



Kurdistan Regional Government
Ministry of Planning
Kurdistan Region Statistics Office



Tourist Establishment Statistics In Kurdistan Region 2013 - 2020

Trade statistics Department

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Preface

having a lot of beautiful places in the Kurdistan region: from historical sites to natural scenery attracts more and more visitors to this area. As tourism sector has a great role in the Kurdistan region's economy, Kurdistan government established general tourism board in order to draw foreign and local tourism companies and investors to make tourism projects.

Since reliable data has an important role to the success of any projects, KRSO works to provide various data to decision makers to help them to have successful projects and achieve goals for a better economy. Tourism sector has a great role in economic progress of the countries by attracting foreign investment, creating job opportunities and contributing to gross domestic production.

For this purpose and through this report, the data of tourism establishments are presented in hopes of gaining progress in tourism sector and economy of the Kurdistan region. Hereby we extend our gratitude to general tourism board for providing data and the staff of KRSO for organizing the data and presenting this report.

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Introduction

In the Kurdistan region, tourism sector is looked as an important economic resource especially after the year 2009, where tourists more and more visited the region. Due to the increase in the number of visitors and the need for accommodation, more tourism establishments were established to respond the needs for accommodation. There was a need to have a correct and update data on the number of tourism establishments, the types of establishments, the number of tourists and carrying capacity of these establishments to better organize tourism destinations in term of quality and quantity. Tourism establishments survey was conducted for the years 2009,2012 and 2013 in the Kurdistan region and the last one was conducted in 2016. Due to budget deficiency, the survey could not continue for the next years. The present data which represents the data of the years 2013 and 2020 has been taken from general tourism board.

Objectives

The aim of this report is to make a credible data available for those who are involved in tourism activities to be used in planning toward developing tourism sector as an economic tool in the Kurdistan region.

Concepts and definitions

Tourism establishment: Tourism establishment refers to a place, where tourists stay or live for a temporary period of time that includes hotel, motel, apartment, and tourism complex. In the Kurdistan region, tourism establishments are classified as follows:

1. Star establishments: star establishments are classified by the size of provided services and include:
 - Five -star
 - Four -star
 - Three-star
 - Two-star
 - One-star
2. National establishments: these types are known as national establishments and have no star.

Hotel: Is a place that provides accommodation, meals, bathroom, bed and other basic needs for travelers to live or stay for a temporary period of time. Hotel has multiple floors with many rooms. In the Kurdistan region, hotels are classified by the size of services provided to visitors from one-star to five-star hotels.

Motel: Motel refers to a place outside cities provides travelers with a place for living also a place for parking. The services which are offered by motels are less than what offered by hotels. Motel has one or two floors. In the Kurdistan Region motels are located inside cities and ranked by the size of the provided services.

Tourism apartment: it is a commercial place that provide travelers with more space than a normal room with a place for serving meal and other services. It is ranked by the size of the provided services that are.

Tourism complex: it refers to a group of tourism buildings running by an administration unit and provide different services.

Room: it is a part or division of a building enclosed by walls, floor, and ceiling used for living and has basic needs for travelers like bed, refrigerator, and bathroom.

Tourist: it refers to those people or visitors who travel for different purposes from one place to other place for a specific time period, at least one night.

Bed: is a furniture used for sleep or rest in the rooms in tourism establishments.

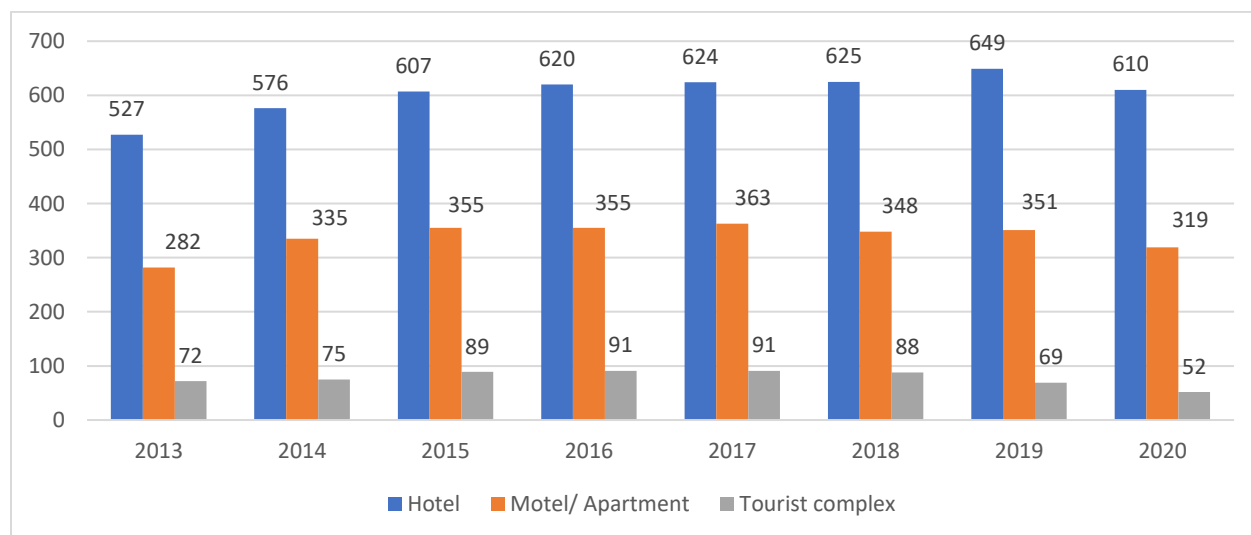
Restaurant and cafeteria: are commercial establishments to provide meals and beverage services for visitors and visitors pay for these services.

Results

Table 1 :the no. of tourism establishments by the type and group (star-group and national) at the level of Kurdistan region in 2013-2020

Year	Hotel			Motel/ Apartment			Tourist complex		
	Star-group	National	Total	Star-group	National	Total	Star-group	National	Total
2013	314	213	527	206	76	282	72	0	72
2014	385	191	576	248	87	335	75	0	75
2015	417	190	607	271	84	355	89	0	89
2016	430	190	620	271	84	355	91	0	91
2017	434	190	624	279	84	363	91	0	91
2018	435	190	625	258	90	348	88	0	88
2019	459	190	649	262	89	351	69	0	69
2020	420	190	610	230	89	319	52	0	52

Figure 1: comparison between the number of tourism establishments by the type of tourism establishments in Kurdistan region in 2013-2020



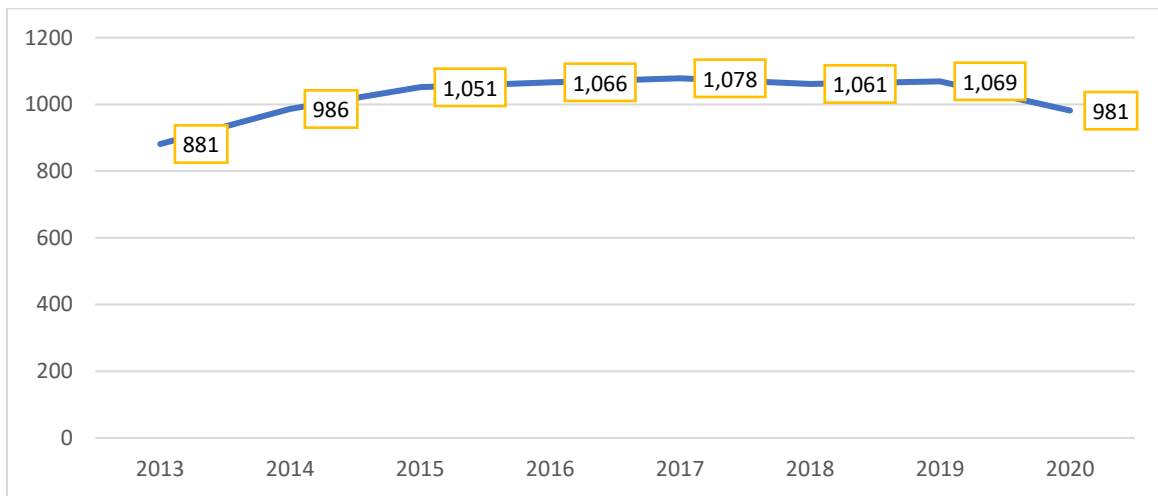
As we can see (Figure 1), in the years 2013-2020, the number of hotels is higher than other types of tourism establishments -Motel and tourist complex- in the Kurdistan region according to general tourism board.

Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

Table 2 :the total number of tourism establishments in the Kurdistan region for the years 2013-2020

Year	Hotel	Motel/ Apartment	Tourist complex	Total
2013	527	282	72	881
2014	576	335	75	986
2015	607	355	89	1,051
2016	620	355	91	1,066
2017	624	363	91	1,078
2018	625	348	88	1,061
2019	649	351	69	1,069
2020	610	319	52	981

Figure 2: comparison between the number of tourism establishments by the type of tourism establishments in Kurdistan region in 2013-2020



In Kurdistan region, the highest number of tourism establishments has been registered in 2017 and the lowest number goes for 2013 followed by 2020 and 2014 (Figure 2).

Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

Table 3: the number of restaurants and cafeterias in the Kurdistan region by type (star-group and national) for the years 2013-2020

Year	Restaurant and cafeteria		
	Star-group	National	Total
2013	537	1,012	1,549
2014	643	1,015	1,658
2015	764	1,015	1,779
2016	772	1,015	1,787
2017	799	1,015	1,814
2018	838	1,015	1,853
2019	1,343	1,015	2,358
2020	1,103	1,015	2,118

Figure 3: comparison between star-group and national restaurants and cafeterias in Kurdistan region in 2013-2020

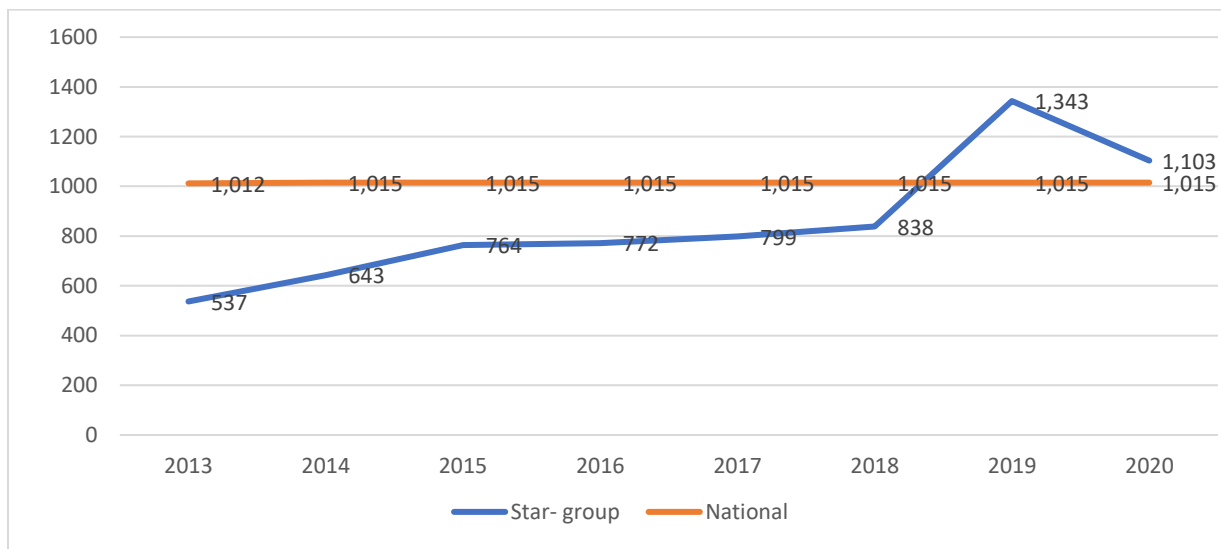


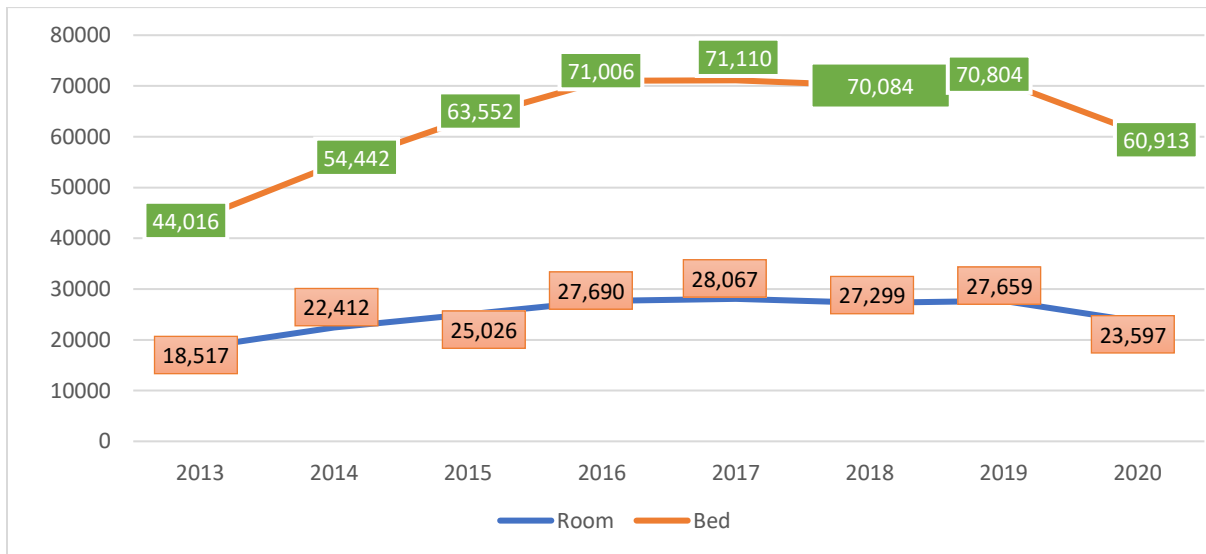
Figure 3 shows that the number of star- restaurants and cafeterias increased after 2013 and reached the highest point in 2019, then it dropped by 17.9% in 2020. concerning the national ones, no changes can be observed after 2013.

Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

Table 4: the number of rooms and beds in tourism establishments in the Kurdistan region for the years 2013-2020

Year	Room			Bed		
	Star-group	National	Total	Star-group	National	Total
2013	14,658	3,859	18,517	34,067	9,949	44,016
2014	18,573	3,839	22,412	44,504	9,938	54,442
2015	21,187	3,839	25,026	53,614	9,938	63,552
2016	23,851	3,839	27,690	61,068	9,938	71,006
2017	24,228	3,839	28,067	61,172	9,938	71,110
2018	23,460	3,839	27,299	59,651	10,433	70,084
2019	23,820	3,839	27,659	60,371	10,433	70,804
2020	19,758	3,839	23,597	50,480	10,433	60,913

Figure 4: comparison between the number of rooms and beds in tourism establishments in Kurdistan region in 2013-2020



As figure 4 shows, due to decrease in the number of tourism establishments, the number of rooms and beds decreased after 2017, where it recorded the highest number.

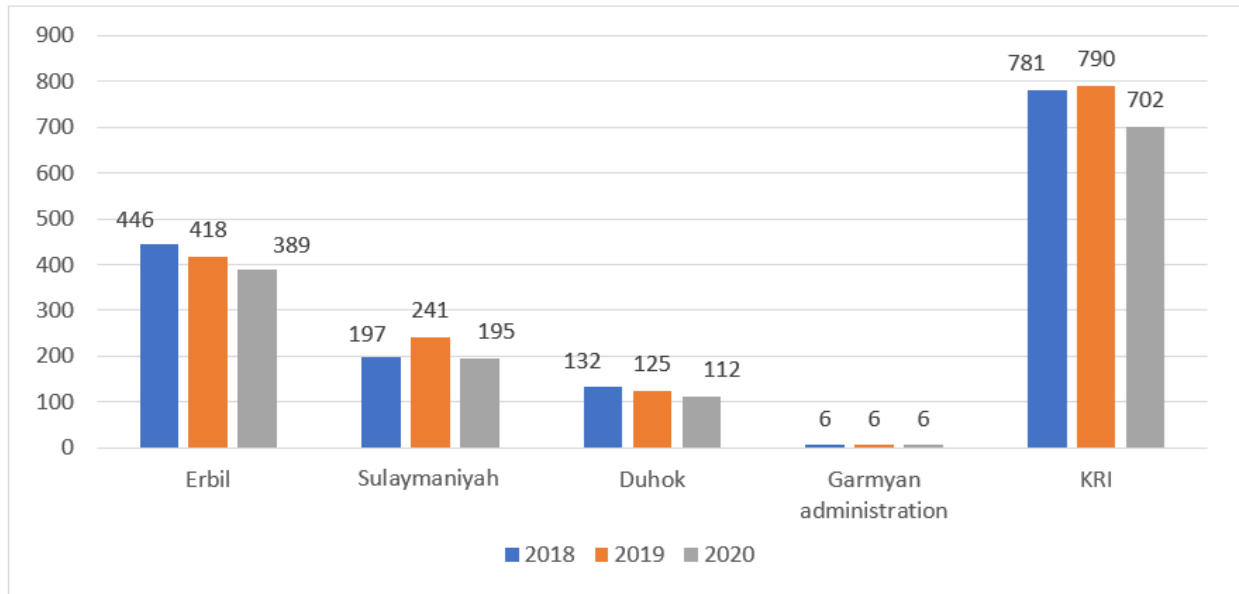
Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

Table 5: the no. of star-tourism establishments, rooms, beds, restaurants and cafeterias, tourists and carrying capacity at the level of Kurdistan region and governorates and Garmyan administration in 2013-2020

	Year	Erbil	Sulaymaniyah	Duhok	Garmyan	KRI
Hotel	2018	280	81	70	4	435
	2019	284	98	74	3	459
	2020	279	78	60	3	420
Motel	2018	123	75	58	2	258
	2019	104	108	49	1	262
	2020	93	86	50	1	230
Tourism complex	2018	43	41	4	0	88
	2019	30	35	2	2	69
	2020	17	31	2	2	52
Carrying capacity	2018	37,432	9,495	12,323	401	59,651
	2019	35,192	13,015	11,763	401	60,371
	2020	30,802	7,774	11,503	401	50,480
Restaurants and cafeterias	2018	372	310	149	7	838
	2019	425	628	260	30	1,343
	2020	423	437	221	22	1,103
Room	2018	14,614	4,359	4,359	119	23,460
	2019	13,494	6,128	4,079	119	23,820
	2020	11,299	4,391	3,949	119	19,758
Tourists	2018	1,644,942	1,007,296	358,520	46,884	3,057,642
	2019	1,983,391	1,140,760	618,638	47,194	3,789,983
	2020	630,340	61,026	150,000	4,381	845,747

Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

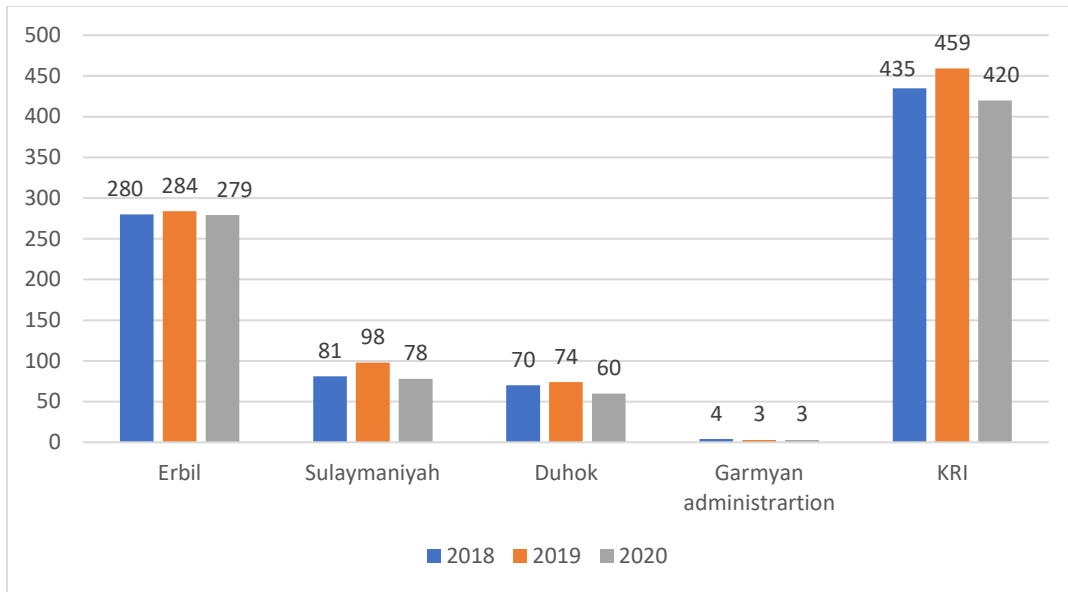
Figure 5: comparison between the number of star- tourism establishments at the level of Kurdistan region and governorates and Garmyan administration in 2013-2020



Generally speaking, at the level of Kurdistan, in 2020, the number of tourism establishments decreased by 11.13% compared to 2019 (hotels by 8.49%, motels and apartments by 12.21%, and tourism complex by 2.46%). We can also observe decrease at the level of governorates (Erbil by 6.93%, Sulaymaniyah 19.08%, Duhok by 10.4%, and no changes in Garmyan administration). The decrease is as a result of economic crisis that struck the region, and coronavirus outbreak that affected the tourism sector in Kurdistan region and traveling between Kurdistan and other governorates of Iraq and outside Iraq as well.

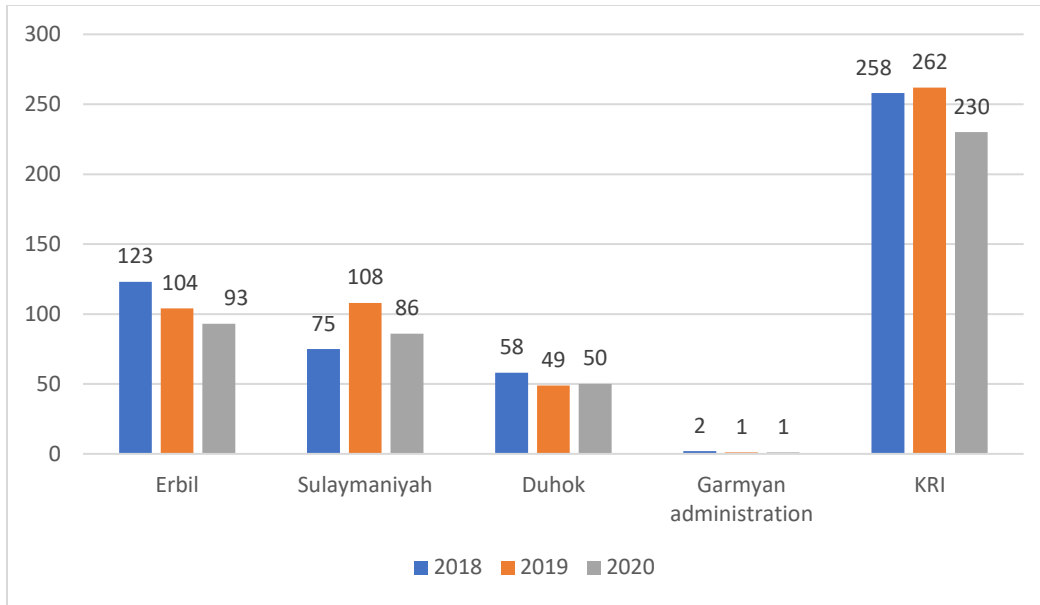
Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

Figure 6: comparison between the number of star-hotels at the level of Kurdistan region and governorates and Garmyan administration in 2018-2020



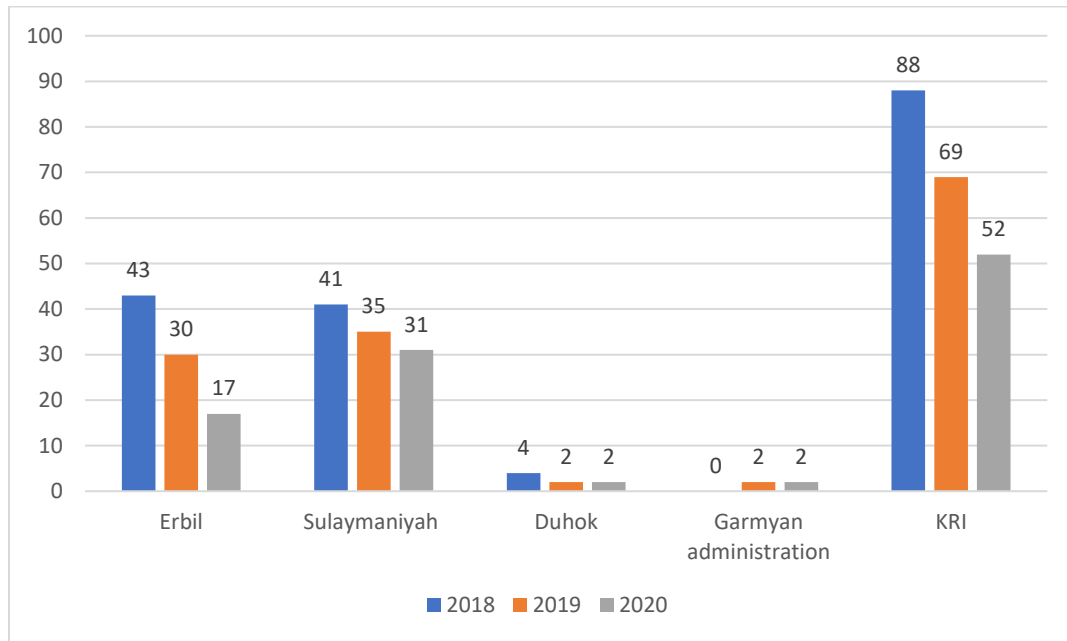
excluding Garmyan administration that remained unchanged, the number of star-hotels shows decrease in 2020 compared to 2019 at the level of Kurdistan region and governorates as well (Kurdistan region by 8.5%, Erbil near 1.8%, Sulaymaniyah 20.4% and Duhok near 19%), Figure 6.

Figure 7: comparison between the number of star-hotels and apartments at the level of Kurdistan region and governorates and Garman administration in 2018-2020



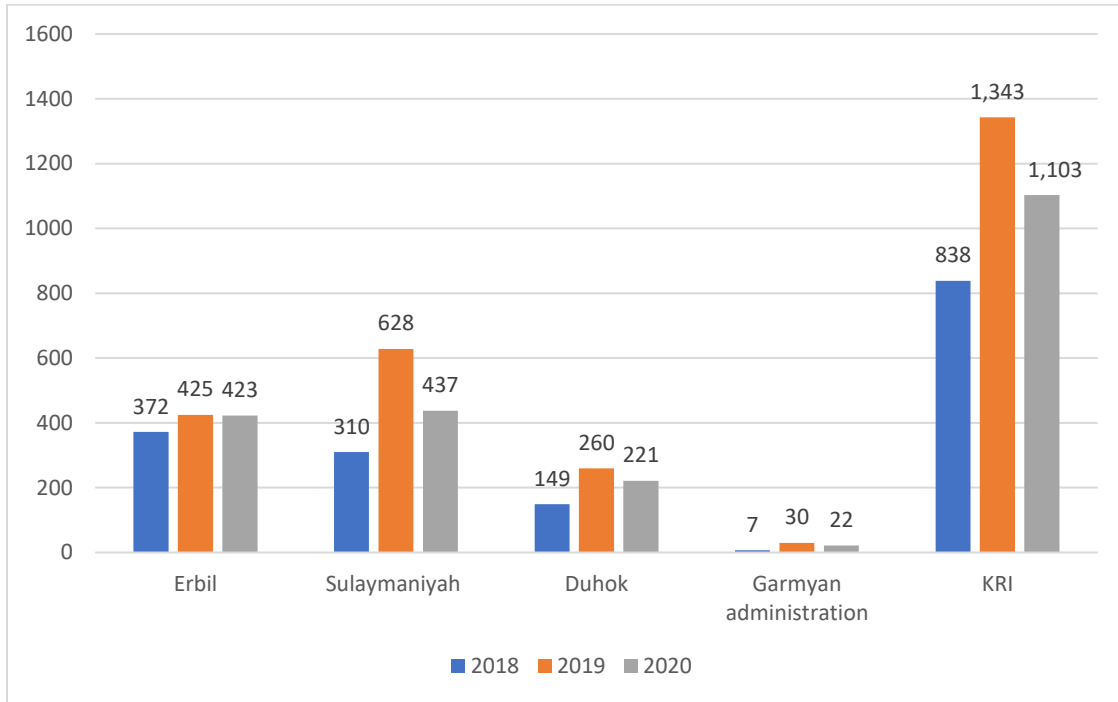
At the level of Kurdistan region, the number of motels decreased by 12.21% in 2020 compared to 2019. Also, decrease can be observed in the number of motels in the governorates of Erbil and Sulaymaniyah by 10.57% and 20.37% respectively, but, Duhok governorate recorded an increase by 2.04% and no changes observed in Garman administration. Changes can be also observed in the number of motels in 2020 compared to 2018 at the level of Kurdistan region (-10.85%), Erbil governorate (-24.39%), Sulaymaniyah governorate (14.66%), Duhok governorates (-13.79%) and Garman administration (-50%), (Figure 7).

Figure 8: comparison between the number of star-tourism complex at the level of Kurdistan region and governorates and Garmyan administration in 2018-2020



According to figure 8, the number of tourism complexes shows decrease at the level of Kurdistan region and governorate of Erbil and Sulaymaniyah (KRI by 24.6%, Erbil by 43.3% and Sulaymaniyah by 11.4%) in 2020 compared to 2019 with no changes in Duhok governorate and Garmyan administration. In 2020 compared to 2018, a significant decrease recorded in the number of tourism complexes at the level of Kurdistan region by 40.9%, Erbil by 60.46%, Duhok by 50% and Sulaymaniyah by 24.39%.

Figure 9: comparison between the number of star- restaurants and cafeterias at the level of Kurdistan region and governorates and Garmyan administration in 2018-2020



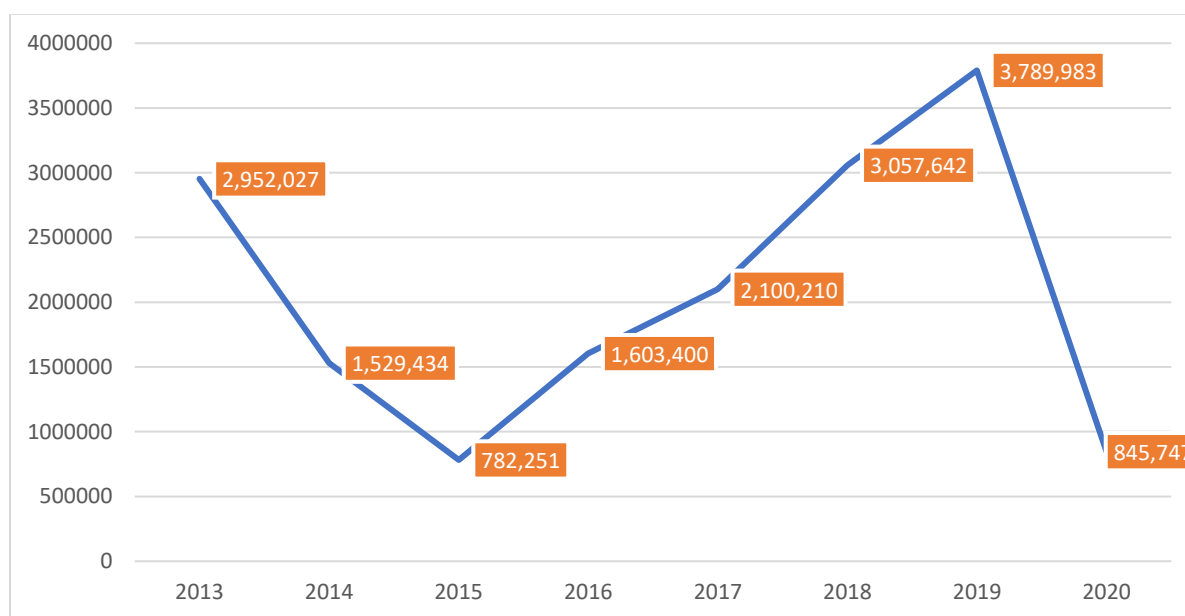
In 2020 comparing to 2019, the number of restaurants and cafeterias decreased at the level of Kurdistan region and governorates (Kurdistan region by 17.87%, Erbil by 0.47%, Sulaymaniyah by 30.41%, Duhok by 15%, and Garmyan administration by 26.6%). Comparison between 2020 and 2018 shows a significant increase in the number of restaurants and cafeterias in 2020 compared to 2018 at the level of Kurdistan region, governorates and Garmyan administration (Figure 9).

Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

Table 6: the number of tourists at the level of Kurdistan region, governorates and Garmyan administration for the years 2013-2020

Governorate	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Erbil	2,029,623	937,591	579,876	776,165	996,621	1,644,942	1,983,391	630,340
Sulaymaniyah	444,807	333,478	146,498	728,823	733,358	1,007,296	1,140,760	61,026
Duhok	444,414	229,630	49,639	88,390	279,875	358,520	618,638	150,000
Garmyan administration	33,183	28,735	6,238	10,022	90,356	46,884	47,194	4,381
Total (KRI)	2,952,027	1,529,434	782,251	1,603,400	2,100,210	3,057,642	3,789,983	845,747

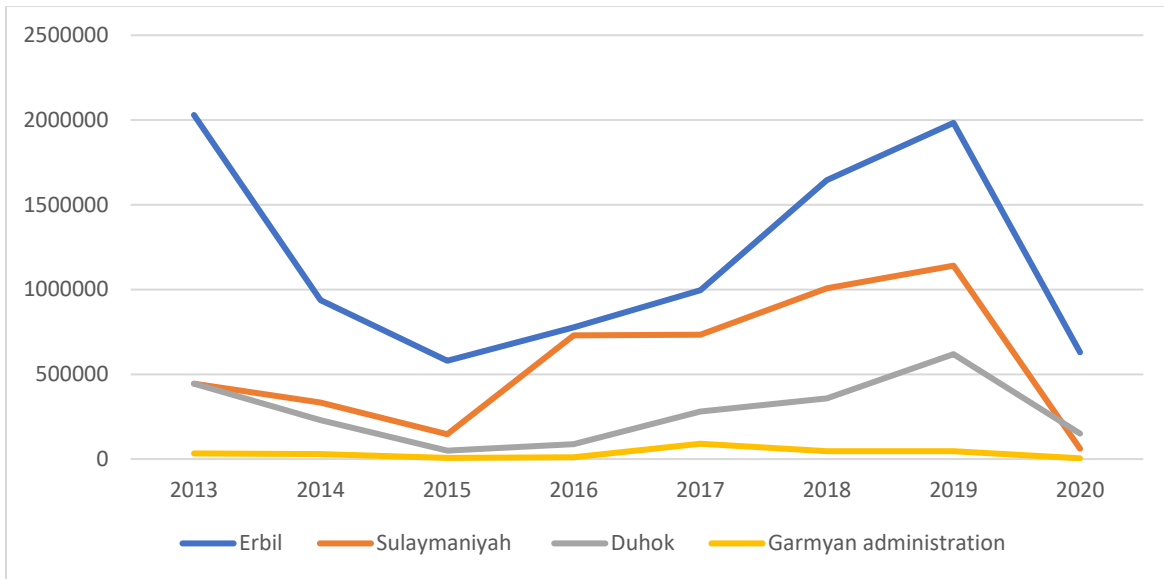
Figure 10: comparison between the number of tourists visited Kurdistan region in 2013-2020



The year 2015 recorded the lowest number of tourists who visited Kurdistan region during the years 2013-2020. Then ,it increased over 2016 till 2019 with a sharp decrease in 2020 compared to 2019, accounted for 77.68% (figure 10).

Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

Figure 11: comparison between the number of tourists visited Kurdistan region by governorates and Garmyan administration in 2013-2020



As it can be observed, the governorates show the same trend as it can be observed for the Kurdistan region. the lowest number of visitors has been recorded in 2015 at the level of governorates and Garmyan administration. following 2015, Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah governorates show a constant increase till 2019 and a sharp decrease in 2020. During the years 2013-2019, Erbil governorate recorded the highest number of visitors followed by Sulaymaniyah, Duhok and Garmyan respectively, but in 2020, Duhok outran Sulaymaniyah governorate.

Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

Figure 12: percentage distribution of visitors in Kurdistan region by governorates and Garmyan administration in 2020

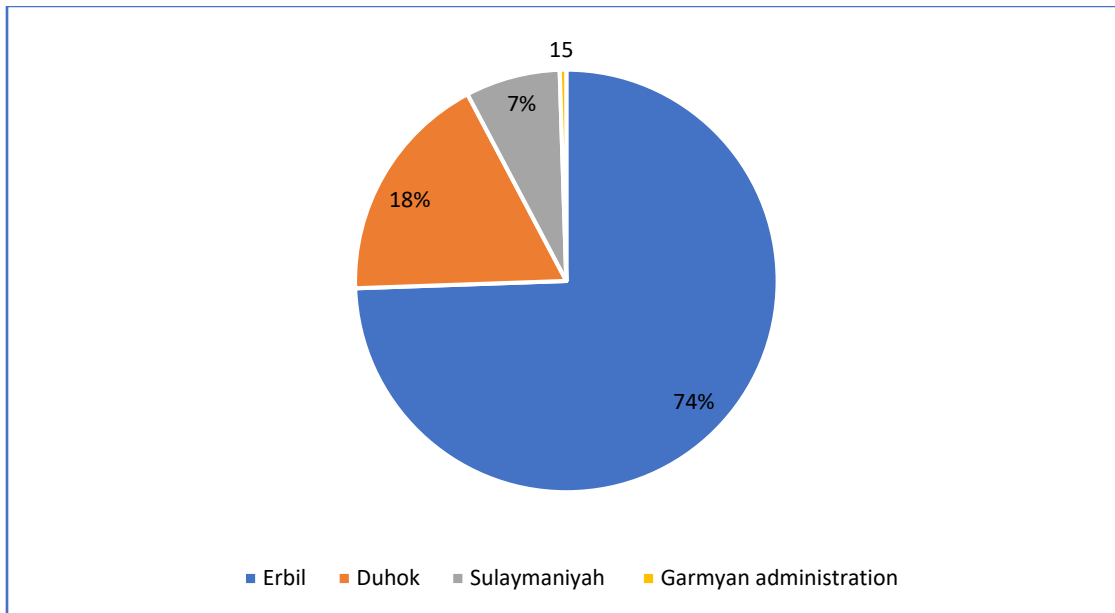


Figure 13: percentage distribution of visitors in Kurdistan region by governorates and Garmyan administration in 2019

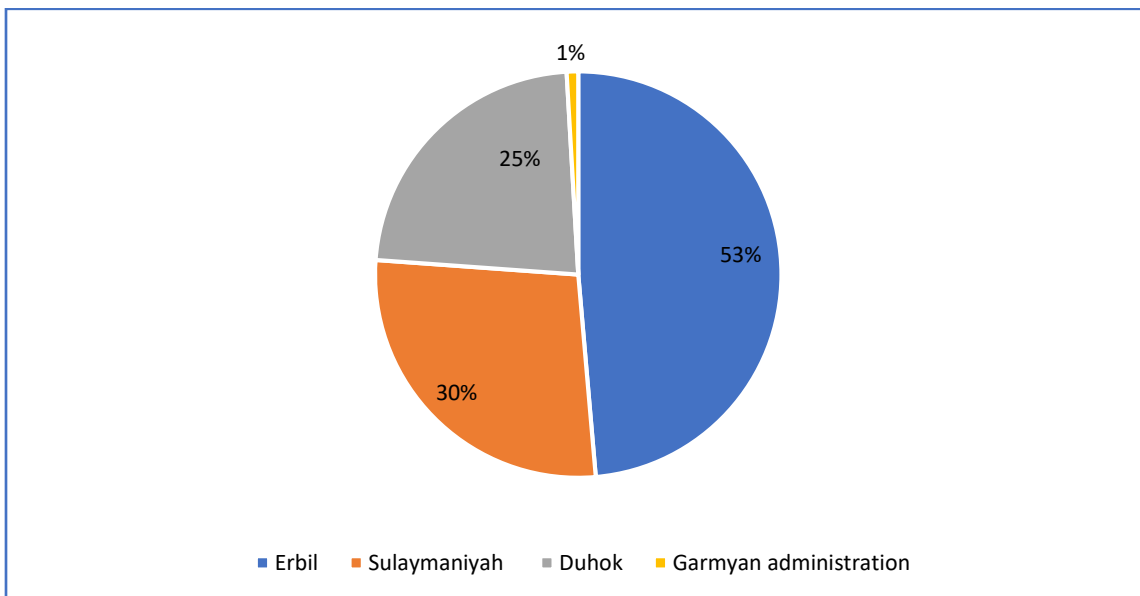


Table 7: the number of tourists visited Kurdistan region by the type of visitors in 2013-2020

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Local	459,847	273,326	171,445	383,340	420,042	611,528	757,998	92,614
South and center of Iraq	1,933,544	1,000,762	526,962	843,949	1,302,131	1,895,738	2,349,789	670,873
Foreign	558,636	255,346	83,844	376,111	378,037	550,376	682,196	82,260
Total	2,952,027	1,529,434	782,251	1,603,400	2,100,210	3,057,642	3,789,983	845,747

Figure 14: comparison between tourists visited Kurdistan region by type of visitors for the years 2013-2020

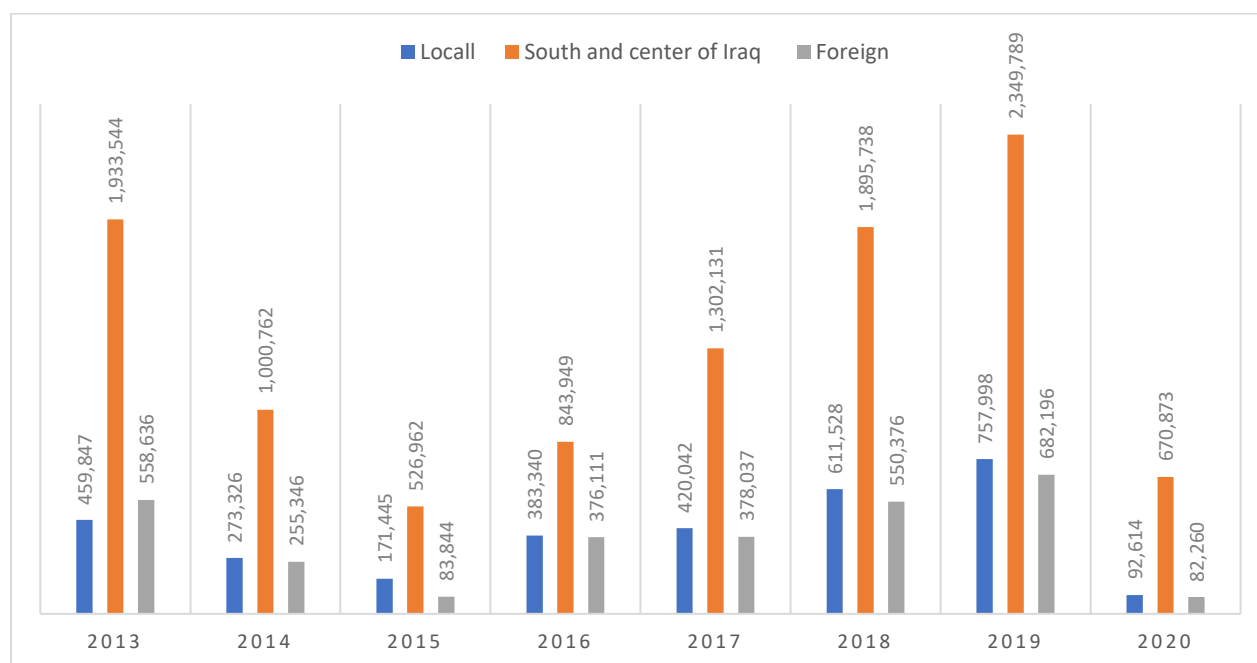


Figure 14, in 2013-2020, the number of tourists from south and center of Iraq is significantly higher than foreign and local tourists who visited Kurdistan region during these years. As we can see, in 2020, the number of tourists significantly decreased compared to 2019 for all type of tourists (local, foreign, south and center of Iraq).

Figure 15: percentage distribution of visitors in Kurdistan region by type of visitors in 2020

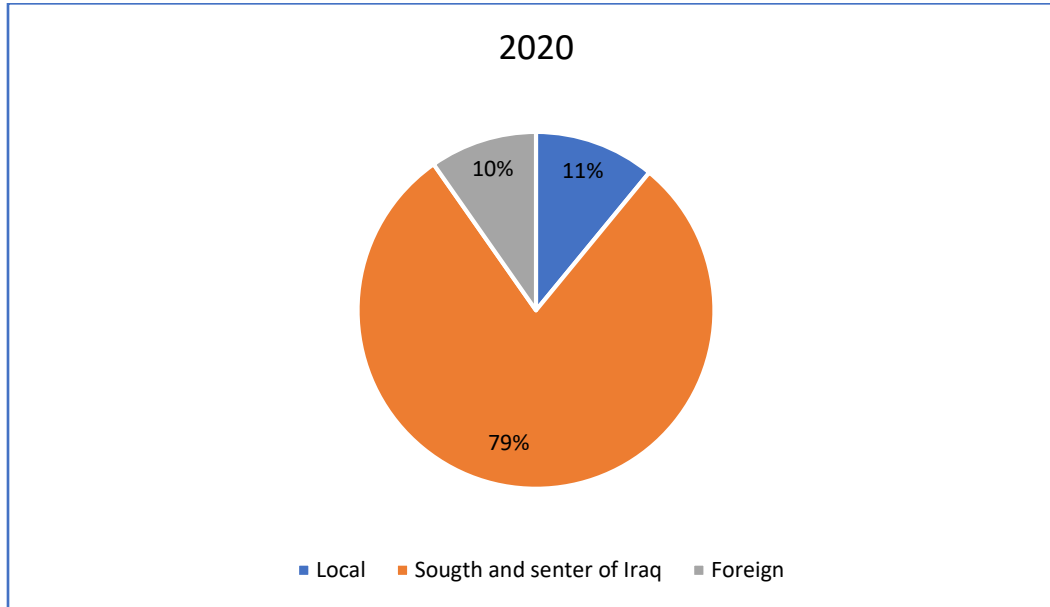


Table 8: the number of tourists visited Kurdistan region by governorates and Garmyan administration for the years 2018-2020

Governorate	2018	2019	2020
Erbil	1,644,942	1,983,391	630,340
Sulaymaniyah	1,007,296	1,140,760	61,026
Duhok	358,520	618,638	150,000
Garmyan administration	46,884	47,194	4,381
Total	3,057,642	3,789,983	845,747

Figure 16: comparison between visitors in Kurdistan region by governorates and Garmyan administration in 2018-2020

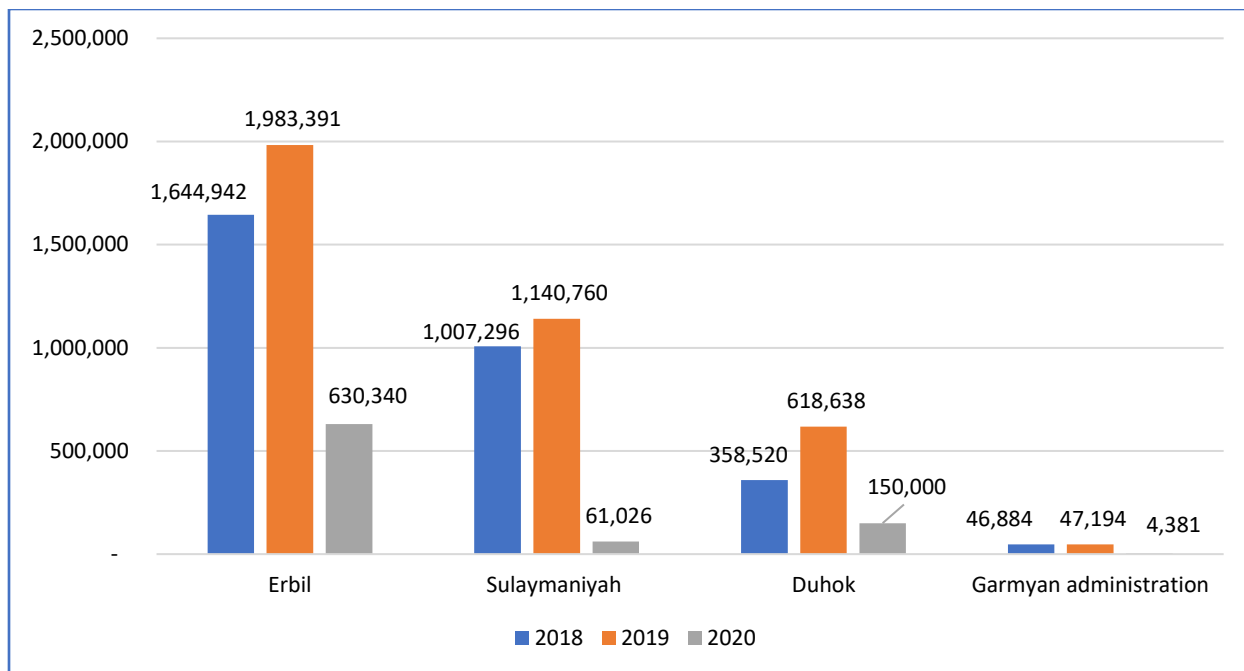


Table9 : the number of tourists visited Kurdistan region by type of visitors at the level governorates and Garmyan administration in 2020

Governorate	Local	South and center of Iraq	Foreign	Total
Erbil	48,830	537,503	44,007	630,340
Sulaymaniyah	12,205	37,836	10,985	61,026
Duhok	30,000	93,000	27,000	150,000
Garmyan administration	1,579	2,534	268	4,381
Total (KRI)	92,614	670,873	82,260	845,747

Tourism establishments statistics in Kurdistan region 2013-2020

Figure 17: comparison between visitors in Kurdistan region by type of visitors at the level of governorates and Garmyan administration in 2020

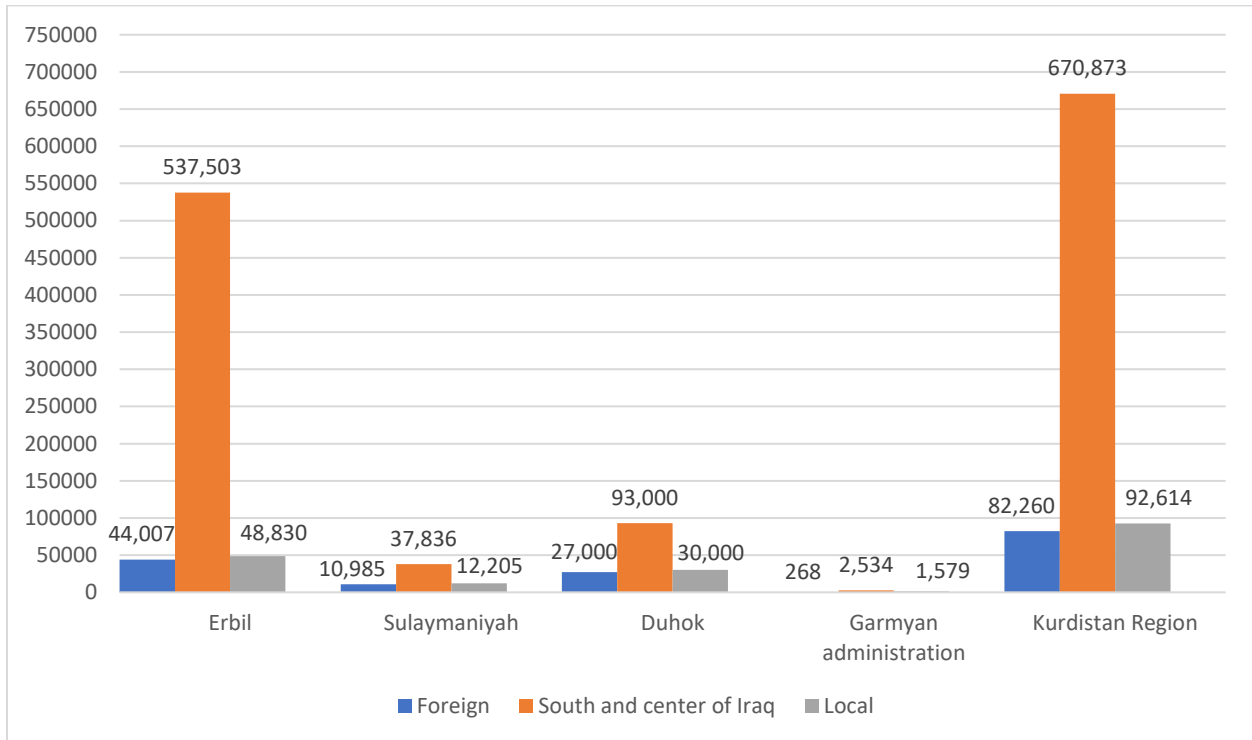
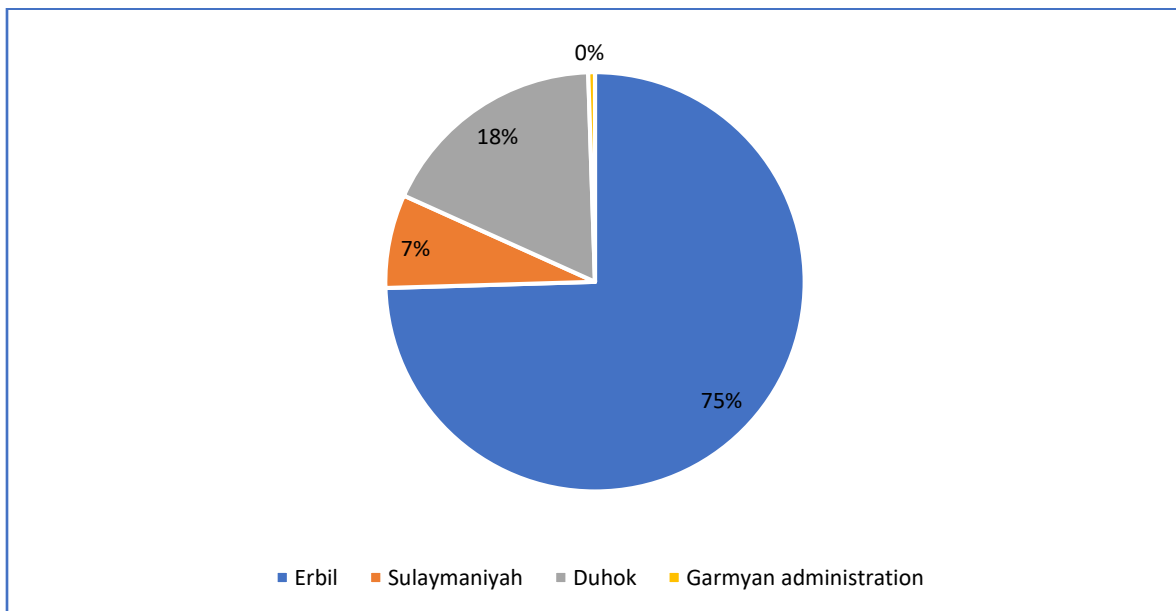


Figure 18: percentage distribution of visitors in Kurdistan region by governorates and garmyan administration in 2020



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