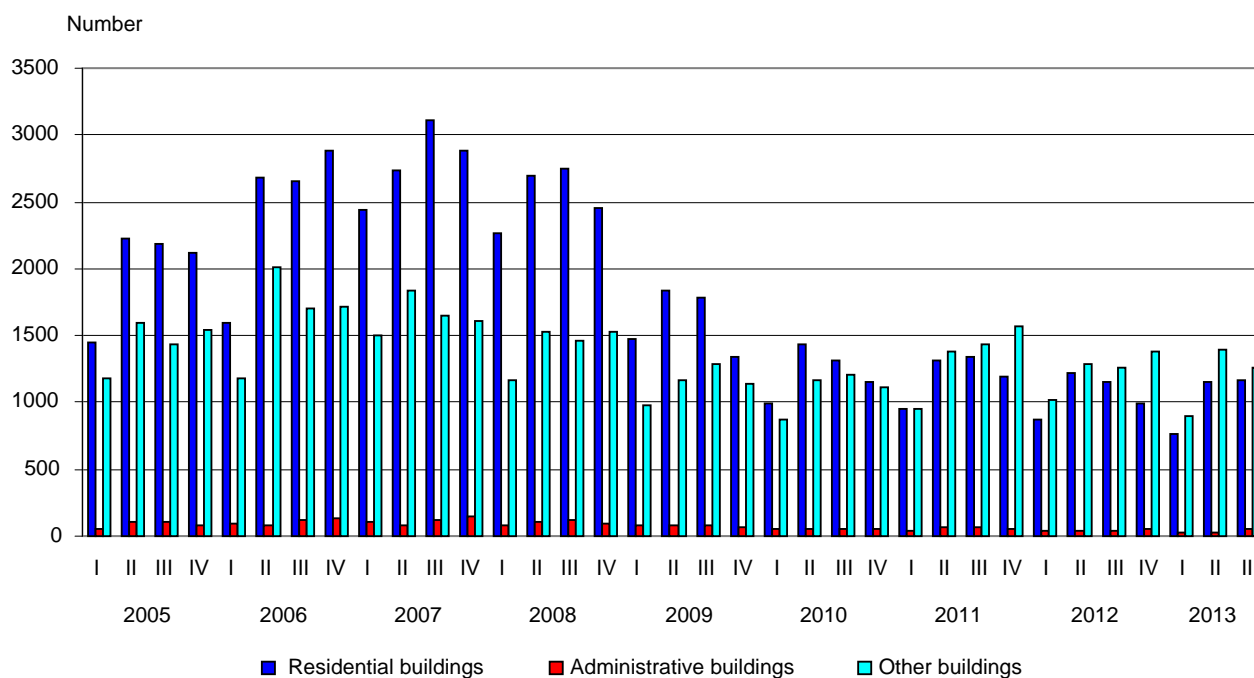




BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2013

In the third quarter of 2013, the municipal authorities issued **building permits** for construction of 1 173 residential buildings with 3 760 dwellings and 489 204 sq. m gross building area, of 56 administrative buildings/offices with 55 508 sq. m gross building area and 1 267 other buildings with 555 121 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the building permits for residential buildings increased by 1.9%, their dwellings - by 26.0% and the gross building area - by 23.8 %. Issued building permits of administrative buildings rose by 75.0% and their gross building area - by 133.9%. The number issued building permits of other buildings marked a decrease by 8.8% and their gross building area - by 7.8%.

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

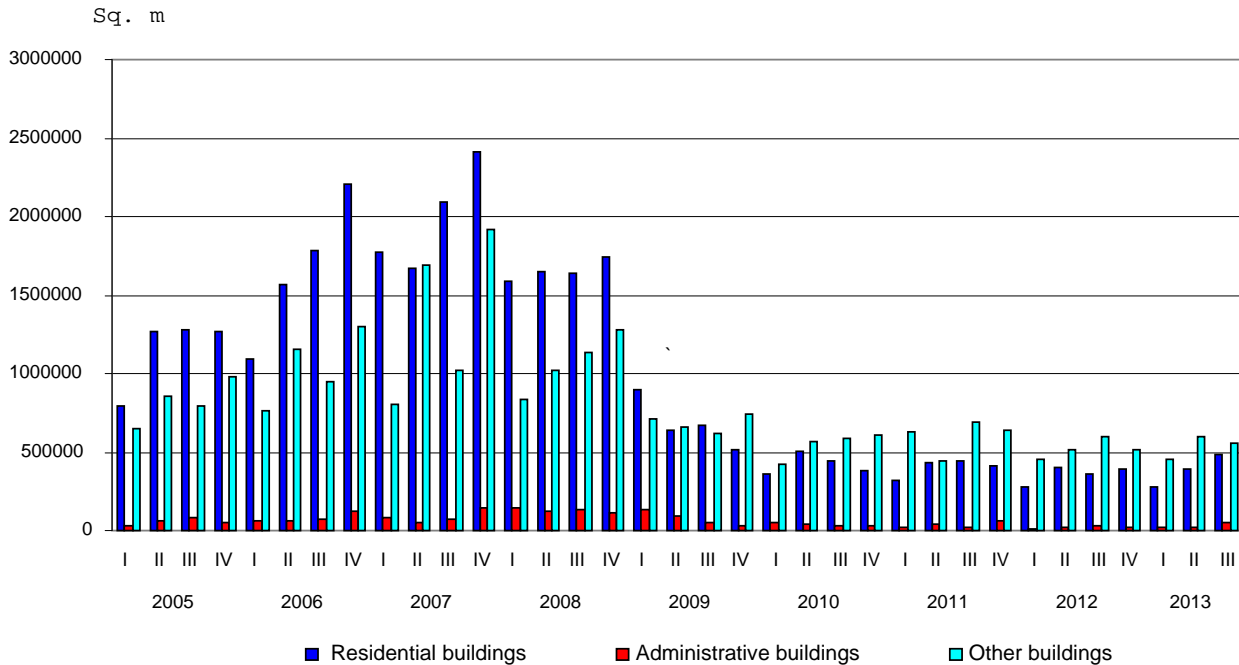


As compared to the third quarter of 2012 the issued building permits for new residential buildings increased by 1.2%, their dwellings - by 38.5% and gross building area - by 37.0%. The issued building permits of administrative buildings rose by 21.7% and the other buildings - by 0.8% (Figure 1). The gross building area of the administrative buildings increased by 105.5%, while the gross building area of other buildings fell by 6.8% (Figure 2).



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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 was issued in the following districts: Plovdiv - 169, Sofia (stolitsa) - 123, Burgas - 118, Varna - 94 and Sofia - 83. Most dwellings are to be built in the districts: Sofia (stolitsa) - 712, Plovdiv - 651, Burgas - 635, Varna - 373 and Blagoevgrad - 224 (Annex, Table 1).

In the third quarter of 2013 **began the construction** of 687 residential buildings with 1 896 dwellings and 294 160 sq. m gross building area, of 42 administrative buildings/offices with 16 493 sq. m gross building area and 531 other buildings with 306 624 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings increased by 3.3%, their dwellings - by 9.7% and the gross building area - by 27.0%. Started administrative buildings marked an increase by 75.0%, but their gross building area fell by 33.2%. The number of started other buildings rose by 2.7% and their gross building area - by 12.1%.

As compared to the third quarter of 2012 the started new residential buildings increased by 4.1%, their dwellings - by 37.6% and the gross building area - by 47.0%. The number of started administrative buildings rose by 61.5%, but their gross building area decreased by 4.8%. Started other buildings fell by 9.7%, while the gross building area increased by 17.4%.

The highest number of the construction of new buildings were started in the following districts: Plovdiv - 84 residential buildings, 3 administrative buildings and 38 other buildings; Varna - 85 residential buildings and 30 other buildings; Burgas - 59 residential buildings and 36 other buildings; Sofia - 58 residential buildings and 18 other buildings; Sofia (stolitsa) - 49 residential buildings and 12 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.



Table 1

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

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	1173	3760	489204	56	55508	1267	555121
Blagoevgrad	57	224	20735	..	..	50	11538
Burgas	118	635	66504	-	-	66	38030
Varna	94	373	50845	..	..	71	17324
Veliko Tarnovo	41	153	19008	14	5487	63	21171
Vidin	7	7	1455	..	..	9	7343
Vratsa	9	10	2148	-	-	41	44273
Gabrovo	18	23	3340	-	-	18	6218
Dobrich	43	79	10155	..	..	42	20539
Kardzhali	24	141	15169	7	1492	17	4164
Kyustendil	14	31	2811	..	..	28	3350
Lovech	41	41	5358	-	-	27	4465
Montana	6	6	1973	-	-	18	9421
Pazardzhik	51	161	17759	..	..	52	21009
Pernik	41	40	11908	-	-	59	6408
Pleven	15	48	5351	3	227	38	18417
Plovdiv	169	651	92370	6	2314	150	97936
Razgrad	9	10	1593	..	..	26	2940
Ruse	20	28	4819	3	3730	59	25924
Silistra	19	21	5128	-	-	30	9109
Sliven	24	37	8395	..	..	72	38624
Smolyan	12	13	3528	-	-	34	5118
Sofia	83	91	14315	-	-	68	46529
Sofia (stolitsa)	123	712	84623	7	37664	33	31359
Stara Zagora	73	118	16066	..	..	85	21933
Targovishte	9	18	2417	-	-	17	3266
Haskovo	28	45	15201	-	-	22	2478
Shumen	12	16	2353	3	1737	46	30645
Yambol	13	28	3877	..	..	26	5590

¹ ".." - confidential data.



Table 2

Building construction started in the third quarter of 2013¹

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	687	1896	294160	42	16493	531	306624
Blagoevgrad	31	125	11316	3	1179	24	12037
Burgas	59	218	22997	-	-	36	11980
Varna	85	643	104440	..	..	30	67092
Veliko Tarnovo	32	80	11044	8	3598	16	2109
Vidin	6	6	1195	..	..	..	..
Vratsa	8	4	2060	-	-	6	2666
Gabrovo	4	4	943	-	-	-	-
Dobrich	34	46	6489	..	..	14	4565
Kardzhali	22	77	13366	7	1575	8	657
Kyustendil	3	3	481	..	..	..	..
Lovech	14	14	2066	-	-	24	3844
Montana	9	9	1766	-	-	16	6401
Pazardzhik	43	142	15319	..	..	29	15511
Pernik	5	5	1174	-	-	5	1128
Pleven	4	4	774	..	..	28	5161
Plovdiv	84	128	23083	3	782	38	31485
Razgrad	8	10	1591	-	-	21	5910
Ruse	12	22	3331	..	..	27	24817
Silistra	15	17	3928	-	-	20	4354
Sliven	13	13	1878	..	..	26	24317
Smolyan	8	9	1601	..	..	17	3462
Sofia	58	61	10170	-	-	18	31553
Sofia (stolitsa)	49	119	26403	..	..	12	4208
Stara Zagora	45	81	12141	..	..	45	22168
Targovishte	6	15	1243	-	-	11	1109
Haskovo	16	26	11137	-	-	11	1741
Shumen	4	4	474	3	1737	21	6954
Yambol	10	11	1750	..	..	24	9798

¹ ".." - confidential data.