1. The implementation of the 2014-2020 period runs until the end of 2023\(^1\) (with final balance to be paid by the Commission in the course of 2025 for closure of programmes\(^2\)). The payment rate\(^3\) reached 71% (EUR 256 billion out of EUR 359 billion) for all cohesion policy Funds\(^4\) in May 2022 for this period. This level of payments is similar to that of previous programming periods in the corresponding year.

In 2021-2022, cohesion policy funds were topped-up with ReactEU\(^5\) resources, financed as part of the NextGenerationEU recovery package. Their payment rate stands at 22% (EUR 11 billion out of EUR 50 billion) in May 2022.

As regards the 2021-2027 period, following the adoption of the first programmes, the first pre-financing amounts (EUR 44 million) will be paid to the relevant Member States. The coronavirus pandemic and the need to focus on the crisis and recovery instruments led Member States to prioritise the (re)programming and immediate implementation of the Coronavirus Response Investment Initiatives\(^6\), ReactEU and the Recovery and Resilience Facility over 2021-2027 cohesion policy programming – the latter have a longer implementation period with last payments and closure taking place in 2031. The first payments are expected upon programme adoption.

2. With regard to the Recovery and Resilience Facility, out of the total budget 2021-2026 the European Commission disbursed 19.6% for grants (EUR 66.32 billion out of EUR 337.97 billion) and 8.6% for loans (EUR 33.37 billion out of EUR 385.86 billion)\(^7\) by May 2022.

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\(^3\) Sum of pre-financing and interim payments paid by the Commission to the Member States minus recoveries (as % of planned allocation).

\(^4\) 72% for the Cohesion Fund, 70% - the European Regional Development Fund, 72% - the European Social Fund, 82% - the Youth Employment Initiative, 79% - the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived.


\(^7\) This includes both the prefinancing and the disbursed instalments.