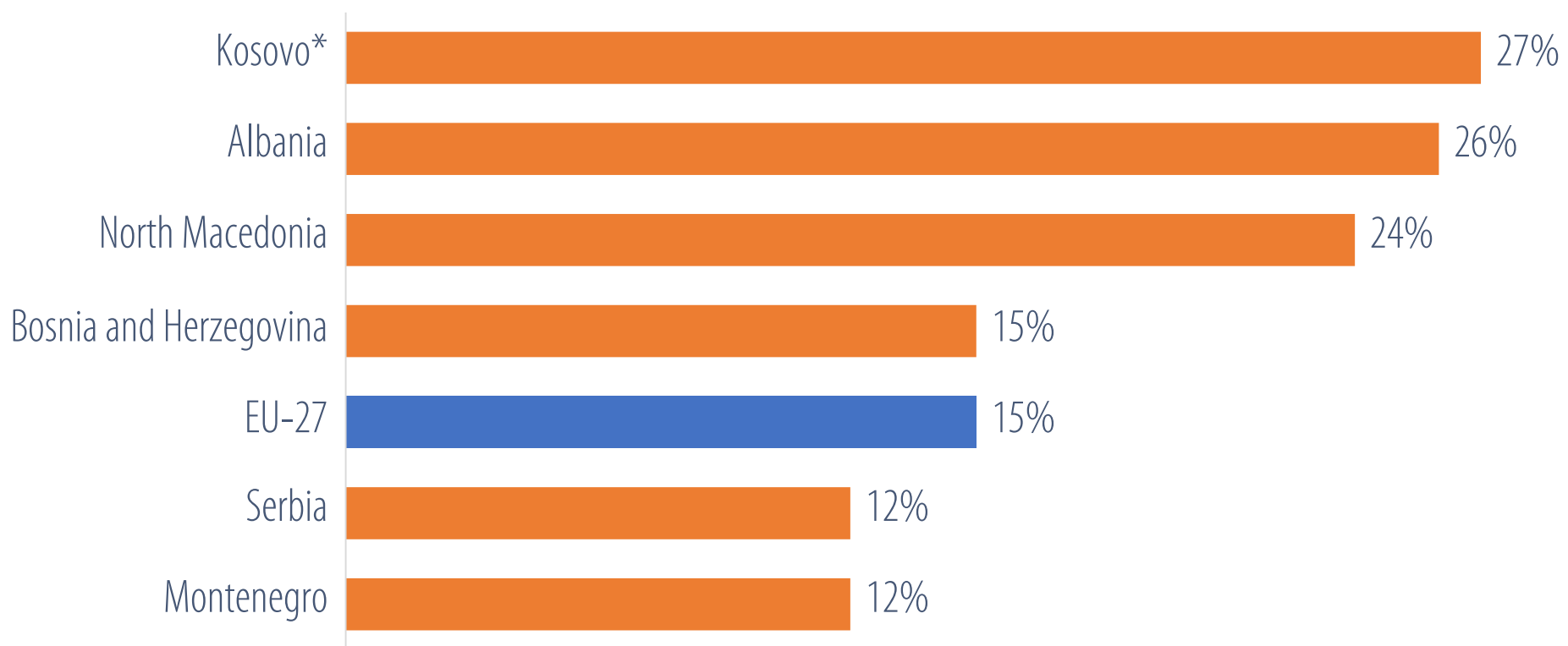


# COVID-19 pandemic: annual excess mortality rate in the European Union and in the Western Balkans



Excess mortality due to COVID-19 has been high in the EU-27. The Western Balkan countries have also been badly affected, and the rate has been particularly high in Kosovo\*, Albania and North Macedonia.

The EU acted swiftly to support its Western Balkan partners, adopting a €3.3 billion package in April 2020.

In April 2021, the European Commission announced that it would deliver 651 000 BioNTech-Pfizer vaccines to these partner countries, in addition to some 260 000 jabs already supplied under the COVAX facility.

Source: The national statistical offices of the Western Balkan countries and Eurostat, 2021.

(\*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 (1999) and the International Court of Justice opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.