



Single Market Scoreboard

Performance by Member State

Norway

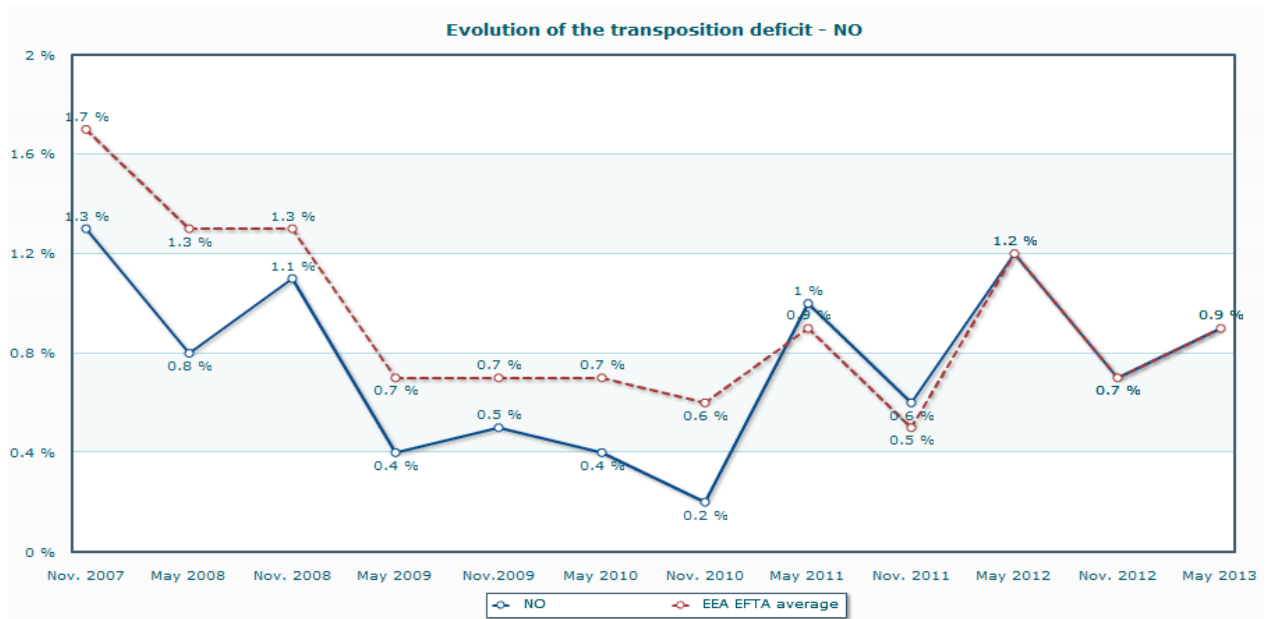
(Reporting period: 2012 - 2013)



Transposition and Infringements

It has to be noted that the Single Market acquis applicable in EEA EFTA States does not coincide exactly with that applicable in EU Member States. This situation is due to the time lag between the adoption or abrogation of legal acts by the EU and their incorporation into or deletion from the EEA Agreement.

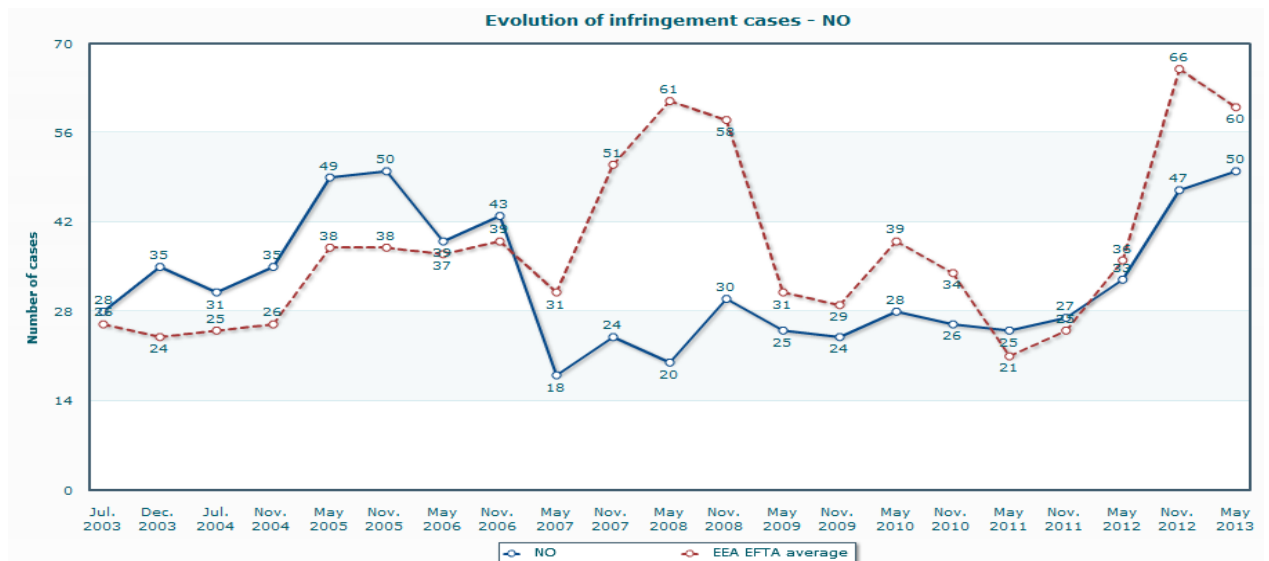
Any comparison of the results from the two different Scoreboards (this one and the EEA EFTA Scoreboard) has to take this difference into account. For more information on Norway's performance, please see the EFTA Surveillance Authority's Internal Market Scoreboard.



Throughout the years, Norway has mostly met the set interim targets with only a few exceptions. Although increasing its transposition deficit by 0.2 % in the period since November 2012, its deficit - at 0.9 % - still remains below the 1 % deficit target.

Norway has in total 11 overdue directives, of which four belong to the transport sector.

With an average delay of 5.9 months, Norway is the EEA EFTA State with the shortest delay in transposing overdue directives. It presently has no directive which has been outstanding for more than two years.



The number of pending Norwegian infringement cases has increased by three since November 2012, giving a total of 50 pending cases in May 2013. 26 cases concern the lack of conformity with, or incorrect application of internal market rules. This constitutes an increase of five cases since the last Scoreboard. A further five cases are related to the non-implementation of directives, which is eight cases of this type less than at the time of the last Scoreboard. Lastly, Norway saw an increase of six infringement cases which concern the non-incorporation of regulations, bringing cases of this type to a total number of 19 cases (*It follows from Article 7 of the EEA Agreement that regulations incorporated into the Agreement shall "as such" be made part of the internal legal order of the EEA EFTA States.*).

In terms of the speed at which cases are resolved, Norway has shown a slight improvement, reducing the duration of infringement proceedings from 14.8 months down to the EEA EFTA average of 12 months.

Internal Market Information System

1. Requests accepted within one week: 63 % (EU average: 74 %)
2. Requests answered within the mutually agreed deadline: 67 % (EU average: 64 %)
3. Average time taken to reply to requests: 11 days (EU average: 22 days)

Norway's performance in IMI is good. It is particularly fast to provide answers to information requests. The overall result could be further improved by accepting incoming requests more promptly.

Norway recently started to expand the Services module to further authorities which could eventually lead to an increase of IMI usage in this area.

EURES

The Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration (NAV), is the EURES member organisation responsible for providing EURES services in Norway. There are currently 27 EURES advisers in Norway. The overall performance is good, but the quality of the PES job vacancy exchange with EURES could be considerably improved.

Your Europe

Norway provides information to enterprises on a national portal. The country contributes very well to the business sections of Your Europe, but not to the citizens part.

Norway should continue to invest in and promote Your Europe by:

- providing information on how Norway applies single market rules when asked for via the Editorial Board member, in particular adding the missing information;
- attending the Editorial Board meetings organised twice a year.

Norway should further invest in awareness-raising activities about Your Europe within the national administrations and in promoting Your Europe via national websites, information offices and events.

SOLVIT

The Norwegian SOLVIT centre deals with a small number of cases (19). In the reporting period (March 2012 to February 2013), the caseload stayed about the same as in the previous 12 months (11 home cases and 8 lead cases in the reporting period compared with 9 home cases and 9 lead cases).

Due to the small number of cases, the case handling performance as Lead centre has not been evaluated.

The Norwegian SOLVIT centre is slow in responding to clients (average 10 days, target is 7 days). But the overall time the Norwegian SOLVIT centre takes to prepare a case for submission to another SOLVIT centre is good (7 days).

Remark: The Norwegian SOLVIT centre should improve its response time to clients.

Points of Single Contact

The Norwegian Point of Single Contact is an average performing PSC, it scores relatively well for the quality and availability of information provided and includes information going beyond the requirements of the Services Directive.

In 2012, work to stabilize the technical solution and translate information into English took place on the Norwegian PSC .

Further work seems to be required to improve accessibility, especially for cross-border users as the completion of procedures through the PSC for users from abroad is possible only to some extent.

The usage figures for the Norwegian PSC show a slight increase in website traffic and in the number of queries/information requests compared to 2011. It originates mostly from Norway (that includes also English language users of the website).

The Norwegian authorities' plans for the development of the PSC in the coming year include better design and user experience in the PSC portal and improvements to decentralize case handling.