



Single Market Scoreboard

The United Kingdom withdrew from the EU on 31 January, 2020. The 2020 edition of the Single Market Scoreboard refers to time periods preceding the withdrawal of the UK, and the UK is therefore listed as a Member State.

Ireland

2020 Edition

Here you can find the country-specific factsheet for *Ireland*.

Transposition

Transposition deficit: 0.8 % (*last report: 0.9 %*) – slight decrease by 0.1 percentage point.

EU average = 0.6 %; Proposed target (in Single Market Act) = 0.5 %

Ireland has managed to stay under the 1.0 % threshold. In addition, it transposed 21 of the 23 Single Market-related directives (91 %) due to have been transposed in the 6 months prior to the cut-off date for calculation (1 June – 30 November 2019). This shows that Ireland monitors the timely transposition of directives quite well, although 2 of its outstanding directives have been due for a long time (see below).

Overdue directives: 8 (*last report: 9*) Ireland has **two** directives that are more than 2 years overdue: (1) Directive 2012/34/EU on the Single European Railway Area and (2) Directive 2014/52/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment.

Average delay: 17.2 months (*last report: 12.3 months*) – marked increase by 4.9 months and still the 4th highest delay in transposing directives.

EU average = 11.5 months

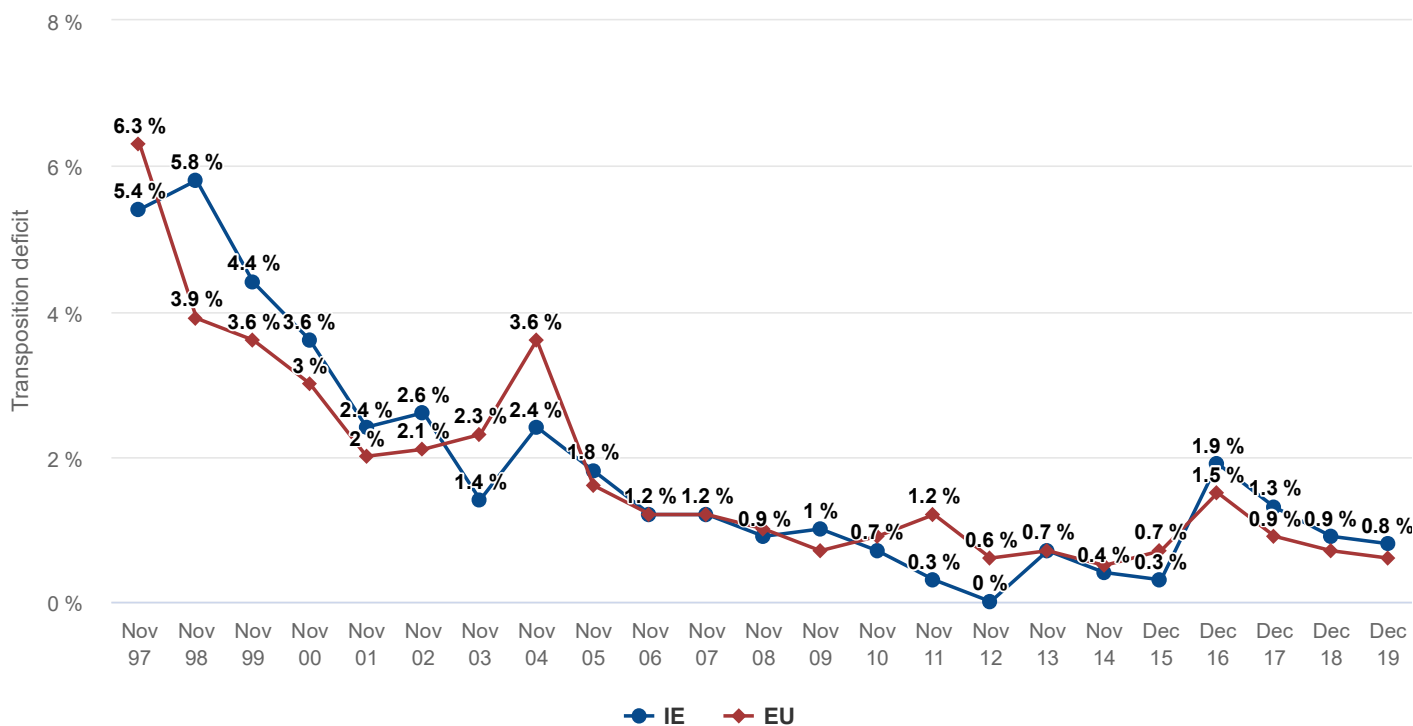
Ireland has 2 long overdue directives (due for 2 years or more) and most of the remaining directives (5/6) have been due for more than 6 months, and contribute significantly to the average delay.

Conformity deficit: 1.1 % (*last report: 1.0 %*) –

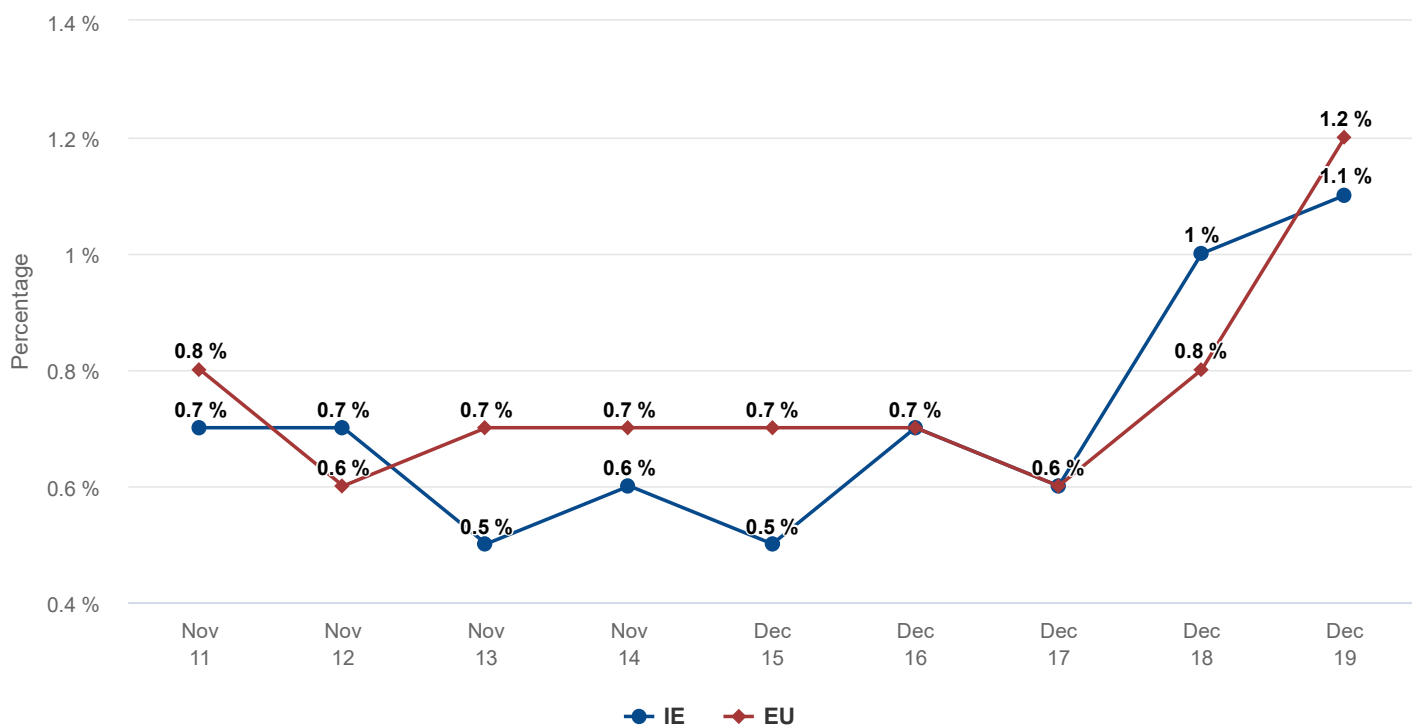
EU average = 1.2 %; Proposed target (in Single Market Act) = 0.5 %

Due to limited use of the EU Pilot tool, the number of directives presumed to have been incorrectly transposed has increased in the vast majority of Member States. This is the case for Ireland, although to a moderate extent (by 0.1 percentage point). With 11 such directives, it is just below the EU average deficit.

Evolution of transposition deficit – Ireland



Evolution of conformity deficit – Ireland



Infringements

Pending cases: 26 (7 new cases, including 4 in the environment sector, and 3 cases closed, last report: 22 pending cases) – increase of 4 cases.

EU average = 29 cases

Due to limited use of the EU Pilot tool, the vast majority of Member States have seen an increase in the number of infringement proceedings against them. This is the case for Ireland, whose number of Single Market-related cases has increased steadily since December 2015 (+53 %).

Problematic sectors: environment, in particular water protection & management (4 out of 9 cases) and transport (5) = 54 % of all pending cases.

Average case duration: 44.3 months for the 22 Single Market cases not yet sent to the Court (*last report: 46 months*) – slight decrease of 1.7 months.

EU average = 34.8 months

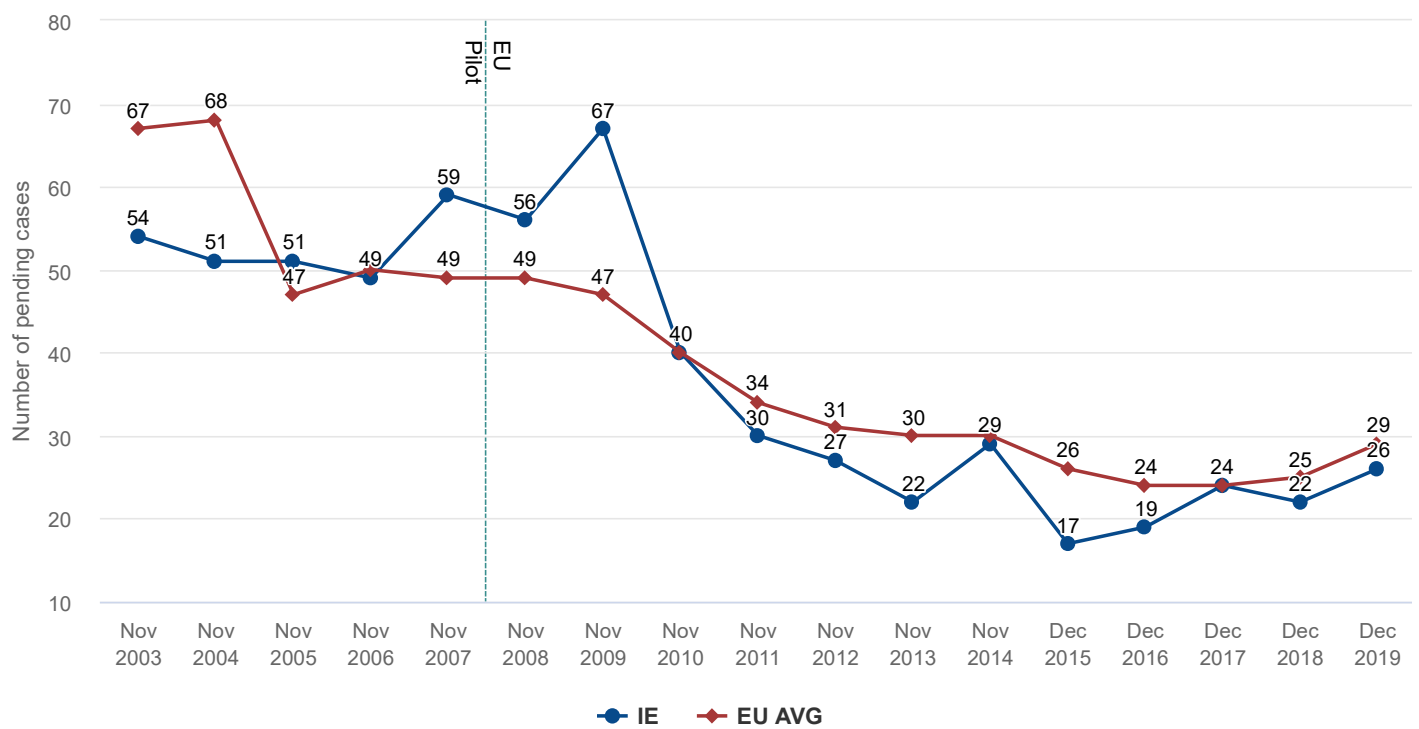
Ireland is now the Member State with the 4th longest average duration of cases, up from the 6th longest duration a year ago. The reason for the long average duration of Irish cases is that one third of them have been pending for between 5 and 14 years and have a big impact on the calculation. In addition, Ireland resolved only 2 cases within a year, both with moderate duration (less than 1 year on average).

Compliance with court rulings: 47.5 months for the 6 Single Market related cases at this stage of the procedure and closed in the last 5 years (*last report: 54.8 months*)

EU average = 29.5 months

Ireland has the 4th longest time lag among the 25 Member States that complied with the Court's judgments within the last 5 years. Nevertheless, the country is in a group of 7 Member States whose average compliance decreased within the last year (7.3 months). This is mainly because 2 cases with a long compliance period (4 and 6 years), which pushed up the average, are now more than 5 years old and are no longer part of the calculation. Out of its 6 remaining cases, Ireland needed more than 10 years to comply with one judgment on waste.

Evolution of infringement cases – Ireland



EU Pilot

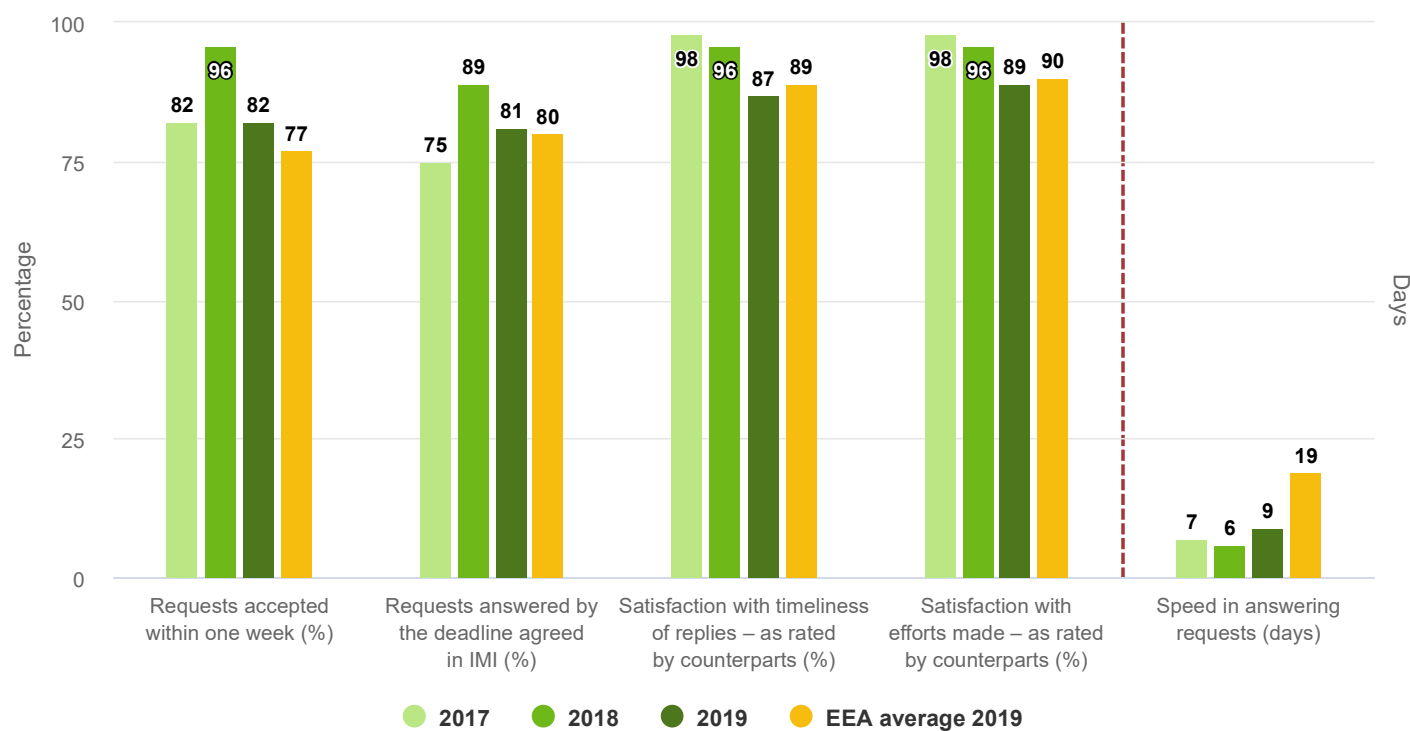
Ireland's average response time currently complies with the 70-day time limit in EU Pilot.

Internal Market Information System

Performance – Ireland continued to perform very well.

- 3 of 5 indicators showed performance above the EEA average.
- Ireland performed well in answering requests, taking on average only 9 days to reply.
- The percentage of requests accepted within 1 week fell by more than 10% and calls for attention.

Internal Market Information System – Ireland



EURES

National provider: FAS – Training and Employment Authority

Compliance: Partially compliant

Performance: could be improved by transferring both job vacancies and CVs to the EURES Portal.

Your Europe

The EU has set up a **single digital gateway** providing access to information, to procedures and to assistance and problem-solving services.

The specific regulation setting up the single digital pathway is Regulation 2018/1724 of 2 October 2018. Article 29 of the Regulation establishes a group to coordinate work on the gateway. The gateway coordination group will meet in different configurations, with one devoted to information that meets twice a year. The other two configurations are dedicated to ICT and e-procedures and assistance services.

The information group continues the work of the former Your Europe Editorial Board. This is to ensure that the gateway coordination group's work does not overlap with that of other expert groups or sub-groups.

National equivalent?

National portal in Irish and English (some documents available in Polish, Romanian and French):

www.gov.ie

Record for this period

- active participation in the single digital gateway information group
- responsive to all requests for information to be published on the website
- promotional activities and back-linking from national websites to Your Europe

Recommended action

Continue to:

- ensure stable representation in the single digital gateway information group
- attend the single digital gateway information group meetings twice a year
- provide information on how the country applies single market rules, in line with the requirements of the single digital gateway Regulation
- raise awareness about Your Europe within the national administration and among potential end users
- link national websites to Your Europe

SOLVIT

- **Caseload – medium**

Submitted cases – 53 (68 in 2018)

Received cases – 56 (105 in 2018)

Cases not accepted – 67 (new indicator)

- **Resolution rate – 87 %** (93 % in 2018)

- **Handling time (home centre)**

Reply in 7 days: 89 % (90 % in 2018) – **good**

Cases prepared in 30 days: 89 % (87 % in 2018) – **good**

Solutions accepted within 7 days: 83 % (87 % in 2018) – **good**

Cases not accepted within 30 days: 85 % (new indicator) – **good**

- **Handling time (lead centre)**

Cases accepted within 7 days: 89 % (91 % in 2018) – **good**

Cases closed in 10 weeks: 69 % (72 % in 2018) – **poor**

- **Staffing**

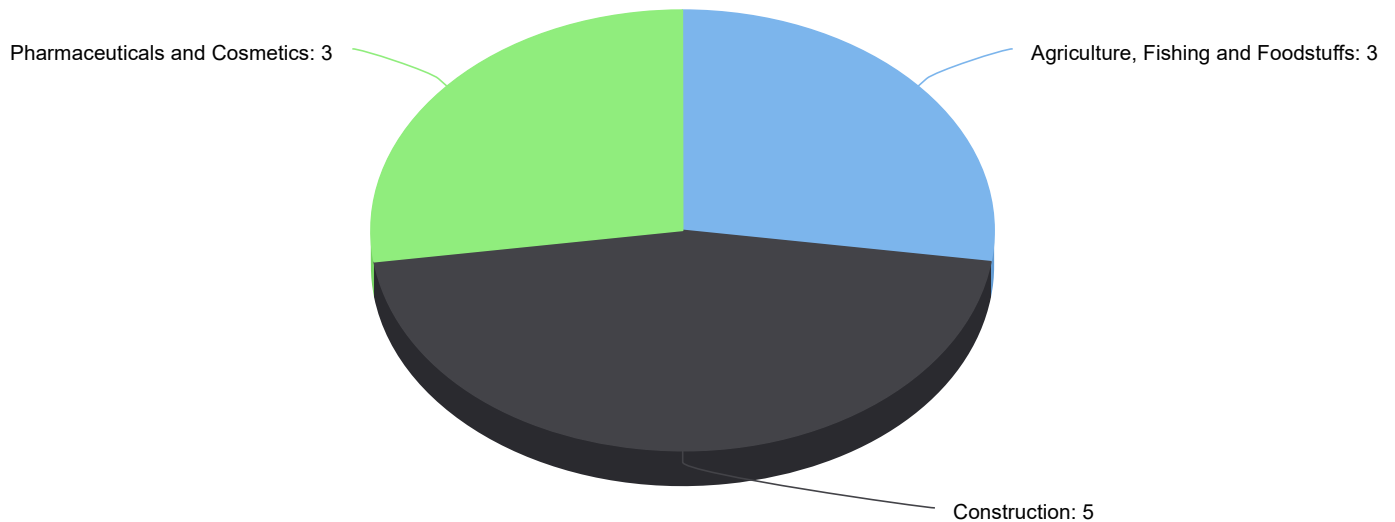
Adequacy for 2019 caseload – **sufficient**

Adequacy for ongoing objectives – **sufficient**

Technical Regulations Information System

Notifications per sector

11 notifications



Points of Single Contact

- 14 out of 20 analysed procedures (5 do not exist) are available online including 3 fully online.
- Certain online procedures are only partly accessible for cross-border businesses.
- Information is easily accessible for cross-border users as it is published in English.
- Points identified for improvement:
 - making procedures available fully online;
 - cross-border accessibility of online procedures;
 - collection of user feedback.

Public procurement

Overall, Ireland's performance in 2019 was **average**. For further information and the methodology applied, please see the section on [Public procurement performance](#).

Postal services

For easier analysis EU countries are divided into 3 groups:

- **western** – Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden, the UK
- **southern** – Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain
- **eastern** – Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia.

- **Transit time performance D+1**: slight decrease in the last few years; 89 % of letters were delivered the next day in 2018.



Some countries' reference figures for the previous period may differ slightly from those in the last Scoreboard. This is because these countries updated their data after publication.

Trade in goods and services

Ireland has the fourth highest level of trade integration in the single market for services. Trade integration for goods, instead, is only slightly above the EU average. In 2018, its trade integration for goods decreased, while trade integration for services increased.

		Goods	Services
Intra-EU trade integration	% GDP 2018	22.6	22.9
	Change 2017 – 2018	-2.6	2.2
Intra-EU imports	% GDP 2018	18.8	20.8
	Change 2017 – 2018	-2.1	3.3

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

In 2018, Ireland's intra-EU FDI flows decreased both in their inward and outward component, albeit more markedly in the former than in the latter. Its intra-EU FDI stocks also decreased compared to the previous year.

	Intra-EU FDI flows		Intra-EU FDI stocks	
	inward	outward	inward	outward
Year-on-year percentage change 2017 – 18	-2.95	-0.15	-0.39	-0.08

For what concerns the extra-EU dimension, all figures concerning extra-EU FDI flows and stocks increased in Ireland in the course of 2018. The increase in Ireland's extra-EU FDI inflows was particularly marked.

	Extra-EU FDI flows		Extra-EU FDI stocks	
	inward	outward	inward	outward
Year-on-year percentage change 2017 – 18	4.61	0.21	0.39	0.18