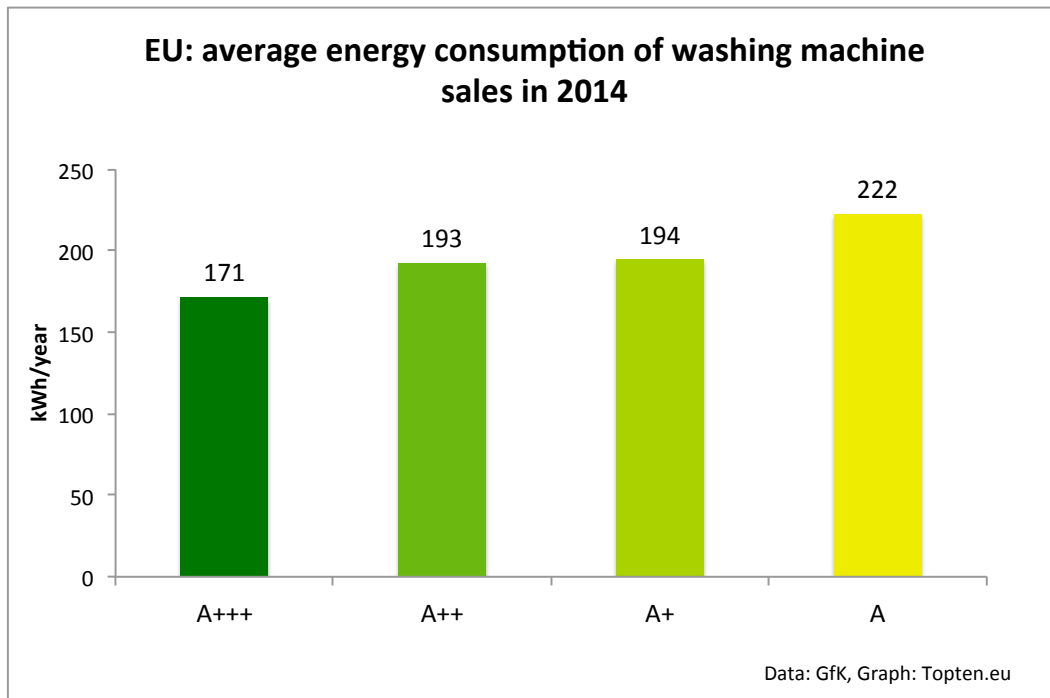


## Washing machines: energy label has doubtful impact

In the recent market monitoring report, Topten has presented washing machines sales data from GfK including information on energy efficiency, energy and water consumption, size and price. Next to the EU-21 the study also covers France and Portugal, to show national differences.



### Efficient washing machines are large, but don't save much energy

Already 43% of the EU 2014 sales are in A+++. Sales in Portugal are more energy-efficient than across the EU and in France. However, the average declared energy consumption is higher – because Portuguese buy larger washing machines.

Differences in average declared energy consumption between classes are minimal. On the other hand more 'efficient' washing machines have clearly higher capacities, and the trend to larger machines is ongoing. The Label's strictly linear efficiency approach seems to be supporting this trend, allowing larger machines more easily to reach good efficiency classes.

### Energy Label can now be revised to support energy-saving washing machines

If the appliances do not adapt energy and water consumption well to the actual load for all programs (not only standard programs), larger washing machines bear the risk of energy waste. Because the top efficiency classes are hardly linked to energy savings, the current Energy Label provides no basis for future meaningful MEPS. The Label needs a fundamental revision to support models with low energy consumption (A to G scheme with ambitious classes, inclusion of 'small' load, curved reference line).

### More information

- Full report: [www.topten.eu/uploads/File/WhiteGoods\\_in\\_Europe\\_June15.pdf](http://www.topten.eu/uploads/File/WhiteGoods_in_Europe_June15.pdf)
- Short summary version: [www.topten.eu/uploads/File/White-Goods-in-Europe-short.pdf](http://www.topten.eu/uploads/File/White-Goods-in-Europe-short.pdf)
- Topten policy recommendations for washing machines: [www.topten.eu/recommendations/washing-machines-3.html&fromid=](http://www.topten.eu/recommendations/washing-machines-3.html&fromid=)
- [Anette.Michel@topten.eu](mailto:Anette.Michel@topten.eu)