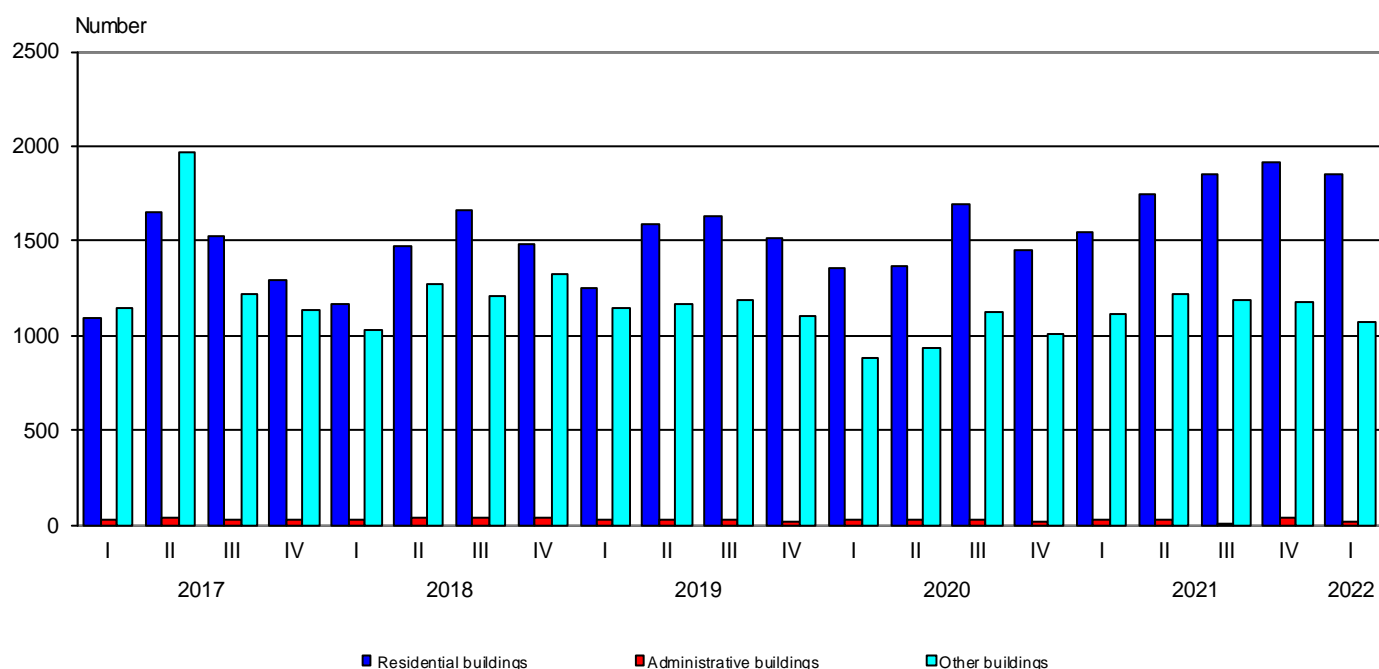


BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2022

In the first quarter of 2022, the municipal authorities issued **building permits** for the construction of 1 850 residential buildings with 9 489 dwellings and 1 171 388 sq. m gross building area, 18 administrative buildings/offices with 16 767 sq. m gross building area and 1 071 other buildings with 572 703 sq. m gross building area.

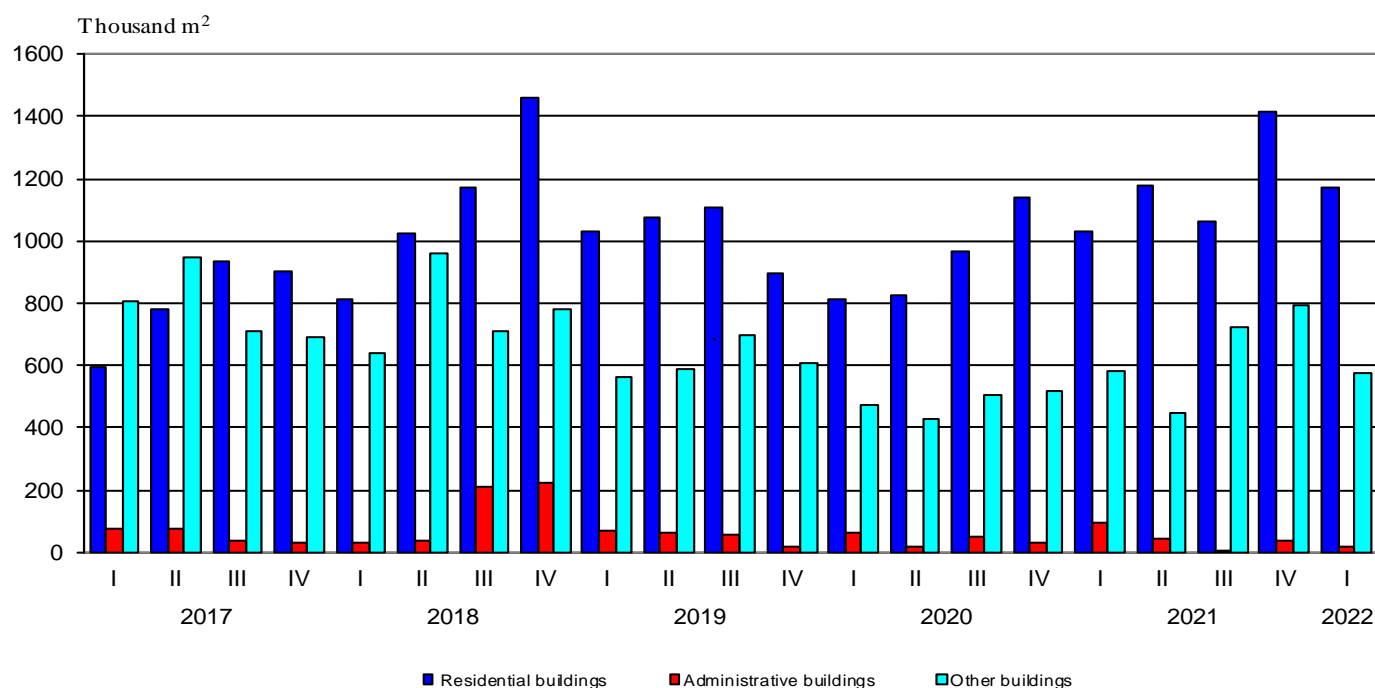
As compared to the previous quarter, the issued building permits for residential buildings decreased by 3.1%, the number of their dwellings - by 23.4% and the gross building area - by 17.1%. The issued building permits for administrative buildings have shown a decrease of 45.5% and their gross building area decreased by 54.3%. Issued building permits for other buildings fell by 8.5% and their gross building area - by 27.9%.

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



As compared to the first quarter of 2021, the issued building permits for new residential buildings increased by 19.7%, their dwellings - by 8.1% and the gross building area - by 13.9%. The issued building permits for administrative buildings and their gross building area decreased by 35.7 and 82.0%, respectively. The issued building permits for other buildings fell by 4.1%, as did their gross building area - by 1.3%.

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

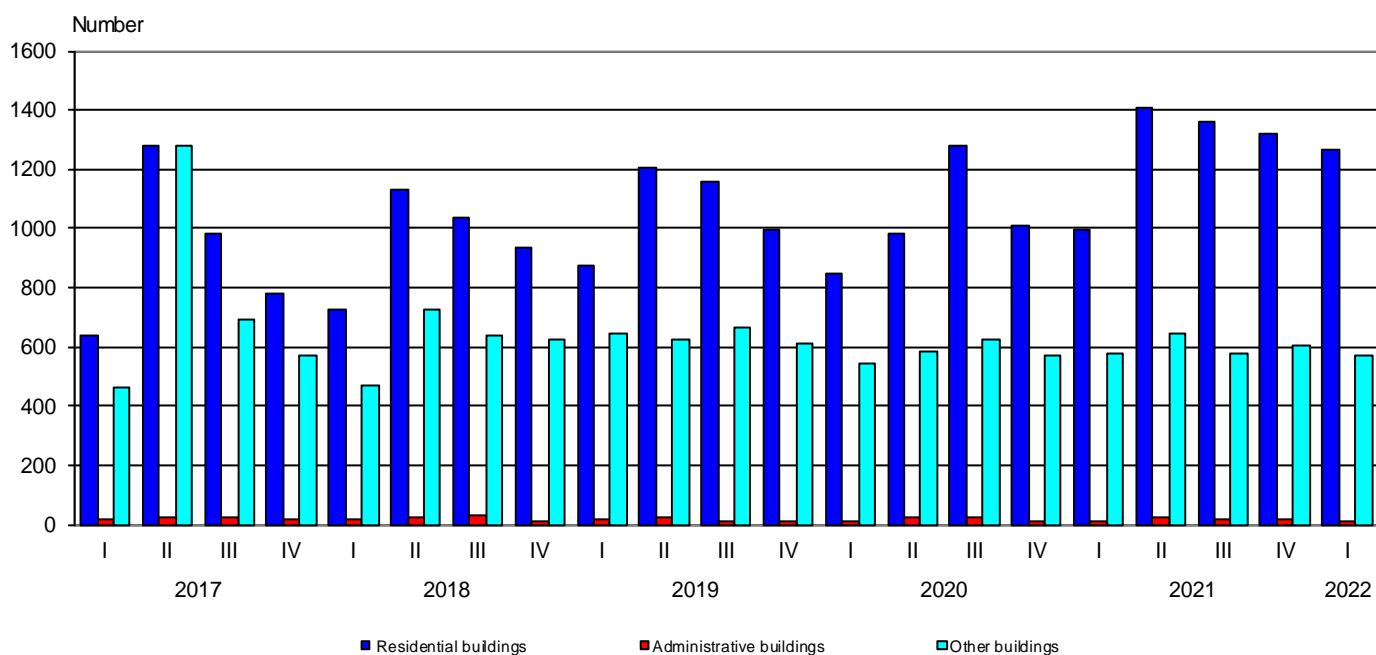


The highest number of building permits for new residential buildings was issued in the following districts: Plovdiv - 321, Sofia (stolitsa) - 229, Sofia - 229, Varna - 191 and Burgas - 141. Most dwellings are to be built in the districts: Sofia (stolitsa) - 3 316, Plovdiv - 1 921, Varna - 1 065, Stara Zagora - 656 and Burgas - 501 (Annex, Table 1).

In the first quarter of 2022, **began the construction** of 1 269 residential buildings with 7 657 dwellings and 787 999 sq. m gross building area, 11 administrative buildings/offices with 8 089 sq. m gross building area and 572 other buildings with 442 697 sq. m gross building area.

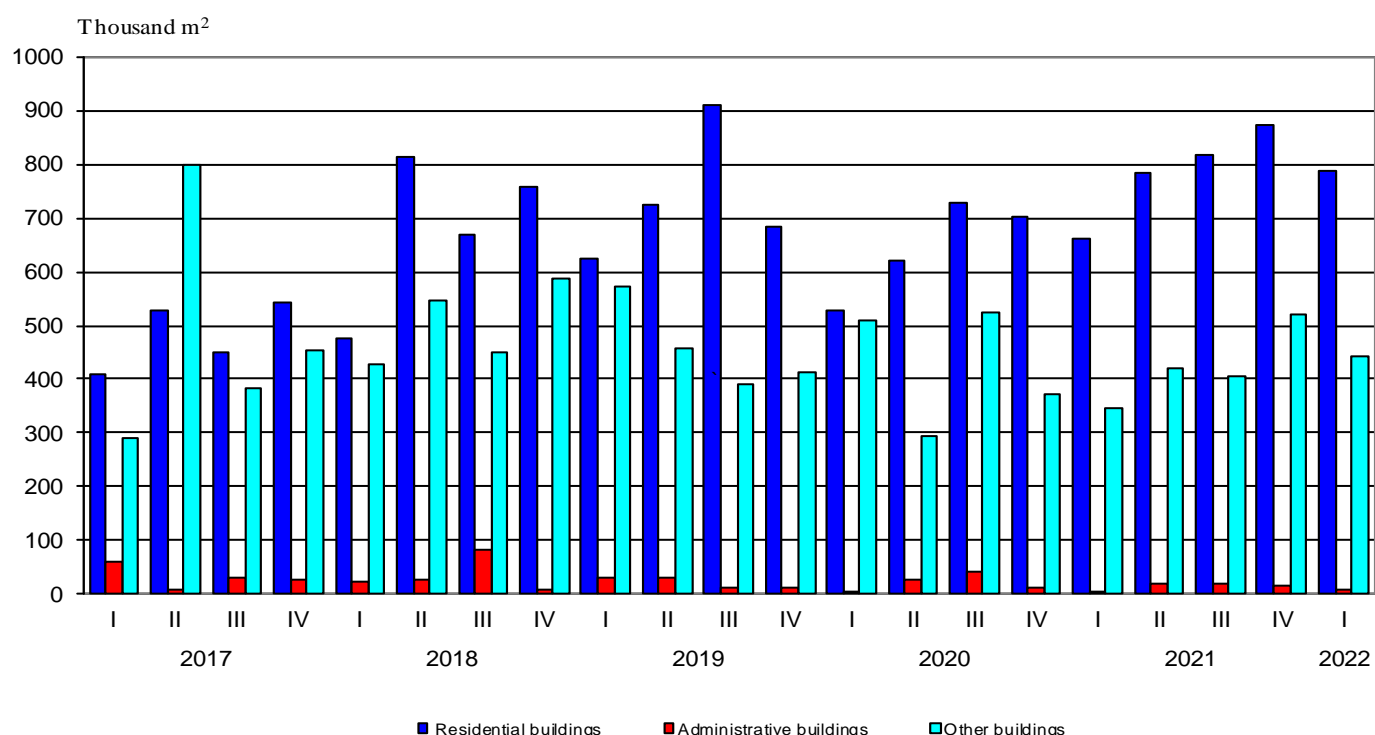
As compared to the previous quarter, the started residential buildings decreased by 3.8%, the gross building area - by 9.6%, but their dwellings increased by 4.4%. The started administrative buildings and their gross building area registered a drop of 21.4% and 51.1%, respectively. The started other buildings fell by 5.8%, and their gross building area - by 14.9%.

Figure 3. Started construction of new buildings by type and quarter



As compared to the first quarter of 2021, the number of started new residential buildings increased by 27.2%, their dwellings - by 44.6% and the gross building area - by 19.3%. The number of started administrative buildings rose by 57.1% and their gross building area - by 99.5%. The construction of 0.7% fewer ther buildings was started, but with a 27.4% larger gross building area.

Figure 4. Started construction - gross building area by type of buildings and quarter



The construction of the highest number of new buildings was started in the following districts: Plovdiv - 208 residential buildings and 52 other buildings; Varna - 215 residential buildings and 21 other buildings; Sofia (stolitsa) - 176 residential buildings, 5 administrative buildings and 30 other buildings; Sofia - 117 residential buildings and 41 other buildings; Burgas - 109 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 the future construction activity of enterprises in the country.

Types of buildings are classified according to the Classification of types of construction (CC) and are 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 a 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 the construction of new buildings in the first quarter of 2022

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	1850	9489	1171388	18	16767	1071	572703
Blagoevgrad	89	182	32471	..	..	36	15746
Burgas	141	501	61323	..	..	41	22928
Varna	191	1065	122840	-	-	41	49727
Veliko Tarnovo	31	138	16708	-	-	36	27120
Vidin	..	..	..	-	-	..	..
Vratsa	7	7	948	-	-	13	3769
Gabrovo	16	20	2794	-	-	23	6389
Dobrich	34	45	7607	..	..	26	6491
Kardzhali	38	119	17863	-	-	12	9242
Kyustendil	22	22	5392	-	-	24	13375
Lovech	18	18	2664	-	-	19	4504
Montana	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pazardzhik	89	193	20867	..	..	46	30652
Pernik	56	94	15487	..	..	113	16312
Pleven	25	199	34820	-	-	33	12755
Plovdiv	321	1921	246350	4	4638	105	49421
Razgrad	11	24	3817	-	-	24	5361
Ruse	33	108	14144	..	..	45	17003
Silistra	13	13	3198	-	-	22	5987
Sliven	47	91	10694	-	-	16	3427
Smolyan	9	14	2001	-	-	22	5248
Sofia	229	294	44522	3	222	69	52913
Sofia (stolitsa)	229	3316	390944	..	..	43	86854
Stara Zagora	106	656	65534	-	-	111	19587
Targovishte	16	45	4934	-	-	10	43335
Haskovo	28	161	18965	-	-	34	22013
Shumen	28	203	18139	-	-	68	13999
Yambol	16	22	3118	-	-	25	24629

‘..’ - Confidential data.

‘-’ - No case.



Table 2

Building construction started in the first quarter of 2022

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	1269	7657	787999	11	8089	572	442697
Blagoevgrad	54	136	19914	-	-	32	24370
Burgas	109	541	58010	-	-	26	9072
Varna	215	755	90509	-	-	21	7231
Veliko Tarnovo	18	65	9965	-	-	22	18818
Vidin	..	..	..	-	-	3	1012
Vratsa	8	8	1190	-	-	7	1561
Gabrovo	45	59	9560	..	..	21	9467
Dobrich	16	33	5867	-	-	3	1084
Kardzhali	23	203	27700	-	-	4	1782
Kyustendil	13	13	2029	-	-	14	6981
Lovech	10	10	1674	..	..	9	3097
Montana	..	..	..	..	..	7	5882
Pazardzhik	39	136	13623	-	-	37	32373
Pernik	22	59	7214	-	-	11	2682
Pleven	5	5	560	-	-	11	5234
Plovdiv	208	658	85022	..	..	52	52638
Razgrad	6	18	2270	-	-	13	10733
Ruse	15	15	2268	-	-	18	2007
Silistra	3	3	602	-	-	6	1856
Sliven	33	78	10284	..	..	49	14708
Smolyan	5	6	1693	-	-	8	916
Sofia	117	167	23880	..	..	41	57941
Sofia (stolitsa)	176	4204	359172	5	6350	30	79263
Stara Zagora	61	232	24732	-	-	65	25656
Targovishte	7	20	1865	-	-	3	41357
Haskovo	25	183	21989	-	-	9	10534
Shumen	19	30	3552	-	-	35	9131
Yambol	16	19	2667	-	-	15	5311

‘..’ - Confidential data.

‘-’ - No case.