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Renewable energy in the EU

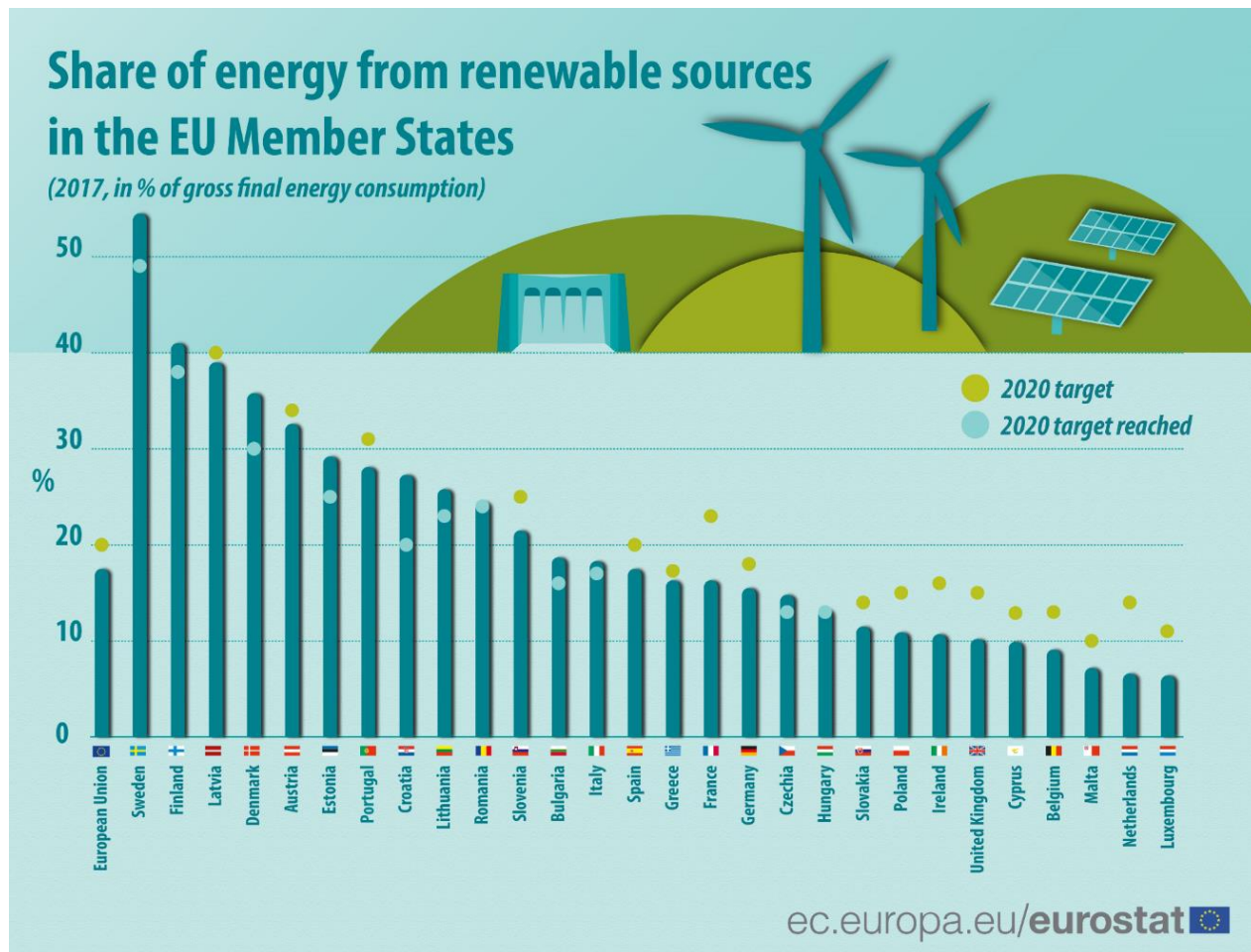
Share of renewable energy in the EU up to 17.5% in 2017

Eleven Member States already achieved their 2020 targets

In 2017, the share of energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy, in the **European Union** (EU), reached 17.5%, up from 17.0% in 2016 and more than 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 32% 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, the Netherlands and Malta

Since 2004, the share of renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy grew significantly in all Member States. Compared with 2016, it has increased in 19 of the 28 Member States.

With more than half (54.5%) of its energy coming from renewable sources in its gross final consumption of energy, **Sweden** had by far the highest share in 2017, ahead of **Finland** (41.0%), **Latvia** (39.0%), **Denmark** (35.8%) and **Austria** (32.6%). At the opposite end of the scale, the lowest proportions of renewables were registered in **Luxembourg** (6.4%), the **Netherlands** (6.6%) and **Malta** (7.2%).

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, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Croatia, Italy, Lithuania, Hungary, Romania, Finland** and **Sweden**. Moreover, **Latvia** and **Austria** are around 1 percentage point (pp) away from theirs 2020 targets. At the opposite end of the scale, the **Netherlands** (7.4 pp from its national 2020 objective), **France** (6.7 pp), **Ireland** (5.3 pp), the **United Kingdom** (4.8 pp), **Luxembourg** (4.6 pp), **Poland** (4.1 pp) and **Belgium** (3.9 pp) are the furthest away from their targets.

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.

In this News Release, data are also available for Albania, Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey and Kosovo, under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/99.

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 2017 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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Share of energy from renewable sources
(in % of gross final energy consumption)

	2004	2014	2015	2016	2017	2020 target
EU	8.5	16.2	16.7	17.0	17.5	20
Belgium	1.9	8.0	7.9	8.6	9.1	13
Bulgaria	9.4	18.0	18.2	18.8	18.7	16
Czechia	6.9	15.0	15.0	14.9	14.8	13
Denmark	14.9	29.7	31.4	32.6	35.8	30
Germany	6.2	14.4	14.9	14.9	15.5	18
Estonia	18.4	26.2	28.4	28.6	29.2	25
Ireland	2.4	8.7	9.1	9.3	10.7	16
Greece	6.9	15.4	15.4	15.1	16.3*	18
Spain	8.3	16.1	16.2	17.4	17.5	20
France	9.5	14.8	15.2	15.9	16.3	23
Croatia	23.5	27.8	29.0	28.3	27.3	20
Italy	6.3	17.1	17.5	17.4	18.3	17
Cyprus	3.1	8.9	9.4	9.3	9.9	13
Latvia	32.8	38.6	37.5	37.1	39.0	40
Lithuania	17.2	23.6	25.8	25.6	25.8	23
Luxembourg	0.9	4.5	5.0	5.4	6.4	11
Hungary	4.4	14.6	14.4	14.3	13.3	13
Malta	0.1	4.7	5.1	6.2	7.2	10
Netherlands	2.0	5.5	5.7	5.9	6.6	14
Austria	22.7	33.2	32.8	33.0	32.6	34
Poland	6.9	11.5	11.7	11.3	10.9	15
Portugal	19.2	27.0	28.0	28.4	28.1	31
Romania	16.2	24.8	24.8	25.0	24.5	24
Slovenia	16.1	21.5	21.9	21.3	21.5	25
Slovakia	6.4	11.7	12.9	12.0	11.5	14
Finland	29.2	38.8	39.3	39.0	41.0	38
Sweden	38.7	52.4	53.6	53.8	54.5	49
United Kingdom	1.1	6.5	8.4	9.2	10.2	15
Albania	29.6	31.5	34.4	37.1	34.6	38
Montenegro	:	44.1	43.1	41.5	40.0	33
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	15.7	19.6	19.5	18.0	19.7	28
Serbia	12.7	22.9	21.9	21.0	20.6	27
Turkey	16.2	13.6	13.6	13.7	13.2	:
Kosovo**	20.8	19.5	18.5	24.4	22.9	25

: Data not available

- Not applicable

* Data estimated

** Kosovo, under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/99

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