

## **BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2010<sup>1</sup>**

In the first quarter of 2010, the municipal authorities have issued building permits for construction of 987 residential buildings with 2 789 dwellings and 358 483 sq.m gross building area, of 49 administrative buildings/offices with 47 907 sq.m gross building area and 868 other buildings with 417 900 sq.m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the building permits for residential buildings decreased by 26.5%, their dwellings - by 28.9% and the gross building area - by 30.1%. The administrative buildings fell by 22.2% but their gross building area rose by 65.8%. The other buildings fell by 24.0% and their gross building area - by 43.9%.

As compared to the first quarter of 2009 issued building permits for new residential building decreased by 32.9%, and their dwellings - by 57.3%. The administrative buildings fell by 38.0% and the other buildings - by 11.2% (Fig.1). In all types of buildings a decline in the gross building area was registered, in the residential buildings - by 60.0%, in the administrative buildings - by 64.2%, and in the other buildings - by 41.2% respectively (Fig.2).

In the first quarter of 2010, the highest number of building permits for new residential buildings has been issued in the following districts: Sofia (capital) - 135, Burgas - 126, Sofia - 101, Plovdiv - 92. Most dwellings to be launched in the districts: Burgas - 513, Plovdiv - 365, Blagoevgrad - 356, Sofia (capital) - 349, Varna - 279 (Table 1).

From the beginning of 2010, the National Statistical Institute has begun to collect data on the construction of new buildings started. In the first quarter of 2010, building construction of 462 new residential buildings with 1 652 dwellings and 210 705 sq.m gross building area has been started. The construction of 31 administrative buildings/offices with 31 301 sq.m gross building area and 332 other buildings with 171 860 sq.m gross building area has been begun. The highest number of construction of new buildings has been started in the district Sofia (capital) - 87 residential buildings, 7 administrative buildings/offices and 9 other buildings. The construction of no one building has been started in the district Kyustendil (Table 2).

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<sup>1</sup>The quarterly statistical survey of permits issued for construction collects information about issued building permits for the type of buildings and the gross building area by municipal authorities. This information may be used as a prognostic 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.

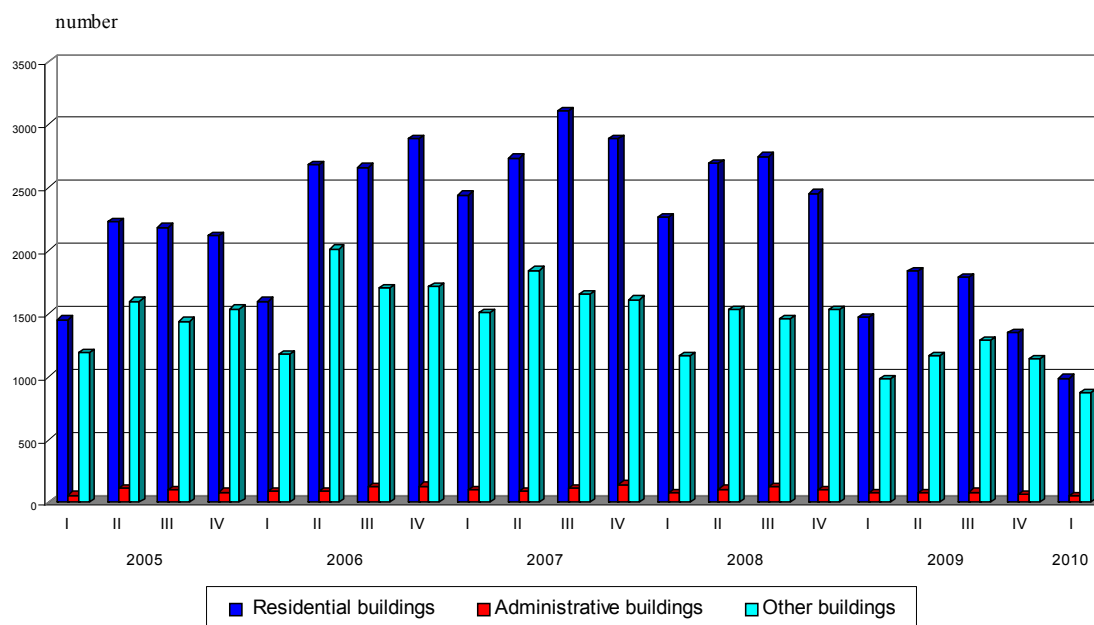
*Non-residential* - buildings for various purpose, including:

- **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);

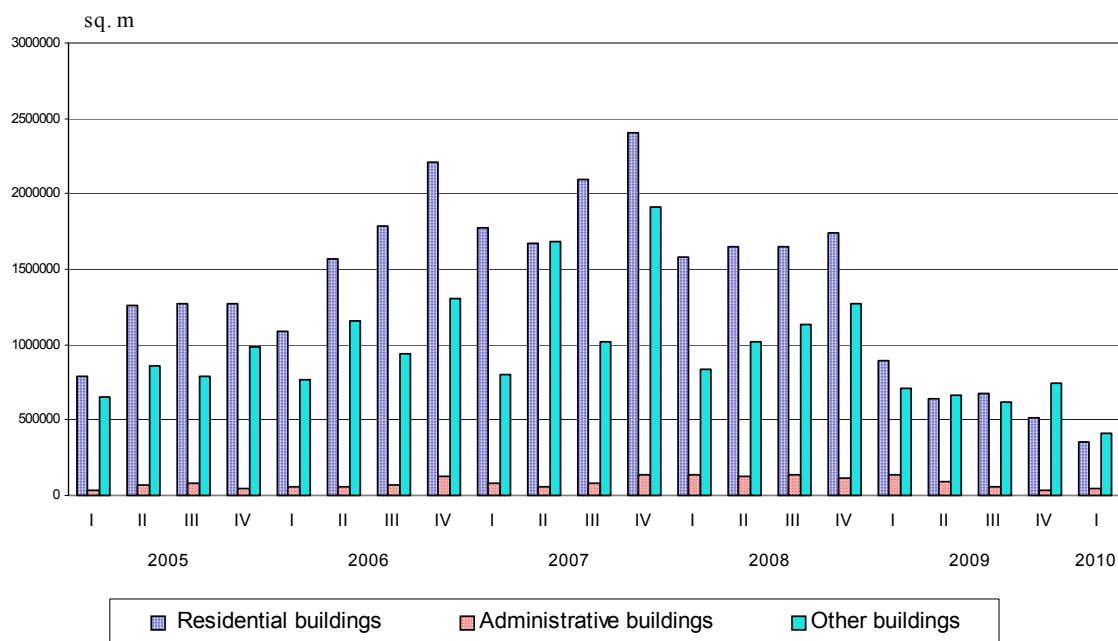
- **other buildings** - buildings used for different activities: production, trade, transport, education, cultural, sports, agriculture, health, recreation and facilities for short stay (hotels, motels, rest houses, huts and others).

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

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



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



**Table 1**
**Building permits issued for construction of new buildings in the first quarter of 2010<sup>2</sup>**

Districts	Residential buildings			Administrative buildings		Other buildings	
	number	dwellings	Gross building area-sq.m.	number	Gross building area-sq.m.	number	Gross building area-sq.m.
<b>Total</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>2789</b>	<b>358483</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>47907</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>417900</b>
Blagoevgrad	73	356	28600	4	1397	52	30585
Burgas	126	513	62190	..	..	49	41644
Varna	56	279	34378	5	17326	67	105191
Veliko Tarnovo	12	13	1658	..	..	41	10706
Vidin	..	..	..	-	-	11	1337
Vratsa	8	13	2957	..	..	25	9250
Gabrovo	21	40	5173	-	-	13	5245
Dobrich	25	31	4121	-	-	31	13593
Kardzhali	22	73	11795	-	-	11	1280
Kyustendil	7	18	1986	-	-	18	3457
Lovech	16	16	2512	..	..	13	3763
Montana	3	9	1333	-	-	18	5747
Pazardzhik	37	72	8632	..	..	35	12703
Pernik	47	57	9001	..	..	22	3437
Pleven	16	43	5412	-	-	23	22020
Plovdiv	92	365	42752	7	3796	85	47172
Razgrad	10	31	3344	..	..	17	2354
Ruse	15	28	4691	..	..	26	10653
Silistra	..	..	..	..	..	34	6958
Sliven	17	45	7688	-	-	21	5134
Smolyan	4	4	748	..	..	41	13836
Sofia cap.	135	349	53256	14	11556	34	9730
Sofia	101	114	19187	..	..	47	15302
Stara Zagora	65	104	15571	..	..	63	16618
Targovishte	5	11	1426	-	-	9	2398
Haskovo	49	82	16530	-	-	15	1019
Shumen	18	78	8281	..	..	31	9346
Yambol	3	41	4705	..	..	16	7422

<sup>2</sup> Note: ".." Confidential data

**Table 2**
**Building construction started in the first quarter of 2010<sup>2</sup>**

Districts	Residential buildings			Administrative buildings		Other buildings	
	number	dwellings	Gross building area-sq.m.	number	Gross building area-sq.m.	number	Gross building area-sq.m.
<b>Total</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>1652</b>	<b>210705</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31301</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>171860</b>
Blagoevgrad	37	212	15088	..	..	27	14869
Burgas	76	337	40535	..	..	35	55816
Varna	24	134	16377	..	..	26	33660
Veliko Tarnovo	5	6	872	-	-	20	7451
Vidin	..	..	..	-	-	6	639
Vratsa	3	3	979	-	-	5	4514
Gabrovo	7	7	666	-	-	3	170
Dobrich	15	19	2366	..	..	..	..
Kardzhali	12	95	10142	-	-	5	440
Kyustendil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lovech	8	8	1147	..	..	6	298
Montana	3	10	1178	..	..	4	2023
Pazardzhik	20	72	8404	..	..	9	1457
Pernik	14	15	1881	-	-	3	1884
Pleven	..	..	..	-	-	8	3763
Plovdiv	39	55	8204	3	1001	41	4881
Razgrad	5	6	905	-	-	7	1583
Ruse	7	7	1864	..	..	6	995
Silistra	..	..	..	..	..	10	5296
Sliven	8	18	2493	..	..	8	6322
Smolyan	..	..	..	-	-	20	3368
Sofia cap.	87	448	60952	7	9260	9	3923
Sofia	32	34	6752	..	..	21	6165
Stara Zagora	25	92	10531	3	864	22	7128
Targovishte	..	..	..	-	-	..	..
Haskovo	24	53	16722	-	-	10	1377
Shumen	4	4	472	-	-	15	2296
Yambol	-	-	-	-	-	4	1398

<sup>2</sup> Note: ".." Confidential data