



## BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2010

In the fourth quarter of 2010, the municipal authorities have issued building permits for construction of 1 152 residential buildings with 2 705 dwellings and 377 727 sq. m gross building area, of 52 administrative buildings/offices with 30 940 sq. m gross building area and 1 108 other buildings with 609 019 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the building permits for residential buildings decreased by 12.1%, their dwellings - by 20.6% and the gross building area - by 14.9%. The administrative buildings fell by 7.1% and their gross building area - by 11.9%. The other buildings decreased by 8.7%, but their gross building area rose by 3.2%.

As compared to the fourth quarter of 2009 the issued building permits for new residential building fell by 14.2%, and their dwellings - by 31.0%. The administrative buildings dropped by 17.5% and the other buildings - by 3.0% (Figure 1). The drop in the gross building area was registered in the residential buildings - by 26.4% and in the other buildings - by 18.3%, while in the administrative buildings showed an increase by 7.0% (Figure 2).

In the fourth quarter of 2010, the highest number of building permits for new residential buildings has been issued in the following districts: Burgas - 154, Plovdiv - 136, Sofia - 120, Sofia (capital) - 115, Varna - 108. Most dwellings are to be launched in the districts: Burgas - 804, Plovdiv - 330, Varna - 298 and Sofia (capital) - 272 (Table 1).

Since the beginning of 2010, the National Statistical Institute has begun to collect data on the construction of new buildings started. In the fourth quarter of 2010 has been begun construction of 611 residential buildings with 2 286 dwellings and 265 206 sq. m gross building area, of 24 administrative buildings/offices with 14 165 sq. m gross building area and 472 other buildings with 219 148 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings decreased by 19.3% and the gross building area - by 1.7%, while their dwellings rose by 1.2%. The started administrative buildings were registered the drop by 17.2% and the other buildings - by 8.2% and their gross building area fell by 21.9% and by 16.0% respectively.

The highest number of construction of new buildings were started in the districts: Burgas - 154 residential buildings and 49 other buildings; Varna - 83 residential buildings and 41 other buildings; Plovdiv - 68 residential buildings, 4 administrative buildings and 55 other buildings; Sofia - 39 residential buildings and 28 other buildings; Sofia (capital) - 28 residential buildings and 20 other buildings; Stara Zagora - 28 residential buildings and 21 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:

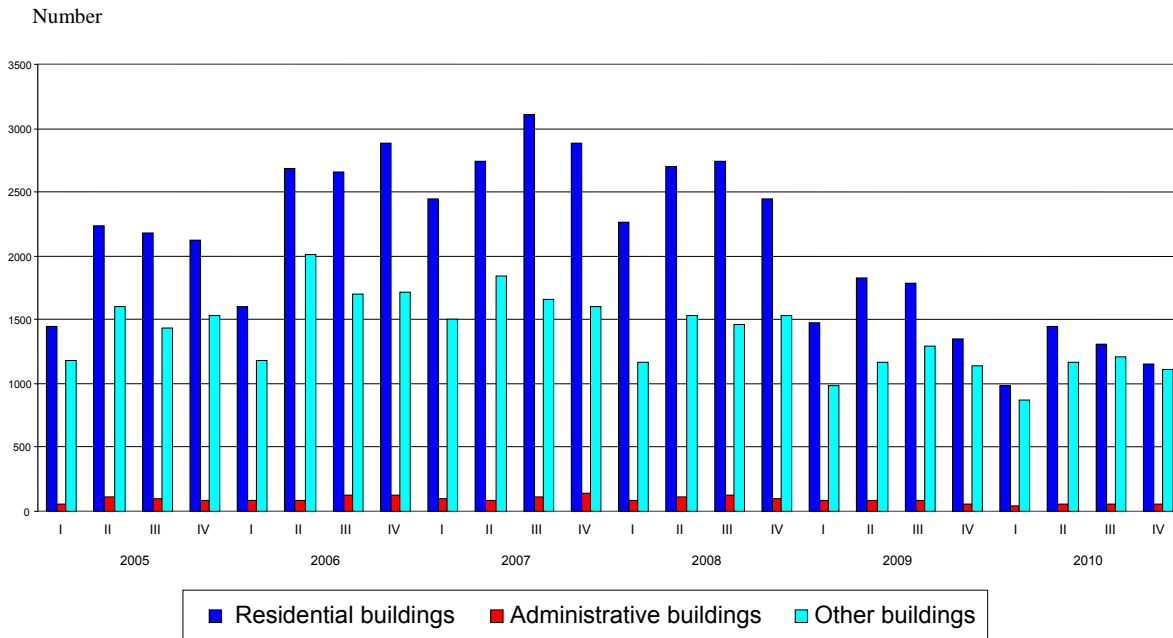
- administrative - offices and buildings for administrative work of departments and other organizations and associations (representative buildings - banks, post offices, government department offices, conference and congress centers, low courts, municipalities);

- 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).

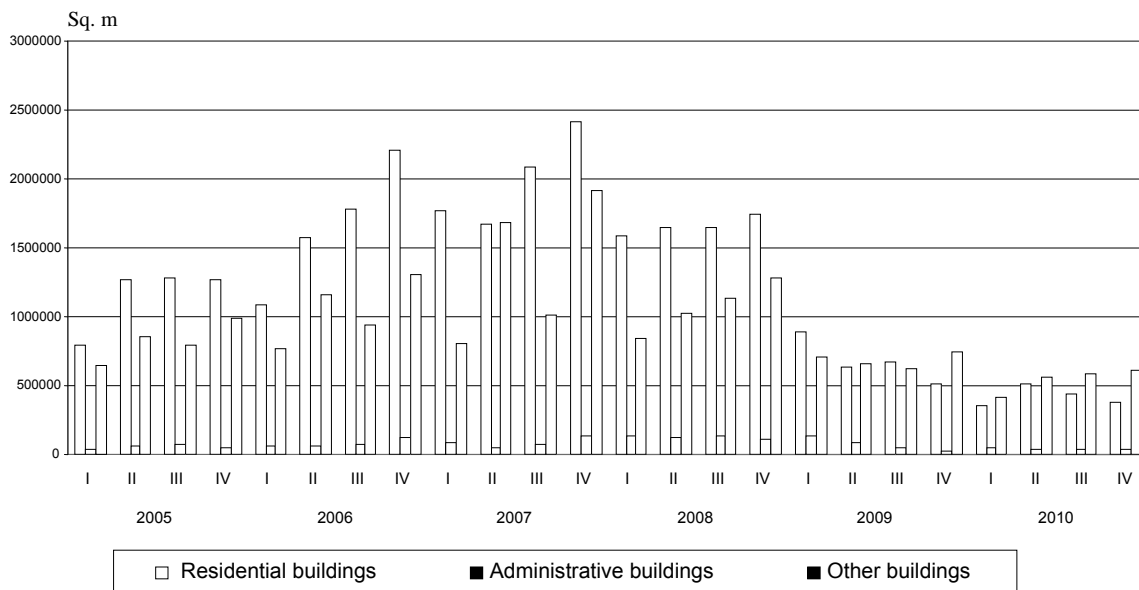
*Gross building area* - a sum of all floors areas in external dimensions.



**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 fourth quarter of 2010<sup>1</sup>**

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
<b>Total</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>2705</b>	<b>377727</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>30940</b>	<b>1108</b>	<b>609019</b>
Blagoevgrad	80	186	20933	5	3026	63	22416
Burgas	154	804	95693	..	..	93	58273
Varna	108	298	39637	..	..	62	116187
Veliko Tarnovo	25	45	5117	..	..	60	16996
Vidin	3	6	685	-	-	4	1003
Vratsa	..	..	..	..	..	26	6817
Gabrovo	17	19	3240	-	-	10	3381
Dobrich	37	51	7858	..	..	42	19761
Kardzhali	17	24	4875	..	..	13	5041
Kyustendil	16	18	2877	..	..	21	2415
Lovech	19	19	3180	..	..	19	24915
Montana	..	..	..	-	-	14	10498
Pazardzhik	47	48	6846	..	..	65	18409
Pernik	30	44	5747	..	..	32	6438
Pleven	16	47	6242	5	2814	31	14836
Plovdiv	136	330	43884	9	4988	121	66688
Razgrad	11	14	1838	..	..	21	3681
Ruse	16	16	3653	..	..	42	11149
Silistra	12	13	1837	-	-	17	3898
Sliven	32	54	7163	-	-	32	8747
Smolyan	8	11	2080	-	-	47	8366
Sofia	120	123	23711	-	-	72	39258
Sofia cap.	115	272	54622	11	5452	46	14534
Stara Zagora	58	112	14696	3	735	62	98255
Targovishte	10	35	3115	-	-	17	2986
Haskovo	35	76	12753	..	..	36	18315
Shumen	18	23	3204	..	..	32	3718
Yambol	8	13	1315	-	-	8	2038

<sup>1</sup> ".." - confidential data.



**Table 2**

**Building construction started in the fourth quarter of 2010<sup>1</sup>**

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
<b>Total</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>2286</b>	<b>265206</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14165</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>219148</b>
Blagoevgrad	39	74	10201	3	2467	27	5777
Burgas	154	1042	111591	..	..	49	47592
Varna	83	286	29099	-	-	41	46738
Veliko Tarnovo	19	19	3076	3	568	36	5520
Vidin	..	..	..	-	-	5	1751
Vratsa	..	..	..	..	..	14	5807
Gabrovo	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
Dobrich	18	72	7783	-	-	5	3818
Kardzhali	20	27	6484	..	..	15	4644
Kyustendil	..	..	..	-	-	..	..
Lovech	4	4	1656	..	..	3	2233
Montana	..	..	..	-	-	11	11487
Pazardzhik	32	86	8762	-	-	14	904
Pernik	11	20	3407	..	..	19	3130
Pleven	10	24	4090	..	..	9	3068
Plovdiv	68	245	26410	4	5918	55	17216
Razgrad	..	..	..	..	..	10	5908
Ruse	7	31	4039	-	-	15	2362
Silistra	4	5	446	-	-	12	2526
Sliven	14	59	8991	-	-	4	371
Smolyan	4	5	1061	..	..	11	4468
Sofia	39	61	8019	-	-	28	10709
Sofia cap.	28	93	14759	..	..	20	10596
Stara Zagora	28	88	8824	..	..	21	13438
Targovishte	..	..	..	-	-	8	589
Haskovo	9	14	2442	..	..	23	3004
Shumen	7	8	1123	..	..	13	3239
Yambol	..	..	..	-	-	..	..

<sup>1</sup> ".." - confidential data.