



# REGIONAL TRIAL MONITORING PROJECT

## COMBATTING ORGANIZED CRIME AND CORRUPTION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

### A year of trial monitoring of serious organised crime and corruption cases.

July 2021-June 2022

A year ago, the OSCE, in co-operation with the European Commission, launched the Regional Trial Monitoring Project in five jurisdictions in the Western Balkans.

This is our journey

#### COVERAGE

We have **five** trial monitoring teams based in **Tirana, Sarajevo, Pristina, Podgorica** and **Skopje**, brought together by a Programme Co-ordinator based in the OSCE Secretariat in Vienna. As of May 2022, the Project monitors **188** serious organised crime and corruption cases across all five jurisdictions.

#### TEAM PROFILE

All our monitors are **legal professionals**, with a passion for justice and prosperity for their community.

#### VISION

We want to support a sustainable criminal justice system that can **efficiently** and **effectively** respond to serious organised crime and corruption.

Building on our milestones we will continue with our trial monitoring and analysis.

#### UPCOMING MILESTONES

Our teams will meet with **over 200 judicial actors** across the region in discussion forums in June 2022 to get a better **insight** to our observations. The analysis of all the data, collected over the first year of our project, will feed into our **first findings and recommendations** report (October 2022), which will be made available to judges and prosecutors in each participating jurisdiction.

#### HOW

Our teams, following the ODIHR methodology, select ongoing serious organised crime and corruption cases and monitor **hundreds of hearings**, review **thousands of pages of legal documents** and spend many hours in **consultations** with judges and prosecutors.

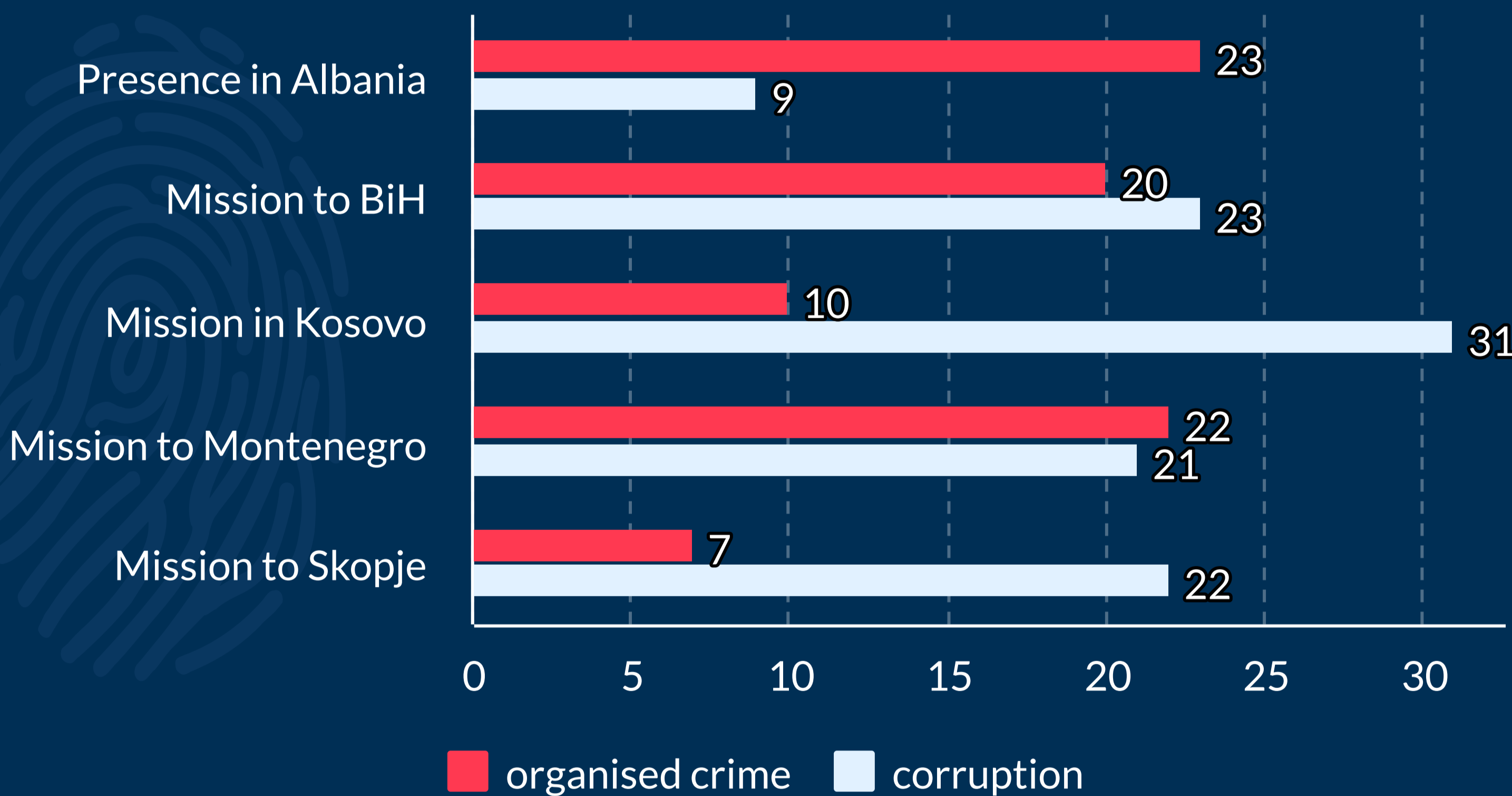
#### WHY

We seek to provide an **evidence-based** framework for future reform that meets real needs.

### A SNAPSHOT ACROSS THE REGION

data from June 2021-May 2022

#### CASES MONITORED



#### IMPORTANT AREAS OF FOCUS

- fairness of proceedings
- efficiency of proceedings
- financial investigations
- asset seizure and confiscation
- plea bargaining
- sentencing policies

### Mission in Montenegro



126 Hearings monitored

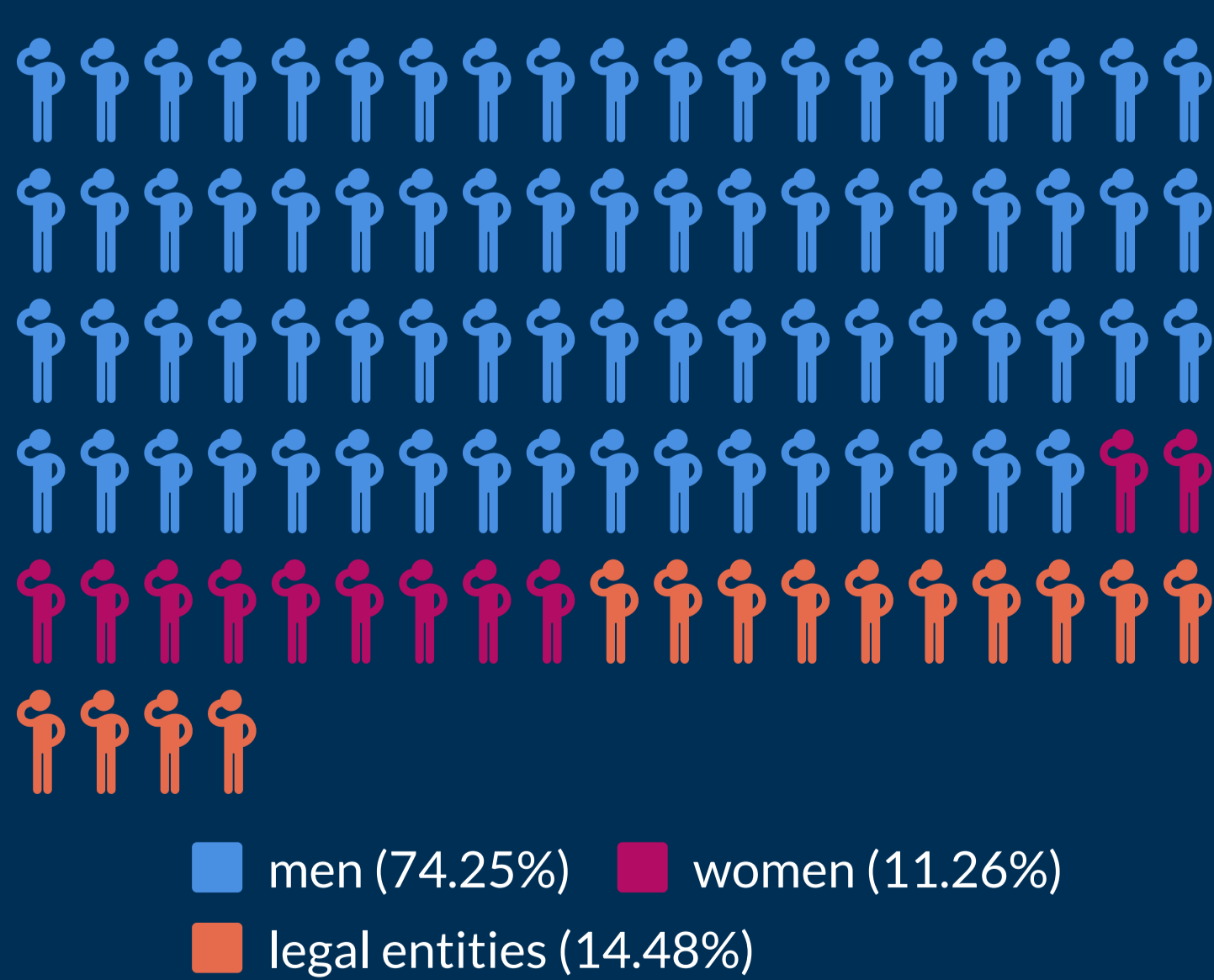


37 Meetings with key judicial stakeholders

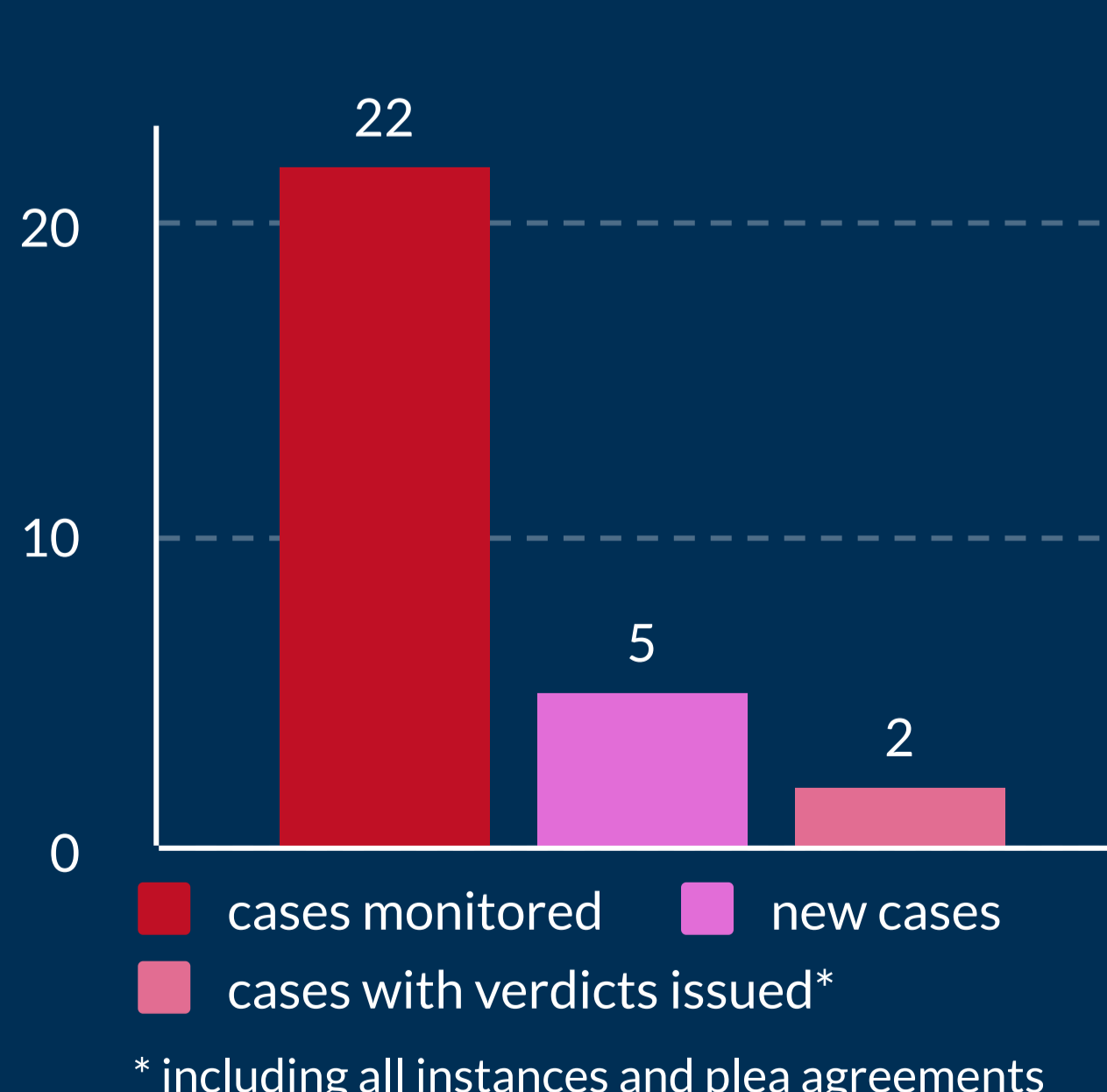


2 courts in 2 cities

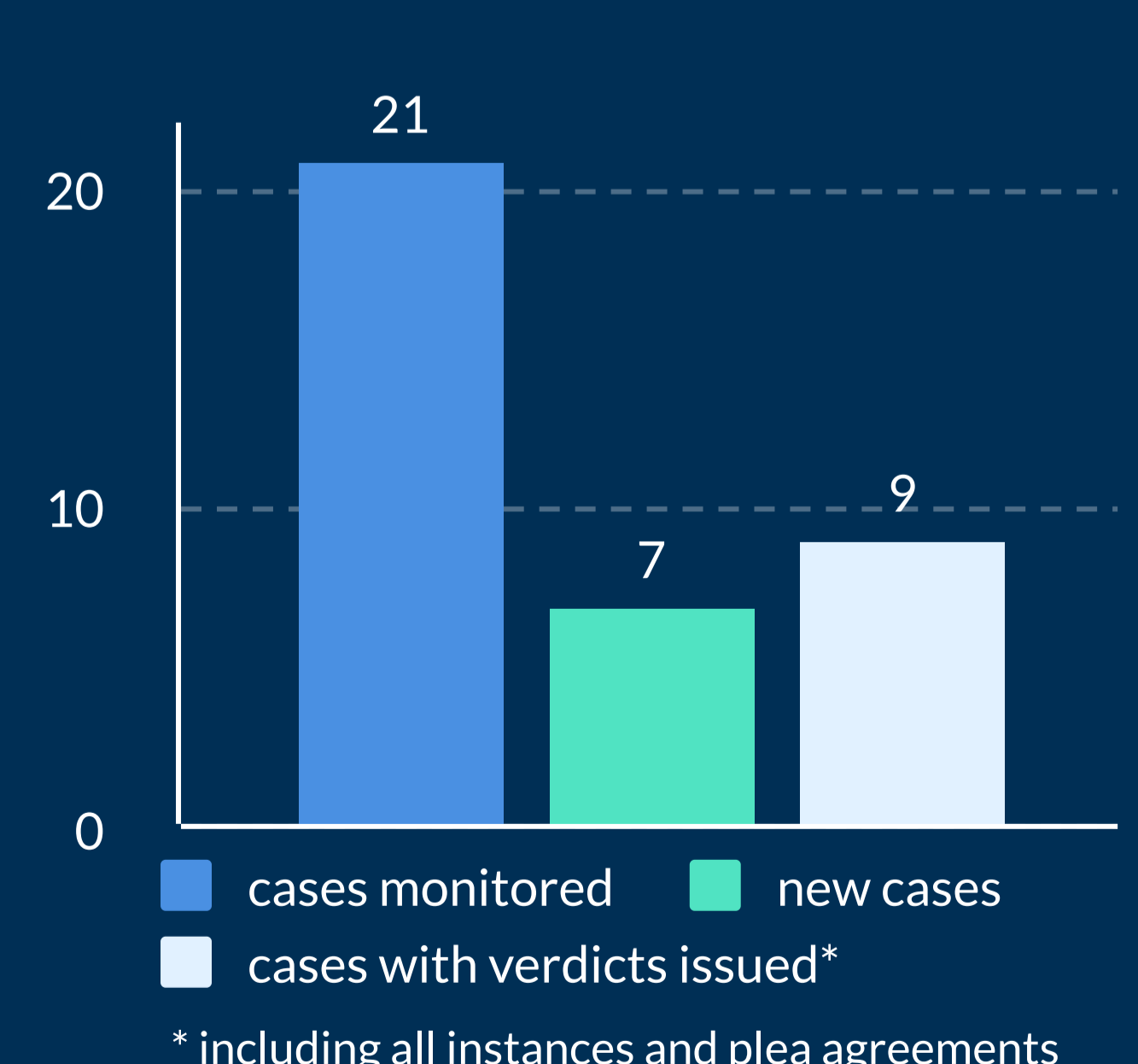
#### DEFENDANTS' PROFILE in monitored cases



#### Organised Crime monitored cases



#### Corruption monitored cases



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#RegTrialMonitoring



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