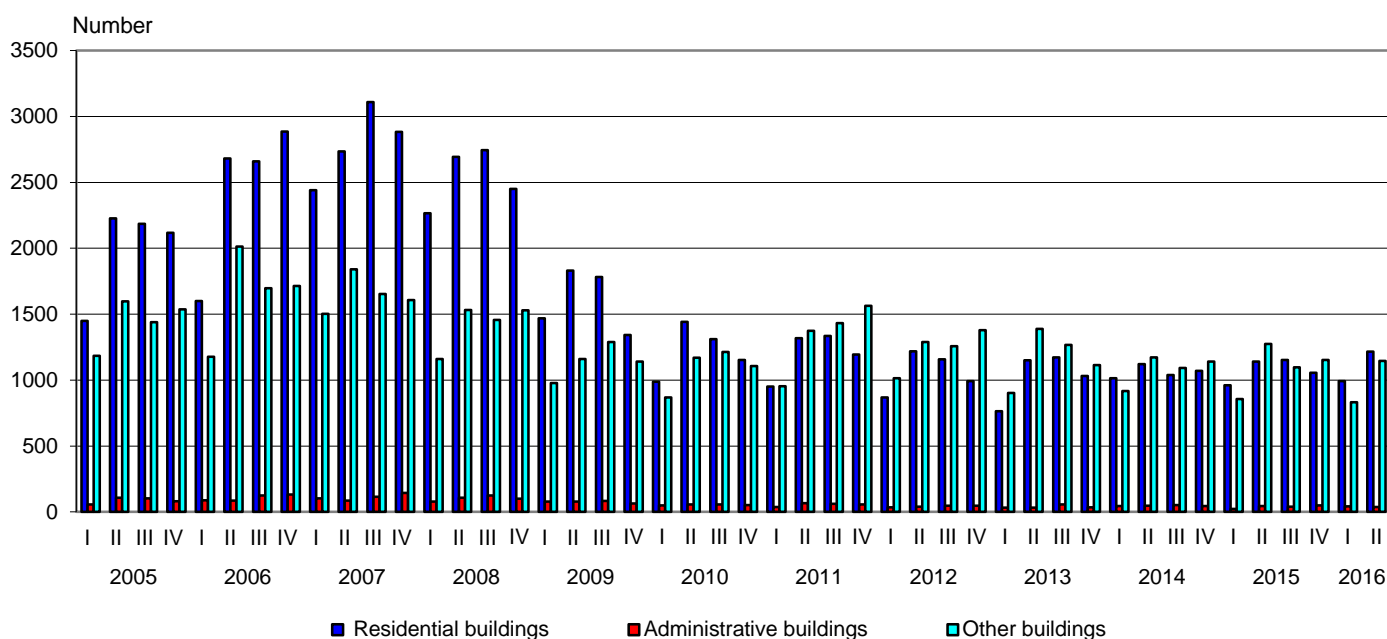




BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2016

In the second quarter of 2016, the municipal authorities issued **building permits** for construction of 1 216 residential buildings with 4 438 dwellings and 604 825 sq. m gross building area, of 37 administrative buildings/offices with 22 798 sq. m gross building area and 1 145 other buildings with 504 845 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the issued building permits for residential buildings increased by 22.5%, their dwellings - by 29.2% and the gross building area - by 18.9%. The number of issued building permits of administrative buildings marked a drop by 14.0% and their gross building area - by 74.0%. The issued building permits of other buildings rose by 37.6% and their gross building area - by 1.4%.

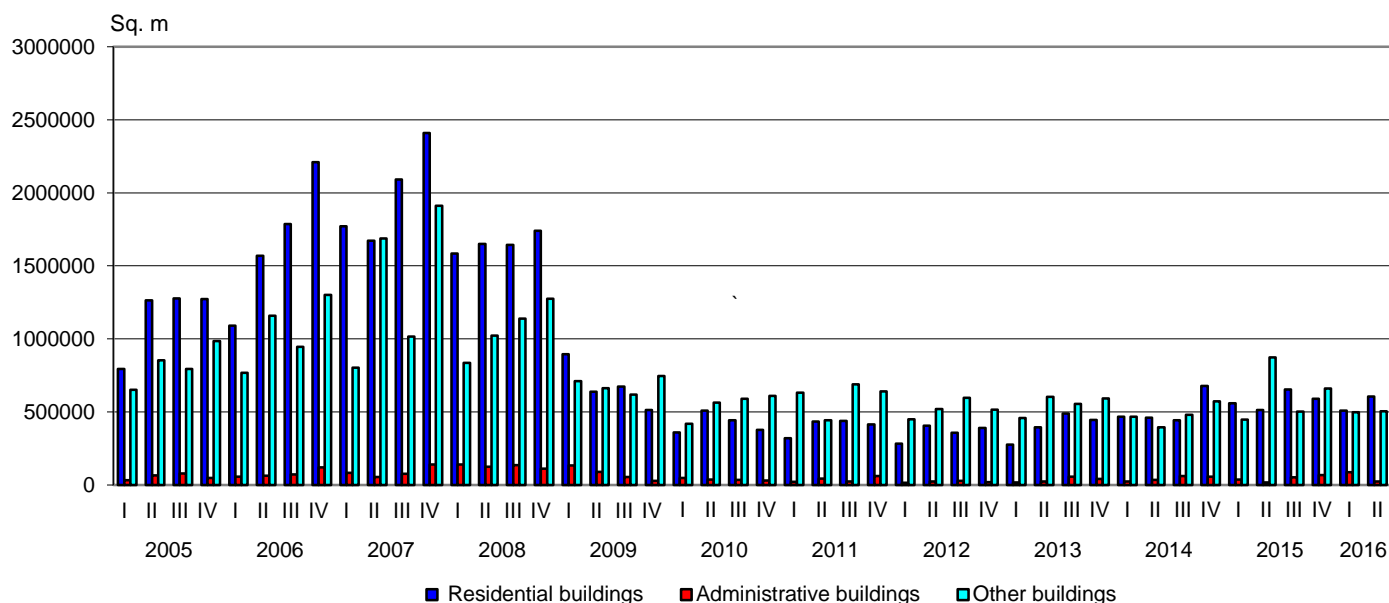
Figure 1. Building permits issued for construction of new buildings by type and quarter



As compared to the second quarter of 2015 the issued building permits for new residential buildings increased by 6.7%, the number of dwellings - by 28.5% and the gross building area - by 17.9%. The number of issued building permits of administrative buildings fell by 15.9%, while their gross building area rose by 38.9% (Figure 1). The issued building permits of other buildings decreased by 10.2% and their gross building area - by 42.1% (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) - 186, Plovdiv - 160, Varna - 123 and Burgas - 107. Most dwellings are to be built in the districts: Sofia (stolitsa) - 1 330, Plovdiv - 854, Burgas - 522 and Varna - 380 (Annex, Table 1).

In the second quarter of 2016 **began the construction** of 836 residential buildings with 2 961 dwellings and 418 895 sq. m gross building area, of 23 administrative buildings/offices with 77 009 sq. m gross building area and of 573 other buildings with 288 218 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings rose by 39.1%, the number of their dwellings - by 13.7% and the gross building area - by 18.5%. The increase in the number of started administrative buildings and of other buildings was by 64.3% and by 55.3% respectively, as the gross building area of administrative buildings rose over six times, while the gross building area of other buildings fell by 6.8%.

As compared to the second quarter of 2015 the started new residential buildings decreased by 1.3%, their dwellings - by 18.4% and the gross building area - by 9.9%. The number of started administrative buildings dropped by 14.8%, while their gross building area rose over nine times. The started other buildings decreased by 12.8% and their gross building area - by 31.9%.

The construction of the highest number of new buildings were started in the following districts: Sofia (stolitsa) - 129 residential buildings, 6 administrative buildings and 23 other buildings; Varna - 117 residential buildings, 4 administrative buildings and 45 other buildings; Plovdiv - 103 residential buildings and 63 other buildings; Burgas - 68 residential buildings and 30 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 second 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	1216	4438	604825	37	22798	1145	504845
Blagoevgrad	72	169	25602	4	2231	59	19411
Burgas	107	522	67493	..	..	41	12707
Varna	123	380	67528	5	1193	73	34965
Veliko Tarnovo	36	87	11997	3	302	50	12623
Vidin	4	5	765	..	..	7	8465
Vratsa	6	33	4418	..	..	27	8967
Gabrovo	15	15	2942	-	-	18	7873
Dobrich	29	44	4241	..	..	43	29620
Kardzhali	21	69	10398	..	..	9	2669
Kyustendil	13	23	3246	-	-	35	5144
Lovech	16	25	3385	-	-	19	4916
Montana	10	33	3435	-	-	30	23037
Pazardzhik	59	119	14448	..	..	85	20232
Pernik	32	35	5276	..	..	27	4975
Pleven	7	19	2652	-	-	32	21387
Plovdiv	160	854	99616	6	3880	157	99165
Razgrad	11	11	1517	-	-	25	4149
Ruse	26	67	8678	-	-	54	34731
Silistra	10	10	1672	..	..	20	3668
Sliven	26	33	5480	-	-	35	12113
Smolyan	6	6	1037	..	..	22	5337
Sofia	93	101	16167	-	-	46	15457
Sofia (stolitsa)	186	1330	188497	4	9609	48	48809
Stara Zagora	83	318	36594	-	-	85	25171
Targovishte	5	15	1409	-	-	12	1859
Haskovo	26	60	6718	-	-	37	17231
Shumen	18	37	6846	-	-	33	8459
Yambol	16	18	2768	3	2249	16	11705

¹ ‘..’ - confidential data.



Table 2

Building construction started in the second 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	836	2961	418895	23	77009	573	288218
Blagoevgrad	37	75	11143	3	1110	51	22402
Burgas	68	318	39515	..	..	30	17255
Varna	117	486	82379	4	1580	45	18617
Veliko Tarnovo	25	26	5959	..	..	18	9789
Vidin	-	-	-	-	-	..	..
Vratsa	..	..	..	-	-	5	3625
Gabrovo	5	5	699	-	-	8	5411
Dobrich	16	28	2410	-	-	21	4698
Kardzhali	19	45	8495	-	-	4	890
Kyustendil	6	7	1212	-	-	7	2150
Lovech	16	16	2827	..	..	24	2284
Montana	7	30	2915	-	-	13	4537
Pazardzhik	37	89	11396	-	-	40	10219
Pernik	15	31	4996	-	-	9	851
Pleven	5	8	2045	-	-	15	5661
Plovdiv	103	250	37246	..	..	63	46625
Razgrad	12	16	2554	-	-	15	5560
Ruse	12	29	3521	-	-	13	8957
Silistra	..	..	..	..	..	8	1686
Sliven	24	26	3995	-	-	17	9327
Smolyan	4	10	1107	-	-	..	..
Sofia	62	68	11593	..	..	36	10374
Sofia (stolitsa)	129	941	127764	6	70663	23	43764
Stara Zagora	66	342	39284	..	..	56	31810
Targovishte	4	14	1234	-	-	5	206
Haskovo	20	44	6122	-	-	19	12269
Shumen	10	13	1331	-	-	12	1656
Yambol	11	11	2315	..	..	13	7103

¹ ‘..’ - confidential data.