



The Impact of Exports on Economic Development in Iraq (2019-2023)

Ali Mohammed Abd Alhafith

Department of Tikrit Education Directorate of Salahel-din, Ministry of Education, Tikrit, Iraq

DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.47134/par.v2i3.4065>

*Correspondence: Ali Mohammed Abd Alhafith

Email: alialshmer96@gmail.com

Received: 22-03-2025

Accepted: 22-04-2025

Published: 22-05-2025



Copyright: © 2025 by the authors. Submitted for open access publication under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

Abstract: Research interested in examining the relationship between exports, both non-oil commodities and oil, and Iraq's economic development in Iraq during the period 2019-2023, and Identify the degree of impact of exports on economic development of GDP using the econometrics analysis tools. The results indicated a strong moral relationship between exports and GDP, the relationship explain large proportion of changes in GDP in real terms. The most important recommendations concerning the need for the restructuring of economic sectors in Iraq, In order to achieve economic gains of economic resources before the depletion and invest in the development of non-oil commodity sectors, especially industry and agriculture.

Keywords: Exports, Economic Development, Iraq

Introduction

A better position in the global economy necessitates the appropriate use of diplomacy to maximize opportunities in attracting foreign capital, transferring technology, exporting services, and expanding foreign trade. In such an environment, the efforts of international actors are primarily focused on achieving this goal. Current economic developments in the world have become increasingly important, and many state and non-state actors have entered the field of economic diplomacy. Access to global markets and protecting the country's interests in the face of the challenges of the global economy. Foreseeable exports are the main focus of economic policy-making, one of the most important sources of foreign income that relieve pressure on the balance of payments and create job opportunities. The export growth strategy of any country aims to provide producers through the economic and governmental policy that is drawn, which aims to increase the ability to produce goods and services that have the ability to compete in the global market (Topxhiu &Krasniqi, 2011).

Studying the development of national exports is of particular importance in monitoring and evaluating the foreign trade sector, as analysing their data enables us to know the degree of economic development, as there is a strong direct relationship between exports and economic development (Kavoussi, 1984).

Research Problem

Iraq is one of the pastoralist countries that depend on pastoralist income and output for its income and output, so the pastoralist income should be used for the development of other commodity economic sectors. the development of non-oil commodity economic sectors that help increase productivity and grow their exports alongside oil exports. Hence the main research question: Is there a relationship between exports and economic development in Iraq?

Sub-questions

- Is there a relationship between exports of non-oil goods and economic development in Iraq?
- Is there a relationship between oil commodity exports and economic development in Iraq?

Research hypotheses

- There is no significant effect between non-oil commodity exports and economic development in Iraq
- There is no significant effect between oil commodity exports and economic development in Iraq

Importance of the research

The research is concerned with analysing the relationship between non-oil commodity exports and non-oil commodity exports in the years 2019-2023, in particular, the relationship between non-oil commodity exports and non-oil commodity exports. 2023, especially the role of non-oil commodity exports in the role of economic growth and diversification of sources of income.

Methodology

Data Sources

Books and research contained in library journals. Statistical publications such as the publications of the Bank of Iraq and the publications of the Statistical Department Directorate of Metric Numbers for multiple years.

Search limits

The research aims to analyse the impact of non-oil commodity exports and non-oil exports on Iraq's economic growth during the period 2019-2023.

The Nature of Economic Development and Economic Growth

In economics, the terms development and economic growth are frequently used. They are the main objective of the majority of economic theories and the most significant subjects of interest to governments that are focused on the advancement of their nations and the well-being of their citizens. But it's crucial to remember that economic development and growth are two different things.

Real average per capita income, which is calculated by dividing total income by population, often rises over time as an indicator of economic growth. Given the effect of population expansion on a nation's economic growth, an increase in total income does not always translate into an increase in economic growth. Instead, the proportionate connection between total income and population must be considered.

It should be mentioned that economic growth does not qualify as an increase unless it satisfies the criteria of continuity. For instance, growth estimates do not include government subsidies given to poor countries. Although it is just transitory, there is an increase in overall revenue at that time. Therefore, economic growth is defined as the change in the average amount of goods and services that an individual receives, regardless of the quality of the products and services or the way that real money is distributed among individuals.

Economic development, on the other hand, is concerned with the quality of products and services that are offered to individuals and concentrates on structural changes in the distribution of income and output. To put it another way, it encompasses quality in addition to quantity. Development is generally understood to be the process that permits or enables a growth in average real income, output, and services, as well as an improvement in the living situations of the impoverished.

The theories of classical growth, neoclassical growth, Keynesian growth, and new (endogenous) growth have all been used to explain economic growth (Ajamiya, 2007).

The great push theory, balanced growth theory, unbalanced growth theory, growth patterns theory, structural change and development patterns theory, growth phases theory, and international dependence theory are some of the ideas that have been developed in relation to economic development. Economic development is described as "a series of changes and adaptations without which growth ceases." Growth, on the other hand, is the quantitative improvement of the entire economy, including resources, demographic growth, and labor productivity, and it necessitates a number of changes in the economic structure to ensure its continuity. Another definition of it is "the sum of economic and social changes accompanying growth."

Development can be defined as "the sum of policies adopted by a given society that lead to increased rates of economic growth based on its own strengths, ensuring the continuity and balance of this growth to meet the needs of its members and achieve the greatest possible degree of social justice."

Development, in its broadest sense, is the sustainable advancement of society as a whole and of the social system toward a better human life. It is also defined as "the advancement of society by devising new and better methods, raising levels of production through the development of human skills and energies, and creating better organizations."

The concept of development describes the changes that occur in society, in its economic, political, social, intellectual, and organizational dimensions, in order to provide a decent life for all members of society (Abdulsahib, 2024). Bonnet believes that "economic growth is nothing but a process of automatic economic expansion, taking place within fixed and specific social organizations, and measured by the magnitude of the quantitative changes that occur, while economic development assumes effective and conscious development; that is, making changes in the social organizations of the state. Growth, according to Dr. Muhammad Zaki Al-Shafi'i, "refers to the mere increase in real per capita income." However, development is perhaps best described as taking place during a period of fast economic expansion. Put otherwise, it refers to attaining a quick, steady, and cumulative rise in real per capita income over a long time frame. Development cannot be accomplished without a significant shift in the social and economic structure since everything that expands must change. Therefore, a powerful push, a suitable approach, and a visual shift are the components of development (Mohamed & Abdelwahab, 2008).

It is evident from these definitions that the idea of development is broader than the idea of economic growth. Along with raising output and improving the efficiency of production elements, economic growth also entails changes in output structure, which necessitate redistributing the factors of production across different economic sectors.

This leads us to conclude that development is growth coupled with the following goals:

- Creating structural change in the structure of output, with the resulting redistribution of the factors of production across sectors.
- Ensuring a decent life for individuals
- Ensuring the continuity of this growth by ensuring the continued flow of economic surplus, or the remaining amount after meeting individual needs, directed to investment (Ajamiya, 2007).

The Economic Situation in Iraq

Due to the inability to finance the economy and all of its operations—aside from oil—all economic events and activities in Iraq are now correlated with the price of oil. Revenues will fluctuate in the short, medium, and long timeframes since oil prices are a product of market factors and daily swings, which may include annual changes or market cycles. Iraq will therefore have to deal with two situations: the first is a budget deficit brought on by varying income and set commitments and receivables. The second scenario involves the deficit growing over time, which results in a liquidity issue symbolized by Iraq's incapacity to pay its debts and receivables on a daily, monthly, and annual basis (Ashour, 2024). It has been demonstrated that there is no correlation between economic growth rates, the gross

domestic product, and the price of oil; rather, the steady increase was fueled by rising oil prices and growing output levels. The administration has neglected to address the numerous political, security, and economic factors that contribute to the lack of foreign direct investment and an economic diversification plan, whether in production or international commerce. Regarding imports, the balance of payments data showed the external balance's position and the trade balance between imports and exports, both of which point to a bad scenario (Zaini).

Table 1. Some indicators of the balance of payments

year	Trade balance	Exports	import	External balance
2019	2,2	29,7	27,3-	0,3-
2020	2,8	28,9	25,9-	0,1-
2021	3,2	28	24,8-	0,9
2022	0,1	31,1	31,5-	7,1-
2023	0,3-	30,4	29,0-	3,5-

Source: IMF reports

It is evident from a close examination of the balance of payments that oil exports dominate export activity. While the remaining exports made for about 1% to 2% of overall exports, oil exports accounted for over 98% of total exports, suggesting that this activity was almost completely absent. On the other hand, imports were primarily consumer products, lacking both manufacturing goods and production requirements. This shows that Iraq has neither inflows nor cumulative foreign direct investment, showing a lack of both domestic and foreign direct investment. An analysis of Iraq's actual balance of payments over the aforementioned time period exposes a grave issue: its whole reliance on oil earnings. Growth in oil revenues is reflected in the GDP growth noted above. This has significant economic ramifications, chief among them being that the Iraqi economy has grown reliant on the oil market. As we remember, Iraq entered the financial crisis tunnel in the middle of 2014 when oil prices dropped. The export structure is depicted in the following table, which demonstrates how crude oil exports have changed from 2004 to 2018 (Awadh, 2024). Oil exports and non-oil exports make up a very tiny and insignificant portion of the total.

Table 2. Iraqi exports 2004-2018 in billions of dollars

year	Export	crude	Other exports
2004	17,7	17,3	0,4
2005	19	18,4	0,6
2006	27,2	26,6	0,6
2007	37,9	37,2	0,7

year	Export	crude	Other exports
2008	62	61,1	0,9
2009	46,4	45,6	0,8
2010	51,4	51,2	0,2
2011	79,6	79,4	0,2
2012	94,1	93,8	0,8
2013	101,6	101,1	0,5
2014	109,1	108,8	0,5
2015	118,1	117,5	0,6
2016	127,6	127,0	0,6
2017	139,9	139,2	0,7
2018	152,6	151,7	0,9

Source: Central Bank of Iraq and IMF reports, 2016.

Iraq is comparatively open to international commerce, which contributes over 62% of its GDP, since it is the fifth-largest oil producer and fourth-largest exporter in the world (World Bank data). The goal of the Iraqi government's new trade strategy is to ensure that there are minimal trade obstacles in the nation by integrating the economy into regional and global markets.

Crude oil accounts for more than 95% of Iraqi exports. According to the Economic Cooperation Organization, the country's main export partners in 2022 were India (\$38.8 billion), China (\$34 billion), the United States (\$10.3 billion), South Korea (\$8.21 billion), and Greece (\$6.27 billion). The Iraqi government has implemented new laws to promote trade and recently sought to build a highway between Baghdad and Cairo via Amman to strengthen trade relations between Iraq, Egypt, and Jordan. Iraq has also made investments to increase its ability to export hydrocarbons, mainly through the construction of a port in the Persian Gulf. However, weak institutions, a lack of legal protection, high levels of corruption, insecurity, and badly executed structural changes deter international commerce (Economic Co-operation and Development Data, 2023).

Because of its hydrocarbon exports, the nation maintains a structural trade surplus in products, but it is nonetheless extremely susceptible to changes in the price of oil. Iraq bought \$67.1 billion and exported \$123 billion in 2022. Reports indicate that the value of Iraq's merchandise exports and imports in 2022 will reach \$155 billion and \$105 billion, respectively, an increase of 65% and 43% compared to 2021, respectively. This indicates an improvement in Iraq's trade market (Economic Co-operation and Development Data, 2023).

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecasts that Iraq's economic growth rate will average around 9.3% in 2022, the highest among oil-exporting countries. For 2023, Iraq's economic growth is projected at around 4 percent, higher than the average growth rate of

oil-exporting economies in the Middle East and North Africa region. These statistics and information indicate that Iraq's economy has begun a gradual recovery after overcoming the shocks of COVID-19 and the decline in oil prices in previous years. Both the oil and non-oil economies are on an increasing trajectory. Iraq's imports and exports of goods and services are expected to reach approximately \$155 billion and \$105 billion, respectively, in 2022, the highest figures in recent years and compared to the period from 2000 to 2018. Iraq's imports and exports are expected to increase by 64% and 44%, respectively, this year compared to 2021. For 2023, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) projects Iraq's imports to reach approximately \$100 billion, a significant figure compared to recent years. The potential for increased Iraqi trade offers an opportunity to expand exchanges, especially for the country's business partners.

Table 3. Latest Available Data World Trade Organization

Foreign trade values	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Goods exports (million dollars)	88,903	50,613	91,514	138,291	115,952
Service exports (million dollars)	7,318	3,803	5,177	9,034	0

Source: World Trade Organization

Table 4. Latest Available Data World Bank

Foreign trade indicators	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Foreign trade (% of GDP)	69.0	57.7	62.1	65.8	59.8
Trade balance (million dollars)	32,168	5,902	38,363	47,484	25,374
Trade balance (including services) (million dollars)	16,620	-4,090	27,554	35,055	15,150
Exports of goods and services (annual change%)	4.6	-10.1	-13.3	6.3	-1.0
Exports of goods and services (% of GDP)	38.1	27.8	37.7	40.8	33.9

Source: World Bank; latest available data

Iraq wants to improve its ties with its Arab neighbors and take on a bigger role in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) because of its oil potential. Iraq is a member of the League of Arab States and the Greater Arab Free Trade Agreement (GAFTA). In 2013, Iraq ratified the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement and the Partnership and Co-operation Agreement with the European Union in 2012.

Iraq's accession to the World Trade Organization and its impact on economic development

Iraq applied for membership in the World Trade Organization in 2004. The WTO accounts for the vast majority of global trade, exceeding 90%. The organization serves as a forum for multilateral trade negotiations and acts as a mediator to resolve trade disputes

between its members. It also serves as a coordinator with other international organizations that play a role in shaping global economic policies. Conditions for membership include the organization's members' agreement to freedom of trade, the adoption of policies consistent with the organization's objectives, and acceptance of the international classification of countries. Iraq applied for membership in this organization in 2004, as it is expected to achieve positive outcomes in trade and economics. There are differing views regarding the future of Iraq's trade, with some supporting and others opposing membership in the WTO[10]. Under the presence of this organization, merchandise exports have witnessed a significant increase in the recent period, reaching an average annual increase of more than 6%. Meanwhile, many of the organization's goals have been achieved, including the implementation of a set of agreements between members and the settlement of disputes in trade agreements.

Cooperation has been established with the pillars of the global financial system, such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, in the field of formulating global economic policies, as well as achieving economic development, albeit at varying degrees among its members. With the presence of the World Trade Organization, the institutions of the modern economic system, characterized by the dominance of the capitalist system and its principles and mechanisms, have been completed (Mohammed, 2006). The features of the current global economy have emerged, represented by the movement of goods, services, capital, information, and labor across national and regional borders, linked to technological development. These advantages are consistent with what the WTO calls for and are consistent with the requirements of the new international system. This matter places the movement of trade between countries in a state of constant change within the global economic map. One of the outcomes of the World Trade Organization is the emergence of globalization, which has also become economically, socially, politically, and culturally comprehensive.

Moreover, after the emergence of financial globalization, which is clearly evident through the state the global economy has reached under it, with the increase in international capital at rates far exceeding the growth rates of global trade and income, despite the economic vision that supports it, especially with regard to developing countries, where this vision is found through its supporters that it achieves financial openness to access international financial markets, which helps them reduce the size of the gap with regard to local resources, represented by the inability of savings to finance local investments (World Trade Organisation). This, in turn, will work to increase local investment and achieve rates of economic growth. It is also reflected in an increase in the movement of foreign direct investment and moving away from commercial bank loans, thus reducing the phenomenon of external debt. This is what economic policymakers in Iraq can strive for to increase local and foreign investments and achieve economic development by exploiting local economic resources in an optimal manner and shifting the directions of Iraqi exports from primary resources to manufactured goods, in addition to achieving diversity in the types of exported goods, not just one commodity, in order to achieve gains. Which Iraq can access by joining the World Trade Organization (Abdulkarim, 2013).

The Impact of Exports on Economic Development in Iraq

GDP growth slowed to 1.1% in 2017, a marked decline compared to the previous two years, as domestic consumption and investment declined due to civil violence and a stagnant oil market. The Iraqi government received the third tranche of financing from the 2016 Stand-By Arrangement with the International Monetary Fund in August 2017, which aims to stabilize its finances by encouraging improved fiscal management, required economic reform, and spending cuts. Additionally, in late 2017, Iraq received over \$1.4 billion in financing from international lenders.

Iraq's export development depends heavily on investment and the diversification of important industries, both of which need for improved legal and regulatory monitoring as well as a more favorable business environment to encourage private sector involvement. This calls for a stable security environment following ISIS, the implementation of significant political reforms by the central government, and the settlement of the civil issue with the Kurdistan Regional Government. The oil industry dominates Iraq's mostly state-run economy, accounting for 80% of foreign exchange profits and 85% of government income, making it a crucial determinant of the country's economic future. Iraq's agreements with large oil firms have the potential to increase its oil exports and income, but in order for these agreements to be profitable, Iraq will need to make considerable improvements to its pipeline, export infrastructure, and oil processing facilities. The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) referendum in 2017 caused the Iraqi government to reestablish federal control over disputed oil reserves and energy infrastructure in Kirkuk, disrupting Iraqi oil shipments from northern fields. The role of regional and federal authorities in the development and export of natural resources is a point of contention between the KRG and the Iraqi government. In order to exploit oil and gas resources in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq without interference from the federal government, the KRG established a petroleum legislation in 2007. To develop its reserves, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has inked some 50 agreements with international energy firms, some of which are situated in areas that Baghdad took over in October 2017. Baghdad said the KRG's unilateral shipment of oil to Turkey via its own pipeline from the fields it controls is unlawful. Since 2009, the two parties have entered into five short-term oil and revenue-sharing agreements, all of which have fallen through in the lack of a national hydrocarbons legislation (Ayed, 2015). To ease investor worries about the unpredictable business environment, political changes are still required, and Iraq is only slowly implementing the required laws and institutions. Despite a number of challenges, such as a precarious political system and worries about social stability and security, the Iraqi government is eager to draw in more foreign direct investment (FDI). The expansion of the non-oil private sector is nevertheless hampered by widespread corruption, antiquated infrastructure, poor basic services, a lack of trained labor, and antiquated business legislation.

Certain powers pertaining to the general investment climate are either wholly assigned to local governments or split between the federal government and the regions

under the Iraqi Constitution. The Kurdistan Region Investment Law and the Kurdistan Region Investment Board, which are intended to offer incentives to support economic growth in regions under the KRG's control, govern investments in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (Law Number 4 of 2006). Since 2006, inflation has stayed under control. However, converting macroeconomic achievements into a higher quality of life for the Iraqi people remains a major challenge for Iraqi policymakers. Despite an overburdened public sector, unemployment is nevertheless an issue nationwide. Foreign investors and Iraqi nationals have found it challenging to launch new companies due to overregulation. Growth in the private sector has also been hampered by corruption and a lack of economic reforms, such as bank reorganization and private sector development (Zaini).

The measured relationship between exports and the rate of economic development during the research period (2019-2023):

In order to identify the magnitude of the impact of OEX exports and non-OEX commodity exports on economic development, a measurement model was estimated with a dependent variable GDP as a proxy for economic development and two explanatory variables EX and OEX as independent variables in real terms:

$$GDP = f(EX)$$

$$GDP = f(OEX)$$

$$GDP = f(EX, OEX)$$

where:

GDP: Gross Domestic Product

EX : Non-oil commodity exports

OEX : Oil exports

After applying the GRITL statistical program, the following results were reached:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} t & : & 6.1211 \quad 6.4687 \\ F & = & 41.84442 \quad \bar{R}^2 = 67.1\% \quad D.W = 1.75 \end{array}$$

The results of the model indicated that the calculated F value of 41.84442 is larger than the tabular value of 8.19 at a confidence level of 99%, which indicates the good formulation of the model and the ability of EX to explain changes in GDP.

The value of the corrected coefficient of determination indicated that EX is 67.1% of the changes in GDP are explained by variables not included in the model and the remaining percentage is explained by variables not included in the model, which is the result of the country's reliance on oil exports in the formation of its national product.

The results indicate that there is a strong correlation between non-oil commodity exports EX and GDP, the latter being 6.6 per cent, while the former is 6.7 per cent and the latter is 2.8 per cent. 528 At the 99% confidence level, we reject the null hypothesis H_0 that there is no significant effect of the variable EX on GDP, and accept the alternative hypothesis that there is a significant relationship of the independent variable EX on the dependent variable GDP.

The value of the D.W. is estimated on the absence of a significant relationship between the independent variable EX and the dependent variable GDP because the estimated values of $dL = 1.22$ and $du = 1.42$. [17]

The following function was estimated as the relationship between OEX oil exports and GDP.

$$t : \quad 8.9613 \quad 8.8403$$

$$F = 78.151 \quad \bar{R}^2 = 79.4\% \quad D.W = 1.91$$

The value of F indicates the goodness of fit of the model and the ability of OEX to explain changes in GDP because the calculated F is larger than the tabular F.

The value of the corrected coefficient of determination indicates that OEX is able to explain 79.4 per cent of the changes in GDP, which is more capable than the previous function, due to the high percentage of total exports during the research period.

The model shows that there is a strong relationship between oil exports (OEX) and GDP, with a calculated t value of 8403, which is greater than the calculated t value of 8403. 8403, which is greater than the tabular t of 2.528 and the t calculated in this model is greater than the t calculated for the non-oil commodity exports model of 6.4687, which indicates that non-oil commodity exports have a more significant impact on GDP than non-oil commodity exports. This corresponds to the reality of the Iraqi economy, which relies on oil exports for its revenue and GDP.

The results indicate that there is a strong relationship between oil exports as well as non-oil exports and economic development in Iraq.

Result and Discussion

- If economic development by income fluctuates, then economic development by the economic value that results from the creation of wealth Production is able to enhance the growth of exports, making it capable of contributing to stable economic growth and diversifying sources of income instead of the country's dependence on a single source of income.
- The oil sector accounted for a high percentage of the GDP, forming the largest proportion, as economic development in the country was closely linked to the oil sector, as income in the country was linked to pastoral income and the level of oil prices.
- Few successes have been achieved in the development of the national economy, and oil prices have not been a major factor in the development of the national economy, nor has it been a major factor in the development of the national economy. The movement of oil prices is characterised by violent volatility, and Iraq's export resources are a constant source of instability.
- The results of the econometric analysis indicated a strong significant relationship between oil exports and GDP at constant prices, with oil exports explaining a large proportion of the changes in GDP.

- The results also indicate that GDP is more capable of being used as an indicator of economic development than GDP per capita, which has been used as an indicator of economic development.

Conclusion

- Total exports to GDP is an important economic indicator. Still, the danger in the future repercussions of this variable is the control of total exports on one commodity, which is present in the Iraqi economy represented by oil exports. The repercussions of external and international variables, including the impact of the World Trade Organisation, may have sudden effects on the exports of a specific commodity, such as oil, which leads to damage to the side of Iraqi foreign trade and the reflection of this on all economic and financial aspects in it. Therefore, it is necessary to conduct export diversification operations, especially since Iraq has many economic resources that can be exploited and directed industrially for foreign trade purposes, i.e. shifting from exports of raw materials to exports of manufactured materials.
- Giving the necessary importance in dealing with the economic activities constituting the total fixed capital formation, which are the commodity and distribution activities that organise an important subset of economic activity, while service activities were the main aspect of fixed capital formation during the study period.

References

- Abdulkarim, F. S. (2013), Analysing the relationship and exchange between the Iraqi economy and the international economy for the period (2003-2010), Anbar University Journal of Economic and Administrative Sciences, Vol. 5, No. 10.
- Abdulsahib, A. S. (2024). Role of Export, Import and Gross Capital Formation in Iraq: A Granger Causality Approach. *International Journal of Economics and Financial Issues*, 14(5), 102–108. <https://doi.org/10.32479/ijefi.16484>
- Ajamiya, M. A et al. (2007), Economic Development between Theory and Practice, University House, Egypt.
- Ajamiya, M. A et al. (2007), Economic Development between Theory and Practice, University House, Egypt, pp. 32-38
- Al-Abdali, A. b. A. (2005) Determining the impact of exports on economic growth in Islamic countries: A comparative analytical study, Journal of the Saleh Abdullah Kamel Centre for Islamic Economics, Al-Azhar University, Year 9, Issue 27, pp. 215-259.
- Al-Qamani, S. B. (2004), The World Trade Organisation and its negative and positive effects on the current and future economies of the Arab Gulf States, Volume 1, Dar Al-Hamid for Publishing and Distribution, Amman, Jordan, p. 59.
- Al-Sariti, M. & Naja, A. A. (2008), Macroeconomic Theory, University House, Egypt.
- Al-Sawai, K. M. (2006) Trade and Development, First Edition, Dar Al-Manhaj for Publishing and Distribution, Amman, Jordan, 42

-
- Aminizadeh, M. (2025). Application of Stochastic Frontier Gravity Model for Determining Seafood Export. *Journal of Agricultural Science and Technology*, 27(1), 1-15, ISSN 1680-7073, <https://doi.org/10.22034/JAST.27.1.1>
- Ashour, M. A. H. (2024). Intelligent hybrid forecasting for Iraq exports. *E3S Web of Conferences*, 501. <https://doi.org/10.1051/e3sconf/202450101004>
- Awadh, S. M. (2024). Iraqi Oil: A Summary Overview from Discovery to Export. *World Regional Geography Book Series*, 333–345. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-71356-9_15
- Jafaar, M.R. (2024). Gravity Models Estimation for Saudi Arabia Kingdom Export to Iraq and From Iraq Export to Saudi Arabia Kingdom (My country has oil resources): (An Econometrics Study for period 1990-2020). *Journal of Ecohumanism*, 3(4), 2082-2108, ISSN 2752-6798, <https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v3i4.3742>
- Kavoussi, R. M. (1984). Export expansion and economic growth: Further empirical evidence. *Journal of development economics*, 14(1), 241-250.
- Law Number 4 of 2006
- Mahboub, A. A. G.(1998), *Fundamentals of Econometrics - Theory and Practice*, First Edition, Al-Mansour University College, Baghdad, p. 220.
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Data, 2023
- Topxhiu, R. M., & Krasniqi, F. X. (2011). Foreign trade and economic growth in Kosovo: trends and some features. *International Journal of Economics and Management Sciences*, 1(5), 97-107.
- World Bank data
- World Trade Organisation, WWW.WTO.ORG
- Zaini, M. A. The Iraqi Economy - Current Reality and Future Challenges, Emirates Centre for Strategic Studies and Research, 33-39.