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Renewable energy in the EU

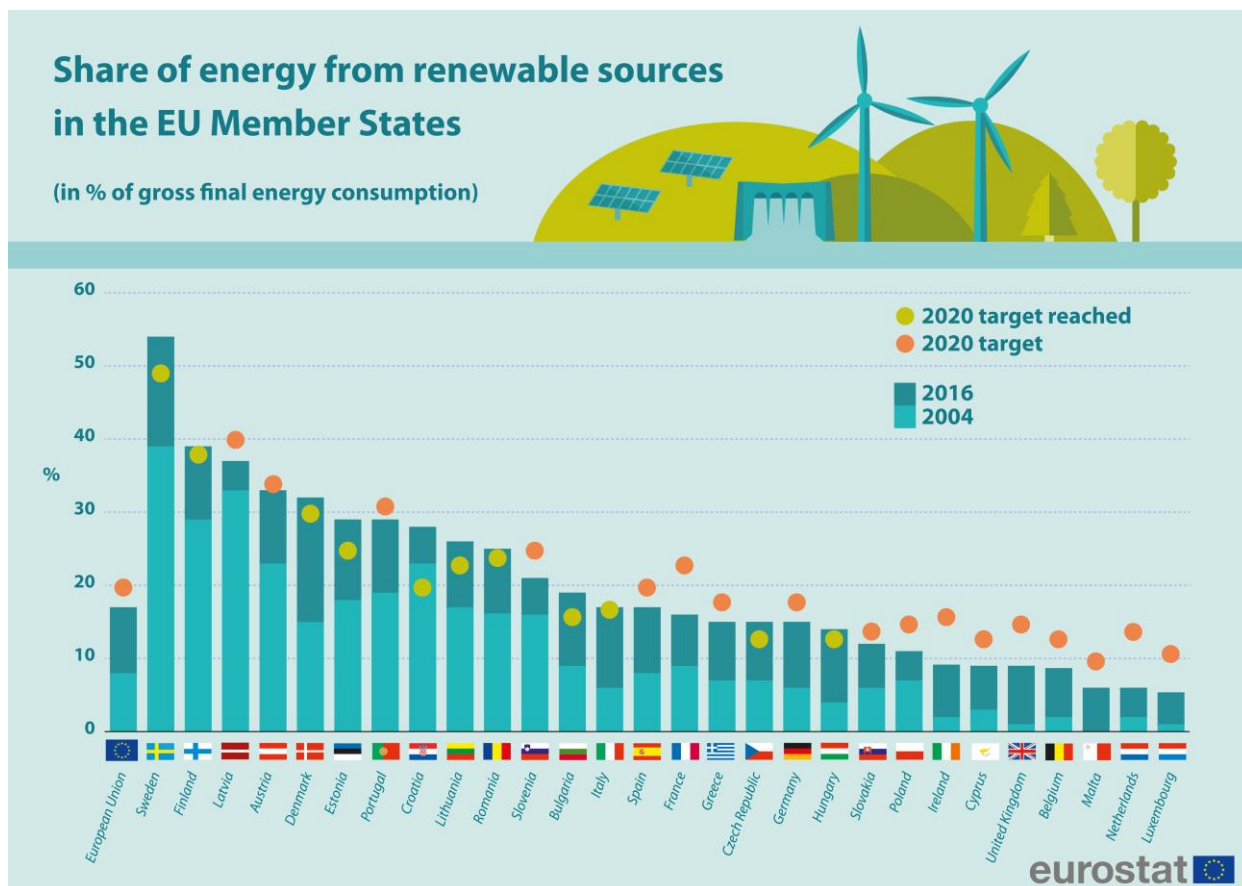
Share of renewables in energy consumption in the EU reached 17% in 2016

Eleven Member States already achieved their 2020 targets

In 2016, the share of energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy reached 17% in the **European Union (EU)**, double the share in 2004 (8.5%), the first year for which the data are available.

The share of renewables in gross final consumption of energy is one of the headline indicators of the Europe 2020 strategy. The **EU's** target is to obtain 20% of energy in gross final consumption of energy from renewable sources by 2020 and at least 27% by 2030.

These figures come from an [article](#) issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.



Highest share of renewables in Sweden, lowest in Luxembourg, Malta and the Netherlands

Since 2004, the share of renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy grew significantly in all Member States. Compared with 2015, it has increased in 15 of the 28 Member States.

With more than half (53.8%) of its energy coming from renewable sources in its gross final consumption of energy, **Sweden** had by far the highest share in 2016, ahead of **Finland** (38.7%), **Latvia** (37.2%), **Austria** (33.5%) and **Denmark** (32.2%). At the opposite end of the scale, the lowest proportions of renewables were registered in **Luxembourg** (5.4%), **Malta** and the **Netherlands** (both 6.0%).

The Netherlands and France: furthest away from their goals

Each EU Member State has its own Europe 2020 target. The national targets take into account the Member States' different starting points, renewable energy potential and economic performance. Among the 28 EU Member States, 11 have already reached the level required to meet their national 2020 targets: **Bulgaria**, the **Czech Republic**, **Denmark**, **Estonia**, **Croatia**, **Italy**, **Lithuania**, **Hungary**, **Romania**, **Finland** and **Sweden**. Moreover, **Austria** is less than 1 percentage point (pp) away from its 2020 target. At the opposite end of the scale, the **Netherlands** (8.0 pp from its national 2020 objective), **France** (7.0 pp), **Ireland** (6.5 pp), the **United Kingdom** (5.7 pp) and **Luxembourg** (5.6 pp) are the furthest away from their targets.

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

	2004	2013	2014	2015	2016	2020 target
EU	8.5	15.2	16.1	16.7	17.0	20
Belgium	1.9	7.5	8.0	7.9	8.7	13
Bulgaria	9.4	19.0	18.0	18.2	18.8	16
Czech Republic	6.8	13.8	15.0	15.0	14.9	13
Denmark	14.9	27.4	29.6	31.0	32.2	30
Germany	5.8	12.4	13.8	14.6	14.8	18
Estonia	18.4	25.6	26.3	28.6	28.8	25
Ireland	2.4	7.7	8.7	9.2	9.5	16
Greece*	6.9	15.0	15.3	15.4	15.2	18
Spain	8.4	15.3	16.1	16.2	17.3	20
France	9.5	14.1	14.7	15.1	16.0	23
Croatia	23.5	28.0	27.8	29.0	28.3	20
Italy	6.3	16.7	17.1	17.5	17.4	17
Cyprus	3.1	8.1	8.9	9.4	9.3	13
Latvia	32.8	37.1	38.7	37.6	37.2	40
Lithuania	17.2	22.7	23.6	25.8	25.6	23
Luxembourg	0.9	3.5	4.5	5.0	5.4	11
Hungary	4.4	16.2	14.6	14.4	14.2	13
Malta	0.1	3.7	4.7	5.0	6.0	10
Netherlands	2.0	4.8	5.5	5.8	6.0	14
Austria	22.5	32.4	33.0	32.8	33.5	34
Poland	6.9	11.4	11.5	11.7	11.3	15
Portugal	19.2	25.7	27.0	28.0	28.5	31
Romania	16.3	23.9	24.8	24.8	25.0	24
Slovenia	16.1	22.4	21.5	21.9	21.3	25
Slovakia	6.4	10.1	11.7	12.9	12.0	14
Finland	29.2	36.7	38.7	39.2	38.7	38
Sweden	38.7	52.0	52.5	53.8	53.8	49
United Kingdom	1.1	5.7	7.0	8.5	9.3	15
Iceland	58.9	71.6	70.4	70.2	72.6	64
Norway	58.1	65.9	68.6	68.4	69.4	67.5
Albania	27.8	33.2	31.5	34.4	37.1	38
Montenegro	:	43.7	44.1	43.1	41.5	33
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	15.7	18.5	19.6	19.5	18.2	28

: Data not available

- not applicable

* 2016 data for Greece estimated by Eurostat

The source dataset can be found [here](#).

Geographical information

The **European Union (EU)** includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

In this News Release, data are also available for Iceland, Norway, Albania, Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Methods and definitions

Renewable energy sources cover solar thermal and photovoltaic energy, hydro (including tide, wave and ocean energy), wind, geothermal energy and all forms of 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 reported. The renewable energy delivered to final consumers (industry, transport, households, services including public services, agriculture, forestry and fisheries) is the numerator of this indicator. 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. It should be noted that exports/imports of electricity are not considered as renewable energy unless a specific intergovernmental agreement has been signed (currently only between Sweden and Norway).

The national shares of energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy are calculated according to specific calculation provisions of Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and Commission Decision 2013/114/EU establishing the guidelines for Member States on calculating renewable energy from heat pumps from different heat pump technologies. Electricity production from hydro power and wind power is accounted according to normalisation rules of Annex II of Directive 2009/28/EC. For data as of 2011, only biofuels and bioliquids declared by countries as compliant with criteria of sustainability as defined in Articles 17 and 18 of Directive 2009/28/EC are accounted towards the share of energy from renewable sources. Adjustments of energy consumption in aviation are applied for all countries according to Article 5(6). Statistical transfers and joint projects (Articles 6-11) reported to Eurostat are also considered in the presented data. More details on the calculation methodology applied by Eurostat can be found in the *SHARES tool manual*.

For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) on energy statistics.

Eurostat [database](#) on energy.

Eurostat "[SHARES 2016 results](#)" including detailed Member States' data and information on the indicative trajectories.

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on renewable energy statistics.

European Commission [website section](#) dedicated to renewable energy and strategies for 2020 and 2030.


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