Analyzing The Relationship Income And Consumption In Iraq Between 2004-2021

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Abstract : In this research, we will try to address the most prominent economic concepts that describe the living conditions of the Iraqi individual during the research period. We are looking at the changes that affect the individual income. Through it we get to his consumption pattern and how his income is distributed among the commodity and service groups. We also show whether the increase in income was equal or different among all individuals. What is the effect of this variation on consumer behavior using the price index during the research period? We will be exposed to estimating the consumption function, which is the relationship between consumption and income. Keynes stressed that consumer spending depends mainly on the level of individual income, but other factors can affect consumer demand. These factors are related to tastes, changes in the attractiveness of the commodity, changes in spending on advertising, the number of residents...etc. These factors allow the consumption function to move from its place and may affect the consumer's tendency. However, the consumer decision depends primarily on the individual's desire associated with the available income capacity. It should be noted that some factors affecting consumer spending other than income are difficult to integrate into the economic model for measuring the consumption function. This is because some of these factors are usually achieved as a result of the change in the psychological factors of the consumer or as a result of the change that occurs in the economic policies adopted by the government.

INTRODUCTION: The Iraqi individual went through difficult living conditions. As there was a significant decrease in his income, poverty levels rose, and the discrepancy between individual consumption increased. This is confirmed by the human development reports. However, with the change that occurred in 2004, the shape of the Iraqi economy changed. Where the economic openness and the lifting of sanctions on Iraq and the flow of oil exports. All of these things contributed to an increase in the average annual per capita income, which significantly enhanced the percentage of spending on goods and services, which improved his living situation.

Keynes emphasized that consumer spending depends mainly on the level of individual income. However, there are other factors that can affect consumer demand, as we referred to in the previous chapter. These factors relate to tastes, the change in the attractiveness of the commodity, or the change in spending on advertising and the number of the population. These factors allow the consumption function to move from its place. It may affect consumer sentiment. However, the consumer decision depends primarily on the desire of the individual associated with the income available to him. It should be noted that some other factors that affect consumer spending other than income are difficult to integrate into the economic model for measuring the consumption function. This is because some of these factors are usually achieved as a result of a change in the psychological factors of the consumer or as a result of the change that occurs in the economic policies adopted by the government. However, this does not diminish the importance of exploring these motives for the consumer. The consumer in Iraq went through difficult living stages that were considered a restriction on his consumption pattern.

Problem Statement

Has personal consumption increased due to the increase in per capita income since 2004 for the Iraqi consumer? The answer to this question is through knowledge of the factors determining consumption, the changes in spending rates on main commodities, and the changes that affected his income through the research period and the available data.

Paper Goal

All the changes that occurred in the Iraqi economy after 2004 resulted in similar and major changes in the consumption structure and patterns of the Iraqi individual. By knowing the trends of the Iraqi consumer and the factors that play an important role in that, we can determine the consumption function of the Iraqi economy during the research period.

Research Hypothesis

Consumption is an overall variable in the economy and is linked to a group of variable factors within a specific time frame. These factors change according to certain circumstances, which leads to changes in consumption patterns in the Iraqi economy.

The first topic

The consumption pattern and living conditions of the Iraqi individual for the period 2004-2021 The standard of living for the Iraqi individual before 2004

Since Keynes showed that the main reason for the instability of economic activity is due to fluctuations in private investment spending, which is one of the items of total expenditure, economic research continues to study the various factors that lead to increased or decreased economic growth. And since private consumption demand is the main component of aggregate demand, ranging between 50-70 percent of income in most cases. Since these changes will affect the level of activity, therefore, in this chapter, the factors that determine consumer demand in Iraq will be discussed. Where we will be exposed to the estimation of the consumption function, which is called the relationship between consumption and income, Keynes stressed that consumer spending depends mainly on the level of individual income. However, there are other factors that can affect consumer demand, as we referred to in the previous chapter, and these factors are related to tastes, changes in the attractiveness of the commodity, or changes in spending on advertising, the number of residents, etc. These factors allow the consumption function to move from its place and may affect the consumer's tendency; however, the consumer decision depends primarily on the individual's desire associated with the available income.

It should be noted that some other factors that affect consumer spending other than income are difficult to integrate into the economic model for measuring the consumption function. This is because some of these factors are usually achieved as a result of the change in the psychological factors of the consumer or as a result of the change that occurs in the economic policies adopted by the government. However, this does not diminish the importance of exploring these motives for the consumer. The consumer in Iraq went through difficult living stages that were considered a restriction on his consumption pattern, and to find out the consumption pattern of the Iraqi individual.¹

How it was and how it changed It was necessary to take a forward look at the living conditions that governed his pattern of spending before the research period. In order to be able to answer the research question, which is did the per capita income change after 2003, and did this change have an impact on changing the level of spending on commodity totals? The living conditions, in general terms, were very difficult in all fields, whether education, health, income levels, and a rise in poverty levels. All these circumstances caused unbalanced spending behavior on one commodity group over another. Where behavior is completely far from the essence of economic theory, the main purpose of which is to raise the level of well-being. Rather, the preoccupation of the Iraqi individual in that period was to achieve the maximum possible satisfaction in light of a limited income that meets the need for essential commodities. Iraq has witnessed important development experiences since the first moment of the establishment of the Iraqi state. These policies were mostly liberal policies and orientations from their inception until the fifties. Where the organized socialist trend, which began to be confined and gradually faded until it was abandoned coinciding with the attempts at privatization that were actually launched in 1987. The reason for this trend was an attempt to reform the economic system, which was greatly weakened by the impact of the Iran-Iraq war. What strengthened these trends is the economic blockade and international economic sanctions imposed on Iraq from 1990 until 2003. During this period, the economic system in Iraq was closer to totalitarianism than anything else. All of these conditions that were mentioned negatively affected the level of social and economic well-being of the Iraqi individual, which increased the poverty line and its severity in the nineties. Which was attributed to the significant decline in the average per capita income, as the Iraqi per capita income in 1995 reached (161). This rate of income is less than the income of the unskilled agricultural worker in the poorest developing countries. At the same time, the below-average income category reached (80%) of the total households during the economic sanctions period. In contrast, the family income of middle-income earners dropped sharply to nearly a third. As for families below the average level, the decline was severe, reaching less than a quarter of what it was in the eighties.

More than four million Iraqis have been forced into extreme poverty. While Amnesty International recommended in its report issued in 2003 that there are nearly five million Iraqis in Iraq who will need more than (10) billion dollars in aid and humanitarian assistance. All these conditions that the Iraqi individual went through have increased the poverty rate with a sharp decline in per capita income. There have become two types of poverty, namely extreme poverty and absolute poverty, and this is what was published in the reports of the Arab Human Development Organization for the year 2002. Iraq has regressed to the last rank in the Arab world, and it has reached (110) out of (111) countries in

^{11.} Hassan Hanafi, The Future of the Iraqi Economy and the Reconstruction Process, Gulf Center for Strategic Studies, Iraq, 2003, p.4.

^{2.} The United Nations Development Program, National Report on the Status of Human Development in Iraq 2008, Iraq, p. 145.

terms of the standard of living of the Iraqi individual. That is, there was a sharp decline in the level of economic wellbeing. The issued international reports also showed a significant rise in poverty rates, reaching no less than 45% until 2002. The reports published by the Iraqi Ministry of Planning on poverty in Iraq according to poverty indicators for the year 2003 also indicated what was provided by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs to That (20%) of Iraqi families live below the poverty line, and there are two million Iraqi families below this line. To know or measure the level of human poverty, the poverty index focuses on the level of deprivation experienced by the individual rather than on the achievements achieved within the framework of the three components of the human development index. These are the deprivation of the enjoyment of continuous work, the deprivation of access to educational opportunities, and finally, the deprivation of a decent standard of living with the availability of drinking water and good and healthy nutrition for the child. These indicators reflect the negative or positive situation for each country. Through these indicators and their results that appeared, it was shown that the increasing poverty line is due to the decline in family income, which has become an obstacle for the individual to obtain his satisfaction from goods and services, which made his consumption patterns determined by commodity groups only without the others, which are the necessary food commodities. Accordingly, when we continue to search in the coming chapters for the duration of the research, it will become clear to us whether the consumption patterns of the Iraqi individual have changed or have they remained the same. Is there an increase in the income of individuals with the increase in their consumption of all commodity groups to the same extent, or is there a discrepancy in their consumption of goods and services? Did the openness of Iraqi markets to imported goods enhance the consumption rates of the Iraqi per capita? All these questions will be answered in the next parts of the research in some detail.²

Economic indicators for the Iraqi individual after 2004

According to Nido Qubin, "Strategic planning is a map that guides you to the right path between two points, the first is where you are now, and the second is where you want to be in the future" What is happening in terms of crises in developing countries, especially Iraq. The absence of long-term planning causes continuous vibrations in all dimensions and focus on momentary planning. As a result, governments began to face more challenges, especially after the liberalization of global trade, the wave of democracy, and the focus on the context of the decentralized state. All these circumstances generated a great desire for competition. After 2003, Iraq entered a new phase, which is a phase of a comprehensive crisis in terms of its severity and degree of complexity. The collapse of the Iraqi economy institution, the collapse of legal institutions, and the lack of oversight and accountability. All these repercussions directly affected the shape of the Iraqi economy. After 2004, the Iraqi economy witnessed a rise in the rates of domestic product and its growth rates were constantly increasing, which reinforced the increase in government consumption spending for the same period. This increase in income was due to the lifting of economic sanctions on Iraq, which contributed to the flow of oil more, especially with the rise in global oil prices. All these events had a positive impact on increasing the spending capacity of the Iraqi state, which led to an increase in salaries and wages and a significant improvement for a segment that constitutes an important percentage, which is the segment of employees, in addition to a large amount of compensation provided by the state to those who were harmed by the previous regime. All of these things were capable of changing the consumption pattern of the Iraqi individual, and the entry of goods in a large way as a result of lifting restrictions on Iraqi trade, through which the Iraqi market became an open market for all kinds of goods and services. Therefore, as a result of the deprivation experienced by the Iraqi individual, he started seeking to obtain all the commodity totals that he was deprived of, prompted by an important factor, which is the high income.

The lifting of economic sanctions on Iraq and the adoption of a different economic policy than the one that existed. And the emergence of a package of economic reforms that were directed to the market economy, especially in light of the high global oil prices, led to an increase in the revenues of the Iraqi state as an oil state. As a result, the average per capita share of it increased. As for consumer spending, it increased, which confirms the increase in consumer demand more than the increase in the national income of the economy, and with a large disparity, creating an inflationary gap. That is, we are witnessing a rise in the price level, which leads to great inflationary pressures on the economy and has an impact on the consumption pattern in the Iraqi economy. The decline that occurs in national income rates is matched by an increase in the level of private consumption spending, which reinforces the gap that cannot be avoided

^{21.} Ali Hanoush, Iraq and the problems of the present and options for the future, an analytical study on the levels of formation of the natural environment and social structure, Dar Al-Kunouz Al-Adabiyah, Beirut, 2000, p. 157.

^{2.} Jeff Simmons, Targeting Iraq, Sanctions and Raids in American Policy, Center for Arab Unity Studies, Beirut, 2003, p. 107.

by increasing imports that have a negative impact as they are consumption. Which affects the balance of payments, due to the inadequacy of the flexible production system that can meet this increase in consumer demand.^{3 4} Table 1. Oil prices and annual average per capita income in Iraq after 2004 in USD.

Unemployment Rate %	Annual per capita income	Oil prices	Years
17.5	2020	61.1	2006
17.5	2510	69.1	2007
15.3	3530	143	2008
14	4020	40	2009
12	4410	86	2010
11.1	4790	126	2011
11.9	6100	127	2012
11	6840	110	2013
16.6	6560	57	2014
13.7	5820	37	2015
10.8	5400	27	2016
10.9	5165	45	2017
0.11	5000	86	2018
13.8	5490	68	2019
35.8	4660	9	2020
27.2	6000	66	2021

Source: Ministry of Planning, Central Organization for Statistics

Through the data received from the World Bank, the change that occurred in the Iraqi economy can be seen. As is noticeable, the rise in oil prices after 2004 and Iraq's exit from Chapter VII contributed to the rise in Iraq's national income, which prompted the annual per capita share to rise also and continuously. This gradual and continuous rise in per capita income reinforced the changes in his consumption patterns, which is the focus of our research and what we want to prove in our hypothesis. Our main problem is whether changes in income pushed consumer spending rates to change. The first part of the problem, the increase in per capita income, is proven to us now. Through the above ratios, per capita income witnessed significant increases after 2004. As for unemployment rates, they are also affected by oil prices, confirming that Iraq is a pure rentier country. As we notice, the higher the oil prices, the lower the unemployment rate and vice versa. Now that we have proven the first part of the problem of our research, we must indicate the sources of this income and its distribution by the individual to the commodity groups and how the consumption pattern of the Iraqi individual has changed with this increase in his income.⁵

The third: - The expansion of the phenomenon of poverty in Iraq and its impact on the consumption pattern of the individual

The phenomenon of poverty is defined as insufficient income to reach the minimum basic needs such as food, clothing, potable drinking water, housing, education, and health means. The average per capita income of the family is an indicator and evidence of the standard of living. In Iraq, poverty is one of the most important indicators of economic failure. One of the most important causes of poverty is the low-income level of individuals and the high levels of unemployment, directly affecting the decline in consumer demand. Any change in the consumption pattern of

³ 1. Akram Abdel Aziz Abdel Wahhab, Financial and Monetary Imbalances of the Iraqi Economy, During (1991-1995) The Iraqi Economy and the Variables of the Arab and International Environment, Baghdad, 2002, p. 473.

 ⁴ 1. Ahmed Rafah Shehab, Macroeconomic Theory, Mathematical Introduction, Amman, Wael Publishing House, 2014, p. 60.

^{2.} Ali Khudair Mirza, The Iraqi Economy, Crises and Development, Arab House of Science Publishers, first edition, 2018, p. 57.

⁵ 1. The United Nations Development Program, the national report on the state of human development in Iraq, Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation and House of Wisdom, Baghdad, 2990, p. 100.

^{2.} Pachpa Crocker, Reconstruction of the Iraqi Economy, Iraqi Future Magazine, Issue 15, Year 4, Iraq Center for Research, Baghdad, 2008, pg. 73>

the Iraqi individual. Iraq suffered from increasing poverty rates, especially after 2004, a natural result of failure and failure of economic policies to address the accumulated and emergency conditions. According to official statistics, the poverty rate reached (20.05%) in 2017. This percentage increased to (31.7%) in 2020. This increase is due to the significant downturn in the global economy due to the Corona pandemic, the drop in oil prices, and a near-stop entirely to the private sector. This means that (12) million Iraqis are below the poverty line of (40) million people. According to the latest statement of the Ministry of Planning, the poverty rate has become (40%), i.e., about (16) million Iraqis in 2021. This is on the macro level of the Iraqi economy. However, on the micro level and according to geographical distribution, the southern regions are considered the poorest, although they are the most stable security and political. Al-Muthanna governorate leads with a rate of (53.7%), followed by Al-Qadisiyah with a rate of (47.7%), then Maysan with a rate of (46.5%). At the same time, the province of Sulaymaniyah recorded a poverty rate (of 3%) only. The following table shows the evolution and rises in Iraq's poverty rates from 2008-2021.⁶

Poverty rate	Year	Poverty Rate	Year				
30,1	2016	20,9	2008				
31,7	2020	18,9	2021				

Table 3. Poverty levels in Iraq between (2008-202

Source: UN indicators for poverty and deprivation

44% of Iraq's population has a monthly income of less than \$85 per capita, despite the high average national income of the Iraqi economy. This is because income is not distributed fairly among the members of society, and a large group of them live below the poverty line. All of these things led to the emergence of consumption habits and new forms as a result of the improvement of the living conditions of a particular class. The consumption pattern of the Iraqi individual changed as it shifted from essential commodities to luxury or semi-luxury commodities. The reason for this increase is the increase in his income. Therefore, it resulted from what the Iraqi market witnessed, which was crowded with many consumer and luxury goods and products that the Iraqi individual did not originally know were usable. Because of the state's lack of control over the entry points for goods from neighboring countries, the Iraqi consumer found himself in front of a torrent of imported merchandise flow. Finding even 5% of the local production is almost difficult for any individual.⁷

Fourth: - A forward-looking view of the factors that determine the pattern of consumption

Based on what has been analyzed of the economic and social behavior of the Iraqi individual, we can now state the most important factors that have contributed significantly to changing the consumption pattern of economic behavior in Iraqi society. Those pushed him to completely irrational spending behavior in determining his living priorities. In addition to the size of the damage that caused a defect in the process of recycling its economic activity, and among those factors, we mention the following:

A- Income: The changes that occur in the individual's income directly lead to the creation of new consumption patterns and the abolition of previous consumption patterns that existed because they are appropriate to the value of the income, whether it is for the individual or society as a whole. Because any increase in the average income of individuals will be directed directly to consumption, and since Iraq is among the developing countries, one of its most prominent characteristics and the most important feature that distinguishes it is the rise in its marginal tendency to consume. There has been a significant change in the volume of consumption per Iraqi per capita and in the type and pattern of consumption after 2004. This change is due to the increase in the purchasing power of the individual due to the adjustment of the salary scale for state employees, in addition to the adjustment of private sector wages and the improvement of the exchange rates of the Iraqi dinar. This raised the level of effective demand in society to compensate for its years of deprivation. Thus, the Iraqi individual became able to acquire durable goods and services that he previously abandoned because of his inability to purchase previously. However, despite the adjustment that occurred in the salary scale and the improvement in the level of wages in the private sector, there was a significant distortion in the distribution of this income. There is a large disparity in the level of income obtained by members of

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⁷ Al-Rawi, Dr. Ahmed Omar, Studies in the Iraqi Economy after 2003, Dar Al Doctor for Publishing, Baghdad, first edition, 2009, p. 99.

^{2.} Zain Al-Abidin Muhammad Abdul-Hussein, Sadeq Ali Hassan, The Iraqi Economy After 2003, First Edition, Beirut / Lebanon, Al-Rafidain Center for Dialogue, 2018, p. 12

Iraqi society, starting from the three presidencies to the lowest job degree in the state. All of these matters have greatly helped change individuals' consumption patterns.⁸

B- The pattern of income distribution among individuals: - The poor classes usually consume the largest part of their income. As for saving it, it is very weak, if not negligible. The reason for this is their low levels of income. So she spends all her income on the commodities she needs and barely meets her needs. As for the rich classes, the size of their large income allows them to consume a smaller percentage of their income, which provides them with a good percentage of savings. The marginal propensity to consume is higher for the poorer and richer classes. So whenever the income distribution favors the poor classes, consumption increases and saving decreases, and vice versa.

C - Awareness of individuals towards saving: - The awareness of the importance of saving greatly affects the consumption rate. This depends on many psychological, social, and economic factors, as indicated in the advanced parts of the research. That is, the more individuals are aware of saving, the lower the consumption rate in society; this is what we see in developed societies. However, if individuals do not care about saving, income will be directed to consumption, which distinguishes Iraqi society.

D- The price level and expectations: - This factor significantly influences the size of prices. The higher the prices, the lower the consumption, and vice versa. The law of demand stipulated this, but even the mere expectation of a price change can affect consumption. If individuals expect that the prices of a commodity will rise in the coming days, they will increase their consumption and demand for it, and vice versa.

D- Imitation and imitation: An individual usually resorts to buying commodities originally that he does not need or that they are not in his order of preference. However, it is affected by society's demand for this commodity. This situation is in societies that do not possess economic and social awareness, as some individuals imitate the living standards in developed countries affected by publicity and advertising.

And - Wealth: - The issue of an individual's sudden acquisition of wealth plays a role. So he moves from a poor class to a luxurious class according to the change in his consumption pattern. He increases excessively in consumption, trying to satisfy his deficiency and the desire that was suppressed because of his poor standard of living, seeking and looking forward to obtaining all kinds of commodity groups, even if they are not important to him. This causes the marginal propensity to consume to rise in society.

K- Social factors and public taste: - Social factors mean age, marital status, and educational level. The environment in which he lives also greatly affects consumption patterns. As for taste, it is a psychological factor and not an economic factor, as individuals' different tastes and preferences are an important reason for the demand for certain commodities and service groups.⁹

The second topic

The index as an indicator for measuring Iraqi consumer behavior for the period 2004-2021 The first requirement: - the Iraqi consumer price index (foodstuffs - housing rent)

The index is a great indicator of the general level of prices in any country. It can also be used to reach economic indicators interested in fixed prices. Therefore, countries are working to provide accurate numbers and indicators for the index because it is directly affected by the standard of living and the individual's well-being. The consumer price index depends on household budget research and consumer behavior. The following table allows tracking of the index development, household consumer spending, and inflation rates the Iraqi economy reached during the research period. It is possible to note the inflation occurring in the Iraqi economy according to the consumer price index based on (100 = 2007) through the table below

(%100=2007)							
Annual change %	Rent index number	Annual change %	Food index number	Annual change %	General index number	year	
69.7	41.9	8.7	55.3	27	36.4	2004	

Table 4. Consumer price indices: Overall, foodstuff, rent, and their annual change in Iraq between 2004-2014

2.d. Ali Khudair Mirza, The Iraqi Economy, Crises and Development, previous source.

3. Bernard Bilodeau, Descriptive Economics, translated by Abdel-Amir Shams El-Din, 1st Edition, University Foundation for Studies and Publishing, 1991, 167

⁹ 1. Dan Hill, Emotional Economy, The Role of Emotions in Upgrading Business, translated by Majdi Saber, presented by Sam Simon, 1st edition, The Arab Nile Group, Cairo, 2011, p. 281..

2. Atef William Andraos, General Financial Economics, 1st Edition, Dar Al-Fikr Al-Jami'i, Alexandria, 2010, p. 188.

 ⁸ 1. Salih al-Musawi, Lawrence Yahya, Muhammad Taher Nuri, structural distortions and unemployment in light of economic reform in Iraq after 2003, first edition, Al-Dhad Bookshop for Printing and Publishing, Baghdad, 2019, p. 33.

42.4	59.6	22.3	67.6	36.7	49.9	2005
35.1	80.7	29.9	87.8	53.2	76.4	2006
23.9	100	13.9	100	30.8	100	2007
14.8	114.8	10.9	110.9	2.7	112.7	2008
7.9	124.4	7.6	130.7	2.8-	122.1	2009
6.8	132.8	2.8	134.3	2.46	125.1	2010
10.2	146.4	3.1	138.4	5.6	132.1	2011
12.6	164.8	6.5	147.4	6.1	140.1	2012
5.6	174.1	0.4	148	1.9	142.7	2013
2.8	179	2.7	152	2.2	145.9	2014
22.7		10.44		18.34		average

Source: Central Organization for Statistics. Indices unit.

It is clear from the table data that the inflation rate increased in the years (2004-2007). The increase in the monetary mass is due to the increase in public spending on the monetary side. On the real side, the decline in the domestic supply of goods and services significantly prevented the supply forces from meeting the growing demand.¹⁰

These obvious bottlenecks are on the real side of the economy, which are evident when tracking the growth rates of the food price indices and rent in Table No. 4. These two items have (61.34%) of the weight of the general consumer price index according to its 2007 basket of components. Table No. 3 shows that housing, water, electricity, and gas were the largest inflationary average, reaching 22.7% from 2004-2014. At the same time, the average growth of inflation in food items was 10.44%. It is noted that inflation rates have increased in this main item for the period 2004-2007. The reason for this is due to supply bottlenecks on the real side, as previously mentioned, and also because of raising the prices of oil derivatives following the policy of raising government subsidies adopted by Iraq with the recommendations of the International Monetary Fund. The food item reached its peak of inflation in 2006 when it reached 29.9%, then decreased to 2.7% in 2014. As for the housing item, it peaked in 2004, when it recorded 69.7%, then decrease in the food index after 2004 in general and a slight increase between 2011-2013. The reason for this is the tendency of food prices towards stability and a remarkable improvement in the level of the Iraqi dinar by directing exchange rates towards relative stability. As for the rent index, it has increased, reflecting bottlenecks in the level of supply. Because it is a non-traded commodity, it is inflexible to the exchange rate. ¹¹

Relative weights	Basket Components	
31.099	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	1
0.70	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	2
5.30	Clothes and shoes	3
31.708	Housing, water, electricity, gas	4
6.993	Residential fixtures and equipment	5
2.300	the health	6
12.1	Transport	7
5.2	Connection	8
1.686	Entertainment and culture	9
1.43	education	10
2.21	restaurants	11
4.51	Miscellaneous goods and services	12
100%	the total	13

Table 5. The basket that forms the general consumer price index with relative weights

Source: Central Organization for Statistics. Indices unit.

However, it is worth noting that rental costs usually rise due to the lack of buildings compared to the demand for them. Or because of its high cost. Therefore, rent is a good approximate indicator for measuring the resulting bottleneck due to limited production capacity. Accordingly, it is most likely that the index published by the Central Statistical Organization gives somewhat underestimated estimates due to the large increase in housing rents due to the high construction costs and the wide deficit in residential homes on the other hand. High rent rates forced Iraqi families to

¹⁰ 1. Dr. Lawrence Yahya Saleh, M. Muhammad Taher Nuri al-Musawi, Structural distortions and unemployment in light of economic reform in Iraq after 2003, Al-Dhad Bookshop for Printing and Publishing, Baghdad, first edition, 2019, pg. 72.

^{111.} Abdel-Qader Mohamed Abdel-Qader Attia, Modern Directions for Development, University House, Alexandria, 2003, p.11.

^{2.} Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation, National Report on the State of Human Development 2008, Baghdad, 2009, pg. 44.

live in one narrow house. Inflation rates decreased at the beginning of 2008, when they reached 2.7%, as the effects of monetary policy appeared more, reaching 2.46% in 2010, then 2.2% in 2014. This was due to the improvement in the exchange rate thanks to the daily currency auction and the lack of customs duties that affect the prices of imported goods.

The second requirement: - developments in the general index of consumer prices for the period (2015-2021)

Inflationary pressures have increased in most countries of the world after the prices of materials, including foodstuffs, returned to rise at levels threatening food security. Especially in poor countries, it was noticeable in a large way, according to what was announced by the International Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, about a rise in the price index for foodstuffs. Moreover, in many economies in the world and in light of the conditions of increasing demand and the decline in global production, and since Iraq relies on, to a large extent, filling a very large part of its consumer needs imports, this has been largely reflected in prices.

I able 0	. Consumer pr	ice muex, iou	u anu rent m		, and then a	linual change	Detween 2013	-2021
Annual	Rent	index				Consumer	price index	
inflation rates (2012			Annual inflation	Food index	Annual inflation			year
as a base			rates	mdex	rates			
year)	2012=100	2007=100				2021=100	2007=100	

Table 6. Consumer price index, food and rent index in Iraq, and their annual change between 2015-2021

11,7	114,800	185,500	1,1-	151,500	2,4	104,000	148,000	2015	
0,4	115,300	186,300	2,5-	147,800	0,1	104,100	148,100	2016	
1,2	116,700	188,600	2,1-	144,600	0,2	104,300	148,400	2017	
2,3-	114,000	184,200	0,5	145,400	0,4	104,700	149,000	2018	
0,2	114,200	184,500	0,0	145,400	0,2-	104,500	148,700	2019	
0,4	114,600	185,200	0,5-	144,600	0,6	105,100	149,600	2020	
0,9-	113,600	183,600	4,8	151,600	6,1	111,500	158,700	2021	
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Source: Central Organization for Statistics. Indices unit.

As can be seen from the data in the above table, inflation levels continued to rise for the year 2015. In 2015, it reached 2.4. Then this rise returned to a decline in the years 2016-2017, reaching 0.2 and 0.4, respectively, and the reason for this decline is mainly due to the decrease in the foodstuff group, reaching (-2.5) and (-2.1), respectively.

In 2018, inflation increased significantly, reaching (0.4%) due to the increase in foodstuffs by 0.5%. The annual inflation rate for 2019 was about -0.2%, as shown in Table No. 6. The year 2020 was a year of contraction for the Iraqi economy. The reason is due to the drop in oil prices, as they experienced a sharp decline, as well as the outbreak of the Corona pandemic (Covid-19). As a result, the double deficit increased, which affected the unemployment rate on a large scale due to the complete paralysis of the private and public sectors, weakening the Iraqi individual's purchasing power. As for the inflation rate, it did not rise this year, as it did not exceed 0.6 only, and this is very realistic, unlike the year 2021, as it witnessed a significant increase in the level of general inflation, reaching 6.0. The reason is the rise in oil prices worldwide, which caused a significant rise in commodity prices per capita. Iraqi. Whereas, as we note in the table, the consumer price index in Iraq increased in 2021 to about (111,500)%, compared to about (105,100)% in 2020, i.e., the rate of increase by (6.1%), as shown in the table.

The rise in the average per capita GDP may not reflect the real level of development, which is represented by raising the individual's standard of living through increased consumption, because the average per capita share may rise without there being a tangible development in the standard of living of individuals. Nevertheless, development has paid attention to this indicator as an indicator Of development that clearly expresses the economic and social characteristics of the country. What is meant by economic growth is a continuous increase in the average per capita share of the gross domestic product over time. Justice in the distribution of income among the members of society.

The table depicts the development of the average per capita GDP index at constant prices in the Iraqi economy environment during 2004-2021, as the compound growth rate during 2004-2010 reached about (2.14%). The per capita share of GDP in 2004 reached about (1533. 14) dinars and achieved an annual growth in 2006 of about (6.92%). This growth is due to the improvement in the conditions of the country after the change that occurred in the political and economic system.

The positive impact of the oil policy was reflected in the increase and maximization of the percentage of revenues generated. However, this increase may not reflect a parallel improvement in the standard of living of the Iraqi individual due to poor infrastructure and poor levels of social service. As for the period from 2011-2014, the average per capita share of output reached A compound growth rate of (3.03%) which is considered high. The reason for this is

due to the improvement in oil prices, as well as the security situation becoming more stable during the same period. However, after 2014 it worsened, and the security situation deteriorated, leading to a negative growth rate of (1. -40%, then began to improve and gradually increase during 2015-2016. At the end of this period and the beginning of 2017, the annual growth reached about (-6.28%), while the compound growth rate during the study period reached about (1.25%). However, according to Despite this increase in the Iraqi per capita share of the gross domestic product, there are very large discrepancies in living standards between members of society, as well as between urban and rural residents, or income differences between the sexes, as the poorest 20% of families receive less than 7% of the income. The total income of Iraqi families, richest 205, receives 44% of the total income of Iraqi families, at a rate of 6 times what low-income families receive. This is clear evidence of poor income distribution among members of Iraqi society. Table 7. Gross domestic product and growth rate of average per capita income between (2004-2021)

14010 11 01000 401	testie produce und grow	in fute of average	per eupriu meome betwee	11 (2001 2021)
The growth rate of average per capita income %	average per capita income	population	gross domestic product	year
49.0	3.655.697	27.139	53.235.3	2004
1.3-	3.608.060	27.963	73.533.5	2005
4.9	3.784.495	28.810	95,587.9	2006
2.8	3.888.778	29.682	111.455.8	2007
6.2	4.128.446	31.895	151.026.06	2008
0.3-	4.117.095	31.664	130.643.2	2009
3.1	4.243.965	32.490	162.064.5	2010
3.8	4.407.312	33.338	214.324.1	2011
8.7	4.801.128	34.208	254.225.4	2012
2.7	4.931.842	35.096	243.587.5	2013
3.3-	4.771.487	36.005	266.332.6	2014
1.9	4.863.000	35.213	194.680.9	2015
11.9	5.399.049	36.169	196.924.1	2016
4.1-	5.177.285	37.149	221.665.7	2017
0.2	5.186.727	38.124	268.918.8	2018
3.0	5.344.620	39.127	276.157.8	2019
13.4-	4.628.747	40.150	219.768.7	2020
0.5	4.650.852	41.190	301.439.5	2021

The fourth requirement: - the average consumption of Iraqi per capita and the level of disparity between the provinces

The average total consumption per capita is the best indicator to know the extent of the development of the standard of living. This total consumption of a person usually consists of the total private consumption (which is the largest part, reaching about 71% of the total consumption of a person in 2012, represented by spending on goods and services and public consumption or the so-called government, which includes services provided by the state, such as education, health, etc.

Private consumption data by each governorate is available from Iraqi households' social or economic surveys. As for public consumption, there is difficulty in obtaining it due to the lack of direct data. Therefore, we made a preliminary segmentation of the public consumption figure contained in the total of Iraq in the national accounts estimates for 2012 and by governorates. The surveys conducted in the years 2007, 2012, and 2014 of the social and economic conditions of the family showed a relatively detailed picture of the family's private income and consumption. The year 2012 is particularly important as it is the most stable year after the change in 2003. From 2004-2005 to 2009, armed operations increased in Iraq, but after curbing armed groups, 2009-2012 were characterized by a relative decrease in violence and high economic activity. However, after 2013, armed operations began to escalate after the terrorist organization ISIS invaded large areas before defeating the organization in 2017. The picture of the average private consumption per Iraqi person shows a great disparity between the provinces. In 2012, the average consumption in the highest fifth of the governorates was about 2.44 times its level in the lowest fifth, while in 2007, the ratio reached 2.15, which draws attention to the high disparity between the two years. Where Kurdistan comes first in the years 2007 and 2012. The average per capita consumption is twice the national average. In Baghdad, it is almost equal to the national average in both years. On the other hand, the average of most other provinces is below the national average. The average private consumption per person in the southern oil-producing governorates is three-quarters of the national average. Maysan, a rising oil production governorate, is at the bottom of the list. 2012. When looking at the average total consumption per person after collecting the preliminary figures for public consumption with private consumption for the year 2012, we notice a similar pattern of variation in the average total consumption per person between governorates to that extracted from the average private consumption per person.¹²

	Overall consumption	Per capita consumption	Per capita Consumption	<u> </u>
Total consumption	2012	2012	2007	provinces
7.314	1.760	5.554	3.568	Sulaymaniyah
7.297	1.814	5.483	3.517	Erbil
6.359	1.749	4.610	2.674	Duhok
4.361	903	3.458	1.736	Kirkuk
4.234	1.174	3.060	1.630	Najaf
4.209	1.240	2.969	1.782	Baghdad
3.989	1.199	2.813	1.242	Salahaddin
3.944	1.320	2.790	1.342	Babylon
3.928	1.115	2.624	1.352	Diyala
3.910	1.293	2.617	1.325	Karbala
3.863	1.283	2.581	1.441	Basra
3.697	1.139	2.580	1.446	Anbar
3.612	1.031	2.557	1.408	Wasit
3.217	1.221	2.099	1.488	Nineveh
3.215	1.387	1.996	1.310	Dhi Qar
2.898	799	1.829	1.393	Qadisiyah
2.882	1.199	1.753	1.188	Double
2.762	1.009	1.682	1.368	Maysan
4.201	1.232	2.969	1.750	Iraq
7.077	1.776	5.300	3.343	Kurdistan territory
2.10	1.86	2.44	2.15	average

Table 8. Misc. years for average per-capita consumption based on province/K/per capita

Source: Ali Khudair Mirza, The Iraqi Economy, and Crises¹³

The surveys conducted in the years 2007, 2012, and 2014 of the social and economic conditions of the family contain a relatively detailed picture of private/family income and consumption according to the governorates of Iraq. In addition to the availability of appropriate final data according to the governorates, 2012 gains an advantage over others as it is the most stable year of security and economics after 2003. This discrepancy between the governorates in the consumption pattern is due to several factors, the most important of which are the change in the economic structure, the rapid growth of oil revenues, and the subsequent increase in spending due to the open-door policy. The fifth requirement: - Analysis of the development of per capita income for all governorates of Iraq after 2004 The family survey for 2014 showed the average per capita income according to each governorate. We notice a varying average from one governorate to another when following the table data below. This disparity may sometimes be very large between the provinces, especially those different in geographical, demographic, social, and economic features. When we analyze this data and its relative distribution of average per capita income and according to the source of this income for the provinces of Iraq. There is a discrepancy between the governorates in obtaining the average per capita income from wages and salaries. The highest percentage is in Muthanna Governorate (64.5), followed by Basra Governorate with a rate of (63.6), while Sulaymaniyah Governorate came immediately after them with a rate of (38.6). It is noted through the governorates received a higher percentage of wages and salaries; on the opposite side, they obtained a lower percentage from the source of income of self-employed workers and the income of employers, as the

¹² 1. Al-Baldawi et al., 2008, features of poverty through the analysis of income, expenditure, and the ration card, the 2007 household survey, background papers for the study of the poverty alleviation strategy in Iraq, the World Bank program.

^{2.} d. Abdel-Zahra Faisal Younis, Zainab Ahmed Al-Qaisi, Economic Reform Programs between the Recipes of International Organizations and the Development Requirements in Iraq for the period 2004-2020, Gilgamesh Library and Publishing House, Baghdad, 2022, p. 139.

^{3.} Dr. Faris Karim Breihi, Hassan Khalaf Radi, Measuring inequality in the distribution of income and individual spending, Journal of the University College of Economics, Issue 54, 2018

¹³ 1.d. Ali Khudair Mirza, The Iraqi Economy, Crises and Development, previous source.

^{2.} Dr. Siham Kamel Muhammad, Research and Studies in the Iraqi Economy, Dar Al-Doctor for Science, 2014, p. 15

percentage of Al-Muthanna Governorate reached (12.1) only. Basra Governorate (12.4), while Sulaymaniyah only reached (12.4). 31.69).

The total income received	Transfer income	social salaries	income from property	Self-employed income	wages	province
100	8.5	6.4	13.9	20.1	51.0	دهوك
100	6.2	5.9	12	22.5	53.4	نينوى
100	9.2	7.3	13.3	31.6	38.6	سليمانية
100	6.2	4.6	9.6	29.6	49.9	كركوك
100	7.3	5.8	18.6	21.5	46.8	اربيل
100	3.7	8.7	13.7	12.8	61.2	ديالى
100	3.1	4.5	14.4	19.3	58.7	الانبار
100	4.7	6.2	21.6	15.6	519.	بغداد
100	6.4	8.2	16.3	23.5	45.6	بابل
100	3.0	6.5	21.1	13.9	55.5	كربلاء
100	4	6.9	15.7	19.7	53.9	واسط
100	2.9	5.5	13.8	17.2	60.7	صلاح الدين
100	11.7	4.1	16.5	27.6	40.1	النجف
100	5.1	8.0	13	13.7	60.2	القادسية
100	5	5.5	12.9	12.1	64.5	المثنى
100	3.5	6.5	15	13.1	61.9	ذي قار
100	1.4	4.4	16.2	16.0	61.9	ميسان
100	7.3	4.3	12.3	12.4	63.6	البصرة
100	5.9	6.1	16.1	19.8	52.1	المجموع

Table 9. Proportional distribution of average income per capita based on income source (k ID/ month)2016

Source: Ministry of Planning, Central Statistical Organization, Economic and Social Survey of the Family in Iraq for the year 2016

The governorates with a high average per capita income depend more on projects for those with wealth than on obtaining income from wages and salaries. In addition, the governorates in which the average per capita income is high from the source of property income were concentrated in the governorates of Erbil, Najaf, and Baghdad. This means that there are private and owned projects for individuals. Diyala and Qadisiyah are also among the provinces that receive income from social salaries. As for the province of Najaf, it is the province that obtains the most other transfer incomes. This means that these governorates get more income transferred from abroad than others. This unequal distribution in the income averages of individuals is evidence of the weakness of the legal legislation on the one hand and its lack of interest in what will lead to this unfair distribution of negative repercussions on the Iraqi economic activity. Therefore, through our knowledge of the distribution of the average income of individuals, we find out the reason for the difference in the consumption pattern of the Iraqi individual and the disparity between the provinces.

The sixth requirement: - Sources of family income for Iraqi families and federal budget allocations to the provinces

The earned income represents the added values (wages, profits, etc.) as stated in the data of the Central Statistical Organization as a result of the socio-economic survey of Iraqi families in 2014. Subsidies, transfers from the federal budget to the family sector, amount to approximately 8.5% of the income. The total, whether earned or unearned or the equivalent of 9.6% of the earned income represented in wages and operating surpluses.¹⁴

Table 10. Sources of family income (billion ID)

total	Wage earners Compensation of workers and transfers	Earners of other types of income, excess operations, and transfers	
47.7	4.5	43.3	Public sector
37.5		37.5	earned income
10.2	4.5	5.7	Pensions and social benefits in the budget

¹⁴ 1. Al-Dawoodi Majid Muhammad Khorshid, Economic, Social and Service Concerns of the Iraqi People, a collection of articles and studies for the period 2003-2011, Al-Diwan Printing Company, 2012, p. 28.

68.4	46.3	22.0	private sector
68.3	46.3	22.0	earned income
0.1		0.1	net transfers from abroad
116.1	50.8	65.3	total income
41.1	8.8	66.3	Public Sector %

Because the percentage of these subsidies from the state is not divided into the family sector according to wages and the surplus of operations profits and other property income, the subsidies were shown for both recipients, whether wages or surpluses from operations.

In the Iraqi family sector, using the same percentage (9.6%) of their earned income as found in Table 4 below, although it was possible to assume these subsidies as a percentage of the total income of the family sector, all of which go to wage recipients without recipients of the operating surplus. In general and in all cases, the lesson is in the total subsidies, which affect the total family income.

As for net transfers from abroad, they are the modified balance of payments data for the year 2014 contained in the Central Bank of Iraq for the year 2014

Notes on the table above

1. The surplus of operations in this table does not include income from home ownership activity, as the majority of income from this activity is not actual but calculated.

2. As for net transfers from abroad, they do not include transfers within the household sector in the table because it involves double counting.

The rule in distributing budget items to the Iraqi governorates depends on the governorate's population. This explains the secret of the discrepancy between the governorates and general expenditures in the Iraqi federal budget. 17% of the remaining net. The distribution mechanism is through ministries and government institutions. Therefore, through the indirect impact of the federal budget on the generation and growth of family income, these direct incomes, such as salaries, wages, pensions, transfers from the budget, accounted for 41% of the income of Iraqi families, Including 66% of the total wages in the economy as a whole for the year 2012. On this basis, it significantly impacts the level of consumption. Therefore, the more equal the distribution of the province's budget shares, the less the discrepancy in Iraqi per capita consumption will appear.¹⁵

However, suppose we want to know the number of people who receive income from the government apparatus and public establishments. In that case, we will use the following table, according to the latest surveys conducted:

2016	2014	2012	2007	category
3.027	3.004	2.750	2,060	Governmental employees
550	550	550	550	Workers in public facilities
2.066	1.834	1.813	1.173	Pensioners
7	7	7	8	covered by Social security
4	4	5	4	The number of beneficiaries in social care units
5.654	5.399	5.125	4.335	the total
36.934	36.005	34.208	29.810	population
6.6	6.6	6.7	6.9	Average family size, person/household
5.596	5.455	5.106	4.320	Number of families, thousand families

Table 11. the proportional increase in population that get income from the Iraqi government (k ID/ Per capita)

The period 1990-2002 was a weak role for the state in supporting the Iraqi individual to balance his standard of living. In a period when Iraq was under economic sanctions and international isolation, only the ration card With the change after 2003, the dependence of living on the general budget has increased dramatically for most segments of society, explaining why Iraq is a rentier state that depends mainly on oil. What confirms our words are the percentages contained in the above table, where the number of workers who rely on the budget for their income reached 2016 5.7 million people in, compared to the same period in the same period, the number of Iraqi families 5.6 million families,

¹⁵ 1.d. Kamal Al-Basri, The Federal Budget and the Challenges of the Iraqi Economy, Iraqi Institute for Economic Reform, 2009, p. 162.

^{2.}d. Yahya Hammoud Hassan, Studies in the Iraqi Economy, Iraq Center for Studies, Al-Saqi Press, 2012, p. 282. 3.d. The narrator, Ahmed Omar, Analytical visions of the Iraqi economic situation after 2014, Dar Al-Doctor for Administrative and Economic Sciences, 2019, p. 73.

with the possibility that there may be some redundancy in the names due to administrative and financial corruption. However, it does not negate the existence of a large number in this category, especially if these figures are available from official statistics (the Central Statistical Organization). The abundance of oil revenues for the period 2004-2014 contributed to an increase in the level of salaries/wages at high levels, making it difficult for the state to provide them easily after the decline in oil prices. This continuous increase is the main reason for changing the Iraqi individual's volume and type of consumption. Incorrect consumerism has tended to be wasteful and wasteful in recent years. The Iraqi workforce is characterized by complete dependence on the public sector, as the public sector absorbs half of the total employment in Iraq, with limited opportunities available in the private sector, which is part of formal and informal government institutions that absorb the second half of the workforce. This has continued to increase the workforce in the public sector and the reason for that dependence on oil for the economy.

The Iraqi state has become, in recent periods, that is the increase, which constitutes terrible pressure on the Iraqi economy, in particular on government financial resources, causing a large increase in the deficit problem. The reason is the high volume of wages and their allocations in the budget. The public sector has become very attractive for the individual due to the noticeable increase in salaries and the safety and stability of the job in the public sector. This prompted an increasing demand for jobs and exacerbated unemployment and productivity. The size of the labor force in 2020 Iraq reached about 11 million people.

Moreover, as the white paper and the government reform document showed, the size of the labor market in Iraq will reach 5 million new people from 2020-2030. Accordingly, the labor market will increase to 16 million people in 2030. The number of workers on permanent staffing in the Iraqi state has increased more than three times during the same period. This large expansion of employment in the public sector prompted the financial allocations that cover employees' salaries to increase dramatically, reaching more than half of the operating expenses in the public budget. This number can be increased if we add the salaries of retirees and the salaries of the social protection network. This large expansion in salaries and their diversity prompted the consumption pattern to change and increase dramatically, as the increase prompted a change in the type of consumer products and a change in the ways of spending for the Iraqi individual in a manner commensurate with the large increase in his income, and this is what we will notice when we get to the distribution of spending on goods and services.

Yearly employment	Total workforce	year
-	1047718	2004
105408	1153125	2005
759479	1912605	2006
147855	2060280	2007
81172	2141432	2008
178815	2320247	2009
148275	2468522	2010
194088	2662608	2011
87714	2750322	2012
157454	2907778	2013
-	-	2014
110292	3027060	2015
	2800000	2016
	2800000	2017
	2894712	2018
37249	2941000	2019
-	3200000	2020
280000	3263000	2021

Table 12. total workforce and yearly employment

Source: Ministry of Finance/ budgets for different years

Source: world bank/ general report.

conclusions

1. The research period witnessed a significant increase in the income level of the Iraqi individual

2. The Iraqi economy is characterized by the existence of disparity and inequity in the distribution of incomes among individuals

3. The rise in the level of wages and salaries has contributed significantly to the increase in aggregate demand

4. Individuals depend on a large percentage of their wages in the public sector, i.e., salaries obtained from jobs with the state

Recommendations

1. It is assumed that the inequity in the income distribution in Iraq is reduced by following the progressive tax method to reduce this disparity.

2. Individuals relying heavily on the public sector to provide them with wages is a great indicator that the private sector is very weak

3. some governorates suffer from higher poverty rates than others. This is due to the main factor, which is the lack of justice in the distribution. Therefore, the state must pay more attention to these governorates to help them obtain basic goods and services.

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2. The United Nations Development Program, National Report on the Status of Human Development in Iraq 2008, Iraq, p. 145.

¹ 1.d. Kamal Al-Basri, The Federal Budget and the Challenges of the Iraqi Economy, Iraqi Institute for Economic Reform, 2009, p. 162.

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¹ 1. Al-Dawoodi Majid Muhammad Khorshid, Economic, Social and Service Concerns of the Iraqi People, a collection of articles and studies for the period 2003-2011, Al-Diwan Printing Company, 2012, p. 28.

¹ 1.d. Ali Khudair Mirza, The Iraqi Economy, Crises and Development, previous source.

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¹ 1. Salih al-Musawi, Lawrence Yahya, Muhammad Taher Nuri, structural distortions and unemployment in light of economic reform in Iraq after 2003, first edition, Al-Dhad Bookshop for Printing and Publishing, Baghdad, 2019, p. 33.

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3. Bernard Bilodeau, Descriptive Economics, translated by Abdel-Amir Shams El-Din, 1st Edition, University Foundation for Studies and Publishing, 1991, 167