

## Energy prices in 2018

# Household energy prices in the EU increased compared with 2017

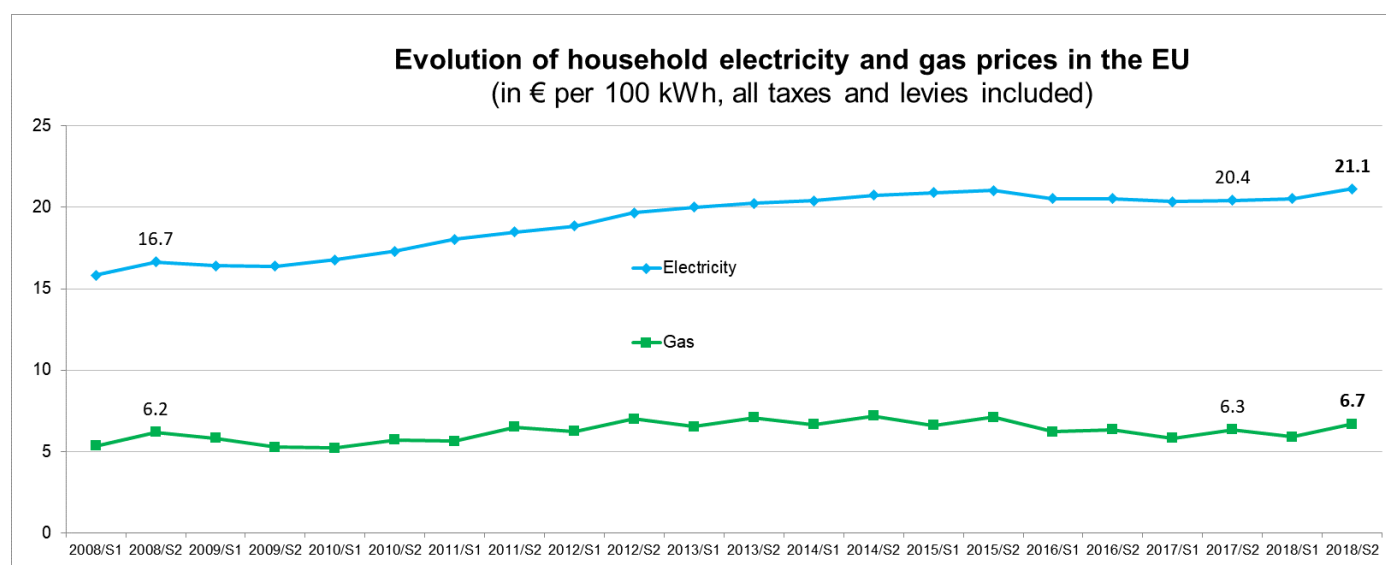
+3.5% for electricity and +5.7% for gas

On average, household electricity prices in the **European Union** (EU) increased to €21.1 per 100 kWh (+3.5%), between the second half of 2017 and the second half of 2018. Nevertheless, the average EU household electricity price was only €0.1 per 100 kWh higher than in the second half of 2015, the former peak in the last ten years. Across the EU Member States, household electricity prices in the second half of 2018 ranged from €10 per 100 kWh in **Bulgaria** to around €30 per 100 kWh in **Denmark, Germany and Belgium**.

Household gas prices increased by 5.7% on average in the **EU** between the second semester of 2017 and 2018 to €6.7 per 100 kWh. This is still €0.5 per 100 kWh lower than in the second half of 2014, the peak of gas prices in the last ten years. Among Member States, household gas prices in the second half of 2018 ranged from below €4 per 100 kWh in **Hungary, Romania and Croatia** to around €9 per 100 kWh in the **Netherlands, Spain, Denmark and Italy** and more than €12 per 100 kWh in **Sweden**.

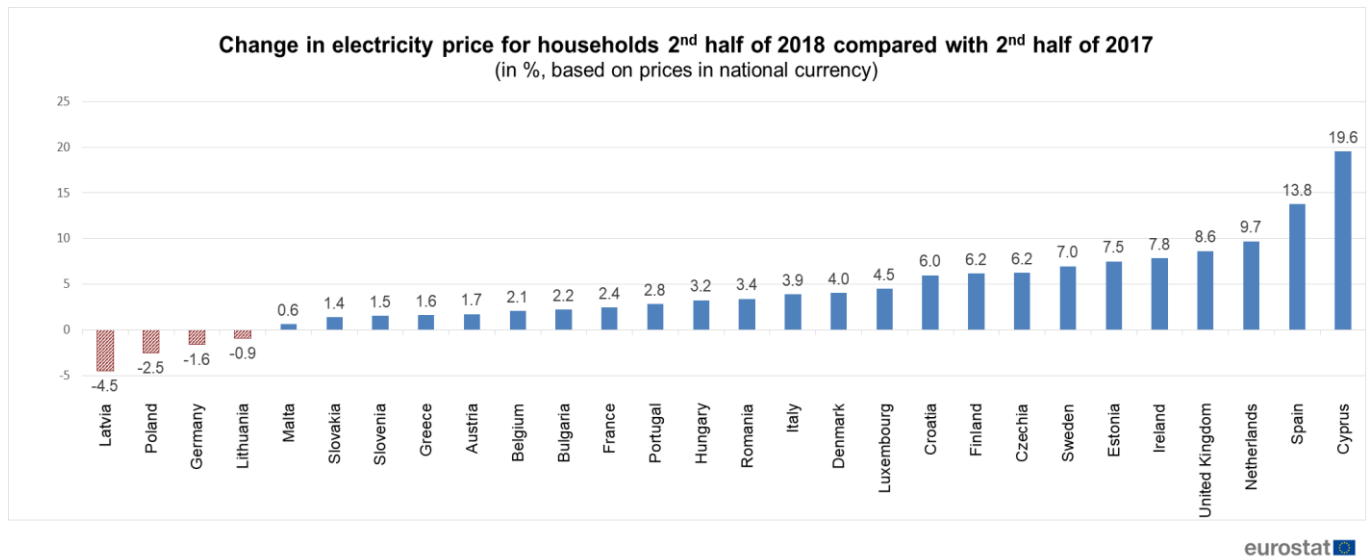
Taxes and levies in the **EU** made up on average over a third (37%) of the electricity price charged to households in the second half of 2018, and about a quarter (27%) of the gas price.

These figures on energy prices in the EU are complemented with an article published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

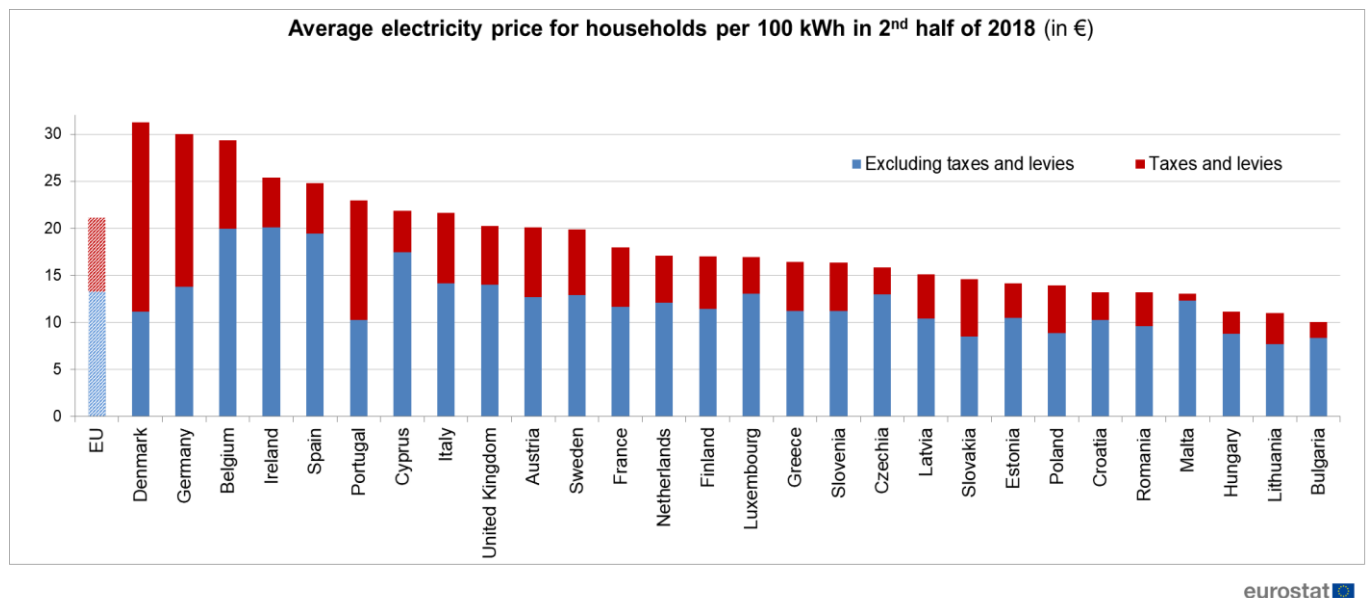


## Highest increase in electricity prices in Cyprus and Spain, largest falls in Latvia and Poland

Across the EU Member States, the highest increase in household electricity prices in national currency between the second half of 2017 and the second half of 2018 was registered in **Cyprus** (+19.6%), followed by **Spain** (+13.8%), the **Netherlands** (+9.7%), the **United Kingdom** (+8.6%), **Ireland** (+7.8%) and **Estonia** (+7.5%). Decreases were observed in only four countries: **Latvia** (-4.5%) followed by **Poland** (-2.5%), **Germany** (-1.6%) and **Lithuania** (-0.9%).



Expressed in euro, average household electricity prices in the second half of 2018 were lowest in **Bulgaria** (€10.1 per 100 kWh), **Lithuania** (€11.0) and **Hungary** (€11.2) and highest in **Denmark** (€31.2), **Germany** (€30.0) and **Belgium** (€29.4). The average electricity price in the EU was €21.1 per 100 kWh.



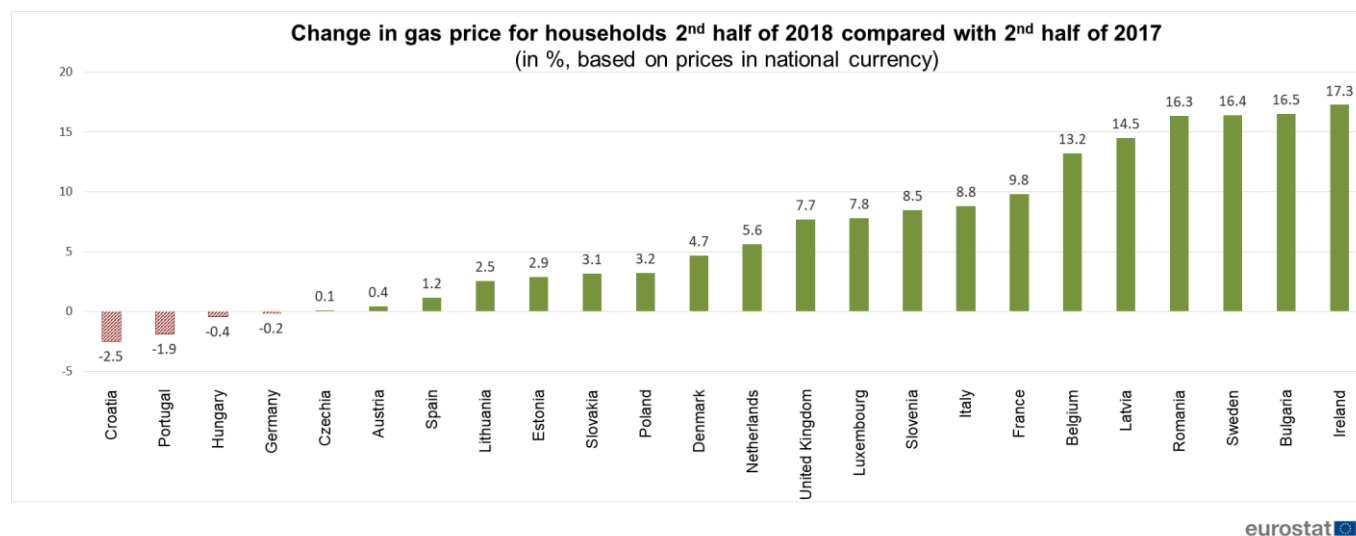
Expressed in purchasing power standards (PPS), a common reference eliminating general price level differences between countries, it can be seen that the lowest household electricity prices were found in **Finland** (13.7 PPS per 100 kWh) and **Luxembourg** (13.8), followed by the **Netherlands** (15.2), **Malta** (15.7), **France** (16.4), **Sweden** (16.5) and **Lithuania** (17.3). The highest prices expressed in PPS were registered in **Portugal** (28.2), **Germany** (28.0), **Spain** (27.4), **Belgium** (26.6), **Romania** (26.3), **Cyprus** (24.5) and **Poland** (24.3).

## Half or more of the electricity price is made up of taxes and levies in Denmark, Portugal and Germany

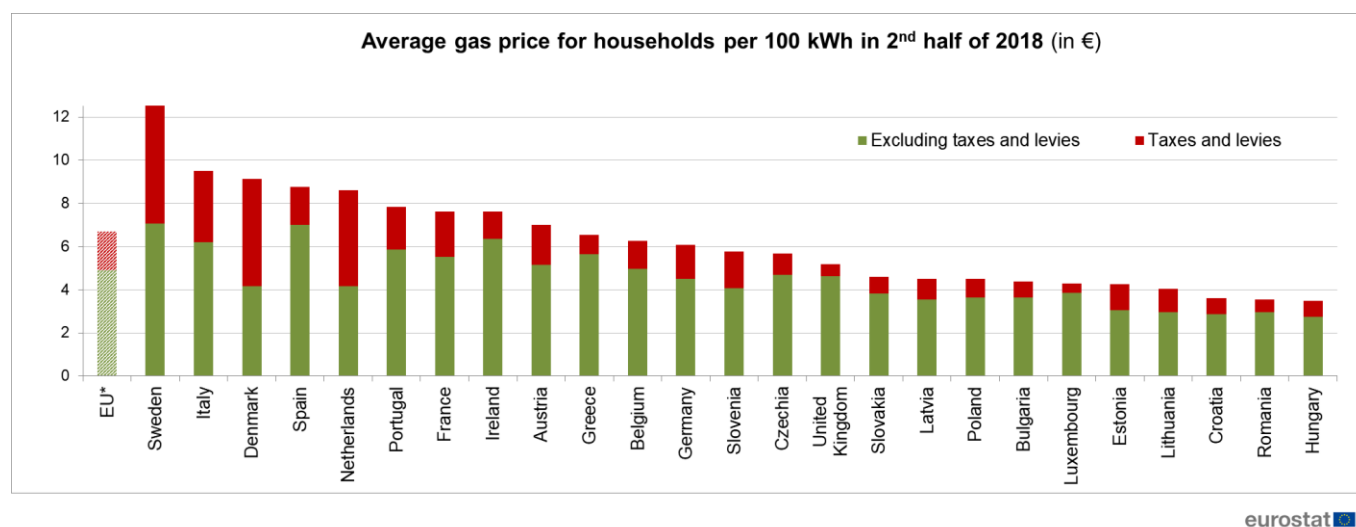
The share of taxes and levies in total household electricity prices varied significantly between Member States, ranging from two-thirds in **Denmark** (64%) and over half in **Portugal** (55%) and **Germany** (54%) to only 6% in **Malta**. On average in the EU, taxes and levies accounted for more than a third (37%) of household electricity prices in the second half of 2018.

## Highest increases in gas prices in Ireland, Bulgaria, Sweden and Romania, largest drop in Croatia

Between the second half of 2017 and the second half of 2018, household gas prices in national currency increased in twenty Member States. The highest increases were observed in **Ireland** (+17.3%), followed by **Bulgaria** (+16.5%), **Sweden** (+16.4%) and **Romania** (+16.3%). In contrast, decreases were recorded in **Croatia** (-2.5%), **Portugal** (-1.9%), **Hungary** (-0.4%) and **Germany** (-0.2%).



Expressed in euro, average household gas prices in the second half of 2018 were below €5 per 100 kWh in **Hungary** and **Romania** (both €3.5 per 100 kWh), **Croatia** (€3.6), **Lithuania** (€4.1), **Estonia** and **Luxembourg** (both €4.3), **Bulgaria** (€4.4), **Poland** and **Latvia** (both €4.5), and **Slovakia** (€4.6). Gas prices above €10 per 100 kWh were recorded in **Sweden** (€12.2), followed by **Italy** (€9.5), **Denmark** (€9.1), **Spain** (€8.8) and the **Netherlands** (€8.6). The average gas price in the EU was €6.7 per 100 kWh.



\*Cyprus, Malta and Finland do not have a significant gas market for household consumers and therefore did not report gas prices.

Adjusted for purchasing power, it can be seen that, relative to the cost of other goods and services, the lowest household gas price was recorded in **Luxembourg** (3.5 PPS per 100 kWh), ahead of the **United Kingdom** (4.7) **Croatia** and **Estonia** (both 5.6) as well as **Belgium** and **Germany** (both 5.7). In contrast, the highest prices were observed in **Sweden** (10.1), **Spain** (9.7), **Italy** and **Portugal** (both 9.6).

## Highest share of taxes and levies in gas price in Denmark and the Netherlands, lowest in Luxembourg and the United Kingdom

In the second half of 2018, taxes and levies made up the largest contribution to the price of gas for households in **Denmark** (54% of household gas price) and the **Netherlands** (52%). They were followed by **Sweden** (42%), **Italy** (35%) and **Slovenia** (30%). At the opposite end of the scale, the smallest contributions were registered in **Luxembourg** and the **United Kingdom** (both 10%), ahead of **Greece** (14%), **Romania** (16%) and **Bulgaria**, **Czechia**, **Ireland** and **Slovakia** (all 17%). At EU level, taxes and levies accounted on average for about a quarter (27%) of household gas prices in the second half of 2018.

## Geographical information

The **European Union** (EU) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, 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.

The **euro area** includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

## Methods and definitions

Household energy price data are reported by National Statistical Institutes, Ministries, Energy Agencies or, in case of monopolies, by single companies.

The prices include basic price, transmission, system services, meter rental, distribution and other services. The prices are collected and published considering three levels of taxation: prices excluding taxes and levies; prices excluding VAT and other recoverable taxes; prices including all taxes, levies and VAT.

**Electricity prices** refer to prices for a household with an annual consumption of between 2 500 and 5 000 kWh, and include taxes. These prices are weighted by national household consumption to give the EU averages. The final price charged to electricity customers will depend on the structure of electricity tariffs and contracts which normally contain a number of factors, including fixed charges and unit prices that vary according to the amount of electricity and the time of day it is consumed.

**Gas prices** refer to prices for a household with an annual consumption of between 5 555 and 55 555 kWh of gas and include taxes. These prices are weighted by national household consumption to give the EU averages. The final price charged to gas customers will depend on the structure of gas tariffs and contracts which normally contain a number of factors, including fixed charges and unit prices that vary according to the volume of gas consumed.

The selected bands are the most representative of the population of the EU as most consumers in EU fall into these bands.

## For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) dedicated to energy statistics.

Eurostat [database](#) on energy.

Eurostat [news article](#) on electricity and gas prices for non-households consumers.

Eurostat [methodology](#) on energy prices.

Eurostat Statistics Explained articles on [electricity](#) and [natural gas](#) price statistics.

Eurostat [visualisation tool](#) for energy prices.

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**

**Renata PALEN**  
Tel: +352-4301-33 444  
[eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu)

 [ec.europa.eu/eurostat](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat)


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 [EurostatStatistics](https://www.facebook.com/EurostatStatistics)

Production of data:

**Olivier DELAUNOY**  
Tel: +352 4301-38 925  
[olivier.delaunoy@ec.europa.eu](mailto:olivier.delaunoy@ec.europa.eu)

**Cristina RE**  
Tel: +352-4301-37 358  
[cristina.re@ec.europa.eu](mailto:cristina.re@ec.europa.eu)

 **Media requests:** Eurostat media support / Tel: +352-4301-33 408 / [eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu)

## Household electricity prices including all taxes and levies

	Average price per 100 kWh in 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2018			Price change, in %*	Share of taxes and levies in average price in %
	in euro	in PPS	in national currency	2 <sup>nd</sup> half 2018/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> half 2017	
<b>EU</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>+3.5</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Euro area</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>+3.1</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	29.4	26.6	29.4	+2.1	32
<b>Bulgaria</b>	10.1	20.9	19.7	+2.2	17
<b>Czechia</b>	15.9	22.7	409.0	+6.2	18
<b>Denmark</b>	31.2	23.4	233.0	+4.0	64
<b>Germany</b>	30.0	28.0	30.0	-1.6	54
<b>Estonia</b>	14.2	18.7	14.2	+7.5	26
<b>Ireland</b>	25.4	22.7	25.4	+7.8	21
<b>Greece</b>	16.5	20.0	16.5	+1.6	32
<b>Spain</b>	24.8	27.4	24.8	+13.8	21
<b>France</b>	18.0	16.4	18.0	+2.4	35
<b>Croatia</b>	13.2	20.5	98.0	+6.0	22
<b>Italy</b>	21.6	21.9	21.6	+3.9	34
<b>Cyprus</b>	21.8	24.5	21.8	+19.6	20
<b>Latvia</b>	15.1	21.9	15.1	-4.5	31
<b>Lithuania</b>	11.0	17.3	11.0	-0.9	30
<b>Luxembourg</b>	16.9	13.8	16.9	+4.5	23
<b>Hungary</b>	11.2	18.9	3616.2	+3.2	21
<b>Malta</b>	13.1	15.7	13.1	+0.6	6
<b>Netherlands</b>	17.1	15.2	17.1	+9.7	29
<b>Austria</b>	20.1	18.3	20.1	+1.7	37
<b>Poland</b>	14.0	24.3	60.1	-2.5	36
<b>Portugal</b>	22.9	28.2	22.9	+2.8	55
<b>Romania</b>	13.2	26.3	61.3	+3.4	27
<b>Slovenia</b>	16.4	19.8	16.4	+1.5	31
<b>Slovakia</b>	14.6	21.5	14.6	+1.4	42
<b>Finland</b>	17.0	13.7	17.0	+6.2	33
<b>Sweden</b>	19.9	16.5	206.2	+7.0	35
<b>United Kingdom</b>	20.2	18.4	18.0	+8.6	31
<b>Iceland</b>	14.6	9.9	1916.0	+2.0	21
<b>Liechtenstein</b>	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Norway</b>	19.1	13.1	183.1	+20.4	28
<b>Montenegro</b>	10.3	20.7	10.3	+2.7	20
<b>North Macedonia</b>	7.9	17.9	483.8	-3.0	15
<b>Albania</b>	9.1	18.4	1140.0	0.0	17
<b>Serbia</b>	7.1	14.5	837.9	+0.9	24
<b>Turkey</b>	8.6	27.7	55.2	+33.7	20
<b>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</b>	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Kosovo**</b>	6.4	:	6.4	-2.4	9

\* Based on prices in national currency.

\*\* Kosovo under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/1999.

- Not applicable.

: Data not available.

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

## Household gas prices including all taxes and levies

	Average price per 100 kWh in 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2018			Price change, in %*	Share of taxes and levies in average price in %
	in euro	in PPS	in national currency	2 <sup>nd</sup> half 2018/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> half 2017	
<b>EU**</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>+5.7</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Euro area</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>+5.5</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	6.3	5.7	6.3	+13.2	21
<b>Bulgaria</b>	4.34	9.1	8.6	+16.5	17
<b>Czechia</b>	5.7	8.1	146.7	+0.1	17
<b>Denmark</b>	9.1	6.8	68.1	+4.7	54
<b>Germany</b>	6.1	5.7	6.1	-0.2	26
<b>Estonia</b>	4.3	5.6	4.3	+2.9	28
<b>Ireland</b>	7.6	6.8	7.6	+17.3	17
<b>Greece</b>	6.5	8.0	6.5	.**	14
<b>Spain</b>	8.8	9.7	8.8	+1.2	20
<b>France</b>	7.6	7.0	7.6	+9.8	28
<b>Croatia</b>	3.6	5.6	26.7	-2.5	20
<b>Italy</b>	9.5	9.6	9.5	+8.8	35
<b>Cyprus**</b>	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Latvia</b>	4.5	6.5	4.5	+14.5	21
<b>Lithuania</b>	4.1	6.4	4.1	+2.5	27
<b>Luxembourg</b>	4.3	3.5	4.3	+7.8	10
<b>Hungary</b>	3.5	5.9	1 122.6	-0.4	21
<b>Malta**</b>	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Netherlands</b>	8.6	7.7	8.6	+5.6	52
<b>Austria</b>	7.0	6.4	7.0	+0.4	27
<b>Poland</b>	4.5	7.8	19.4	+3.2	19
<b>Portugal</b>	7.8	9.6	7.8	-1.9	25
<b>Romania</b>	3.5	7.1	16.5	+16.3	16
<b>Slovenia</b>	5.8	7.0	5.8	+8.5	30
<b>Slovakia</b>	4.6	6.8	4.6	+3.1	17
<b>Finland**</b>	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Sweden</b>	12.2	10.1	126.7	+16.4	42
<b>United Kingdom</b>	5.2	4.7	4.6	+7.7	10
<b>Liechtenstein</b>	:	:	:	:	:
<b>North Macedonia</b>	6.1	13.8	372.8	+18.8	15
<b>Serbia</b>	3.4	7.0	404.4	0.0	9
<b>Turkey</b>	2.1	6.7	13.4	+28.2	17
<b>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</b>	:	:	:	:	:

\* Based on prices in national currency.

\*\* Cyprus, Malta and Finland do not have a significant gas market for household consumers and therefore did not report gas prices.

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