



BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2011

In the first quarter of 2011, the municipal authorities have issued building permits for construction of 951 residential buildings with 2 458 dwellings and 320 010 sq. m gross building area, of 37 administrative buildings/offices with 21 907 sq. m gross building area and 954 other buildings with 631 784 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the building permits for residential buildings decreased by 17.4%, their dwellings - by 9.1% and the gross building area - by 15.3%. The administrative buildings dropped by 28.8% and their gross building area - by 29.2%. The other buildings fell by 13.9%, but their gross building area rose by 3.7%.

As compared to the first quarter of 2010 the issued building permits for new residential buildings decreased by 3.6%, and their dwellings - by 11.9%. The administrative buildings fell by 24.5%, while the other buildings increased by 9.9% (Figure 1). The drop in the gross building area was registered in the residential buildings - by 10.7% and in the administrative buildings - by 54.3%, while in the other buildings showed an increase by 51.2% (Figure 2).

The highest number of building permits for new residential buildings has been issued in the following districts: Sofia (capital) - 112, Burgas - 111, Plovdiv - 92, Sofia - 90 and Varna - 84. Most dwellings are to be launched in the districts: Burgas - 637, Plovdiv - 348, Varna - 302 and Sofia (capital) - 210 (Table 1).

In the first quarter of 2011 has been begun construction of 459 residential buildings with 1 540 dwellings and 194 892 sq. m gross building area, of 26 administrative buildings/offices with 14 092 sq. m gross building area and 409 other buildings with 208 830 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings decreased by 24.9%, their dwellings - by 32.6% and the gross building area - by 26.5%. The started administrative buildings rose by 8.3%, but their gross building area fell by 0.5%. The number of other buildings decreased by 13.3% and their gross building area - by 4.7%.

As compared to the first quarter of 2010 the number of started new residential buildings decreased by 0.6%, and their dwellings - by 6.8%. The administrative buildings fell by 16.1%, while the other buildings rose by 23.2%. The decrease in the gross building area was registered in the residential buildings - by 7.5% and in the administrative buildings - by 55.0%, while in the other buildings showed an increase by 21.5%

The highest number of construction of new buildings were started in the districts: Burgas - 77 residential buildings and 59 other buildings; Varna - 55 residential buildings and 28 other buildings; Plovdiv - 45 residential buildings, 3 administrative buildings and 40 other buildings; Sofia (capital) - 43 residential buildings, 4 administrative buildings and 18 other buildings (Table 2).



Methodological notes

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 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.



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

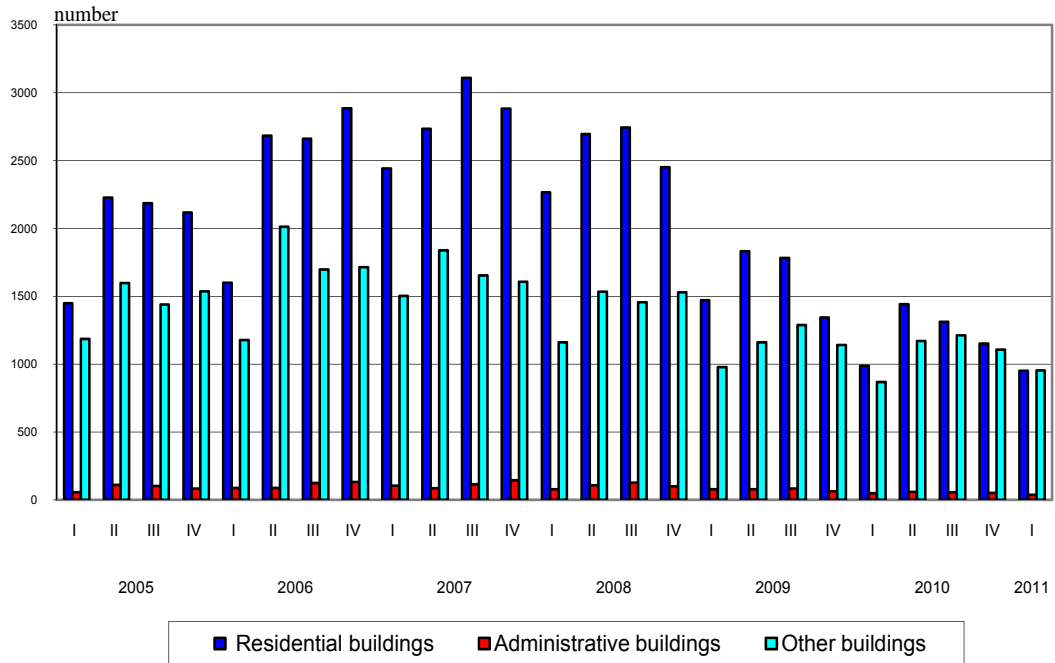


Figure 2. Building permits issued for construction - gross building area by type of buildings and by quarter

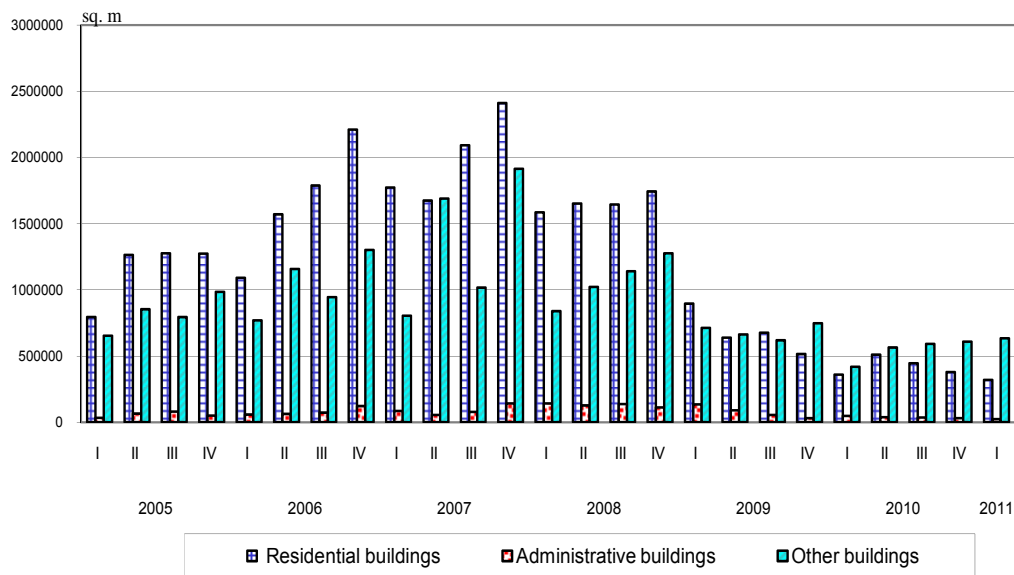




Table 1

Building permits issued for construction of new buildings in the first quarter of 2011¹

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	951	2458	320010	37	21907	954	631784
Blagoevgrad	67	189	21460	6	3387	55	14095
Burgas	111	637	73414	-	-	88	47664
Varna	84	302	33769	..	..	54	10502
Veliko Tarnovo	16	63	8331	..	..	71	19129
Vidin	4	10	984	..	..	9	1918
Vratsa	5	13	1949	..	..	13	3599
Gabrovo	14	16	3107	..	..	15	1346
Dobrich	41	50	8438	-	-	38	15756
Kardzhali	19	59	9470	-	-	15	1644
Kyustendil	14	19	2656	..	..	9	1335
Lovech	22	28	4062	-	-	25	6923
Montana	6	6	1316	-	-	14	2931
Pazardzhik	38	46	6416	-	-	56	10045
Pernik	14	15	2980	..	..	7	1040
Pleven	17	20	4195	3	1093	30	6300
Plovdiv	92	348	42987	..	..	76	63954
Razgrad	10	11	1593	-	-	28	7479
Ruse	17	17	2380	-	-	25	11295
Silistra	6	7	1374	-	-	14	4801
Sliven	29	49	6654	..	..	19	4039
Smolyan	7	11	1709	-	-	25	3812
Sofia	90	122	16594	4	1231	38	10556
Sofia cap.	112	210	37137	7	5887	43	14612
Stara Zagora	60	97	12042	-	-	74	305037
Targovishte	5	28	2280	-	-	16	36893
Haskovo	30	49	7749	-	-	48	12753
Shumen	13	21	3372	..	..	31	6473
Yambol	8	15	1592	..	..	18	5853

¹ ".." - confidential data.



Table 2

Building construction started in the first quarter of 2011¹

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	459	1540	194892	26	14092	409	208830
Blagoevgrad	28	82	9216	6	3387	40	14561
Burgas	77	463	50493	..	..	59	63459
Varna	55	395	41667	..	..	28	26746
Veliko Tarnovo	9	9	1443	-	-	22	6292
Vidin	-	-	-	-	-	..	..
Vratsa	..	..	..	-	-	5	1343
Gabrovo	-	-	-	-	-	..	..
Dobrich	26	31	5574	-	-	21	8119
Kardzhali	10	31	4567	-	-	8	766
Kyustendil	9	14	1354	-	-	-	-
Lovech	8	8	1325	..	..	8	3701
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	5	680
Pazardzhik	20	32	4795	..	..	18	3125
Pernik	..	..	..	-	-	4	680
Pleven	4	4	803	3	200	5	1100
Plovdiv	45	102	16045	3	2816	40	26128
Razgrad	5	6	784	-	-	8	2032
Ruse	3	4	523	-	-	3	1817
Silistra	..	..	..	-	-	5	1126
Sliven	17	51	6203	-	-	15	11761
Smolyan	..	..	..	-	-	8	954
Sofia	40	40	5567	..	..	13	5818
Sofia cap.	43	108	22095	4	1532	18	8961
Stara Zagora	25	88	12581	3	639	19	3708
Targovishte	3	17	1398	-	-	4	2221
Haskovo	20	33	4797	..	..	25	5507
Shumen	5	13	2142	..	..	20	4759
Yambol	..	..	..	-	-	5	2356

¹ ".." - confidential data.