



European Foundation
for the Improvement
of Living and Working
Conditions

The tripartite EU Agency providing knowledge
to assist in the development of better social,
employment and work-related policies

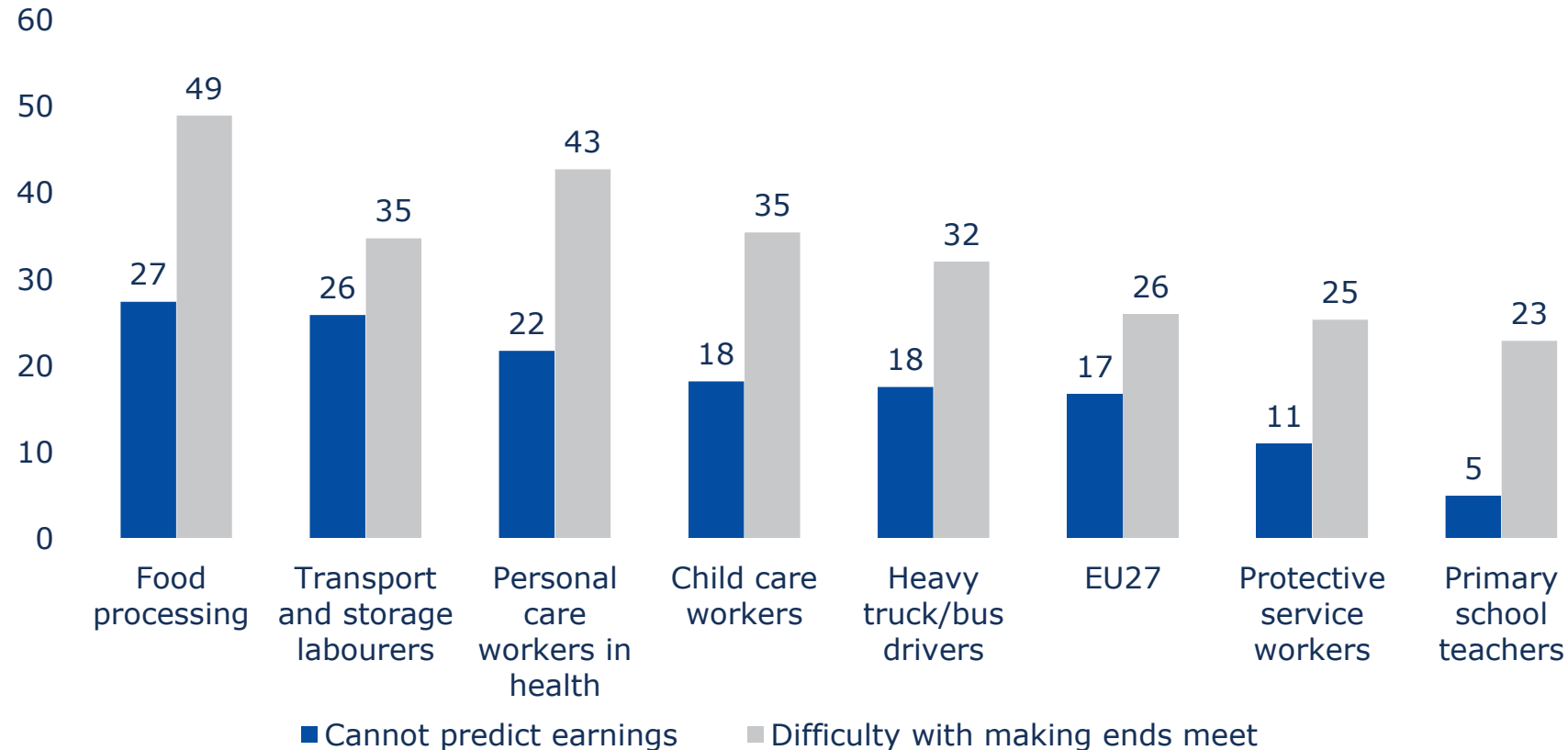
The rise in cost of living and energy poverty: Social impact and policy responses

Ivailo Kalfin, Executive Director, Eurofound

Informal meeting of Labour and Social Affairs Ministers (EPSCO)

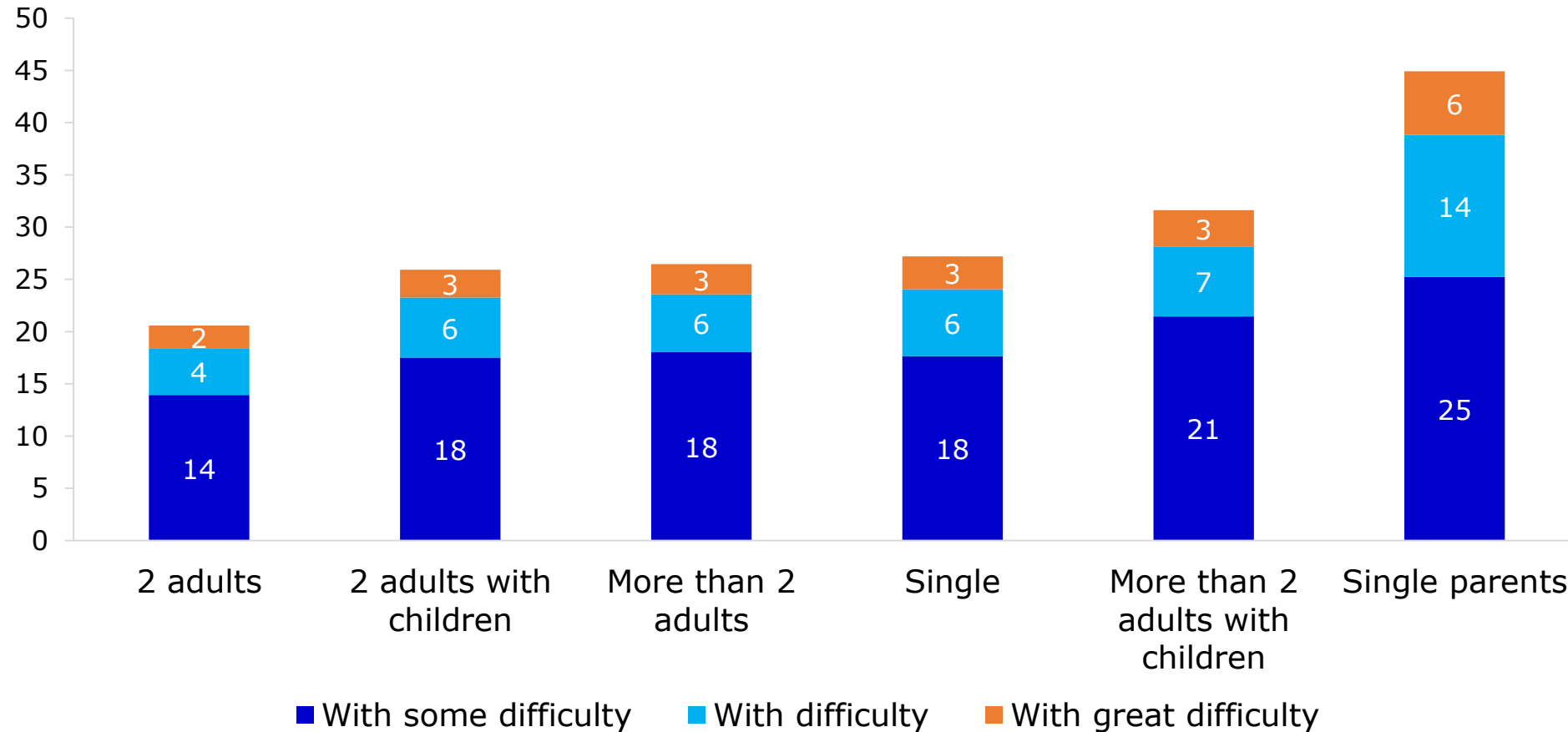
Prague, 14 October 2022

Financial vulnerability by selected occupations, %



Source: European Working Conditions Telephone Survey (EWC(t)S) 2021

Making ends meet: Workers' households, % of workers



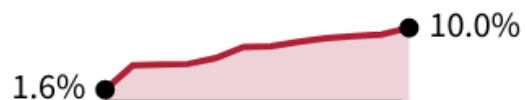
Source: European Working Conditions Telephone Survey (EWC(t)S) 2021

Rising cost of living

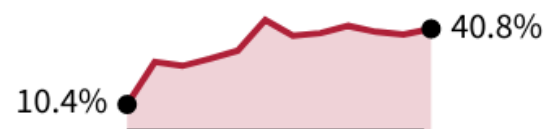
Cost of living metric

April 2021 - Sept 2022

Euro area annual inflation rate



Energy price inflation rate

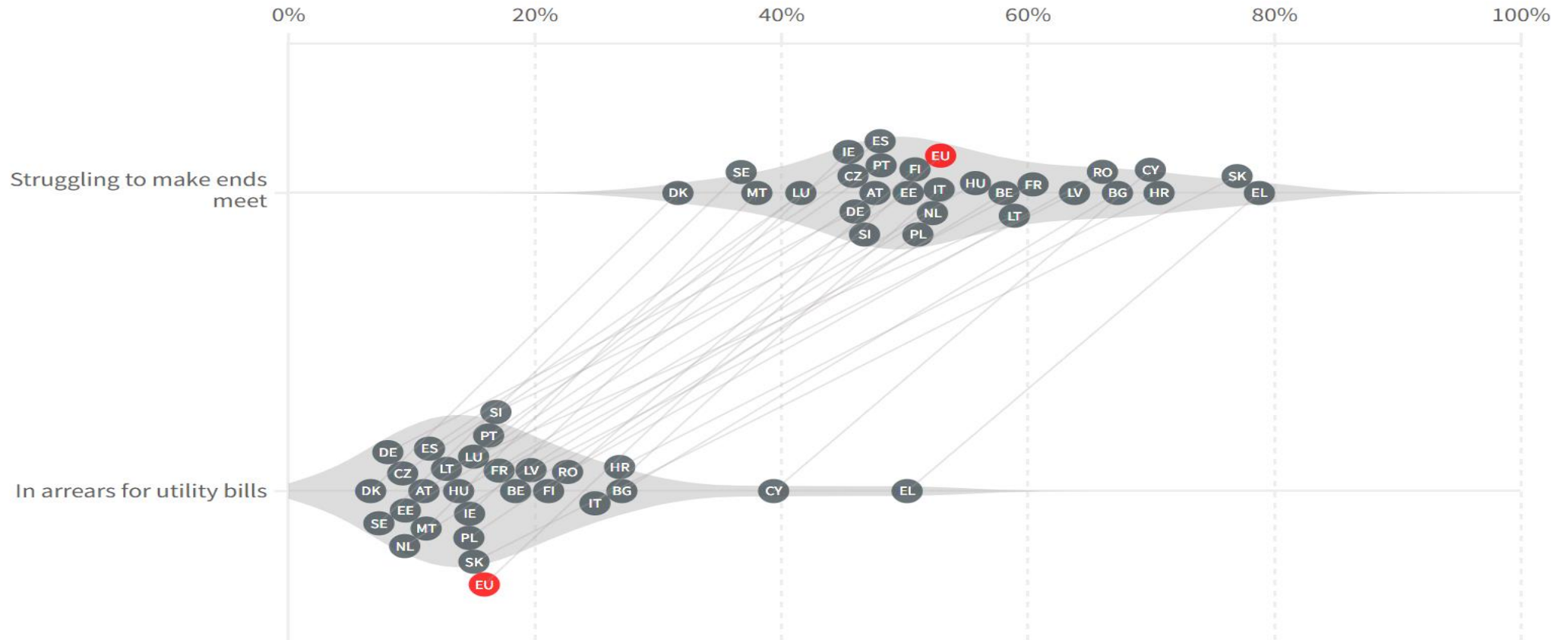


Difficulty in making ends meet



Source: Fifth round of the Living, working and COVID-19 e-survey: Living in a new era of uncertainty, Eurostat (2022), Euroindicators No. 107, 30 September 2022

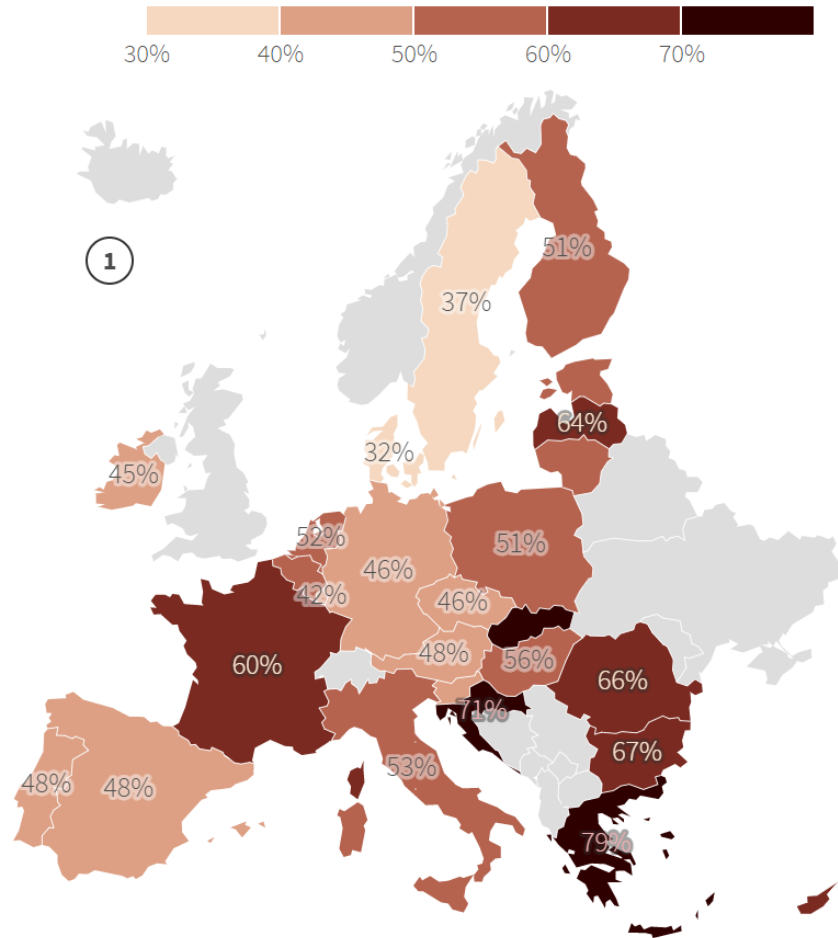
Financial precarity in the EU (April 2022)



Source: [Fifth round of the Living, working and COVID-19 e-survey: Living in a new era of uncertainty](#).



Struggling to make ends meet



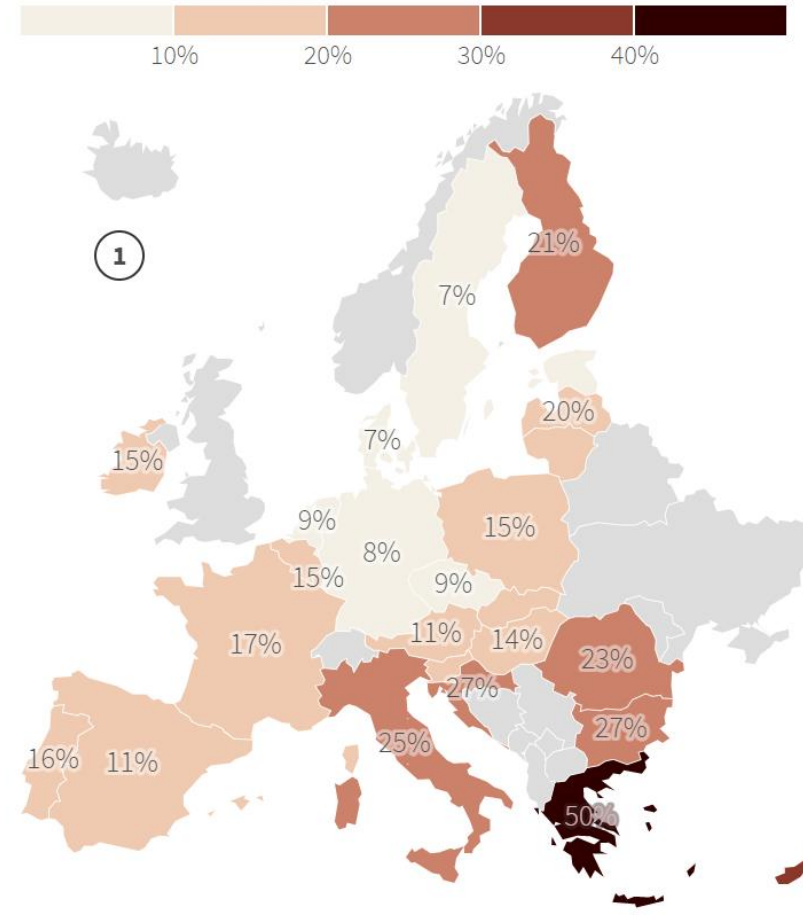
1 53% average for EU27



Source: Fifth round of the Living, working and COVID-19 e-survey: Living in a new era of uncertainty

Utility bills

In arrears

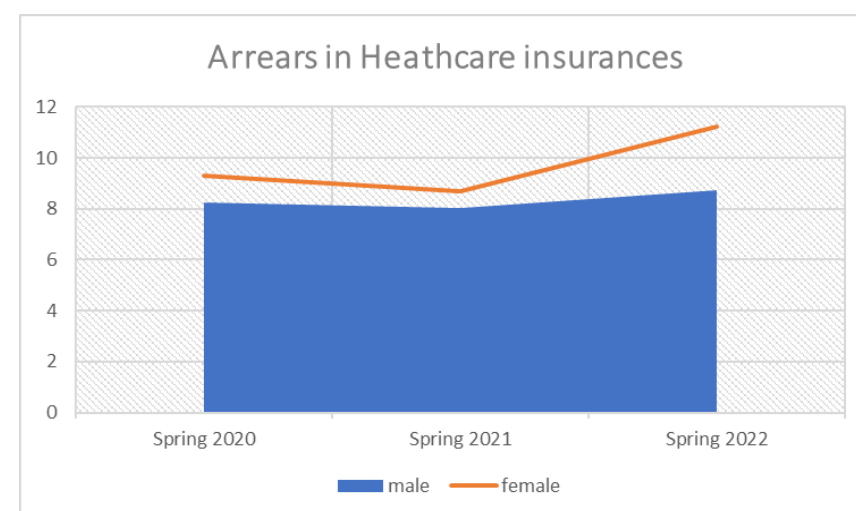
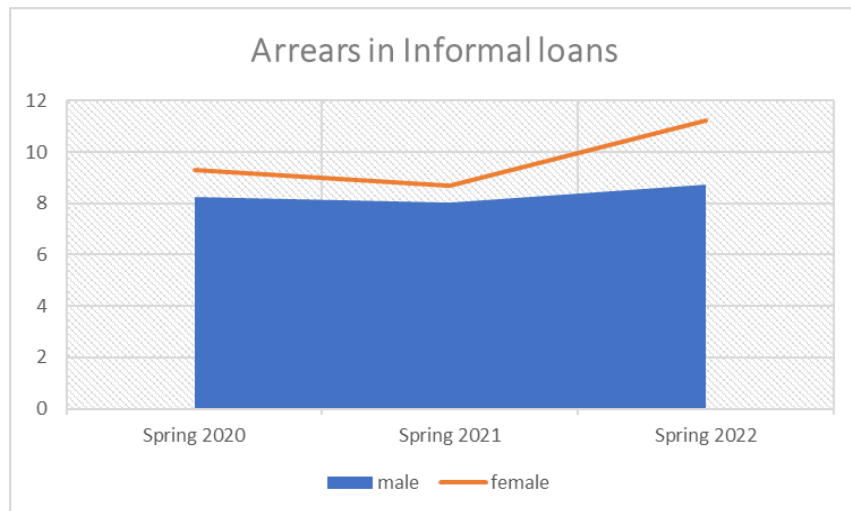
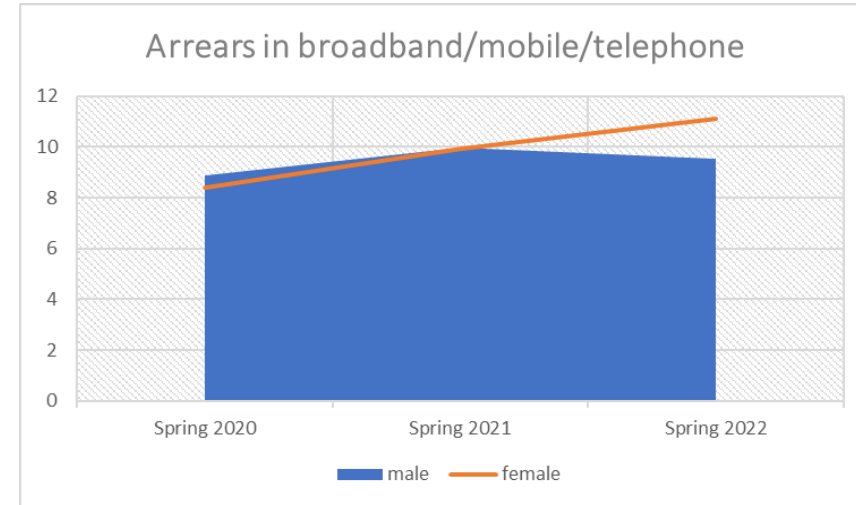
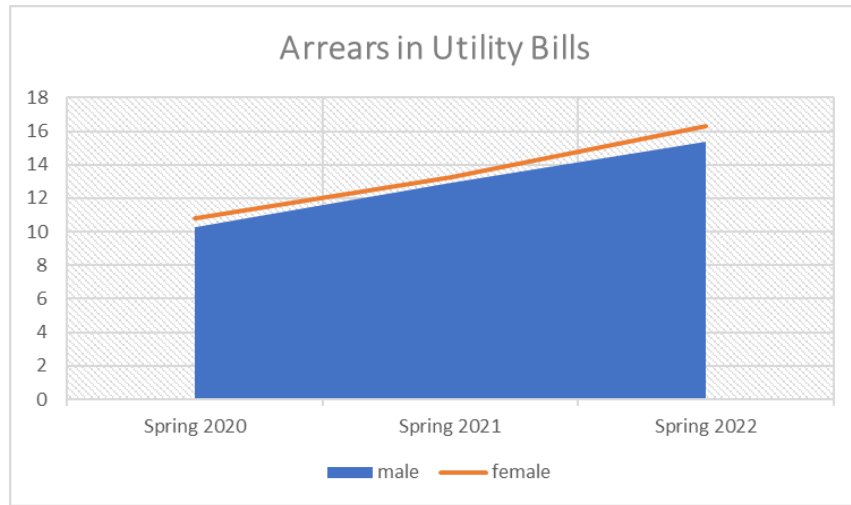


1 15.9% average arrears for EU27



Source: Fifth round of the Living, working and COVID-19 e-survey: Living in a new era of uncertainty

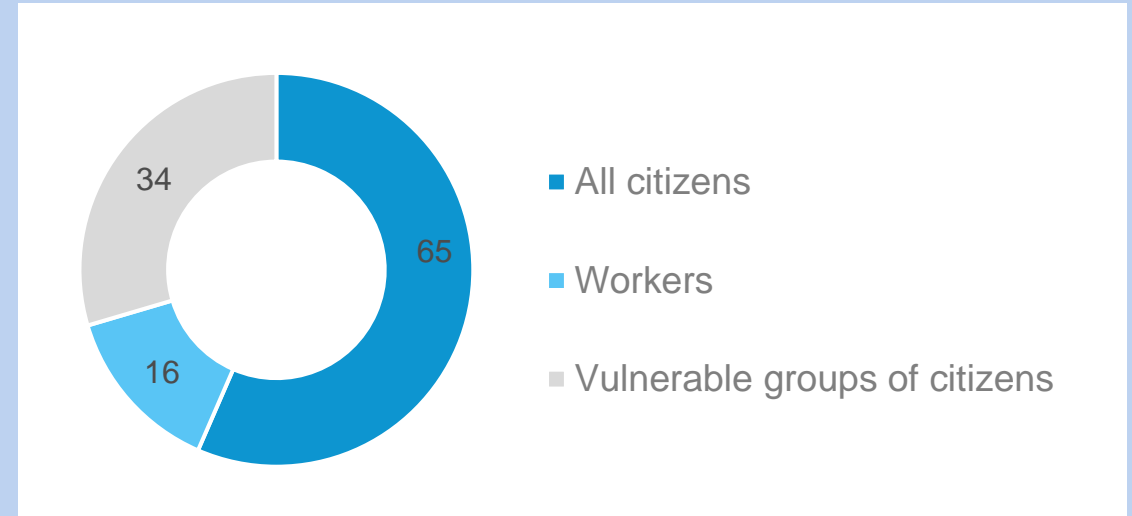
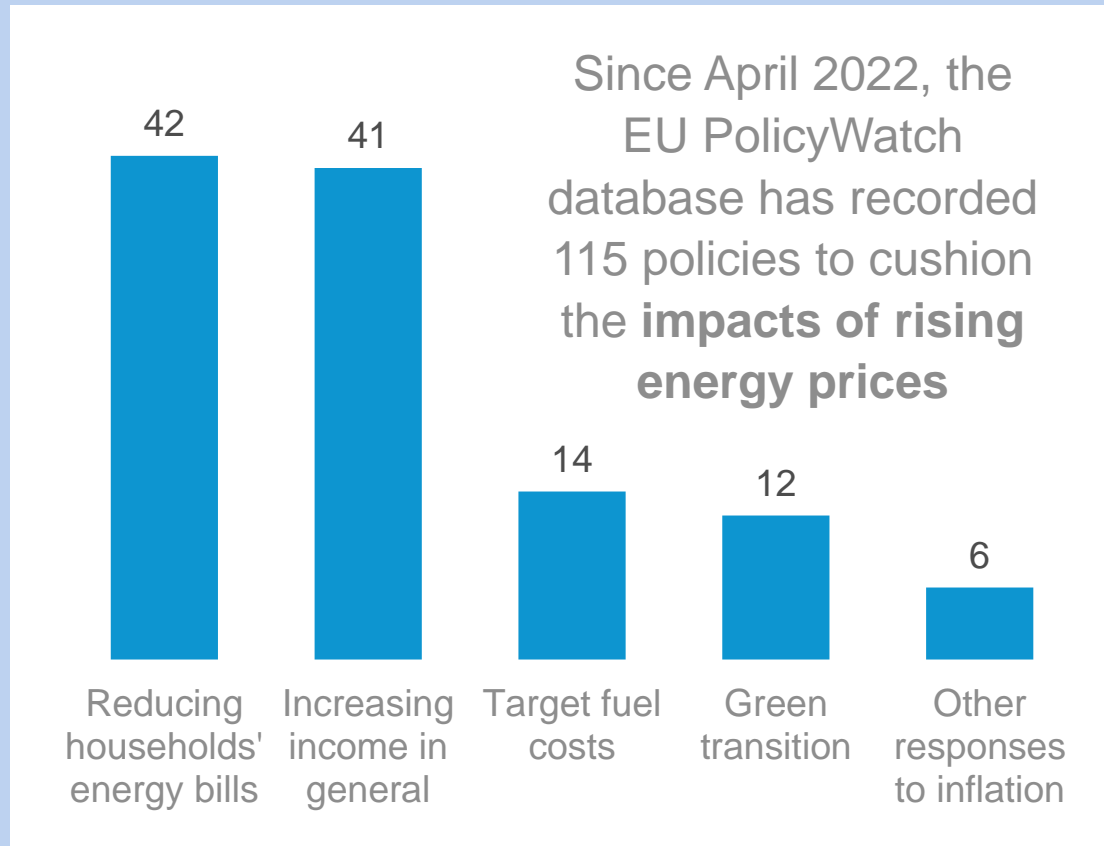
Share of people with arrears



Has your household been in arrears at any time during the past 3 months, that is, unable to pay as scheduled

Source: Eurofound's Living, Working and COVID-19 e-survey (Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022)

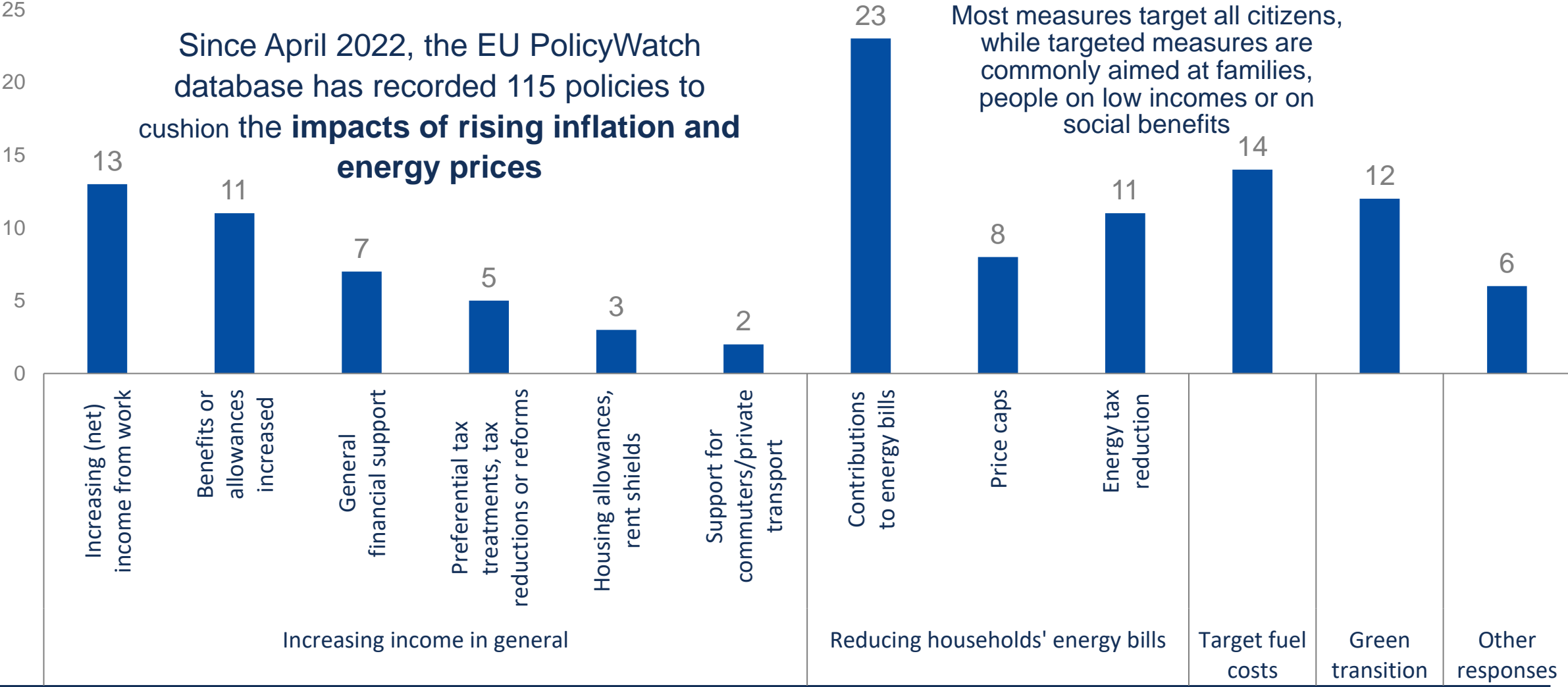
EU PolicyWatch - Policies to cushion the impacts of rising inflation and energy prices



Most measures target all citizens, while targeted measures are commonly aimed at families, people on low incomes or on social benefits

Source: Eurofound EU PolicyWatch, 29 September 2022

EU PolicyWatch - Policies to cushion the impacts of rising inflation and energy prices



Source: Eurofound EU PolicyWatch, 29 September 2022