

Half Greek Homes are “Leaking Energy” according to Hellenic Statistic Authority

The results of the 2011 **Population and Housing Census**, conducted by the **Hellenic Statistic Authority** (EL.STAT.) have recently been released, leading to some very interesting conclusions concerning, among other variables, the level of insulation of Greek dwellings, the energy sources for each end use and the recycle rates in Greek households.

More precisely, out of the 6.371.901 conventional Greek dwellings, 3.468.307 (**54,4%**) have some type of insulation, while 2.903.594 (**45,6%**) have no insulation at all. The biggest share of the occupied conventional dwellings (59,2%) seems to have some kind of insulating protection on their building envelopes (wall insulation, double glazed windows etc), unlike the vacant conventional dwellings that have no insulation in a percentage of 54,3%.

Between Greek Regional Units, the best results are found in Pieria, where 71,5% of dwellings are insulated, and the worst results occur in the island Karpathos with the 78,8% of homes completely thermally unprotected. **The majority of homes built before 1981 (56,8%) have extremely low energy performance rates**, since at the time insulating the building's envelope was not mandatory. This trend for the new buildings seems to smooth out after the 80s and is completely reversed after 2000. However, the vast majority of the existing buildings in Greece have been constructed before 1981, thus being still inadequately thermally protected unless renovated.

Regarding the energy sources for each use, available Census data indicate that **the main source for cooking and hot water is electricity (92,9% and 49,5% respectively), while the main source for heating in the winter is oil (66,7%).**

Finally, the average recycling rate per Greek household is **16,8%**, somewhere in the middle between the highest corresponding rate of 45% (in Germany) and the lowest of 1% (in Romania). One out of two Greek households recycles their waste, usually when its members are between 20 and 29 years old.

From all the above, it seems that a lot of progress still has to be made until Greece achieves the European goals on Sustainability and Energy Efficiency. **With half Greek homes completely non insulated, huge amounts of energy are being lost for the proper indoor thermal comfort to be achieved.**

This survey stresses out one more time **the urgency for the implementation of a vigorous energy renovation scheme** for the **Greek Building Stock**.

Source: [Hellenic Statistic Authority](#)

*The article is authored by the Marketing and Communications Dep. of Institute of Zero Energy Buildings – INZEB.ORG based on the 2011 **Population and Housing Census**, conducted by the **Hellenic Statistic Authority**.