

Stuttgart, 13th July 2020

EEP Energy Efficiency Index: Summer Survey 2020

Despite or because of Corona: The importance of energy efficiency in companies grows.

The EEI Summer 2020 Survey shows: No negative impacts due to the corona-pandemic in companies that attach importance to energy efficiency.

In summer 2020, the importance index of the Energy Efficiency Index (EEI) rose more than ever before. The targeted energy productivity in the past six months is also higher than before. Thus, the corona pandemic did not have a negative, but rather a more positive impact on the importance that companies place on energy efficiency.

Since 2013, the Institute for Energy Efficiency in Production EEP at the University of Stuttgart has been conducting a semi-annual survey of current and planned activities of German industry on energy efficiency. The index on energy efficiency is gathered in cooperation with the German Energy Agency (dena), the Federation of German Industries (BDI), the Fraunhofer IPA, TÜV Rheinland and a number of other partners.

"The importance of energy efficiency has never been rated more highly by industry, even though there has been a decline in investment. Despite or perhaps because of Corona, the respondents seem to attach a great importance to energy efficiency in their planning," said Professor Alexander Sauer, Executive Director of the Institute for Energy Efficiency in Production EEP at the University of Stuttgart.

More than 850 companies from over 20 manufacturing sectors answered the unique question section of the EEI, which changes every six months. For the summer data collection 2020, the question was asked whether and in which way the current COVID-19 pandemic has influenced the energy efficiency strategy of companies (n=843, n'=986). More than 30% of the respondents answered that the corona virus has had no influence on their energy efficiency strategy and that they will continue to adhere to existing strategies. Particularly positive: Many companies have expanded or accelerated their energy efficiency measures.

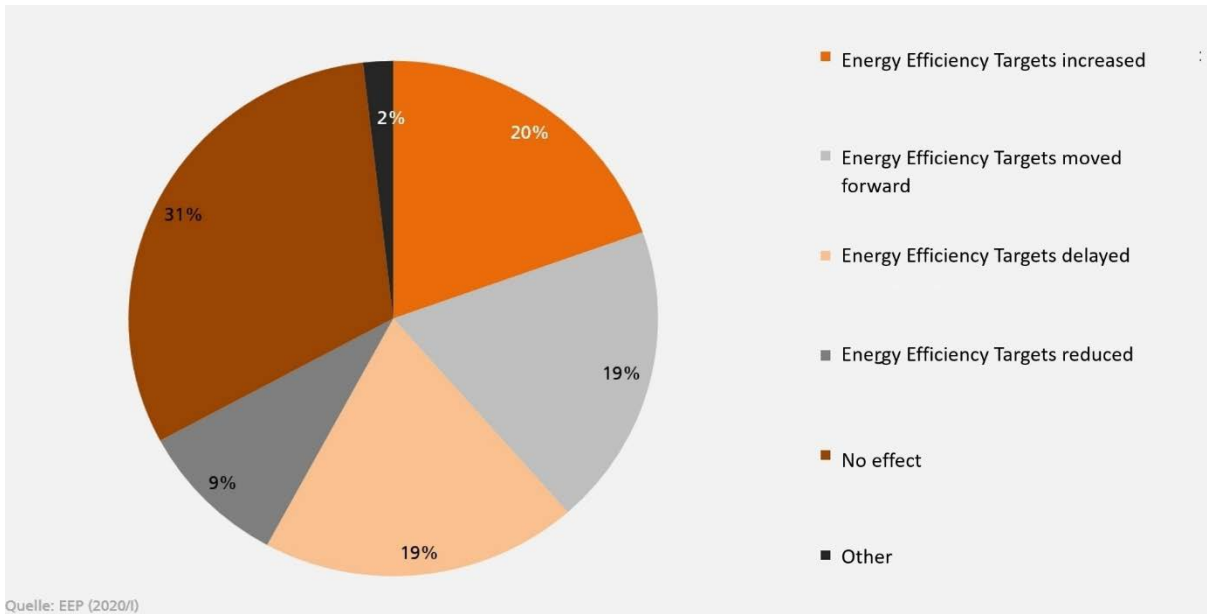


Figure 1: How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your company's energy efficiency strategy? (n=843, n'=986)

Companies plan to reduce CO2 emissions, including all compensation measures, by more than 20% (based on 2020 figures) by 2025. Small and medium-sized companies plan to reduce by 18-21%. (n=550). Here, the reduction of energy consumption through energy efficiency measures is the most important measure mentioned. The industry seems to be following the principle of "Efficiency First". This is closely followed by the purchase of renewable energy.

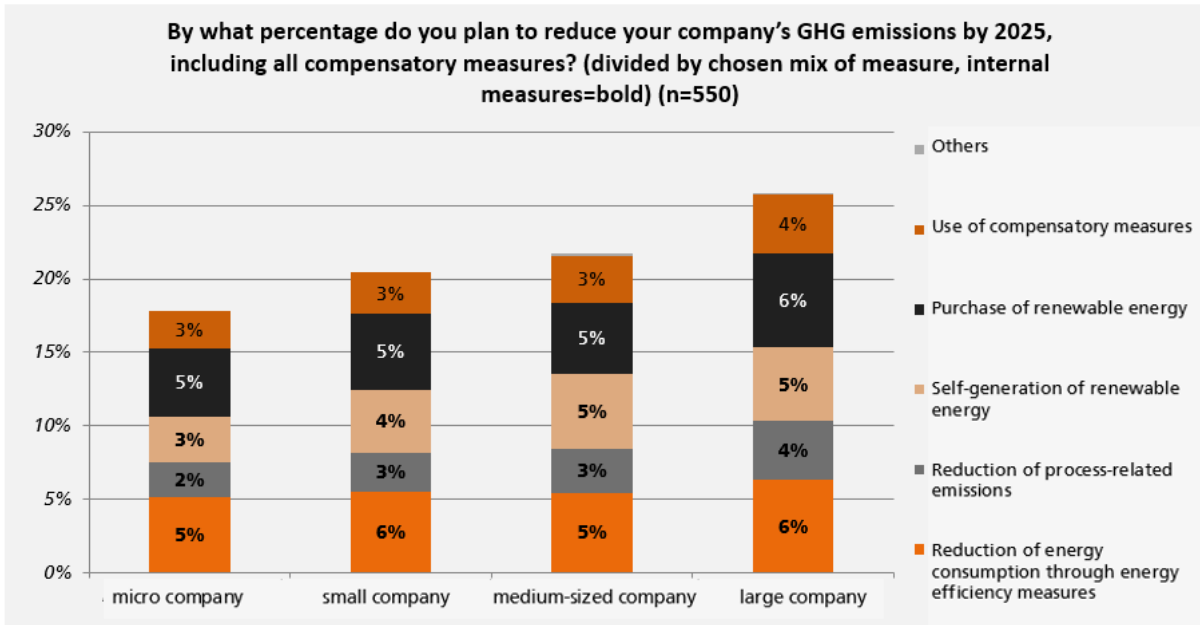


Figure 2: By what percentage do you plan to reduce CO2 emissions by 2025, including all compensation measures? (Divided according to the selected mix of measures) (n=550)

"The current mood in industry with regard to energy efficiency is very positive despite the worsening economic situation caused by the corona pandemic. This illustrates the willingness and ability to act. Especially now, energy efficiency can help to reduce companies' energy costs and increase their competitiveness. This is an opportunity for energy efficiency," said Prof. Sauer.

Text and further pictures can be downloaded from: www.eep.uni-stuttgart.de

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