

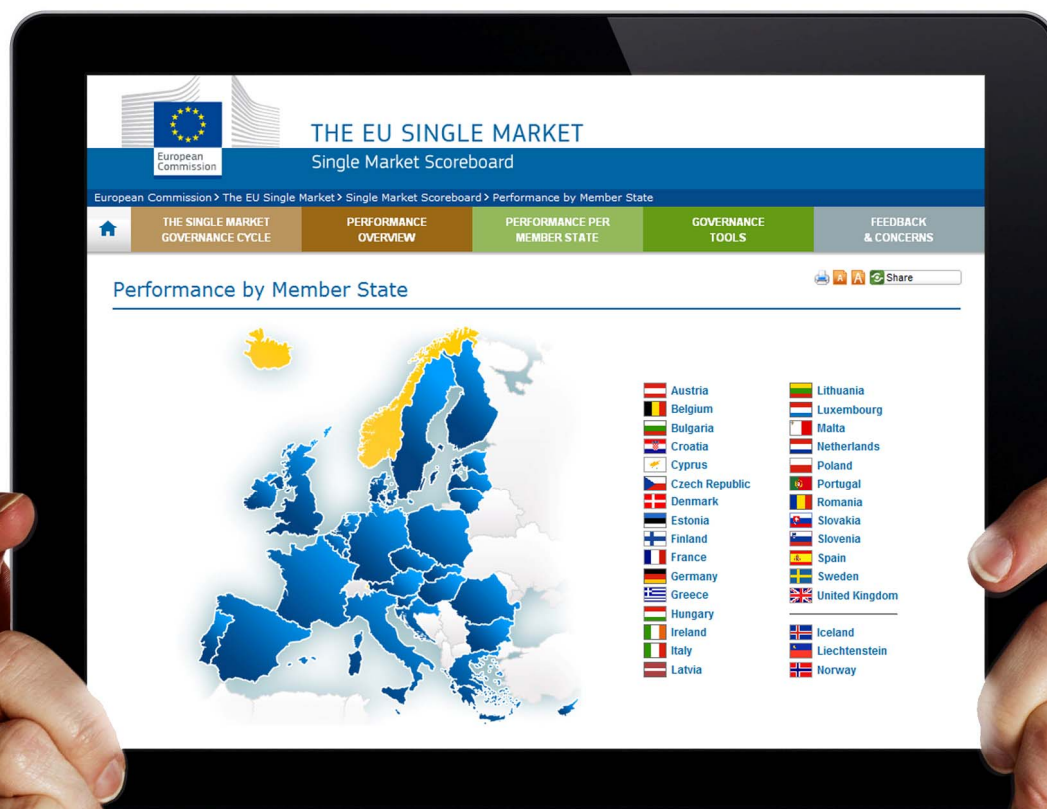
# Single Market Scoreboard

## *Performance by Member State*

### Iceland

*(Reporting period: 2012 - 2013)*

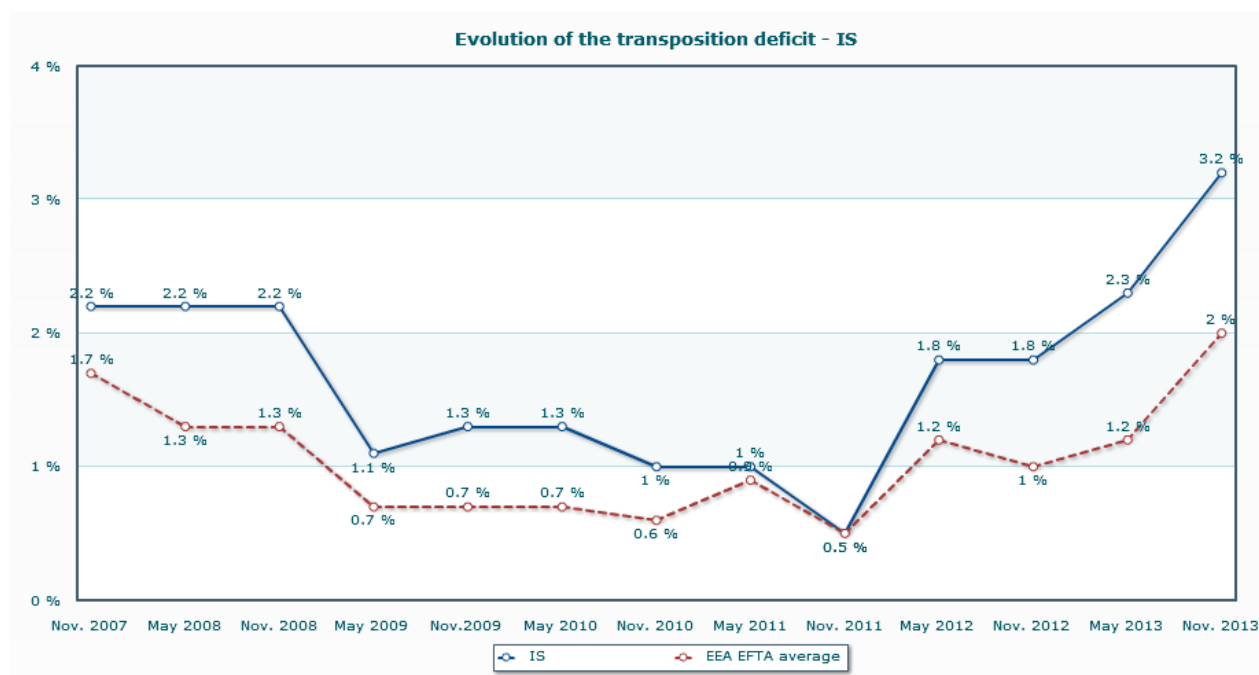
*(February 2014 edition -Transposition and Infringements update)*



## Transposition and Infringements

It is 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 arises from the time lag between the adoption or abrogation of legal acts by the EU and their incorporation into or deletion from the EEA Agreement.

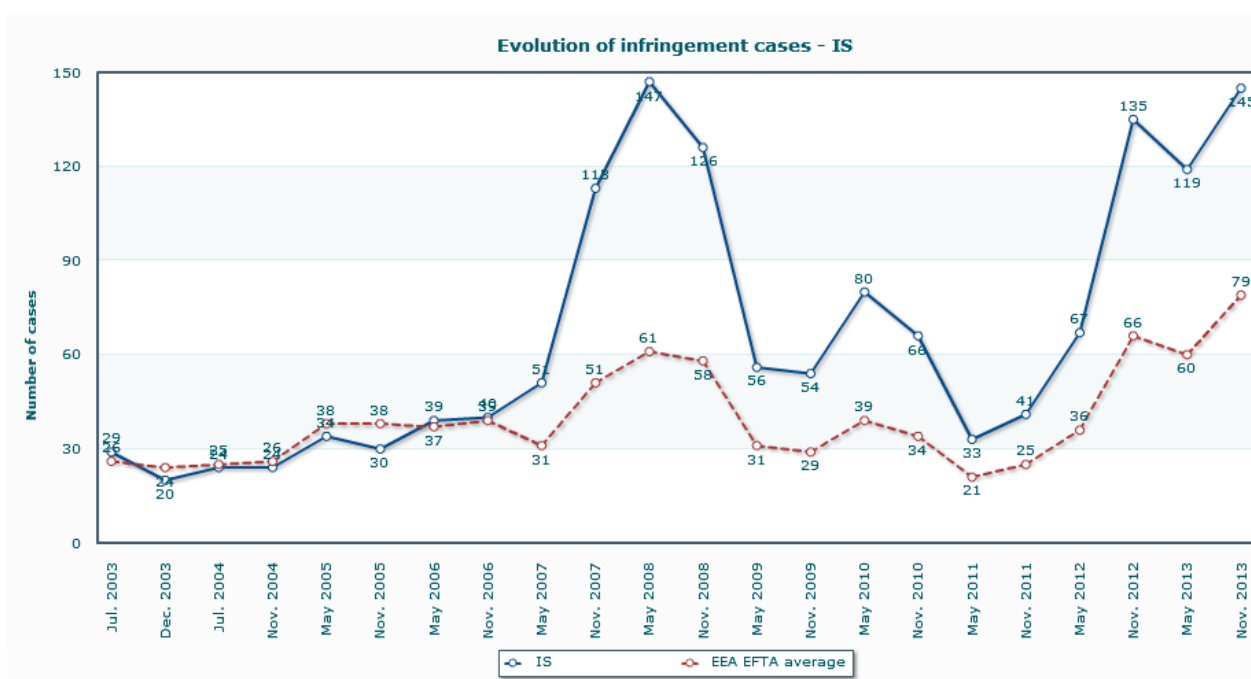
Any comparison of the results from the two different Scoreboards (this one and the EEA EFTA Scoreboard) has to take this difference into account. For more information on Iceland's performance, please see the EFTA Surveillance Authority's Internal Market Scoreboard.



Iceland's overall performance has taken a turn for the worse. It has seen yet another increase in its transposition backlog since the last Scoreboard with its deficit now standing at an all-time high of 3.2 %. The results of November 2013 are particularly worrying, as Iceland has again exceeded the deficit level it had in November 2008, after having improved significantly from May 2009 to reach its all-time low of 0.5 % in November 2011.

In terms of totals, Iceland has 37 outstanding directives, of which nine concern the goods sector, seven financial services, six environment, and three energy, consumer protection and the transport sector respectively.

The transposition delay for Iceland increased by 1.3 months from 11.8 to 13.1 months. Iceland has not met the "zero tolerance target" since it has failed to transpose two directives that are more than two years overdue.



After a dramatic increase of 102 pending infringement cases in the period between May 2011 and November 2012, Iceland's number of infringement cases dropped slightly in May 2013, only to rise again to 145 in November 2013.

The higher number of infringement cases is mainly due to an increase in the number of cases concerning the non-implementation of directives (from 29 to 43) and the non-incorporation of regulations (from 63 to 78). 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. However, there has been a decrease — from 27 to 24 cases — concerning the incorrect implementation or application of Single Market rules.

In the case of Iceland, the length of time to resolve an infringement case has also increased to 13.7 months, which is above the EEA EFTA average of 12.5 months.

## Internal Market Information System

1. Requests accepted within one week: 55 % (EU average: 74 %)
2. Requests answered within the mutually agreed deadline: 27 % (EU average: 64 %)
3. Average time taken to reply to requests: 57 days (EU average: 22 days)

The performance of Iceland in IMI could be improved. Although Iceland handles a small number of requests, concerning professional qualifications only, the time taken to reply is unacceptably long.

This year the National IMI coordinator started to monitor the IMI activity more closely in order to improve the country's performance.

## EURES

The Directorate of Labour is the EURES member organisation responsible for providing EURES services in Iceland. There is currently one EURES adviser in Iceland. The low overall performance is mainly due to lack of data on three of the five parameters.

## Your Europe

Iceland is cooperating very well with the Commission, is active in the Editorial Board and replied to all requests for the citizens section of Your Europe.

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

- providing information on how Iceland applies single market rules when asked for via the Editorial Board member;
- attending the Editorial Board meetings organised twice a year;
- raising awareness about Your Europe within the national administrations;
- promoting Your Europe via national websites, information offices and events.

## SOLVIT

In the reporting period (March 2012 to February 2013), the Icelandic SOLVIT centre submitted two cases and received eight cases. Due to the small number of cases, the case handling performance has not been evaluated.

## Points of Single Contact

The Icelandic Point of Single Contact is an average performing PSC.

In 2012, work was undertaken to improve its functioning, including: improving the user approach and accessibility, an English language version of the website, the order of licenses and forms and preparatory work to improve the identification and authentication of foreign users of the PSC.

There are clear plans to handle e-signatures issued abroad, which should improve the possibility for completing procedures electronically.

The usage figures for Icelandic PSC show a strong increase in website traffic and no change in the number of queries/information requests and administrative procedures launched through the PSC portal compared to 2011. The users of the Icelandic PSC originate mostly from abroad.

The Icelandic authorities recognize that in order to improve the usage of the Icelandic PSC, efforts are needed in terms of cooperation and marketing across Europe.