SIS II 2022
ANNUAL STATISTICS
FEBRUARY 2023

eu-LISA | SIS

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2022

SEARCHES

12.7B

2021
+82%

2019
+92%

ALERTS
IN THE DATABASE

86.5M

SECURITY ALERTS DELETION

2021
-4%

UK ALERTS DELETION

2019
-5%

HITS
ON FOREIGN ALERTS
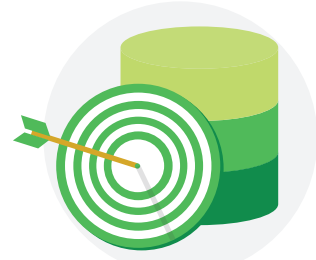
263.452

2021
+18%

2019
-7%

1

ACCESS TO SIS II

1. ACCESS TO SIS II

In 2022 there were a total of **12,733,815,938** accesses to SIS II by Member States[1].

This represented an **increase of 82% compared to 2021**. Comparing to 2019 pre-COVID-19 levels, accesses increased by 91%.

A breakdown of accesses per Member State is provided in the table in Figure 1.

Member State	Total searches	Create	Update	Delete	Change expiry date	Total CUD	TOTAL Accesses
AT	179,639,082	145,663	84,751	40,780	11,268	282,462	179,921,544
BE	2,901,537,257	620,030	113,935	42,553	96,520	873,038	2,902,410,295
BG	162,394,697	379,789	5,585	176,611	43,572	605,557	163,000,254
HR	604,624,696	157,763	32,121	35,602	634	226,120	604,850,816
CZ	161,703,129	451,406	147,834	196,489	124,929	920,658	162,623,787
DK	30,082,572	88,453	2,000	36,136	1,498	128,087	30,210,659
EE	68,884,669	47,513	1,329	707	192	49,741	68,934,410
FI	68,330,295	43,063	1,905	8,370	313	53,651	68,383,946
FR	1,170,156,287	2,236,492	1,693,793	548,152	253,451	4,731,888	1,174,888,175
DE	582,483,821	1,790,367	983,273	519,078	124,076	3,416,794	585,900,615
EL	85,563,208	234,025	19,969	33,133	107,885	395,012	85,958,220
HU	117,652,113	235,719	22,391	54,322	58,155	370,587	118,022,700
IS	6,495,245	5,919	275	890	38	7,122	6,502,367
IE	18,769,373	51,217	5,700	12,517	83	69,517	18,838,890
IT	515,038,894	2,207,371	38,464	339,907	42,511	2,628,253	517,667,147
LV	60,331,064	50,000	2,083	4,685	150	56,918	60,387,982
LI	717,103	1,070	487	225	70	1,852	718,955
LT	42,417,233	142,692	3,138	265,013	157	411,000	42,828,233
LU	19,725,886	6,326	1,031	2,940	472	10,769	19,736,655
MT	69,218,009	15,365	3,795	3,434	321	22,915	69,240,924
NL	3,399,486,997	563,240	9,583	15,249	17,327	605,399	3,400,092,396
NO	137,984,770	133,999	8,986	19,842	5,493	168,320	138,153,090
PL	452,177,769	543,810	58,757	74,209	11,402	688,178	452,865,947
PT	83,230,809	136,053	2,043	27,136	2,304	167,536	83,398,345
RO	378,443,334	269,246	7,222	23,196	3,950	303,614	378,746,948
SK	49,735,152	203,257	53,491	52,575	41,827	351,150	50,086,302
SI	90,198,596	27,332	3,697	5,023	1,451	37,503	90,236,099
ES	1,024,018,101	976,845	87,763	130,169	44,316	1,239,093	1,025,257,194
SE	63,364,091	183,484	21,144	12,261	7,750	224,639	63,588,730
CH	170,206,506	124,150	17,144	8,620	7,893	157,807	170,364,313
TOTAL	**12,714,610,758**	**12,071,659**	**3,433,689**	**2,689,824**	**1,010,008**	**19,205,180**	**12,733,815,938**

Figure 1: Breakdown of 2022 SIS II access per Member State

Two types of accesses are possible:

- **Searches** (queries) made against the central SIS II or a national copy of the SIS II, regardless of whether or not there was a hit. Member States without a national copy, and therefore searching only the central SIS II are Denmark, Finland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Slovenia. In addition to that, in 2022 there were 15 Member States (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden, and Switzerland) which partially used the central SIS II for alphanumeric searches. This data is reported by Member States on a yearly basis.
  In 2022, there were **12,714,610,758 searches** performed by the Member States.

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[1] Europol and Eurojust within their respective mandates, are allowed to search data in SIS II. Europol reported having used the system in 2022. However, access to SIS II by EU Agencies is not included in the scope of this document, as it only covers access by Member States.

- Operations performed in order to **create** and manage alerts - **update, deletion or change of expiry date**. This data is retrieved from the central SIS II.
  In 2022, there were over 19 million operations in terms of alert management, increasing of over 3 million compared to 2021. However, the number of operations is still far from the pre-COVID-19 levels, when over 26 million were performed in 2018 and over 28 million in 2019.

Since March 2018, in addition to alphanumeric searches, it is possible to perform **AFIS searches** against the central SIS II. These searches are performed only against the central system, and allow a person to be identified based on fingerprints stored in SIS II.

In 2022, AFIS searches were regularly performed by 28 Member States, whereas Poland and Estonia did not perform any AFIS searches.

In absolute terms, the Member State accessing SIS II the most in 2022 was the Netherlands (with almost 27% of the total access to the system) as in 2021; followed by Belgium (23%) France (9%) and Spain (8%).

Figure 2 shows the trend in searches performed by Member States in SIS II in the last 7 years. In the first 4 years reported, the increase was steady. In 2020, the sharp drop caused by the COVID-19 crisis stands out. On the other hand, in 2021 and 2022, a major increase in searches reported was witnessed, a respective increase of 82% in 2022 compared to 2021, and 88% in 2021 compared to the previous year.
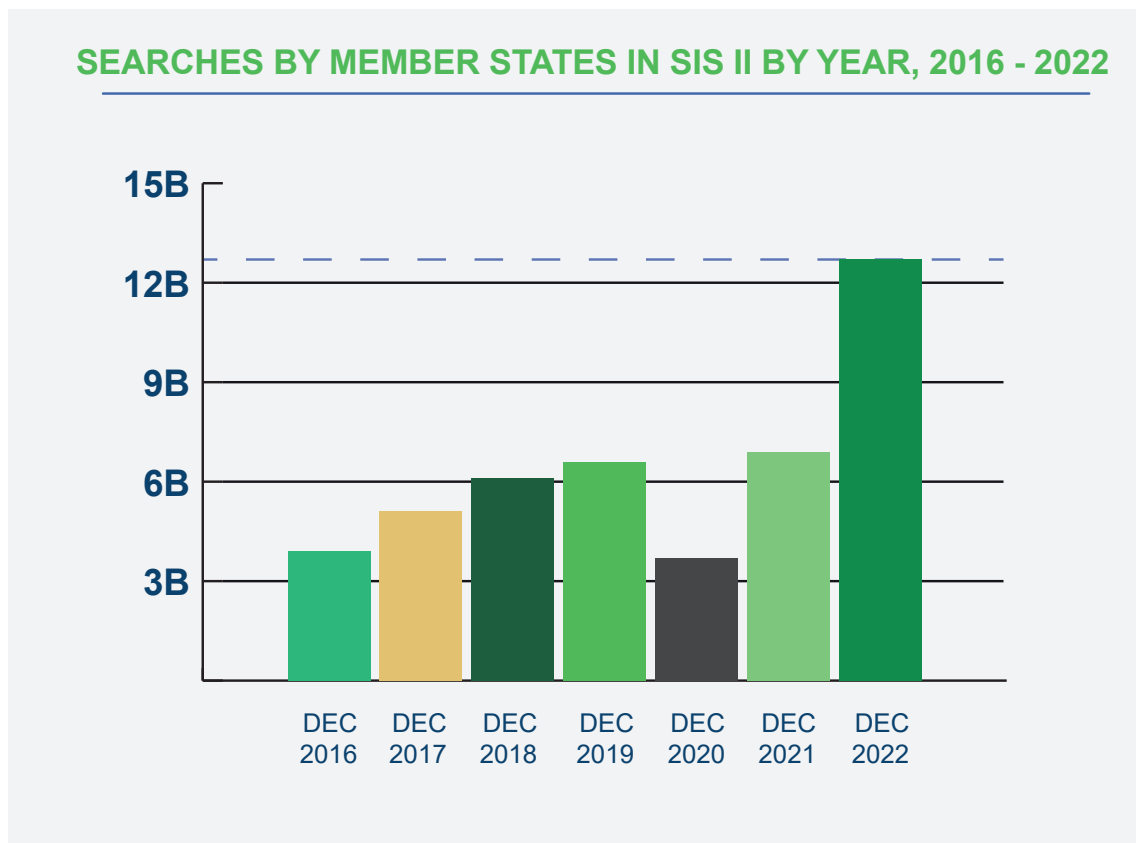

SEARCHES BY MEMBER STATES IN SIS II BY YEAR, 2016 - 2022

Figure 2

1.1 SEARCHES PER MEMBER STATE

Member States report two types of searches:

- **Manually processed searches** are defined as searches (queries) involving human intervention, e.g. searches by staff using radios, telephones, computer terminals and, document scanners and other forms of traditional searches where a user makes the decision to carry out a search.

- **Automatically processed searches** happen without any human intervention, e.g. searches carried out by automatic number plate recognition systems (ANPR) or other types of automated bulk searches.

A breakdown of manual and automated searches is provided in the table in Figure 3[2].

Member State	Manual searches	Automated searches	Total searches
AT	179,639,082		179,639,082
BE	41,842,145	2,859,695,112	2,901,537,257
BG	2,127,869	160,266,828	162,394,697
HR	476,949,898	127,674,798	604,624,696
CZ	65,022,092	96,681,037	161,703,129
DK	30,082,572		30,082,572
EE			68,884,669
FI	34,743,275	33,587,020	68,330,295
FR	341,647,546	828,508,741	1,170,156,287
DE			582,483,821
EL	80,772,908	4,790,300	85,563,208
HU	198,336	117,453,777	117,652,113
IS	5,951,774	543,471	6,495,245
IE	15,332,673	3,436,700	18,769,373
IT	234,500,413	280,538,481	515,038,894
LV	41,462,086	18,868,978	60,331,064
LI	463,293	253,810	717,103
LT	42,417,233		42,417,233
LU	4,542,945	15,182,941	19,725,886
MT	10,142,300	59,075,709	69,218,009
NL	203,515,844	3,195,971,153	3,399,486,997
NO	109,398,430	28,586,340	137,984,770
PL	452,177,769		452,177,769
PT	83,230,809		83,230,809
RO	378,443,334		378,443,334
SK	31,863,478	17,871,674	49,735,152
SI	90,198,596		90,198,596
ES	522,249,232	501,768,869	1,024,018,101
SE	63,364,091		63,364,091
CH			170,206,506
TOTAL	3,542,280,023	8,350,755,739	12,714,610,758

Figure 3: Breakdown of 2022 SIS II searches per Member State[3]

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[2] Belgium, Croatia and the Netherlands reported a major increase in the use of ANPR systems. Norway reported that the increase in searches was due partially to the introduction of new systems that directly check SIS II: the new Advance Passenger Information system for extra-Schengen flights, and the new system for checking passengers and crew on ships. Slovakia reported that the increase in searches compared to last year is due to the Ukraine migration crisis.

[3] Some Member States did not provide a breakdown of the different searches, only the total number. This implies that the total number of manual searches and total of automated searches for all Member States are only partial (and their sum does not equate to the total number of searches).

Not all Member States provided a breakdown of searches. Estonia, Germany, and Switzerland did not provide this data.

The vast majority of Member States reported a substantial increase in searches in 2022 compared to 2021. The number of searches is getting back to the level which they used to be prior to the Covid-19 restrictions, with regular passenger traffic at borders resuming. Liechtenstein and Slovenia reported a slight decrease in the number of searches performed compared to 2021.

The systematic **use of ANPR systems** by an increasing number of Member States is clearly visible, as it amounts to more than double of the automated searches reported. Automatic searches totalled 4 billion in 2021, increasing to 8.3 billion in 2022.

It is complex to compare Member States when it comes to the use of SIS II, which depends on many factors, including the definition at national level of business processes and workflows. Furthermore, each Member State has its own crime level and different geographical situation that determines the number of border crossing points and the length of the external land borders. The map in Figure 4 shows SIS II searches per Member State per 1 million inhabitants[4].
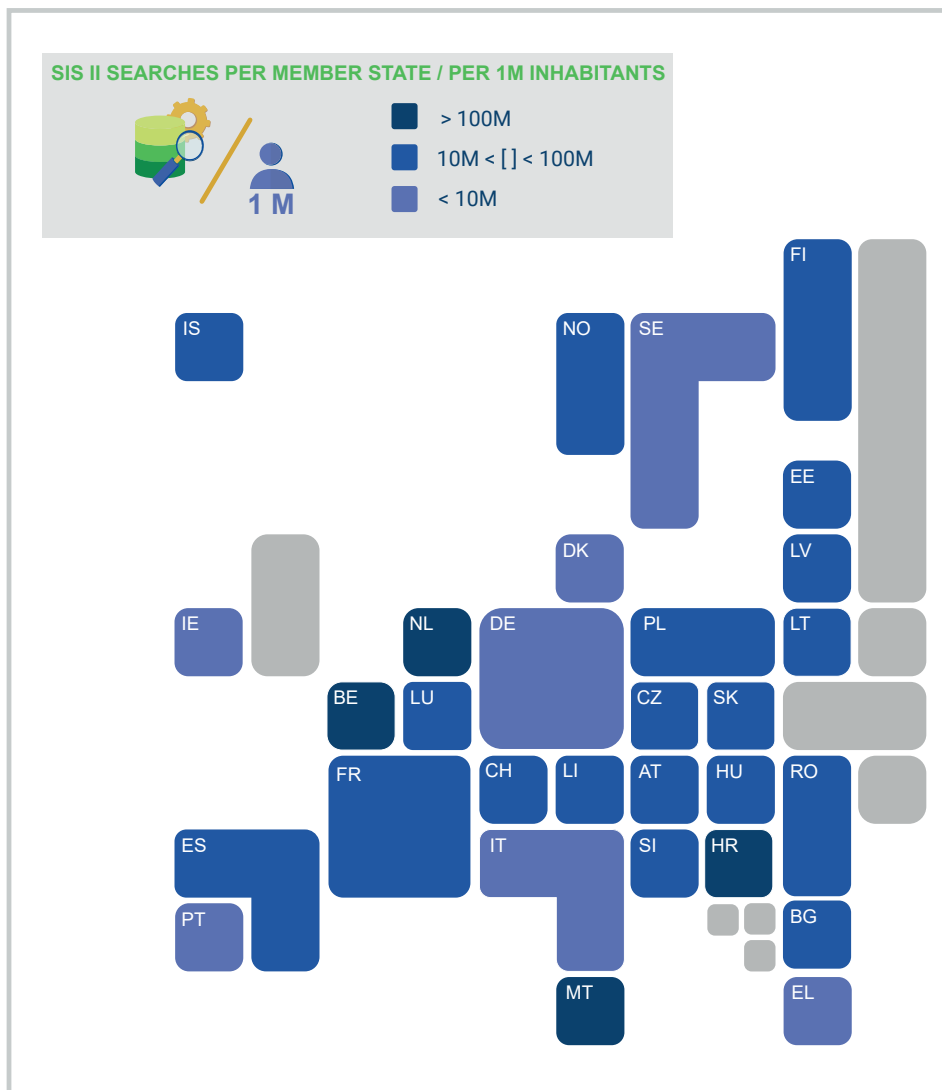

Figure 4

2

DATA STORED IN SIS II

2. DATA STORED IN SIS II

On 31 December 2022, **86,461,806 alerts were stored in SIS II.** The table in figure 5 provides a breakdown of alerts per Member States for the different data categories.

Member State	Person	Vehicle	Aircraft	Banknote	Blank document	Boat	Boat engine	Container	Firearm	Industrial equipment	Issued document	Licence plate	Vehicle registration document
AT	37,397	15,144	0	444	1,998	13	121	6	4,804	11,142	346,868	44,065	854
BE	14,531	34,959	2	2,359	11,558	94	281	232	36,534	39,078	3,797,927	298,007	417,539
BG	3,025	24,094	0	0	0	9	11	1	412	454	1,038,749	153,618	318,197
HR	3,375	36,244	6	6,772	19,021	705	1,762	6	71,097	4,237	765,381	386,899	139,217
CZ	16,723	41,570	2	5	3,754	12	50	0	16,283	7,801	1,418,640	327,134	1,740,785
DK	5,219	20,034	0	0	2,666	751	3,207	3	4,607	5,060	702,840	24,632	1
EE	2,289	982	0	0	24	20	5	0	122	1	245,233	13	1
FI	2,439	5,342	0	0	23	138	767	0	8,163	62	241,684	6,396	45
FR	297,582	491,671	82	14,759	9,817	3,000	4,532	388	46,434	34,329	14,473,171	109,858	728,822
DE	101,249	283,660	396	58,851	299,590	1,710	11,360	145	196,843	144,774	8,996,683	994,719	474,602
EL	34,373	230,640	0	526	133,323	1,048	2,709	2	25,497	267	1,424,587	344,381	39,528
HU	17,729	3,096	0	54	434	12	75	1	302	155	617,180	29,879	25,239
IS	115	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	7	21,100	1	0
IE	1,216	1,504	1	0	302	1	38	0	151	39	54,853	5	38
IT	208,651	887,698	2	6,710	464,876	959	152	0	72,454	6,027	14,079,033	1,399,044	1,169,593
LV	1,356	3,212	0	0	0	16	15	0	9	115	240,950	1,594	187
LI	305	12	0	0	1	0	0	0	67	109	8,099	219	6
LT	2,488	3,999	0	22	15	73	29	0	503	288	612,642	72,494	216,051
LU	1,847	1,014	0	18	1,270	6	1	0	199	204	24,147	214	476
MT	2,483	1,432	0	43	90	96	93	0	208	0	115,964	159	2,024
NL	38,015	74,853	0	0	762	700	1,523	13	2,516	1,494	4,579,925	79	4
NO	15,430	8,153	0	96	52,161	1,159	3,648	1	4,275	210	665,529	81,257	620
PL	36,471	98,122	3	365	2,302	580	622	146	10,901	4,449	3,617,212	56,400	386,685
PT	15,692	49,676	0	0	1,768	54	242	1	10,065	40	483,502	19	14,629
RO	21,558	7,986	0	16	17	0	1	0	33	0	1,127,039	0	169,234
SK	5,110	33,932	1	201	439	22	20	15	5,392	41	1,744,133	161,084	290
SI	2,663	9,803	0	302	866	74	254	2	833	13	216,318	33,291	2,529
ES	73,210	502,990	15	1,104	17,794	1,306	185	24	57,920	21,084	7,022,457	3,558	4,897
SE	11,781	47,401	1	402	1,221	1,081	5,452	20	31,583	33,480	377,944	577	0
CH	28,020	17,711	0	974	20	195	1,330	0	5,966	19,927	957,994	0	21
TOTAL	**1,002,342**	**2,936,935**	**511**	**94,023**	**1,026,112**	**13,834**	**38,485**	**1,006**	**614,177**	**334,887**	**70,017,784**	**4,529,596**	**5,852,114**

Figure 5: Data stored in SIS II on 31 December 2022

As per the new SIS legal base[5], security alerts will be allowed only as for Article 36. Therefore, between March and November 2022, eu-LISA progressively deleted all historical security alerts stored in SIS II, which amounted to 6.5 million alerts at the beginning of 2022. By 31 December 2022, no security alerts were stored in the SIS II database.

The deletion campaign performed by eu-LISA, followed an ad-hoc controlled expiry. Once expired, those alerts were moved out logically from the central SIS II, and the alerts were eventually physically deleted on the following night with a re-occurring script. The process was fully transparent to the Member States.

In SIS II two types of alerts are stored: alerts on persons and alerts on objects.

Alerts on persons may be issued for the purpose of enforcing entry bans of third country nationals, search for arrest and surrender, search for missing or vulnerable persons (in particular children), search for whereabouts of persons important for criminal procedure (e.g. witnesses), and discreet and specific checks.

Alerts on objects may be issued:

- for discreet or specific checks, pursuant to Article 36 of the SIS II Decision on vehicles, boats, aircraft and containers;

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[4] Regulation (EU) 2018/1861, Regulation (EU) 2018/1862, and Regulation (EU) 2018/1860

- for the purpose of seizure or use as evidence in criminal proceedings, pursuant to Article 38 of the SIS II Decision[6] on vehicles, boats, aircraft, trailers, caravans, industrial equipment, outboard engines, containers, firearms, blank documents, issued identity papers[7], vehicle registration documents, and banknotes.

In line with the trend observed in the last years, by the end of 2022 *alerts on persons* represented 1% of the total amount of alerts stored in the data base. The biggest category was *issued document*, counting for almost 81% of the total alerts stored (see Figure 6).
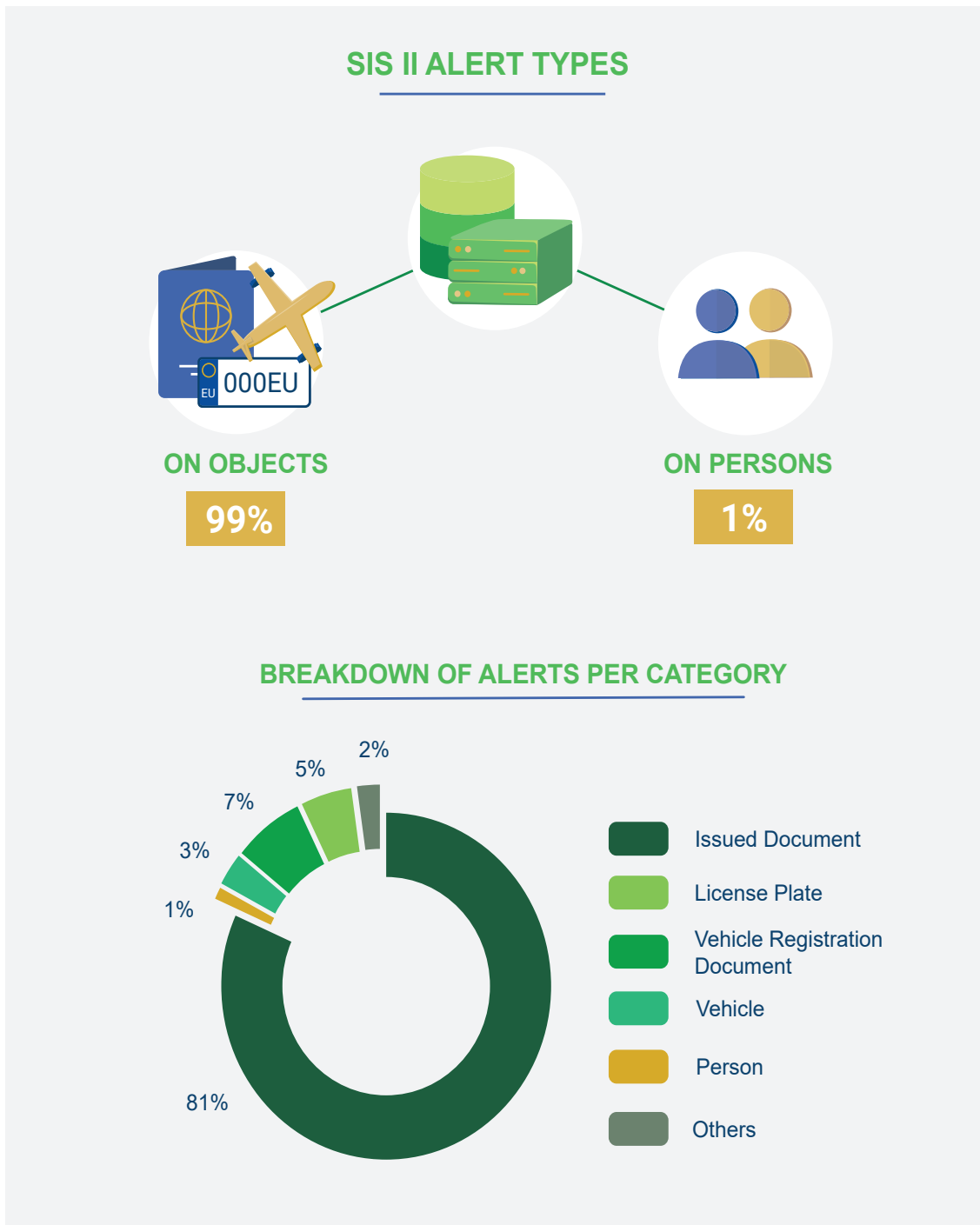
SIS II ALERT TYPES

ON OBJECTS

99%

ON PERSONS

1%

BREAKDOWN OF ALERTS PER CATEGORY

- Issued Document
- License Plate
- Vehicle Registration Document
- Vehicle
- Person
- Others

Figure 6

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[6] As mentioned above, security alerts stored in the past have been deleted.
[7] Issued identity papers such as passports, identity cards, driving licences, residence permits and travel documents, which have been stolen, misappropriated, lost or invalidated.

In addition to the security alerts category, four other categories reduced their share in 2022 compared to 2021, the biggest one being banknotes with a reduction of 15%. On the contrary, the other nine categories witnessed an increase in their share.

By end of 2022, the total amount of data stored in SIS II decreased by 4% compared to 2021, mainly due to the deletion of the security alerts.

A comparison with previous years is possible, taking into account certain events. Figure 7 shows the total number of alerts stored in SIS II over the last 7 years, 2016-2022.
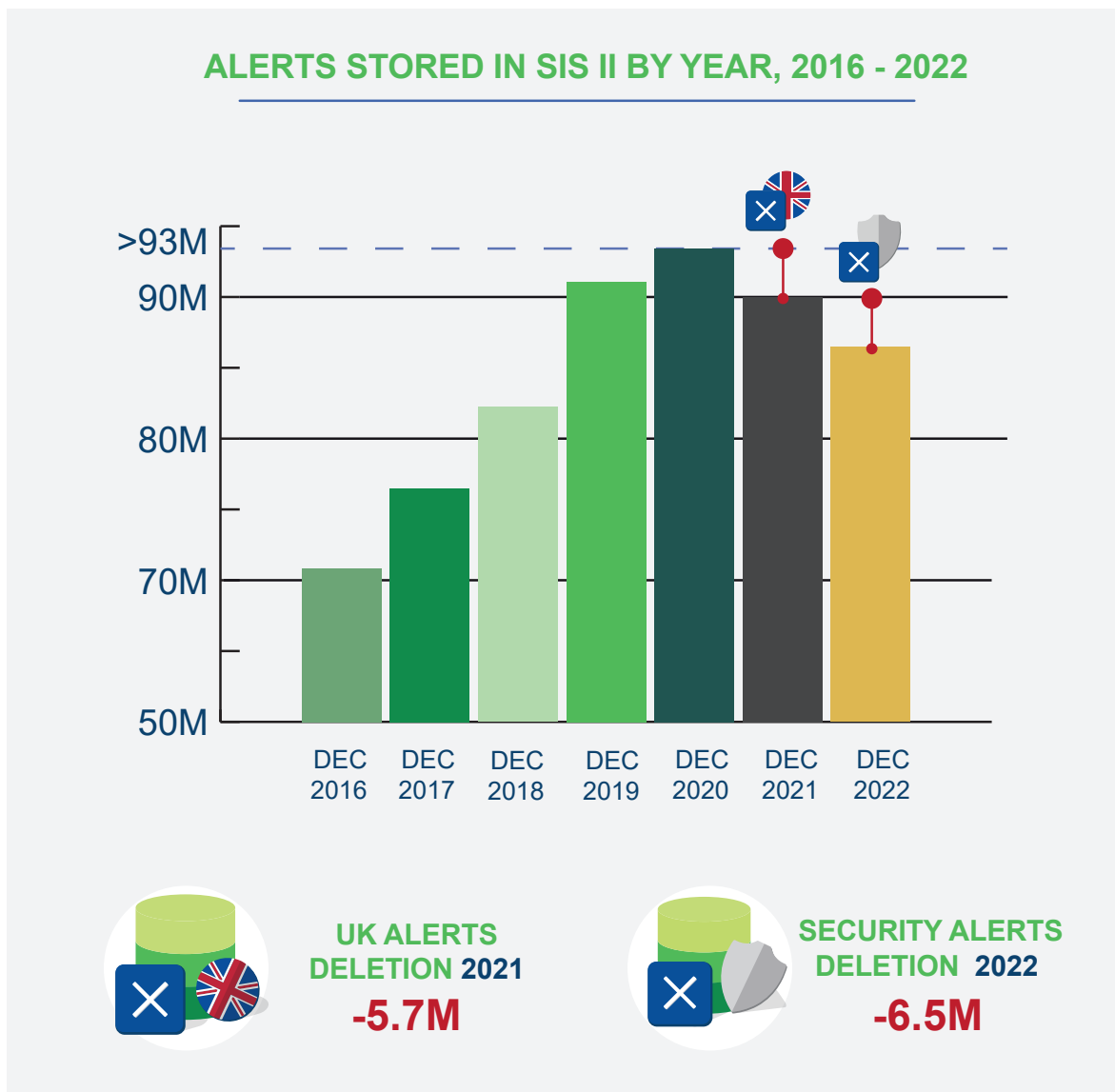

ALERTS STORED IN SIS II BY YEAR, 2016 - 2022

UK ALERTS DELETION **2021**
-5.7M

SECURITY ALERTS DELETION **2022**
-6.5M

Figure 7

Following a positive trend with annual increases in the database observed since eu-LISA took over the operational management of SIS II in 2013, a record level was reached by the end of 2020, with over 93 million alerts stored in the data base. Following that, there were 2 years of a decrease due to the deletion of UK data in 2021, and the deletion of the security alerts in 2022.

2.1 DATA PER MEMBER STATE

In terms of data stored per Member State, the main contributors to the system remain the same as in previous years. By the end of 2022, Italy was still the Member State providing the majority of SIS II alerts, with over 21% of the total, closely followed by France (19%), Germany (13%) and Spain (9%).

The table in Figure 8 provides the total amount of alerts stored by each country by the end of 2022.

Despite the deletion of security alerts, compared to the end of 2021, 18 Member States – Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, and Sweden – saw a net increase in alerts stored in SIS II.

Member State	Total alerts	Member State	Total alerts
AT	462,856	LV	247,454
BE	4,653,101	LI	8,818
BG	1,538,570	LT	908,604
HR	1,434,722	LU	29,396
CZ	3,572,759	MT	122,592
DK	769,020	NL	4,699,884
EE	248,690	NO	832,539
FI	265,059	PL	4,214,258
FR	16,214,445	PT	575,688
DE	11,564,582	RO	1,325,884
EL	2,236,881	SK	1,950,680
HU	694,156	SI	266,948
IS	21,228	ES	7,706,544
IE	58,148	SE	510,943
IT	18,295,199	CH	1,032,158
		TOTAL	**86,461,806**

Figure 8: Total alerts per Member State on December 2022

It is complex to compare Member States when it comes to their use of the system and the amount of data stored. The latter depends on many factors, including the definition of business processes, workflow and national legislation. The map in Figure 9 shows SIS II alerts per Member State per 1 million inhabitants.
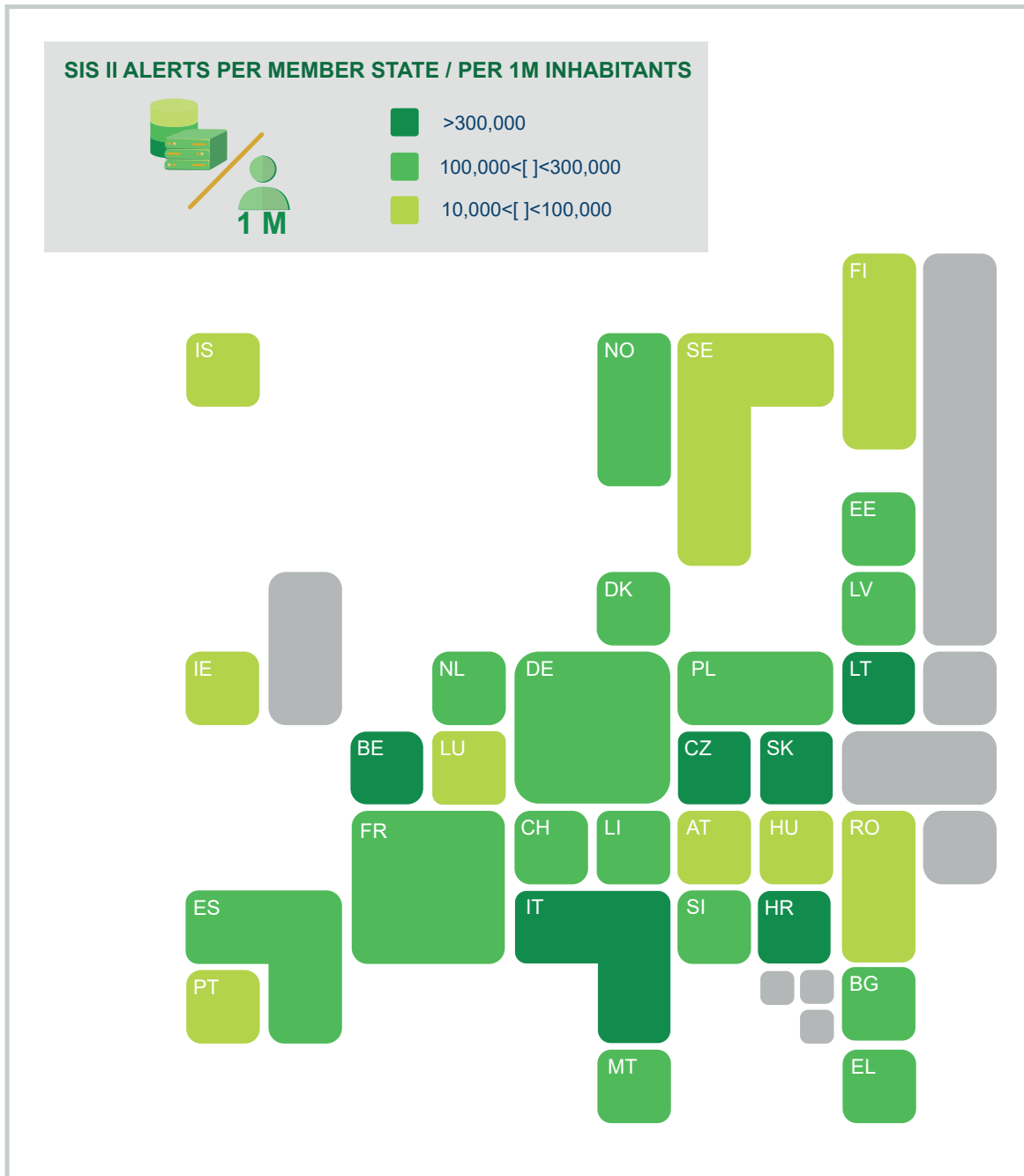

SIS II ALERTS PER MEMBER STATE / PER 1M INHABITANTS

1 M

- >300,000
- 100,000<[ ]<300,000
- 10,000<[ ]<100,000

Figure 9

2.2 ALERTS ON PERSONS

By end of 2022, the SIS II data base had 1,002,342 *alerts on persons* stored.
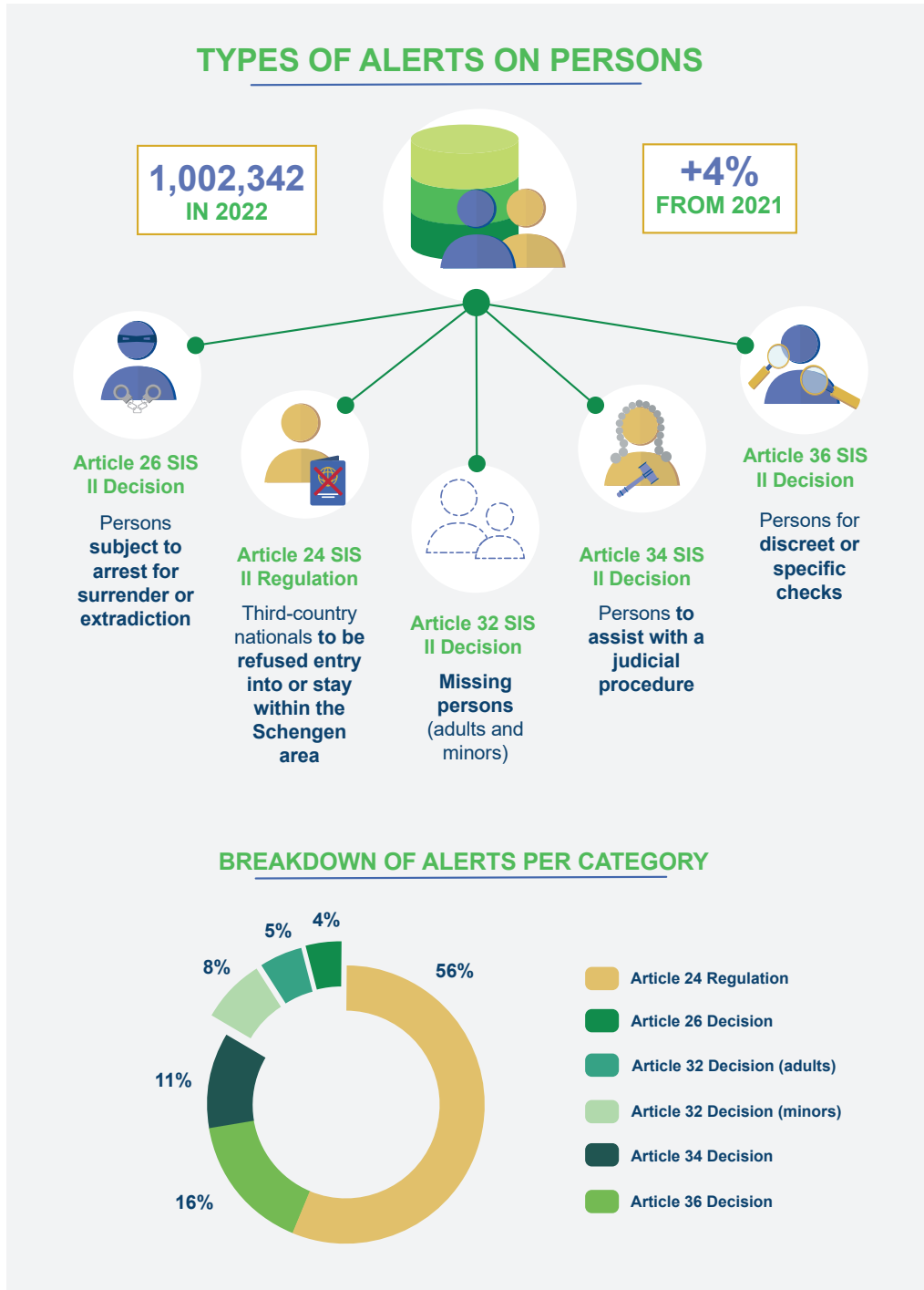Figure 10 provides a breakdown of alerts on persons according to the reason for creating them.

TYPES OF ALERTS ON PERSONS

1,002,342
IN 2022

+4%
FROM 2021

Article 26 SIS II Decision

Persons **subject to arrest for surrender or extradiction**

Article 24 SIS II Regulation

Third-country nationals **to be refused entry into or stay within the Schengen area**

Article 32 SIS II Decision

Missing persons (adults and minors)

Article 34 SIS II Decision

Persons **to assist with a judicial procedure**

Article 36 SIS II Decision

Persons for **discreet or specific checks**

BREAKDOWN OF ALERTS PER CATEGORY

5% 4% 8% 56% 11% 16%

- Article 24 Regulation
- Article 26 Decision
- Article 32 Decision (adults)
- Article 32 Decision (minors)
- Article 34 Decision
- Article 36 Decision

Similar to the trend observed over the past few years, the majority of alerts (56%) were alerts issued pursuant to Article 24[8] of the SIS II Regulation (third country nationals to be refused entry or stay within the Schengen area).

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[8]The increase of hits Article 24 was mainly due to the checks performed at the east borders in conjunction with the war in Ukraine.

3

HITS REPORTED IN SIS II
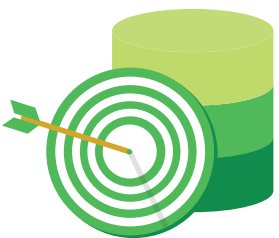
3. HITS REPORTED IN 2022

In 2022, a total of **263,452 hits on foreign alerts** were reported via the SIRENE Bureaux. A breakdown of hits, per the alert generating them, is presented in the table below (Figure 11).

Hits on foreign alerts saw an increase of 18% compared to 2021. On the other hand, the number of hits is still 7% less than the record level reached in 2019 (pre-Covid levels).
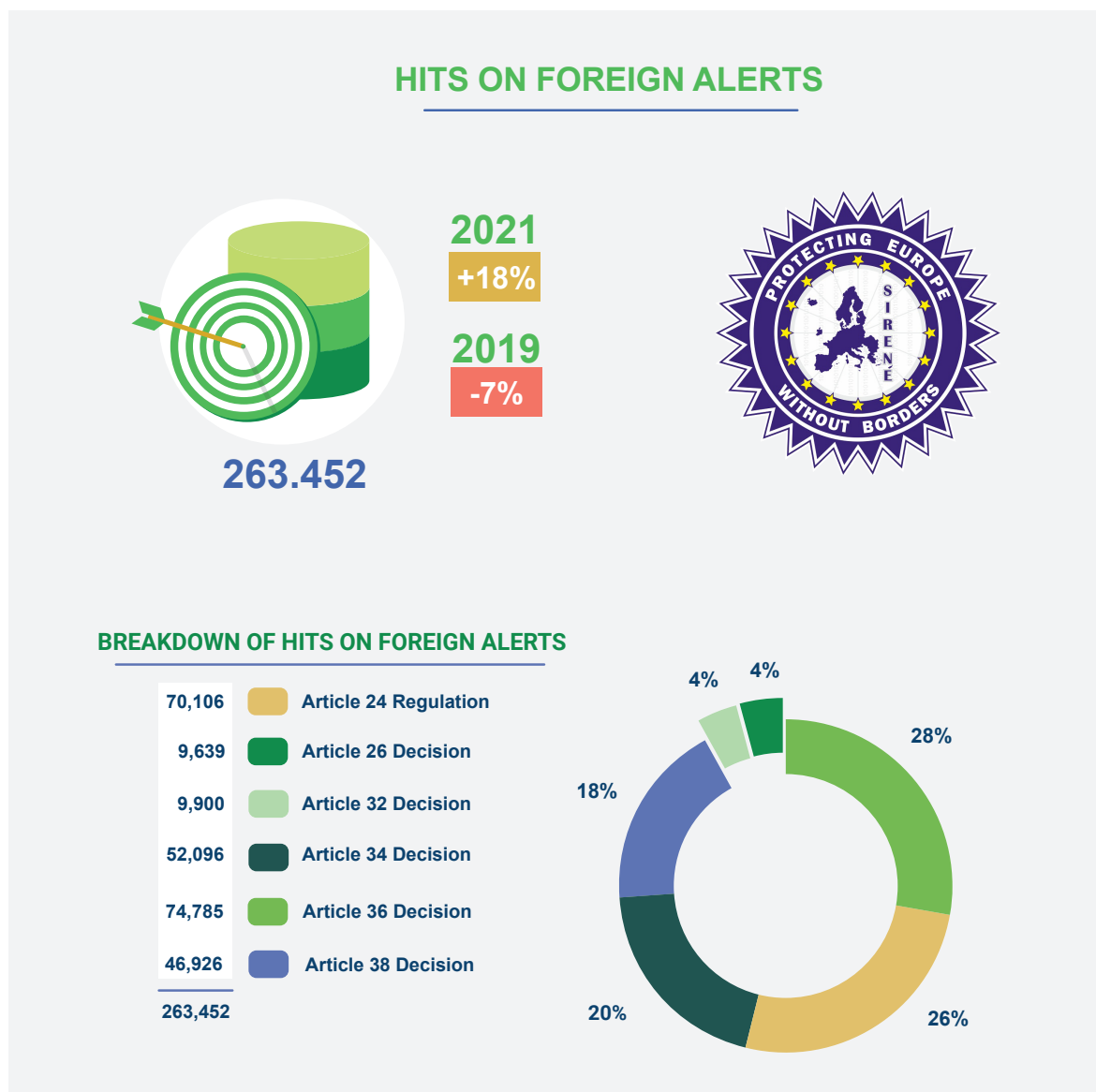
HITS ON FOREIGN ALERTS

2021
+18%

2019
-7%

263.452

BREAKDOWN OF HITS ON FOREIGN ALERTS

70,106	Article 24 Regulation
9,639	Article 26 Decision
9,900	Article 32 Decision
52,096	Article 34 Decision
74,785	Article 36 Decision
46,926	Article 38 Decision
263,452	

4% 4% 28% 18% 26% 20%

Figure 11

The share of hits per type of alert are stable, and in line with the trend seen in the past years. The majority of hits are triggered by alerts pursuant to Article 36 of the SIS II Decision, alerts on persons and objects for discreet or specific checks.

CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

Figure 12 shows the trend of average of *searches performed* per day and *hits generated* per day since 2014, when annual data had begun to be published by eu-LISA[9].

The increase in use is clearly visible. The record number of searches in 2022 is due to passenger traffic getting back to pre-Covid level and also to the increased systematic use of ANPR systems by some Member States resulting in more than double the automated searches compared to 2021.
On the other hand, the number of hits on foreign alerts keeps growing, albeit at a different pace.

AVERAGE DAILY SEARCHES AND HITS, 2014 - 2022

SEARCHES PER DAY ▪ — HITS PER DAY (SECOND AXIS)
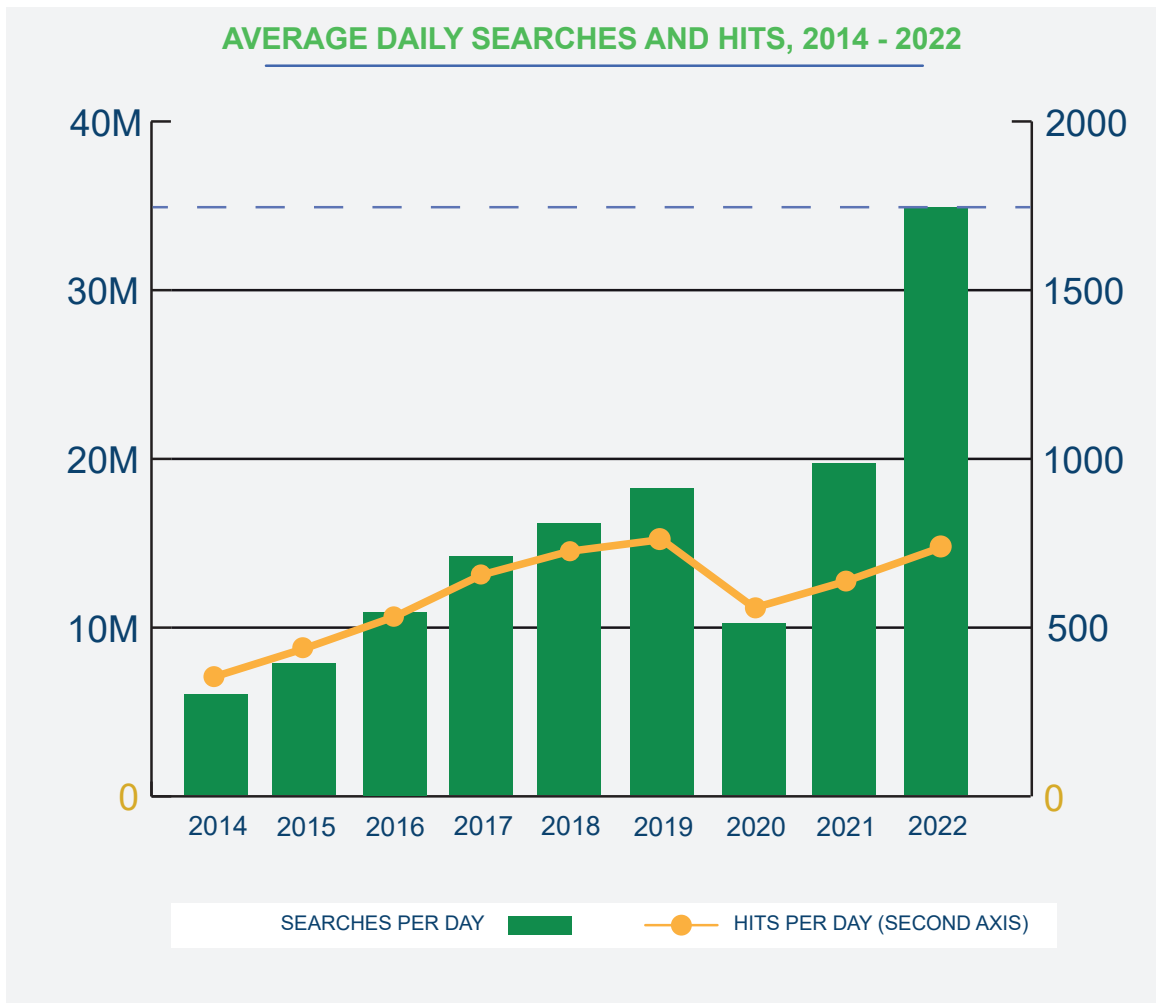
Figure 12

In 2022, there were almost 35 million searches on average per day, performed by the relevant authorities all over Europe, and over 720 hits on average were processed by the SIRENE Bureaux on a daily basis. Those figures demostrate a clear achievement for police cooperation in the Schengen area.

This is possible thanks to a robust and stable system that is used by the relevant authorities, demonstrating once again to be at the heart of a secure Schengen Area.

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[9] Data for 2013 was also published but only from the entry into operation of SIS II, not for the full year..

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