

Social Return on Investment of Civil Legal Aid Services for Louisiana

(fiscal year 2023-24)



For every **\$1** invested in Louisiana's civil legal aid services, these programs deliver **\$13.28** in immediate and long-term financial benefits.

The net economic impact value resulting from Louisiana civil legal activities during the 2023-24 fiscal year totaled **\$162,988,000**.

The total net social return on investment for Louisiana's civil legal aid programs during the 2023-24 fiscal year was **1,328%**.



Civil legal aid is free legal advice, representation, or other legal assistance provided to low-income and vulnerable people who cannot otherwise afford legal help. The responsibility for meeting the civil legal needs of Louisiana's poor falls primarily on a network of nonprofit, civil legal aid providers who serve our poorest citizens with free civil legal assistance.

The Louisiana Bar Foundation conducted a Social Return on Investment Analysis for fiscal year 2023-24. The study included data from over 45 civil legal aid providers. Social return on investment (SROI) is an internationally standardized and accepted process for measuring and understanding the financial impact of social services organizations.

Louisiana's Legal Aid services continue to have a SROI impact percentage in the top 10% of Legal Aid services in other states.



HIGHLIGHTS

• Total services provided in Louisiana during fiscal year 2023-24	37,399
• Total net economic impact value of services	\$162,988,000
• Total tax-based funding for Louisiana civil legal aid operations	\$12,277,000
SOCIAL IMPACT RETURN ON INVESTMENT	1,328%

The Louisiana Bar Foundation is the state's largest funder of civil legal aid. We partner with a trusted network of organizations that lead community driven efforts to help families facing non-criminal, civil legal challenges. Our goal is to make sure that all Louisianans, regardless of their background or income have access to the civil legal services that they need.

To learn more about our mission, visit us at raisingthebar.org

The SROI percentage for 2023-24 (1,328%) is lower than the value for the previous report for 2021-22 (1,799%) due to two major factors that materially increased the impact values: the court system was closed during the COVID-19 period, resulting in a higher quantity of court judgments, and the catastrophic damage from Hurricane Ida. This higher SROI value was described in detail in the 2021-2022 SROI report.

MAJOR AREAS OF SERVICES AND TYPES OF LEGAL MATTERS

HOUSING

- foreclosure
- eviction from subsidized or private housing
- public housing issues
- private landlord/tenant problems
- sub-standard housing conditions

FAMILY LAW

- domestic violence
- divorce
- separation and annulment
- child custody and visitation
- guardianship
- adoption

HEALTH CARE

- Medicaid and Medicare
- private health insurance
- long-term health care facilities
- home and community-based care
- state and local health care
- other health issues

PUBLIC BENEFITS

- Social Security benefits
- Medicare and Medicaid
- food stamps
- temporary assistance for needy families
- unemployment compensation

CONSUMER PROTECTION

- bankruptcy
- debt and wage garnishments
- tax issues
- debt collections
- repossessions

EMPLOYMENT

- employment discrimination
- wage claims
- fair labor standards
- tax issues
- employment rights
- other employment issues

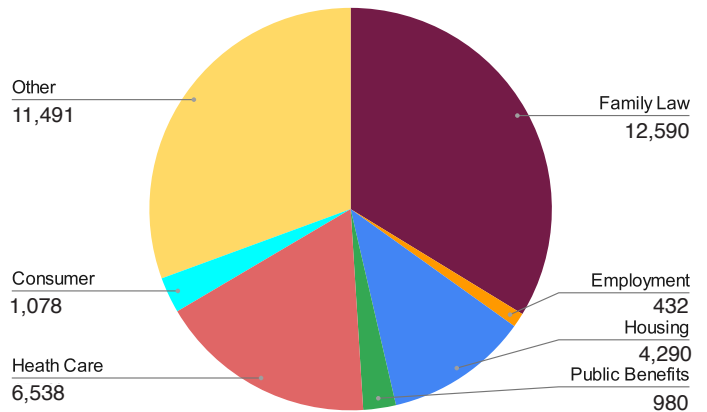
OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

- education
- mental health and disabilities
- immigration
- wills and estates
- powers of attorney and advance directives
- civil rights
- torts
- licenses
- other individual miscellaneous legal issues

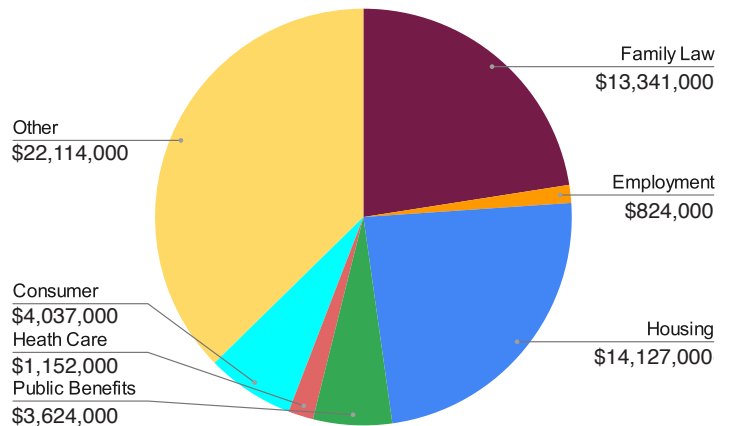
Community Services Analysis LLC (CSACO) is a leading provider of Social Economic Impact and Social Return on Investment Analysis in the United States. Since 2007, CSACO has completed over 300 SROI studies for individual organizations, social services membership associations, and local and state organizations and agencies around the country, and over 250 Legal Aid organizations nationwide.

2024 OUTCOMES

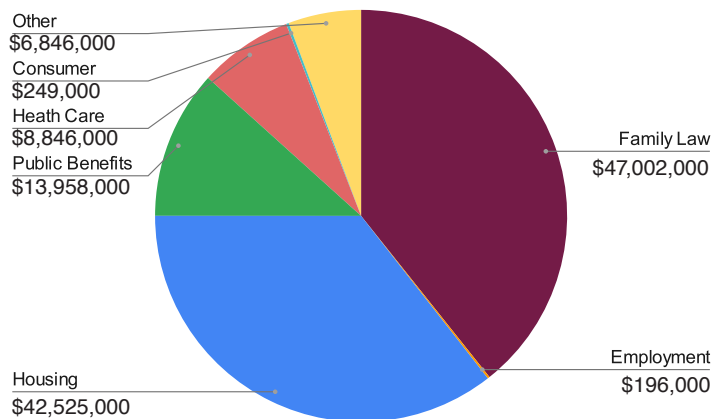
37,399 LEGAL AID CASES COMPLETED



\$59,219,000 IMMEDIATE DIRECT FINANCIAL BENEFITS



\$119,621,000 LONG-TERM GROSS FINANCIAL BENEFITS



**LOUISIANA BAR
FOUNDATION**
FUNDING CIVIL LEGAL AID