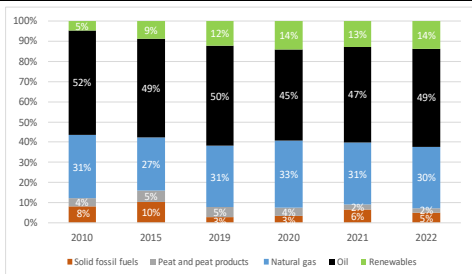




# REPowerEU Two Years on\_Ireland

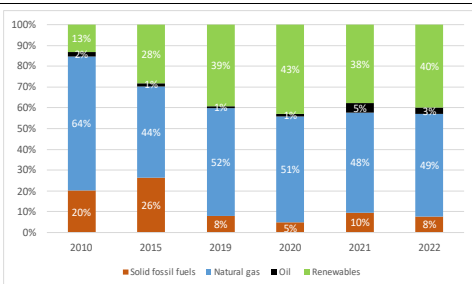
## Key energy figures

Graph 1: Energy mix



Source: Eurostat

Graph 2: Electricity mix



Source: Eurostat

## Save energy

### 1. KEY ENERGY SAVINGS MEASURES

Ireland is implementing energy efficiency measures to contribute to energy security further, such as:

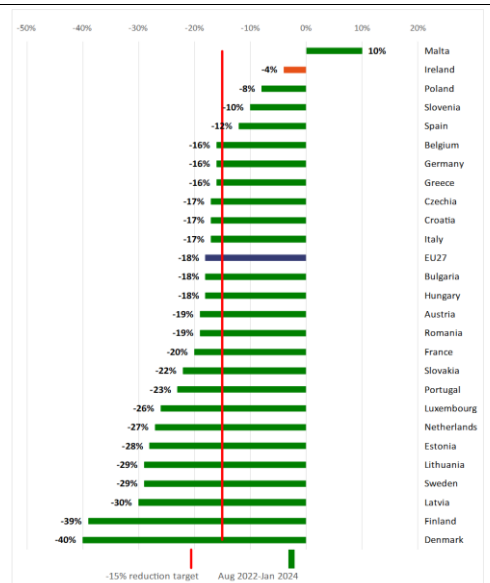
- Ireland's **energy efficiency obligation scheme** was redesigned and reinforced in 2022, launched in 2023, and is expected to deliver 5.203 GWh/year of energy savings.

- **Awareness raising campaigns** promoting energy savings behaviours ('Reduce Your Use', launched since May 2020).
- **National Retrofit Plan**, launched in February 2022, with the objective of upgrading 500 000 homes (representing 30% of the housing stock) by 2030 with grants of up to 50% of the cost of a deep retrofit, while the country's one-stop shops assist with project management.
- **Announced ban on oil boilers** for new buildings, starting this year (2023), and gas boilers by 2025.

### 2. GAS DEMAND REDUCTION

Ireland has reduced its gas consumption by **4%** in the period **August 2022 – January 2024**, below the decrease achieved at EU level (18%) and the 15% voluntary gas demand reduction agreed at the EU level <sup>(1)</sup>.

Graph 3: Natural gas demand reduction (August 2022 – January 2024)



(1) Cyprus does not use natural gas  
Source: Eurostat, DG ENER calculations

(1) Council Regulation (EU) 2023/706 of 30 March 2023, amending Regulation (EU) 2022/1369.

# Diversify energy supplies

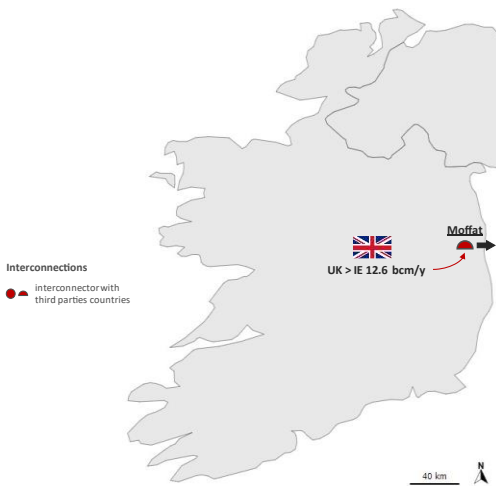
## 1. KEY ACTIONS

Ireland has a relatively high dependency on imported gas from the UK, which has a key role in Ireland's energy system, providing almost 30% of energy needs.

## 2. GAS INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Energy security is very sensitive to disruptions in the supply of gas to Ireland from the UK and Norway. Measures to mitigate potential supply risks include additional import capacity, reducing energy use, energy storage, additional electricity interconnection, fuel diversification and renewable gases (such as biomethane and hydrogen), and moving away from burning peat for heat.

Map 1: Cross-border gas infrastructure



(1) Part of this technical capacity (2.9bcm/y) is allocated to PTL for Northern Ireland.

**Source:** European Commission map recreation (based on ENTSO-G)

## 3. GAS STORAGE

Ireland has no underground gas storage facility and is exempted from the regulation on gas storage<sup>(2)</sup>.

# Energy platform

In the **four EU tenders** for joint gas purchase organised **under AggregateEU in 2023**,

<sup>(2)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2022/1032 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 June 2022 amending Regulations (EU) 2017/1938 and (EC) No 715/2009 with regard to gas storage.

113 companies across the EU expressed gas demand of over 54 bcm. 48 suppliers replied with bids of more than 61 bcm, resulting in **over 42 bcm of demand matched**.

- In the **first mid-term tender of 2024**, 19 companies expressed 34 bcm of gas demand for the next 5 years, with **97.4 bcm offered by suppliers**.
- According to the indicative data obtained through AggregateEU, companies from **Ireland** aggregated gas demand of **0.08 bcm** in 2023 under the EU Energy Platform. This represents the equivalent of 1.51% of the country's yearly gas consumption.

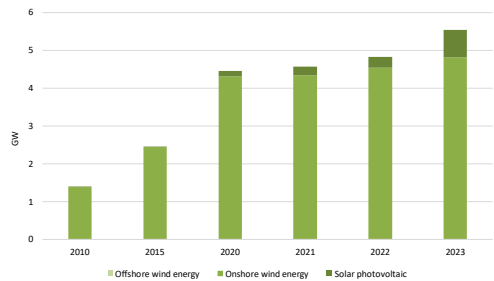
# Produce clean energy

## 1. INSTALLED RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY CAPACITY, IN WIND AND SOLAR

In **2023**, Ireland installed 720 MW of renewable electricity capacity, bringing the total to **5.9 GW** (vs. 4.9 GW in 2021).

In **2023**, the annual growth rate of installed renewables power capacity rose to **13.9%** compared to 2.3% in 2021<sup>(3)</sup>.

Graph 4: Installed solar and wind power capacity (in GW)



(1) The renewable power capacity data reflects the capacity installed and connected at the end of the calendar year.

(2) In 2023, Ireland installed 271 MW of wind power capacity (vs. 32 MW in 2021).

(3) In 2023, Ireland installed 449 MW of solar photovoltaic capacity (vs. 76 MW in 2021).

**Source:** IRENA, Renewable capacity statistics, 2024

## 2. ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENT

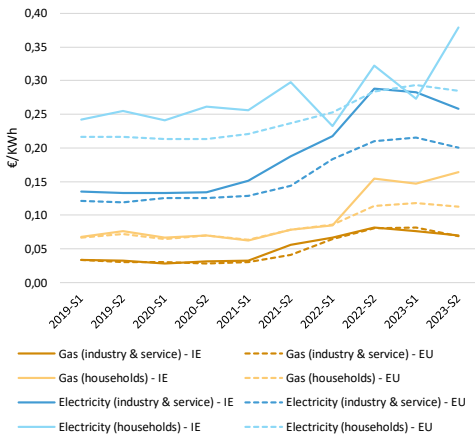
**Ireland's grid is in the process of modernisation. New capacity, a more flexible grid and increased interconnectivity will be critical to ensuring security of supply and meeting its 80% renewable electricity target**

<sup>(3)</sup> International Renewable Energy Agency (2024). Renewable capacity statistics 2024

**by 2030.** Completing the Ireland-France Celtic Interconnector Project of Common Interest will restore Ireland's connection to the EU post-UK withdrawal, strengthening security of supply and renewable integration. New projects are also ongoing to strengthen interconnection with the UK, including Northern Ireland.

## Energy price developments

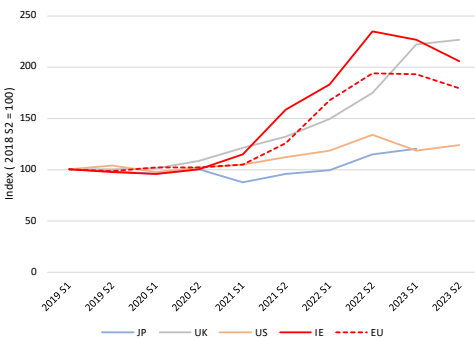
Graph 5: **Ireland's energy retail prices for households and industry & service**



- (1) For industry, consumption bands are I3 for gas and IC for electricity, which refer to medium-sized consumers and provide an insight into affordability
- (2) For households, the consumption bands are D2 for gas and DC for electricity
- (3) Industry prices are shown without VAT and other recoverable taxes/levies/fees as non-household consumers are usually able to recover VAT and some other taxes

**Source:** Eurostat

Graph 6: **Trends in electricity prices for non-household consumers (EU and foreign partners)**



- (1) For Eurostat data (EU and IE), the band consumption is ID referring to large-sized consumers with an annual consumption of between 2 000 MWh and 20 000 MWh, such as in electricity intensive manufacturing sectors, and gives an insight into international competitiveness
- (2) JP = Japan

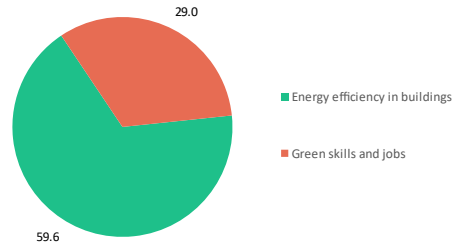
**Source:** Eurostat, IEA

## Smartly combine investments and reforms in the RRP

### Amended Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) (without a REPowerEU chapter):

- Approved by Council: on 8 December 2023
- Total amount: EUR 0.9 billion
- Amount allocated for energy: EUR 0.088 billion
- Climate tagging: 42 %
- REPowerEU chapter submitted on 22 March 2024

Graph 7: **Energy-related investments in the RRP (in EUR million)**



**Source:** European Commission

### Tangible results: reforms & investments

- **Energy efficiency:** upgrade of at least 5 400 m<sup>2</sup> of public buildings to achieve at least a 30 % reduction in primary energy use.
- **Renewables:** rehabilitation of 33 000 hectares of peatlands areas, including the construction of a solar powered pumping system to elevate water.
- **Green skills and jobs:** green educational and training programmes, covering areas in Near Zero-Emission Building and retrofit, to increase the availability of tradespeople able to carry out energy efficiency renovations, helping citizens and business reduce their energy consumption and bills.

## Highlights of the National Energy and Climate Plan

- The **draft updated NECP** was submitted to the European Commission in December 2023.
- Member States are due to submit their **final updated NECP by 30 June 2024**, taking into account the Commission recommendations.
- For more information see the dedicated [webpage of the European Commission on the NECPs](#).

## Strengthening competitiveness with the Net Zero Industry Act

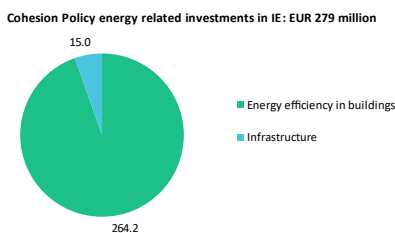
**Ireland has historically relied on imports for clean technologies.** However, there are a few small-scale manufacturing units for batteries and positive developments in R&D initiatives, especially for offshore wind. In the wind supply chain, Ireland is involved in components testing and grid management software. Also, Dublin hosts a growing company focused on developing a modular floating offshore wind platform, with promising applications for deep-water deployment. Currently, manufacturing capacity in Ireland is confined to domestic-scale wind turbines, managed by an Irish company based in Galway. On energy storage, there are two small-scale lithium-ion battery producers operating in Tipperary and Galway, one of which specialises in the electrification of off-highway electric vehicles such as construction dozers and mining trucks. For solar PV, a new Irish-Indian company unveiled plans to start Ireland's first solar module manufacturing plant in the Midlands. The EUR 24m plant will have a maximum rated output of 300 MW when fully operational.

### Other EU initiatives

Cohesion Policy provides significant support to REPowerEU in all EU Member States, with a total of EUR 89 billion worth of investments focusing on regions most in need in the energy transition.

Most resources concentrate on energy efficiency in the buildings sector (i.e. 720 000 dwellings across the EU will be renovated and public buildings will decrease their energy consumption by 6000 GWh/year) and on energy infrastructure (i.e. 4.9 GWh of additional electricity storage deployed), followed by renewables (e.g. 9.5 GW of additional renewable energy capacities installed).

Graph 8: **2021-2027 energy-related investments in the Cohesion Funds supporting REPowerEU**



Source: Cohesion Open Data<sup>(4)</sup>

<sup>(4)</sup> <https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/d/hgyj-qyin>