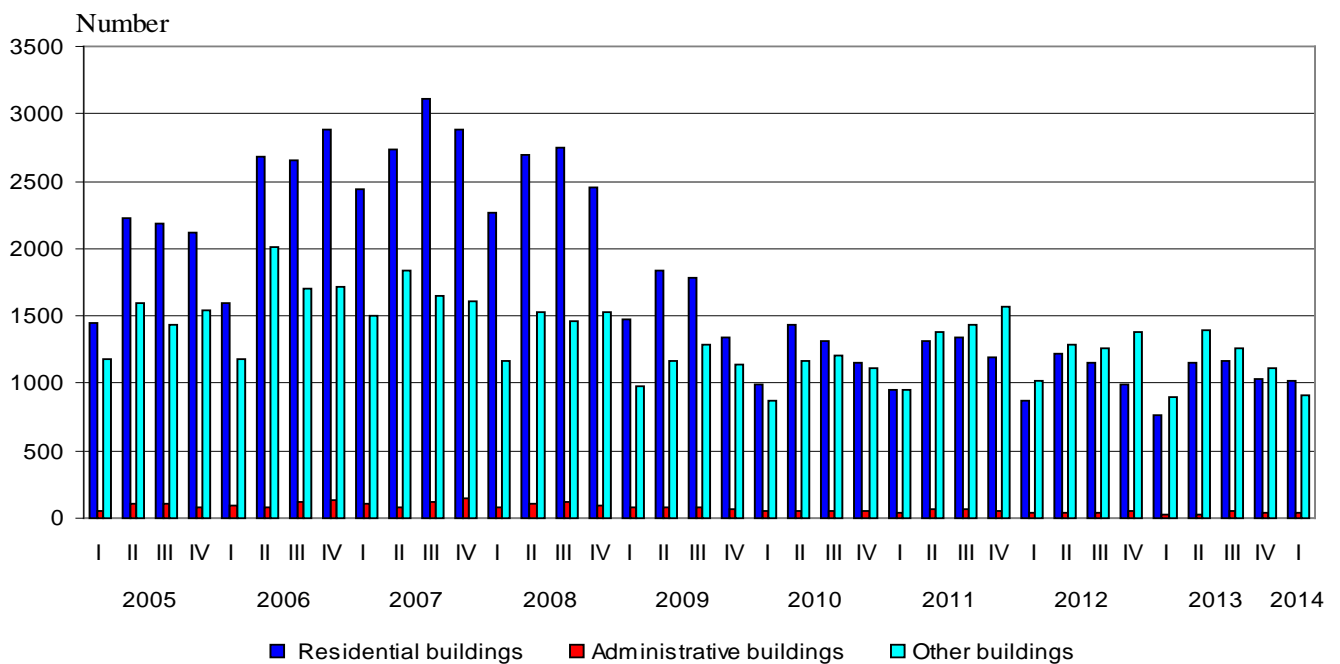




BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2014

In the first quarter of 2014, the municipal authorities have issued **building permits** for construction of 1 015 residential buildings with 3 392 dwellings and 466 109 sq. m gross building area, of 44 administrative buildings/offices with 23 510 sq. m gross building area and 917 other buildings with 466 244 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the building permits for residential buildings decreased by 1.6%, their dwellings - by 7.2% while the gross building area rose by 4.8 %. The issued building permits of administrative buildings increased by 22.2%, but their gross building area fell by 42.8%. Number of issued building permits of other buildings decreased by 17.8% and their gross building area - by 21.3%.

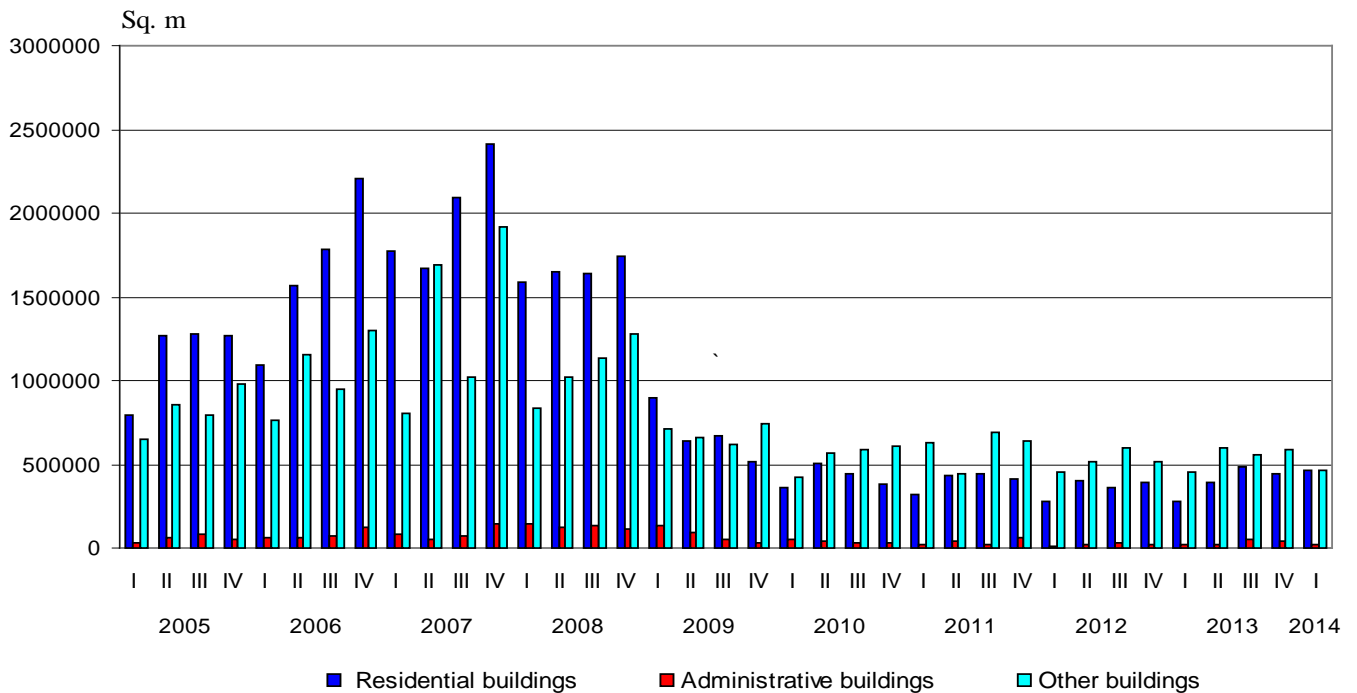
Figure 1. Building permits issued for construction of new buildings by type and quarter



As compared to the first quarter of 2013 the issued building permits for new residential buildings increased by 32.9%, their dwellings - by 80.7% and the gross building area - by 69.0%. The issued building permits of administrative buildings increased by 37.5% and the other buildings - by 1.6% (Figure 1). The gross building area of the administrative buildings increased by 38.1% and the gross building area of other buildings rose by 1.9% (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 - 202, Plovdiv - 121, Sofia (stolitsa) - 102, Varna - 73 and Stara Zagora - 53. Most dwellings are to be built in the districts: Burgas - 856, Varna - 699, Sofia (stolitsa) - 671, Plovdiv - 343 and Stara Zagora - 136 (Annex, Table 1).

In the first quarter of 2014 **began the construction** of 504 residential buildings with 1 616 dwellings and 226 717 sq. m gross building area, of 30 administrative buildings/offices with 9 888 sq. m gross building area and 446 other buildings with 259 433 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings decreased by 14.7%, the number of their dwellings - by 36.2% and the gross building area - by 20.9%. Started administrative buildings increased by 25.0%, but their gross building area dropped by 55.1%. The number of started other buildings fell by 25.9% and their gross building area - by 43.5%.

As compared to the first quarter of 2013 the started new residential buildings increased by 26.3%, their dwellings - by 6.8% and the gross building area - by 21.9%. The number of started administrative buildings rose by 36.4%, and their gross building area - by 16.5%. An increase is observed in the started other buildings by 25.6% and in their gross building area - by 48.5%.

The highest number of the construction of new buildings were started in the following districts: Burgas - 98 residential buildings and 45 other buildings; Plovdiv - 87 residential buildings, 5 administrative buildings and 44 other buildings; Stara Zagora - 42 residential buildings, 5 administrative buildings and 46 other buildings; Varna - 40 residential buildings and 15 other buildings; Sofia (stolitsa) - 35 residential buildings and 13 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 first quarter of 2014¹

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	1015	3392	466109	44	23510	917	466244
Blagoevgrad	51	125	17620	..	..	42	6087
Burgas	202	856	99897	..	..	71	69567
Varna	73	699	111823	8	2620	38	64724
Veliko Tarnovo	25	24	3503	13	3687	50	12211
Vidin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vratsa	8	8	1049	3	355	28	5120
Gabrovo	14	15	2202	-	-	..	..
Dobrich	34	54	5893	-	-	34	17927
Kardzhali	26	50	9533	..	..	14	932
Kyustendil	7	9	1350	-	-	30	8651
Lovech	30	30	3486	-	-	18	3107
Montana	..	..	..	..	..	12	5167
Pazardzhik	50	76	10006	..	..	44	9567
Pernik	22	28	4239	-	-	24	6542
Pleven	12	15	2951	..	..	22	5717
Plovdiv	121	343	51113	4	1644	104	115818
Razgrad	4	5	1618	-	-	20	7779
Ruse	17	17	2680	-	-	19	8277
Silistra	16	33	5647	-	-	13	2468
Sliven	15	24	3368	-	-	22	14432
Smolyan	9	13	2226	-	-	23	3862
Sofia	62	76	12841	-	-	51	14716
Sofia (stolitisa)	102	671	79908	4	10037	32	19127
Stara Zagora	53	136	18018	..	..	64	19017
Targovishte	6	24	2145	..	..	12	2464
Haskovo	23	22	8108	-	-	37	9366
Shumen	13	18	1999	..	..	48	23738
Yambol	14	15	1782	-	-	32	6208

¹ ".." - confidential data.



Table 2
Building construction started in the first quarter of 2014¹

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	504	1616	226717	30	9888	446	259433
Blagoevgrad	13	63	7821	..	..	5	2057
Burgas	98	524	52883	-	-	45	105079
Varna	40	277	52177	..	..	15	13499
Veliko Tarnovo	18	17	2333	9	3546	20	3270
Vidin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vratsa	4	4	608	..	..	6	2117
Gabrovo	..	..	..	-	-	..	..
Dobrich	32	56	6974	-	-	26	6267
Kardzhali	5	11	1402	-	-	8	734
Kyustendil	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
Lovech	7	7	776	3	160	23	3065
Montana	3	3	590	-	-	6	5457
Pazardzhik	21	46	7126	-	-	14	5198
Pernik	10	12	1775	-	-	..	..
Pleven	3	3	437	..	..	9	6167
Plovdiv	87	327	43967	5	1136	44	24630
Razgrad	..	..	..	-	-	12	8081
Ruse	3	3	523	-	-	17	2132
Silistra	13	30	5142	-	-	8	1391
Sliven	10	14	2953	-	-	9	9187
Smolyan	3	3	413	-	-	5	1779
Sofia	25	30	5424	-	-	43	19651
Sofia (stolitsa)	35	85	13559	..	..	13	11318
Stara Zagora	42	61	10572	5	959	46	13527
Targovishte	4	13	1238	..	..	6	2102
Haskovo	18	17	6577	-	-	21	4768
Shumen	..	..	..	..	..	15	3375
Yambol	4	4	590	..	..	24	2983

¹ ".." - confidential data.