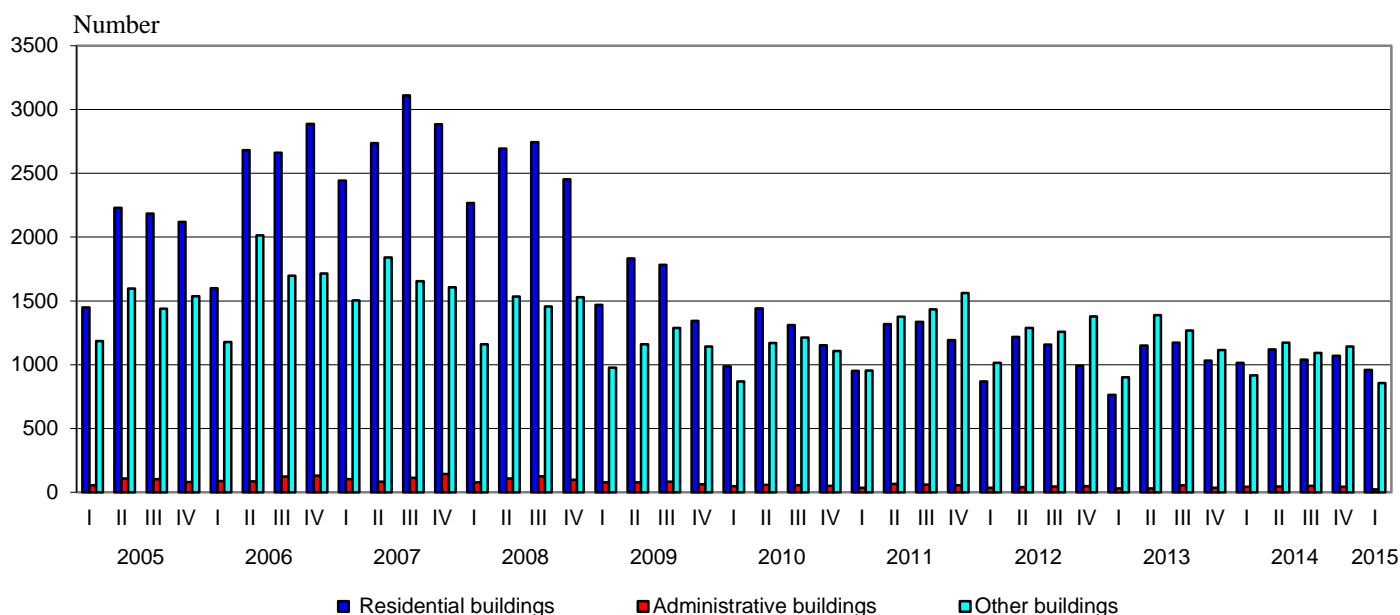




## BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2015

In the first quarter of 2015, the municipal authorities issued **building permits** for construction of 960 residential buildings with 4 297 dwellings and 558 765 sq. m gross building area, of 24 administrative buildings/offices with 37 336 sq. m gross building area and 856 other buildings with 447 452 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the issued building permits for residential buildings decreased by 10.3%, their dwellings - by 22.6% and the gross building area - by 17.7 %. The number of issued building permits of administrative buildings and other buildings marked a decrease by 45.5% and by 25.0% respectively. The gross building area of administrative buildings fell by 34.6% and of other buildings - by 21.9%.

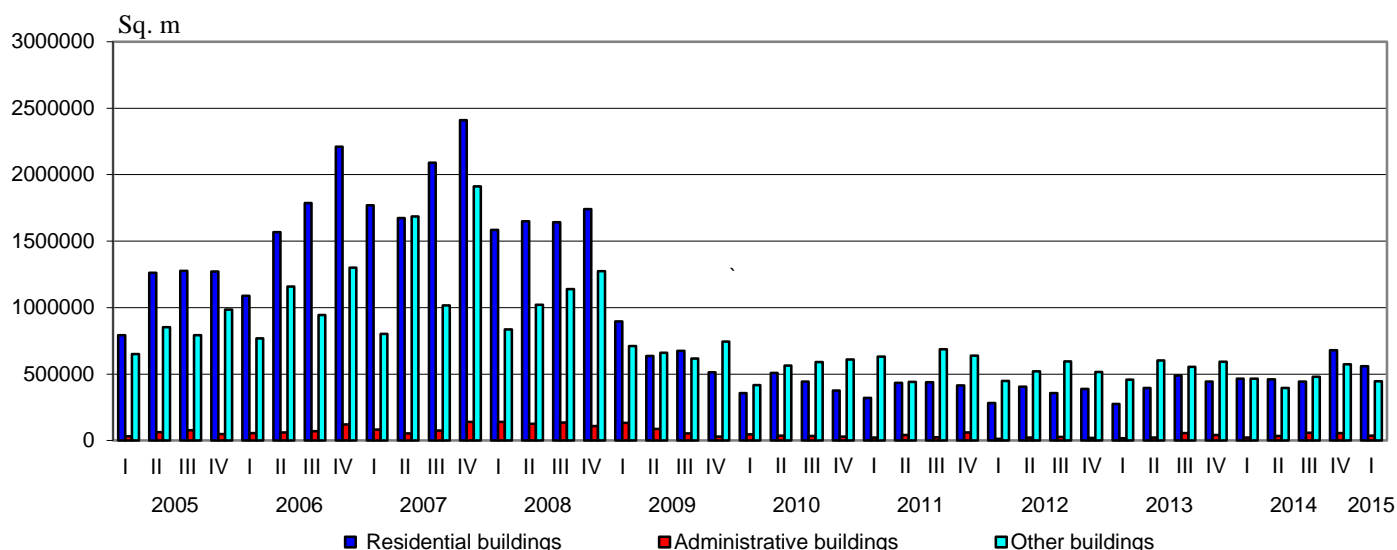
**Figure 1. Building permits issued for construction of new buildings by type and quarter**



As compared to the first quarter of 2014 the issued building permits for new residential buildings decreased by 5.4%, but their dwellings rose by 26.7% and the gross building area - by 19.9%. The number of issued building permits of administrative buildings fell by 45.5%, while their gross building area increased by 58.8% (Figure 1). Issued building permits of other buildings decreased by 6.7% and their gross building area - by 4.0% (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) - 153, Plovdiv - 144, Burgas - 122, Varna - 100 and Sofia - 66. Most dwellings are to be built in the districts: Sofia (stolitsa) - 1 423, Plovdiv - 921, Varna - 491, Burgas - 454 and Stara Zagora - 205 (Annex, Table 1).

In the first quarter of 2015 **began the construction** of 543 residential buildings with 3 218 dwellings and 425 260 sq. m gross building area, of 18 administrative buildings/offices with 38 964 sq. m gross building area and 404 other buildings with 248 812 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings decreased by 0.2%, while the number of their dwellings rose by 15.3% and the gross building area - by 35.0%. The number of started administrative buildings was the same as the previous quarter, but their gross building area rose by 289.3%. Started other buildings marked a drop by 22.8% and their gross building area - by 6.6%.

As compared to the first quarter of 2014 the started new residential buildings increased by 7.7%, their dwellings - by 99.1% and the gross building area - by 87.6%. In the number of started administrative buildings observed a drop by 40.0%, while their gross building area rose by 294.1%. The started other buildings fell by 9.4% and their gross building area - by 4.1%.

The construction of the highest number of new buildings were started in the following districts: Plovdiv - 60 residential buildings, 6 administrative buildings and 70 other buildings; Burgas - 111 residential buildings and 22 other buildings; Varna - 83 residential buildings, 5 administrative buildings and 21 other buildings; Sofia (stolitsa) - 66 residential buildings, 4 administrative buildings and 12 other buildings; Stara Zagora - 32 residential buildings and 39 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 2015<sup>1</sup>

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
<b>Total</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>4297</b>	<b>558765</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>37336</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>447452</b>
Blagoevgrad	46	175	22359	..	..	22	5499
Burgas	122	454	56767	-	-	59	22256
Varna	100	491	75879	4	5898	42	25110
Veliko Tarnovo	21	49	7995	-	-	44	15212
Vidin	..	..	..	..	..	8	7214
Vratsa	5	5	750	-	-	16	7038
Gabrovo	14	16	2929	-	-	12	4050
Dobrich	26	48	5909	..	..	22	18222
Kardzhali	18	78	12162	-	-	8	1574
Kyustendil	13	17	2063	-	-	6	2286
Lovech	9	9	1570	-	-	21	5495
Montana	..	..	..	-	-	3	187
Pazardzhik	32	83	12514	..	..	48	20940
Pernik	26	29	3112	-	-	19	2018
Pleven	9	20	3546	-	-	33	18703
Plovdiv	144	921	105308	8	16099	139	78570
Razgrad	7	7	1664	-	-	22	7415
Ruse	7	7	1141	-	-	27	12290
Silistra	11	11	2191	-	-	17	6330
Sliven	17	17	2848	-	-	24	3799
Smolyan	9	10	1693	-	-	12	2375
Sofia	66	75	11854	-	-	41	42511
Sofia (stolitsa)	153	1423	183594	4	6401	36	73693
Stara Zagora	60	205	23077	3	762	77	42248
Targovishte	8	75	7605	-	-	12	3250
Haskovo	18	21	5222	-	-	23	2467
Shumen	9	9	1171	..	..	44	9959
Yambol	6	24	2395	-	-	19	6741

<sup>1</sup> ‘..’ - confidential data.



Table 2

Building construction started in the first quarter of 2015<sup>1</sup>

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
<b>Total</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>3218</b>	<b>425260</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>38964</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>248812</b>
Blagoevgrad	25	86	11320	-	-	11	2710
Burgas	111	565	72435	-	-	22	19409
Varna	83	1038	142678	5	11074	21	9284
Veliko Tarnovo	19	47	7376	-	-	24	10795
Vidin	-	-	-	..	..	4	1283
Vratsa	3	3	233	-	-	..	..
Gabrovo	3	5	958	-	-	..	..
Dobrich	14	32	3012	-	-	15	17561
Kardzhali	4	45	5809	-	-	3	1724
Kyustendil	5	5	443	-	-	..	..
Lovech	7	7	2849	-	-	24	4830
Montana	..	..	942	-	-	4	1232
Pazardzhik	21	101	11107	-	-	16	8754
Pernik	7	8	965	-	-	4	121
Pleven	3	14	1969	-	-	17	10218
Plovdiv	60	199	24901	6	2154	70	62281
Razgrad	3	3	514	-	-	11	5333
Ruse	..	..	214	-	-	10	2708
Silistra	5	5	762	-	-	18	8543
Sliven	4	4	1074	-	-	5	4776
Smolyan	3	3	584	-	-	11	1014
Sofia	37	138	17215	-	-	18	9613
Sofia (stolitsa)	66	594	78481	4	19020	12	44009
Stara Zagora	32	250	28652	..	..	39	13258
Targovishte	3	14	1537	-	-	4	214
Haskovo	14	16	3907	-	-	12	2256
Shumen	..	..	45	-	-	21	4296
Yambol	7	32	5278	..	..	3	729

<sup>1</sup> ‘..’ - confidential data.