

# Aggressive Residential Efficiency for Greenhouse Gas Reduction: What is possible, What will it take?

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ACI – Home  
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# Sustainability Limit

## for Energy Related CO<sub>2</sub>-Emissions

**Global limit:**

**10 billion tons per year**



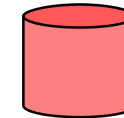
**Population 2050:**

**10 billion people**

**means**



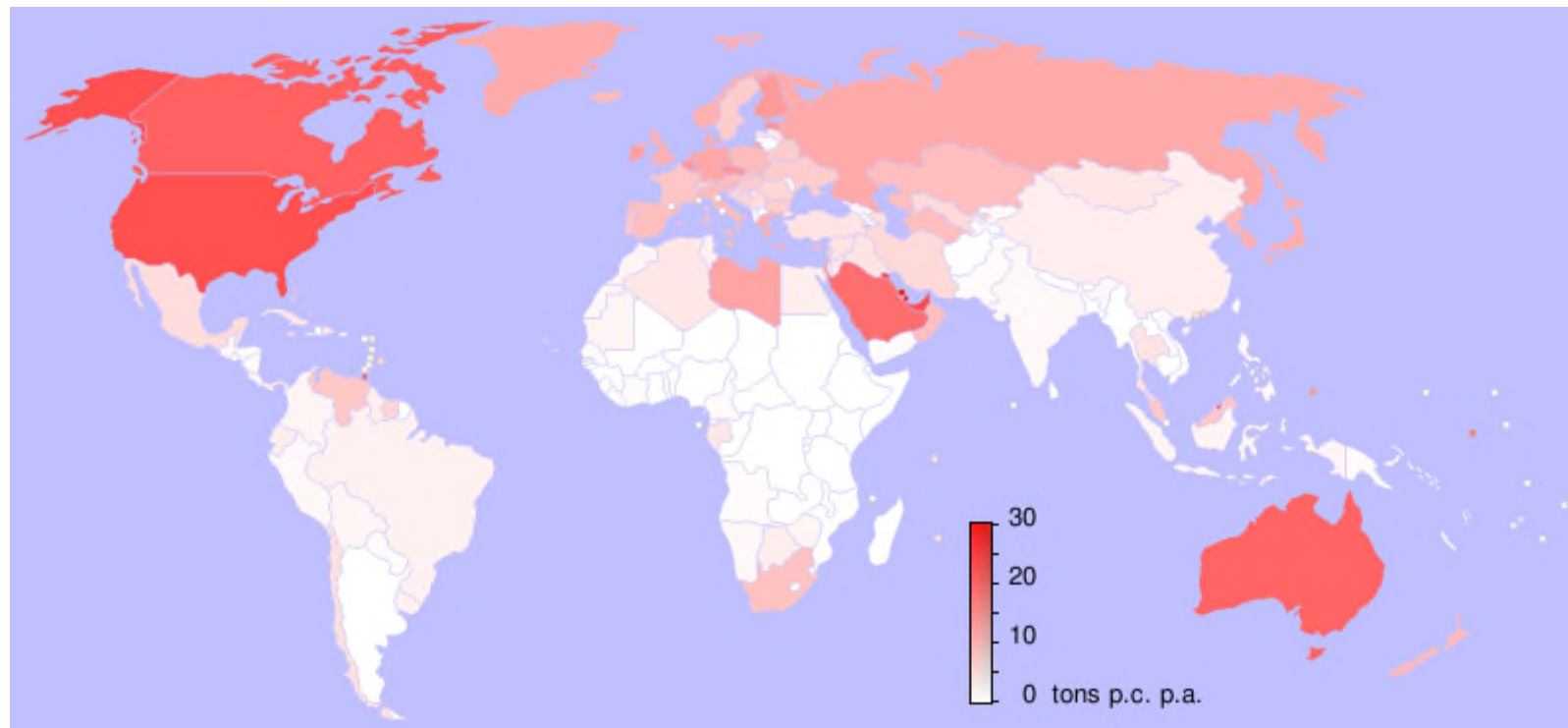
**max. 1 ton**



**per capita and year**

# The Situation

## CO<sub>2</sub>-Emissions in tons p. p. and yr. across the world



# The Implication

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Energy-related CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions have to be reduced  
by at least a factor of 10 in the western world!

# Can Renewable Energies solve the problem? ...

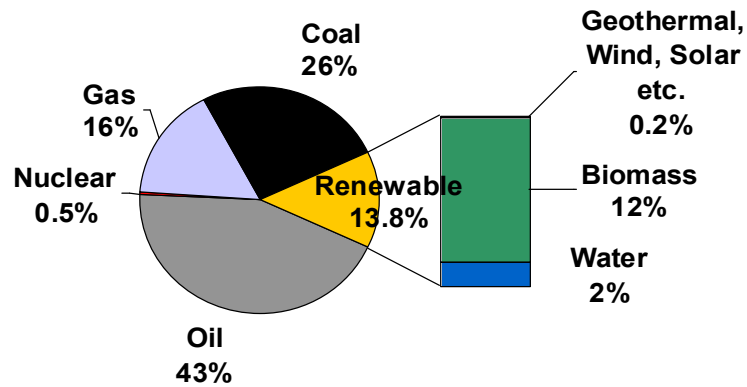
## Global Perspective – European Approaches

# Global Primary Energy Consumption

doubled since 1971... share renewables constant < 15%

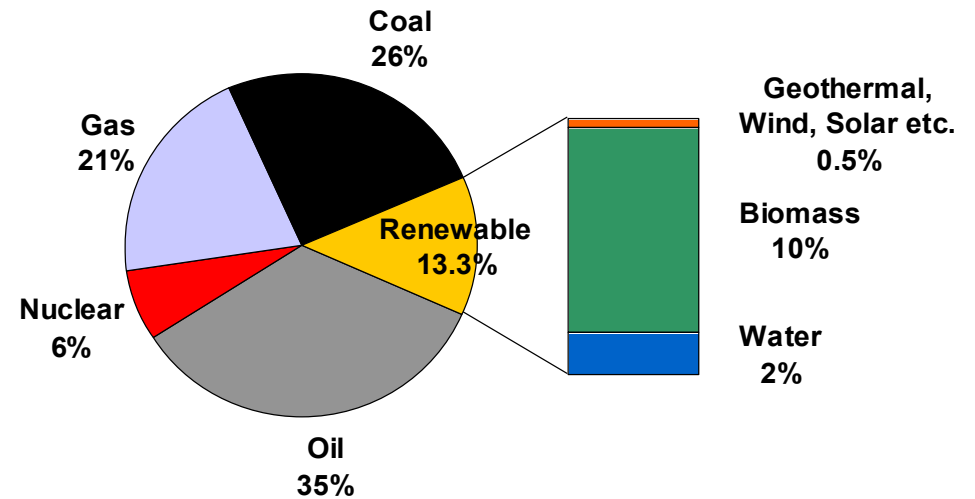
**1971:**

Total: 234 000 PJ (220 btu 10<sup>15</sup>)



**2004:**

Total: 463 000 PJ (440 btu 10<sup>15</sup>)





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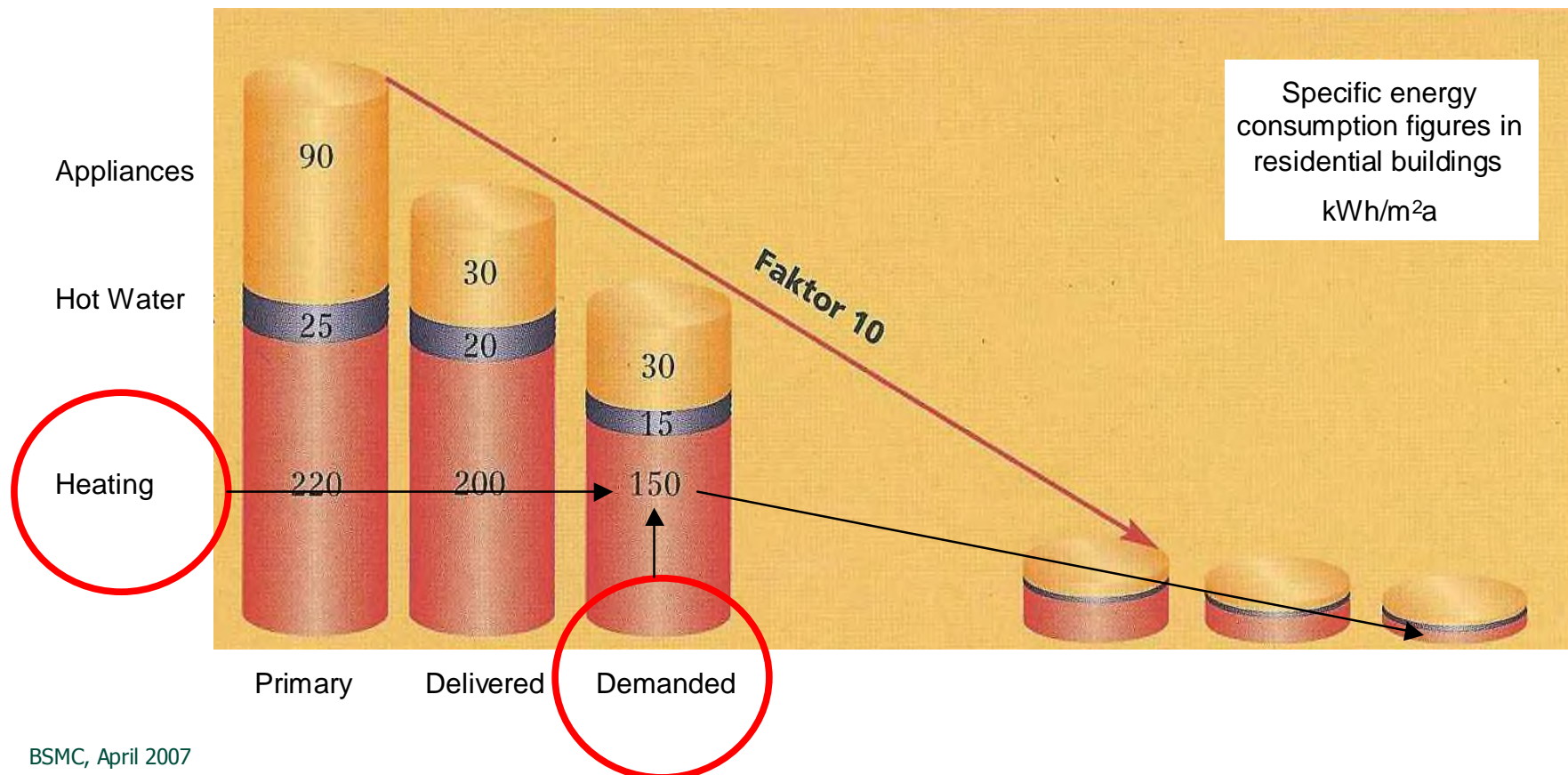
# Housing

# Overall boundary conditions imply:

We have to improve energy performance of houses by a factor of 10 ... with a focus on heating demand

Energy consumption today (Germany)

... tomorrow





## Passive Houses – Formal Definition

### Central Requirement:

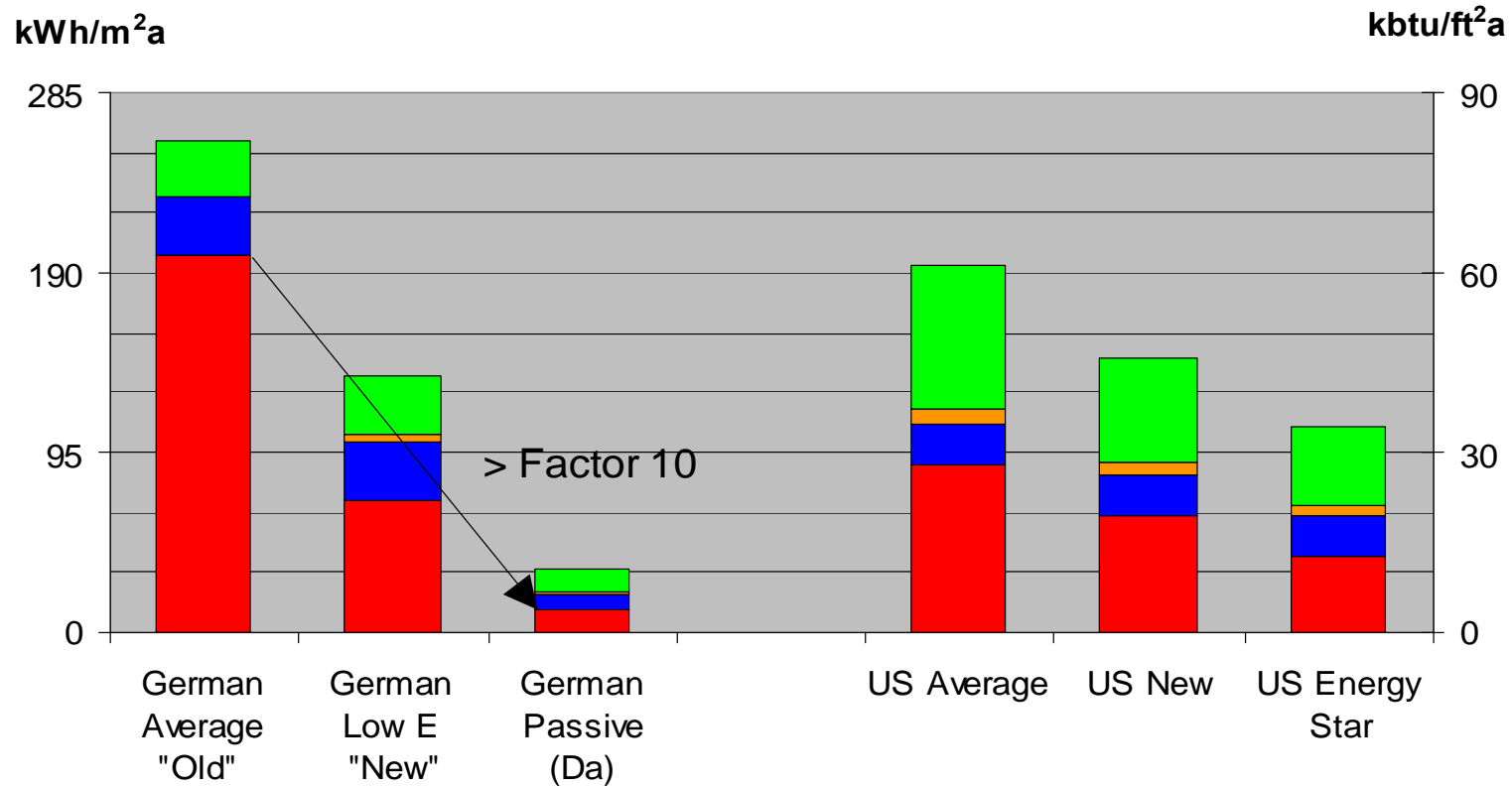
- Maximum Heating Load at Climate Extreme  $\leq 10 \text{ W/m}^2$  ( $\sim 1 \text{ W/ft}^2$ )
  - allows omission of traditional heating system

### Secondary Requirements:

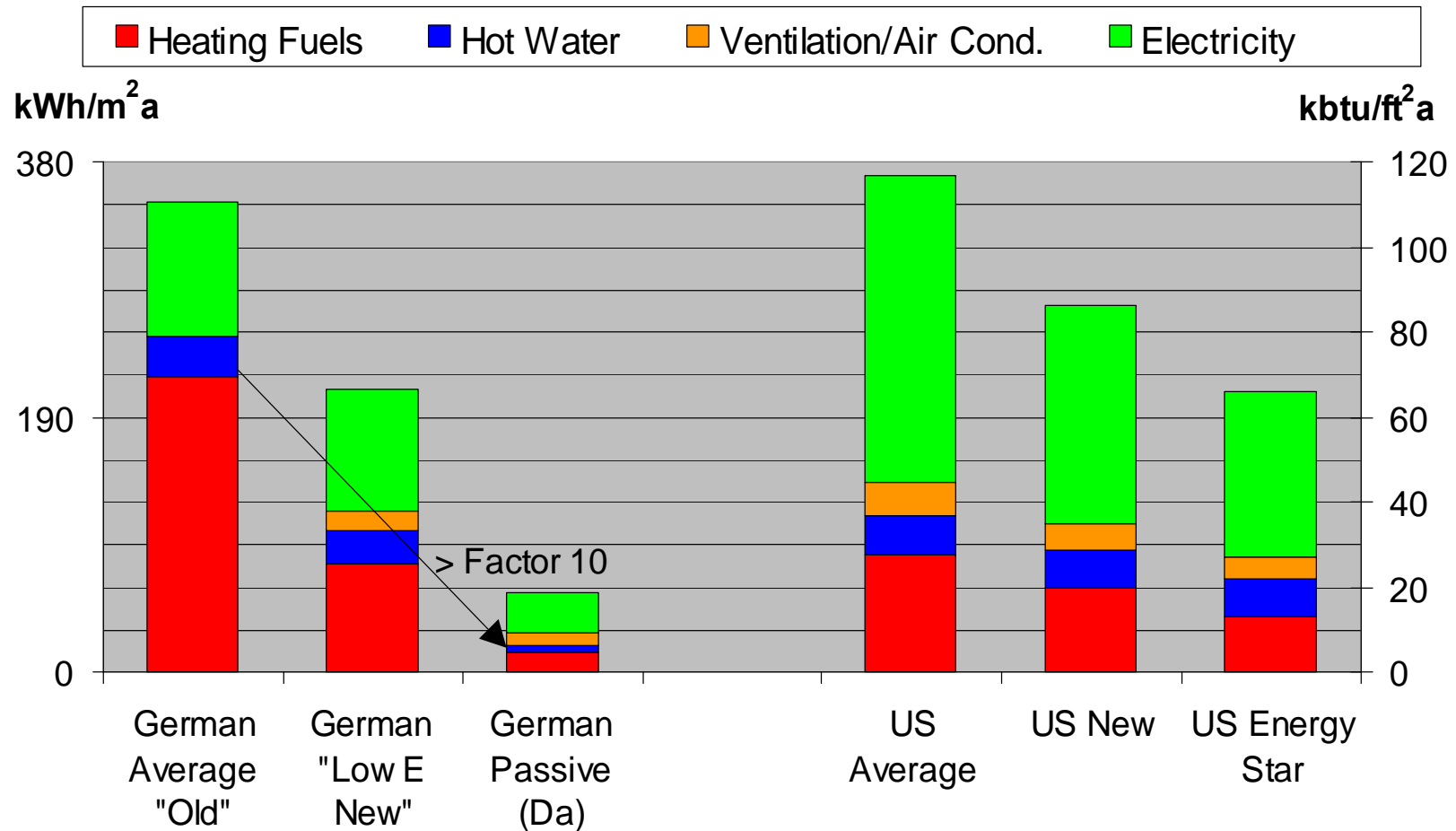
- Maximum Annual Heating Demand  $\leq 15 \text{ kWh/m}^2\text{a}$  ( $\sim 5 \text{ kBtu/ft}^2\text{a}$ )
  - for south oriented buildings in Central Europe
- Overall Primary Energy Consumption  $\leq 120 \text{ kWh/m}^2\text{a}$  ( $\sim 40 \text{ kBtu/ft}^2\text{a}$ )
  - Including household appliances
  - To be lowered in the future

# Passive House – Site Energy Usage Comparison to Existing and New Buildings in Europe and the US

■ Heating Fuels 
 ■ Hot Water 
 ■ Ventilation/Air Cond. 
 ■ Electricity Household



# Passive House - Primary Energy per Floor Area – Comparison with European and US Residential Building Types



# Darmstadt-Kranichstein

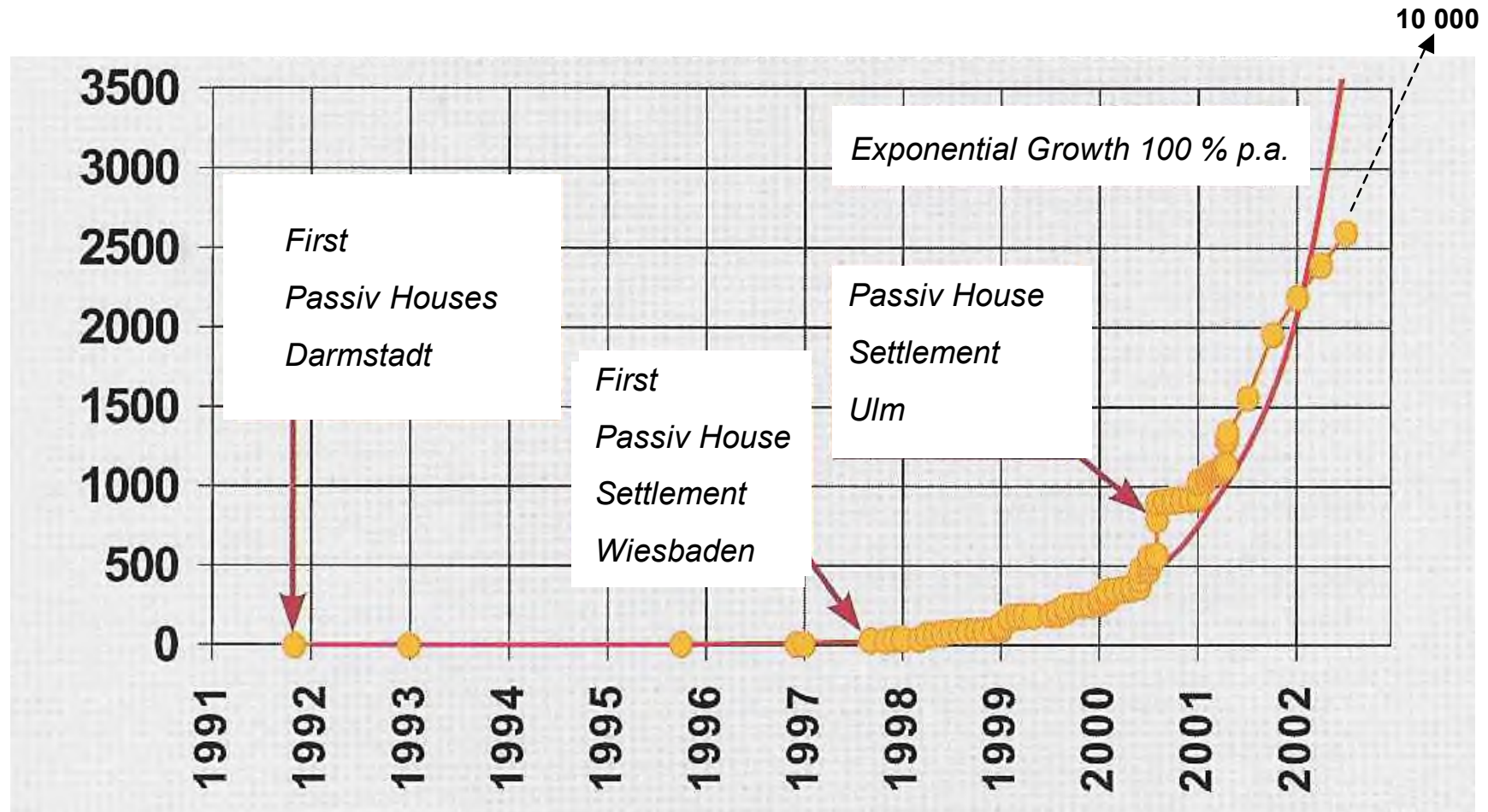
## First Passive House in Europe/Germany 1991



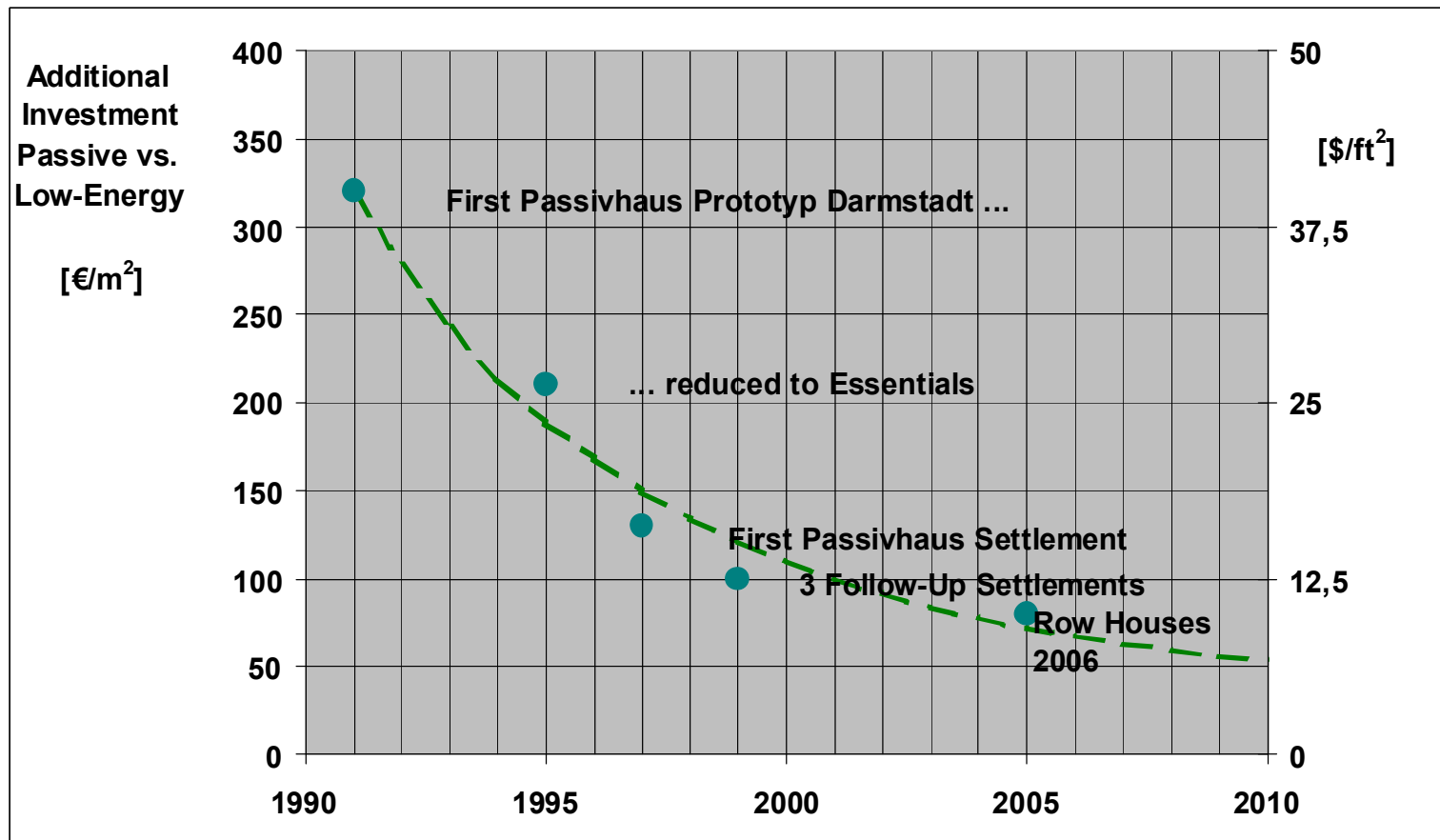
- Super insulated House in a Row
  - Insulation: 10 - 18 inches, U-Value 0.1 bis 0.14 W/(m<sup>2</sup>K) → R40 to R60
  - Optimized triple panes windows with insulated frames, south oriented
  - Ventilation with heat recovery
- Rest Energy Demand
  - Heating: 12 kWh/(m<sup>2</sup>a)
  - Hot water: 8 kWh/(m<sup>2</sup>a)
  - Household appliances: 11 kWh/(m<sup>2</sup>a)
- Covered by
  - Vacuum collectors
  - Gas condensing furnace

Source: Feist (IWU, PHI)

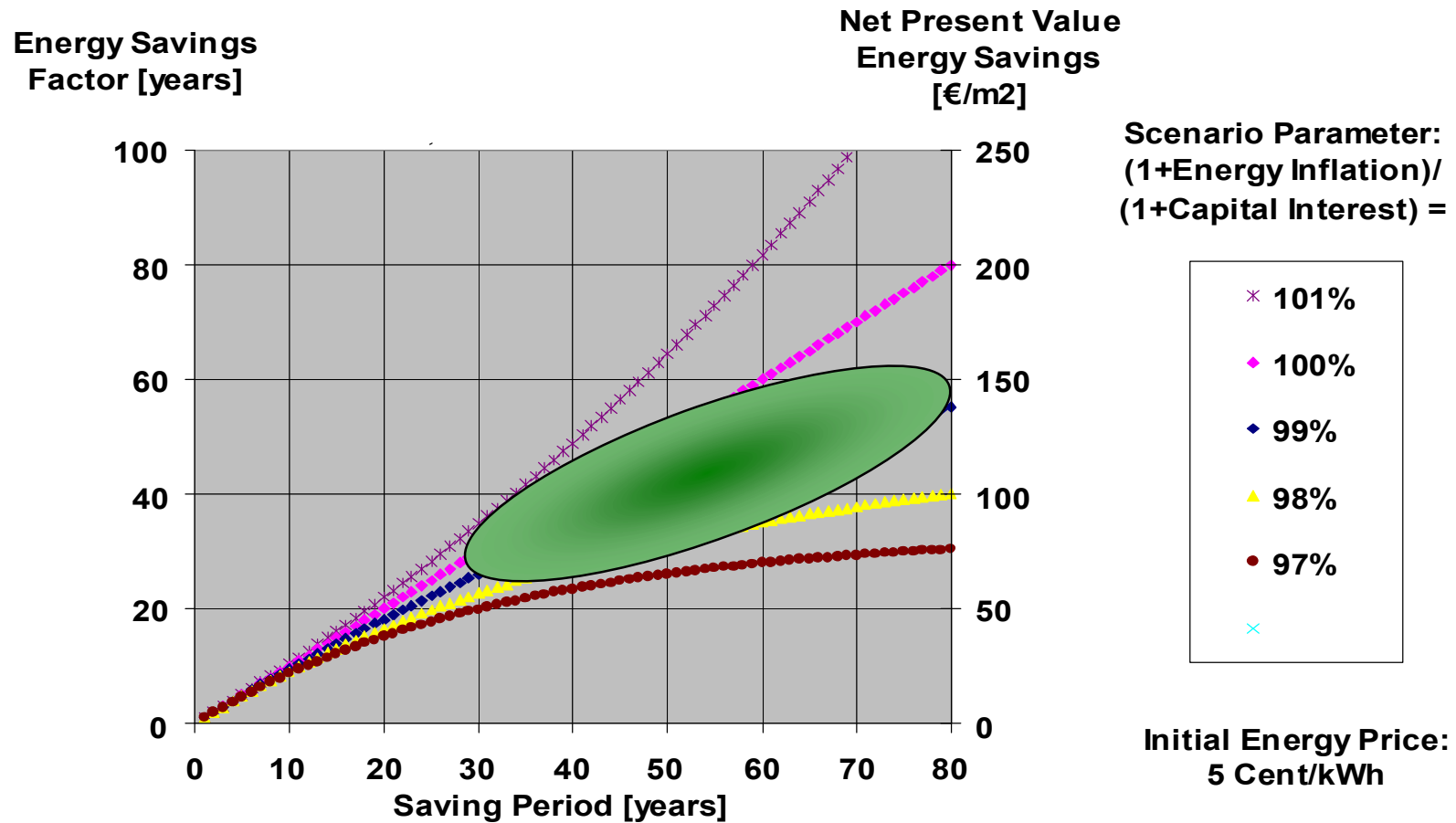
## Number of Passive House Units Grow ...



## .... Additional Investment Drops → 50 €/m<sup>2</sup> (6 \$/ft<sup>2</sup>)



# Energy Savings > 50 €/m<sup>2</sup> (6\$/ft<sup>2</sup>) ... dependent on scenario

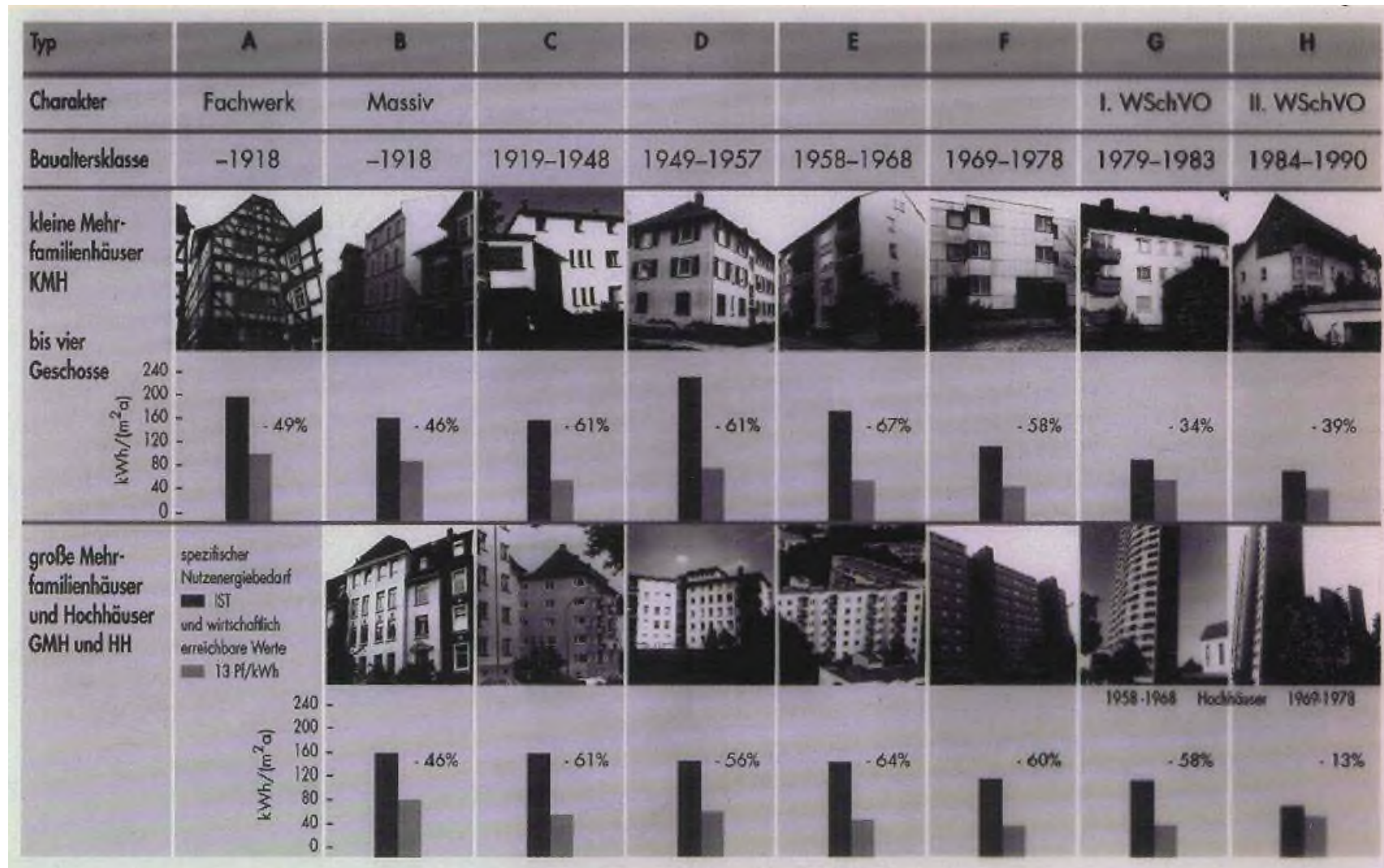




# Old Buildings

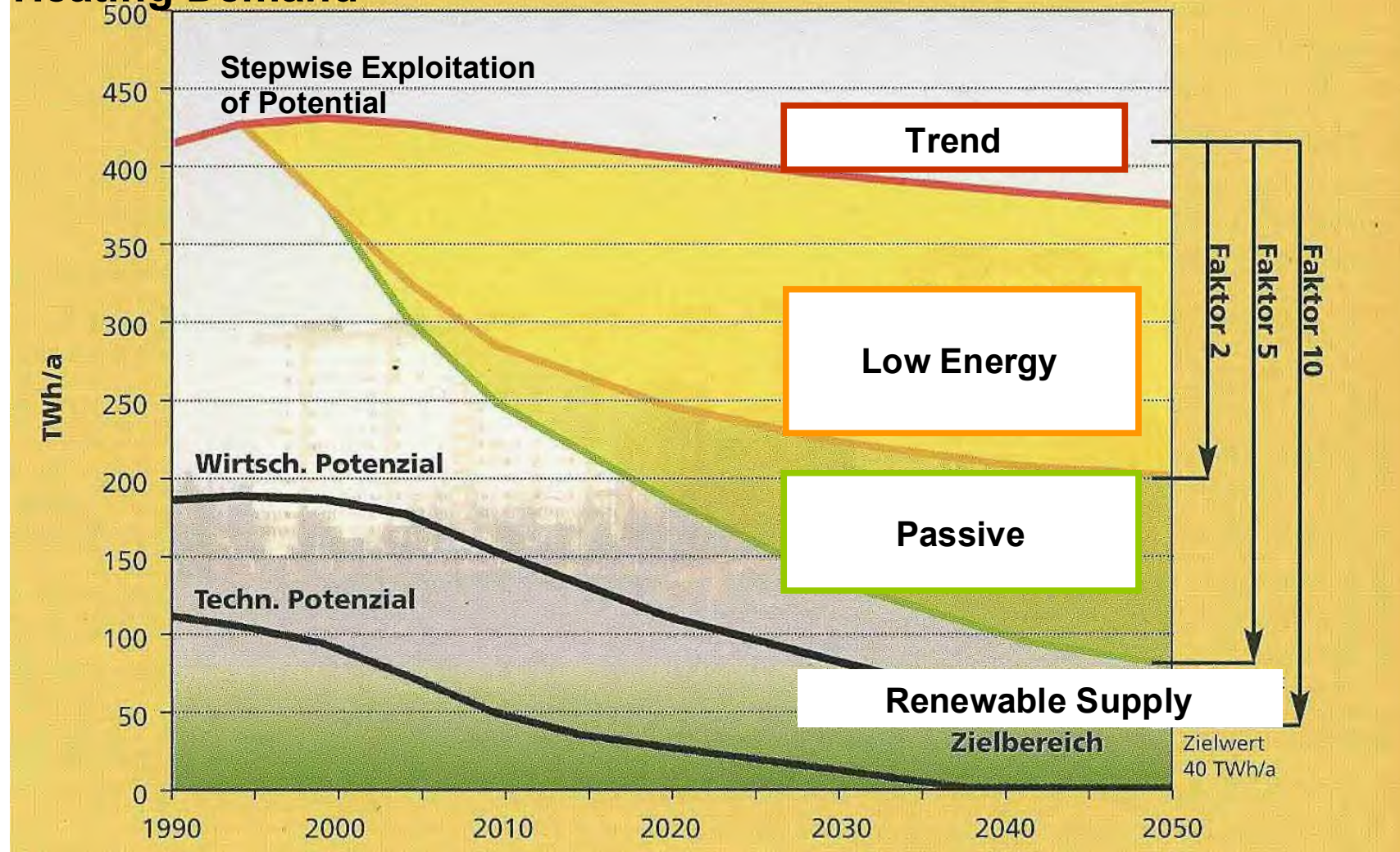


# Old Buildings – Broad Spectrum of Types, Ages



# Heat Saving Potential in Old and New German Dwellings

## Heating Demand



# Systematic National Advances via DENA-Programs

Participants Phase I



- Means
  - Demanding targets exceeding new buildings
    - Quality of building envelope
    - Primary energy consumption
    - Sustainability measures
  - Upgraded government funds
    - special “cheap” loans
    - up to 20 % debt relief
- Phases
  1. 33 Buildings (2003 - 2005) multi-family
  2. > 100 Buildings (2005 - 2007) incl. single-fam.
  3. > 1000 Buildings ... just started

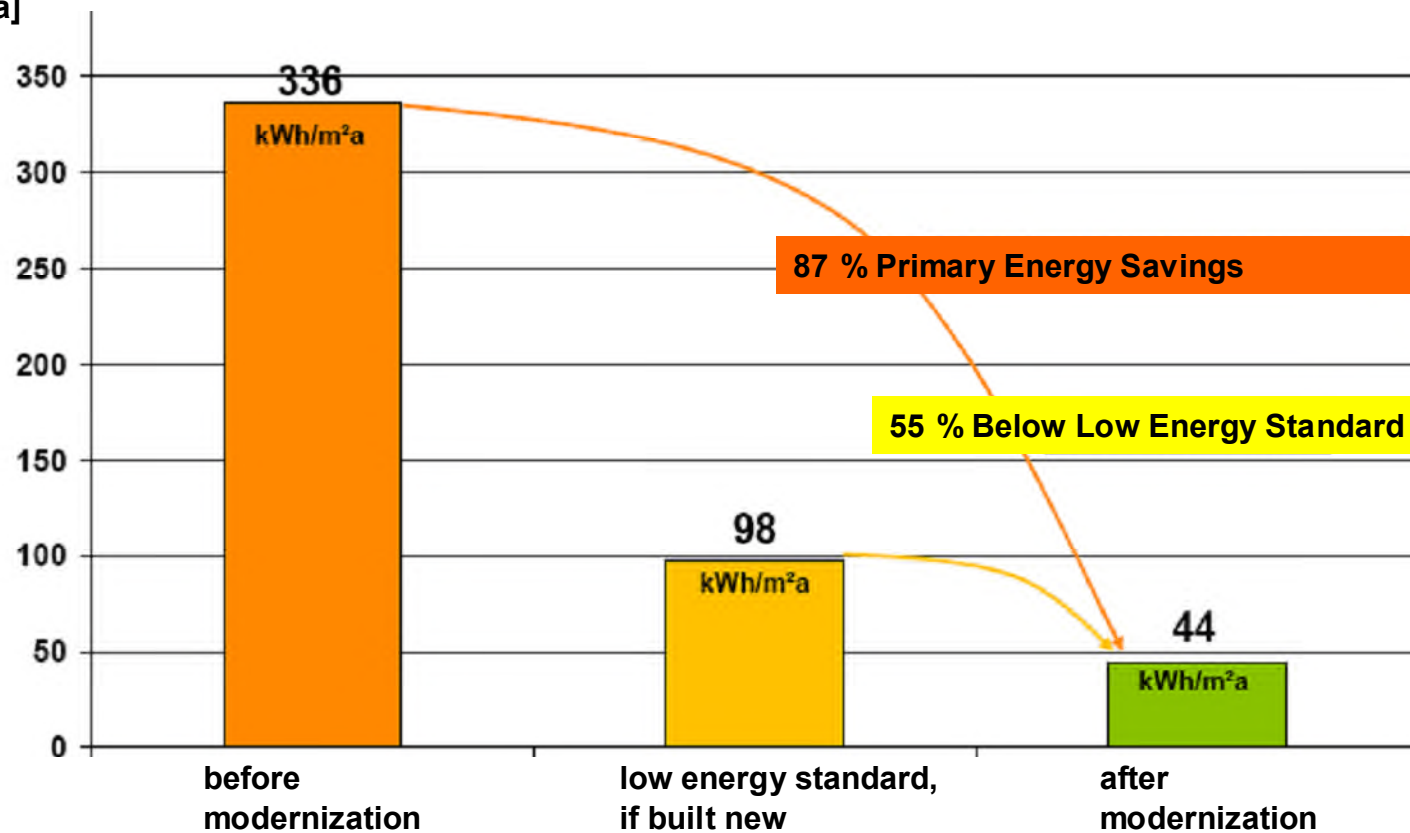
## Example: Advanced Retrofit of 8-Family House in Bielefeld



- Sustainability Approach
  - Life-Cycle Optimization Energy and Economy
  - Long-term Usability, Adaptability
- Passive House Technologies
  - Roof 15, Wall 8, Cellar 4 inches additional high performance insulation
  - Reduction of Thermal Bridges
  - Passive House Windows
  - Ventilation 90% heat recovery
  - Solar assisted hot water
- Factor 10 Savings
  - In Energy & CO<sub>2</sub>-Emissions
  - Economically “multipliable” and even optimum for most measures

# Results Phase I: On the Average 87% Savings for all Buildings

Primary Energy  
Consumption  
[kWh/m<sup>2</sup>a]



## Conclusions

- Non-renewable energy consumption has to be reduced by a
  - factor of 2 world wide
  - factor of 10 in the western world .... at least
- This can only be achieved by combining
  - Drastic energy efficiency & saving measures (factor 5 and more)
  - Promotion of renewable energies (factor 2 at least)
  - In all sectors: industry, traffic and housing
- The housing & building sector is of special importance
  - Causing 40% of energy consumption in Europe and the US
  - Offering large “no-regret” saving potentials and huge quality of life with proven, promising technologies waiting for local application
- Sustainability starts at home ...



Thank You!