



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.

Performance overview

2020 Edition

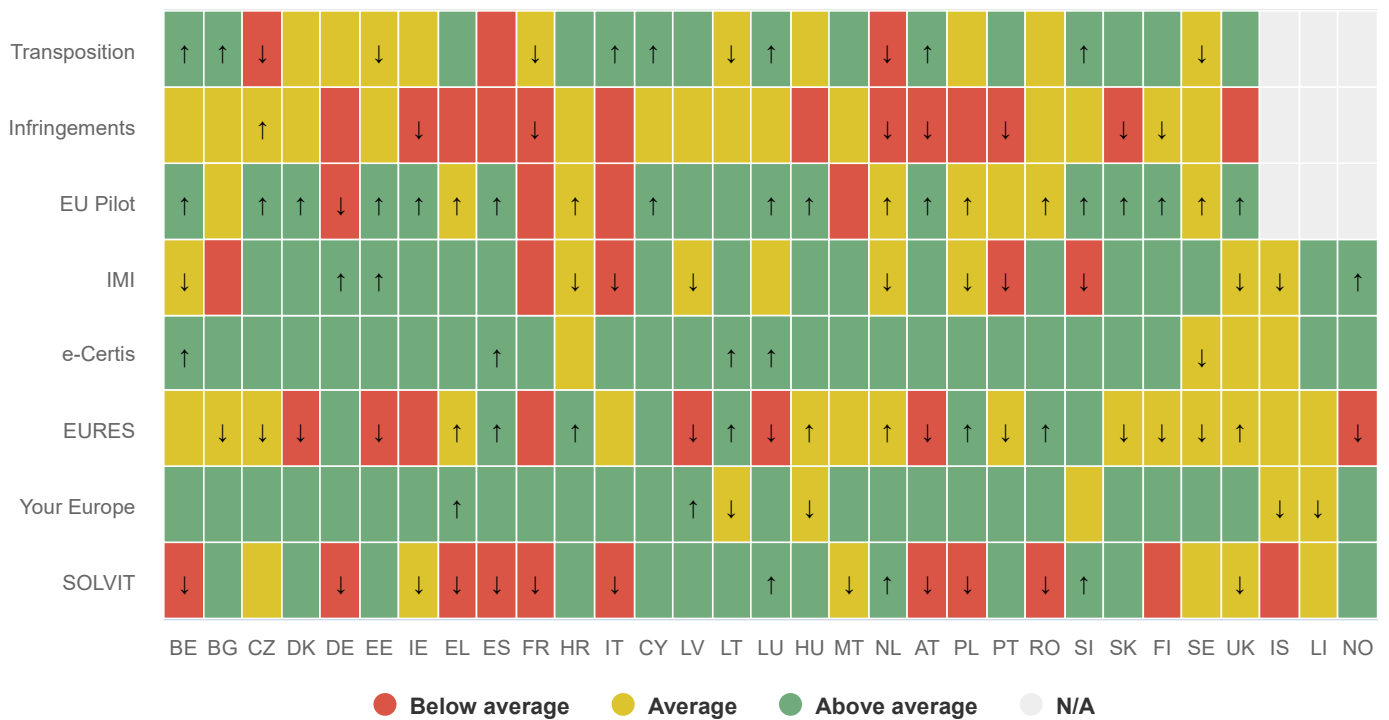
Reporting period indicated under the respective chapters

The “**traffic light chart**” on the governance tools shows how Member States have performed as regards those **governance tools** that have been monitored on the basis of **selected indicators** in each area. Two more traffic light charts further below follow the same concept but show the performance of Member States in key Single Market **policy areas** and with regards to **trade integration** and **market openness**. They currently only feature a very limited number of areas, but the aim is to further expand the areas in the coming years.

The traffic light charts not only highlight where performance is above average (green), average (yellow) and below average (red), but also show at a glance the areas where Member States are doing well and those where more effort is needed.

For more details on method of calculation and single indicators, please see the thematic pages of each area.

Traffic light chart: Single Market governance tools



Main messages

An uneven landscape for Single Market enforcement, combining an improved transposition rate with a higher number of infringements.

- The average **transposition deficit** continues to decrease and is standing at 0.6 % (-15 %) while the EU average conformity deficit has increased (+50 %) and is now at 1.2 % (proposed target 0.5 %). The average transposition delay is now 11.5 months (+37 %). **Belgium (BE)**, **Bulgaria (BG)**, **Italy (IT)**, **Cyprus (CY)**, **Luxembourg (LU)**, **Austria (AT)** and **Slovenia (SI)** have **improved** their overall transposition performance since December 2018 while **Czechia (CZ)**, **Greece (EL)**, **France (FR)**, **Lithuania (LT)**, **the Netherlands (NL)** and **Sweden (SE)** have seen it **worsen**. The remaining 15 Member States have maintained their previous performance.
- In 2019, **190 new EU Pilot cases** were opened and energy was the policy area with the highest number of new cases (24 % of the total). 42 of them led to **infringement procedures (+13 %)**. The number of Single Market-related **infringements has risen (800 pending cases)**, reaching the same level as in November 2014. With 57 cases (double the EU average), **Spain (ES)** has most pending cases. The **sectors** with most Single Market-related infringement cases are **environment (28 %)**, **transport (17 %)** and **taxation (10 %)**.

A steady increase of information, advice and problem-solving services to citizens and businesses.

- In 2019 **Your Europe** attracted more than **35.5 million visits (+48 %)**, citizens were more interested in the travel section (35 %), while businesses looked more at the taxation section (50 %). This good result was achieved thanks to the commitment of a majority of Member States, who support Your Europe through the provision of national content and through awareness-raising activities.
- The number of enquiries in **Your Europe Advice** doubled in 2019 with a total of more than 35 thousand enquiries (+52 %); mostly enquiries related to residence right, social security and entry procedure.
- The overall **SOLVIT** caseload increased by 4 %, **with a total of 2380 cases**. More efforts are needed to attract more business cases (5 %); **social security**-related cases made up **60 %** of all cases in 2019 similar to previous years. However, SOLVIT resources are being increasingly stretched in SOLVIT centres, affecting the way cases are handled. The network can only satisfactorily respond to the demands from citizens and businesses and be in a position to play a more strategic role in the enforcement of EU law if Member States ensure adequate staffing of their SOLVIT centres.

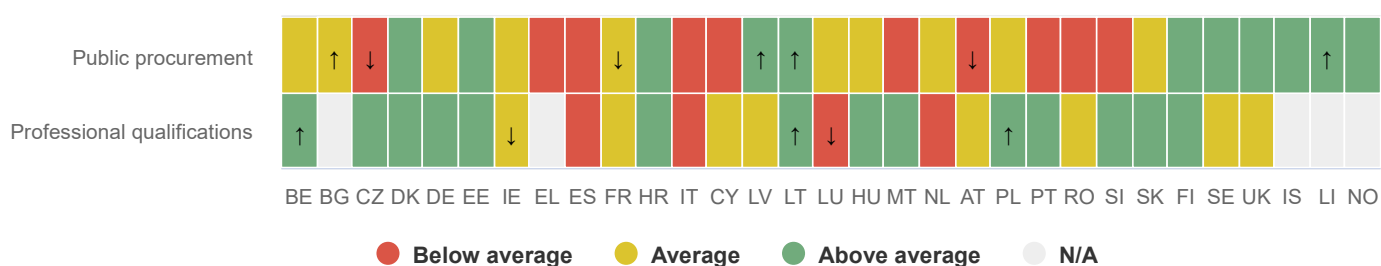
Further expansion of administrative cooperation between and with Member States, with exceptions.

- The **Internal Market Information (IMI)** system **expanded further** to ensure administrative cooperation in **16 policy** and legal areas effectively replacing the need for at least 16 different IT systems. The system's use has increased by 52 % and provides **support to public authorities** of the EEA for **59 cross-border administrative procedures**. By the end of the year, IMI was ready to support the **Consumer Protection Cooperation (CPC)** network, contributing further to the rationalisation of IT tools provided by the Commission. Substantial progress was also made on support to the **firearms directive** implementation within the EU.
- **eCertis** is a unique online system providing a list of the eligibility criteria and documentary evidence needed in each EEA country to take part in public procurement. The quantity of **data encoded** in eCertis **has been increasing** over the last years and the system contained a total of 2 474 records (criteria, items of evidence, and issuing bodies). 317 bodies issued certificates registered in the system. The Commission continued to recommend that EU countries constantly update and improve their contribution to the platform, as there is room for improvement in the provision of documentary evidence.
- The implementation of the **Single Market Transparency Directive** has known steady success, with more than 15 359 draft notifications since 1998. In 2019, 694 draft technical regulations were notified to the Commission by Member States, EEA countries, Switzerland and Turkey, via the Technical Regulation Information System (**TRIS**).

More efficient consumer protection and additional support to job-seekers.

- In the area of **consumer protection**, stronger powers for consumer law enforcers across the EU to protect consumers from major non-compliant traders has been registered. The Commission played a stronger coordination role allowing for a **more rigorous coordinated enforcement on widespread infringements of consumer law at EU level to boost consumer confidence in the Digital Single Market**. In 2019, the number of enforcement request increased by almost 17 %. Similarly, the European Consumer Centres Network received more consumer queries in 2019 than in any previous year, especially in the area of transport.
- In 2018 (reference year), the new **EURES** performance measurement system was established and introduced. 23 countries performed well and complied with the new system. The EURES network **published almost 9.8 million job vacancies and helped 84 500 people find work**.

Traffic light chart: Single Market policy areas



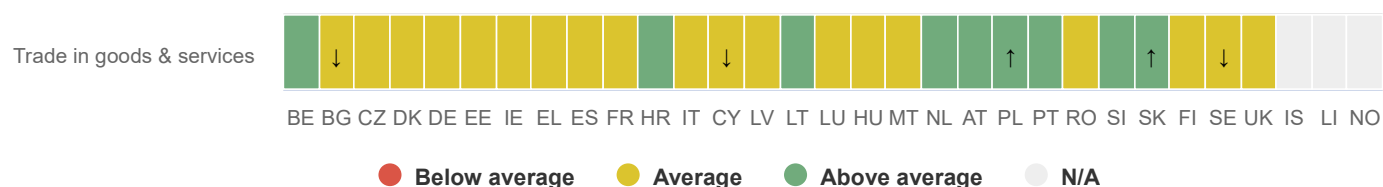
* Public procurement composite indicator does not capture all aspects of national public procurement, and thus gives only a partial view of member states' performance.

Main messages

Free movement of professionals, one of the cornerstones of the Single Market, still needs further improvement.

- Rules on access to professions vary across Member States and can create barriers to cross border mobility. The **Professional Qualifications** Directive is designed to mitigate these obstacles by providing clear rules on recognition of professional qualifications. Between 2016 and 2018 (last available data), **more than 140 000 positive recognition decisions** were taken by the Member States. However, the system of mutual recognition would benefit from further improvements in national regulatory environments and administrative procedures.
- **Public procurement systems are performing at very different levels** across the Single Market. Competition in the bidding process remains a key issue. The most significant indicator – the proportion of contracts awarded when there was just one bidder – shows that **more than ¾ of countries are underperforming**.
- With regard to **postal services**, public prices are **increasing over time, but more for cross border than domestic** post.

Traffic light chart: Integration and Market Openness



Main messages

In 2018 (reference year), trade integration in both goods and services continued to rise in most EU countries.

- Integration continues to be significantly higher in the goods sector than in services. After a period of stagnation in the early 2010s, **trade integration in goods improved again**. Slovakia (SK), Hungary (HU), Slovenia (SI), Czechia (CZ) and Belgium (BE) had the highest trade integration index overall. Larger countries show much lower levels of trade integration (owing to their size), and generally more moderate growth. Although **trade integration in services reached an all-time high** in 2018 and continues to increase for most Member States, trends differ across sectors. There is considerable potential for boosting trade integration in services further, notably in construction, retail, and some business services. The **EU's overall economic performance further improved** in 2018, albeit at a slow pace, still helped by the euro's relatively low value and the effects of previous reforms. In some sectors, weak competition and disproportionate regulatory restrictions are preventing consumers and firms from harnessing the full benefits of integration into the Single Market.

Overall, the 2018 FDI data show that investments are unevenly distributed across EU Member States.

- Some small countries exhibit very high stocks of both intra-EU and extra-EU FDIs. On the contrary, certain large western European economies present comparatively lower figures, and most eastern European countries lie in the lower part of the distribution of FDI stocks.

These country sheets can also be accessed via the tab [Performance per Member State](#).

For further information, see the detailed reports, with comprehensive charts and figures, under the tabs [Performance per Governance Tool](#), [Performance per Policy Area](#) and [Integration and Market Openness](#).