

# MINISTRY OF JUSTICE DIRECTORATE OF FREE LEGAL AID

### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

STATE-GUARANTEED LEGAL AID

FEBRUARY 2025

### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to create a unified statistical analysis regarding the legal aid system, as explicitly required by Law no. 111/2017, "On State-Guaranteed Legal Aid" and its implementing regulations. This analysis directly impacts the drafting and implementation of further policies in the field of free legal aid by the Ministry of Justice.

According to letter "d", Article 8 of Law no. 111/2017, the Directorate of Legal Aid collects and analyzes information on the provision of legal aid to improve the functioning of the legal aid system and organizes campaigns to raise public awareness about the availability of legal aid and the conditions for its provision.

Furthermore, according to letter "gj", Article 8 of Law no. 111/2017, the Directorate of Free Legal Aid maintains, collects, completes, and manages the data of the registry of requests and self-declarations of the subjects of this law and the data of the registry of non-profit organizations providing primary legal aid, according to the rules and procedures approved by the Ministry of Justice.

The procedure for maintaining, collecting, completing, and managing this data is explicitly outlined in Instruction no. 1, dated 08.03.2019, "On the approval of rules and procedures for the collection, completion, and management of registry data."

This summary provides a clear overview of the Free Legal Aid Directorate's commitment to fulfilling its legal obligations and improving access to justice for all citizens in need. The report also aims to identify and analyze key trends in legal aid requests to further enhance services and strengthen legal support throughout the country.

### PRIMARY LEGAL AID

In accordance with Article 13 of Law No. 111/2017, Primary Legal Aid is provided by: Centers for Legal Aid Services (through employees with specialized training); licensed non-profit organizations; and legal clinics within higher education institutions.

- 1. **The Centers for Primary Legal Aid** services are specialized units providing legal aid. Since the entry into force of Law No. 111/2017, the Ministry of Justice, through the Directorate of Free Legal Aid and in collaboration with international partners, has focused on establishing centers for primary legal aid services across various locations to facilitate free legal aid for citizens (offering a clear, independent mechanism separate from different non-governmental organizations). The most frequently reported cases by citizens receiving free legal aid were serious legal issues.
  - Currently, the Directorate of Free Legal Aid administers 20 (twenty) Centers for Primary Legal Aid Services in the cities of Tirana, Lushnja, Durrës, Shkodra, Fier, Gjirokastër, Tropoja, Përmet, Puka, Mati, Kavaja, Kurbin, Vlorë, Korçë, Lezhë, Pogradec, Dibra, Kukës, Berat, and Elbasan.
- 2. **Non-Profit Organizations** provide primary legal aid services in accordance with the authorization approved by the Minister of Justice.
  - Currently there are 14 Non-Profit Organizations authorized for period 2024-2026, through Orders Issued by the Minister of Justice, which operate in the cities of Tirana, Durrës, Elbasan, Vlorë, Berat, and Shkodra.
- 3. **Legal Clinics** are providers of the primary legal aid service. Based on Article 16 of Law No. 111/2017, the Directorate of Free Legal Aid collaborates with legal clinics, under the terms and conditions outlined in relevant cooperation agreements, to train and update the knowledge of students involved in these clinics on matters related to primary legal aid.
  - Currently, the Directorate of Free Legal Aid has established agreements with 12 Higher Education Institutions in Tirana, Durrës, Shkodër, and Vlorë.

- 4. **Online platform juristionline.al**, through this platform, every citizen has the opportunity to receive advice and information regarding the normative acts in force, the rights and obligations of legal subjects, and the methods for exercising these rights in judicial and extrajudicial processes. It also provides assistance in drafting and preparing necessary documents to mobilize the state administration or to request secondary legal aid.
- 5. **The Green Number 08001010** is an additional measure to ensure easy and free access to primary legal assistance. Citizens can contact this line to receive advice and information regarding their legal rights and obligations, as well as assistance in judicial or extrajudicial processes. The establishment of such a line is a guarantee that legal aid services are available at all times, through various forms of communication.

### STATISTICS OF CASES HANDLED DURING FEBRUARY 2025

### CASES ADMINISTRATED BY THE CENTERS FOR PRIMARY LEGAL AID

Centers for	Total repo		Age		Gender		Citizenship		(S	Categories  [pecific Categories]	Case '	Etnici ty	Refused Cases			
Primary Legal Aid	rted Case s	Min or	Adult	Average Age	Female	Male	Albanian	Foreigner	Insufficient income	Special Categories	Unidentified	Civil	Cri mi nal	Admi nistrat iv	Rome & Egiptia n	Refused cases
Tiranë	27	2	25	59	15	12	27	-	15	12	-	17	3	7	-	-
Durrës	18	1	18	57	8	10	18	-	12	6	-	10	-	8	-	-
Lushnjë	13	1	13	42	9	4	13	-	8	5	-	13	-	-	1	-
Shkodër	14	-	14	50	11	3	14	-	10	4	-	13	-	1	-	-
Tropojë	17	1	17	59	9	8	15	2	12	5	-	8	-	9	-	-
Përmet	6	-	6	54	3	3	6	-	4	2	-	2	-	4	-	-
Pukë	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mat	4	1	4	33	2	2	4	-	2	2	-	3	-	1	-	-
Kavajë	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kurbin	4	-	4	33	2	2	4	-	8	2	-	4	-	-	-	-
Lezhë	15	-	15	58	3	12	15	-	8	7	-	8	-	7	1	-
Gjirokastër	27	-	27	60	14	13	27	-	21	6	-	14	1	12	6	1

Pogradec	7	-	7	41	3	4	7	-	6	1	-	4	2	1	0	-
Fier	21	-	21	50	14	7	21	-	10	9	2	19	-	2	1	-
Dibër	8	-	8	62	2	6	8	-	8	-	-	2	2	4	-	-
Vlorë	17	-	17	62	8	9	17	-	13	4	-	1	1	16	3	-
Elbasan	15	-	15	52	8	7	15	-	4	11	-	8	1	7	,	-
Berat	12	-	12	60	3	9	12	-	10	2	-	-	-	12	3	-
Kukës	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Korçë	21	-	21	57	12	9	21	-	18	3	-	19	2	-	1	-
TOTAL	246	2	244	53	126	120	244	2	163	80	3	145	10	91	16	1

During February 2025, the Centers for Primary Legal Aid Services administered a total of 246 cases under primary legal aid services. During this period, the Free Legal Aid Service Centers assisted 126 cases involving women and 120 cases involving men seeking legal assistance. The cases addressed varied in nature, with 145 being civil cases, 10 classified as criminal, and 91 as administrative cases. Each case was processed according to the specific needs of the citizens involved. An analysis of the beneficiaries shows that 163 cases concerned individuals experiencing economic hardship, while 80 cases were from special categories. Additionally, 3 cases were recorded without specific identification.

In February 2025, the Centers for Primary Legal Aid Services administered a total of 246 cases under primary legal aid services.

### CASES ADMINISTRATED BY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (NPOS) - February 2025

	Total report		A	ge			Gende	er		C <b>itize</b> i	nship		(	Categories  Specific Categories)			Case T	Гуре		Etnicity Rom, egjpt.	
NPO	ed Cases	Mino r	Adu lt	Unid entifi ed	Avera ge age	Fem ale	Ma le	Unkn own	Alban ian	For eig ner	Stat eles s	Unk now n	Insufficie nt income	Special Categories	Uniden tified	Civil	Crimi nal	Ad min istr ativ	Unid entifi ed.		
1 . "Qendra e Këshillimit për Gra dhe Vajza"	25	2	23	0	34	24	1	0	24	1	0	0	1	24	0	22	3	0	0		
2 . "Mbrojtja e të drejtave të gruas qytetare dhe fshatare Berat"	12	0	12	0	46	11	1	0	12	0	0	0	-	-	12	0	0	12	0		
3. "Qendra e shërbimeve dhe praktikave ligjore të integruara" QSHPLI	5	0	5	0	38	4	1	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	3	0	2	0		
4 . "Qendra Vatra"	15	1	14	0	37	15	0	0	14	1	0	0	0	15	0	15	0	0	0		
5. Instiuti i migracionit, zhvillimit dhe integrimit IMZHI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6. "Forumi i Gruas Elbasan"	7	0	7	0	42	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	0	0	0		
7. "Shërbimi Ligjor Falas (TLAS)"	30	12	18	26	29	15	15	0	30	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	30	0		
8. "Të ndryshëm dhe të barabartë"	17	4	13	0	27	15	2	0	16	1	0	0	3	14	0	11	4	2	0		

9. "Albanian Legal and Territorial Institute (ALTRI)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
10. "Qendra për nisma ligjore qytetare" QNL	22	0	20	2	43	21	1	0	22	0	0	0	9	13	0	19	1	2	0	1 egjyp
11. "Shërbimet shqiptare për refugjatët dhe migrantët" RMSA	7	0	7	0	38	3	4	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	
12. "Qendra Konsumatori Shqiptar"	4	0	0	4	-	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	
13. Qendra Shqiptare për Popullsinë dhe Zhvillimin (ACPD)	26	0	25	1	45	13	13	0	26	0	0	0	24	1	1	1	1	24	0	3 rome
14. Qendra e Gruas "Hapa të lehtë"	7	0	7	0	45	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	4	2	0	3	1	3	0	
TOTAL	177	19	151	7	35	135	38	4	167	10	0	0	76	77	24	81	10	82	4	1 egj & 3 rome

➤ In February 2025, the Non-Profit Organizations (NPO) managed a total of 177 cases under its primary legal aid services. Of these, 135 cases involved women, while 38 cases involved men seeking legal assistance. Additionally, 4 cases were recorded without specific identification. The cases varied in nature, with 81 classified as civil cases, 10 as criminal cases, and 82 as administrative cases. Additionally, 4 case were recorded without specific identification. Each case was handled in accordance with the specific needs of the individuals involved.

An analysis of the beneficiaries reveals that 76 cases pertained to individuals facing economic hardship, while 77 cases involved individuals from special categories. Additionally, 24 cases were recorded without specific beneficiary identification.

## In February 2025, Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) authorized by the Ministry of Justice administered a total of 177 cases under primary legal aid services.

No cases were administered by the Law Clinics during the month of February 2025.

#### SECONDARY LEGAL AID

- **Secondary legal aid** is a type of legal service provided for issues whose resolution can only be achieved through the court or prosecutor's office. This kind of assistance is offered by lawyers licensed by the National Chamber of Advocates.
  - According to the data managed by the Directorate of Free Legal Aid, during the month of February 2025, it appears that 81 court decisions have been processed.

Statistical data on applicants by gender breakdown, Women and Men - February 2025.										
Category: Women / Men.	Number of applicants	Comments / Other								
Female Applicants	56	Applicants for free legal aid in February 2025 are								
Male Applicants	25	more women than men								
I Papërcaktuar Unspecified	-									
TOT	AL - 81 Com	t Decisions								

	Statistical data by the nature of the legal case for which assistance is requested – February 2025										
	Type of Case	Number of Applicants	Comments / Other								
1	Civil (property, asset division, work seniority)	70	For the month of February 2025, it is noted that the								
2	Criminal	2	majority of the decisions are occupied by civil cases								
3	Administrativ	9									
4	N/A	-									
	TOTAL	L = 81 Court Deci	sions								

According to data managed by the Directorate of Free Legal Aid (DFLA) for February 2025, a total of 81 judicial decisions were made regarding requests for free legal aid. Of these, 56 decisions were for female applicants, 25 for male applicants. Further analysis of the data shows that, 46 involved applicants who claimed to belong to the category of individuals with insufficient assets and income and 35 involved applicants from special categories.

Additionally, of the 81 judicial decisions, 70 cases were civil matters, 9 were administrative matters, and 2 were criminal cases.

		Beneficiary category	Number of applicants		Comments / Other.					
1	Insufficient income and assets.				For the month of February 2025, it is noted the largest number is occupied by citizens where the largest number is occupied by citizens and the largest number is occupied by the largest number is occupied by the larges					
		Victims of domestic violence	14		belong to the category of people with insufficier income and assets					
		Victims of sexual abuse			income and assets					
		Victims of human trafficking								
		Minors								
		Minor victims								
		Minors in conflict with the law								
		Children living in social care institutions								
		Children under guardianship who have initiated a process without the approval of their legal guardian or against their legal guardian								
		Persons benefiting from disability benefits	10							
2	Special	Status of the blind								
	category	Persons undergoing involuntary treatment in mental health institutions		35						
		Persons undergoing voluntary treatment in mental health institutions								
		Persons for whom the removal or restriction of legal capacity is requested								
		Persons benefiting from social protection schemes	11							
		Persons whose legal capacity has been removed or restricted, who seek to initiate a process against their legal guardian								
		Persons whose rights have been violated through an act or omission constituting discrimination								
		Roma/Egyptian								
		Pensioners								

**TOTAL = 81 Court Decisions** 

### **CONCLUSIONS - FEBRUARY 2025**

### Primary Legal Aid

- ➤ In February 2025, a total of 423 cases were processed under primary legal aid services. Of these, 246 cases were managed by the **Primary Legal Aid Service Centers**, while 177 cases were handled by **Non-Profit Organizations** (NPO) authorized by the Ministry of Justice. No cases were reported as processed by Law Clinics affiliated with Higher Education Institutions. Additionally, 48 cases were addressed through the Juristionline.al platform, and 21 cases were managed via the Green Line at 08001010.
- Among the cases assisted by the Free Legal Aid Service Centers and authorized NPOs, 261 involved women and 158 involved men, 4 cases were recorded without specific identification. The majority of the cases were civil (226), followed by administrativ (173) and criminal (20) matters. Additionally, 4 cases were recorded without specific identification. An analysis of the beneficiaries revealed that 239 cases concerned individuals with economic hardship, 157 were from special categories, and 27 were recorded without specific identification.
- Throughout the period from Jenuary February 2025, were submitted a total of 939 requests for Primary Legal Aid

### Secondary Legal Aid

➤ In February 2025, a total of 81 court decisions were made regarding requests for legal aid. Of these, 56 requests were submitted by women, 25 by men, reflecting a gender distribution that encompasses all beneficiaries. Regarding beneficiary categories, 35 of the requests involved individuals classified as belonging to special categories, while 46 requests were submitted by individuals who identified as having insufficient income. In terms of case types, 70 were civil cases, 2 were criminal cases, and 9 were administrative cases.

- According to the data administered in February 2025, a total of 81 judicial decisions were made regarding requests for free legal aid, specifically as follows:
  - 12 requests for secondary legal aid,
  - 58 requests for secondary legal aid and exemption from court fees and costs,
  - 11 requests for exemption from court fees and costs.
- Throughout the period from January February 2025, were submitted a total of 136 requests for Secondary Legal Aid.

### Budget

- Regarding the budget spent in February 2025, a total of 24 judicial decisions were settled, amounting to a total value of **841,000 All.** 
  - o 14 lawyers were compensated, totaling 451,000 All.
  - o 10 experts were remunerated, with a total value of 390,900 All.
- Throughout the period from January February 2025, the Directorate of Free Legal Aid processed and settled 61 judicial decisions, with a total value of 2,041,900 All.