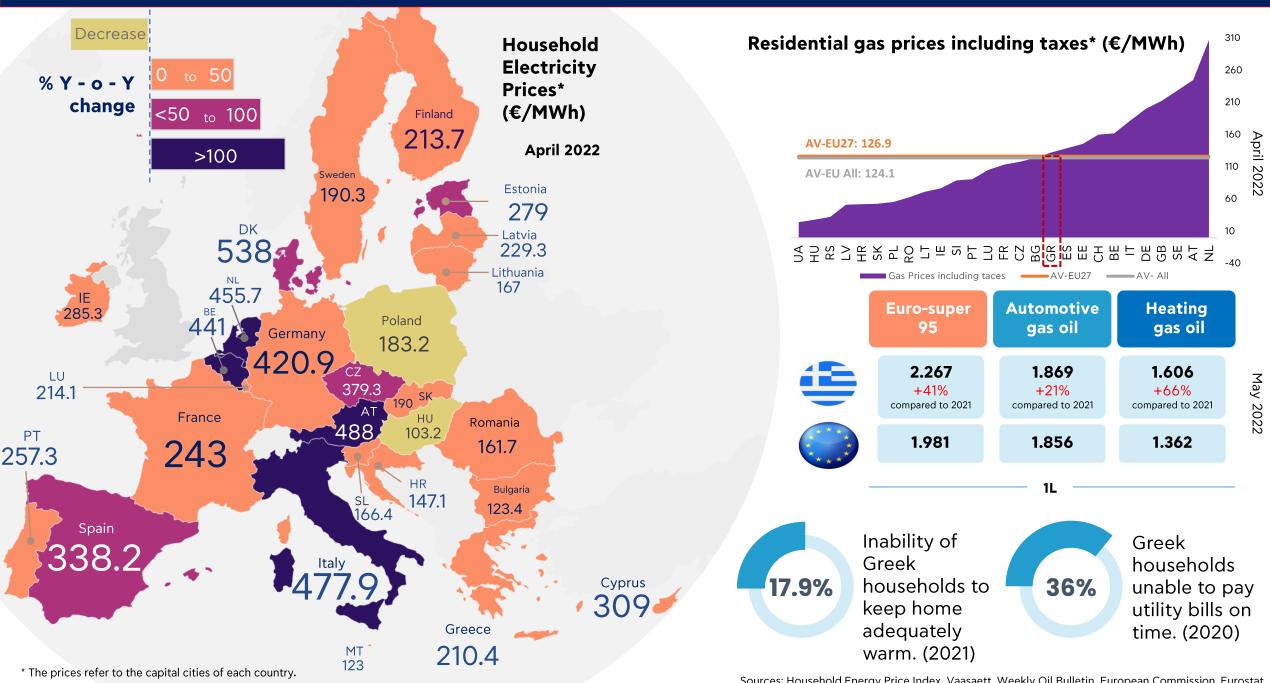


Vol.5

Energy Prices and Energy Poverty in Greece and EU-27



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Sources: Household Energy Price Index, Vaasaett, Weekly Oil Bulletin, European Commission, Eurostat

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The **Y-o-Y change** (color pattern) depicts the unprecedented increase in household prices in the European countries between April 2021 and April 2022. The **household electricity price** has more than **doubled in four European countries** (IT, AT, NL, BE) while a significant increase between 50%-100% is noticed in other four countries (ES, CZ, ES, DK). **Greece's household electricity price in April 2022 increased by 19.14%** and is the 13th higher increase out of the listed countries.

In absolute values, the 5 highest household electricity prices for April 2022 were observed in Denmark, in Austria, in Italy, in the Netherlands and in Belgium. **Greece's household electricity price in April 2022 reached 210.4 €/MWh** and is ranked as the 17th highest among the listed countries.

Given the high demand for natural gas and the low levels of energy storage in the EU, retail gas prices have been significantly increased. In April 2022, **Greek residential gas prices** followed the inflationary pressure, rose to **142.8 €/MWh**, and met an **increase** of **8%**, compared to the last couple of months, due to an uptick in the price of energy and in energy taxes components. The highest price is paid by the Netherlands, almost doubled compared to the European average end-user price.

The vast increase of energy prices during 2021, have resulted in consumer price inflation affecting Greece and the rest of the world. As electricity, gas and fuels prices are estimated to continue to rise in 2022, the remaining components of the consumption basket will be burdened even more with the higher energy costs mostly affecting low-income households. In May 2022, the **inflation rate** in **Greece skyrocketed to 9,4%**.



According to an EU-wide survey, 17.9% of the Greek population cannot afford to sufficiently heat their households, especially during winter, proving that a respectively important share of the Greek society has limited access to adequate and affordable energy services.



In Greece, approximately, one-third of the households have been left behind on rent, bills, or debt payments. 36% of Greek households are not able to pay utility bills on time. This percentage is 6 times bigger than the EU average.



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