

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2015**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Parliamentary Library Research Requests**

Question: **60**

Written **Senator Wong**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2015

1. Can a breakdown of research requests to each section of the Parliamentary Library be provided, by month for 2014–15, to correlate with the figure of 12,656 individual client requests on page 86 of the Annual Report?
2. Could similar data be provided for research publications?
3. In both cases, please also provide data of the average number of staff in each section for the relevant time period.

Answer

Please see Attachment A.

Client Research requests—Whole of Library totals (Annual Report 2014 – 2015)

Section	July 2014	Aug 2014	Sep 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	June 2015	Annual Report Total
Month Total	1227	1066	1084	1320	848	799	646	1185	1280	949	1114	1138	12,656

Full Time equivalent (FTE) staff per section

	Economics Section	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade section	Law and Bills Digest section	Politics and Public Administration section	Statistics and Mapping section	Science, Technology, Environment and Resources section	Social Policy section	Executive	TOTAL
	10.4	8.5	14.6	8.8	9.2	6.8	12.8	1	72.1

Library Research Products—2014-2015, Section by Month

2014

Month	Economics section	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade section	Law and Bills Digest section	Politics and Public Administration section	Statistics and Mapping section	Science, Technology, Environment and Resources section	Social Policy section	JOINT between sections	Executive	TOTAL
July	5	6	4	3	2 1		5	6	1 1	34
August	1	4	5	3	1	1	7	4	1	27
September	5	3	3	2 1	1 1		5	2	1 2	26
October	6	2	2	1	1 1	2	10	4	1	30
November	4	5	8	5 2	1		6	2		33
December	1	2	5	1	1 1		2	1	1 1	16
	21	22	27	18	11	3	35	19	8	
									TOTAL	166

2015

Month	Economic Section	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Section	Laws and Bills Digest Section	Politics and Public Administration Section	Statistics and Mapping Section	Science, Technology, Environment and Resources Section	Social Policy Section	JOINT between sections	Executive	TOTAL
January	3		1	1 2	1		2			10
February	5	2	11		1 1		4	1		25
March	7	2	10	5 1	1		5		1	32
April	1	2 1	3	2 1	2 1	2	2		1	28
May	5	3	7	5 2	1	1	2	5	2 1	34
June	11	1	5	4	1	2	12	2		38
	32	11	37	23	9	5	27	8	5	
									TOTAL	157
									Republication of updated papers	5
									2014/2015 Total	328

Notes

Full time equivalents: (FTE) numbers are based on the Research Branch budget 2014-15. They provide a general indication although actual figures varied across the financial year.

Research products: Figures for research products comprise all publication types including:

- Bills Digests
- Research Papers
- Quick Guides
- Chronologies
- Library Flagpost blog articles
- Monthly Statistical Bulletins (prepared by Statistics and Mapping section)
- Biographical information (prepared by Politics and Public Affairs section)
- Parliamentary Handbook (a joint Library publication listed under Executive)
- Ezine: Off the Shelf (a joint Library publication listed under Executive)
- Anzac Day kit (prepared by Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security section)

Research papers—JOINT between sections

A number of research products are jointly prepared by officers by more than one section and are accordingly listed as JOINT in the table above. These include the following:

August 2014	Laws and Bills Digest/Social Policy
September 2014	Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security/Politics and Public Administration
October 2014	Social Policy/Statistics and Mapping
November 2014	Politics and Public Administration/Statistics and Mapping
May 2015	Multiple sections

Bills Digests—JOINT between Sections

Bills Digests are recorded as joint papers when they are co-authored by officers from more than one section.

Note that Law and Bills Digest section is responsible for detailed legal review, editing and clearance of all Bills Digests in addition to the ones for which the section is listed as author.

2014	
July 2014	Laws and Bills Digest/Politics and Public Administration
	Laws and Bills Digest/ Science, Technology, Environment and Resources
	Science, Technology, Environment and Resources/Economics
	Laws and Bills Digest/Economics (x2)
	Economics/Social Policy
August 2014	Laws and Bills Digest/ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security
	Laws and Bills Digest/Social Policy
	Laws and Bills Digest/Economics
September 2014	Science, Technology, Environment and Resources/Laws and Bills Digest
October 2014	Social Policy/ Laws and Bills Digest
	Laws and Bills Digest/ Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security/Social Policy/

	Science, Technology, Environment and Resources/Economics
November 2014	Laws and Bills Digest/ Science, Technology, Environment and Resources
December 2014	Laws and Bills Digest/ Science, Technology, Environment and Resources
2015	
February 2015	Laws and Bills Digest/ Science, Technology, Environment and Resources
May 2015	Social Policy/Laws and Bills Digest
	Laws and Bills Digest/Economics (x3)
June 2015	Laws and Bills Digest/Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security
	Laws and Bills Digest/Economics (x2)