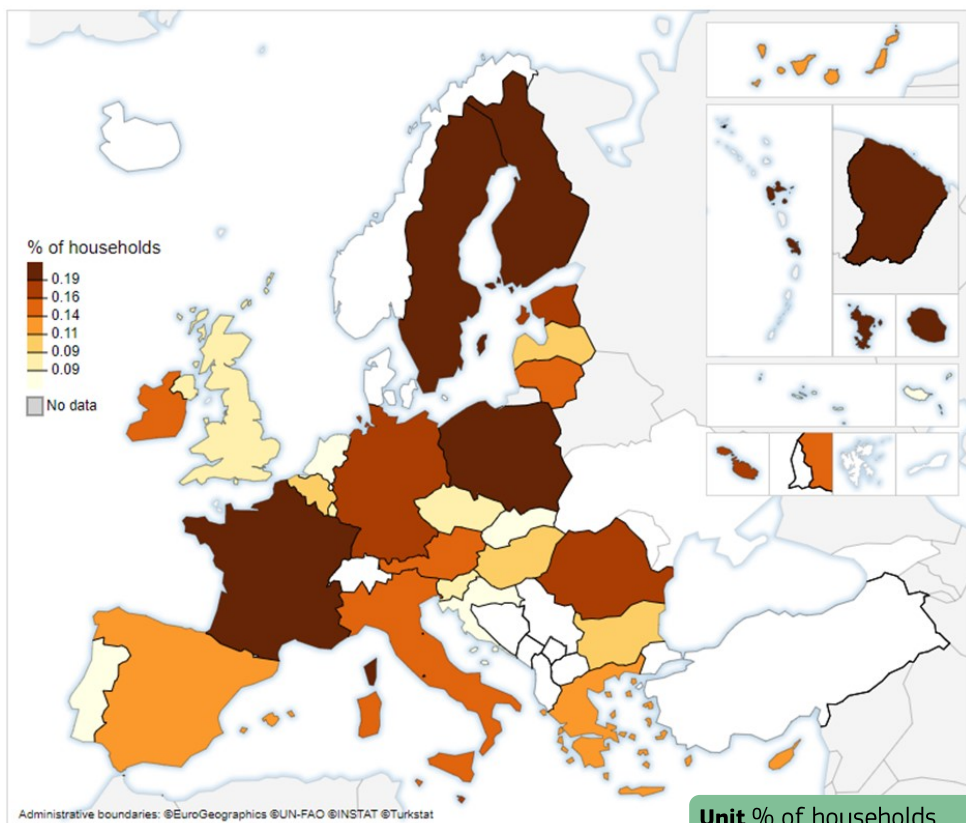


National indicator - Low absolute energy expenditure (M/2)



The “*low absolute energy expenditure*” also called “M/2” indicator represents the share of households whose absolute energy expenditure is below half the national median or, in other words, abnormally low.

DEFINITION

The indicator represents cases of hidden energy poverty, where energy consumption is abnormally low, but it contains **limits**:

LIMITS



- It does not capture cases of overconsumption/energy self-restriction.
- Might capture non energy-poor households living in very energy efficient dwellings
- It is a dynamic and relative indicator, as results depend on the population expenditure distribution
- Its relative nature might hide certain energy-poor households
- Difficult to compare between countries as national statistics are used, which internalise local realities
- It does not reflect social, environmental, and infrastructural dimensions of the problem



In 2015, **16.2%** of the **European Union** households presented **low absolute energy expenditure** corresponding to 35 508.18* thousands of Europeans’ households.

NUMBERS

*considering that the European Union households in 2015 was 219 186.3 thousands, according to [EUROSTAT \(2022\)](#).



Two households can have the same energy expenditure, but one is composed of only one person or a couple and inhabits a very efficient and smart home, and other can be composed of 5 people and live in a deteriorated home.

EXAMPLE

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

