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**REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND
THE COUNCIL**

2020 assessment of the progress made by Member States towards the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive 2012/27/EU and towards the deployment of nearly zero-energy buildings and cost-optimal minimum energy performance requirements in the EU in accordance with the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU

1. Introduction

This progress report is presented by the Commission in line with Article 24(3) of Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency, as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/2002 (the ‘Energy Efficiency Directive’ or the ‘EED’), and in line with Article 35 of the Governance Regulation (EU) 2018/1999. This is the last report under the EED, as Article 24(3) will no longer apply as of 1 January 2021. All reporting on progress in various energy efficiency policy areas will be superseded by Article 35 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999.

As this report combines two reporting obligations, it has a different format than in the previous years. In addition, it contains: (i) new reporting on the buildings sector, *i.e.* information on the uptake of the number of nearly zero-energy buildings (NZEBs) in accordance with Article 9(5) of Directive 2010/31/EU on the energy performance of buildings (the ‘Energy Performance of Buildings Directive’ or the ‘EPBD’); and (ii) a short update on the cost-optimal levels of minimum energy performance requirements for buildings, in accordance with Article 5(4) of Directive 2010/31/EU.

The report therefore builds mainly on: (i) the information provided in the annual reports submitted by Member States in 2020¹; (ii) the cost-optimal calculation reports submitted by Member States in 2018 and 2019²; and (iii) further relevant information related to the building sector.

The 2019 energy efficiency report³ adopted earlier this year covered the Eurostat data up to 2018 and no new data were available⁴ at the time of publication of this report. For these reasons, the analysis of progress towards the 2020 targets has not changed in this report compared to the previous report and has not been repeated. Instead, a more forward-looking perspective has been added by looking at the progress towards the 2030 targets.

2. Summary of the findings

The report looks at the EU-28 and covers data and supplementary information up to 2018. The analysis of progress towards the 2030 targets looks at the EU-27.

The main findings are as follows.

- Primary energy consumption declined by 0.6% in 2018 compared to 2017. Final energy consumption increased by 0.1% year-on-year. Even so, both indicators are above the fixed trajectory for the 2020 targets.
- In 2018 energy consumption continued to be driven by economic growth.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/energy-efficiency/targets-directive-and-rules/national-energy-efficiency-action-plans_en

² https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-performance-of-buildings/energy-performance-buildings-directive/eu-countries-2018-cost-optimal-reports_en?redir=1

³ COM(2020) 326 final

⁴ The revised figures by Eurostat (latest extraction in July 2020) show small changes compared to the figures used in the 2019 report and do not change the analysis presented in that report.

- Energy efficiency obligation schemes remain an effective tool to achieve energy savings. Although the aggregated progress towards cumulative savings under Article 7 of the EED in 2018 seems to be sufficient, twelve Member States are unlikely to reach their targets.
- The partial and preliminary data for 2020 indicate that the impact of the COVID-19 crisis has significantly affected energy demand. As a result, the 2020 energy efficiency targets may be met even though there were insufficient measures in place before the crisis. However, this is expected to be a temporary situation, because the reduction of energy consumption has not been driven by structural measures. Without targeted climate-measures, the economic recovery is likely bring energy consumption back towards pre-COVID-19 crisis levels.
- Most Member States adopted the cost-optimal approach in an appropriate way and used it to set minimum requirements for the energy performance of new and existing buildings and NZEBs.
- The share of NZEBs in the total construction market has increased, but NZEB requirements in most countries are still less ambitious than the Commission's benchmarks of 2016. However, almost half of the Member States set significantly more ambitious NZEB requirements compared to cost-optimal levels for new buildings.

3. Progress towards the EU's energy efficiency target

3.1. The EU-28's 2020 targets

The revised Eurostat figures for 2018⁵ indicate that final energy consumption⁶ in the EU-28 fell by 5.9%, from 1194 Millions of tons of oil equivalent (Mtoe) in 2005 to 1124 Mtoe in 2018. This is still 3.5% above the 2020 final energy consumption target of 1086 Mtoe. In 2018, it increased by 0.1% compared to the previous year. Primary energy consumption⁷ in the EU-28 dropped by 9.8%, from 1721 Mtoe in 2005 to 1552 Mtoe in 2018. This is 4.6% above the 2020 target of 1483 Mtoe. Following three years of increase, a year-on-year drop in primary energy consumption of 0.6% was recorded in 2018. For both indicators, the trend in 2018 was above a linear trajectory to the 2020 targets.

In 2018, higher energy consumption was mainly observed in the transport (+1.0% year-on-year increase compared to 2017) and industry sectors (+0.8%). By contrast, energy consumption declined in the residential (-1.7%) and services sector (-1.4%).⁸

3.2. The EU-27's 2030 targets

The insufficient progress towards the 2020 targets until 2018 also has negative consequences on the level of efforts needed to reach the 2030 targets⁹. Due to the present delivery gap the

⁵ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/38154/4956218/Energy-Balances-April-2020-edition.zip/69da6e9f-bf8f-cd8e-f4ad-50b52f8ce616>

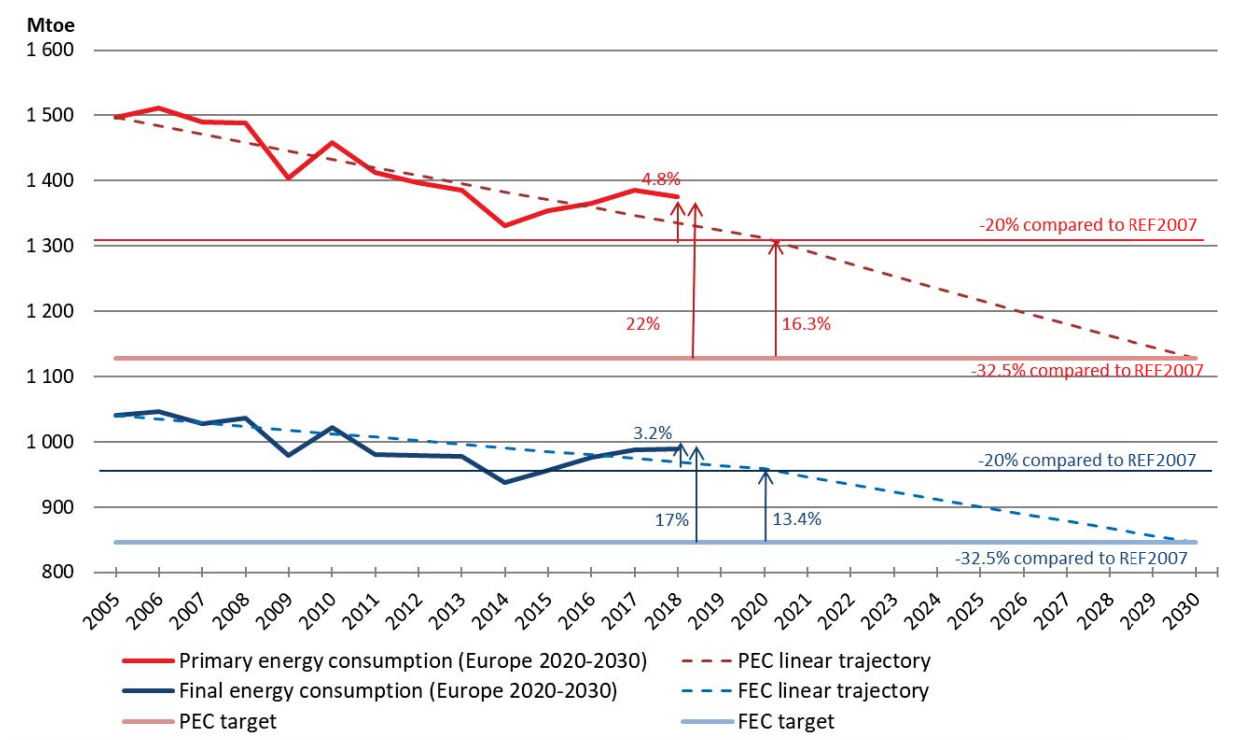
⁶ Indicators from Eurostat's energy balances in line with the methodology up to 2018 (FEC 2020-2030 and PEC 2020-2030) are used to monitor progress towards achieving the Europe 2020 energy efficiency targets.

⁷ Idem 6

⁸ The developments in specific sectors did not change compared to the last report. For additional information see chapter 5 of the 2019 Progress Report COM(2020) 326 final

distance to the 2030 targets is bigger than expected and stands at 22% for primary energy consumption and 17% for final energy consumption (Figure 1). In addition, the EU wide assessment of the national energy and climate plans (NECPs)¹⁰ identifies a collective ambition gap of national contributions. As a result Member States will need to significantly increase their efforts in the next decade to reach the 2030 targets of at least 32.5%. This is particularly important if the post-COVID-19 recovery leads to a return to the previous levels in energy consumption. In addition, the increased climate ambition, as announced in the 2020 Climate Target Plan¹¹, will also require significantly higher energy efficiency efforts going beyond the current level of targets for 2030 (36-37% reduction in final energy consumption and 39-41% reduction in primary energy consumption).

Figure 1: Progress towards 2030 targets at EU27 level



Source: Eurostat data, DG ENER's own calculations

3.3. Impact of COVID-19 on energy consumption so far

The impact of COVID-19 on energy consumption in 2020 will be significant. In the first quarter of 2020 EU gas consumption decreased by 5% compared to Q1 2019, mainly due to limited heating needs because of: (i) the mild winter weather; (ii) decreasing gas use in power generation; and (iii) the introduction of lockdown measures in March, leading to a decrease in

⁹ Following Brexit the 2030 energy efficiency targets will cover 27 Member States.

¹⁰ [COM\(2020\) 564 final](#)

¹¹ [COM\(2020\) 562 final](#)

GDP and less industrial demand for gas.¹² Electricity consumption in the EU fell by 3.2% year-on-year in Q1 2020, similarly driven by warm weather in the first half of the reference period and the onset of COVID-19 related restrictions. As large populations spent more time at home household electricity consumption increased. However, this increase did not offset a considerable fall in demand from the commercial and industrial sectors.¹³ As a result, electricity consumption during the months when the lockdown measures were in place was significantly lower than the same months in the year before (by 4.3% in March, 11.8% in April, 10.5% in May and 7.6% in June).¹⁴

Similarly, energy consumption in transport also decreased to unprecedented levels as a result of the lockdown measures. According to the IEA, road transport in Europe fell to 38% of its 2019 level by the end of March 2020. The overall drop in global road transport activity led to a reduction in global oil demand of 57%.¹⁵ The International Transport Forum estimates that the mobility restrictions to contain COVID-19 could reduce global freight transport by up to 36% by the end of 2020¹⁶. Air travel in certain regions has almost come to a halt, with aviation activity in some European countries declining more than 90%. By the end of August, air traffic in Europe was more than 50% below levels of the previous year.¹⁷

4. Progress towards national energy efficiency targets

Some Member States communicated upward revisions (lowering of ambition) of their national 2020 targets (Denmark, Spain, Hungary). After these updates the sum of national 2020 absolute consumption targets is 1536.8 Mtoe in primary energy consumption and 1084.3 Mtoe in final energy consumption. In 2018 progress towards the indicative targets (assuming a linear trajectory) was insufficient in twelve countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Spain, France, Cyprus, Austria, the Netherlands, Poland, and Sweden) for primary energy consumption and in fifteen (Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, France, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Austria, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden and the United Kingdom) for final energy consumption (see Table 3).

Member States indicated that stable and growing final energy consumption in 2018 was driven by economic growth and an increase in: (i) production/ value added (industry); (ii) transport of passengers and goods (transport); (iii) the number of households and disposable income (residential); and (iv) value added and employment (services).

¹² https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/quarterly_report_on_european_gas_markets_q1_2020.pdf

¹³ https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/qr_electricity_q1_2020.pdf

¹⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/en/web/products-eurostat-news/-/DDN-20200907-1?inheritRedirect=true&redirect=/eurostat/en/news/whats-new>

¹⁵ <https://www.iea.org/reports/global-energy-review-2020/oil#abstract>

¹⁶ <https://www.itf-oecd.org/sites/default/files/global-freight-covid-19.pdf>

¹⁷ <https://www.eurocontrol.int/covid19>

5. EED – current situation

5.1. Updates on transposition of the revised EED

Following the amendment of the EED in December 2018¹⁸, Member States are obliged to transpose new rules on energy efficiency obligation schemes (*i.e.* the new Articles 7, 7(a) and 7(b) by 25 June 2020. By 31 August 2020, the Commission received notifications from only thirteen Member States (Austria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and Sweden) and the United Kingdom. In addition, most of these notifications are partial, meaning that some provisions of the Directive have not yet been transposed or notified.

By 25 October 2020, Member States must also transpose new rules on metering and billing (*i.e.*, new Articles 9, 9(a), 9(b) and 9(c), 10 and 10(a) and finally 11 and 11(a) and a new Annex VII(a). By 31 August, five countries have also notified their transposition of these new rules (Denmark, Spain, France, Italy and Lithuania).

By the time of publication of this report, all Member States, except for Latvia, submitted their 2020 annual reports as required under Article 24 of the EED¹⁹. The Joint Research Centre (JRC) will analyse these annual reports in a separate document²⁰.

5.2. Progress under Article 7 (the energy savings obligation)

Under Article 7, Member States reported achieving energy savings for 2014-2018 as part of their commitments to deliver their national energy savings obligation for 2014-2020. Table 5 shows the current state of Member States' progress towards the cumulative energy savings required by 31 December 2020. Aggregated at EU-level, Member States achieved by the end of 2018 about 58% (133.83 Mtoe²¹) of the sum of the cumulative end-use energy savings obligations for 2014-2020 (230.17 Mtoe).

To forecast the likelihood of achieving the required cumulative energy savings per Member State by 31 December 2020, the basic assumption is that all implemented policy measures continue delivering new annual savings in 2019 and 2020 as they did in 2018. The cumulative energy savings are then compared to the required energy savings by 31 December 2020 per Member State.

Table 6 shows the projections for how likely it is that each Member State will achieve the required cumulative energy savings per Member State by 31 December 2020. This analysis does not consider potential concerns about eligibility, additionality and materiality. Besides, the possible impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on the amount of new annual savings achieved in 2020 are difficult to assess. All energy savings that have been reported by the Member States are considered.

¹⁸ Directive 2018/2002

¹⁹ The reports of Croatia and Portugal were submitted too late to be included in this analysis.

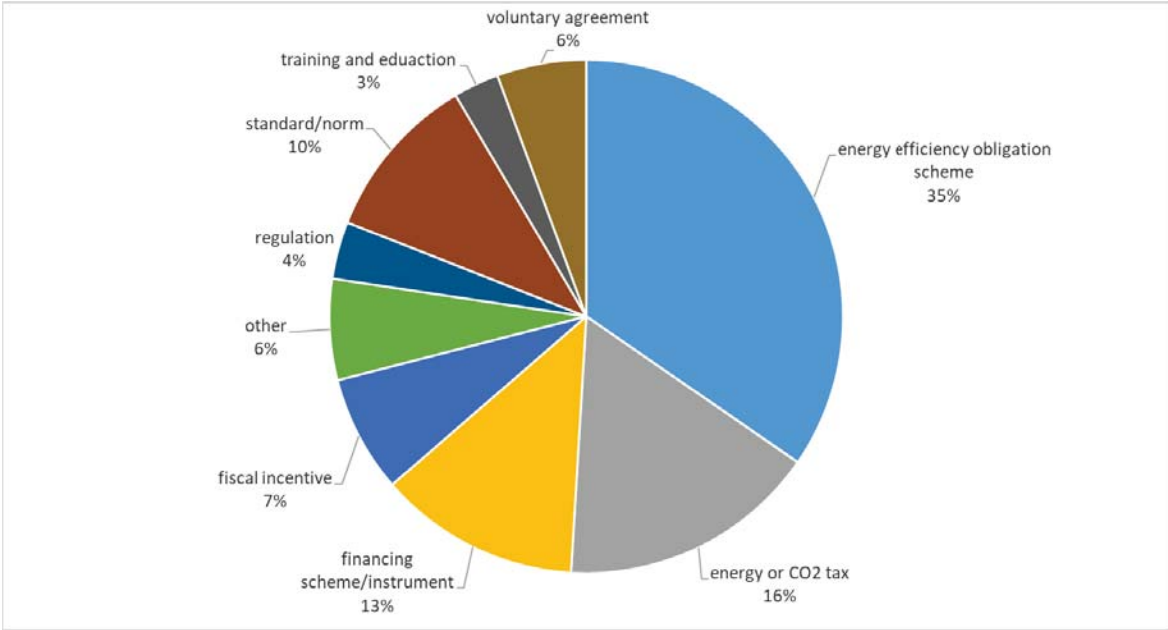
²⁰ Tsemekidi-Tzeiranaki, S., Paci, D. et al. (2020), *Analysis of the annual reports 2020 under the Energy Efficiency Directive*, JRC Technical Report.

²¹ This figure might be revised once data about new savings achieved in 2018 by Latvia and Portugal are available.

There are seven Member States (Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Portugal, Romania) that will very likely not achieve the required amount of energy savings by 31 December 2020, if they do not take additional actions. Another five (Estonia, Greece, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden) are unlikely to achieve the required amount of energy savings without additional actions. And the remaining sixteen Member States will likely or very likely achieve the required amount of cumulative energy savings.

On the energy savings achieved by each type of implemented policy measures, energy efficiency obligation systems contribute to around 35% of the savings, whereas financing schemes contribute only around 13% of the energy savings. Taxes on energy and CO₂ taxes account for 16% of total achieved energy savings.

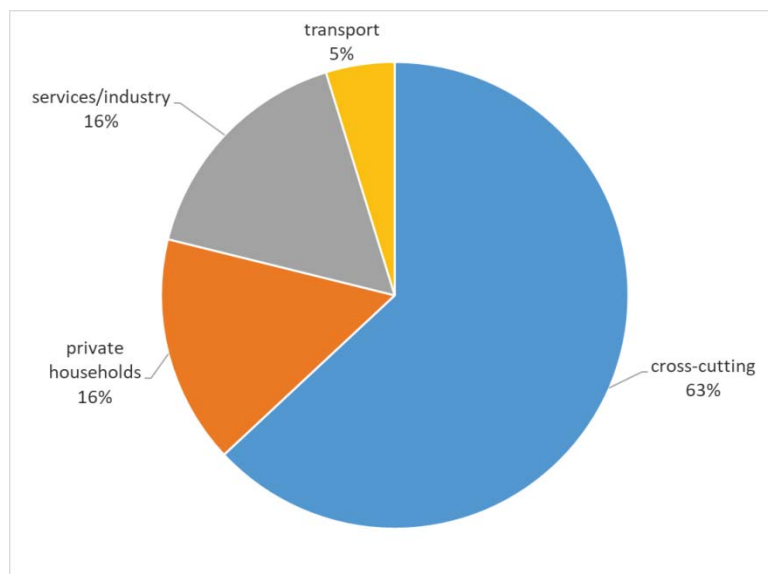
Figure 2: Share of reported energy savings by type of policy measure at EU-level



Source: DG ENER’s own calculations based on the 2020 national annual reports.

On the sectors targeted by the implemented policy measures, the largest share of energy savings reported by Member States results from cross-cutting measures, which cannot be attributed to a single sector (Figure 3). Most measures (by count of reported measures) target services and industry, which cover most companies (except for transport companies) and the public sector (except for housing owned by public bodies, which is included in the private households sector).

Figure 3: Share of reported savings by sector



Source: DG ENER's own calculations based on the 2020 national annual reports.

There are 36 new measures reported for the year 2018 under Article 7. Of these, 10 were implemented by both Romania and Spain, 4 by Belgium and 3 by Romania. Almost half of the new measures under Article 7 fell under the category 'Funds, financial & fiscal incentives' (47.2%), followed by 'Other measures' (transport sector measures, voluntary agreements etc.) (27.8%), 'Regulations' (16.7%), 'Information, education and training' (5.6%) and 'Taxation' (2.8%).²²

5.3. Progress under Article 5 (exemplary role of buildings used by public bodies)

Compared to 2019, there was a similar level of compliance with reporting obligations. Six Member States did not provide the requested update on Article 5 progress in 2019: Belgium, Romania, Denmark, France, Croatia and the Netherlands (the last four notified their achievements for 2018 but not for 2019).

Among the Member States with available reports that chose the default approach²³, only three Member States achieved their annual targets for renovated floor area. These are Bulgaria, Lithuania and Luxemburg. In addition, based on the provided data, four countries have fulfilled their total targets for the period 2014-2019. These are Spain, Italy, Luxembourg and Lithuania. Among the Member States that implemented the alternative approach, only three Member States achieved their annual energy saving targets in 2019. These are the Austria, Poland and Slovakia. Croatia and France achieved their targets for 2018. At the same time, six countries provided data allowing establishing that they fulfilled their total target for 2014-2019. These are Austria, Finland, Ireland, Slovakia, Poland and UK. France, Belgium, Croatia and Netherlands fulfilled their total target for the period 2014-2018.

²² Tsemekidi-Tzeiranaki, S., Paci, D. et al. (2020), *op. cit.*

²³ The default approach refers to measures taken to renovate 3% of the total floor area of heated and/or cooled buildings over 250 m² owned and occupied by central government which do not meet minimum energy requirements. The alternative approach refers to other cost-effective measures taken to achieve equivalent energy savings.

6. Nearly zero-energy buildings

Following the adoption of the EPBD in 2010, under which all new public buildings must be [NZEB](#) from 31 December 2018 and all new buildings from 31 December 2020, the number of NZEBs and highly performing buildings in Europe increased significantly from 2012 to 2016. Almost 1.25 million buildings were built or renovated to NZEB (or similar) standards during this period, most of which were residential. The share of NZEB in the total construction market increased during 2012-2016 in the EU from 14% in 2012 to 20% in 2016, on average²⁴.

The NZEB requirements are currently 70% more ambitious than the national cost-optimal minimum energy performance requirements. This was obtained through progressive legislative steps over the last 10 years.

Based on the latest information available²⁵, 23 Member States currently have a completed national NZEB definition in force. For the remaining Member States, the definition of what constitutes an NZEB is still under development or under review. Most of the provided definitions include an energy indicator of primary energy use, and twelve of the definitions include the obligation to cover a minimum share of energy demand from renewable sources. Almost half of the Member States have drawn up an energy class or energy label equivalent for NZEB requirements. Also half of Member States have provided the required u-values for walls, roofs, floors, windows and doors.

On the level of ambition for the NZEB definition, the NZEB primary energy values for most Member States have less demanding requirements than the benchmarks recommended by the Commission²⁶ in both residential and non-residential buildings²⁷.

Figure 4: Indicative comparison of NZEB definitions for single family houses to the Commission's recommended benchmarks

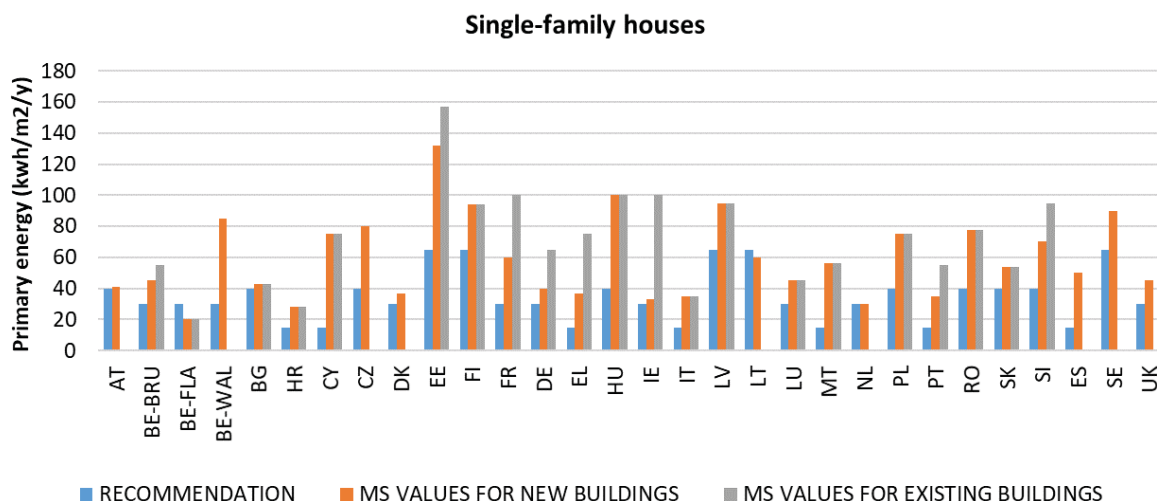
²⁴ Based on the comprehensive study of building energy renovation activities and the uptake of NZEBs in the EU.

https://ec.europa.eu/energy/studies/comprehensive-study-building-energy-renovation-activities-and-uptake-nearly-zero-energy_en?redir=1

²⁵ Information provided by MS, the JRC assessment and the 'Concerted Action EPBD' reports

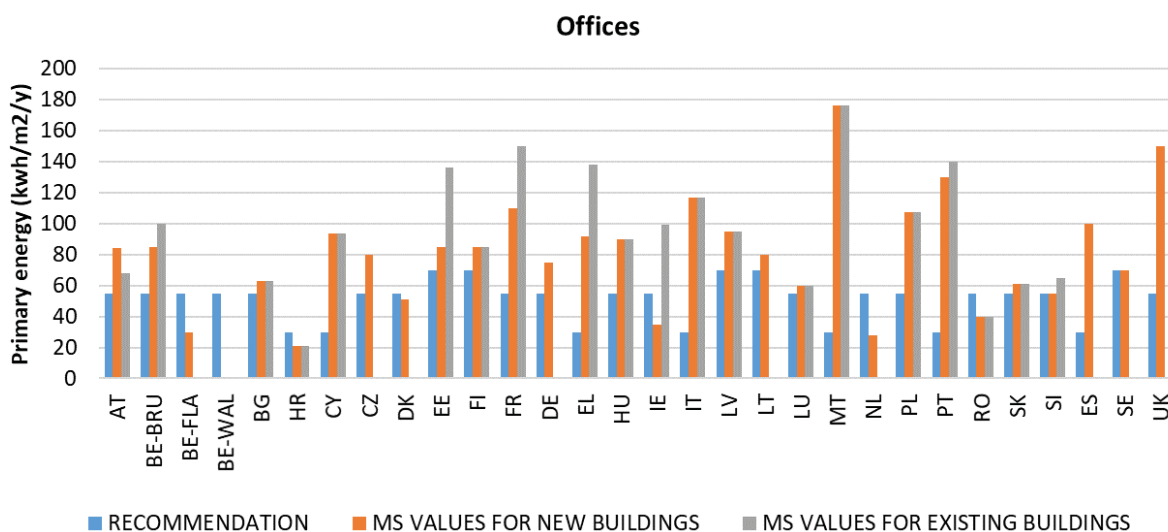
²⁶ In 2016 the Commission published recommendations for the promotion of NZEBs and best practices to ensure that, by 2020, all new buildings are NZEBs (C/2016/4392).

²⁷ It is important to note that heterogeneity in climatic zones and national conditions of the building stock and different approaches in calculation methodologies across Member States prevent a full direct comparison. The comparison in Figures 4 and 5 is indicative and based on relevant assumptions to facilitate Commission's own calculations.



Source: JRC's own calculations based on Member States reporting

Figure 5: Indicative comparison of NZEB definitions for offices to the Commission's recommended benchmarks



Source: JRC's own calculations based on Member States reporting

Most of Member States also reported a number of measures to increase the number of NZEBs. These measures are mainly: (i) regulatory (energy standards, setting NZEB requirements, regulations and laws); (ii) financial (subsidies, renovation grants, operational programmes, fiscal incentives); (iii) informative (information campaigns, leaflets and websites); and (iv) educational (training for engineers and architects, publication of NZEB guidelines). Several Member States also set long-term milestones for NZEB implementation.

There are some positive signs in the market for key NZEB technologies. For instance, some Member States have set targets – or have adopted financial or fiscal measures – to favour the use of heat pumps. This may lead to an increase in heat pump installations in the coming years, and this will in turn result in a significant reduction (10-40%) in the cost of heat pumps

in Europe between now and 2050. Some Member States also give incentives for the wider use of biomass boilers, which could potentially reduce their cost by 10-20% between now and 2050. The cost of heat recovery systems is also expected to decrease significantly (by 35-60%) between now and 2050. Moreover, it is expected that the cost of solar thermal collectors cost will fall by 20-50%, and that the cost of photovoltaics will decrease by 40-60% in the same period. Energy storage will be more important in the near future and projections indicate that the cost of stationary batteries will drop around 65%.

It also appears clear that NZEB will play a strong role in alleviating environmental and social issues, such as energy poverty, affordability of housing and accessibility.²⁸

7. Cost-optimal levels of minimum requirements for buildings

The EPBD requires Member States to develop cost-optimal calculations every five years to verify and update the minimum energy performance requirements in force. Member States submitted the first cost-optimal reports in 2013 and the second round of reports in 2018²⁹. The overall picture for these reports is that for both new and existing buildings, the choice of a cost-optimal methodology has been an efficient approach for steering existing national energy performance requirements towards cost-efficient levels.

For **new building types**, most of cost-optimal points fell between 50 and 100 kWh/m²/year, with an average of 80 kWh/m²/year for the residential sector and 140 kWh/m²/year for the non-residential sector. The associated global costs to reach these levels are often lower than EUR 1 500/m², with an average of EUR 925/m² for the residential sector and EUR 800/m² for the non-residential sector.

For **existing building types**, most of cost-optimal points fell between 75 and 175 kWh/m²/year, with an average of 130 kWh/m²/year for the residential sector and 180 kWh/m²/year for the non-residential sector. Here the global costs are usually lower than EUR 600/m², with an average of EUR 500/m² for the residential sector and EUR 385/m² for the non-residential sector.

Table 1: Average cost-optimal levels for new and existing buildings per climatic condition

Climate	New single-family house		New multi-family house		New office		New other non-residential	
	Primary energy [kWh/m ² y]	Global costs [EUR/m ²]	Primary energy [kWh/m ² y]	Global costs [EUR/m ²]	Primary energy [kWh/m ² y]	Global costs [EUR/m ²]	Primary energy [kWh/m ² y]	Global costs [EUR/m ²]
Cold	77	1882	62	2 076	66	1 681	120	2481

²⁸ Since poor energy efficiency of dwellings is a major risk factor for energy poverty, NZEB can play a beneficial role, particularly in social housing and in segments of the private housing market occupied by low-income or lower middle-income households – provided they can (still) afford to live in these dwellings.

²⁹ In 2016 the Commission published a report on the progress by Member States in reaching cost-optimal levels of minimum energy performance requirements (COM/2016/0464 final). DG ENERGY with the assistance of the JRC analysed and assessed the 2018 calculations. The summary report is under publication: Zangheri, P. et Al., Assessment of 2nd cost optimal calculations in the context of the EPBD, JRC 2020.

Mid	83	590	80	551	130	591	176	558
Warm	81	887	105	698	221	648	423	607
Climate	Existing single-family house		Existing multi-family house		Existing office		Existing other non-residential	
	Primary energy [kWh/m ² /y]	Global costs [EUR/m ²]	Primary energy [kWh/m ² /y]	Global costs [EUR/m ²]	Primary energy [kWh/m ² /y]	Global costs [EUR/m ²]	Primary energy [kWh/m ² /y]	Global costs [EUR/m ²]
Cold	183	643	77	303	78	336	122	236
Mid	112	524	124	460	136	412	268	392
Warm	161	500	148	467	175	396	775	808

Source: JRC's own calculations based on Member States reporting

From this comparison, it is interesting to observe that in almost all cases, the primary energy consumptions associated with cost-optimal levels are lower in the cold regions. Global costs are usually lower in warm and mid regions, but there are some exceptions (existing multi-family buildings and offices). That implies that in colder regions the requirements are stricter, while more investments are associated with the higher level of energy performance.

The comparison of the cost-optimal levels between the two calculation rounds in 2013 and in 2018 shows that Member States set more ambitious values in 2018 for almost all building types.

Table 2: Average reduction of cost-optimal levels obtained from the calculations of Member State reports in 2013 and 2018 for new and existing buildings

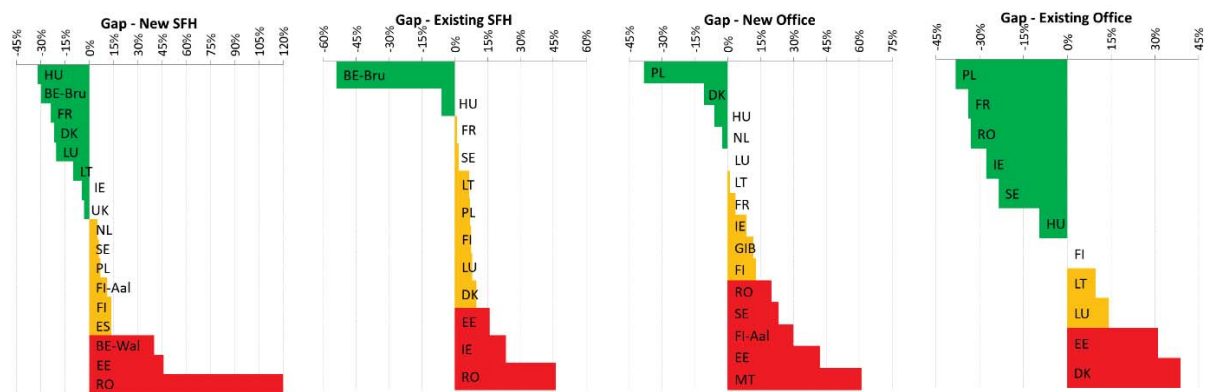
Member States' average	New single-family house	New multi-family house	New office	Existing single-family house	Existing multi-family house	Existing office
	-23%	-23%	-17%	-17%	-21%	-9%

Source: JRC's own calculations based on Member States reporting

Depending on the building type or the component under discussion, gaps greater than 15% were observed in only three or four Member States³⁰.

Figure 6: Identified gap between the calculated cost-optimal levels and the requirements in force

³⁰ The evaluation of the gaps between the calculated cost-optimal levels and the requirements in force is the most important step of the whole calculation, since it should provide useful indications for the update of existing energy performance regulations. National minimum energy performance requirements should not be more than 15% higher than the outcome of the cost-optimal levels and a plan should be drawn up to reduce the gaps that cannot be strongly justified.



Source: JRC's own calculations based on Member States reporting

The results presented in the figures above are not fully comparable, because Member States are free to choose different options that reflect national market conditions (e.g. taken from different macroeconomic or financial perspective).

On the comparison between the cost-optimal levels and the latest NZEB definitions, the overall picture is quite positive. In fact, almost half of Member States introduced NZEB requirements which are significantly more ambitious than cost-optimal references, which implies that the construction market is ready to take steps towards the improvement of the energy performance of the future building stock.

8. Conclusion

The findings of this 2020 progress report do not differ much from the previous report. The level of energy-saving effort made in 2018, when not considering the impacts of COVID-19, would most likely not be enough to reach the 2020 targets. Although the external factors of a warm winter and a substantial drop in energy demand in 2020 due to COVID-19 may lead to the achievement of the 2020 targets, the insufficient policies in place will have to be compensated for to reach the 2030 targets. In addition, the subsequent recovery from the pandemic is expected to lead to a rebound in energy demand, and there is a risk that the implementation of new policies and policies announced in the NECPs and the national long-term renovation strategies could be delayed as a result of the current crisis.

For this reason, it is of vital importance that new energy efficiency measures are part of the recovery plans and are implemented without delays. In addition, the increased 2030 climate target for GHG emissions reduction of at least 55% compared to 1990 would require even higher energy efficiency ambition. There will also need to be more widespread uptake of the 'energy efficiency first' principle, so that the full potential and benefits of energy savings are taken into consideration in the recovery investments. Furthermore, the upcoming review of the EED will also look at ways to promote energy efficiency efforts at EU level, given that the collective ambition of Member States presented in their integrated plans falls short of the necessary level of effort. The review will be supported by the sustainable product legislative initiative, which will look into widening the eco-design approach to include other product categories.

The NZEB requirements in the most Member States are less ambitious than the benchmarks recommended by the Commission in both residential and non-residential buildings. However, before the implementation of new NZEB standards, a significant reduction of relevant

technology costs is expected, which could make it possible to further increase the level of ambition for NZEBs. With the forthcoming introduction of NZEB requirements for all new buildings as of 2021, the main challenge for the decarbonisation of the building stock by 2050 is to increase the current low renovation rates and the application of ambitious minimum requirements for existing buildings. Member States present a wide range of building types, climatic and financial conditions, and therefore targeted measures are needed to stimulate a large scale diffusion of NZEBs retrofit. Future generations of NZEBs will integrate smart technologies and digitalization solutions and could also be scaled-up and integrated at district level, shifting the focus and scale from the single building to the district.³¹ The Renovation Wave initiative of the European Green deal and the national long-term renovation strategies are key tools to steer public and private funding towards renovation projects, facilitating the cost-effective transformation of existing buildings into NZEBs.

The Commission invites the European Parliament and the Council to express their views on this progress report.

³¹ Saheb, Shnapp, and Paci (2019), *From nearly-zero energy buildings to net-zero energy districts-Lessons learned from existing EU projects*, EUR 29734 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg; Shnapp, Paci, and Bertoldi, (2020), *Enabling Positive Energy Districts across Europe: energy efficiency couples renewable energy*, EUR 30325 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

Table 3: Overview of variations of main energy indicators (part 1) ³²

MS	Trend to reach the 2020 target		Short-term trend		Energy Intensity whole economy	Industry	Residential	
	PEC 2005-2018 trend compared to PEC 2005-2020 trend to reach the 2020 target	FEC 2005-2018 trend compared to FEC 2005-2020 trend to reach the 2020 target	Change of PEC 2018 compared to PEC 2017 [%]	Change of FEC 2018 compared to FEC 2017 [%]	2005-2018 average annual change of PEC energy intensity [%]	2005-2018 average change of FEC energy intensity in industry [%]	2005-2018 average annual change of FEC in residential per capita with climatic corrections [%]	2005-2018 average annual change of FEC in residential per m2 with climatic corrections [%]
EU28	-	-	● -0.6%	● 0.1%	● -2.0%	● -1.8%	● -0.3%	● -1.6%
BE	-	-	● -4.6%	● 0.6%	● -2.2%	● -0.3%	● -1.7%	● -1.7%
BG	-	-	● 0.1%	● 0.2%	● -2.8%	● -4.1%	● 2.3%	● -0.9%
CZ	+	+	● 0.1%	● -0.7%	● -3.1%	● -4.6%	● 1.5%	● -0.2%
DK	-	+	● 0.4%	● 0.6%	● -2.0%	● -2.0%	● 0.3%	● -1.2%
DE	-	-	● -2.1%	● -1.5%	● -2.2%	● -1.4%	● 0.1%	● -0.6%
EE	+	-	● 9.6%	● 3.4%	● -1.0%	● -5.5%	● 1.4%	● 0.5%
IE	-	-	● 1.1%	● 4.7%	● -4.1%	● -4.1%	● -2.0%	● -3.1%
EL	+	+	● -2.8%	● -2.9%	● -0.6%	● 0.4%	● -0.7%	● -0.3%
ES	-	+	● -0.5%	● 2.4%	● -1.6%	● -1.6%	● 0.7%	● -1.2%
FR	-	-	● -0.1%	● -1.3%	● -1.7%	● -1.2%	● 0.0%	● -1.0%
HR	+	+	● -1.8%	● -1.1%	● -1.7%	● -1.3%	● 0.6%	● -1.8%
IT	+	+	● -1.1%	● 1.1%	● -1.3%	● -2.3%	● 0.9%	● 0.3%
CY	-	+	● 0.5%	● -0.3%	● -1.4%	● -0.7%	● 5.2%	● -1.3%
LV	+	+	● 5.1%	● 4.1%	● -1.8%	● 2.2%	● 0.5%	● -1.9%
LT	+	-	● 2.8%	● 3.8%	● -4.7%	● -1.9%	● 2.2%	● -1.5%
LU	+	-	● 4.0%	● 4.0%	● -3.0%	● -1.9%	● -1.1%	● -2.8%
HU	+	-	● -0.1%	● 0.1%	● -1.8%	● 2.2%	● 0.5%	● -0.5%
MT	+	-	● 1.8%	● 6.1%	● -4.9%	● -0.4%	● 11.8%	● 1.6%
NL	-	+	● -0.6%	● -0.1%	● -2.1%	● -1.8%	● -0.7%	● -2.1%
AT	-	-	● -3.1%	● -2.5%	● -1.3%	● -0.8%	● 0.8%	● -0.1%
PL	-	-	● 1.9%	● 1.4%	● -2.7%	● -3.7%	● 1.0%	● -0.2%
PT	+	+	● -0.7%	● 2.1%	● -1.0%	● -1.2%	● 0.6%	● -2.4%
RO	+	+	● 0.4%	● 1.1%	● -4.3%	● -4.6%	● 1.9%	● -3.0%
SI	+	+	● -0.8%	● 0.6%	● -2.0%	● -2.7%	● 0.7%	● -0.6%
SK	+	-	● -2.2%	● -0.1%	● -4.0%	● -4.0%	● -0.1%	● -1.2%
FI	+	+	● 2.0%	● 2.3%	● -1.7%	● -0.1%	● 0.5%	● -0.9%
SE	-	-	● 1.3%	● -0.6%	● -2.5%	● -1.1%	● -1.0%	● -1.1%
UK	+	-	● -0.3%	● 0.7%	● -3.0%	● -2.8%	● -1.9%	● -2.3%
Source and extraction data	Eurostat 06/2020	Eurostat 06/2020	Eurostat 06/2020	Eurostat 06/2020	Eurostat 06/2020	Eurostat 06/2020	Eurostat 06/2020	Odyssee 07/2020

The + symbol is used if Member States decreased their primary and final energy consumption between 2005 and 2018 at a rate which is greater than the rate of decrease that would be needed in 2005-2020 to meet the 2020 targets for primary and final energy consumption. The - symbol is used for the other cases. FEC stands for final energy consumption, PEC for primary energy consumption.

³² The energy intensity for the whole economy is the ratio between PEC2020-2030 and GDP2010. For industry and services it is the ratio between final energy consumption and gross value added in chain-linked volumes (2010). Due to data limitations, the denominator of gross value added at current prices has been used for Malta.

Table 4: Overview of variations of main energy indicators (part 2)

MS	Services		Transport		Generation	
	2005-2018 average change of FEC energy intensity in the service sector [%]	2005-2018 average change of FEC in the transport sector [%]	2017 vs. 2005 change of share of trains, motor coaches, buses and trolley buses for passenger transport [%]	2017 vs. 2005 change of share of railway and inland waterways for freight transport [%]	2005-2018 average annual change of heat generation from CHP [%]	2005-2018 average annual change of ratio Transformation output/Fuel input of thermal power generation [%]
EU28	● -1.0%	● 0.1%	● -0.4%	● -0.5%	● -0.8%	● 1.7%
BE	● -0.4%	● 0.2%	● -2.2%	● 7.0%	● 4.1%	● 2.5%
BG	● -0.3%	● 1.8%	● -14.2%	● -8.2%	● -2.3%	● 0.9%
CZ	● -2.2%	● 1.2%	● 1.6%	● 0.8%	● -1.0%	● 0.6%
DK	● -1.4%	● 0.0%	● -2.5%	NA	● -1.0%	● 2.9%
DE	● -2.2%	● 0.1%	● 0.1%	● 0.8%	● 0.0%	● 2.4%
EE	● 0.1%	● 1.2%	● -3.5%	NA	● 3.3%	● 0.1%
IE	● -4.0%	● -0.2%	● -0.5%	NA	NA	● 3.8%
EL	● 2.0%	● -1.5%	● -4.2%	NA	● 1.3%	● 2.3%
ES	● 0.6%	● -0.9%	● -3.3%	NA	NA	● 2.0%
FR	● -0.5%	● 0.2%	● 1.6%	● 0.6%	● -3.5%	● 0.8%
HR	● -0.2%	● 1.2%	● -0.5%	● -1.4%	● 1.1%	● 4.4%
IT	● 1.8%	● -1.2%	● -0.9%	● 5.4%	● 1.0%	● 2.6%
CY	● 2.2%	● 0.1%	NA	NA	● 67.4%	● 1.6%
LV	● -1.8%	● 1.0%	● -7.9%	NA	● 1.7%	● -0.7%
LT	● -1.8%	● 3.5%	● -1.4%	● -9.9%	● -3.9%	● 9.2%
LU	● -0.5%	● -0.7%	● 2.6%	NA	● 2.2%	● 7.7%
HU	● -5.3%	● 1.5%	● -5.8%	● -2.0%	● -6.6%	● 0.4%
MT	● -0.1%	● 2.8%	NA	NA	NA	● 4.8%
NL	● -1.6%	● -0.3%	● 2.4%	● 8.2%	● -2.5%	● 0.5%
AT	● -2.5%	● 0.4%	● 1.7%	● 9.8%	● 2.0%	● 3.0%
PL	● -2.1%	● 4.9%	● -8.9%	● -13.5%	● -0.9%	● 0.7%
PT	● -0.2%	● -0.7%	● 0.7%	NA	● 3.8%	● 5.2%
RO	● -1.4%	● 3.4%	● -4.2%	● 0.3%	● -4.9%	● 0.5%
SI	● -2.1%	● 2.6%	● -0.8%	NA	● 0.8%	● 1.9%
SK	● -4.4%	● 1.6%	● -3.6%	● -7.8%	● -0.6%	● 0.3%
FI	● 0.3%	● 0.1%	● 0.7%	NA	● -0.7%	● 1.3%
SE	● -2.2%	● -0.3%	● 2.2%	NA	● 2.2%	● 0.7%
UK	● -1.0%	● -0.2%	● 2.1%	● -1.6%	NA	● 3.7%
Source and extraction data	Eurostat 06/2020	Eurostat 06/2020	DG MOVE Pocketbook 2019	DG MOVE Pocketbook 2019	Eurostat 06/2020	Eurostat 06/2020

Source: Eurostat (old methodology for energy balances), JRC, Odyssee.

Table 5: 2018 reported energy savings overview under Article 7 (ktoe)

	2018			Progress towards the target			
	New savings	Total annual savings	Cumulative savings in 2014-2018	Total cumulative savings required by 2020 (target)	Progress towards total cumulative savings required by 2020	Estimated annual savings required for 2014-2018	2014-2018 compared to estimated annual savings
Austria	372	1307	4032	5200	78%	2786	145%
Belgium	234	1176	3879	6911	56%	3702	105%
Bulgaria	32	175	496	1942	26%	1040	48%
Croatia*	3	73	248	1296	19%	694	36%
Cyprus	77	83	162	242	67%	130	125%
Czechia	176	577	1634	4565	36%	2446	67%
Denmark	173	1045	3187	3841	83%	2058	155%
Estonia	88	99	370	610	61%	327	113%
Finland	543	1377	4701	4213	112%	2257	208%
France	1413	5698	17429	31384	56%	16813	104%
Germany	2950	13695	28953	41989	69%	22494	129%
Greece	211	474	1355	3333	41%	1786	76%
Hungary	131	1731	1731	3680	47%	1971	88%
Ireland	87	466	1408	2164	65%	1159	121%
Italy	3998	3998	12729	25502	50%	13662	93%
Latvia*			436	851	51%	456	96%
Lithuania	79	152	511	1004	51%	538	95%
Luxembourg	9	44	113	515	22%	276	41%
Malta	5	17	47	67	71%	36	132%
Netherlands	611	2274	7777	11512	68%	6167	126%
Poland	331	2977	8891	14818	60%	7938	112%
Portugal*			453	2532	18%	1356	33%
Romania	59	366	1343	5817	23%	3116	43%
Slovakia	106	466	1420	2284	62%	1224	116%
Slovenia	38	133	447	945	47%	506	88%
Spain	539	2296	6958	15979	44%	8560	81%
Sweden	1436	1436	4654	9114	51%	4883	95%
UK	1032	5056	18469	27859	66%	14924	124%
Total	14634	80692	134068	230169	58%	123305	109%

Source: Information reported by Member States and complemented by the Commission's calculations and estimates where necessary.

* Data on energy savings achieved in 2018 were not available for analysis for Croatia, Latvia and Portugal. Cumulative savings over 2014-2018 are based on energy savings achieved in previous years up to 2017, but do not include new savings for 2018.

Table 6: Projections and likelihood of achieving Article 7 target per Member State by 31 December 2020*

Scenario 1 (when ratio of new vs total annual savings < 40%)			
Member State	Projected savings in ktoe with total annual savings from 2018 continuing to deliver until 2020 and new savings as in 2018 until 2020	Relative target achievement in 2020 (projected savings compared to savings target)	Likelihood of target achievement
Austria	7391	142%	very likely
Belgium	6700	97%	likely
Bulgaria	909	47%	very unlikely
Croatia	399	31%	very unlikely
Czechia	3140	69%	very unlikely
Denmark	5624	146%	very likely
France	31651	101%	likely
Hungary	5455	148%	very likely
Ireland	2513	116%	very likely
Italy	28721	113%	very likely
Luxembourg	218	42%	very unlikely
Netherlands	13547	118%	very likely
Poland	15506	105%	likely
Portugal	846	33%	very unlikely
Romania	2192	38%	very unlikely
Slovakia	2564	112%	very likely
Slovenia	788	83%	unlikely
Spain	12628	79%	unlikely
UK	30645	110%	likely
Scenario 2 (when ratio of new vs total annual savings > 90%)			
Member State	Projected savings in ktoe with new annual savings until 2020 as in 2017 (lifetime =1 year)	Relative target achievement in 2020 (projected savings compared to savings target)	Likelihood of target achievement
Cyprus	316	131%	very likely
Estonia	546	90%	unlikely
Lithuania	669	67%	very unlikely
Sweden	7526	83%	unlikely
Scenario 3 (when ratio of new vs total annual savings > 40% but < 90%)			
Member State	Projected savings in ktoe with new annual savings until 2020 as in 2018 (75% lifetime > 7 years; 25% lifetime = 1 year)	Relative target achievement in 2020 (projected savings compared to savings target)	Likelihood of target achievement
Finland	8260	196%	very likely
Germany	57608	137%	very likely
Greece	2647	79%	unlikely
Malta	87	129%	very likely

* All Member States have been classified according to the estimated lifetime of the implemented measures. This assessment was based on a comparison of the rate of new energy savings compared to total annual savings to identify the expected lifetimes of implemented policy measures. The assessment led to three scenarios. Where the ratio of new savings compared to total annual savings is ~ 1 , the assumed lifetime of an implemented measure is 1 year (scenario 1). If the ratio is $< 40\%$ (for the year 2017), the assumed lifetime of an implemented measure is longer than 7 years (scenario 2). For a ratio in between, a mixed scenario is used (scenario 3). The following ruleset for assessing the likelihood of achieving the target was applied

Relative target achievement in 2020	Assessment of likelihood
> 105%	very likely
>95%	likely
>75%	unlikely
<75%	very unlikely