



The Library of Parliament

Our Vision: To be Parliament's preferred and trusted source of information and knowledge.

Our Mission: The Library contributes to Canadian parliamentary democracy by creating, managing and delivering authoritative, reliable and relevant information and knowledge for Parliament.

What we do:

- Provide customized research and analysis to parliamentarians and their staff
- Supply parliamentarians, parliamentary committees and associations with the information they need to examine the issues of the day, consider legislation and hold the government accountable
- Preserve Parliament's documentary heritage and ensure access to its collections
- Keep parliamentarians informed and up to date, and deliver relevant news and information

Support parliamentarians in their outreach to the public by providing opportunities for Canadians to access, experience and learn about Parliament

Who we serve:

- Parliamentarians and their staff
- Parliamentary committees and associations
- Organizations that support Parliament
- The Canadian public on behalf of parliamentarians

The Parliamentary Information and Research Service

The **Parliamentary Information and Research Service (PIRS)** provides parliamentarians with news, reference, research and analysis services and oversees the Library's public education programs and seminars for parliamentarians and their staff. The research divisions within PIRS provide high-quality, substantive and timely information, research and analysis to parliamentary committees, to individual senators and members of the House of Commons, and to parliamentary associations and delegations. Subject areas include the full range of federal government programs, policies, legislation, budgets and spending, as well as international and inter-parliamentary affairs.

In conducting research and analysis for parliamentarians, analysts employ a wide range of tools and methodologies, including Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+), statistical analysis, costing, content-rich visual elements and comparative analysis. The analysts are supported by statisticians, GBA+ specialists, GIS mapping



specialists, librarians, research assistants, and a publishing, editing and creative services team. And they have access to a large and evolving print and digital collection.

More than 90 analysts work in the following 12 multidisciplinary teams, which include lawyers, scientists, economists, political and social scientists, research assistants, librarians and interns:

- Constitutional and Parliamentary Affairs;
- Economic, Fiscal and Monetary Policy;
- Environment, Fisheries and Agriculture;
- Gender, Health and Social Affairs;
- Government, Industry and Finance;
- Human Rights, Immigration and Citizenship;
- Indigenous Affairs and Social Development;
- International Affairs;
- International Trade and Defence;
- Justice and National Security;
- Resources, Energy and Transport; and
- Scrutiny of Regulations.

Analysts are assigned to nearly 50 parliamentary committees and 13 associations.

Analysts assigned to **parliamentary committees**:

- prepare background papers and work plans;
- provide briefing materials and suggested questions for committee meetings;
- analyze and synthesize witness testimony;
- draft committee reports;
- give advice to committee chairs and members; and
- provide research support throughout the federal budget financial cycle.

Analysts assigned to **parliamentary associations**:

- accompany delegations to international meetings;
- prepare background papers, briefing books and speaking notes;
- draft resolutions and amendments for interparliamentary assemblies;
- draft delegation reports; and
- develop programs for international meetings and conferences.

Analysts also provide customized research and analysis to 443 individual Senators and Members of the House of Commons and their staff. Research projects for these clients range in complexity from the provision of statistics and facts to in-depth analysis of policy issues, programs and proposed legislation. While most products are delivered in writing, oral briefings are also provided.

In 2017–2018, PIRS responded to more than 16,600 information and reference requests and to about 5,600 research requests from parliamentary clients.