



Press release for the survey of *Well-Being via Instant, Frequent Tracking for monitoring poverty (SWIFT)* in Kurdistan region-2018 (Released date Jun 30 2019)

Following the announcement of poverty rate in 2012 and relying on the results of Social and Economic Survey from the same year, which was conducted by (KRSO and CSO) with the technical cooperation of the World Bank, another survey which is known as SWIFT was conducted in July of 2018 to measure the new poverty rate in Kurdistan region and Iraq following the massive economic and social changes caused by incidents after 2014.

### **Objectives:**

1. Measurement of the new poverty rate in KRI and Iraq.
2. Estimation of the poverty rate at the level of the governorates through PMT.
3. Presenting new social and economic indicators.

### **Questionnaire**

The questionnaire was divided to two types:

1. Short questionnaire: Containing 7 sections which included household's social and economic information.
2. Long questionnaire: Containing 6 sections which included information on household's ration and expenditure.

### **Sample of the survey:**

The sample size was 8640 households in Iraq a whole. In KRI, 900 households for each governorate were selected as sample for short questionnaire, of which 180 households were selected as subsample for both short and long questionnaire for urban and rural area. The total sample size was 2700 households in KRI.

## **The most important social and economic indicators**

### **expenditures:**

1. **The average expenditures per capita** for one month in KRI in 2018, was 239,000 IQD, and for Iraq was 212,600 IQD. Within the KRI, the highest has been recorded in Sulaymania governorate at 234,000 IQD followed by Erbil governorate at 211,000 IQD and Duhok governorate, at 199,000 IQD.
2. **The average expenditure per household** for one month in KRI in 2018, was 1,293,000 IQD, and for Iraq was 1,276,000 IQD. Within the KRI, Duhok governorate reported the highest at 1,377,000 IQD, Sulaymania governorate at 1,123,000 IQD followed by Erbil governorate at 1,118,000 IQD.

### **Demography:**



1. The average household size in KRI is 5.4 individuals and 6 in Iraq as a whole.
2. The gender ratio is 100.7 in KRI and 102.4 in Iraq both in favor of males.
3. Dependency rate is 64% in KRI and 74% in Iraq. At the level of KRI, the highest rate goes to Duhok governorate at 69.7% followed by Erbil governorate at 63.5% and Sulaymania governorate at 60.7%.

### **Housing:**

1. According to the results, the rate of households with home ownership in KRI is 73.3% and 72% in Iraq.
2. The rate of households living in rental homes in KRI is 26.5% and 22% in Iraq.
3. The rate of households who have access to waste disposal services in KRI is 93.9% and 52.7% in Iraq.
4. In KRI, the rate of households who have access to waste disposal services on a daily basis is 50.1%, 32.4% for twice or more weekly, 2.6% for once weekly, 14.7% for once or more weekly.
5. The rate of households that use gas for cooking in KRI is 98.9% and 98% in Iraq.
6. The average time for access to the public power network in KRI is 11 hours per day and in Iraq 17 hours per day. However, the average time for access to local power generators in KRI is 12 hours per day, and in Iraq it is 6 hours per day.
7. The rate of houses that have access to the public water pipelines is 90.6% in KRI, and 92% in Iraq. Is Access in Iraq greater than KR?
8. The rate of households who have sufficient water supply from public water pipelines is 72.6% in KRI, and the rate of households who have not access to sufficient water supply from public water pipelines is 25.5%. In Iraq, the rate of households who have sufficient water supply from public water pipelines is 69%.

### **Durable goods:**

1. In KRI, 59.9% of households own cars, and in Iraq 41.7% of households own cars.
2. In KRI, 26.5% of households own computers, while in Iraq 15.9% of households own computers.
3. In KRI, 26.5% of households own tablets, while in Iraq 10.9% of households own tablets.
4. In KRI 89.7% of households own smart mobile phones, and in Iraq 79.6% of households own smart mobile phones.



### **Education and culture:**

1. According to results, literacy rate in KRI is 78%. There are no significant differences between the governorates in KRI, Erbil governorate 79.2%, Sulaymania governorate 77.8%, and Duhok governorate 76.8%. Literacy rate in Iraq is 87%. Delete also in Kurdish version.
2. The net primary school attendance rate in KRI is 95.53%, net secondary school attendance rate 92% and net preparatory school attendance rate 86.6%. For Iraq it is 92.5%, 56.8% and 29.6% for net primary, secondary and preparatory school attendance rate, respectively.

### **Labor force:**

1. In KRI, 43.5% of households' members age 15 and over are economically active and in Iraq 42.8% are economically active.
2. Unemployment rate for age 15 and over is 9% in KRI and in Iraq, it is 13.8%.
3. Unemployment rate for the age group 15-24 is 23.9% in KRI and 27.5% in Iraq.
4. Child labor is 1.8% in KRI and 1.2% in Iraq.

### **Transfers:**

1. In KRI 21.3% of households are pensioners against 25.4% in Iraq
2. In KRI 91.9% of households use food ration and in Iraq 96% of households use food ration.
3. In KRI 1.3% of households are provided financial support by governorate? Is it by governorate? while the rate for these households is 7.5% in Iraq.

### **Opinions of households regarding economic situations:**

1. The rate of households who believe the economic situation is good or very good in KRI is 14.8% and in Iraq is 13%.
2. The rate of households who believe the economic situation is better than it was in 2014 in KRI is 14.7% and Iraq is 16%.
3. The rate of households who expect that the economic situation will improve over the coming two years in KRI is 18.4%, and Iraq is 17%.
4. In KRI, 95.6% of households give attention to food ration against 98.3% in Iraq.



## **Poverty indicators**

### **Poverty:**

The measurement of poverty was relied on household expenditures to provide food and non-food necessities for a sustainable life for each household member. According to the inflation rate and economic indicators in KRI and Iraq in 2018, the poverty line is estimated at 110,880 IQD per capita expenditures/month.

### **Poverty Rate:**

According to the result of this survey, the poverty rate in KRI in 2018 reached 5.46% while it was 18% in Iraq. At the level of governorates in KRI, the poverty rate from highest to lowest, were Dohok governorate at 8.6%, Erbil governorate at 6.7% followed by Sulaymania governorate at 4.46%.

### **Poverty Gap Index:**

Poverty gap Index is an important indicator. It shows the distance between the poor groups and poverty line. Poverty gap in Kurdistan region is 0.7%, which is insignificant in comparison to Iraq where it is 4.1%.

### **Poverty Gap Squared index:**

This is another important indicator in measuring poverty which shows the difference between the poorest groups with poverty line. The poverty gap squared index in 0.7% in KRI compared to 4.1% in Iraq as a whole.

### **GINI Coefficient**

It is often used as a measurement of economic inequality, measuring income distribution or wealth distribution among a population. According to the survey, difference between income among the poor and the rich is 26.6% in KRI and 29.6% in Iraq as a whole.

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