

# MINISTRY OF JUSTICE DIRECTORATE OF FREE LEGAL AID

### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

STATE-GUARANTEED LEGAL AID

**MARCH 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 14 Centers for Primary Legal Aid Services in the cities of Tirana, Lushnja, Durrës, Shkodra, Fier, Gjirokastër, Tropoja, Përmet, Puka, Mati, Kavaja, Kurbin, Vlorë, Korçë.
- 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 MARCH 2025

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

Centers for Primary	Total repo rted		Age	:	Gender		Citizenship		(S	Categories Specific Categories)		Case '	Туре	Etnici ty	Refused Cases	
Legal Aid	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	21	0	21	51	13	8	21	0	13	6	0	13	1	7	0	0
Durrës	5	0	5	49	4	1	5	0	4	1	0	4	0	1	1	0
Lushnjë	6	0	6	44	4	2	6	0	2	4	0	6	0	0	0	0
Shkodër	24	0	24	54	11	13	24	0	14	10	0	19	2	3	0	0
Tropojë	24	1	23	58	12	12	21	3	19	5	0	3	1	20	0	0
Përmet	9	0	9	50	4	5	9	0	4	5	0	2	1	6	0	0
Pukë	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mat	7	0	7	60	0	7	7	0	3	4	0	0	2	5	0	0
Kavajë	1	0	1	90	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Kurbin	4	0	4	34	4	0	4	0	2	2	0	3	1	0	1	0
Gjirokastër	25	0	25	54	14	11	25	0	19	6	0	5	5	15	7	0
Fier	15	0	15	53	7	8	15	0	9	6	0	10	0	5	1	0

7	Vlorë	18	0	18	67	10	8	18	0	14	4	0	1	1	16	0	0
K	Korçë	20	0	20	60	11	9	20	0	9	11	0	18	2	0	0	0
TO	OTAL	179	1	178	51	94	85	176	3	115	64	0	84	16	79	10	0

➤ During March 2025, the Centers for Primary Legal Aid Services administered a total of 179 cases under primary legal aid services. During this period, the Free Legal Aid Service Centers assisted 94 cases involving women and 85 cases involving men seeking legal assistance. The cases addressed varied in nature, with 84 being civil cases, 16 classified as criminal, and 79 as administrative cases. Each case was processed according to the specific needs of the citizens involved. An analysis of the beneficiaries shows that 115 cases concerned individuals experiencing economic hardship, while 64 cases were from special categories.

In March 2025, the Centers for Primary Legal Aid Services administered a total of 179 cases under primary legal aid services.

### $CASES\ ADMINISTRATED\ BY\ NON-PROFIT\ ORGANIZATIONS\ (NPOS)\ -\ MARCH\ 2025$

	Total report	Age				,	Gende	er	•	Citize	nship		Categories (Specific Categories)				Case Type			
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	Unide ntified	
1 . "Qendra e Këshillimit për Gra dhe Vajza"	25	0	25	0	39	25	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	25	0	16	9	0	0	
2 . "Mbrojtja e të drejtave të gruas qytetare dhe fshatare Berat"	4	0	4	0	60	2	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	
3. "Qendra e shërbimeve dhe praktikave ligjore të integruara" QSHPLI	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
4 . "Qendra Vatra"	24	2	22	0	35	24	0	0	23	1	0	0	1	23	0	18	6	0	0	
5. Instiuti i migracionit, zhvillimit dhe integrimit IMZHI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
6. "Forumi i Gruas Elbasan"	7	0	7	0	38	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	2	5	0	7	0	0	0	
7. "Shërbimi Ligjor Falas (TLAS)"	31	10	21	0	25	12	19	0	31	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	0	31	0	
8. "Të ndryshëm dhe të barabartë"	21	3	18	0	25	21	0	0	20	1	0	0	0	21	0	14	6	1	0	

9. "Albanian Legal and Territorial Institute (ALTRI)	10	0	10	0	42	6	4	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	10	0	
10. "Qendra për nisma ligjore qytetare" QNL	28	0	25	3	38	27	1	0	28	0	0	0	15	13	0	21	4	3	0	
11. "Shërbimet shqiptare për refugjatët dhe migrantët" RMSA	9	0	9	0	39	2	7	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	9	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)	21	0	21	0	68	10	11	0	21	0	0	0	20	1	0	0	0	21	0	
14. Qendra e Gruas "Hapa të lehtë"	7	0	7	0	37	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	4	3	0	6	0	1	0	
TOTAL	191	15	169	7	41	143	44	4	180	11	0	0	73	91	27	82	25	80	4	

In March 2025, the Non-Profit Organizations (NPO) managed a total of 191 cases under its primary legal aid services. Of these, 143 cases involved women, while 44 cases involved men seeking legal assistance. Additionally, 4 cases were recorded without specific identification. The cases varied in nature, with 82 classified as civil cases, 25 as criminal cases, and 80 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 73 cases pertained to individuals facing economic hardship, while 91 cases involved individuals from special categories. Additionally, 27 cases were recorded without specific beneficiary identification.

## In March 2025, Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) authorized by the Ministry of Justice administered a total of 191 cases under primary legal aid services.

### 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 March 2025, it appears that 71 court decisions have been processed.

Statistical data on applicants by gender breakdown, Women and Men - March 2025.										
Category: Women / Men.	Number of applicants	Comments / Other								
Female Applicants	36	Applicants for free legal aid in March 2025 are								
Male Applicants	35	more women than men								
I Papërcaktuar	-									
Unspecified										
TO	$\Gamma AL = 71$ Com	t Decisions								

	Statistical data by the nature of the legal case for which assistance is requested – March 2025											
	Type of Case	Number of Applicants	Comments / Other									
1	Civil (property, asset division, work seniority)	55	For the month of March 2025, it is noted that the									
2	Criminal	2	majority of the decisions are occupied by civil cases									
3	Administrativ	14										
4	N/A	-										
	TOTAL = 71 Court Decisions											

According to data managed by the Directorate of Free Legal Aid (DFLA) for March 2025, a total of 71 judicial decisions were made regarding requests for free legal aid. Of these, 36 decisions were for female applicants, 35 for male applicants. Further analysis of the data shows that, 38 involved applicants who claimed to belong to the category of individuals with insufficient assets and income and 33 involved applicants from special categories.

Additionally, of the 71 judicial decisions, 55 cases were civil matters, 17 were administrative matters, and 2 were criminal

Additionally, of the 71 judicial decisions, 55 cases were civil matters, 17 were administrative matters, and 2 were crimina cases.

		Beneficiary category		iber of licants	Comments / Other.					
1	Insufficient	income and assets.	38		For the month of March 2025, it is noted the largest number is occupied by citizens					
		Victims of domestic violence	11		belong to the category of people with insufficient 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	14							
2	Special	Status of the blind	1							
	category	Persons undergoing involuntary treatment in mental health institutions		33						
		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	7							
		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								
3	Unspecified	in the court decision	0	1						

### **CONCLUSIONS - MARCH 2025**

### Primary Legal Aid

- ➤ In March 2025, a total of 372 cases were processed under primary legal aid services. Of these, 179 cases were managed by the **Primary Legal Aid Service Centers**, while 191 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, 31 cases were addressed through the Juristionline.al platform, and 18 cases were managed via the Green Line at 08001010.
- Among the cases assisted by the Free Legal Aid Service Centers and authorized NPOs, 237 involved women and 129 involved men, 4 cases were recorded without specific identification. The majority of the cases were civil (166), followed by administrativ (159) and criminal (41) matters. Additionally, 4 cases were recorded without specific identification. An analysis of the beneficiaries revealed that 188 cases concerned individuals with economic hardship, 155 were from special categories, and 27 were recorded without specific identification.
- Throughout the period from Jenuary March 2025, were submitted a total of 1311 requests for Primary Legal Aid

### Secondary Legal Aid

In March 2025, a total of 71 court decisions were made regarding requests for legal aid. Of these, 36 requests were submitted by women, 35 by men, reflecting a gender distribution that encompasses all beneficiaries. Regarding beneficiary categories, 33 of the requests involved individuals classified as belonging to special categories, while 38 requests were submitted by individuals who identified as having insufficient income. In terms of case types, 55 were civil cases, 2 were criminal cases, and 14 were administrative cases.

- ➤ According to the data administered in March 2025, a total of 81 judicial decisions were made regarding requests for free legal aid, specifically as follows:
  - 8 requests for secondary legal aid,
  - 43 requests for secondary legal aid and exemption from court fees and costs,
  - 20 requests for exemption from court fees and costs.
- Throughout the period from January March 2025, were submitted a total of 207 requests for Secondary Legal Aid.

### Budget

- Regarding the budget spent in March 2025, a total of 43 judicial decisions were settled, amounting to a total value of 1,404,000 All.
  - o 19 lawyers were compensated, totaling 735,000 All.
  - o 16 experts were remunerated, with a total value of 630,000 All.
  - o 8 invoices for judicial expenses, with a total value of 39,000 All.
- Throughout the period from January March 2025, the Directorate of Free Legal Aid processed and settled 104 judicial decisions, with a total value of 3,445,900 All.