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Renewable energy

Share of renewable energy up to 13% of energy consumption in the EU27 in 2011

In 2011, energy from renewable sources¹ was estimated to have contributed 13.0% of gross final energy consumption in the **EU27**, compared with 7.9% in 2004 and 12.1% in 2010. The share of renewables in gross final energy consumption is one of the headline indicators of the Europe 2020 strategy². The target for the **EU27** to be reached by 2020 is a share of 20% renewable energy use in gross final energy consumption. The national targets³ take into account the Member States' different starting points, renewable energy potential and economic performance.

These figures⁴ are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, and highlight the development of renewable energy sources in energy consumption in the EU27 and the Member States.

Highest share of renewables in Sweden, Latvia, Finland and Austria

Between 2010 and 2011, almost all Member States increased their share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption. The highest shares of renewable energy in final energy consumption in 2011 were found in **Sweden** (46.8% of renewable energy sources in total consumption), **Latvia** (33.1%), **Finland** (31.8%) and **Austria** (30.9%), and the lowest in **Malta** (0.4%), **Luxembourg** (2.9%), the **United Kingdom** (3.8%), **Belgium** (4.1%) and the **Netherlands** (4.3%). In 2011, **Estonia** was the first Member State to exceed its Europe 2020 target.

Since 2004⁵, the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption grew in all Member States. The largest increases during this period were recorded in **Sweden** (from 38.3% in 2004 to 46.8% in 2011), **Denmark** (from 14.9% to 23.1%), **Austria** (from 22.8% to 30.9%), **Germany** (from 4.8% to 12.3%) and **Estonia** (from 18.4% to 25.9%).

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Share of energy from renewable sources
(in % of gross final energy consumption)

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	2020 target ⁶
EU27	7.9	8.5	9.6	12.1	13.0	20
Belgium*	1.9	2.6	3.0	4.0	4.1	13
Bulgaria	9.2	9.3	9.5	13.4	13.8	16
Czech Republic	5.9	6.4	7.2	8.4	9.4	13
Denmark	14.9	16.4	18.6	22.0	23.1	30
Germany	4.8	5.5	7.3	10.7	12.3	18
Estonia	18.4	16.1	18.9	24.6	25.9	25
Ireland	2.4	3.1	3.6	5.6	6.7	16
Greece	7.1	7.2	8.0	9.2	11.6	18
Spain	8.1	9.0	10.1	13.8	15.1	20
France	9.1	9.1	9.9	11.4	11.5	23
Italy	4.9	5.4	6.3	9.8	11.5	17
Cyprus	2.7	2.8	3.7	4.6	5.4	13
Latvia	32.8	31.1	29.8	32.5	33.1	40
Lithuania	17.2	16.6	16.9	19.8	20.3	23
Luxembourg	0.9	1.5	1.8	2.9	2.9	11
Hungary*	4.4	5.0	5.6	7.6	8.1	13
Malta	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	10
Netherlands	1.8	2.2	2.7	3.3	4.3	14
Austria	22.8	24.4	26.9	30.4	30.9	34
Poland	7.0	6.9	7.2	9.3	10.4	15
Portugal	19.3	20.6	22.3	22.7	24.9	31
Romania	17.0	17.1	20.1	22.9	21.4	24
Slovenia	16.1	15.5	14.6	19.6	18.8	25
Slovakia	6.7	6.5	7.5	8.5	9.7	14
Finland	29.0	29.8	30.5	31.0	31.8	38
Sweden	38.3	41.7	43.9	47.9	46.8	49
United Kingdom	1.1	1.4	1.9	3.3	3.8	15
Norway	58.6	60.6	61.7	61.4	64.7	67.5
Croatia	15.2	13.8	12.2	14.6	15.7	20

* Eurostat estimates

- Renewable energy sources cover solar thermal and photovoltaic energy, hydro (including tide, wave and ocean energy), wind, geothermal energy and biomass (including biological waste and liquid biofuels). The contribution of renewable energy from heat pumps is also covered for the Member States for which this information was available. The renewable energy delivered to final consumers (industry, transport, households, services including public services, agriculture, forestry and fisheries) is the numerator of the Europe 2020 target. The denominator, the gross final energy consumption of all energy sources, covers total energy delivered for energy purposes to final consumers as well as the transmission and distribution losses for electricity and heat.
- For more information on the Europe 2020 strategy visit: http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_en.htm
- For more information on the targets for renewable energy visit: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/index_en.htm
- For additional Eurostat data on energy visit: <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/energy/introduction>
- 2004 is the first year for which the share can be calculated on a harmonized basis.
- Progress towards the 2020 targets is measured against the indicative trajectory defined in Annex I of Directive 2009/28/EC: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:140:0016:0062:en:PDF>. Each Member State shall ensure that the 2011-2012 average of its share of renewable energy is above its indicative trajectory for 2011-2012. In 20 Member States the shares of energy from renewable sources in 2011 were above these trajectories.