

A map of the Middle East region with Iraq highlighted in yellow. The surrounding countries are shown in a light tan color, and the Persian Gulf and Mediterranean Sea are shown in light blue. The title text is overlaid on the map.

Iraq Weekly Status Report

December 21, 2005

**Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
US Department of State**



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This report provides weekly updates in the eight key areas identified as pillars of US government policy for victory in Iraq.

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Highlights

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1. **Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents**

This week in Iraq, 334 insurgents were detained or killed and 84 weapons caches were discovered during 514 operations throughout the country.

2. **Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance**

More than 500 men have volunteered to become police officers at the Ramadi Police Headquarters, prompting 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment to help ensure qualified men fill the ranks.

3. **Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government**

The IECI has released preliminary, partial information indicating that voter turnout was at least 70 percent with at least 10.9 million of the 15.5 million registered voters participating. The numbers represent an increase over both the January elections and the October referendum.

4. **Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services**

Construction is complete for the \$2 million Electrical Distribution Network project in 9 Nissan, Baghdad Province. The project began on May 31 and provides electricity to 1,000 homes.



Highlights

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5. Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

On December 18, the Iraqi government announced that it signed a bilateral agreement with Austria canceling 80 percent of Austria's claims against Iraq, while on December 21, France signed a bilateral agreement with Iraq to provide for an 80 percent cancellation of its debt with Iraq.

6. Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law

The Iraqi political party, 'Ahd al-Iraq ("Iraq's Promise"), is Iraq's first nationwide issue-based campaign organized by a group of Iraqi women activists.

7. Increase International Support for Iraq

On December 16, the UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan issued a statement of support for the December 15 Iraqi elections.

8. Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents

In a nationally televised address from the White House on December 18, President George W. Bush said Iraq's December 15 elections marked the beginning of a constitutional democracy at the heart of the Middle East, and told US television viewers that "Not only can we win the war in Iraq - we are winning the war in Iraq."



[1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

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Iraqi Security Forces Operation Review:

- This week in Iraq, 334 insurgents were detained or killed and 84 weapons caches were discovered during 514 operations throughout the country. Of those operations 52 percent included Iraqi Security Forces. Twenty two percent were independently run by Iraqi Security Forces.

Task Force Baghdad Soldiers Boost Election Security:

- Iraqi Army and Task Force Baghdad Soldiers conducted operations December 14 in western Baghdad geared toward creating a secure environment for free elections in the area.



[2.] Transition to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

Marines Build Ramadi Police Force:

- More than 500 men have volunteered to become police officers at the Ramadi Police Headquarters, prompting 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment to help ensure qualified men fill the ranks. After a sizeable amount of Iraqi men are screened and qualified to be police officers, the next step will be to provide them with training and logistical support.

Multi-National Division Central-South Builds Range for Iraqi Soldiers:

- Soldiers from Romania, Poland and Slovakia built a firing range in Babil Province to help the Eighth Iraqi Army Division train in marksmanship. The range has two lanes, one 50 meters long and the other 600 meters long, and 30 firing positions. This range opened December 11 and will support small arms and heavy machine guns.

Public Order Police Contribute to Election Day Success:

- A few weeks after Iraq's Public Order Special Police force celebrated its first anniversary it was providing security in last week's historic election. More than 7,000 members of the three Public Order Division brigades provided security at over 200 polling stations through southeast Baghdad.



[2.] Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Ministry of Interior Forces

COMPONENT	TRAINED & EQUIPPED
POLICE	~75,700
HIGHWAY PATROL	
OTHER MOI FORCES	~37,400
TOTAL	~113,100*

Ministry of Defense Forces

COMPONENT	OPERATIONAL
ARMY	~101,600
AIR FORCE	~300
NAVY	~800
TOTAL	~102,700**

Total Trained & Equipped ISF:

~215,800

* Ministry of Interior Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are included in these numbers

** Ministry of Defense Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are not included in these numbers

Data as of December 12, 2005 (updated bi-weekly by DOD)



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government– **Developments**

Post Election Update:

- The IECI has released preliminary, partial information indicating that voter turn out was at least 70 percent with at least 10.9 million of the 15.5 million registered voters participating. The numbers represent an increase over both the January elections and the October referendum.
- These preliminary, partial numbers indicate the United Iraq Alliance (List 555) received 3,067,492 of 3,794,714 valid votes (81 percent) counted thus far in the southern governorates, The Kurdish Gathering (List 730) received 1,369,165 of 1,842,078 (74%) of the northern governorates (Dohuk, Erbil, and Sulaymania) and Tawafoq (List 618) received 619,046 of 1,352,732 (46%) in Diyala, Anbar and Salah ad Din.
- Violence throughout Iraq was limited and did not have a significant impact on the conduct of the election.



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government– **Developments**

Post Election Update:

- Of the 6,246 polling centers in the country, only 12 were unable to open due to security concerns. These stations were located in the province of al-Anbar.
- Ashraf Qazi, the senior United Nations envoy in Iraq, stated that Iraq had upheld proper international election standards despite the fact that the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq has received many complaints regarding the electoral campaign and last week's elections each of which will be weighted and placed in one of 23 categories.
- Although tallying of ballots is well underway, official certified public results will likely not be published until at least the first week in January after all critical complaints can be investigated.



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government - Iraqi Transitional Government

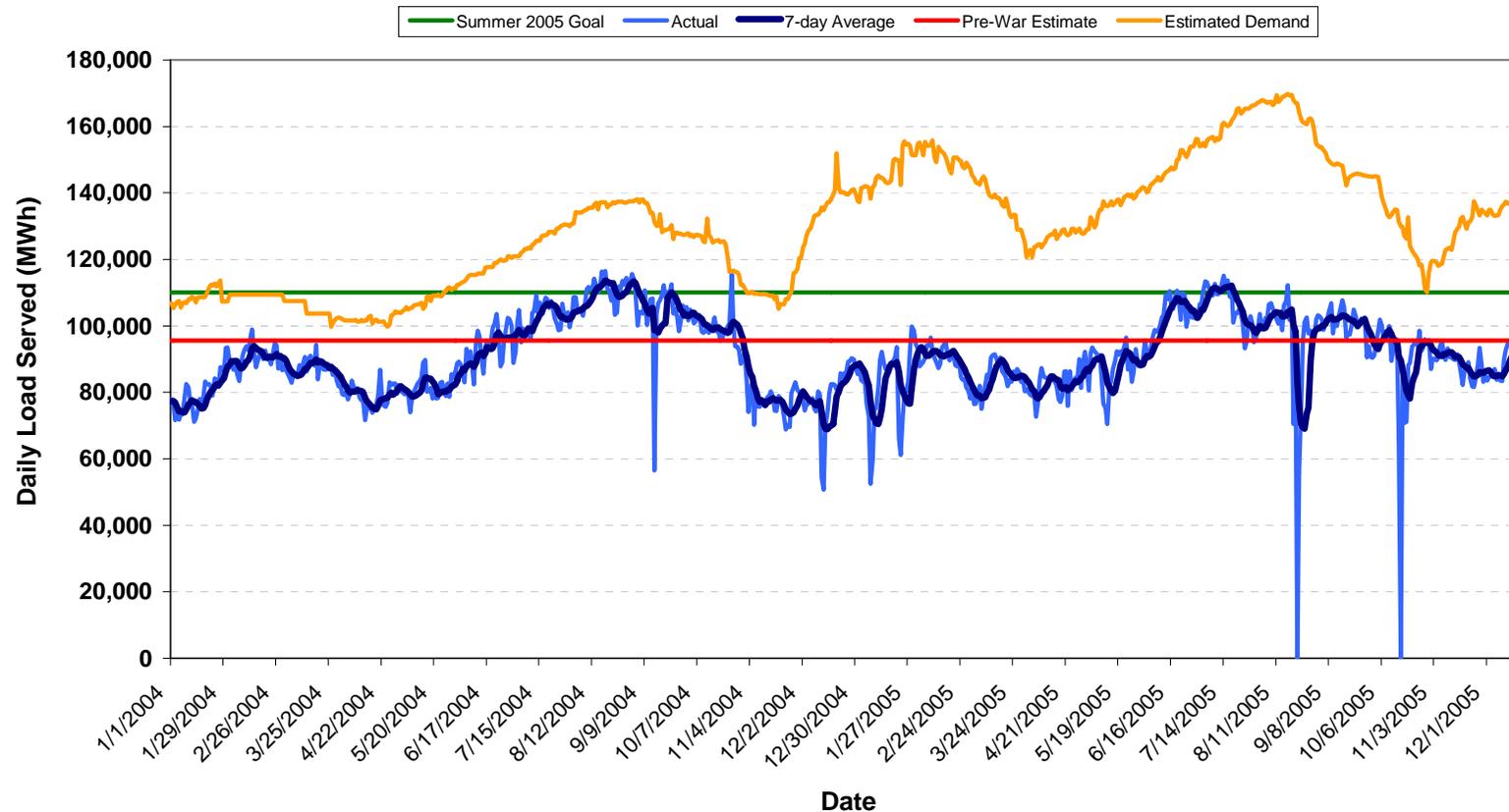
			President Jalal Talabani		Deputy President 'Adil 'Abd al-Mahdi	
	Deputy President Sheikh Ghazi al-Yawr			Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Ja'fari		
Deputy Prime Minister Rawsh Shaways	Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd Mutlak al-Juburi			Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad al-Chalabi	Deputy Prime Minister Vacant	
Minister of Agriculture Ali al-Bahadili	Minister of Communications Juwana Fu'ad Ma'sum (F)	Minister of Culture Nuri al-Rawi	Minister of Defense Sa'dun al-Dulaymi	Minister of Displacement & Migration Suhayla al-Kinani (F)	Minister of Electricity Muhsin Shallash	
Minister of Education Abdul Mun'im al-Falah Hasan	Minister of Environment Narmin 'Uthman (F)	Minister of Finance 'Ali 'Allawi	Minister of Foreign Affairs Hoshiyar Zebari	Minister of Health Abd al-Muttalib al-Rubay'i	Minister of Higher Education Sami al-Muzaffar	
Minister of Human Rights Vacant	Minister of Industry & Minerals Usama al-Najafi	Minister of Interior Bayan Jabr	Minister of Justice 'Abd al-Husayn Shandal	Minister of Housing & Construction Jasim Ja'far	Minister of Labor & Social Affairs Idris Hadi	
Minister of Oil Ibrahim Bahr al-'Ulum	Minister of Planning Barham Salih	Minister of Trade 'Abd al-Basit Mawlud	Minister of Science & Technology Basima Butrus (F)	Minister of Municipalities & Public Works Nasreen Berwari (F)	Minister of Transportation Salam al-Maliki	
Minister of Water Resources 'Abd al-Latif Rashid	Minister of Youth & Sports Talib Aziz al-Zaini	Minister of State for Civil Society 'Ala' abib Kazim	Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs Safa' al-Din al-Safi	Minister of State for National Security Affairs 'Abd al-Karim al-'Anzi		
	Minister of State for Provinces Sa'd al-Hardan	Minister of State for Tourism and Antiquities Hashim al-Hashimi	Minister of State for Women's Affairs Azhar al-Shaykhli (F)			

(F) = Female



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Electricity Overview

Daily Electricity Supplied and Estimated Demand in Iraq Since January 2004



- Electricity availability has improved in the last week (December 13-19) during the national elections.
- Service in Baghdad jumped to 9.1 hours per day, while the nationwide average was 13.3 hours.
- Electricity output for the month of December 2005 is on average 17 percent higher than it was a year ago.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Electricity, Water and Sanitation**

Electricity:

- A three-mile underground feeder wire has connected the Debaga substation to the Azadi substation, giving 950,000 citizens in Erbil more stable electricity.
- The US Army Corps of Engineers has completed a \$1 million electrical distribution project in Rusafa, Baghdad Province. The project involved the installation of two 33 kilovolt underground feeders from two substations in the Rusafa District. The completed project will benefit some 250,000 people in the surrounding communities.

Water and Sanitation:

- A new water treatment plant paid for by the US brings fresh, clean water to 5,000 residents of Alozair in Maysan Province. The project commissioned a new water treatment compact unit and an above-ground storage reservoir.
- USAID's Agricultural Reconstruction and Development in Iraq project recently completed three grants to clean a network of irrigation canals and drains in the southern Iraqi province of Muthanna. Over 400 local farmers were hired to clean 109.5 kilometers of canals and they also received tools and training to perform future maintenance. The cleaned canals will service 4,875 hectares of land farmed by 2,000 families.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Public Health**

Public Health:

- The Iraqi Ministry of Health (MOH) recently adopted a national plan for Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF). This is the first comprehensive strategy since the MOH's breastfeeding program was established 14 years ago. The MOH collaborated with USAID, WHO, and UNICEF to draft this strategy, which aims to improve the survival, growth, and development of all children during the first three years of life. Components focus on breastfeeding, the management of undernourished children, and the special needs of pregnant and nursing women. Training and workshops on the IYCF will be delivered to local health departments throughout Iraq, beginning in central and southern Iraq. The IYCF strategy is a significant contribution toward the final MOH work plan to reduce child and maternal illnesses and mortality on a national level.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services –**Education and Transportation**

Education:

- Over 14,000 students have enrolled in the US funded 2005/06 Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) throughout the southern and central provinces. ALP schools are helping out-of-school youths ages 12-18 return to class, completing two years of primary education in one year. Accordingly, the Ministry of Education (MoE) has increased the number of ALP teachers from 100 to 250 to meet the needs of all enrolled students. Teacher training for the ALP, already completed in three of the 10 participating provinces, will continue across the southern and central provinces. USAID partners have completed printing most of the 52 Arabic titles of ALP textbooks and the MoE is currently distributing them to the ALP schools.

Transportation:

- More than 14 miles of road have been resurfaced; providing safe and reliable access for 100,000 people in three towns near Kirkuk.
- Iraqi Airways has begun weekly flights from Sulaymaniah to Amman and Dubai via Baghdad, while the private Turkish airline, Fly Air, inaugurated service from Sulaymaniah to Istanbul on December 10.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services –**Telecommunications**

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Telecommunications:

- There are now approximately five million cell phone subscribers in Iraq.
- The Iraqi telecommunications regulation board is visiting Washington on January 9-13 on a capacity development trip to the Federal Communications Commission and the World Bank.
- The Advanced First Responders Network operated successfully during the December 15 national election, although the Minister of Interior has not yet fully developed its operational procedures. Over 12,000 radios have been distributed to Iraqi police in 15 cities.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Financials from Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) 1 and IRRF 2

\$Millions	Apportioned		Committed			Obligated			Disbursed		
	2207 Report	Apportion	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change
Sector											
Security and Law Enforcement	5017.6000	5017.6	4,959.0	4,954.5	(4.47)	4,698.8	4,769.1	70.26	4,018.7	4,059.8	41.1
Electricity Sector	4314.8168	4077.2	3,726.1	3,739.1	12.97	2,984.8	3,033.3	48.44	1,755.3	1,771.6	16.2
Oil Infrastructure	1723.0000	1723.0	1,675.5	1,677.3	1.80	1,399.1	1,401.7	2.56	638.0	640.7	2.7
Justice, Public Safety and Civil Society	1247.1840	1247.2	1,203.0	1,205.4	2.34	1,078.8	1,096.7	17.87	656.3	666.6	10.3
Democracy	945.3160	995.3	933.2	933.2	0.00	932.9	932.9	0.00	605.2	614.8	9.6
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	363.0000	363.0	339.0	339.0	0.00	334.7	334.8	0.07	191.7	195.0	3.4
Roads, Bridges and Construction	333.7143	333.7	291.0	290.9	(0.07)	256.1	256.1	0.01	157.0	158.6	1.7
Health Care	786.0000	786.0	727.0	708.6	(18.34)	636.1	618.4	(17.62)	328.3	339.5	11.3
Transportation and Communications	508.5081	508.5	446.0	446.2	0.15	393.7	396.4	2.71	205.8	207.9	2.1
Water Resources and Sanitation	2146.5832	1819.1	1,543.8	1,568.6	24.77	1,361.5	1,399.0	37.50	625.5	660.5	35.1
Private Sector Development	840.2776	795.3	793.5	793.5	0.00	782.3	782.3	0.00	547.3	552.2	4.9
Admin Expense (USAID, STATE)	213.0000	213.0	147.9	147.9	0.00	147.9	147.9	0.00	56.5	56.7	0.2
TOTAL	18,439.0000	17878.9	16,785.0	16,804.1	19.16	15,006.7	15,168.5	161.80	9,785.6	9,924.1	138.5
IRRF 2 Construction			9,599.1	9,614.1	14.92	8,231.6	8,319.7	88.12	4,893.6	4,964.8	71.2
IRRF 2 Non-Construction			6,252.6	6,256.9	4.23	5,842.2	5,915.9	73.68	4,286.7	4,344.5	57.7
IRRF 2 Democracy			2,458.7	968.2	(1490.48)	968.1	967.9	(0.17)	605.2	614.8	9.6
IRRF 1 Subtotal	2,473.3000	2473.3	2,473.3	2473.30	0.00	2,473.3	2,473.3	0.00	2,406.6	2,406.6	0.0
Grand Total IRRF 1 & 2	20,912.3000	20352.2	19,258.3	19,277.4	19.16	17,480.0	17,641.8	161.80	12,192.2	12,330.7	138.5

As of December 21, 2005



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Oil Update and Job Creation

Oil Update:

- Crude oil prices in world markets for the week ending December 16 closed with the following prices:
 - Basra Light at \$49.98/barrel
 - WTI Cushing at \$60.31/barrel
 - Kirkuk Crude at \$54.95/barrel
 - Dated Brent at \$58.27/barrel
 - Oman/Dubai at \$54.73/barrel

Employment Update:

- The following chart shows the number of Iraqis employed by USG-administered projects:

Employing Organization	Iraqis Last Week	Iraqis This Week	% Increase on Week
PCO (Project and Contracting Office)	30,373	34,209	12.6%
USAID	35,957	37,401	4.0%
AIRP (Accelerated Iraqi Reconstruction Program)	1,664	1,664	0.0%
MILCON (Military Construction)	269	249	-7.4%
CERP (Commanders' Emergency Response Program)	23,706	23,706	0.0%
MNSTC-I	16,362	16,716	2.2%
IRRF NON-CONSTRUCTION	15,452	15,442	-0.1%
GRAND TOTAL	123,783	129,387	4.5%



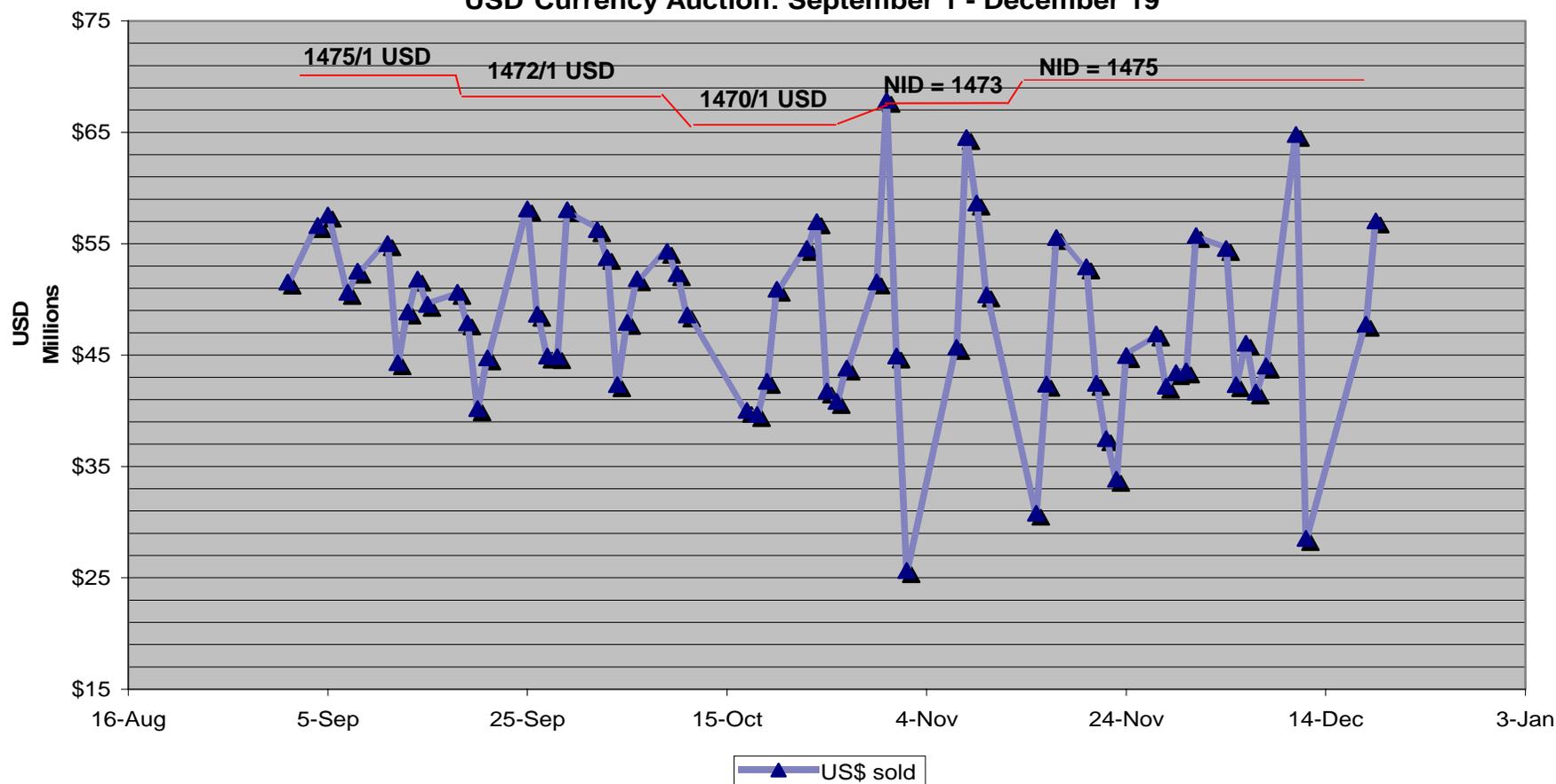
[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy - Banking Sector

Central Bank's US Dollar (USD) Currency Auction:

- The following table shows volume sold and exchange rates for USD in the Iraqi currency auction from September 1 through December 19. The exchange rate remained stable this week ending at 1,475 dinars per USD on December 19.

Central Bank of Iraq

USD Currency Auction: September 1 - December 19



DEPARTMENT OF STATE



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

Austria and France Cancel 80 Percent of Iraqi Debt:

- On December 18, the Iraqi government announced that it signed a bilateral agreement with Austria canceling the equivalent of \$2.1 billion of Iraqi debt, amounting to 80 percent of Austria's claims against Iraq. Prior to the agreement the Austrian government had claims against Iraq of approximately \$2.6 billion. The debt will be reduced in three installments.
- On December 21, France also signed a bilateral agreement with Iraq to formalize the debt relief terms agreed to by Paris Club members. The agreement provides for an 80 percent cancellation of Iraqi debt between 2005 and 2008. France's debt cancellation will amount to around 4 billion Euros for the period 2005-2008.
- Both the French and Austrian agreements were in accordance with Paris Club debt relief terms.

Wholesale Prices for Agricultural Goods Announced Via Radio:

- On December 19, wholesale market prices for fruits and vegetables were announced via radio for the first time, reaching all of Southern Iraq. This USAID-funded program has now given access to agricultural prices to farmers nationwide, a large step forward toward a more transparent marketplace.



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

Fuel Price Increases Implemented:

- The GOI officially initiated fuel price increases across Iraq on December 18. New prices in Iraqi Dinar (ID) are as follows: premium gasoline—250 ID per liter (\$.64 per gallon), regular gasoline—150 ID per liter (\$.38 per gallon), diesel—90 ID per liter (\$.23 per gallon), kerosene—25 ID per liter (\$.06 per gallon), LPG—600 ID per cylinder (\$.41).

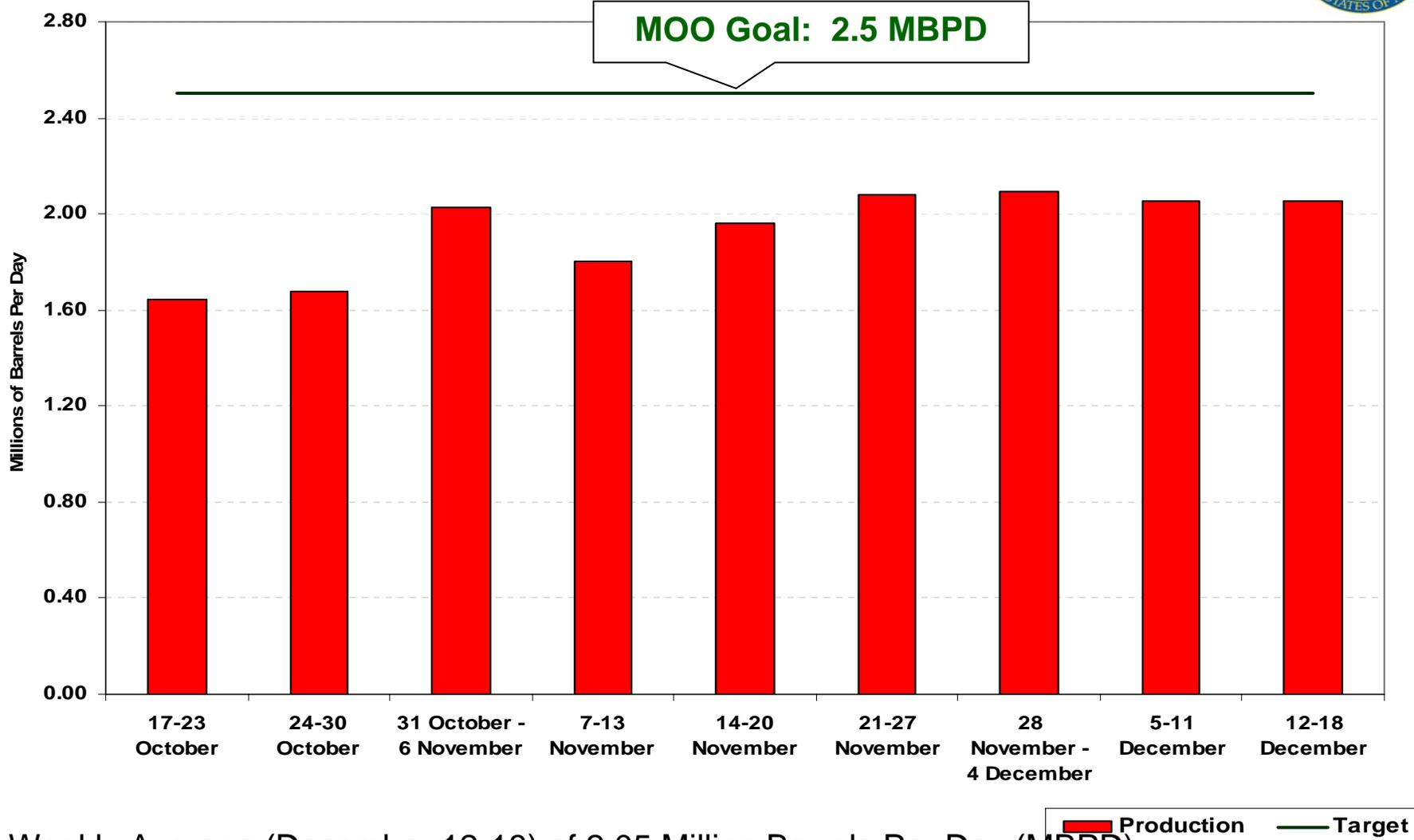
Social Safety Net Program Approved:

- On December 18, the Council of Ministers approved legislation to expand Iraq's social safety net program. The Council's directive will serve as a bridge to allow the program to begin immediately, until the new National Assembly formally approves the legislation.
- The new program will spend a budget of \$330 million to benefit 25% of Iraqi households. Iraq will employ means-testing of households to determine eligibility for the program, targeting the most needy Iraqis for benefits. Because the program gives the GOI a social protection system for those most vulnerable to subsidy reforms, it is a critical precursor to future subsidy reforms.



[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Crude Oil Production

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

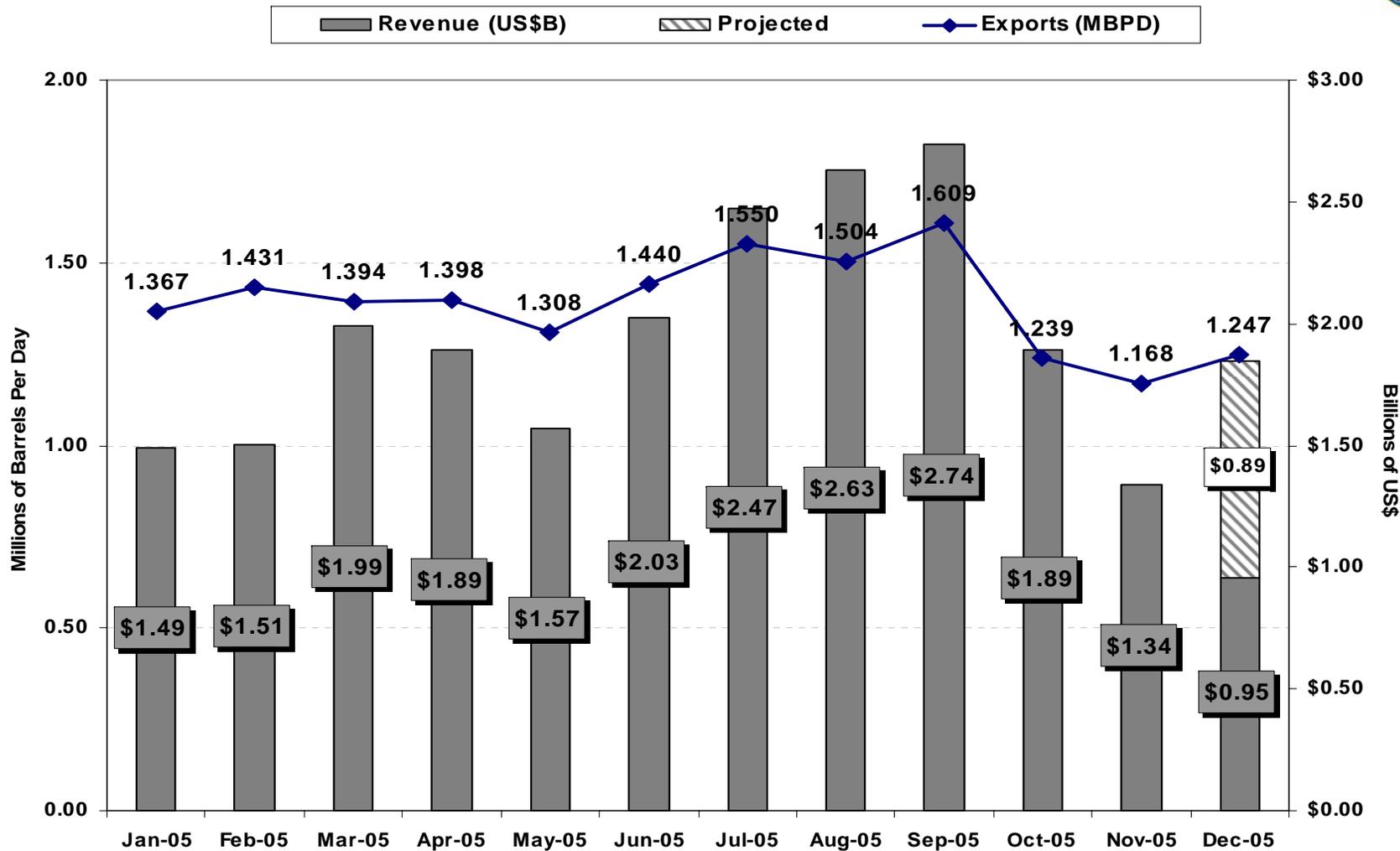


- Weekly Average (December 12-18) of 2.05 Million Barrels Per Day (MBPD)
- Pre-War Peak: 2.5 MBPD in March 2003
- Post-War Peak: 2.67 MBPD



[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Crude Oil Export

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

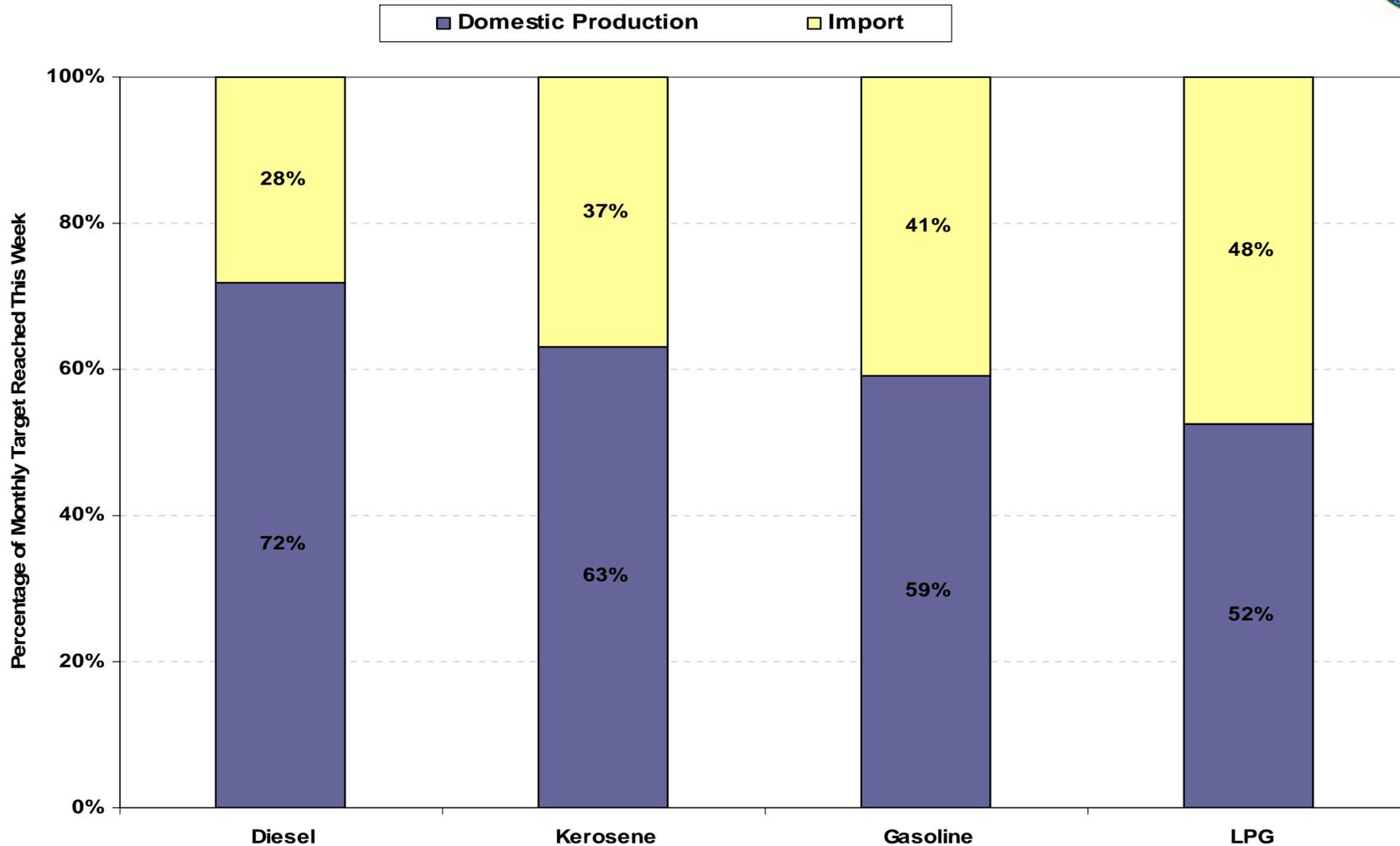


- 2003 Revenue: \$5,076.6 Millions (M)
- 2004 Revenue: \$17,012.3 M
- 2005 Revenue: \$22,832.9 M (2005 year-to-date)



[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Total Critical Refined Product Supplies

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



Note: This is a daily average for the week of December 12-18

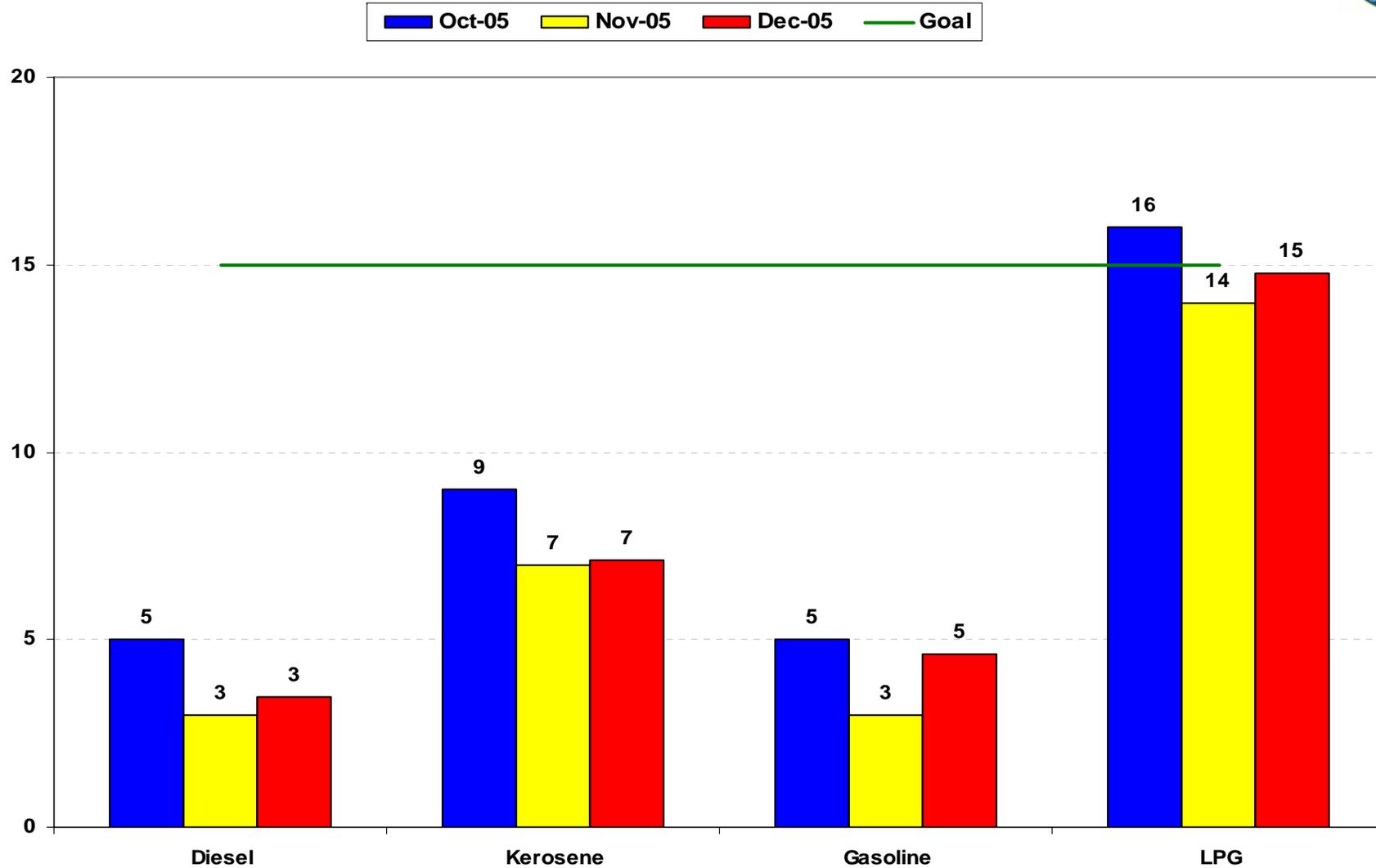
- Diesel: 16.9 ML supply of 18 ML target
- Gasoline: 15.5 ML supply of 18 ML target
- Kerosene: 8.3 ML supply of 19.6 ML target
- LPG: 4,401 tons supply of 4,300 tons target

*Millions of Liters



[5.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – National Stock Levels

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



• The goal is to have on hand 15 days supply of all refined products, calculated on the basis of maximum consumption over the year and not adjusted for seasonal variation. The numbers given above are monthly averages.



[6.] Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights— Iraqi Judicial System

Iraq's First Nationwide Issue Based Campaign:

- The Iraqi political party, 'Ahd al-Iraq ("Iraq's Promise"), is Iraq's first nationwide issue-based campaign organized by a group of Iraqi women activists. Members include women from different political parties and are representative of Iraq's diversity. The group wants to guarantee fundamental rights to all citizens to allow Iraq to assume a lasting place among the world's democracies. 'Ahd al-Iraq is non-partisan and all political parties and candidates are invited to sign on.
- The five laws included in 'Ahd al-Iraq's platform are focused in scope to appeal to a large number of Iraqis and broad enough to fill holes in the Iraqi constitution:
 - Secure freedom of expression, freedom of the press and freedom of assembly.
 - Preserve the existence of civil courts for matters of personal status (such as marriage and divorce) as an alternative to religious courts.
 - Ensure the professionalism and integrity of Iraq's Supreme Court by requiring that all judges have advanced degrees in law and experience as practicing judges.
 - Strengthen the High Commission for Human Rights by enabling it to refer cases to the Supreme Court for review.
 - Enable the High Commission for Human Rights to enforce the right of equal opportunity for all Iraqis.



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

Statement by the UN Secretary General on the Iraq Elections:

- On December 16, the UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, issued the following statement of support for the December 15 Iraqi elections:
 - “Yesterday’s elections were the third time this year that the people of Iraq have braved difficult conditions and the threat of violence to exercise their right to vote. I pay tribute to their courage and I welcome the healthy voter turnout and the relatively calm atmosphere that surrounded election day.”
 - “I also offer my congratulations to the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq for having organized and carried out the election in such challenging circumstances.”
 - “The participation by all communities in this historic election is another milestone in Iraq’s progress towards a democratic future and lays the foundation for national reconciliation. Whatever the results of the election, there is now an opportunity for a political process that offers all Iraqis the chance to play a part in building a peaceful, democratic, unified and prosperous Iraq. The United Nations will stand with them in this endeavor.”



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

Statement by the Gulf Cooperation Council:

- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Secretary General Abdul Al-Attiyah issued the following statement during the December 18-19 GCC Ministerial:
 - “The GCC is closely following the legislative election in Iraq. . . we are satisfied with the initial results and we are looking forward to seeing a free and stable Iraq where a government will be set up away from any affiliations that affect the political process. . . we don’t want to see any political group have a negative impact on the progress of the political process in Iraq.”

Statement by the Council of European Union:

- The following declaration was issued by the European Union Council on December 16 in support of the December 15 Iraqi election:
 - “The European Council reaffirms the EU’s continued support for Iraq’s political transition in line with UN Security Council Resolutions 1546 and 1637 and its commitment to assist the Iraqi people in building a secure, stable, unified and prosperous Iraq. It warmly welcomes the December 15 elections as a further step towards democracy and stability in Iraq and encourages the swift formation of a new government thereafter. . . The European Council calls on all parties in Iraq to commit themselves to exclusively peaceful activities and to work actively towards reconciliation.”



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

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Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the Iraq Elections:

- The Secretary General of NATO, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, released the following statement on December 15 regarding the December 15 Iraqi elections:
 - “On behalf of NATO, I congratulate the Iraqi people on the elections that they have held today. The high turnout, and the participation of parties representing the full spectrum of Iraqi society, is an important step forward in the political process. I hope this election will mark a turning point for Iraq, and lay the foundation for a country that is increasingly unified and at peace.”

Ukraine Provides Equipment to Iraqi Army:

- On December 5, Ukraine provided the Eighth Iraqi Army Division with 17 armored vehicles, 56 transport vehicles, small arms, grenade launchers, signal equipment and engineering equipment. This equipment was delivered in time to be used by Iraqi Army soldiers providing security support for the December 15 elections.



[7.] Increase Int'l Support for Iraq – Contributors to Iraqi Stability Operations

Data as of December 12, 2005

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

28 Multi-National Forces – Iraq (MNF-I) Contributors (in addition to US)

Albania	El Salvador	Lithuania	Romania
Armenia	Estonia	Macedonia	Singapore
Australia	Georgia	Moldova	Slovakia
Azerbaijan	Italy	Mongolia	South Korea
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Japan	Netherlands	Ukraine
Bulgaria	Kazakhstan	Poland	UK
Czech Republic	Latvia	Portugal	
Denmark			

TOTAL ~ 23,000 Forces

*Note: Fiji participating as a part of the UN mission in Iraq.

29 Countries and NATO
(including US)
Support Iraqi Stability Operations



[8.] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – **Developments**

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Iraq is "An Ally of Growing Strength" Against Terror, President Says:

- In a nationally televised address from the White House on December 18, President George W. Bush said Iraq's December 15 elections marked the beginning of a constitutional democracy at the heart of the Middle East, and told US television viewers that "Not only can we win the war in Iraq - we are winning the war in Iraq."
- President Bush's address marked the culmination of his series of four speeches in late November and early December that addressed the three aspects of the US strategy in Iraq - security, democracy, and reconstruction.
- The President said, "Iraqis of every background are recognizing that democracy is the future of the country they love - and they want their voices heard." The President warned against withdrawing coalition forces prematurely, before achieving the goal, which he said is "a democratic Iraq that can defend itself."
- "We would abandon our Iraqi friends - and signal to the world that America cannot be trusted to keep its word...We would hand Iraq over to enemies who have pledged to attack us - and the global terrorist movement would be emboldened and more dangerous than ever before," the President said.
- President Bush said the world is fighting a global terrorist movement "that exploits Islam in the service of radical political aims - a vision in which books are burned, and women are oppressed, and all dissent is crushed."



Iraq Weekly Status – General Information

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- This brief draws from multiple sources. References are cited on the following pages.
- Please forward all questions and/or comments to NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov



Notes and Source Citations (1 of 4)

Slide 5:

- MNF-I *This Week in Iraq* December 14, 2005 - <http://www.mnf-iraq.com>

Slide 6:

- MNF-I *This Week in Iraq* December 14, 2005 – <http://www.mnf-iraq.com>

Slide 7:

- DoD ISF Report, Dec 21, 2005

Slide 8:

- POC Aaron Jost, Department of State, 202-647-5211

Slide 9:

- POC Aaron Jost, Department of State, 202-647-5211

Slide 11:

- POC Tom Gramaglia, (202) 736-4065
- The chart shows average daily power production in megawatt hours (MWh). 120,000 MWh goal equates to 20 hours at 6000 MW average supplied load or 24 hours at 5000 MW average supply load. Currently supplies are not much improved over last year when judged by hours of power, but this is due in part to an influx of new appliances. This has dramatically altered demand and diluted the effect of increased generation capacity on actual results.

Slide 12:

- Electricity:
- MNF-I reconstruction update, 14 December 2005.
- PCO Weekly update 20 December 2005.
- Water and Sanitation:
- POC Wendy Dick, Department of State, 202-647-5213

Slide 13:

- Information regarding the IYCF comes from the USAID weekly update from 16 December 2005.

Slide 14:

- Information regarding the USAID and EMIS programs comes from the USAID weekly update from 9 December 2005.
- Information regarding the Iraqi Air and Fly Air comes from the IIC, 19 December 2005.

Slide 15:

- Embassy reporting.



Notes and Source Citations (2 of 4)

Slide 16:

- The IRRF Financial Chart is sourced from the 21 Dec 05 IRMO Weekly Status Report

Slide 17:

- Oil Prices are sourced from Bloomberg
- Information regarding the Employment Update was sourced from the IRMO Weekly Report – December 21, 2005
- CERP numbers continue to be reported to maintain totals.
- PCO will be reporting on a bi-weekly basis.
- USAID continues to update weekly.

Slide 18:

- Information regarding the NID auction was gathered from the Central Bank of Iraq's website: <http://www.cbiraq.org>

Slide 19:

- Information regarding Austria's debt cancellation announcement was sourced from www.menafn.com

Slide 20:

- POC Katherine Allen, Department of State, 202-647-6389

Slide 21:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- NOTE: Production dropped in the south due to tankers unable to dock at the oil terminals due to bad weather and southern storage facilities are at full capacity. With no where to send the crude, field managers have lessened output. As of Monday, the weather cleared and the situation should return to normal in a matter of days.
- There are three main refineries in Iraq: Bayji (North), Daura (Baghdad), and Basra (South).
- There are several minor refineries (known as topping plants) dotted through the country: Kisik (Mosul), Qarrayah, Haditha, Tikrit, Nassiriyah, Maysan (Amarah), and Samawah. These primarily produce asphalt and low grade kerosene and diesel.
- The majority of Iraq's oil infrastructure is antiquated and in need of modernization.
- Domestically produced refined products (gasoline/benzene, diesel, kerosene, LPG) currently do not meet domestic demand because of sabotage to the pipeline infrastructure. Iraq will be dependent upon imports until the insurgents cease operations against oil pipelines.



Notes and Source Citations (3 of 4)

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Slide 23:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- Note: Data missing from Sept 2-4. This graph will be updated when the data arrives.
- Goals set by the State Oil Marketing Organization (SOMO), a company owned by the Ministry of Oil (MOO).

Slide 24:

- POC Matthew Amitrano, (202) 647-5690
- Note: Data missing from Sept 2-4. This graph will be updated when the data arrives.

Slide 25:

- Basma Fakri & Tamara Quinn, [The Pledge for Iraq: A campaign for human rights and freedom,](#)

Slide 26:

- UN press release, December 16, 2005 <http://www.un.org/apps/sg/sgstats.asp?nid=1841>

Slide 27:

- POC Aaron Jost, Department of State, 202-647-5211

Slide 28:

- NATO Press Release, December 15, 2005 <http://www.nato.int/docu/pr/2005/p05-163e.htm>
- This Week in Iraq, MNF-I, December 14, 2005

Slide 29:

- DOD Input to Weekly Status Report 21 Dec 05-Report is updated bi-weekly

Slide 30:

- [Bush Says Iraqis See Democracy as Their Future, http://usinfo.state.gov/mena/Archive/2005/Dec/19-15664.html](http://usinfo.state.gov/mena/Archive/2005/Dec/19-15664.html)