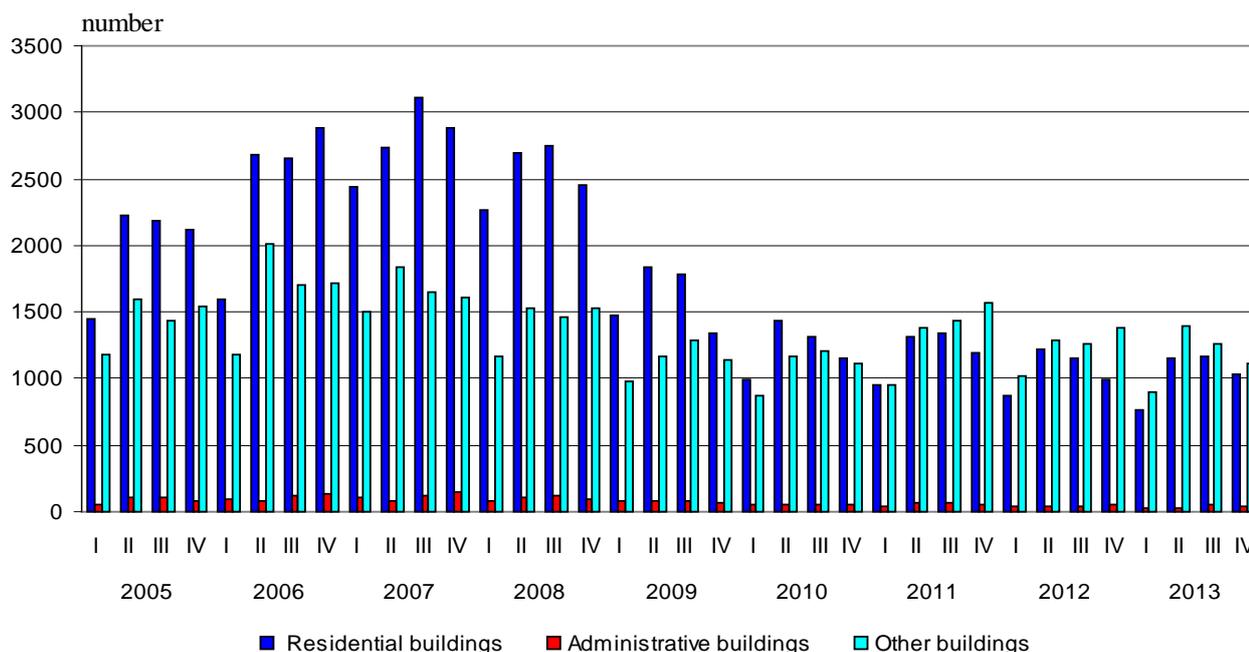




BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2013

In the fourth quarter of 2013, the municipal authorities have issued **building permits** for construction of 1 032 residential buildings with 3 656 dwellings and 444 602 sq. m gross building area, of 36 administrative buildings/offices with 41 120 sq. m gross building area and 1 115 other buildings with 592 295 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the building permits for residential buildings decreased by 12.0%, their dwellings - by 2.8% and the gross building area - by 9.1 %. Issued building permits of administrative buildings marked a drop by 35.7% and their gross building area - by 25.9%. The issued building permits of other buildings decreased by 12.0%, while their gross building area rose by 6.7%.

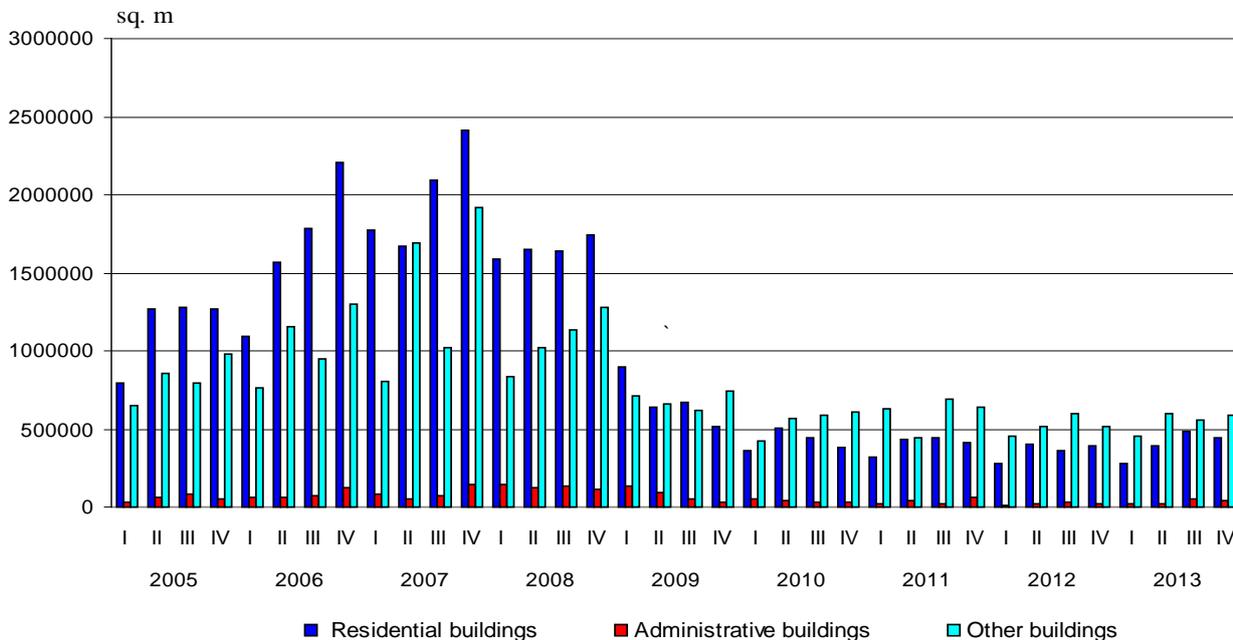
Figure 1. Building permits issued for construction of new buildings by type and by quarter



As compared to the fourth quarter of 2012 the issued building permits for new residential buildings increased by 4.0%, their dwellings - by 15.6% and the gross building area - by 14.2%. The issued building permits of administrative buildings fell by 25.0% and the other buildings - by 19.1% (Figure 1). The gross building area of the administrative buildings increased by 107.6% and the gross building area of other buildings rose by 15.0% (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Building permits issued for construction - gross building area by type of buildings and by quarter



The highest number of building permits for new residential buildings has been issued in the following districts: Burgas - 186, Sofia (stolitsa) - 108, Plovdiv - 107, Sofia - 83 and Varna - 75. Most dwellings are to be built in the districts: Sofia (stolitsa) - 963, Burgas - 888, Varna - 481, Plovdiv - 357 and Stara Zagora - 213 (Annex, Table 1).

In the fourth quarter of 2013 **began the construction** of 591 residential buildings with 2 531 dwellings and 286 640 sq. m gross building area, of 24 administrative buildings/offices with 22 033 sq. m gross building area and 602 other buildings with 459 378 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings decreased by 14.0% and the gross building area - by 2.6%, while the number of their dwellings rose by 33.5%. Started administrative buildings marked a drop by 42.9%, but their gross building area increased by 33,6%. The number of started other buildings rose by 13.4% and their gross building area - by 49.8%.

As compared to the fourth quarter of 2012 the started new residential buildings fell by 1.7%, while their dwellings increased by 17.9% and the gross building area - by 32.1%. The number of started administrative buildings rose by 20.0%, and their gross building area was more than twice. An increase is observed in the started other buildings by 13.4% and in their gross building area - by 99.4%.

The highest number of the construction of new buildings were started in the following districts: Burgas - 147 residential buildings and 98 other buildings; Plovdiv - 77 residential buildings, 7 administrative buildings and 54 other buildings; Varna - 52 residential buildings and 31 other buildings; Sofia - 33 residential buildings and 35 other buildings; Sofia(stolitsa) - 37 residential buildings and 23 other buildings (Annex, Table 2).



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Methodological notes

The quarterly statistical survey of permits issued for construction collects information about building permits, issued by municipal authorities as well as for the started construction of new buildings according to their type and gross building area. This information may be used as an indicator of future construction activity of enterprises in the country.

Type of buildings is classified according to the Classification of types of construction (CC) and is divided into:

- Residential - buildings for which the useful floor area is mostly used for permanent residential habitation.
- Non-residential - buildings for various purposes, including:
 - administrative - offices and buildings for administrative work of departments and other organizations and associations (representative buildings - banks, post offices, government department offices, conference and congress centers, low courts, municipalities);
 - other buildings - buildings used for different activities: production, trade, transport, education, cultural, sports, agriculture, health, recreation and facilities for short stay (hotels, motels, rest houses, huts and others).

Gross building area - a sum of all floors areas in external dimensions.

Annex

Table 1

Building permits issued for construction of new buildings in the fourth quarter of 2013¹

Districts	Residential buildings			Administrative buildings		Other buildings	
	Number	Number of dwellings	Gross building area-sq.m.	Number	Gross building area-sq.m.	Number	Gross building area-sq.m.
Total	1032	3656	444602	36	41120	1115	592295
Blagoevgrad	47	89	12009	..	..	61	16857
Burgas	186	888	99875	..	..	77	112660
Varna	75	481	65497	..	..	68	65717
Veliko Tarnovo	28	75	7912	-	-	43	15929
Vidin	..	..	..	..	..	8	2471
Vratsa	9	19	2441	-	-	36	5715
Gabrovo	21	30	4803	-	-	12	3279
Dobrich	45	74	12309	..	..	47	45965
Kardzhali	16	20	3330	-	-	20	8472
Kyustendil	13	17	2256	..	..	47	50317
Lovech	22	25	3551	-	-	18	2442
Montana	6	6	1148	..	..	17	11382
Pazardzhik	46	63	6485	..	..	55	14029
Pernik	35	40	6229	-	-	24	2579
Pleven	16	18	3370	-	-	23	4896
Plovdiv	107	357	50381	3	1790	117	83133
Razgrad	..	..	..	..	..	20	5283
Ruse	12	12	2795	-	-	33	7776
Silistra	17	27	4938	..	..	13	2387
Sliven	17	44	5870	-	-	22	7038
Smolyan	8	9	1817	..	..	26	5018
Sofia	83	88	12681	..	..	67	9381
Sofia (stolitsa)	108	963	97036	13	14112	81	63899
Stara Zagora	61	213	23754	..	..	71	29131
Targovishte	6	15	1017	-	-	20	2431
Haskovo	19	26	4291	..	..	22	4351
Shumen	10	31	5178	..	..	41	5281
Yambol	15	22	3080	-	-	26	4476

¹ ".." - confidential data.



Table 2

Building construction started in the fourth quarter of 2013¹

Districts	Residential buildings			Administrative buildings		Other buildings	
	Number	Number of dwellings	Gross building area-sq.m.	Number	Gross building area-sq.m.	Number	Gross building area-sq.m.
Total	591	2531	286640	24	22033	602	459378
Blagoevgrad	23	81	8054	-	-	21	5296
Burgas	147	983	90026	..	..	98	174578
Varna	52	501	62711	-	-	31	12633
Veliko Tarnovo	23	70	7082	..	..	26	7835
Vidin	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
Vratsa	5	6	794	-	-	6	584
Gabrovo	-	-	-	-	-	3	1960
Dobrich	32	45	8561	-	-	23	37763
Kardzhali	12	38	6274	-	-	6	3177
Kyustendil	..	..	..	..	..	12	47916
Lovech	10	10	2155	-	-	17	4437
Montana	-	-	-	..	..	9	4531
Pazardzhik	25	54	7645	-	-	36	10122
Pernik	12	18	4070	3	549	12	3173
Pleven	7	7	923	-	-	20	4151
Plovdiv	77	295	34100	7	6715	54	31051
Razgrad	4	5	765	..	..	12	2346
Ruse	..	..	..	-	-	16	4336
Silistra	7	17	1969	..	..	10	3959
Sliven	17	26	4402	-	-	35	41470
Smolyan	..	..	..	..	..	10	1927
Sofia	33	35	4626	..	..	35	7634
Sofia (stolitsa)	37	140	17414	..	..	23	15997
Stara Zagora	31	130	15088	-	-	33	13293
Targovishte	5	6	926	-	-	14	1495
Haskovo	11	18	2794	..	..	13	4117
Shumen	5	9	1322	..	..	19	11266
Yambol	11	31	3477	-	-	8	2331

¹ ".." - confidential data.