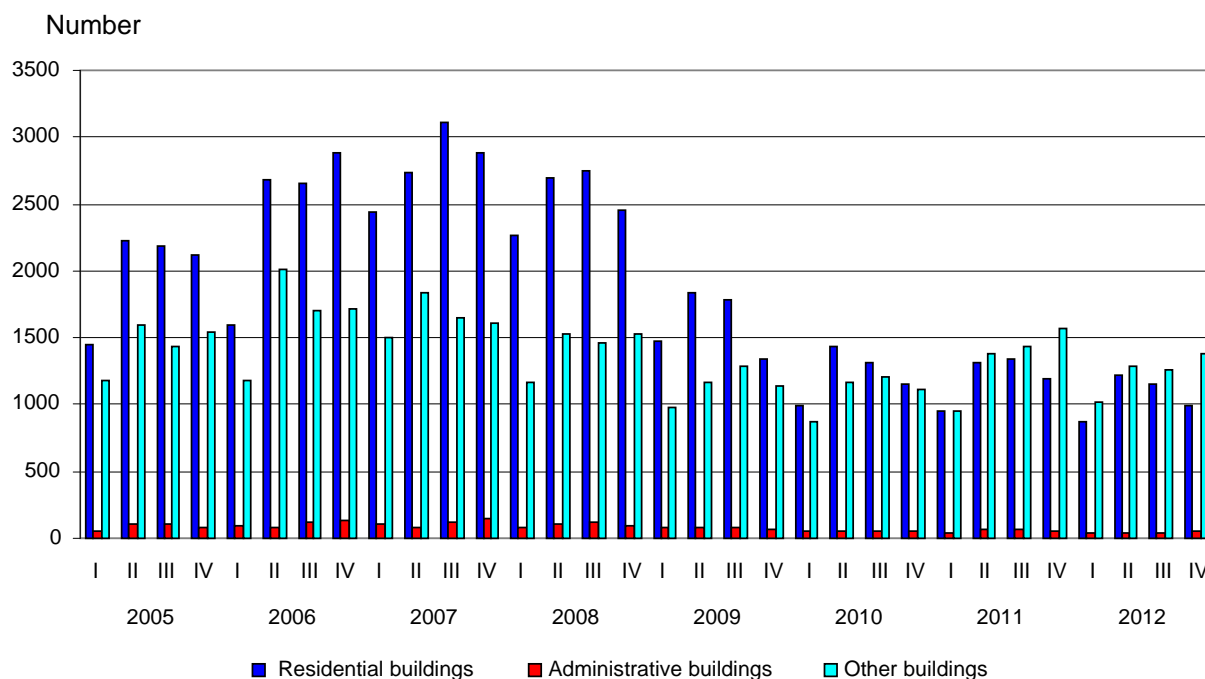




BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2012

In the fourth quarter of 2012, the municipal authorities have issued **building permits** for construction of 992 residential buildings with 3 162 dwellings and 389 239 sq. m gross building area, of 48 administrative buildings/offices with 19 806 sq. m gross building area and 1 379 other buildings with 515 036 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the building permits for residential buildings fell by 14.4%, while their dwellings rose by 16.5% and the gross building area - by 9.0%. The administrative buildings increased by 4.3%, but their gross building area dropped by 26.7%. Other buildings marked an increase by 9.7%, while their gross building area fell by 13.5%.

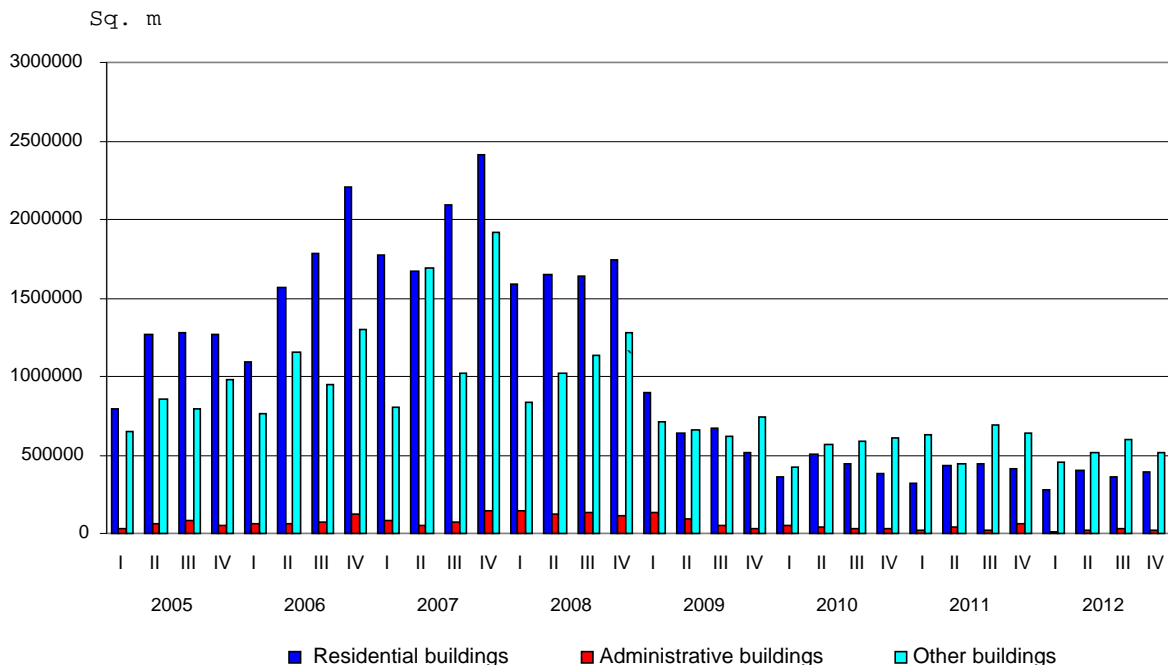
Figure 1. Building permits issued for construction of new buildings by type and quarter



As compared to the fourth quarter of 2011 the issued building permits for new residential buildings decreased by 16.9%, but their dwellings rose by 7.4%. The administrative buildings fell by 14.3 % and the other buildings - by 11.8% (Figure 1). The decrease in the gross building area was registered in the residential buildings by 6.1%, in the administrative buildings - by 67.2% and in the other buildings - by 19.4% (Figure 2).



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



The highest number of building permits for new residential buildings has been issued in the following districts: Burgas - 156, Plovdiv - 116, Varna - 95 and Sofia cap. - 94. Most dwellings are to be built in the districts: Burgas - 947, Varna - 608, Sofia cap. - 420, Plovdiv - 318, and Blagoevgrad - 160 (Annex, Table 1).

In the fourth quarter of 2012 **began the construction** of 601 residential buildings with 2 147 dwellings and 216 984 sq. m gross building area, of 20 administrative buildings/offices with 7 059 sq. m gross building area and 531 other buildings with 230 379 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings decreased by 8.9%, but their dwellings rose by 55.8% and the gross building area increased by 8.5%. A decrease in started administrative buildings was registered by 23.1% and other buildings - by 9.7%, while their gross building area marked a decline by 59.3 and 11.8% respectively.

As compared to the fourth quarter of 2011 the started new residential buildings decreased by 6.1% and their dwellings rose by 23.4%. The administrative buildings fell by 28.6% and the other buildings - by 20.7%. A decrease in the gross building area was registered in the residential buildings by 5.0%, in the administrative buildings - by 43.3%, and in the other buildings - by 49.0%.

The highest number of the construction of new buildings were started in the following districts: Burgas - 164 residential buildings and 48 other buildings; Stara Zagora - 46 residential buildings and 53 other buildings; Varna - 57 residential building and 34 other buildings; Plovdiv - 39 residential buildings, 3 administrative buildings and 47 other buildings; Sofia - 42 residential buildings and 26 other buildings (Annex, Table 2).



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 2012¹

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
Total	992	3162	389239	48	19806	1379	515036
Blagoevgrad	55	160	17549	6	1531	73	31352
Burgas	156	947	85822	-	-	84	113544
Varna	95	608	65163	..	..	77	37048
Veliko Tarnovo	26	27	3688	6	650	78	17093
Vidin	5	9	1147	..	..	12	2942
Vratsa	8	9	1455	..	..	19	4829
Gabrovo	18	23	3121	-	-	21	2862
Dobrich	34	99	10513	-	-	55	25663
Kardzhali	18	62	8284	-	-	13	3667
Kyustendil	12	16	2236	..	..	27	8604
Lovech	23	26	3539	-	-	18	7429
Montana	5	8	774	-	-	88	4341
Pazardzhik	40	67	8726	4	1368	65	12803
Pernik	22	25	2947	5	1521	40	4338
Pleven	19	20	4998	..	..	40	15100
Plovdiv	116	318	46533	6	4062	158	91493
Razgrad	8	9	854	-	-	31	5398
Ruse	12	12	2280	-	-	38	12363
Silistra	7	9	1337	-	-	36	12289
Sliven	23	37	5464	..	..	17	3372
Smolyan	8	11	1619	..	..	17	3520
Sofia	94	100	12434	..	..	76	8600
Sofia cap.	94	420	75089	4	5654	44	13024
Stara Zagora	47	90	15089	3	1896	96	32927
Targovishte	3	3	520	-	-	17	1024
Haskovo	26	28	5215	..	..	41	11744
Shumen	10	11	1756	-	-	59	19297
Yambol	8	8	1087	-	-	39	8370

¹ ".." - confidential data.



Table 2

Building construction started in the fourth quarter of 2012¹

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
Total	601	2147	216984	20	7059	531	230379
Blagoevgrad	26	85	7814	5	1441	31	16936
Burgas	164	970	81755	-	-	48	44759
Varna	57	519	51014	-	-	34	9031
Veliko Tarnovo	19	19	2438	..	..	52	8247
Vidin	-	-	-	-	-	..	..
Vratsa	4	5	933	-	-	11	3964
Gabrovo	5	5	862	-	-	4	802
Dobrich	20	21	2684	..	..	14	1610
Kardzhali	9	59	6236	-	-	..	..
Kyustendil	3	3	231	..	..	..	..
Lovech	9	9	1132	-	-	19	9543
Montana	..	..	..	-	-	6	2777
Pazardzhik	31	50	5895	-	-	20	3473
Pernik	16	17	1978	3	1256	17	3407
Pleven	..	..	..	..	..	18	6674
Plovdiv	39	62	8229	3	2463	47	39047
Razgrad	7	7	684	..	..	19	4402
Ruse	6	6	878	..	..	14	6953
Silistra	6	8	1191	-	-	16	7453
Sliven	15	25	3673	-	-	12	2252
Smolyan	5	6	1146	-	-	3	736
Sofia	42	44	5975	-	-	26	12420
Sofia cap.	40	74	11354	-	-	19	7845
Stara Zagora	46	115	12581	-	-	53	23079
Targovishte	..	..	..	-	-	..	..
Haskovo	18	20	3873	..	..	19	4847
Shumen	3	10	1428	..	..	5	2587
Yambol	4	4	458	-	-	17	5313

¹ ".." - confidential data.