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The Iraqi Parliament Monitor

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The First Quarterly Report 2013 on the Work of the
Iraqi Council of Representatives
(January, February and March / 2013)

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- Introduction:

This report is the first quarterly report for 2013 to monitor the performance of the Iraqi Council of Representatives for January, February and March 2013.

The report includes the legislative and monitoring performance of the Council of Representatives in general, in addition to the work of the different committees and its role in achieving of the draft laws and refer them to the Council's agenda in order to read it first reading.

The Iraqi Parliament Monitor depended on the constitutional items that legislated to the work of the Council and its tasks, especially the article (61) of the Iraqi Constitution and on the Bylaws of the Council.

The team of the Monitor confirms through its reliance on design of a specific entry program for work data carried out in the Council's sessions on accuracy and neutrality of outputs and to avoid the errors ratio that could be occurred in case of manual entry or in case of unloading of data as well as the charts.

The Monitor established its own database depending on the information provided by:

- 1- Monitors who had been trained in Madarik Foundation.
- 2- The Parliamentary Department.
- 3- The Media Department in the Council of Representatives.
- 4- The Council's website.
- 5- The direct contact with the Council's Committees.
- 6- The Media.

The report depended in some of its data on accumulation in the performance of the Council based on the database that has been created especially for the Monitor in order to accurate measurement and show the differences in the performance in each month alone and each three months alone.

- The Legislative Performance

The report includes following up the legislative performance of the Council of Representatives for 13 sessions for the period from 8/1/2013 to 31/3/2013, starting from the third session of the second term for the third year to the 15th session of the second term for the third year distributed on the months as follows:

- 1- January: from 3rd session to 9th session of the second term for the third year.
- 2- February: from 10th session to 12th session of the second term for the third year.
- 3- March: from 13th session to 15th session of the second term for the third year.

- The total number of draft laws (first reading, second reading and passed) is 25 detailed as follows:

- First reading.....8
- Second reading.....9
- Passed.....8

- March was the most voted on laws by five laws, and February was the lowest during this period by one law.

- As for the effectiveness of the Council through the legislative movements for three months. January was the most effective by 14 legislative movements (first reading, second reading and voting), March came in the second place by 6 legislative movements and February came in the third place by 5 legislative movements.

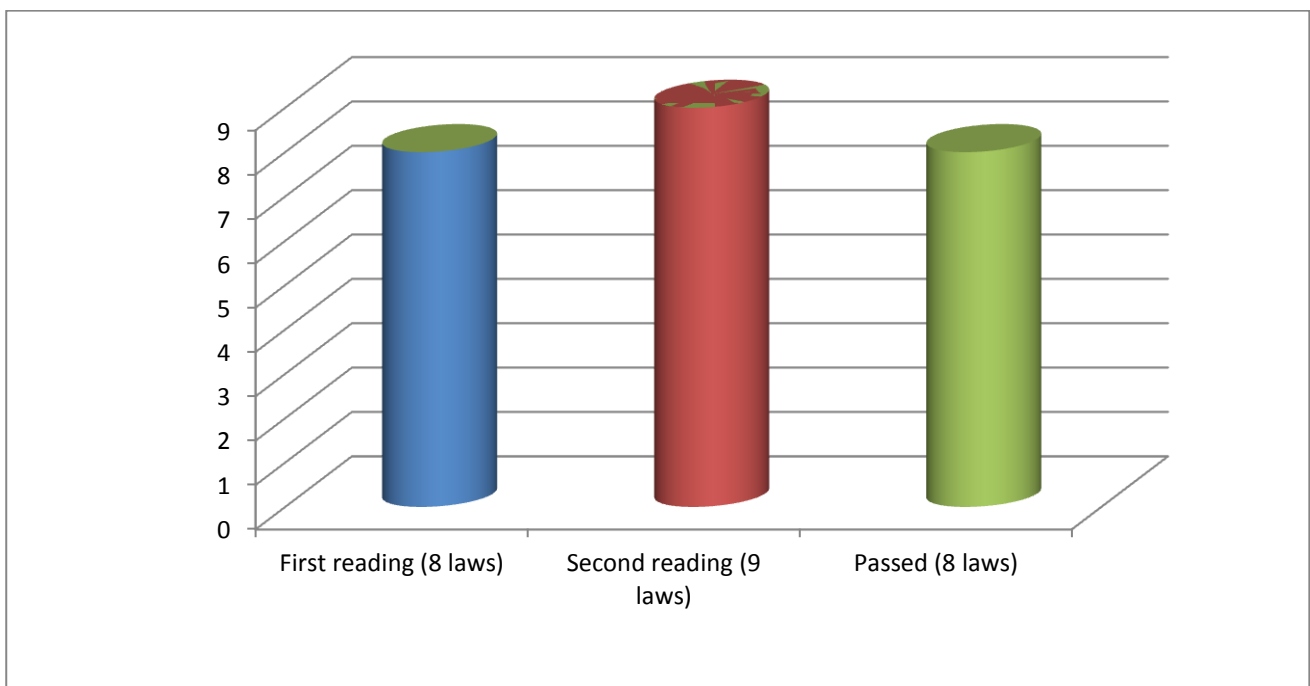
- During the three months of this report there was only one session per week was held in three separate times, and no sessions per week were held

in five separate times because of postponement of sessions due to the lack of quorum.

- Mr. Al-Nujaifi called for an exceptional session on 6/1/2013, and then turned it into a consultative session due to the lack of quorum.

- The session was postponed during this period (11) times, including nine times due to the lack of quorum.

Chart of the laws summary for three months



1- The session (15/ Second Term/ Third Year) was the most voted sessions in the Council of Representatives by four laws.

2- The session (5/ Second Term/ Third Year) was the most sessions of first reading of laws by three laws.

3- The session (7/ Second Term/ Third Year) was the most sessions of second reading of laws by four laws.

4- The highest ratio in the legislation was in the 7th and 15th sessions of the second legislative term for the third year, where each session included five legislative movements (first reading, second reading and voting).

5- The lowest ratio in the legislation was in the (4th, 6th, 8th, 11th, 12th, and 14th) sessions of the second legislative term for the third year, where they included only one legislative movement.

6- The (3rd, 13th) sessions of the second legislative term for the third year didn't include any legislative movement.

7- The sessions of the past months included reading a number of draft laws in the following details:

First reading..... 5 draft laws.

Second reading..... 7 draft laws.

Voting..... 6 draft laws.

and also included reading a number of proposed laws in the following details:

First reading..... 3 proposed laws.

Second reading..... 2 proposed laws.

Voting..... 2 proposed laws.

- Monitoring Role

First: the Council hosted in its sessions:

1- In the 11th session held on 5/2/2013, the Council hosted Mr. Muhanad Al-Saadi, Minister of Water Resources, in a public invitation to discuss the raise of water levels.

2- In the 15th session held on 31/3/2013, the Council hosted Anbar governor, the representative of Ninewa governor, head and members of the IHEC to discuss the postponement of Anbar and Ninewa elections.

Second: the Council voted on the following issues:

1- On 9/1/2013 the Council of Representatives held the fourth session of the second legislative term for the third year. In this session the Council voted to refer the report of the special investigative committee of the Russian arms deal to the Integrity Commission.

2- On 10/1/2013 the Council of Representatives held the fifth session of the second legislative term for the third year. In this session the Council voted in principle to continue the first reading of the draft law of the first amendment for the order of CPA No.(87) of 2004, submitted by the committees of legal, economy and investment, services and construction.

3- On 26/1/2013 the Council of Representatives held the eighth session of the second legislative term for the third year. In this session the Council voted on the resolution of the Presidency of the Council of Representatives to form a parliamentary committee from the committees of security and defense, and human rights, in addition to the heads of Iraqiya bloc and state of law coalition to start its investigative work in Fallujah, and submit a report within 48 hours to take necessary actions against those involved.

4- On 5/2/2013 the Council of Representatives held the tenth session of the second legislative term for the third year. In this session the Council didn't agree to withdraw confidence from the Minister of Youth and Sport, after 102 MPs voted in favor of the withdrawal of confidence out of 255 MPs.

5- On 23/2/2013 the Council of Representatives held the 12th session of the second legislative term for the third year. In this session the Council voted to refuse returning the federal financial budget to the Government to amend it.

6- On 7/3/2013 the Council of Representatives held the 14th session of the second legislative term for the third year. In this session the Council voted on the return of the dismissed against the backdrop of security events in 2008 in the Charge of the Knights and the consequent in Baghdad and the central and southern provinces, and appointment of fighters of marshes and Rafha refugees, as well as introduction of grades to appoint Asaheat in all State Departments.

7- On 31/3/2013 the Council of Representatives held the 15th session of the the second legislative term for the third year. In this session the Council

voted not to approve the increase of the financial deduction for not attending the sessions of the Council and committees meetings.

Third: Interrogation

- On 10/1/2013 the Council of Representatives held the 5th session of the second legislative term for the third year. In this session the Council began the process of interrogation Mr. Jassim Mohammed Jaafar, Minister of Youth and Sport in absentia.

Attendance and Absence

The rate of attendance for three months

Before talking about the absence and attendance of members, blocs and committees of the Council, it must be noted that Kurdistan Blocs boycotted the works of sessions of the Council on impact of approval of the federal budget. They didn't attend the sessions of the Council since the 14th session of the second legislative term for the third year and came back in the 20th session of the second legislative term for the third year.

- 1- January.....189 MPs for each session (excluding one session that hadn't published attendance).
- 2- February.....220 MPs for each session.
- 3- March....167 MPs for each session.

The lowest session in attendance was the 15th session of the second legislative term for the third year, where it recorded the attendance of 165 MPs.

The highest session in attendance was the tenth session of the second legislative term for the third year, where it recorded the attendance of 255 members.

Number of working hours by Parliament

The number of working hours by Parliament was divided as shown in the following table on months of this report. The final total was 36.4 hours out of the total of the sessions during these three months which equal (1.5) full days or (5.2) working days at the rate of seven hours a day.

Comparing with the number of the sessions for these three months which are 13, so the rate of time for per session is (2.8) hours approximately for each session.

Month	Number of hours
January	19.4
February	10.5
March	6.6
Total	36.4

The members with the most absence rate:

For 195 sessions since the beginning of the work of the Council of Representatives till 15th session of the second legislative term for the third year. The members with the most absence rate and the number of frequent absence times for them have been monitored. They are as follows:

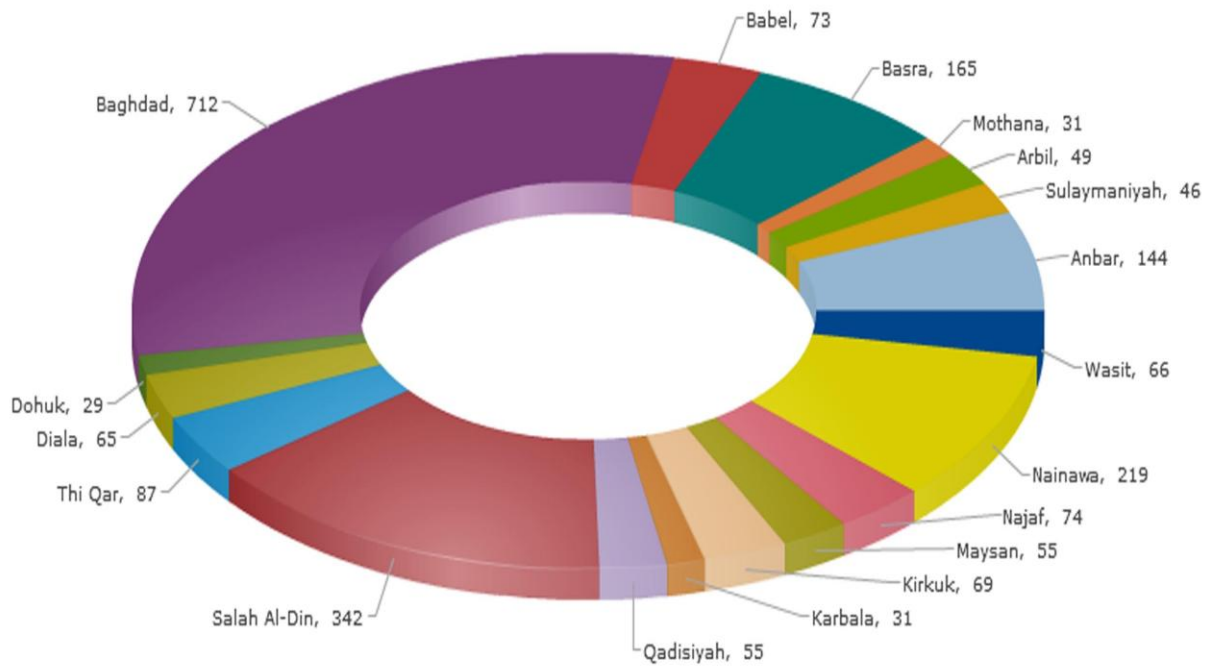
- 1- Falah Hassan Mustafa Al-Naqib: 137 unexcused absences (17 absences in a row, 17 absences in a row, 13 absences in a row).
- 2- Ayad Hashim Hussein Allawi: 59 unexcused absences (24 absences in a row, 25 absences in a row).
- 3- Ajeel Hamidi Ajeel: 57 unexcused absences (6 absences in a row, 5 absences in a row).
- 4- Ahmed Abdul Hadi Al-Chalabi: 55 unexcused absences (8 absences in a row, 7 absences in a row).
- 5- Hajim Mahdi Salih Al-Hassani: 55 unexcused absences (9 absences in a row).

Distribution of absences by provinces

Distribution of accumulated absences by provinces during the 195 sessions

Council of Representatives Facts & Figures

Distribution of Absences by The Provincial House of Representatives

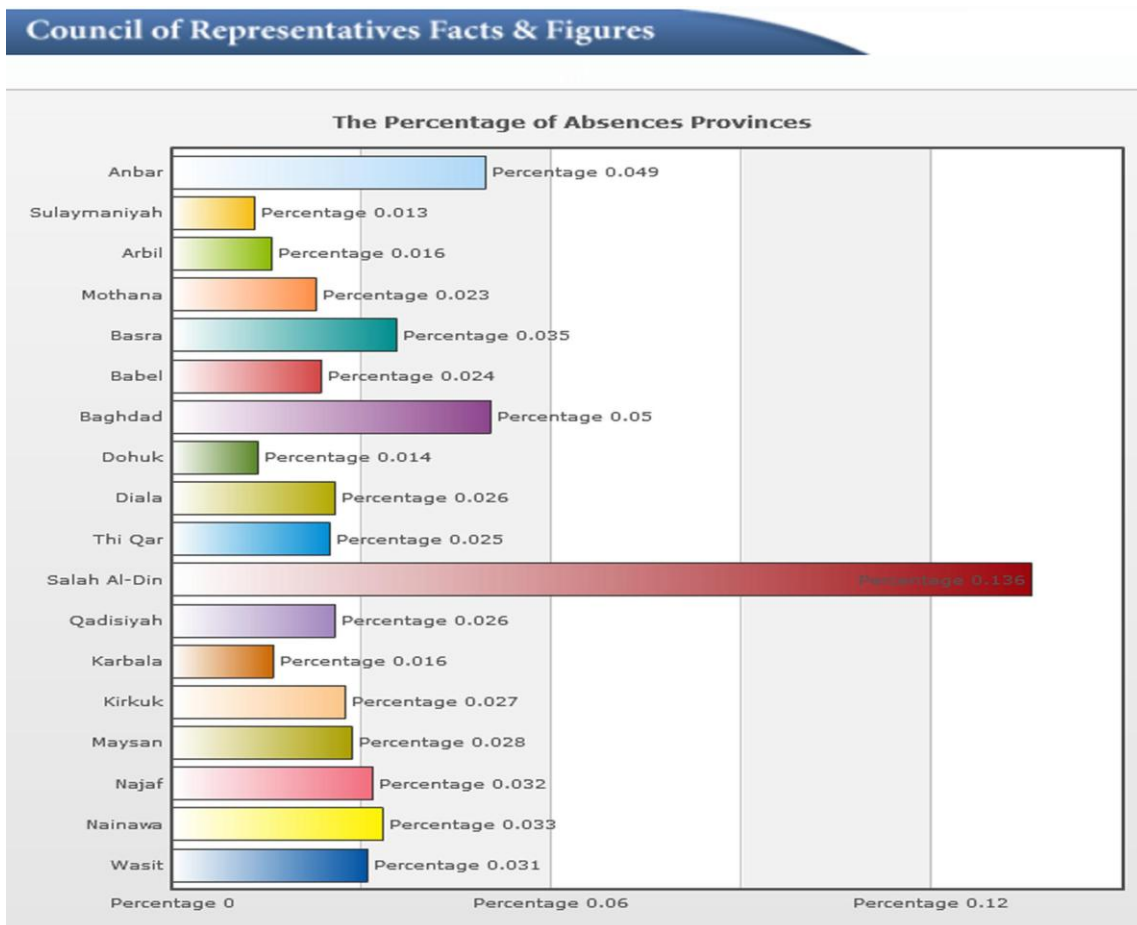


The percentage of absences by provinces

The Monitor used the following calculation in calculating the absences of members by provinces: the number of absences of members during the 195 sessions / number of sessions / number of MPs for each province. The absences were calculated for the 195 sessions, starting from the first session of the first legislative term for the first year to the 15th session of the second legislative term for the third year.

The results indicated that Salah Al-Din province was the highest among the provinces in the absence percentage by 13.6%, with an increase from the rate in the past months where it was 11.6%. Baghdad province came in the second place by 5% where it has maintained its percentage for the past period, as for the third place was Anbar province by 4.9%, and it has maintained the same sequence compared to the past months where it was 4.1%. Sulaymaniyah province has remained the lowest in absence percentage by 1.3%, followed by Karbala province by 1.6%.

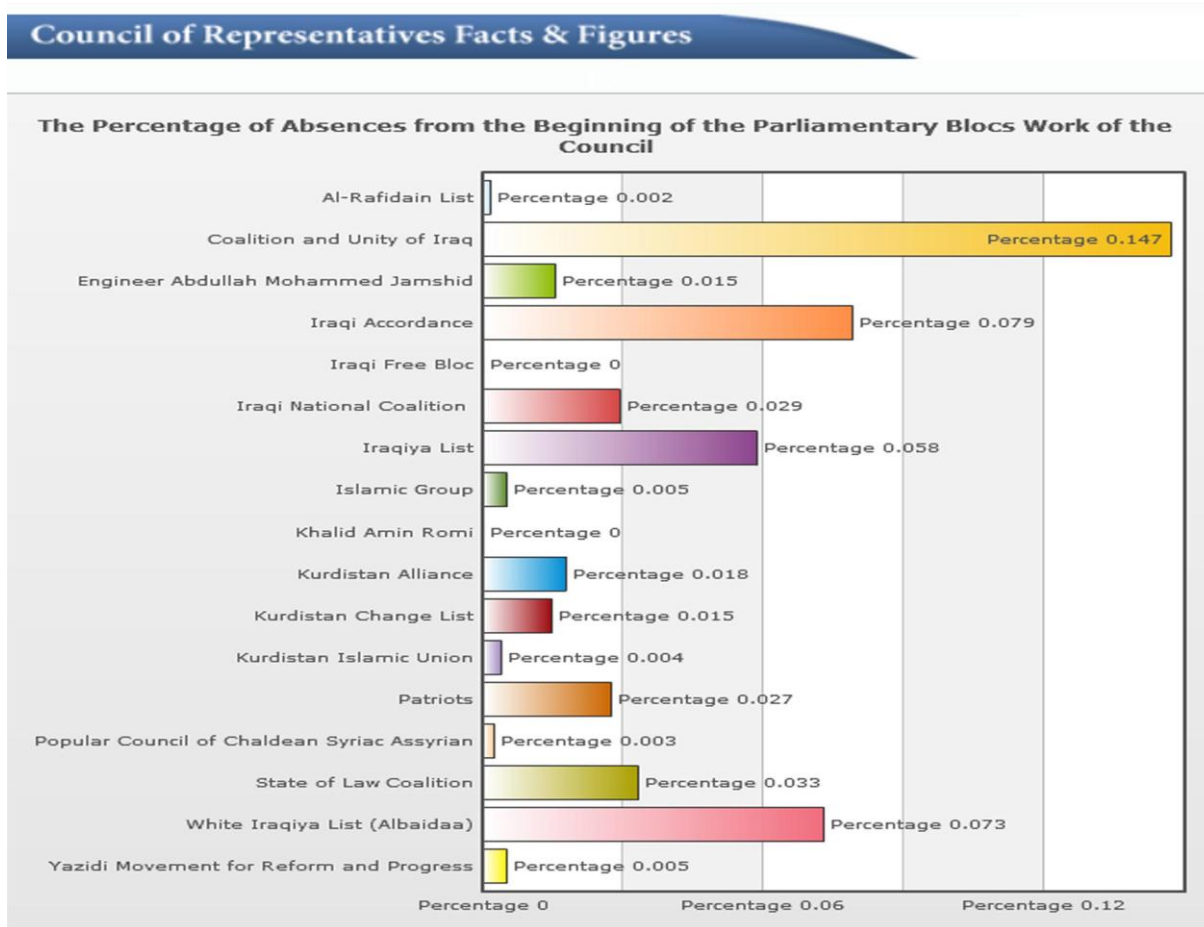
As shown in the following chart:



The percentage of absences by the parliamentary blocs since the beginning of the work of the Council

In the same calculation, the absence percentages of the parliamentary blocs were calculated as follows: total number of bloc absences/ number of bloc MPs/ number of sessions, noting that the percentages mentioned were calculated for the 195 sessions. The percentages indicated that the Iraq's Unity Alliance was the highest in absence percentage among the other blocs by 14.7% with an increase in the absence percentage for the past months where it was 11.7%. The Accordance Bloc came in the second place in the absence percentage by 7.9% with a decrease in the absence percentage for the past months where it was 8.5%. The white Iraqiya list and Iraqiya came in the third place by 5.5%.

As shown in the following chart:

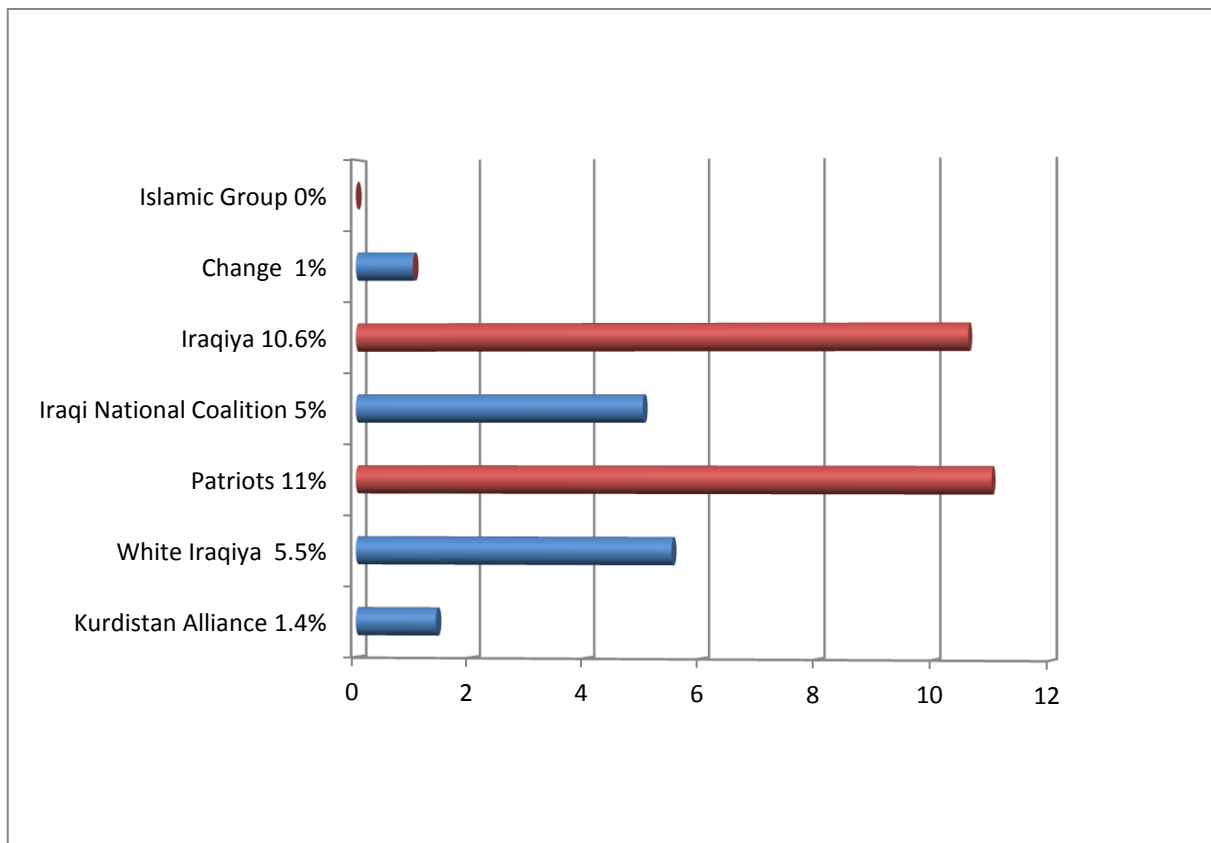


The percentage of the absences of the parliamentary blocs during the three months of this report

This percentage was calculated for 12 sessions during the three months mentioned out of 13 sessions and haven't published the rest of the sessions by the Council of Representatives till the preparation of this report.

The percentage was calculated by dividing the number of absences of the bloc during these months on the number of (12) sessions divided by the number of MPs of that bloc.

The percentages indicated that the Islamic Group didn't record any absence during this period. The Change Bloc recorded the lowest percentage in absence by 1%, while the most bloc in absence percentage was Patriots Bloc by 11%, followed by Iraqiya by 10.5%.



Distribution of absences by committees for the (195) sessions

The absences of members were distributed on different committees in variable rates for the past months. The absences have been cumulatively calculated according to the chart shown below. The absences of committees came as follows:

- 1- The committee of members' affairs and parliamentary development: 191 absences.
- 2- The committee of health and environment: 110 absences.
- 3- The committee of finance: 106 absences.

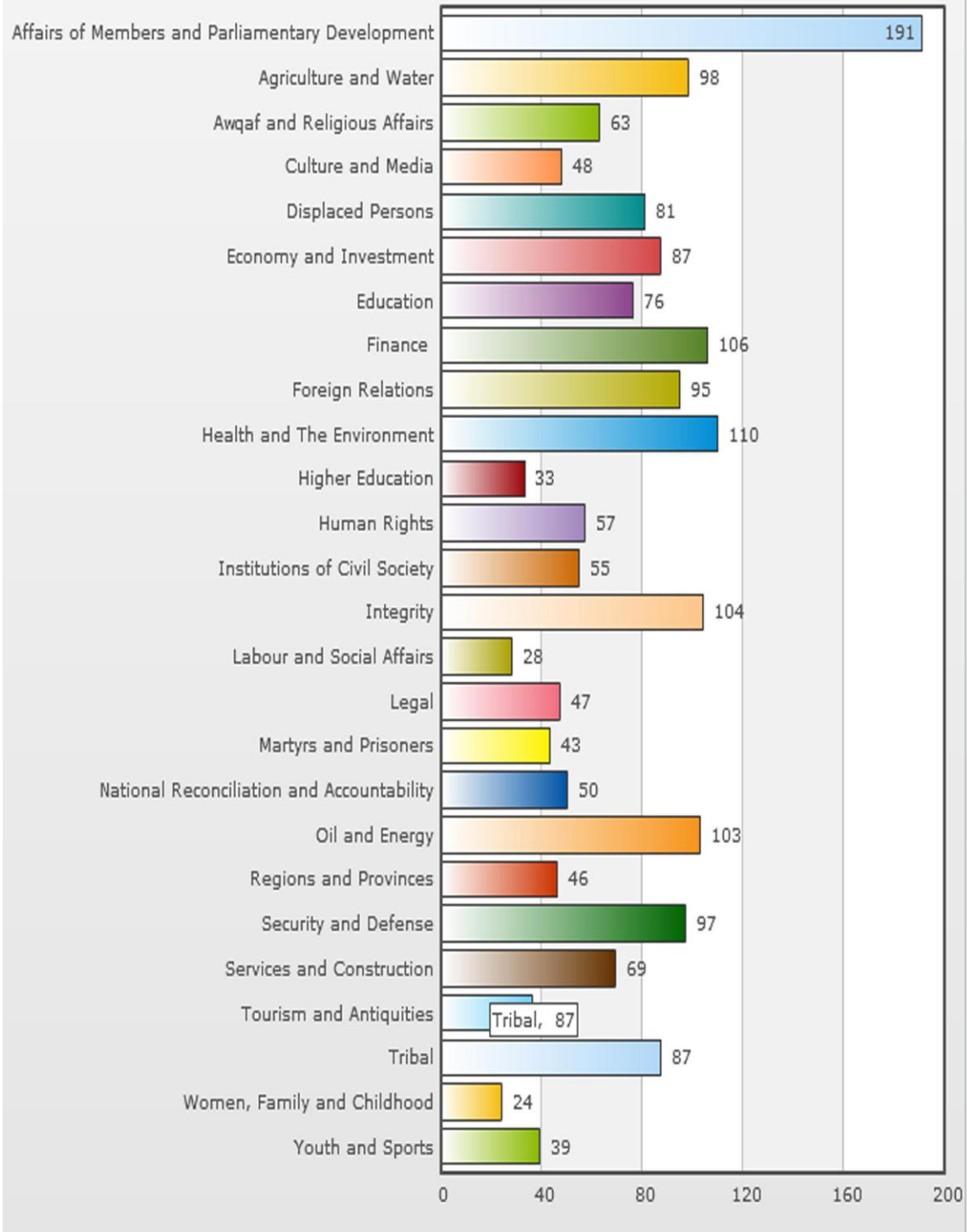
The lowest committees in absence for the past period were as follows:

- 1- The committee of women, family and childhood: 24 absences.
- 2- The committee of labor and social affairs: 28 absences.
- 3- The committee of higher education: 33 absences.

As shown in the following chart:

Council of Representatives Facts & Figures

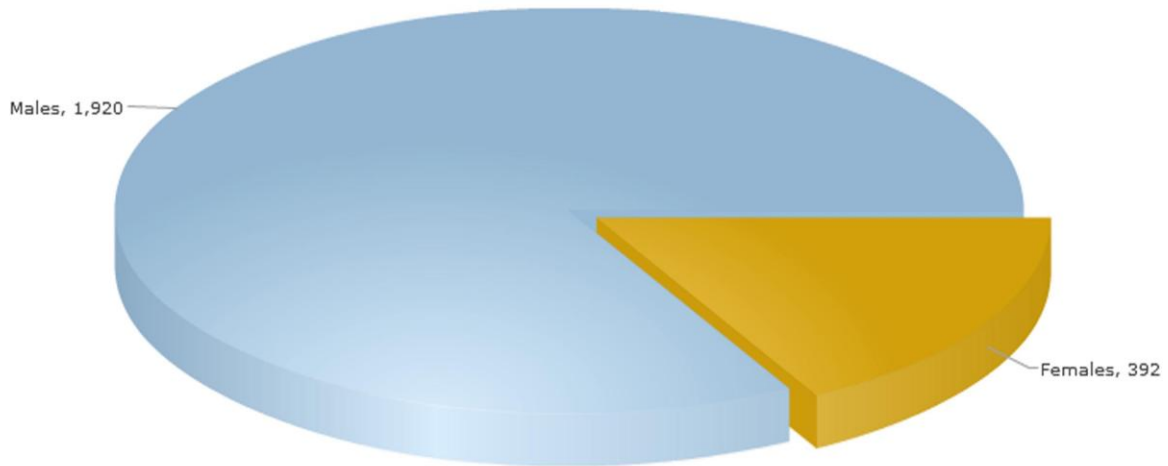
Distribution of Absences by The House of Representatives Committees



Absences by sex

Council of Representatives Facts & Figures

The Distribution of Absences House of Representatives by Sex



The Iraqi Parliament Monitor indicators showed that women in the Council are more committed in attendance, where the absence percentage of women compared to the absence of men was as follows:

- The absence percentage of women = 2.4%.
- The absence percentage of men = 4%.

This percentage was calculated by dividing the number of absences on the total number of sessions divided by the number of MPs in the Council by sex which is:

Women = 83

Men = 242

Which means that the absence rate for each session:

Women = 2 members for each session.

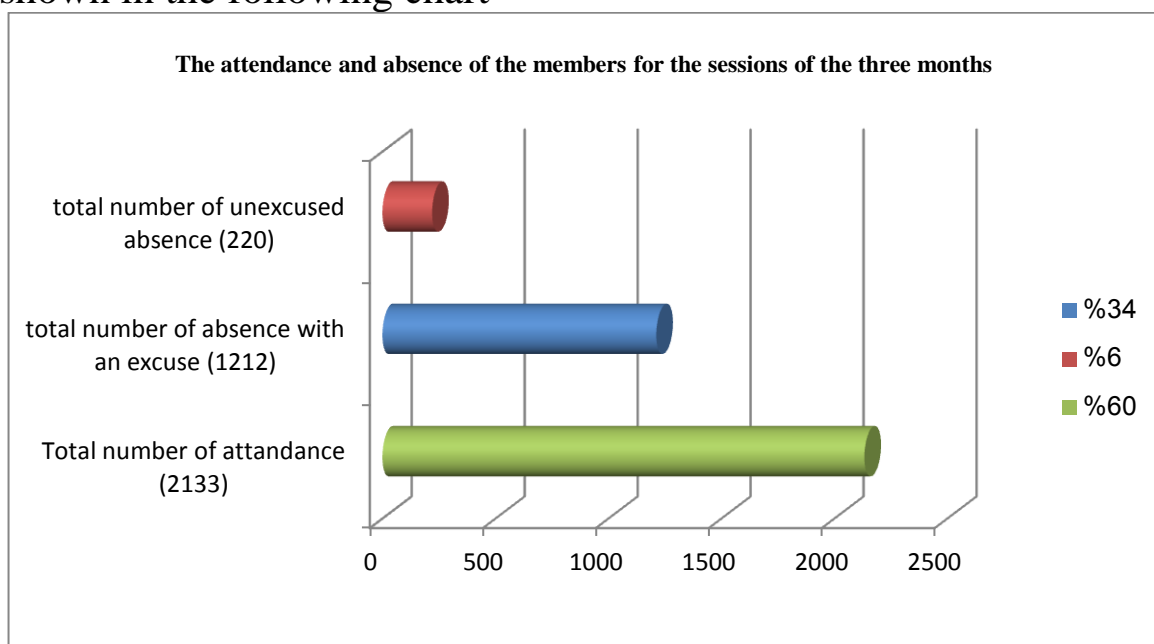
Men = 9.84 members for each session.

The attendance and absence of the members for the sessions of the three months

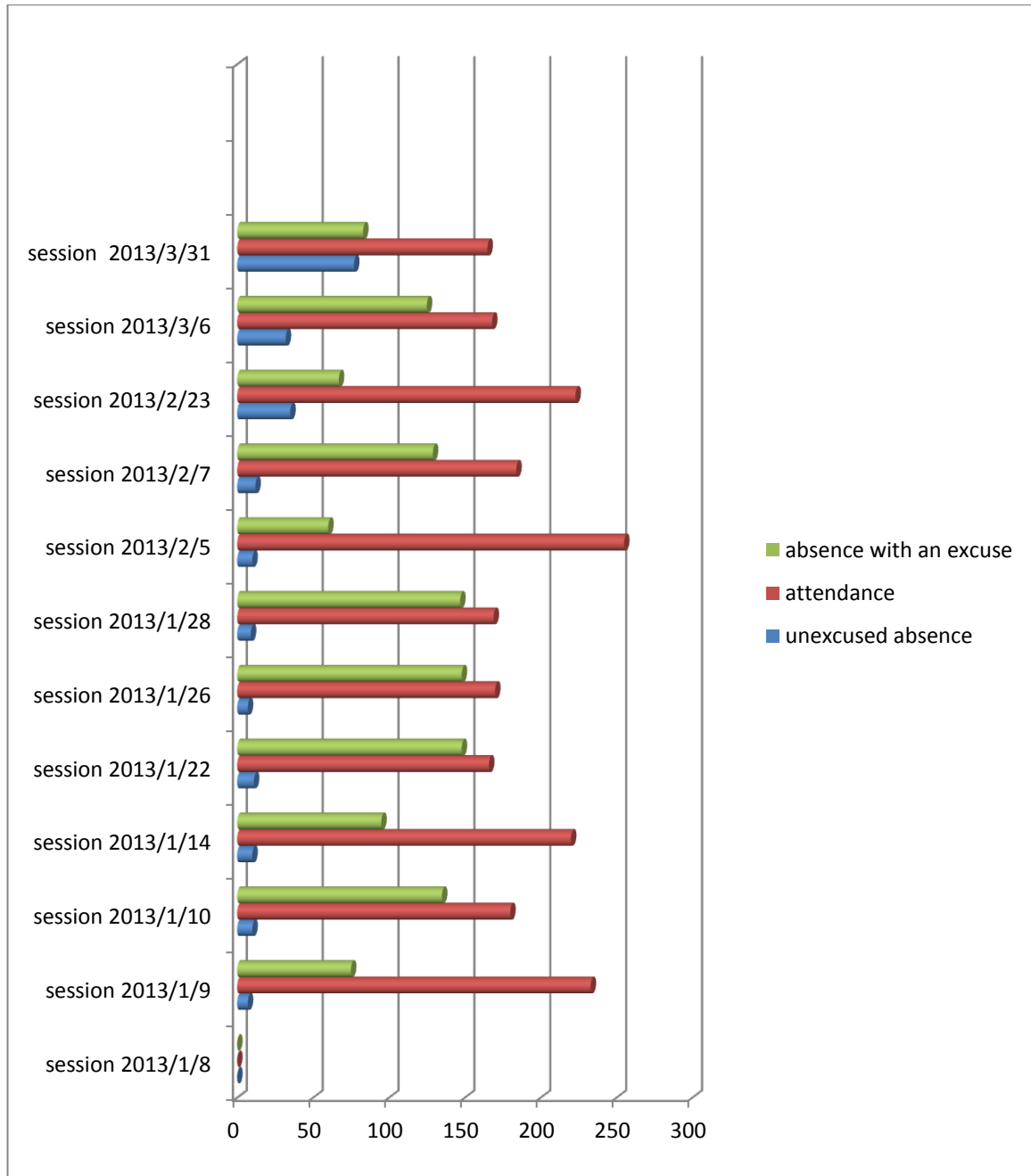
The Iraqi Parliament Monitor team followed the accumulated attendance and absence movement for the Council's members for 11 sessions of the three months sessions out of 13 sessions. Because the Council didn't publish the number of attendees of the third session of the second legislative term for the third year, and didn't publish the number of absentees of the 14th session of second legislative term for the third year until the preparation of this report and came out with the following numbers:

- 1- The total number of unexcused absence was 220 representing 6%.
- 2- The total number of absence with an excuse was 1212 representing 34%.
- 3- The total number of attendance of the members of the Council was 2133 representing 60%.
- 4- The highest attendance for the members during the period covered by the report was 255 MPs in the tenth session of the second legislative term for the third year held on 5/2/2013.
- 5- The lowest attendance for the members during the period covered by the report was 165 MPs in the 15th session held on 31/3/2013.

As shown in the following chart

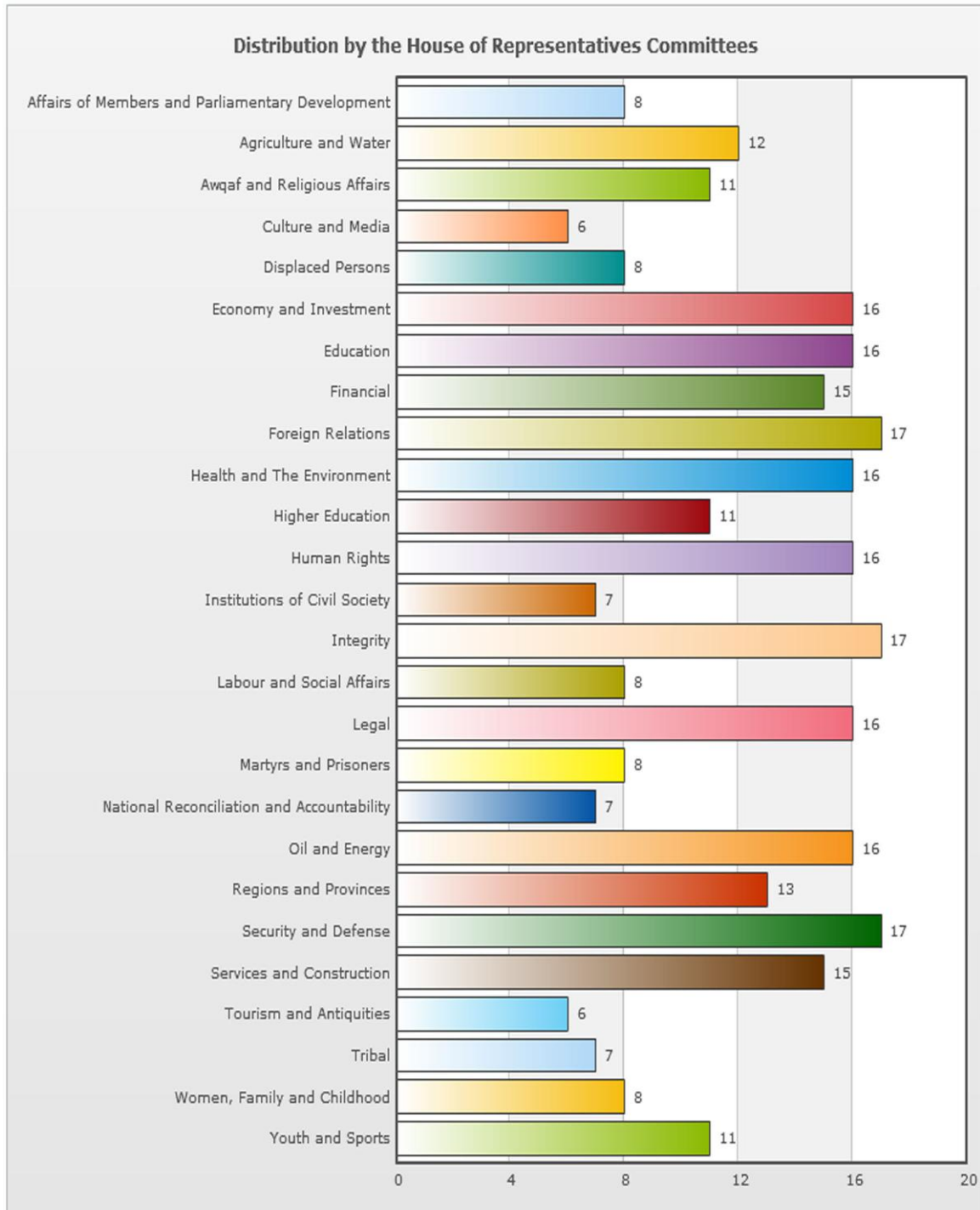


The attendance and absence of the members for the sessions of the three months



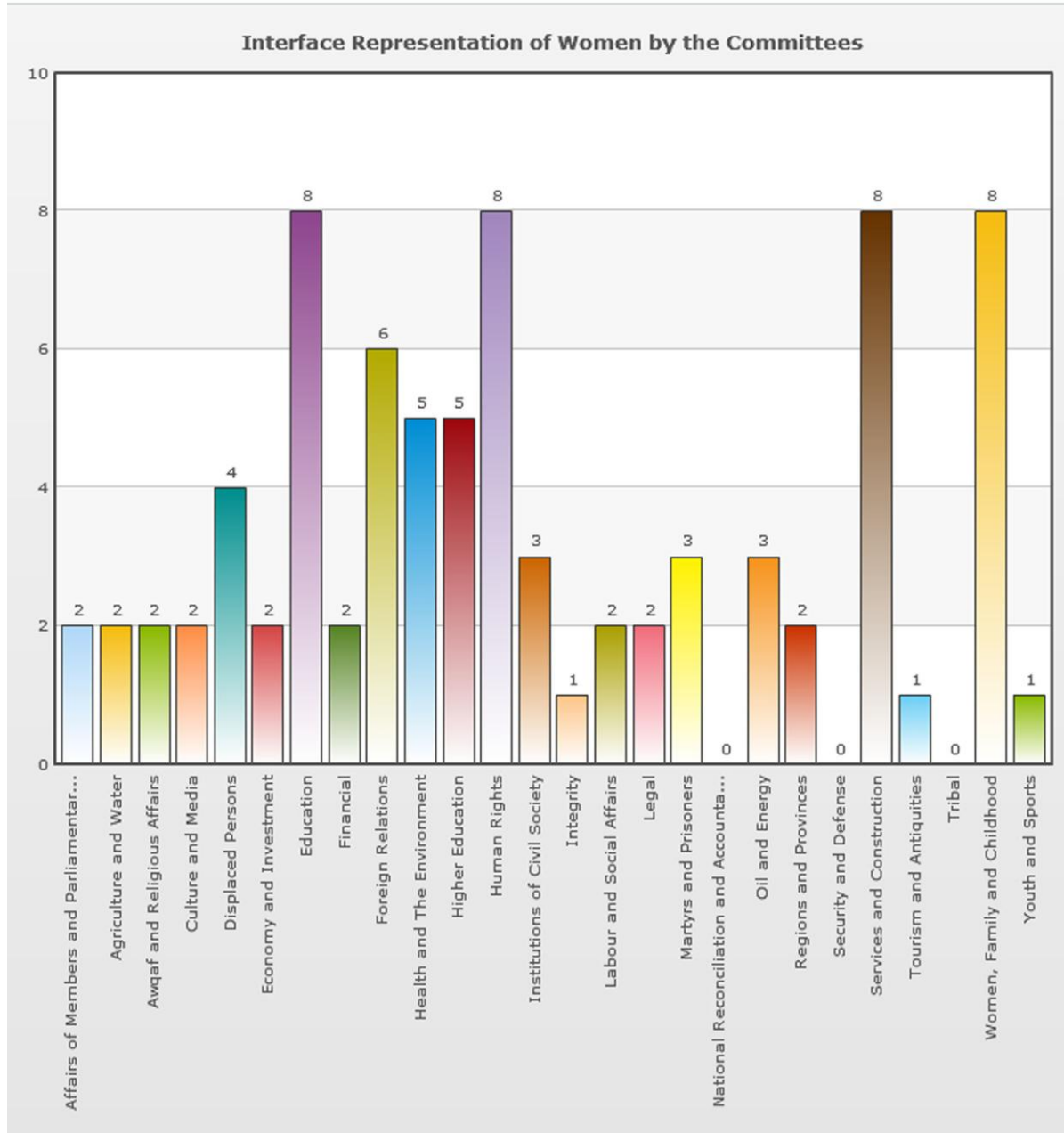
Distribution of the Council of Representatives by committees

Council of Representatives Facts & Figures



Representation rate of women in committees

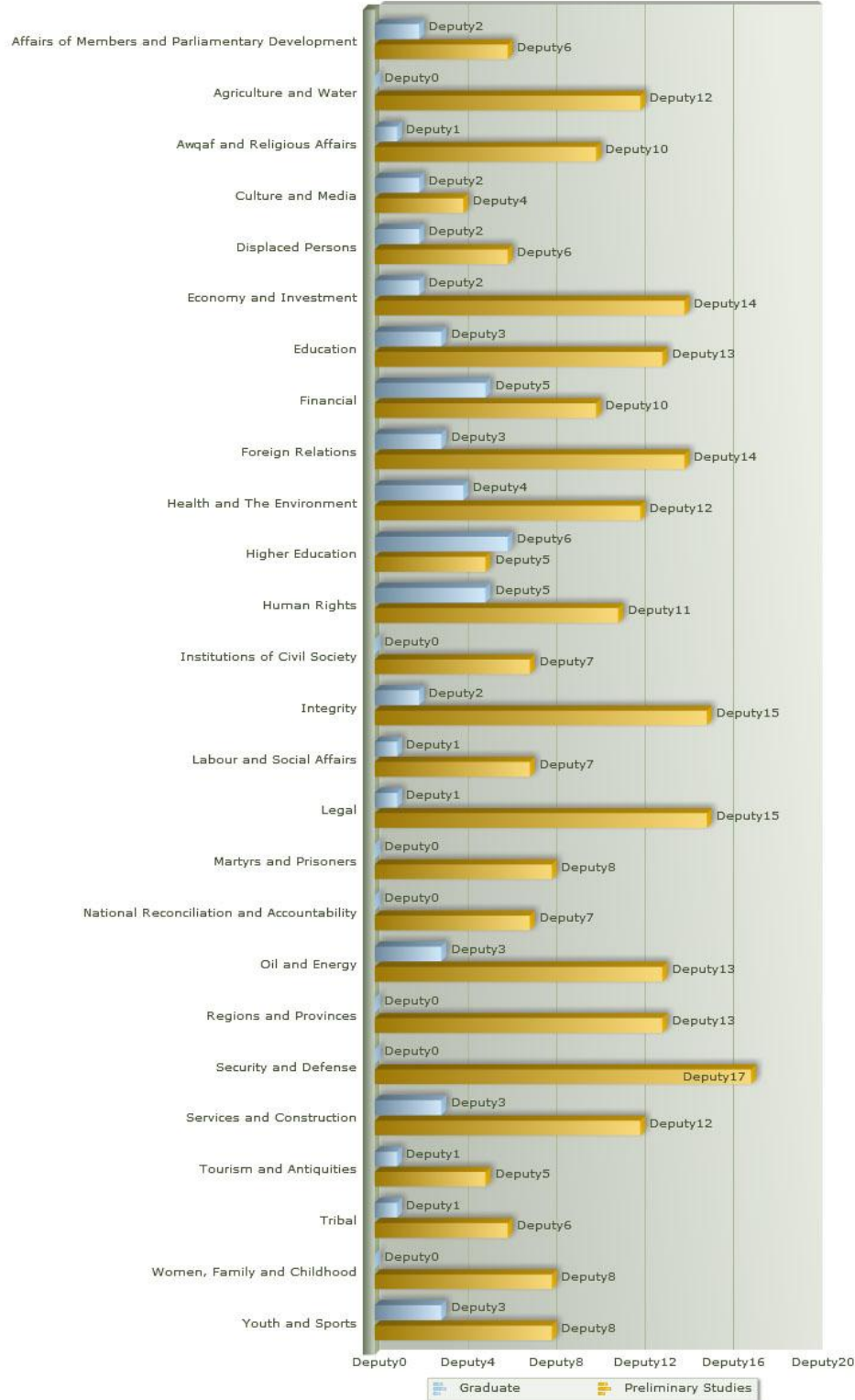
Council of Representatives Facts & Figures



Distribution of committees by educational attainment

Council of Representatives Facts & Figures

Distribution of Committees by Educational Attainment



-The Transparency in the work of the Council

First:

Mr. Osama Abdul Aziz Mohammed Al-Nujaifi, the Speaker of the Council of Representatives, said in the second session of the first legislative term for the first year:

“I think it's possible to vote for the continuation of the old Bylaws into force until the Bylaws in its new form is completed, so I call you to vote on this subject in particular”

Note:

The members of the Council of Representatives voted on continuation of the old Bylaws into force without an amendment, knowing that article (2) of the Bylaws stipulates:

Article (2) (the Council of Representatives consists of 275 members. It will be elected according to the elections law).

Second:

Article (69)

The standing committees will be formed in the first session of the Council convened by the ICR after ratification of the Bylaws. The desire, specialty, and experience of the member will be taken into account.

Note:

Voting on the continuation of the Bylaws into force starting from the second session which means according to the Bylaws should be voting on the standing committees in the third session.

It hadn't been voted on the standing committees until the 24th session, where had been voted on the members of the standing committees in the Council of Representatives. The delay in adoption of the committees is a clear violation of the article 69 for delaying it more than 23 sessions.

Third:

The Presidency Commission committed a clear violation where it hadn't presented the final accounts of the Council to the members of the Council of Representatives for approval as stipulated in the article (143).

Article (143)

The Council's financial department will prepare the final accounts for the Council. These will be presented to the Council's Presidency for approval and submittal to the financial affairs committee that will, in turn, submit its report to the ICR for approval.

Fourth:

The Presidency Commission violated the article (80) of the Bylaws by not electing new members to the committees that haven't completed the number, and moving the members to the committees by consensus without voting.

Article (80)

In case there is a vacancy in the membership of a committee the Council will elect a new member replacing him.

Fifth:

The Presidency Commission violated the law No.(49) of 2007 for replacing members especially the article.

Seventh:

The member will be dismissed in case of his unexcused absences exceed a third of the sessions of the Council out of per legislative term total.

Noting that many members haven't attended only one session, and the Presidency Commission hasn't issued a resolution to dismiss any of the absent members, as well as the clear violation of the article 18 which indicates to publish the absentees in a newspaper.

- Article (18)

First: absence and attendance of the members should be published in the regular ICR newsletter and another newspaper.

Second: in case of repeated absence without an excuse for 5 sessions in a row, or 10 sessions separately during one parliamentary term, Presidency Commission will give a written notification to the member to attend and if no response, the Presidency Commission will submit the issue to ICR biased on a request from the Commission.

Sixth:

The Iraqi Council of Representatives had incomplete number for one year and four months for the period from 19/4/2011 until 30/8/2012, specifically to the 18th session of the first legislative term for the third year. The member Khalaf Abdul Samad Khalaf was replaced for being elected as a governor of Basrah by Hassan Abdul Nabi Abbas.

Seventh:

The member Jaber Habib Jaber was officially appointed as an ambassador on 2/1/2012, and the Council of Representatives hadn't replaced him until 19/4/2012. The period between the two dates amounting three and a half months is a clear violation of collecting two positions, the first one legislative and the second executive.

Eighth:

The case of holding one session in a week has been repeated for seventeen times during the past months.

Ninth:

Many committees haven't completed its quorum, especially the committees that include 6 members. As shown in the last amendment to the members of the Council and its committees.

Tenth:

The Council's sessions didn't have any questioning to an executive official.

Eleventh:

The Presidency Commission hasn't activated the electronic voting, so that we couldn't follow up the members who vote on the laws and who abstain from voting, in addition to the lack of knowledge for the number of voters and the number of abstentions.

Twelfth:

A poll has been conducted for the visitors of the Iraqi Parliament Monitor about the performance of the parliamentary blocs, included 835 samples. The results were as follows:

What is your opinion about the performance of parliamentary blocs?

- Very good 169 20%.
- Good 22 3%.
- Acceptable 60 7%.
- Weak 584 70%.

The voting program doesn't allow the visitor to vote more than once.

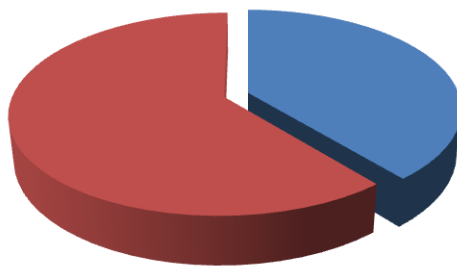
Thirteenth:

The sessions of the Council witnessed boycotting some of the parliamentary blocs. The Bylaws of the Council didn't include how the Presidency deals in case of boycott and what the procedures are in this situation and how to be considered the attendance and absence of the boycotting blocs, in addition to not publishing the boycott in the attendance and absence of the members.

The number of executed and non-executed items:

The Council announced items of the sessions in its agenda, and what each session includes from agenda. The total number of announced items was 95 items, carried out 37 in the same day and moved 58 items to another day. We couldn't follow up the items that have been moved because they are not in the same order in the later sessions which means that the Council puts in the agenda of a single session more than what cannot accommodate by the session and cannot be implemented.

The percentage of non-executed items to the total of items
61%



- number of executed items (37)
- number of non-executed items (58)
- number of total items (95)

The numerical outcome for the work of the Iraqi Council of Representatives for January 2013

Number of sessions.....	7
Number of items.....	48
Number of non-executed items.....	30
Number of laws (first reading).....	6
Number of laws (second reading).....	6
Number of passed laws	2
Number of hosting.....	0
Number of read statements	2
Number of voting times.....	3
Number of read speeches.....	0
Number of hearings.....	1
Number of reports.....	3

The numerical outcome for the work of the Iraqi Council of Representatives for February 2013

Number of sessions.....	3
Number of items.....	25
Number of non-executed items.....	18
Number of laws (first reading).....	2
Number of laws (second reading).....	2
Number of passed laws	1

Number of hosting.....	1
Number of read statements	2
Number of voting times.....	2
Number of read speeches.....	0
Number of hearings.....	0
Number of reports.....	1

The numerical outcome for the work of the Iraqi Council of Representatives for March 2013

Number of sessions.....	3
Number of items.....	19
Number of non-executed items.....	10
Number of laws (first reading).....	0
Number of laws (second reading).....	1
Number of passed laws	5
Number of hosting.....	1
Number of read statements	0
Number of voting times.....	2
Number of read speeches.....	0
Number of hearings.....	0
Number of reports.....	0

Numerical summary for the performance of the Iraqi Council of Representatives

Title	January	February	March	Total
Number of sessions	7	3	3	13
Number of items	48	25	19	92
Number of non-executed items	30	18	10	58
Number of laws (first reading)	6	2	0	8
Number of laws (second reading)	6	2	1	9
Number of passed laws	2	1	5	8
Number of hosting	0	1	1	2
Number of read statements	2	2	0	4
Number of voting times	3	2	2	7
Number of read speeches	0	0	0	0
Number of hearings	1	0	0	1
Number of reports	3	1	0	4