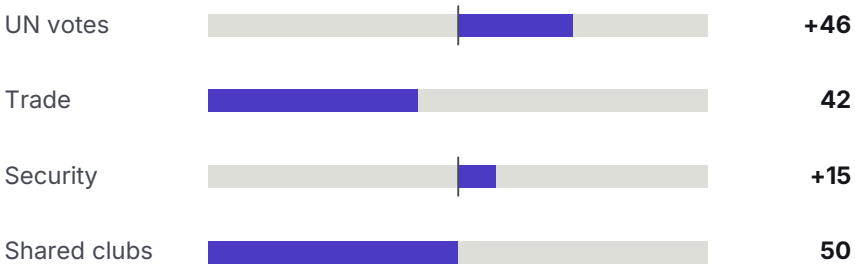
Saudi Arabia & Iraq

+36

Close

Relationship index, −100 to +100. Votes and security run from −100 to +100; trade and shared clubs from 0 to 100.

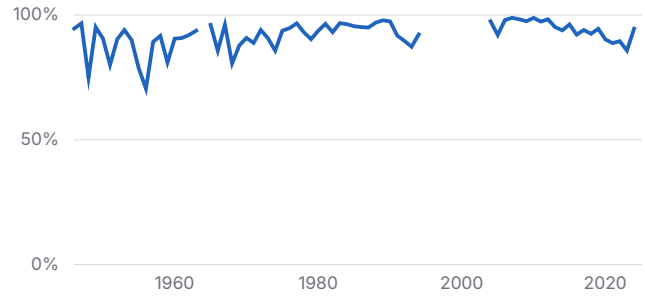


IN SHORT

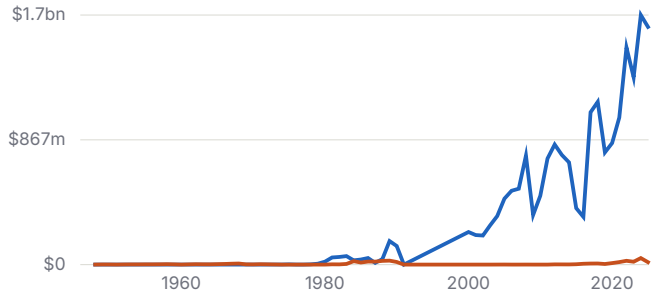
- Armed conflict: UCDP records them on opposite sides of the conflict in Iraq, Kuwait, with Saudi Arabia supporting another party, in 1991.
- At the UN their vote agreement is 90% (2022–2024), higher than either of them has with most countries.
- Trade in goods ($1.6 billion a year) is modest for Iraq, less so for Saudi Arabia.
- In its UN General Debate speeches, Saudi Arabia names Iraq far more often than the reverse (156 sentences against 20).
- 6,500 people born in Iraq live in Saudi Arabia (UN DESA counts place of birth, however long ago they moved).

OVER TIME

Share of recorded UN votes cast the same way

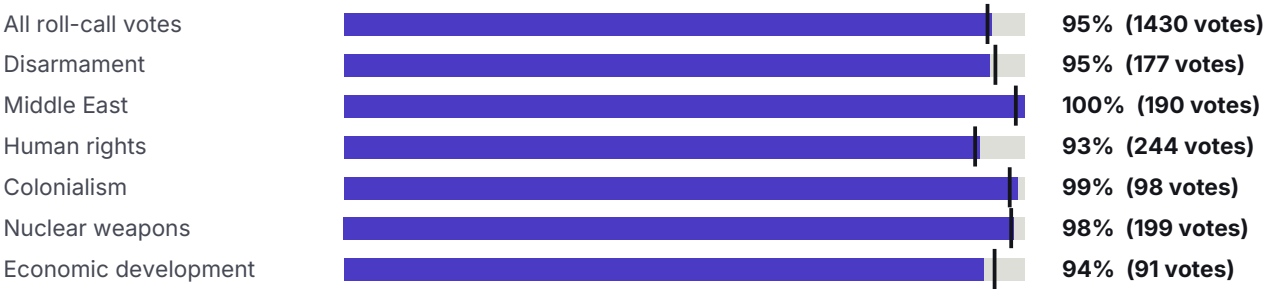


Goods exports each way (US dollars)



Saudi Arabia sells to Iraq Iraq sells to Saudi Arabia

VOTES TOPIC BY TOPIC (SINCE 2010)



Bar: since 2010. Mark: all years. Share of roll-call votes on whole texts cast the same way, counted vote by vote; an abstention against a yes counts as a difference. Disarmament, colonialism and economic development count votes up to 2018.

THE FACTS

UN votes	At the UN, the vote agreement of Saudi Arabia and Iraq was 90% in 2022–2024. For Saudi Arabia, Iraq is the 15th closest voting partner out of 191; for Iraq, Saudi Arabia is the 90th closest partner.
Trade	Trade in goods between them averaged $1.6 billion a year in 2023–2025: 0.3% of all Saudi Arabia's trade and 1.0% of Iraq's.
Words	Since 1946, Saudi Arabia has named Iraq in 156 sentences of its General Debate speeches; Iraq has named Saudi Arabia in 20.
Security	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program records them on opposite sides of armed conflict, one of them supporting another party (Iraq, Kuwait, 1991).
People	690 people born in Saudi Arabia live in Iraq and 6,500 born in Iraq live in Saudi Arabia (2024, UN DESA).
People	Their national football teams have met 37 times.

HOW SURE WE ARE

UN votes	**High**	265 shared votes on whole texts in 2022–2024, the years the headline share covers. With that many, a share is good to about ±6 points.
Trade	**High**	Goods trade is reported in 3 of the 3 years 2023–2025. Goods only, from customs data (IMF); services and energy pipelines are not in it.
Security	**High**	The Uppsala Conflict Data Program covers every state up to 2025. It counts only conflicts with at least 25 battle deaths a year.
Shared clubs	**High**	The list of tracked groups is fixed; membership is checked by hand.
Index	**High**	As sure as the weaker of its two required parts, votes and trade. Security and shared clubs add to it but never make it surer.

SOURCES AND HOW TO CITE

UN votes, speeches, mentions and trade: Nations on Record (UN General Assembly voting data, UN General Debate Corpus, IMF International Trade in Goods). Armed conflict: Uppsala Conflict Data Program, version 26.1. Migration: UN DESA International Migrant Stock 2024. Refugees: UNHCR. Football: international results archive (CC0). Every score follows fixed rules written out on /method; AI never sets a score. Independent and non-commercial; not affiliated with the United Nations.

Cite as

NationsRelations. (2026). Saudi Arabia & Iraq [scoring rules 0.4 (14 Nov 2026), scores built 2026-11-14]. https://nationsrelations.org/p/irq-sau

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