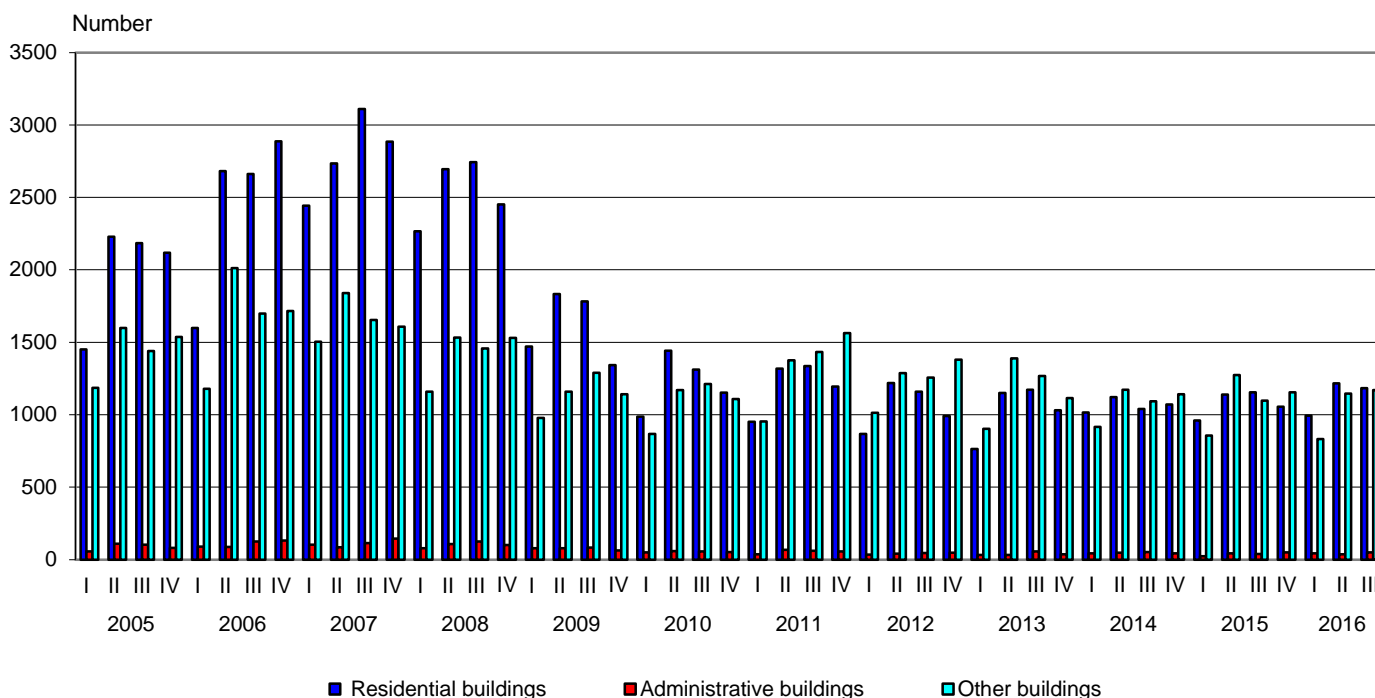




BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2016

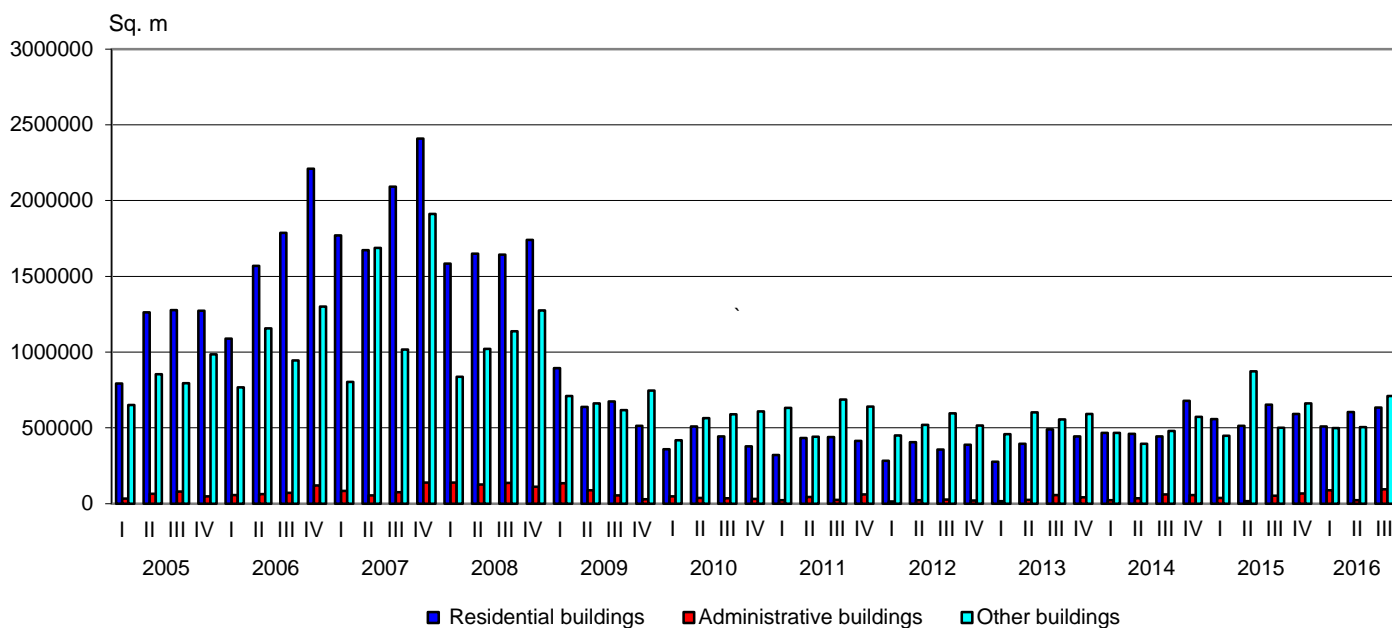
In the third quarter of 2016, the municipal authorities issued **building permits** for construction of 1 183 residential buildings with 4 937 dwellings and 634 892 sq. m gross building area, of 51 administrative buildings/offices with 94 783 sq. m gross building area and 1 170 other buildings with 710 324 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the issued building permits for residential buildings decreased by 2.7%, while their dwellings rose by 11.2% and the gross building area - by 5.0%. The number of issued building permits of administrative buildings marked an increase by 37.8% and their gross building area - by 315.8%. The issued building permits of other buildings rose by 2.2% and their gross building area - by 40.7%.

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



As compared to the third quarter of 2015 the issued building permits for new residential buildings increased by 2.5%, the number of dwellings - by 5.7%, but their gross building area fell by 2.9%. An increase was observed in the number of issued building permits of administrative buildings by 27.5% and of other buildings by 6.7% (Figure 1), as their gross building area also rose by 81.6% and 41.7% respectively (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 was issued in the following districts: Sofia (stolitsa) - 170, Plovdiv - 170, Varna - 109, Sofia - 107 and Burgas - 104. Most dwellings are to be built in the districts: Sofia (stolitsa) - 1 913, Plovdiv - 714, Burgas - 509, Varna - 503 and Ruse - 221 (Annex, Table 1).

In the third quarter of 2016 **began the construction** of 830 residential buildings with 3 144 dwellings and 395 609 sq. m gross building area, of 32 administrative buildings/offices with 20 959 sq. m gross building area and of 585 other buildings with 360 486 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings decreased by 0.7% and the gross building area - by 5.6%, while the number of their dwellings rose by 6.2%. The started administrative buildings increased by 39.1%, but their gross building area dropped by 72.8%. The number of started other buildings marked an increase by 2.1% and the gross building area - by 25.1%.

As compared to the third quarter of 2015 the started new residential buildings rose by 12.0%, their dwellings - by 4.6%, but the gross building area fell by 11.4%. The started administrative buildings increased by 28.0%, while their gross building area decreased by 59.2%. The number of started other buildings also rose by 28.0% and their gross building area - by 47.4%.

The construction of the highest number of new buildings were started in the following districts: Plovdiv - 111 residential buildings and 64 other buildings; Sofia (stolitsa) - 115 residential buildings, 9 administrative buildings and 31 other buildings; Varna - 112 residential buildings, 6 administrative buildings and 18 other buildings; Stara Zagora - 56 residential buildings and 53 other buildings; Sofia - 61 residential buildings and 40 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 centres, 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 third quarter of 2016¹

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	1183	4937	634892	51	94783	1170	710324
Blagoevgrad	55	87	15474	4	1238	83	25209
Burgas	104	509	84394	-	-	36	31537
Varna	109	503	71080	5	2805	32	8511
Veliko Tarnovo	30	87	24931	4	358	45	32023
Vidin	..	..	..	-	-	5	1406
Vratsa	8	9	1614	..	..	20	7089
Gabrovo	17	18	3718	-	-	19	16416
Dobrich	37	47	6765	..	..	41	38529
Kardzhali	34	173	21554	..	..	17	3556
Kyustendil	11	11	1938	-	-	32	6160
Lovech	18	17	4671	-	-	22	5695
Montana	4	4	749	-	-	18	5233
Pazardzhik	48	65	11336	..	..	80	25118
Pernik	22	24	3757	..	..	27	9127
Pleven	10	10	2860	..	..	34	12592
Plovdiv	170	714	85131	8	4488	156	130692
Razgrad	10	12	2368	-	-	23	3366
Ruse	32	221	15640	..	..	52	65983
Silistra	10	10	2223	-	-	25	10425
Sliven	23	56	8747	-	-	33	15107
Smolyan	8	9	1934	..	..	12	2600
Sofia	107	115	18236	..	..	92	68888
Sofia (stolitsa)	170	1913	204609	11	79292	45	50768
Stara Zagora	72	167	20974	4	1633	78	32847
Targovishte	10	12	2292	-	-	14	8836
Haskovo	39	78	10718	..	..	56	45628
Shumen	19	59	6128	..	..	48	29050
Yambol	..	..	..	-	-	25	17933

¹ ‘..’ - confidential data.



Table 2

Building construction started in the third quarter of 2016¹

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	830	3144	395609	32	20959	585	360486
Blagoevgrad	47	162	22403	4	3479	40	18679
Burgas	67	285	42025	-	-	18	9531
Varna	112	475	66040	6	3541	18	13335
Veliko Tarnovo	21	23	5452	..	..	16	16238
Vidin	-	-	-	-	-	3	640
Vratsa	4	5	837	-	-	9	3422
Gabrovo	8	8	2476	-	-	9	3979
Dobrich	27	41	4875	..	..	20	4615
Kardzhali	22	164	18815	..	..	5	130
Kyustendil	7	8	1415	-	-	6	1448
Lovech	18	17	3652	-	-	22	4134
Montana	..	..	..	-	-	5	1249
Pazardzhik	32	50	8144	..	..	37	28254
Pernik	9	10	1355	-	-	9	2526
Pleven	4	15	2651	-	-	12	16346
Plovdiv	111	348	37812	..	..	64	30065
Razgrad	12	13	2398	..	..	16	2002
Ruse	16	59	7588	..	..	21	14571
Silistra	7	7	1294	-	-	8	3645
Sliven	18	52	7108	-	-	20	6333
Smolyan	7	8	1965	..	..	41	7341
Sofia	61	66	11477	..	..	40	32575
Sofia (stolitsa)	115	1032	105021	9	10830	31	40148
Stara Zagora	56	242	31333	..	..	53	39089
Targovishte	..	..	..	-	-	5	4142
Haskovo	25	30	3845	..	..	29	45407
Shumen	11	11	2076	-	-	18	2703
Yambol	8	8	2619	..	..	10	7939

¹ ‘..’ - confidential data.