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# The Economic Impact of Civil Legal Aid



## The Economic Impact of Civil Legal Aid

The fundamental mission of civil legal aid is to ensure fairness in our legal system by providing access to justice. The economic benefits it generates are substantial and undeniable.



#### For every \$1 invested, civil legal aid returns an average of \$7.



Every one of the 50+ studies conducted on the return on investment (ROI) of civil legal aid demonstrates that legal aid provides a positive ROI — something rare for publicly funded programs.



For every \$1 invested in **Louisiana** in 2022, legal aid returned \$17.99.



For every \$1 invested in **Wisconsin** in 2021, legal aid returned \$8.40.



For every \$1 invested in Kansas in 2023, legal aid returned \$7.49.

Civil legal aid is a fiscally responsible investment that benefits taxpayers, families and communities.

## How Civil Legal Aid Delivers Return on Investment:



#### **Loss Prevention**

Protects families' housing and financial stability by preventing wrongful evictions, foreclosures and unfair debt collection. Helps domestic violence survivors secure protective orders, safe housing and financial support, reducing the risk of homelessness and future violence.



#### **Direct Financial Wins**

Empowers **self-reliance** by ensuring American workers receive lawfully earned wages, veterans' benefits and Social Security payments, directly **increasing economic contributions**.



#### **Taxpayer Savings**

Lowers costs for emergency shelters, healthcare, social services, emergency financial assistance and law enforcement by resolving legal issues early and preventing crises before they require government intervention.



#### **Boosts Local Economies**

Legal aid **fuels economic growth**. Every dollar secured through legal aid circulates through **local** businesses, increasing spending, job retention and overall economic stability.

LSC is the single largest funder of civil legal aid in the country. LSC promotes equal access to justice by funding high-quality civil legal assistance for low-income Americans.



## Go here to read the report.

Last updated on April 24, 2025.

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