



Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend
Nederland

Energy poverty in the Netherlands

The Netherlands Enterprise
Agency

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The definition of energy poverty

- › “Energy poverty means a household’s lack of access to essential energy services, where such services provide basic levels and decent standards of living and health, including adequate heating, hot water, cooling, lighting, and energy to power appliances, in the relevant national context, existing national social policy and other relevant national policies, caused by a combination of factors, including at least non-affordability, insufficient disposable income, high energy expenditure and poor energy efficiency of homes.”



Quantifying energy poverty



National energy poverty monitor

TNO in association with Central Bureau of Statistics Netherlands (CBS)

- > Statistics Netherlands (CBS) provides the monitoring. Based on the most recent data. Always 2 years behind
- > Due to this 2-year-old data TNO estimates the number of households in energy poverty for the most recent year based partly on the current energy prices





Our main indicators: Three dimensions of energy poverty

1. Affordability

- › Low Income & High Energy costs (LIHE)
- › Low income: standardized disposable household income that is lower than 130% of the legal social minimum
- › High energy costs: energy costs that are higher than the average energy bill of a label C home in 2019, adjusted for household size and inflation

2. Housing quality

- › Low Income & Home with Low Energetic Quality (LILEK)
- › Low energetic quality: calculated by a regression model of CBS based on characteristics like energy performance certificate, energy consumption, housing characteristics etc.



Our main indicators: Three dimensions of energy poverty

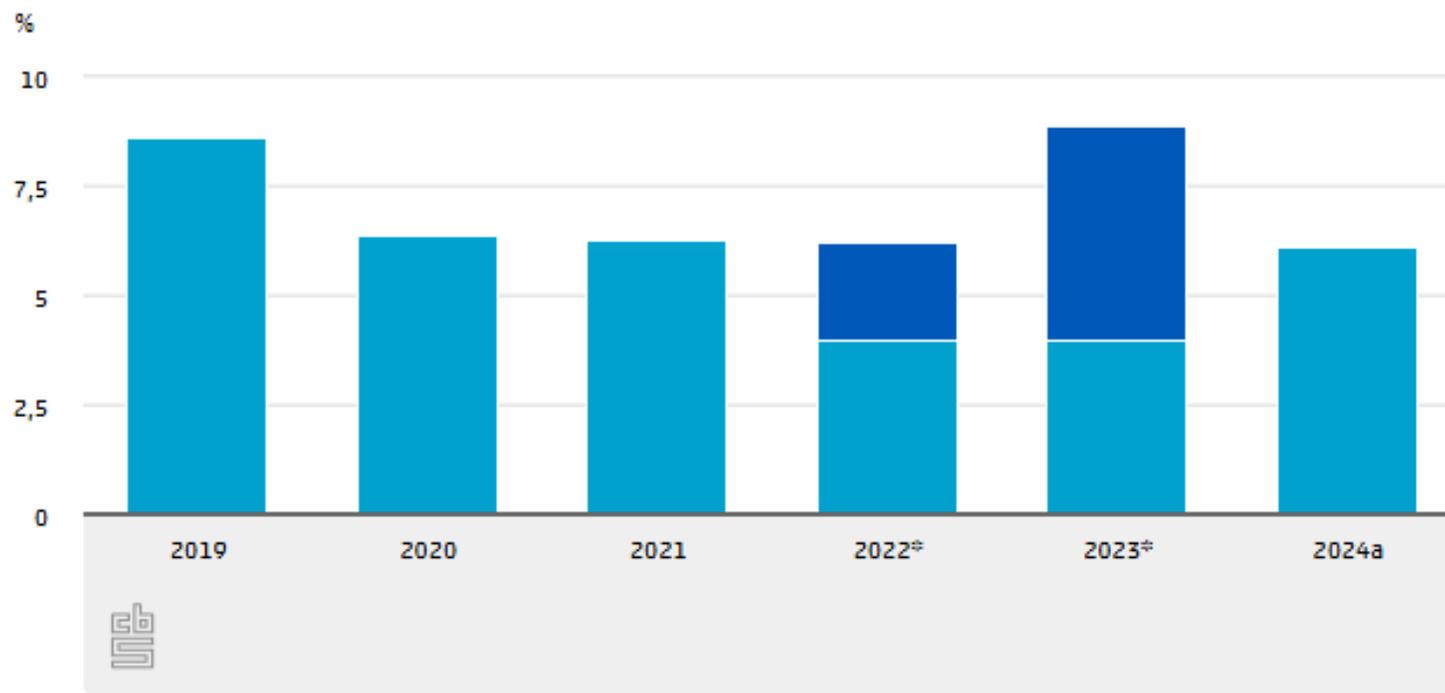
3. Being able to participate in the energy transition

- › House with Low Energy Quality & Few Investment Opportunities (LEKWI)
- › Few Investment Opportunities: No budget to invest / no power >> Distinction between homeowners and renters
- › Vulnerable households



Main indicator

Huishoudens met energiearmoede



The main figure we communicate when politicians/media ask this question:

LIHE and/or LILEK

= Low Income & High Energy costs and/or Low Income & Home with Low Energetic Quality



A range of measures



Energy aid for households

- > Energy aid are people, often volunteers, who help households with small energy saving measures and advice.
- > Energy aid saves on energy expenditure, climate, health cost and social wellbeing





Energy Poverty Grant and NIP LAI

- › National Insulation Program
Local approach: A grant given to municipalities which they have to use to set up a subsidy scheme for insulating houses aimed at households in a vulnerable position
- › Energy Poverty Grant: A grant for municipalities based on the amount of energy poor within the municipality. This grant helped to set up municipal energy aid.



National Heat fund

- > Helping households with no loan capacity with an income under €60.000 to make their home more sustainable





Social Climate Fund

- > Energy House (OSS):
 - The part of OSS aimed specifically at Households in a vulnerable position
- > Phasing out EFG labels from the rental housing stock both private and social
- > Energy fund:
 - Financial support
- > Fixteams Micro SME's:
 - Energy aid
- > National Heat Fund:
 - Helping households with no loan capacity with an income under €60.000 to make their home more sustainable



National performance agreements Social Housing corporations

- › Increasing the sustainability of over 675.000 houses including phasing out Energy labels EFG before 2028.
- › € 1,5 billion will be invested in upgrading the quality of housing and an approach for mould and moisture problems





Monitoring effects



Research on the effect of energy aid on households

- > On average, the yearly gas consumption decreases with 3,4% for **all** households and 10,1% for **households in energy poverty**
- > Their yearly pharmaceutical costs from their basic insurance are reduced 18,1%.
- > And a reduction of rheumatoid medication by 52,6% and Asthma medication by 31,8%
- > One explanation for these positive effects of energy aid on health is that the visited households in energy poverty have 3,2 times more pharmaceutical costs, and respectively use 2,5 and 2,8 times more rheumatoid and asthma medication than on average in the Netherlands



Questionnaire municipalities

- > State of affairs of municipalities concerning their energy poverty programs and their implementation



Links to interesting research

- > [The Effects of Three Governmental Programmes—Energy Coaches, Home Renovations, and White Goods Schemes—on Energy Poverty-Related Issues in Dutch Households](#)
- > <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214629624003980> Energy coaching and 'fix team' retrofitting to mitigate energy poverty: An

ex-post analysis of treatment and interaction effects

- > <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214629624003980> Energy coaching and 'fix team' retrofitting to mitigate energy poverty: An ex-post analysis of treatment and interaction effects



Questions for the group

- › What starting year are other Member States using for Art. 8?
- › How are other Member States calculating the effects of their programs? What kind of data is requested?



Thank you

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