



 **In Focus Armed Violence Monitor**

Weapon seizures

In South East Europe in 2022

Contents

About In Focus Armed Violence Report	3
Methodology	3
Highlights	4
1. GENERAL OVERVIEW	5
2. TYPE OF WEAPON	7
3. PERPETRATORS	17
4. MACRO AND MICRO LOCATION	19

About the Armed Violence Monitor

In Focus – *Armed Violence Monitors* provide information on the specific types of firearm incidents and the related topics to illustrate the magnitude of firearms' adverse impact on civilians.

This issue focuses on **weapons seizures** in South East Europe (SEE) from **1 January to 31 December 2022**, including a comparative overview of 2021. Over the years, weapon seizures have been the most commonly reported type of incident, and they have proven to be an important tool for law enforcement agencies in their efforts to reduce illegal possession, proliferation and trafficking of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE).

In this report, weapon seizures encompass all cases where law enforcement agencies took hold of FAE due to various reasons such as illegal possession, lack of proof of ownership, voluntary surrender, or as evidence from a crime scene. In some cases, weapon seizures may be conducted as part of a larger operation to reduce crime or to disrupt illegal activity.

Methodology

The information provided in this report is gathered from the [Armed Violence Monitoring Platform \(AVMP\)](#), which captures data on firearm-related incidents happening in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia, Kosovo* and the Republic of Moldova.

The data is gathered daily from the relevant authorities' official websites, as well as print and online media. Data for Kosovo is also gathered from the police daily incident reports. Quality assurance is conducted rigorously by SEESAC. The platform has seen significant improvements in recent years in terms of data collection and categorization.

The AVMP has been established by SEESAC and funded by the European Union within the framework of [EU Council Decision \(CFSP\) 2016/2356](#) and [EU Council Decision \(CFSP\) 2019/2111](#).

**For the United Nations Development Programme, references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).*

For the European Union, this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

HIGHLIGHTS

1,542

weapon seizures were reported in 2022.

512

reported cases in which **handguns** were seized as a single type of weapon.

158

weapon seizures involved **accidental findings of explosive devices**.

1,697

perpetrators were reported in connection to weapon seizures.

1,227

cases involved weapons in **illegal possession**.

600

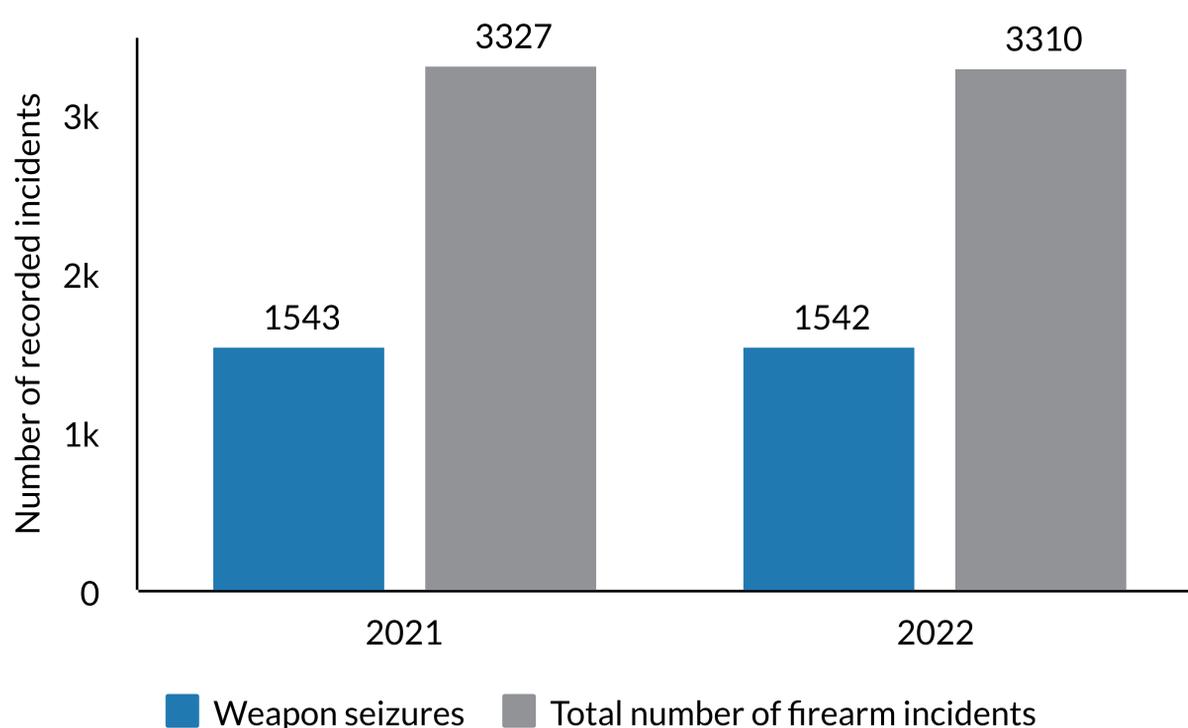
reported cases of weapon seizures at **homes/yards**.

1. General overview

The AVMP categorises weapons seizures as a separate type of incident, explicitly referring to cases where a seizure was the main event. Weapon seizures resulting from other types of firearm incidents are not included in this category. As a result, this report does not account for **768 weapon seizures** that were reported in connection to criminal activity, public disputes, domestic violence, and other types of incidents.¹

A total of **1,542 weapon seizures** were reported in 2022, almost identical to the number of weapon seizures in 2021 (1,543). It should be emphasised that weapon seizures accounted for almost half of all reported firearm incidents in both years.

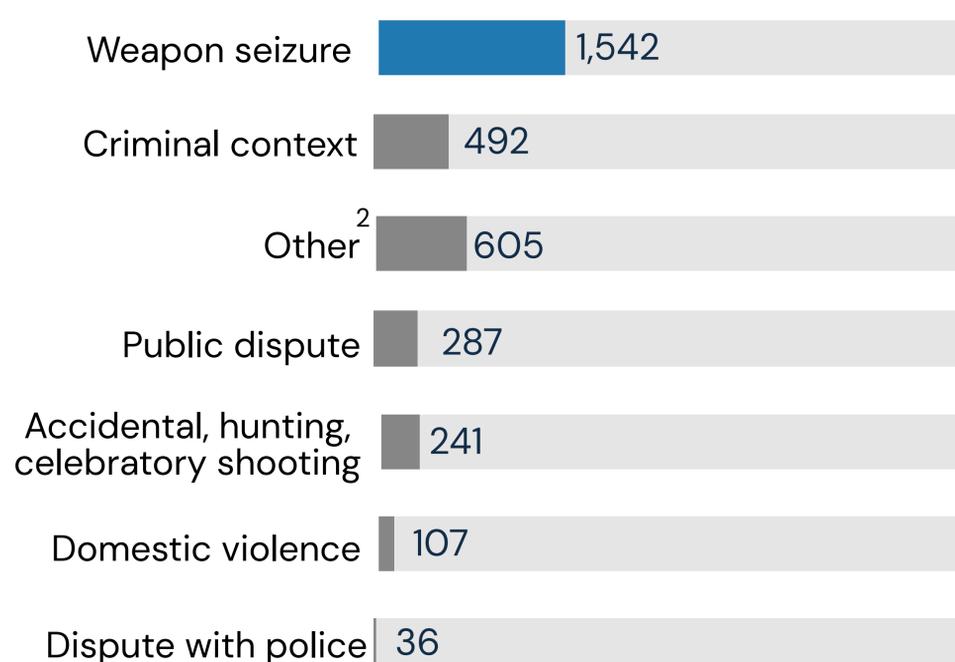
The number of weapon seizures vs the total number of firearm incidents in 2021 and 2022



1.1. Weapon seizures vs other types of firearm incidents

Following the same trend from 2021, weapon seizures continued to be the most frequently reported type of incident in the region in 2022, **accounting for 47% of all firearm incidents**, while the incidents under the Other category (18%) and incidents in the criminal context (15%) followed, ranking second and third respectively.

Weapon seizures vs types of firearm incidents in 2022

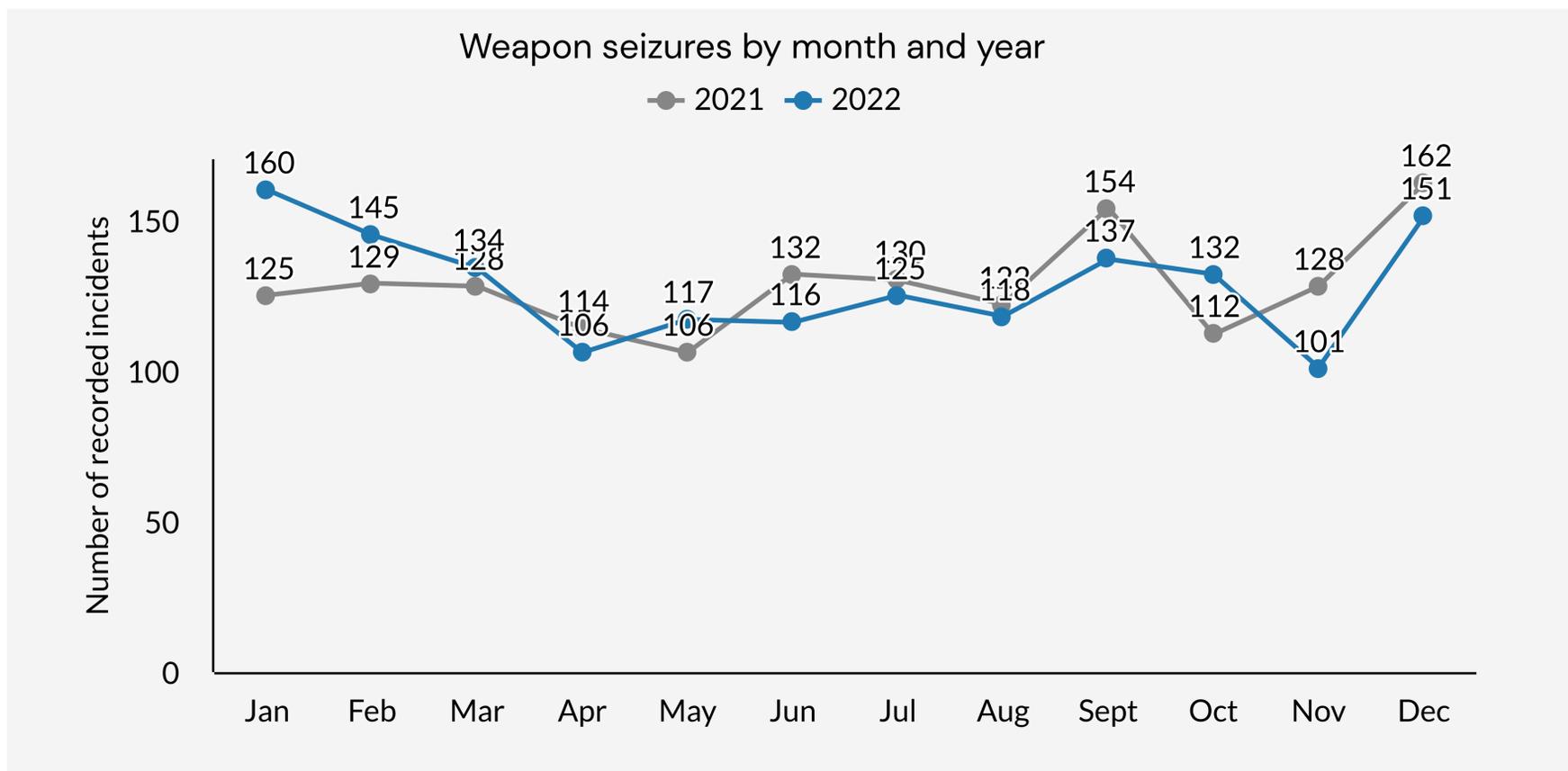


¹ Example: A firearm was used in the context of domestic violence to threaten family members; the police intervened by responding to the incident, arrested the perpetrator, and seized the weapon.

² Other as a separate category under the Types of Firearm incidents refers to suicides, shootings under undetermined circumstances, non-hunting related shooting of animals, undetermined explosions, weapons used for defence, and all other incidents that cannot be classified under any of the categories above.

1.2 Weapon seizures throughout 2022

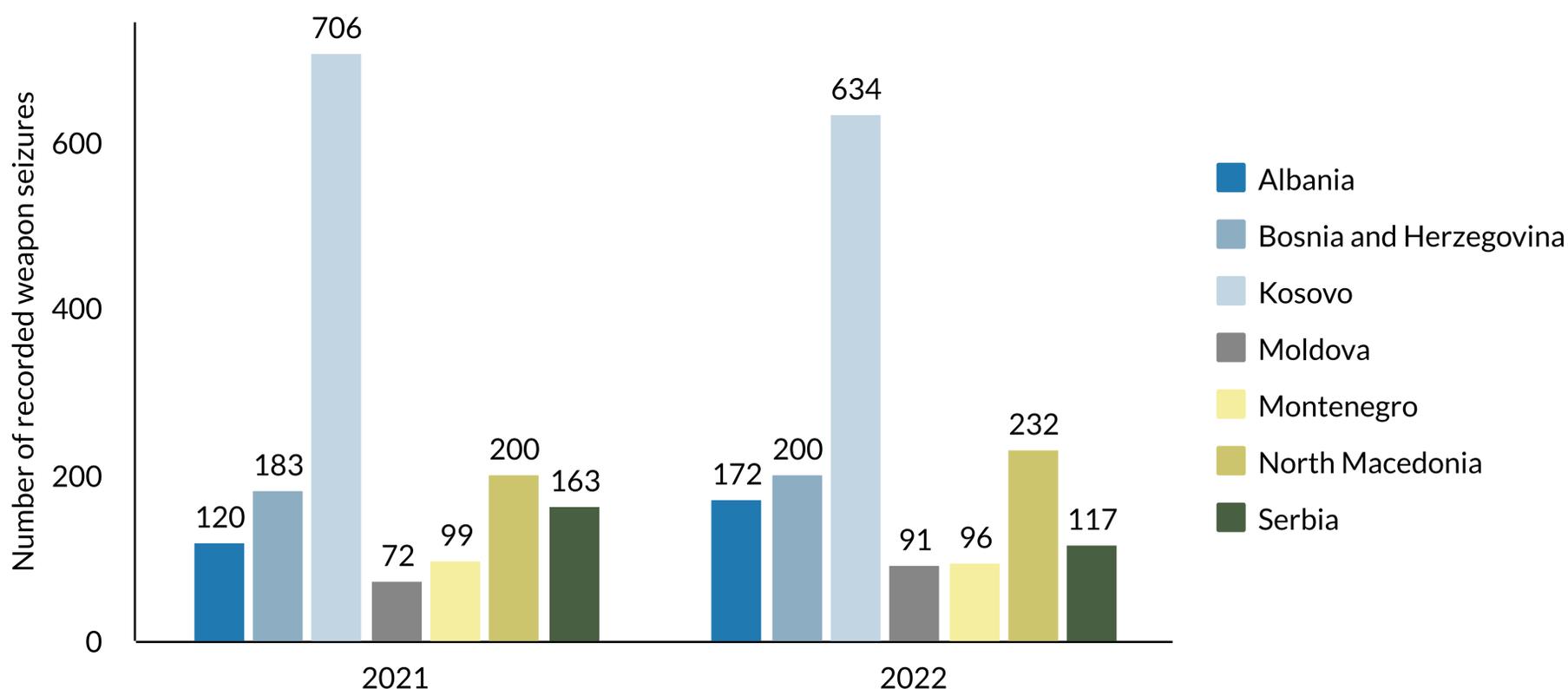
The number of weapons seizures averaged 128 cases per month in both 2021 and 2022. Overall, the trend remained relatively stable throughout the year, with drops observed in April (106) and November (101), while January (160) and December (151) saw the highest number of weapon seizures.



1.3 Weapon seizures in jurisdictions

In comparison to 2021, an increase in weapon seizures was seen in four jurisdictions, with the most notable increase reported in Albania (43%), followed by Moldova (23%). A rise was also reported by North Macedonia (16%) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (9%). A 25% decline was recorded by Serbia, followed by Kosovo (10%) and Montenegro (3%).

The highest number of cases was reported in Kosovo (634), accounting for 41% of all reported seizures in 2022. North Macedonia (232), Bosnia and Herzegovina (200) followed. The same pattern was documented in 2021 as well as in 2020.

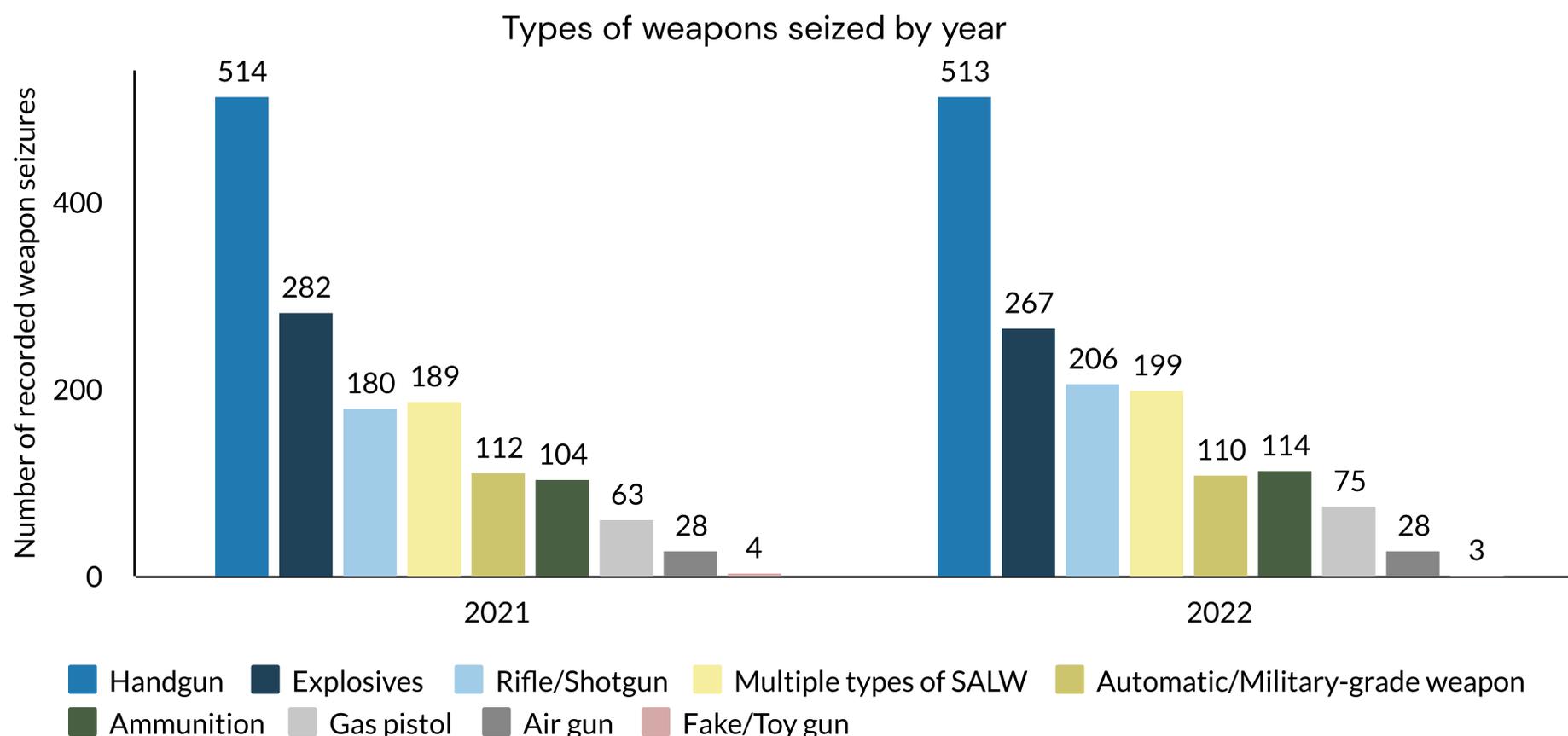


2. Types of weapons

2.1 Weapon seizures by type of weapon

Weapon seizures include seizures of a single type of weapon, multiple types of SALW, ammunition, as well as cases when the type of weapon was not specified. In 2022, the type of weapon was either unknown or not reported in 67 (4%) cases, the same as in 2021.

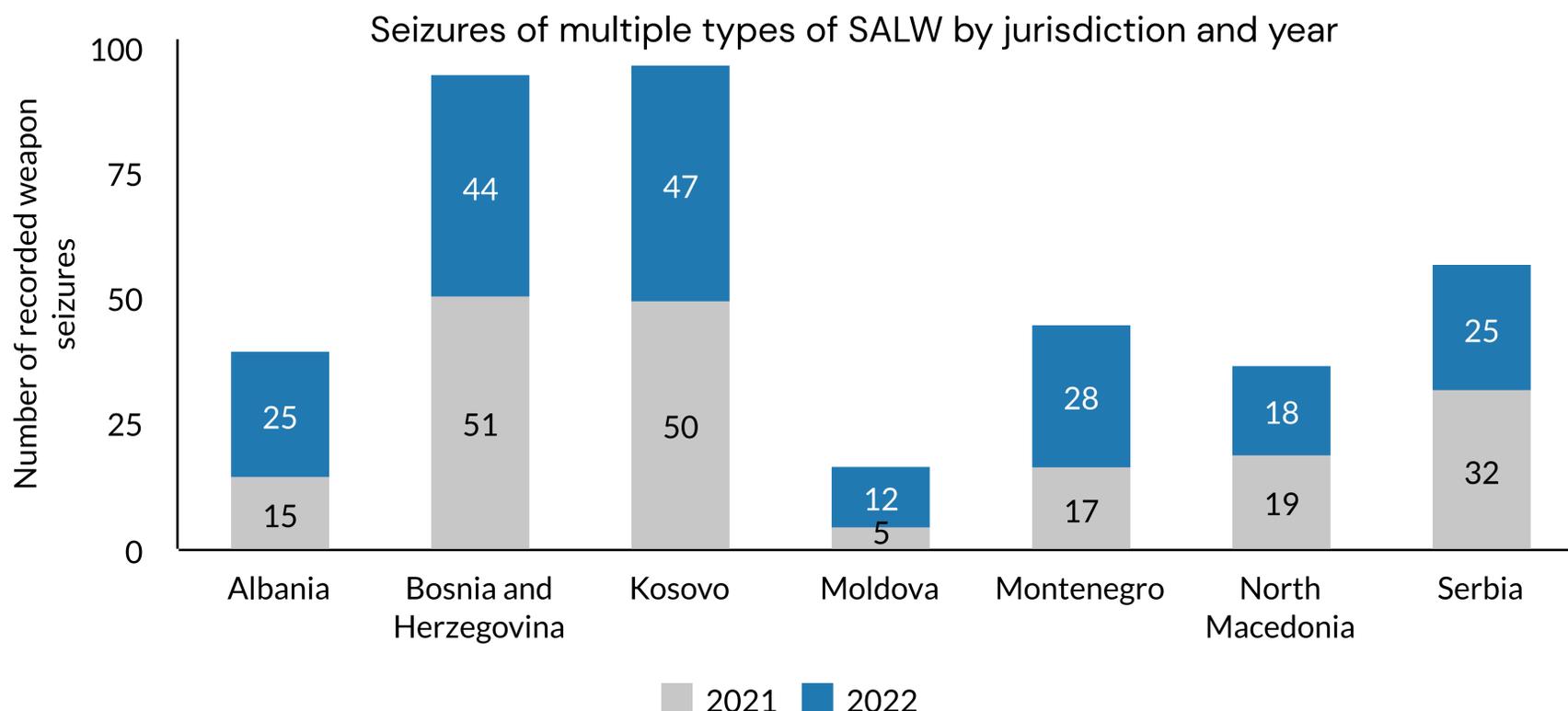
The trends regarding the seizures of a single type of weapon seen in 2021 but also in 2020 persisted in 2022. Handguns remained the most common weapon seized, with a nearly identical number of seizures reported in both 2021 and 2022. Seizures of explosives followed, despite a drop in 2022. An increase was seen in the seizure of almost all types of weapons, except for automatic/military-grade weapons and fake/toy guns.



2.2 Seizures of multiple types of SALW

The seizure of multiple types of SALW involves taking hold of more than one type of weapon. In 2022, the number of such cases increased by 5%, i.e. from 189 to 199 cases, with Kosovo (47), Bosnia and Herzegovina (44), Kosovo (50) and Montenegro (28) reporting the highest number of such cases. Compared to 2021, Albania, Moldova, and Montenegro saw an increase in such cases in 2022.

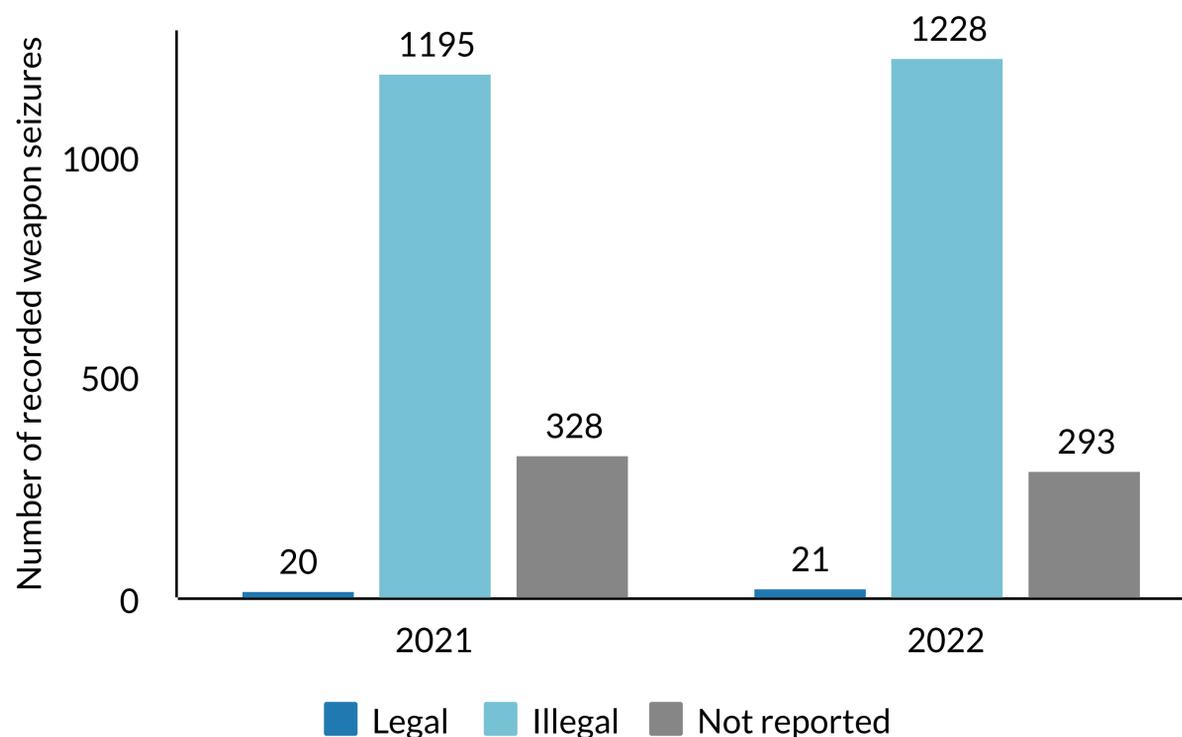
In 48 cases, more than three types of weapons were seized, which is 30% more than in 2021, when 37 cases were reported.



2.3 Legal status of weapon possession

The patterns regarding the legal status of weapon possession from 2021 continued in 2022, with the majority of the seized weapons being in illegal possession. Out of the 1,248 cases where the legal status of weapons was indicated, in 98% of cases, the weapons were reported to be in illegal possession, while in the remaining 2%, the weapons were in legal possession. The legal status of weapon possession was not indicated in 19% of cases.

Weapon seizures by type of the legal status of weapon possession by year



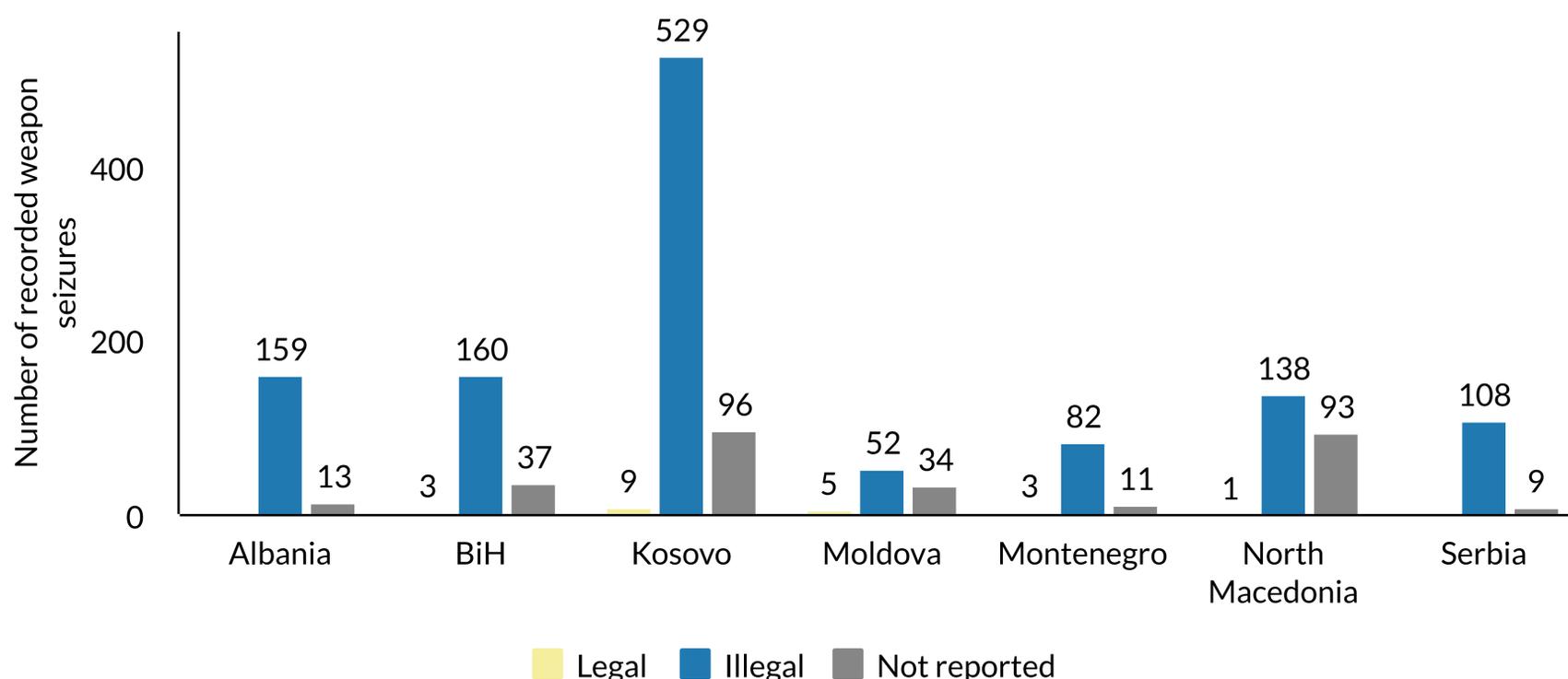
2.3.1 Legal status of weapon possession by jurisdiction

As in 2021, the cases of seized weapons in legal possession in 2022 were reported mainly in Kosovo (9 cases), Moldova (5 cases), followed by Bosnia and Herzegovina (3) and Montenegro (3). The seized weapons in legal possession were mainly handguns (9 cases), reported primarily in Kosovo (4 cases) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (3 cases). Out of eight cases when rifles/shotguns in legal possession were seized, three were reported in Moldova.

Similar to 2021, handguns accounted for nearly 40% of seizures of weapons in illegal possession (452 cases), followed by rifles/shotguns (171 cases) and automatic/military-grade weapons (110 cases). In 293 (19%) weapon seizures, the type of possession was not reported.

Seizure of weapons with an expired permit was reported in 17 cases, showing a rise from 2021, when 10 such cases were reported. The majority of these cases occurred in Kosovo (12 cases).

Weapon seizures by type of the legal status of weapon possession in 2022



2.4 Ammunition

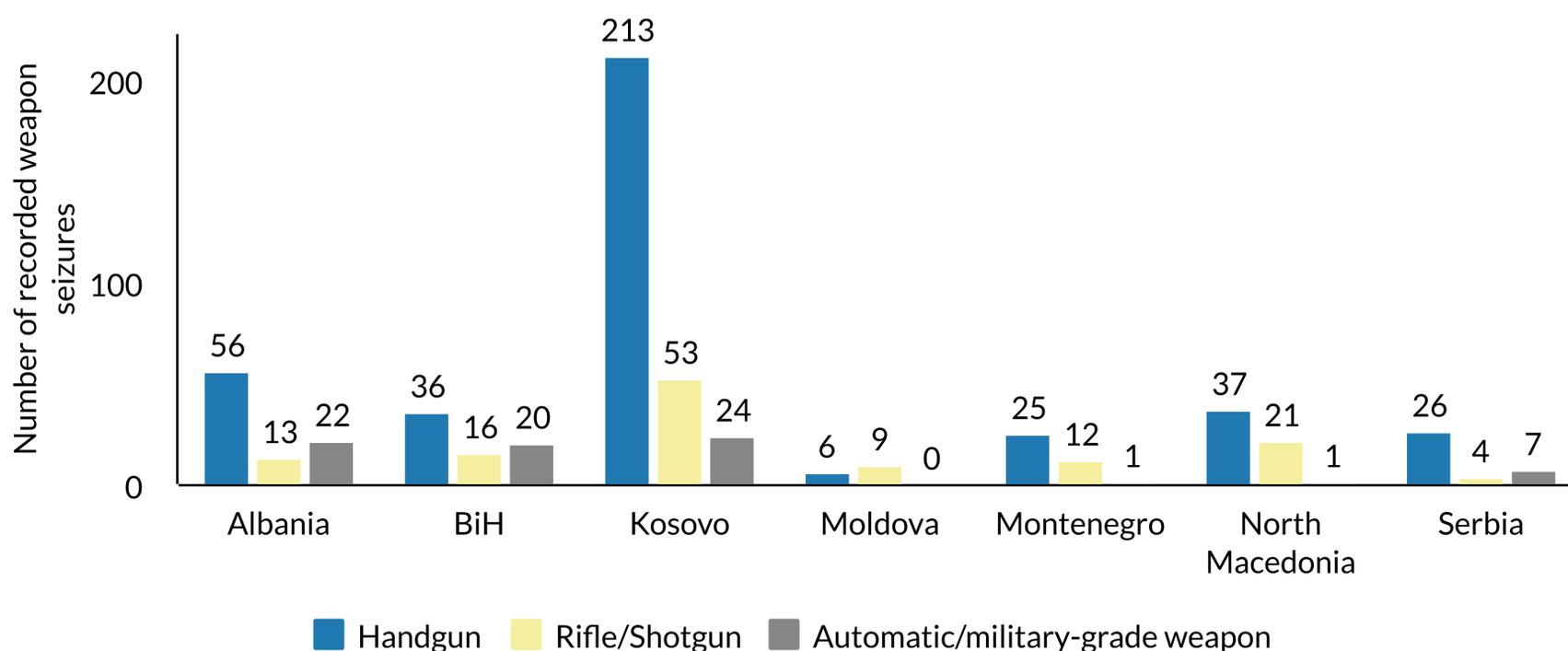
Ammunition was seized in a total of 977 cases in 2022, showing a 5% increase from 2021 (934 cases). Ammunition was less frequently seized separately from weapons, i.e. in 114 cases. It was mainly seized together with another type of weapon, namely in 686 cases. In 177 cases, ammunition was seized with multiple types of SALW.

Location	Reported cases in which only ammunition was seized	Reported cases in which ammunition was seized with another type of weapon	Reported cases in which ammunition was seized with multiple types of SALW
Albania	13	94	23
Bosnia and Herzegovina	12	86	41
Kosovo	35	335	38
Moldova	4	22	10
Montenegro	7	39	26
North Macedonia	27	68	16
Serbia	16	42	23
Total	114	686	177

The notable changes when ammunition was seized with another type of weapon (686) were seen in Albania, with a 52% increase in such cases, while Serbia saw a 71% decrease.

When seized in combination with another type of weapon, ammunition was primarily seized with handguns (399 cases) in all jurisdictions, with the exception of Moldova, where ammunition was mainly seized with rifles/shotguns, i.e. in nine cases. The same trend was seen in 2021 and 2020. In 128 cases, ammunition was seized with rifles/shotguns, which is 25% higher than in 2021 (102 cases). Ammunition was seized with automatic/military-grade weapons in 75 cases, almost the same as in 2021 (76 cases).

Three most common types of weapons seized with ammunition in 2022



2.5 Handguns

Handguns remained the most seized type of weapon in 2022, reported in 641 seizures. This follows the trend seen in 2021, where 637 (41%) such cases were reported.

As the only type of weapon, handguns were seized in 513 cases, almost matching the number reported in 2021 (514 cases). Handguns were seized with multiple types of SALW in 128 cases, similar to 2021 (123 cases). Continuing the pattern from 2021, the highest number of incidents in which handguns were seized both as a single type of weapon (260) and in combination with other types of weapons (31) was reported in Kosovo, while Moldova reported the lowest number.

Location	Reported cases in which only handguns were seized	Reported cases in which handguns were seized with multiple types of SALW
Albania	67	18
Bosnia and Herzegovina	51	21
Kosovo	260	31
Moldova	12	4
Montenegro	33	17
North Macedonia	50	12
Serbia	40	25
Total	513	128

- When handguns were seized as a single type of weapon (513 cases), they were mainly in illegal possession, i.e. in 453 cases, slightly less than in 2021 (465 cases). In nine cases, they were in legal possession, almost double the number from 2021 (5 cases). The type of possession was not reported in 51 cases in 2022.
- In 78% of cases, handguns were seized in urban areas in both years. The microlocation data on handgun seizures in urban areas show that they were mostly seized on the streets (144 in 2022 and 148 cases in 2021) and at homes (95 cases in 2022 and 119 cases in 2021).
- A different microlocation pattern was seen when handguns were seized in rural areas (22%). Namely, in rural areas, handguns were more frequently seized at homes (38 cases in 2022 and 34 cases in 2021) than on the streets (33 cases in 2022 and 13 cases in 2021).
- According to the data on seizures of multiple types of SALW, handguns were mainly seized alongside rifles/shotguns in 66 cases and with automatic/military-grade weapons in 42 instances. In 13 cases, all three types of weapons were seized together. These patterns closely resemble that observed in 2021. In addition, the seizure of handguns and explosives was documented in 26 cases, which is the same as the number reported in 2021.
- In 2022, seizures involving both handguns and air guns more than doubled, from 11 cases in 2021 to 24 in 2022. Similarly, seizures of handguns with gas weapons also increased from 11 in 2021 to 18 in 2022.
- Three handguns were seized with a removed/obliterated serial number. In addition, in three cases, handguns were seized by law enforcement agencies after the perpetrators had posted photos/videos of firearms on social media.

2.6 Explosives

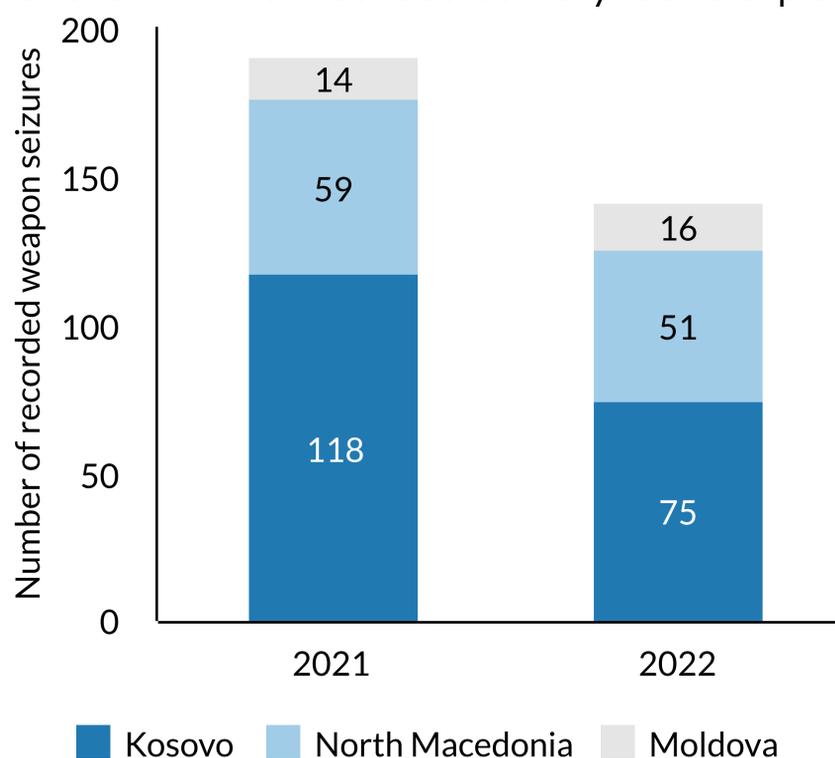
In 287 cases, explosives were the second most seized type of weapon, following the same pattern from 2021. However, there was a 15% decrease in the seizures of explosives compared to the previous year. In 60 cases, explosives were seized along with multiple types of SALW. Notably, in 2022, North Macedonia reported the highest number of explosives seizures, in contrast to past years, when the majority of these seizures were recorded in Kosovo.

Location	Reported cases in which only explosives were seized	Reported cases in which explosives were seized with multiple types of SALW
Albania	16	8
Bosnia and Herzegovina	14	23
Kosovo	79	4
Moldova	17	4
Montenegro	9	11
North Macedonia	83	3
Serbia	9	7
Total	227	60

As in previous years, seizures of explosives included numerous cases where citizens reported finding explosives accidentally during construction works, in their yards, fields, inherited homes, on the road, etc. However, the number of these cases decreased by 25%, from 207 in 2021 to 158 in 2022. Despite the drop, the location-related pattern remained the same. Specifically, the majority of cases were reported in Kosovo (75), North Macedonia (51) and Moldova (16). Similar to 2021, accidental findings of explosives occurred more frequently in rural (95) than in urban (63) areas.

In 43 cases, the found explosive devices were remnants of war/conflicts, i.e. 31 cases in North Macedonia, eight in Moldova, and two in Serbia and Kosovo.

Jurisdictions with the most accidentally found explosives reported



2.6.1 Seizures of hand grenades

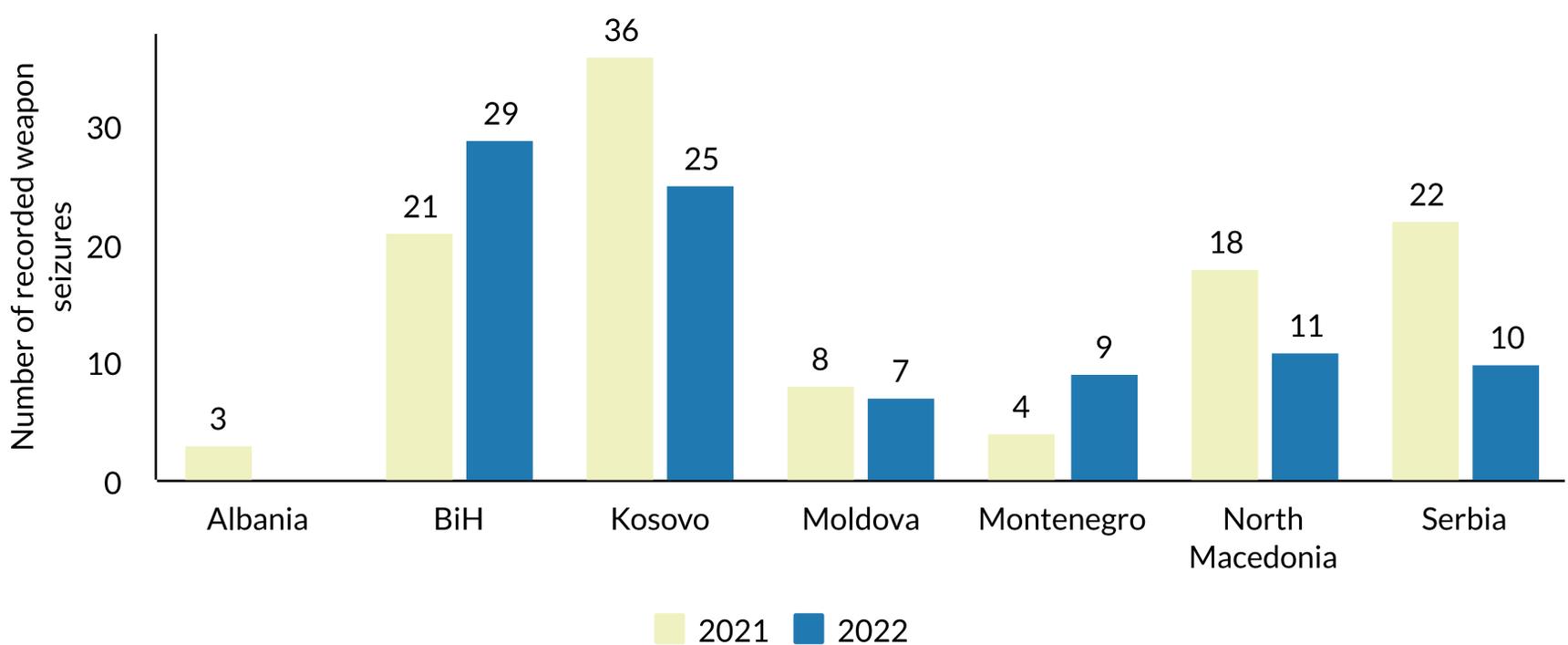
Hand grenades were among the explosives frequently reported as seized in both 2021 and 2022. In 2022, seized hand grenades were reported in 91 cases, an 18% decrease from 2021, when 111 such cases were reported.

Hand grenade seizures in 2022 rose in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro, while other jurisdictions documented a decline compared to 2021.

Hand grenades were accidentally found by citizens and reported to the competent authorities in 40 cases, primarily in Kosovo (19), North Macedonia (9) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (6 cases). In 2021, 62 such cases were reported.

In addition, 51 police operations led to the seizure of hand grenades, both as a single type of weapon (17 cases) and with other types of weapons (34 cases). These seizures happened primarily in urban areas (42) and in homes (29). Most cases were reported by Bosnia and Herzegovina (23), Montenegro (9), and Serbia (9). In 2021, these seizures (49), of which Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia reported 18 each.

Seizures of hand grenades by jurisdiction and year

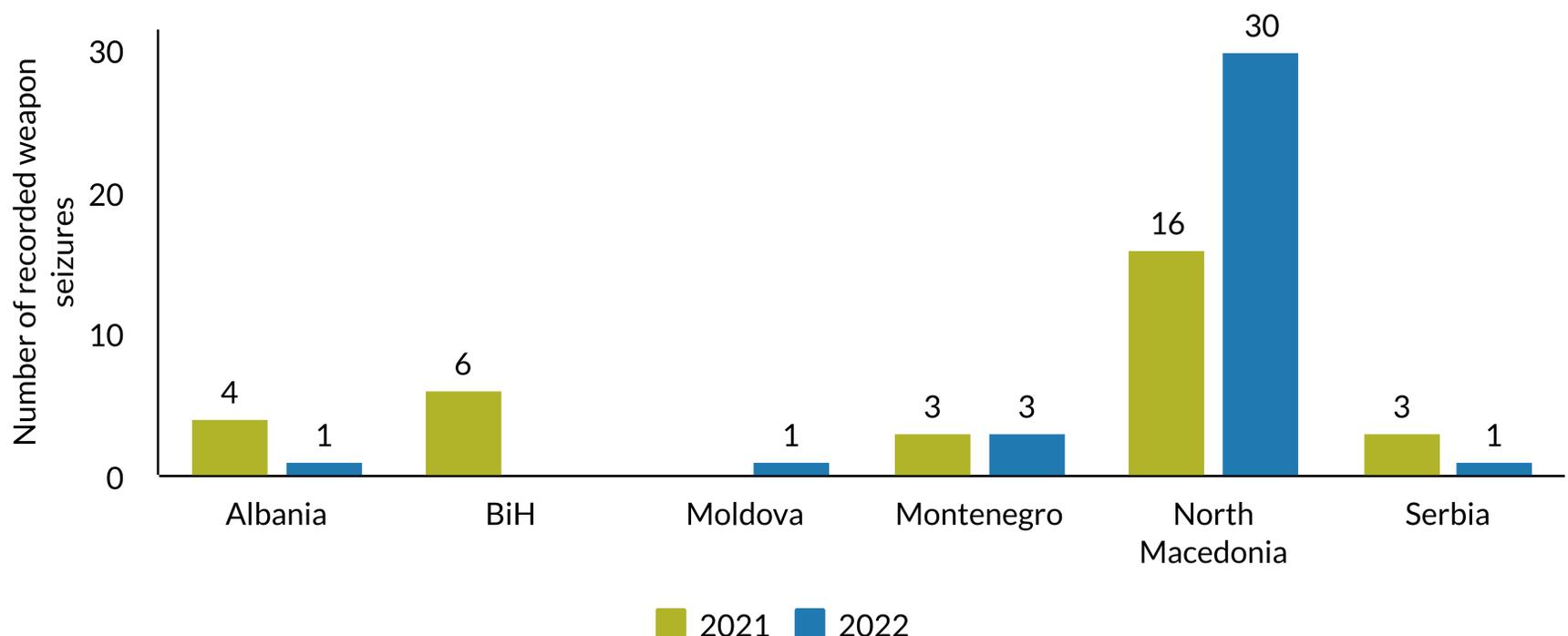


2.6.2 Seizures of pyrotechnic devices

There were 36 reported seizures of pyrotechnic devices, marking a slight increase from the previous year (32 cases). North Macedonia (30) had the highest number of cases in both years, nearly doubling the pyrotechnics seizures from 2021 (16). Other jurisdictions reported six or fewer cases in both years.

The majority of these seizures (69%) took place in December, mainly in urban settings (31 cases) such as streets (17 cases) and homes (12), in contrast to 2021 when shops were the second most common microlocation.

Seizures of pyrotechnic devices by jurisdiction and year



2.7 Rifles/Shotguns

Rifles/shotguns, the third most seized type of weapon, were seized in 313 incidents, accounting for 20% of all reported cases in 2022, indicating a 4% rise from the previous year. Out of these incidents, rifles/shotguns were the only type of weapon seized in 206 cases, while in 107 cases, they were seized along with multiple types of SALW.

Location	Reported cases in which only rifles/shotguns were seized	Reported cases in which rifles / shotguns were seized with multiple types of SALW
Albania	22	11
Bosnia and Herzegovina	24	24
Kosovo	76	20
Moldova	26	7
Montenegro	17	19
North Macedonia	34	10
Serbia	7	16
Total	206	107

- Almost all jurisdictions documented a slight increase in reported rifle/shotgun seizures, except for Serbia, which saw a decline of 30%, and Kosovo, which had a 10% drop.
- In cases where multiple types of SALW were seized, rifles/shotguns were most commonly confiscated along with handguns (66 cases), automatic/military-grade weapons (31 cases), explosives (27 cases), and air guns (22 cases).
- There were 42 reports of rifles/shotguns being seized in connection to illegal hunting, nearly twice the number reported in 2021 (26 cases). These seizures were primarily reported in Moldova (16 cases), North Macedonia (10 cases), and Kosovo (8 cases).
- Voluntary surrender of rifles was reported in two cases in Kosovo.
- As in 2021, rifles/shotguns were the only type of weapons more frequently seized in rural (117) than in urban (89) areas.

2.8 Automatic / Military-grade weapons

In 2022, there were reports of 185 cases involving the seizure of automatic/military-grade weapons, which is 4% lower than in the previous year. Out of these cases, automatic/military-grade weapons were the only type of weapon seized in 110 cases, while in 75 cases, they were seized along with other types of SALW.

Location	Reported cases in which only automatic / military-grade weapons were seized	Reported cases in which automatic / military-grade weapons were seized with multiple types of SALW
Albania	27	21
Bosnia and Herzegovina	23	15
Kosovo	46	18
Moldova	1	0
Montenegro	1	11
North Macedonia	3	1
Serbia	9	9
Total	110	75

Albania and Montenegro reported a rise in the number of seizures of automatic/military-grade weapons in 2022, while a decrease was seen in other jurisdictions.

As a single type of weapon, automatic/military-grade weapons were seized more commonly in rural areas (63 cases), reversing the pattern from 2021 when they were more frequently seized in urban areas. As was the case in 2021, these weapons were primarily seized from homes (58 cases) in 2022.

There were 61 reported cases of AK-47 seizures in 2022, representing a 6% decrease from the previous year.

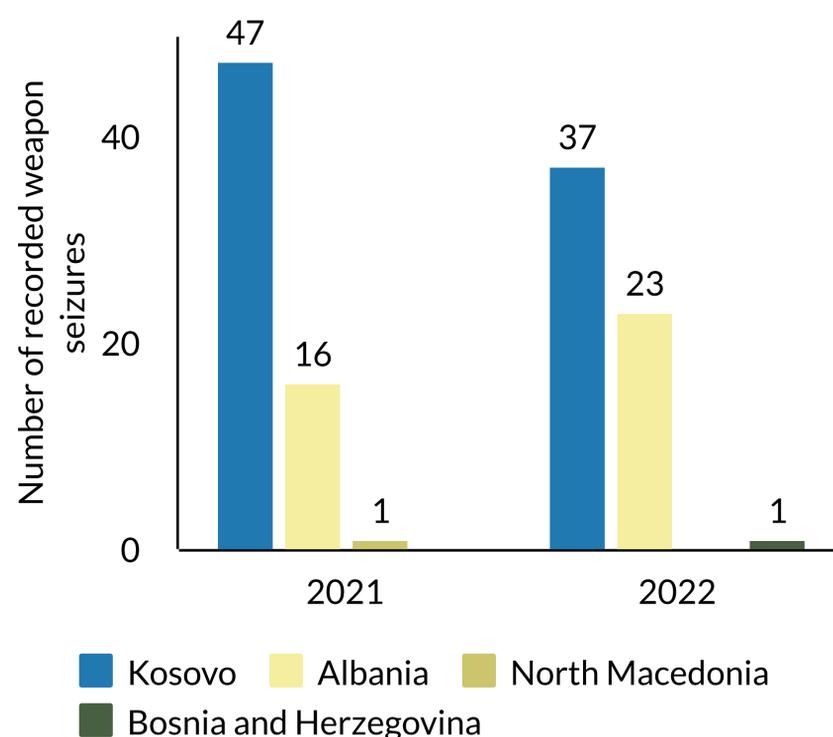
As in 2021, most of these cases were reported in Kosovo (37), followed by Albania with 23 cases. Additionally, one case was reported in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In 38 cases, AK-47s were seized as a single type of weapon, while 23 seizures involved other types of SALW.

In two cases, authorities seized AK-47s after the perpetrators had posted photos of the weapons on social media.

In 65% of cases (30), when the microlocation was specified, the AK-47s were seized at homes.

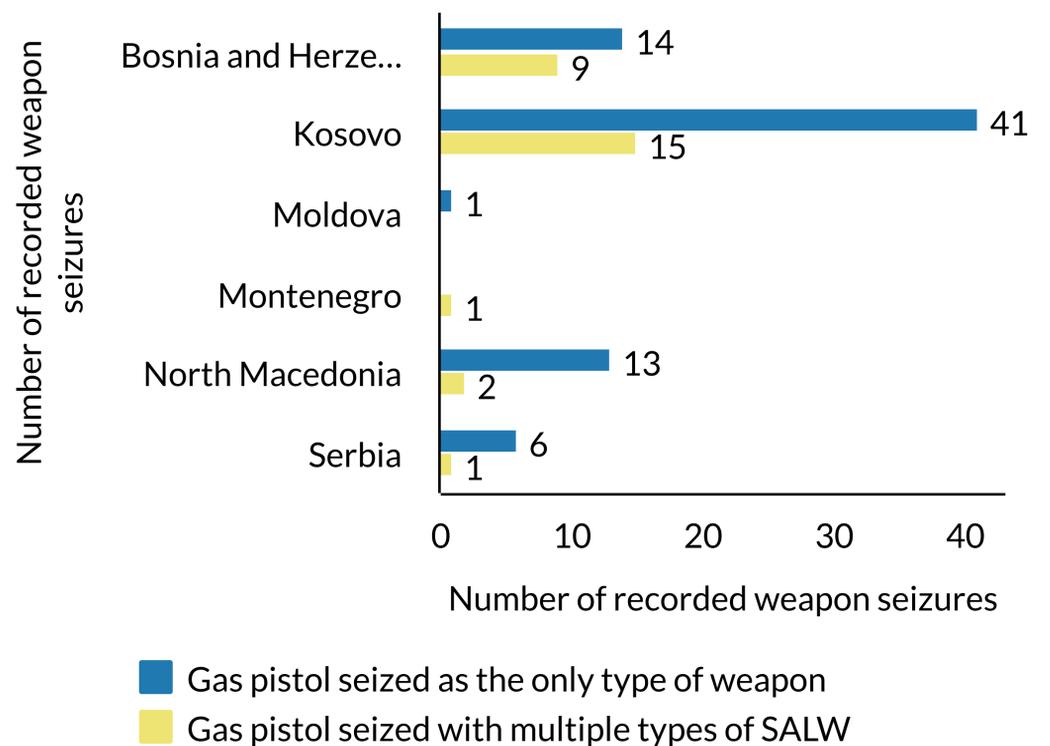
Seizures of AK-47 by jurisdictions and year



2.9 Gas pistols, air guns and fake/toy guns

- In 2022, there was a 23% increase in the number of reported seizures of gas pistols compared to the previous year. This increase was seen in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, with rises of 44% and 33%, respectively.
- Out of 84 seizures of gas pistols in 2022, they were seized as a single type of weapon in 75 cases.
- When the type of gas pistol was indicated, Zoraki was the most commonly seized gas pistol, reported in 11 cases, followed by Ekol, seized in seven cases. The opposite trend was documented in 2021.

Seizures of gas pistols by jurisdiction in 2022



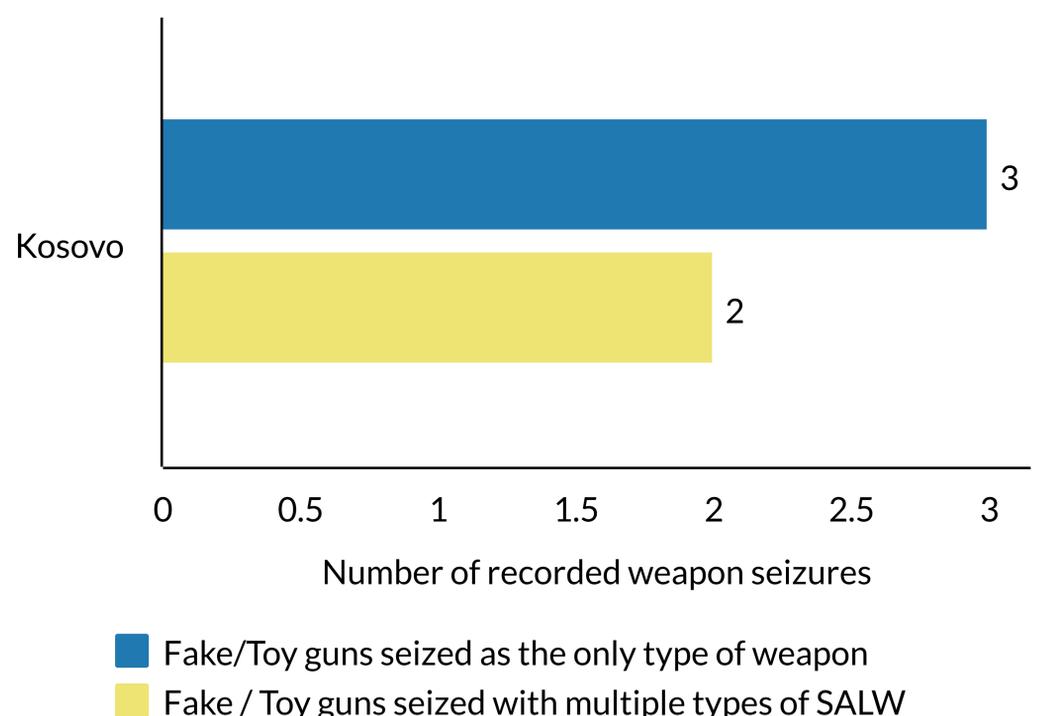
Seizures of air guns by jurisdiction in 2022



- The seizures of air guns increased by 44% in 2022, i.e. from 50 in 2021 to 72 in 2022. All jurisdictions reported an increase, except Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.
- The highest number of air gun seizures was reported by Moldova (18 cases), Kosovo (17), and Serbia (12).
- The trend regarding the seizures of air guns as a single type of weapon was constant, totalling 28 in both years. However, in 2022, air guns were seized along with other types of weapons in 44 cases, which is twice as many as in 2021.

Seizures of fake/toy guns by jurisdiction in 2022

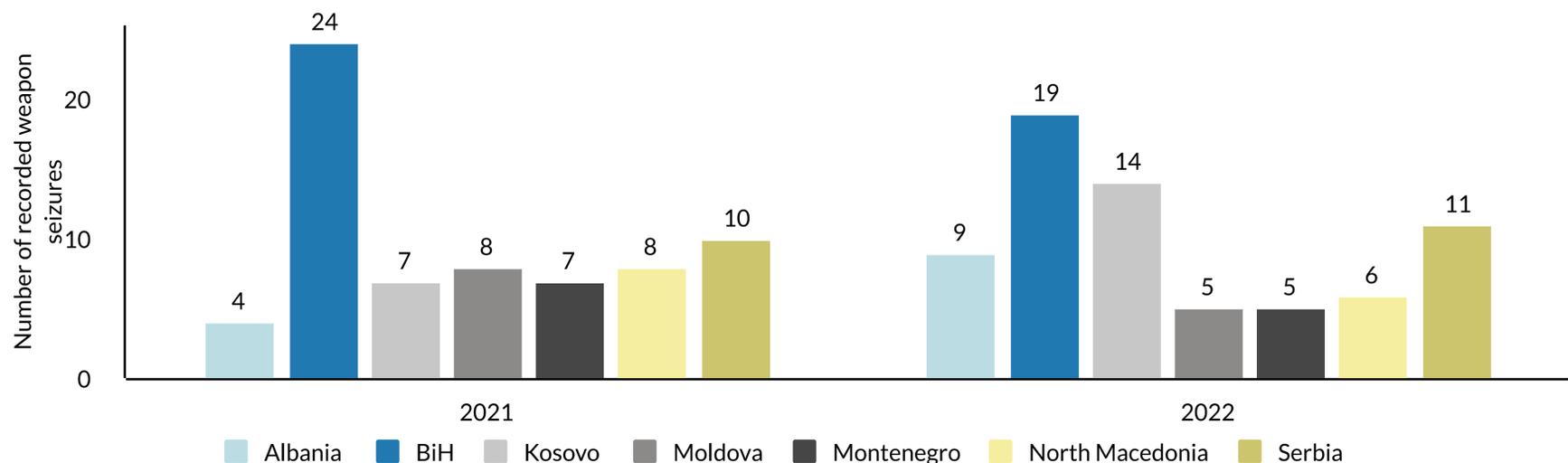
- The number of reported seizures of fake/toy guns in 2022 remained the same as in 2021.
- In 2022, all five seizures of this type of weapon were reported only by Kosovo.



2.10 Large weapon seizures

Cases involving the seizure of five or more weapons (with or without ammunition) were reported 69 times across the region, almost the same as in 2021 (68). Bosnia and Herzegovina (19) reported the highest number of such cases in both years, despite a 21% decrease since 2021. The number of these cases doubled in Kosovo (14) and Albania (9) compared to 2021.

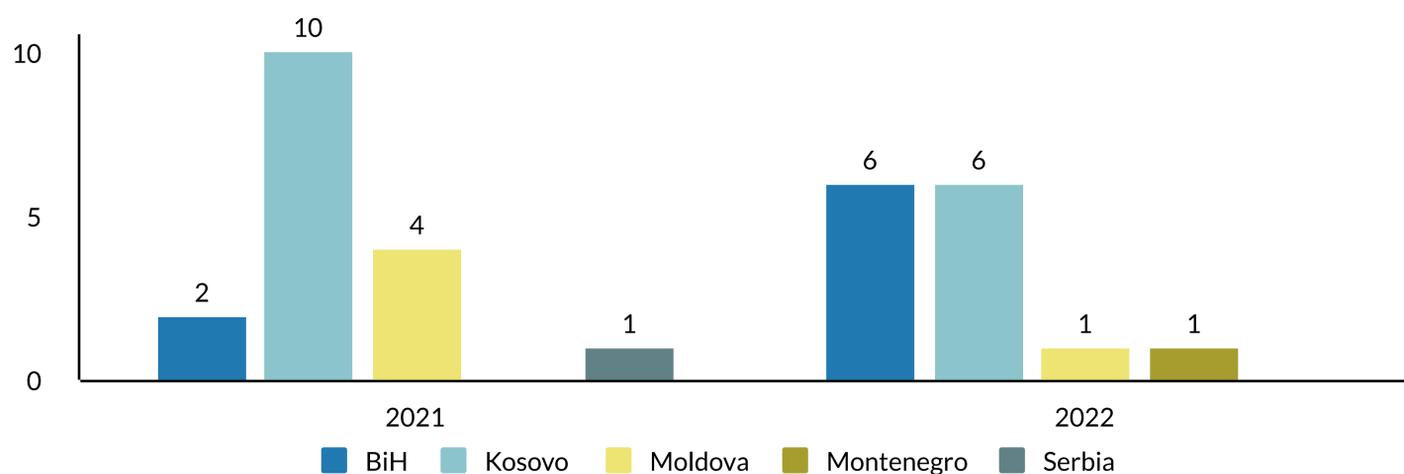
Large weapon seizures by jurisdiction in 2022



2.11 Weapon and ammunition surrender

In 2022, there were 14 reported cases of voluntary surrender of weapons and ammunition, indicating a 22% decrease from the 18 cases reported in 2021. The majority of these cases were reported in Kosovo (6) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (6). Five cases involved the surrender of automatic or military-grade weapons. Hand grenades were surrendered in three cases, with one person surrendering 11. Ammunition was also surrendered along with weapons in three cases. The total number of individuals surrendering weapons was 13 men and one woman.

Weapon and ammunition surrender by jurisdiction in 2022



2.11 Seizure of weapon parts and components

In addition to seizing weapons and ammunition, law enforcement agencies often seize weapon parts and components. In 2022, the most commonly seized weapon component was magazines, being reported in 347 cases, 7% increase from 2021 (325 cases). Continuing the trend from 2021, Kosovo had the highest number of magazine seizures, with 147 cases. Optical sights were another commonly seized weapon part, with 18 cases being reported, while silencers were seized in 17 cases.

3. Perpetrators

A perpetrator refers to any individual from whom a firearm/explosive/ammunition, as well as weapon components and parts, were seized by law enforcement owing to illegal possession, lack of proof of ownership, voluntary surrender, or as crime scene evidence.

A total of 1,698 persons were reported as perpetrators in weapons seizures in 2022, showing a 7% increase from 2021, when 1,605 perpetrators were reported. The AVMP data reveals a strongly gendered aspect of weapon seizures, given that men make up the majority of perpetrators whose sex was recorded.

In 86% of cases (1,322 cases), the perpetrators were reported as caught, while in 13% of cases (193 cases) the perpetrators remained unknown. The perpetrators were known but not caught in 2% of the cases (26 cases).

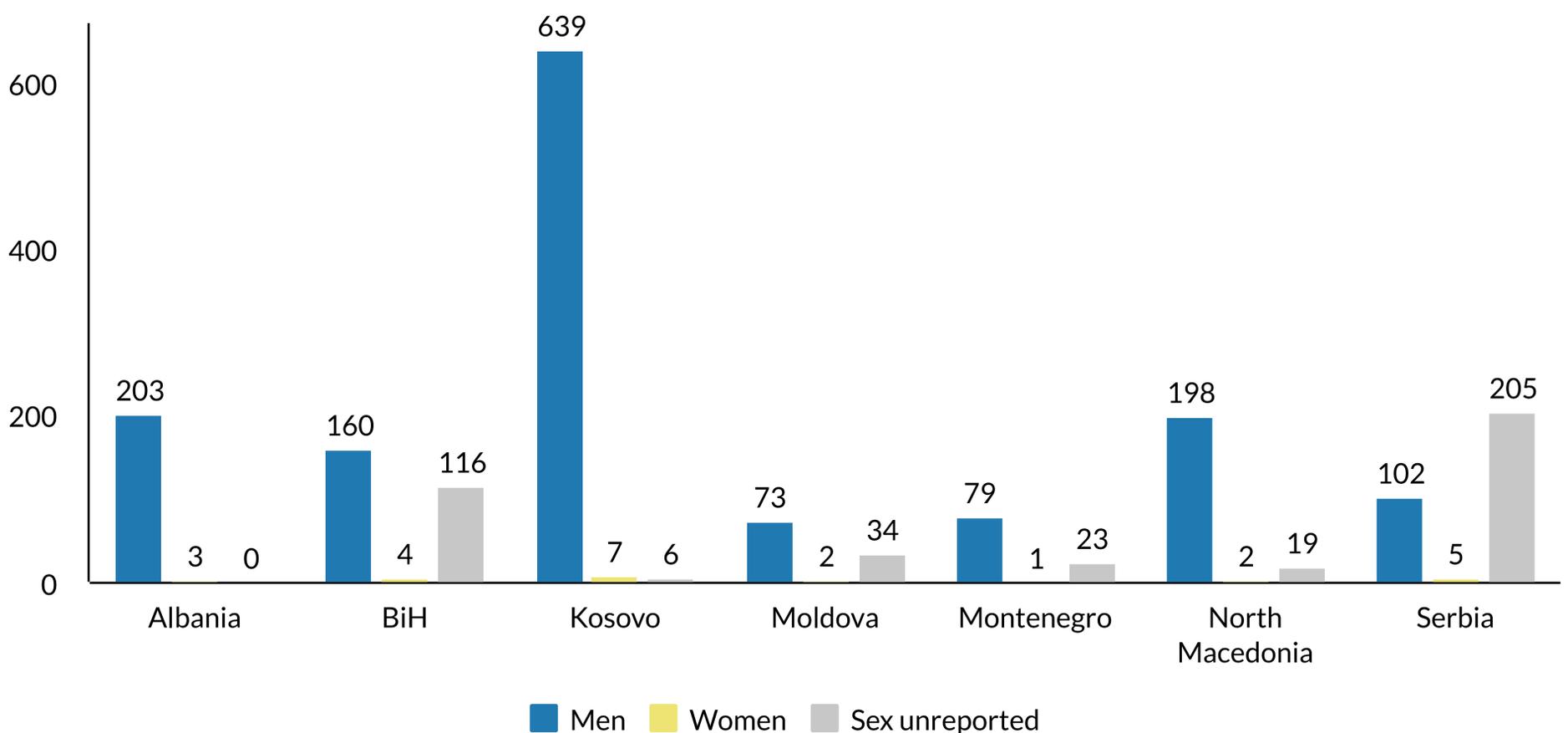
3.1 Perpetrators by sex and age

Out of 1,698 perpetrators, sex was reported for 1,475 (87%) perpetrators, of whom 1,451 (98%) were men, and 24 (2%) were women. The sex was not indicated for 223 (13%) perpetrators. Nearly the same pattern was also observed in 2021.

Men, as the predominant perpetrators in weapon seizures, acted independently in 1,074 cases, while in others, they collaborated with other men or women.

A total of 24 women perpetrators were reported. As sole perpetrators, women were involved in 13 weapon seizures, while in 10 other cases, they acted with one or more men/women.

Perpetrators by sex and jurisdiction in 2022



3.2 Perpetrators by age

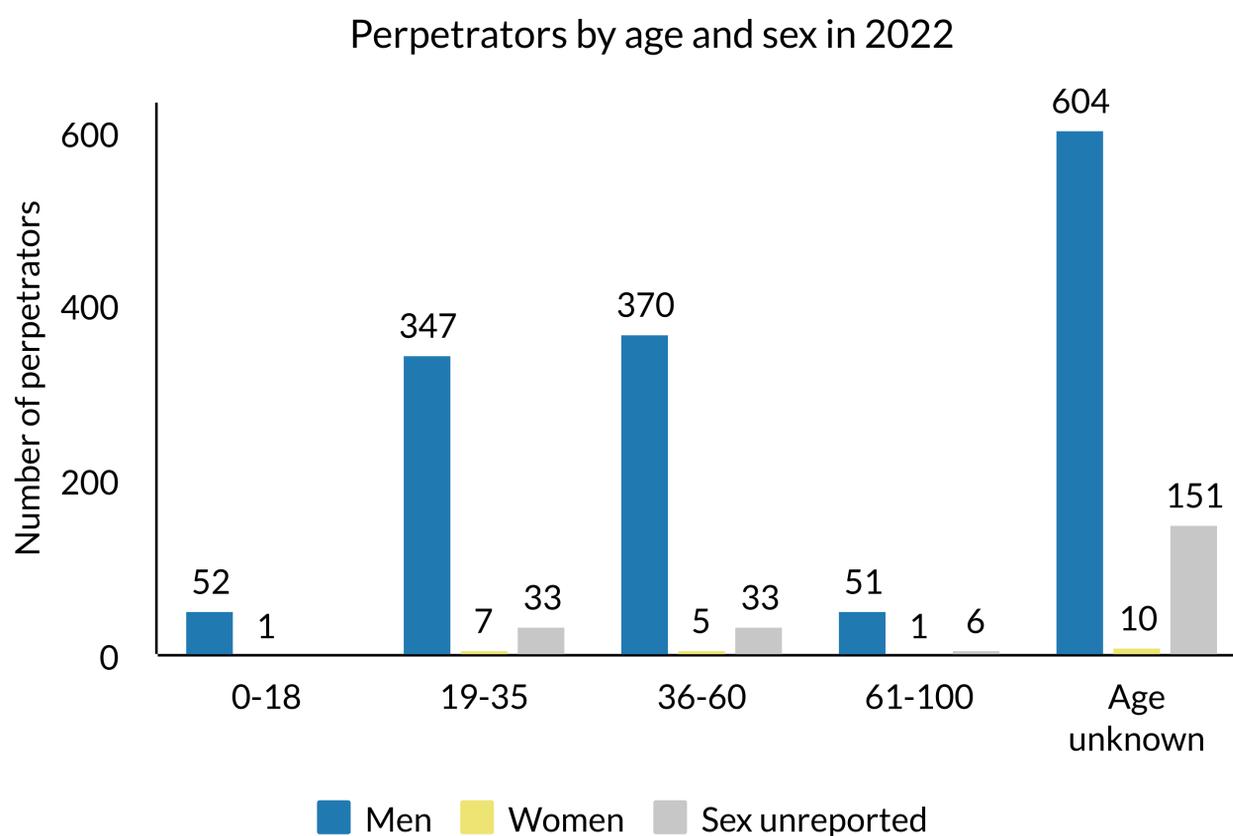
The age was indicated for 933 (54%) perpetrators. The majority of these perpetrators fell into two age groups: 19–35 years old (414) and 36–60 years old (408).

Continuing the pattern from 2021, perpetrators aged 19–35 were the most common in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, while those aged 36–60 were more dominant in other jurisdictions. Kosovo joined this pattern in 2022, with perpetrators aged 36–60 slightly outnumbering those aged 19–35, while the opposite trend was observed in 2021.

There was a 51% increase in the number of perpetrators aged 18 and under, with a total of 53 individuals reported in 2022, in contrast to 35 in 2021. The highest number of these perpetrators were reported in Kosovo (28), Albania (11), and North Macedonia (8).

A total of 58 perpetrators aged 61 and older were reported in both years. In 2022, this age group was mainly reported in Montenegro (16), North Macedonia (12), and Kosovo (11).

Age was not reported for 765 (45%) the perpetrators.



Perpetrators of the two predominant age groups (19–35 and 36–60) were most commonly reported in seizures of all types of weapons. However, there were some differences between the two groups.

Thus, handguns were more frequently seized from perpetrators aged 19–35 than those aged 36–60, as well as automatic/military-grade weapons, air guns and ammunition, where the difference in the share was less distinct.

Rifles/shotguns and explosives were more commonly seized from those 36–60 than those in the age group 19–35. In addition, perpetrators aged 36–60 were also more likely to be associated with seizures of multiple types of SALW. The same pattern was documented in 2021.

Among perpetrators aged 18 and younger, 41% (22 individuals) were reported in relation to seizures of handguns, which is more than double the number reported in 2021 (10). Compared to 2021, this age group saw an increased involvement in seizures of automatic/military-grade weapons. Seven perpetrators of this age were caught in seizures of multiple types of SALW, the same as in 2021.

Perpetrators aged 61 and older were reported in the seizures of multiple types of SALW (20), handguns (16), and rifles/shotguns (13).

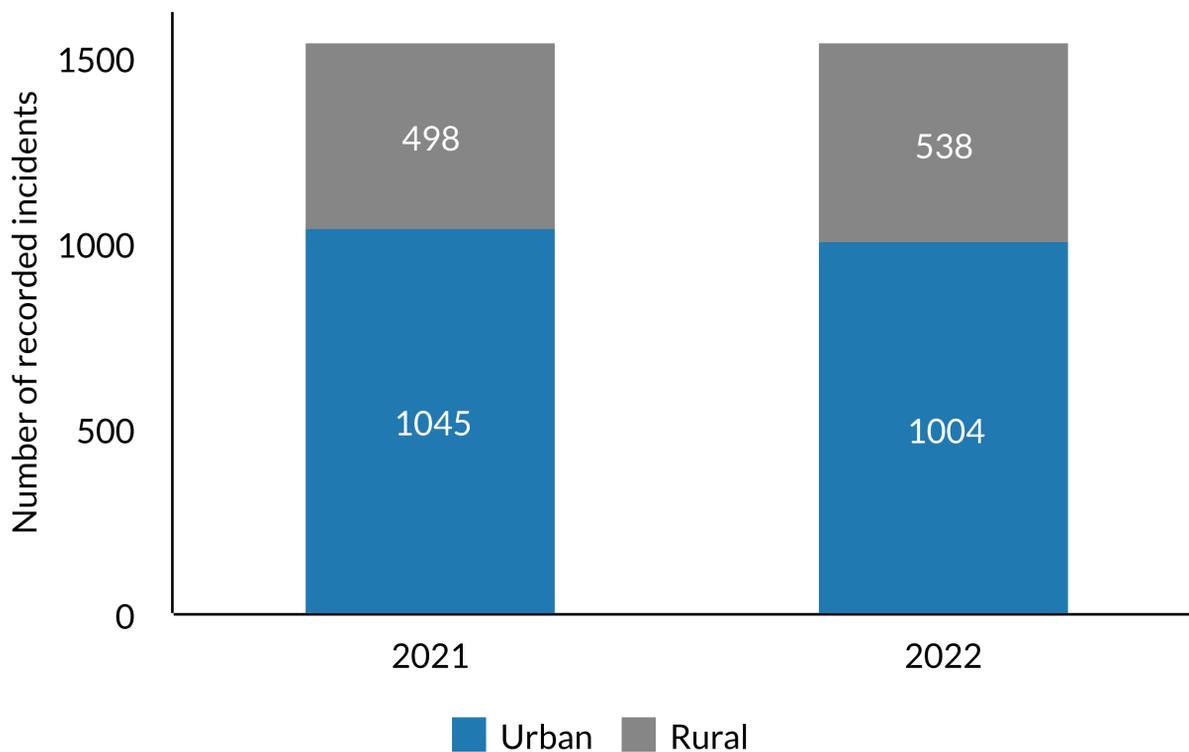
Men dominate in all the above age groups. Women were mainly connected to the seizures of handguns (9), multiple types of SALW (4) and explosives (3). In contrast to 2021, women were not reported in seizures of rifles/shotguns. They were also not reported in seizures of gas and fake/toy guns.

4. Macro and micro location

4.1 Macrolocation

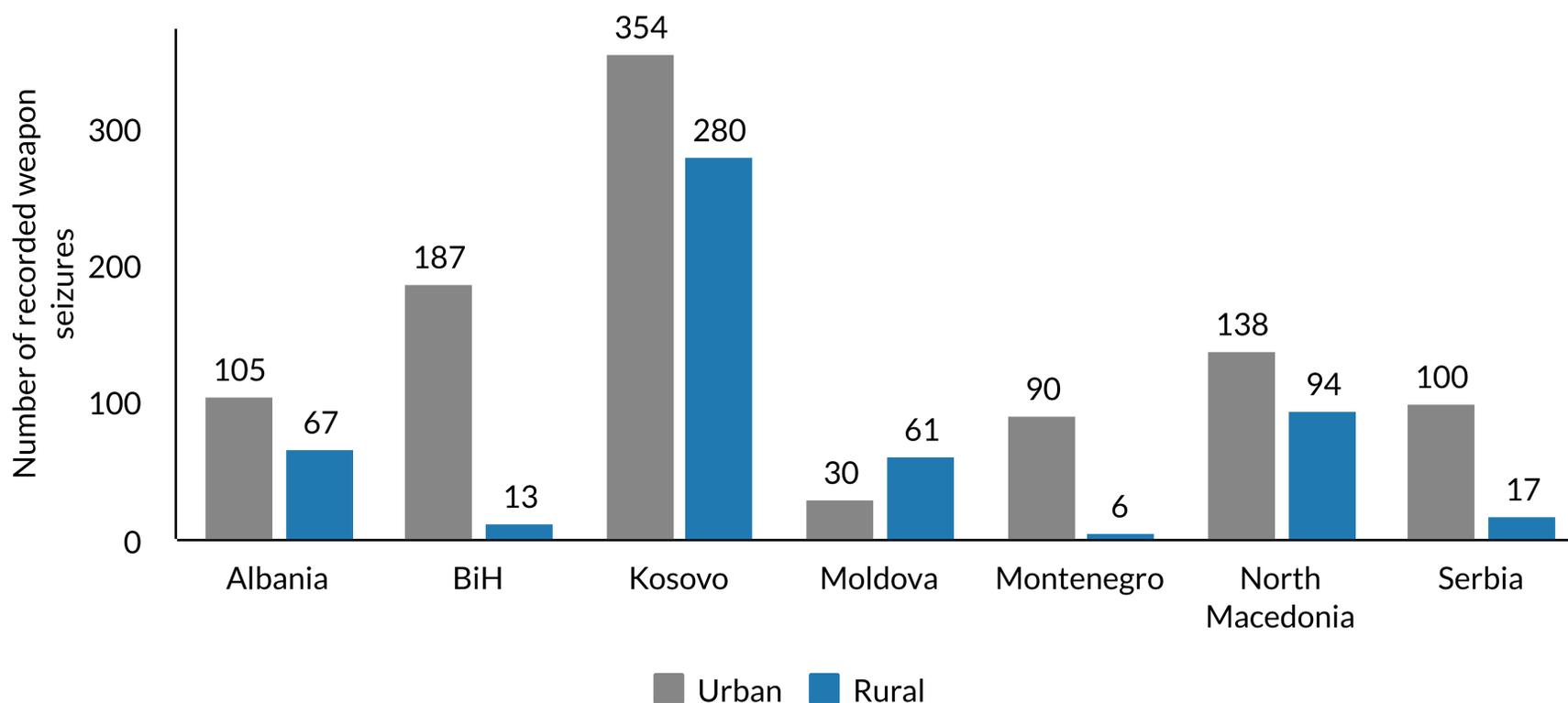
According to the macrolocation data for 2021 and 2022, urban areas saw roughly two times as many weapon seizures as rural ones.

Weapon seizures by macrolocation and year



The trend was confirmed throughout the region in 2022, except in Moldova, where a higher number of weapon seizures was reported in the rural area, the same as in 2021. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, the disparity between weapon seizures in urban and rural was more pronounced than in other jurisdictions.

Weapon seizures by macrolocation and jurisdiction in 2022

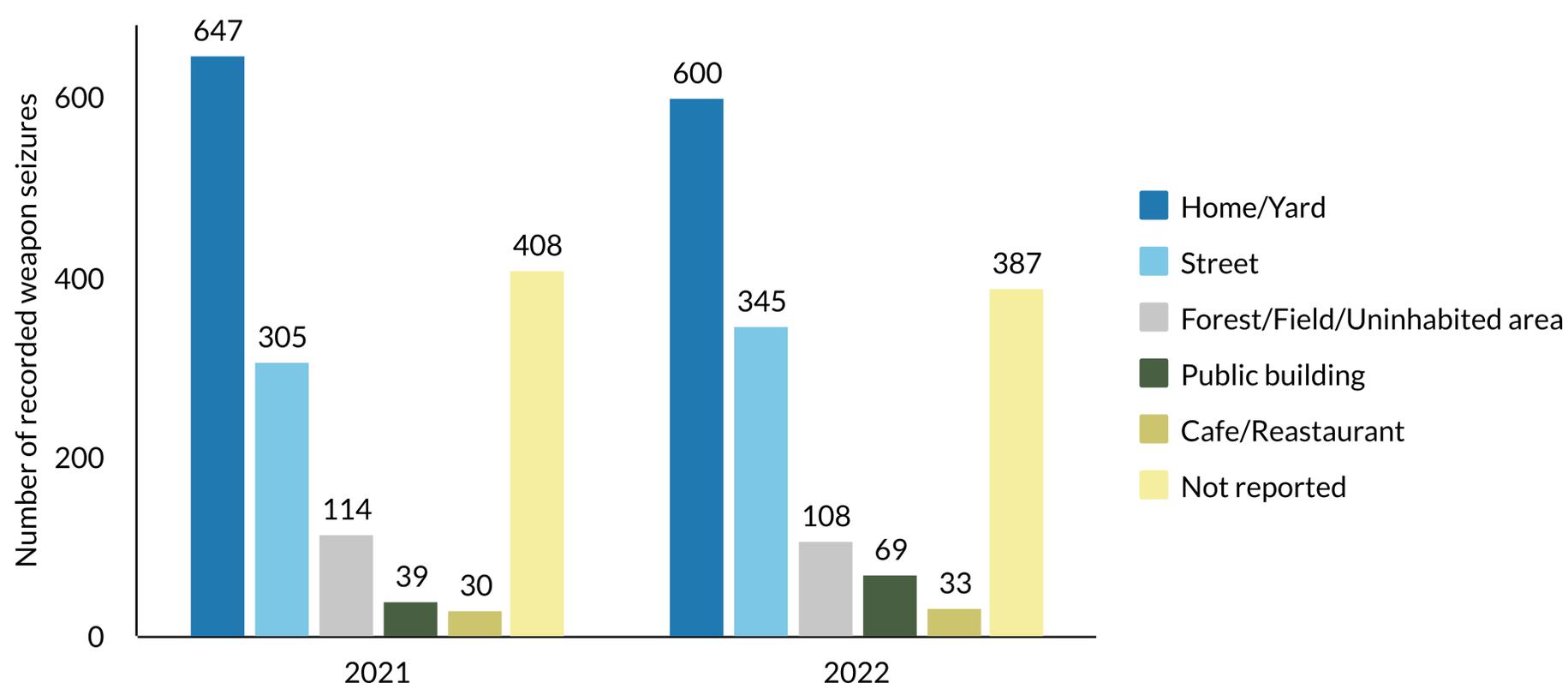


4.2 Microlocation

In 2022, the data on micro-location was reported for 1,155, i.e. 75% of cases, whereas no such information was provided for 387 (25%) weapon seizures.

The majority of microlocation trends seen in 2020 and 2021 continued in 2022. Thus, most weapon seizures occurred at homes/yards (600 or 52%), despite a 7% drop from 2021. Weapon seizures occurring on the streets increased by 13% from 2021, and they were the second most reported microlocation with 345 (30%) cases. A total of 108 cases (9%) occurred in the forests/fields/uninhabited area, roughly the same as in 2021. The number of weapon seizures in public buildings increased from 39 in 2021 to 69 in 2022. The number of weapon seizures in cafe/reastaurant increased from 30 in 2021 to 33 in 2022.

Weapon seizures by microlocation and jurisdiction in 2022



In all jurisdictions, weapon seizures primarily occurred at homes/yards, followed by streets, with the exception of Albania. In 2021, most of the seizures occurred at homes, but in 2022, they took place on the streets, which matches the pattern seen in 2020.

As in 2021, weapon seizures reported in the forest and fields mostly involved the case of accidentally found explosives (26) or hunting-related cases (11).

Public buildings where weapon seizures took place were mainly customs offices (11) and airports (14), mostly reported in Moldova. Moldova (15) and Serbia (11) reported the majority of weapon seizures at the borders.

Location	Home /Yard	Street	Field /Forest	Public building	Cafe	Border
Albania	65	69	1	7	6	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	93	29	3	5	5	2
Kosovo	179	144	18	18	13	2
Moldova	25	5	26	24	0	15
Montenegro	57	19	0	2	4	1
North Macedonia	105	63	19	10	4	2
Serbia	76	16	5	3	1	11
	600	345	72	69	33	33



South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of
Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC)

Bulevar Zorana Đinđića 64
11000 Belgrade, Serbia

Tel: +381 11 4155300

Fax: +381 11 4155499

e-mail: seesac@undp.org

www.seesac.org



**Funded by
the European Union**

This document was produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.

