

Table (V - 2)

Rates of GNP and GDP growth in certain countries of the Middle East
Average annual growth (1960-78)

	<u>GNP (%)</u>	<u>GDP (%)</u>
Egypt	3.3	7.8
Iraq	4.1	n.a.
Jordan	n.a.	7.0
Syria	3.8	9.6
Tunisia	4.8	7.9
Israel	4.2	4.5

n.a. = not available

Source: World Development Report (Washington, D.C.: The World Bank, August 1980) pp. 110-112

Private consumption

Private consumption rose at about 6-7% per capita during the early years of occupation¹ and then at about 4% in the latter seventies.² Increased consumption was fuelled by a tangible rise in gross income per capita, estimated for 1979 at IL29,589 (around \$1100).³

¹ S.V. Arkadie, op. cit., p.119

² Administered Territories Statistics Quarterly 1980 op. cit., p. 79.

³ Ibid., p. 63.

Table (V - 3) presents a comparison of income per capita for a number of countries in the Middle East.

Table (V - 3)

GNP per capita in selected countries (1978)

	<u>GNP/capita</u>			<u>GNP/capita</u>	
	<u>U.S. \$</u>			<u>U.S. \$</u>	
Egypt	390	Kuwait		14,890	
Iraq	1860	Saudi Arabia		7,690	
Jordan	1050	United Kingdom		5,030	
Syria	930	Germany (Fed Rep.)		9,580	
Tunisia	950	United States		9,590	
Israel	3500	U.S.S.R.		3,700	
West Bank (1100)		Germany (GDR)		5,710	

Source: World Development Report, op. cit., pp. 110-111.

Although per capita income and rates of consumption growth may be biased upward as they are reported in official data, there is no doubt that the standard of living has indeed substantially improved. This is clearly exemplified through such vital indicators as dietary intake and ownership of important household amenities.

The dietary balance sheet of the West Bank shows a marked improvement during the period 1970-80 (see Table V - 4). While it is true that problems of under-nutrition have declined to a very low level, there are still problems of a qualitative nature. A prominent example is the relatively low intake of animal proteins caused by a sharp rise in the prices of meat, fish, and eggs.