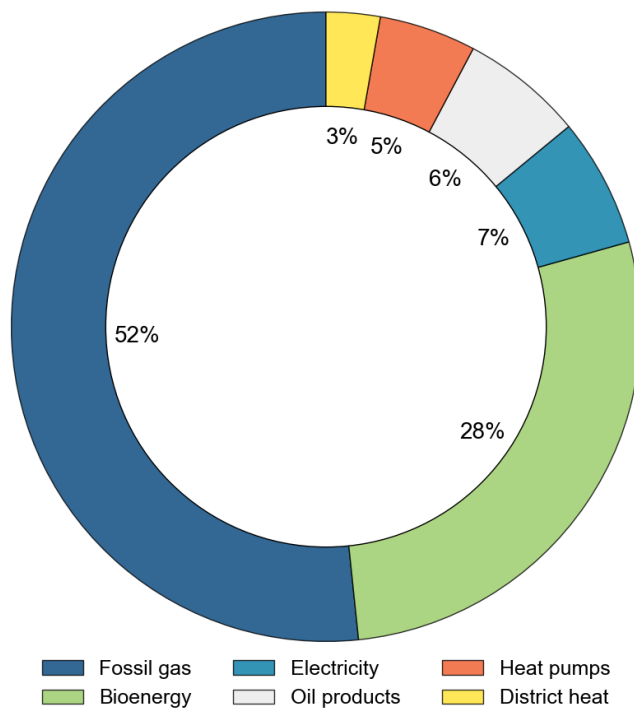


Clean Heat Policy Tracker 2025

Italy



Energy used for space heating and hot water in homes in Italy, 2023



Source: Eurostat, 2025.

Does the country have a national heat plan? Is it statutory?

No, there is no specific national plan for heating. Like all EU Member States, Italy is required to draft the NECP, which sets targets for all energy sectors in terms of emission reductions, increased use of renewable energy sources (including in the thermal sector), and improved energy efficiency. It is worth noting that by the December 2026, EU Member States must define their national building renovation plan, including policies aimed at phasing out fossil fuel boilers by 2040.



Is the progress of heating decarbonisation tracked and is the information publicly accessible?

Yes, in accordance with the Legislative Decrees 28/2011 and 199/2021, the GSE (Gestore dei Servizi Energetici) is responsible for annually monitoring the progress made in achieving Italy's RES targets, as set for 2030 by Directive 2023/2413 (RED III) in the electricity, thermal and transport sectors, and by planning instruments (specifically, the NECP submitted to the European Commission in June 2024).

By using statistical data and technical parameters drawn from various information sources (e.g., GSE, TERNA, ENEA, ISTAT, regional governments, autonomous provinces, and trade associations), GSE annually calculates RES indicators and compares them with the indicative annual trajectories defined in the 2024 NECP. These indicators are publicly available [online](#). Monitoring indicators for the NECP targets, including the share of RES in final thermal consumption, are also available [online \(in Italian\)](#).

Is the country a member of the Buildings Breakthrough?

No.

Is the heating sector governed by local authorities?

The heating sector in Italy is primarily governed at the national level. Key regulations on building energy performance, heating system standards, incentives (e.g., Ecobonus, Bonus Casa, Conto Termico), and climate targets are set by national bodies such as the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (MASE) and implemented via agencies like ENEA (the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development) and GSE.

However, local authorities (regions and municipalities) have some responsibilities in implementation and enforcement—such as approving building permits, enforcing energy performance certificates, setting additional air quality restrictions (e.g., limits on biomass heating in polluted areas), or regulating heating season. Still, strategic governance and policy direction remain mostly centralized.

Is heat planning carried out at a municipal, regional or national level?

See previous response.

Is there a specific body that governs heat decarbonisation?

As it defines national climate and energy targets, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (MASE) is the most relevant body for heat decarbonization.



Is heat decarbonisation part of the country's Nationally Determined Contribution?

Yes, in line with the EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED III) Italy committed to increase the share of RES (bioenergy, biomethane, heat pumps, solar thermal and hydrogen) in the gross final thermal energy consumption. The RES share to be reached by 2030 is equal to 36%, an increase of 80% compared to the 2021 level equal to 19%.

Does the country have targets for heat pump deployment?

In the 2024 NECP, Italy defined a 2030 target for heat pump consumption of 5,2 Mtoe - +92% compared to 2021 level (= 2,7 Mtoe). According to the Assoclimate it corresponds to 8,6 million new heat pumps by 2030.

Does the country have a clean heating obligation or standard?

No, there is not a specific obligation or standard for clean heating systems. There are standards for energy efficiency in terms of energy labelling for heating systems or energy classes for buildings.

Does the country have restrictions on installing fossil fuel heating appliances in new buildings?

No, there are no specific restrictions on installing fossil fuel heating systems (Italy has not yet transposed the new EPBD). However, new buildings must be nZEB (nearly zero energy building) and ensure that around 50% of domestic hot water and overall energy demand is covered by renewable sources.

This does not explicitly exclude fossil fuel systems, but it discourages their use in favour of renewables. Just for projects funded by the NRRP, the EC explicitly required Italy to exclude the use of gas boilers in the construction of new buildings or in major renovation projects due to the DNSH ("Do No Significant Harm") principle.

Does the country have restrictions on installing fossil fuel heating appliances in existing buildings?

No, there aren't. In case of relevant building requalification projects (i.e., more than 25% of the building envelope is renovated, or a full renovation is carried out on more than 50% of the gross floor area), similar requirements to those for new buildings apply for RES coverage, but with lower and less restrictive percentages.

Has the country decided on a phase-out date for fossil fuels in heating?

No, Italy does not have a planning strategy for a fossil fuels phase-out in heating.



Has the country undertaken energy pricing reforms to support electrification?

Yes, Italy has progressively implemented reforms aimed at lowering electricity costs for higher consumption level, as the case of heating applications like heat pumps.

Between 2014 and 2017, Italy introduced a special electricity tariff called Tariff D1 specifically designed for households using electric heat pumps as their exclusive heating system. This tariff eliminated the progressive pricing structure (where electricity costs more as consumption rises), allowing for a flat rate that made high electricity consumption for heating more affordable.

Since 2017, Italy reformed electricity tariffs by removing progressive pricing for all residential consumers. This means that all households now benefit from a linear (flat) tariff structure, which indirectly supports the use of electric heating technologies like heat pumps by removing cost penalties on high electricity usage. Despite these reforms, there is currently no dedicated discounted electricity tariff exclusively for heat pump users.

Does the country place a carbon tax on fossil fuels for heating?

No.

If yes, please provide details. If not, is it under discussion?

Due to gas price volatility, there is a lot of discussion about how to reduce the cost of electricity, especially for industry in order to maintain competitiveness, but still little about comparing it with the cost of gas. However, it is acknowledged that this imbalance is a barrier to electrification. Italy must also implement ETS2 regulation on building and transport sectors.

Does the country provide financial support for heat pumps?

Yes, Italy provides financial support for heat pumps through several national incentive schemes, such as:

- 1) The Ecobonus scheme provides tax deductions (currently from 36% to 50%) for energy efficiency improvements in residential buildings, including the replacement of fossil-fuel heating systems with more efficient systems.
- 2) The Conto Termico 2.0, which offers direct grants covering up to 65% of the costs for upgrading heating systems as part of broader building energy renovations. Eligible technologies include electric heat pumps, hybrid systems, solar thermal and biomass boilers. From 2025, fossil gas boilers are no longer eligible for these incentives.



Does the country provide financial support for district heating?

Yes, Italy supports district heating projects—especially those using renewable sources or high-efficiency cogeneration—through public funding, EU recovery funds (PNRR), and specific incentive mechanisms managed by GSE such as Conto Termico 2.0. Grants are available for system expansion, modernization and integration of renewable energy.

Has the country made efforts to improve public understanding and support of clean heat systems?

ENEA has developed awareness programs and projects on energy efficiency (such as “Italy in energy class A”) that promote high-efficiency technologies—including heat pumps—without focusing exclusively on them. The most relevant for heat pumps is a decalogue on how to increase energy savings by efficiently using a heat pump and making your home greener. In the handbook, ENEA [estimated](#) households’ cost savings due to a new and more efficient heat pump system.

Does the country support the development of clean heat skills?

Italy provides limited and fragmented support for the development of clean heat skills. While there are some initiatives—such as regional training programs for heat pump installers and national requirements for certified professionals (e.g., under the F-gas regulation)—these efforts are not yet part of a cohesive or large-scale national strategy.

Moreover, in the absence of a clear medium-to-long-term plan for building renovations that includes a phase-out of fossil fuel heating systems, it is difficult for the entire construction supply chain to organize itself effectively. Without policy certainty and predictable timelines, companies are hesitant to invest in workforce development or expand their capacity to meet the scale of interventions needed to decarbonize the building sector.

Technical guidance offered by ENEA and trade associations results are marginal. Broader and more strategic public investment in upskilling, reskilling and vocational training remains limited. As a result, Italy risks facing a shortage of qualified professionals capable of supporting a widespread transition to clean heating technologies.

Brief overview of the biggest challenges towards heat decarbonisation in the country.

The main challenge is the lack of a strategy for gas phase-out due to a lack of clear political will because of strong vested interests linked to fossil fuels.