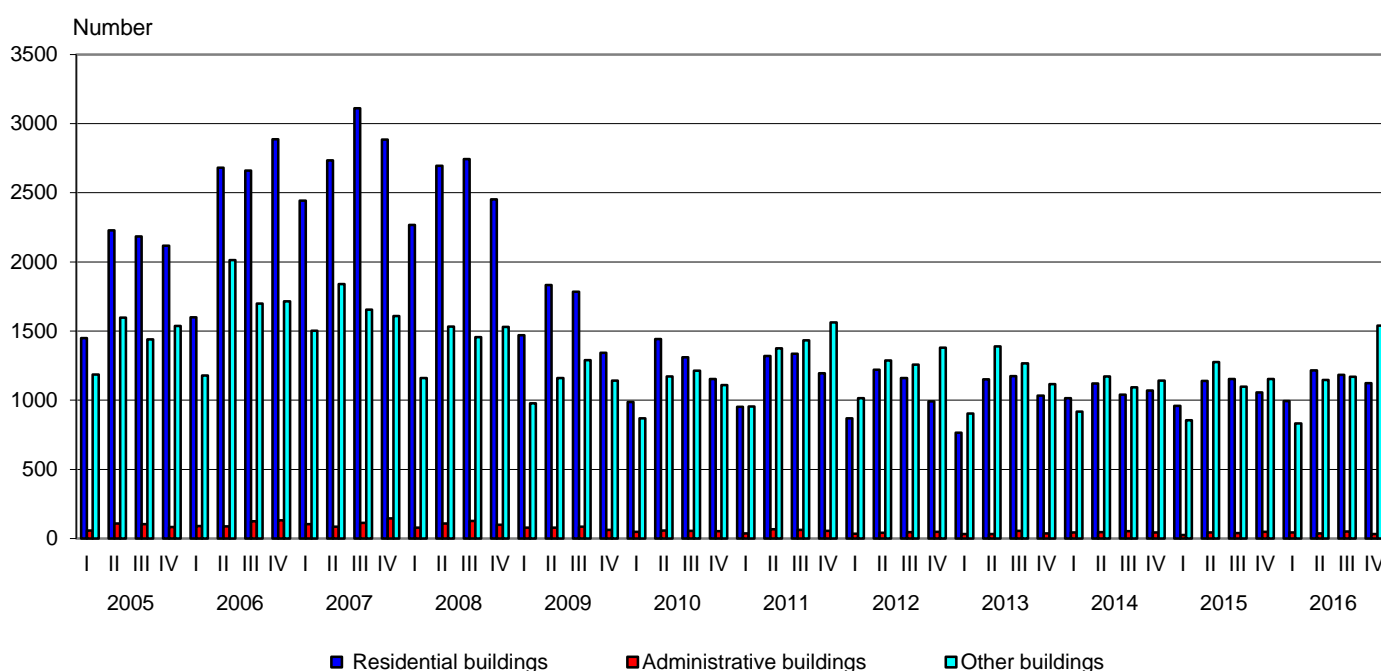




## BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS STARTED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2016

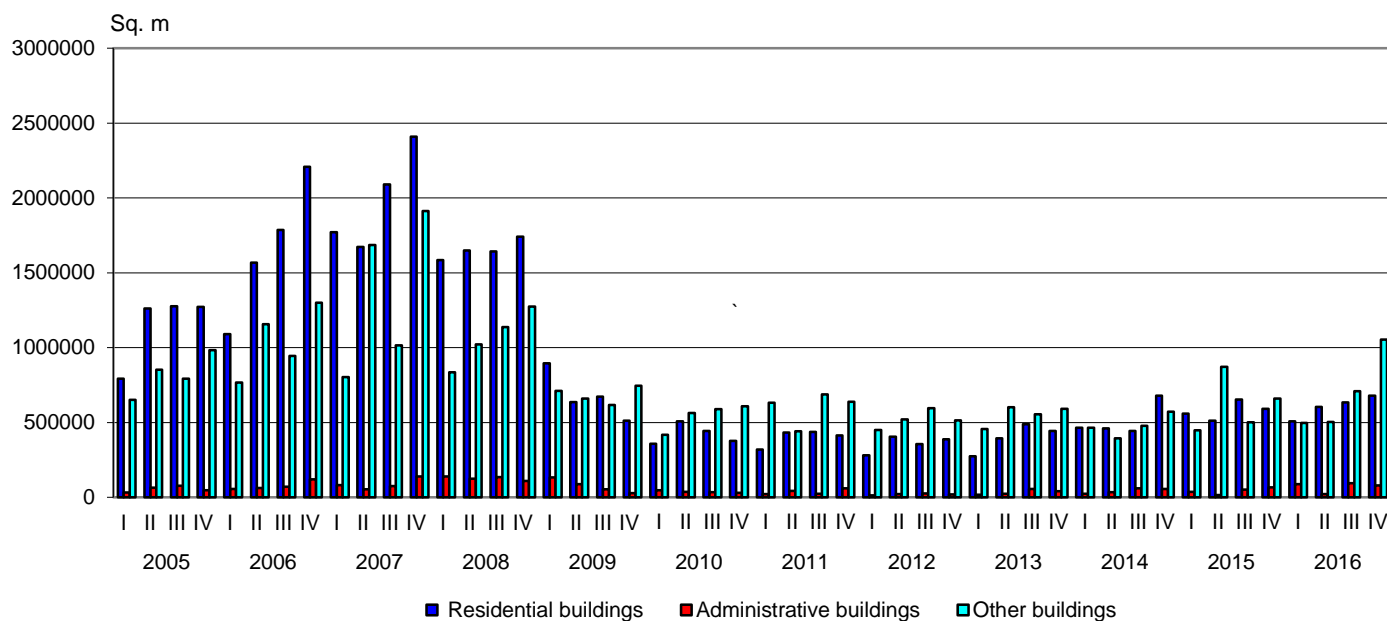
In the fourth quarter of 2016, the municipal authorities issued **building permits** for construction of 1 122 residential buildings with 5 348 dwellings and 679 977 sq. m gross building area, of 32 administrative buildings/offices with 80 113 sq. m gross building area and 1 538 other buildings with 1 053 669 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the issued building permits for residential buildings fell by 5.2%, while their dwellings rose by 8.3% and the gross building area - by 7.1%. The number of issued building permits of administrative buildings decreased by 37.3% and their gross building area - by 15.5%. The issued building permits of other buildings rose by 31.5% and their gross building area - by 48.3%.

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



As compared to the fourth quarter of 2015 the issued building permits for new residential buildings increased by 6.3%, the number of dwellings - by 10.5% and their gross building area - by 15.5%. The number of issued building permits of administrative buildings fell by 34.7%, but their gross building area rose by 20.1%. In the other buildings was observed an increase of issued building permits by 33.3% (Figure 1) and of their gross building area - by 59.4% (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) - 200, Plovdiv - 163, Varna - 133 and Burgas - 88. Most dwellings are to be built in the districts: Sofia (stolitsa) - 1 974, Varna - 1 191, Plovdiv - 756 and Burgas - 306 (Annex, Table 1).

In the fourth quarter of 2016 **began the construction** of 720 residential buildings with 3 785 dwellings and 472 837 sq. m gross building area, of 20 administrative buildings/offices with 11 602 sq. m gross building area and of 536 other buildings with 450 393 sq. m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter the number of started residential buildings fell by 13.3%, while the number of their dwellings rose by 20.4% and their gross building area - by 19.5%. The started administrative buildings and their gross building decreased by 37.5% and 44.6% respectively. The number of started other buildings fell by 8.4%, but their gross building area increased by 24.9%.

As compared to the fourth quarter of 2015 the started new residential buildings rose by 16.3%, their dwellings - by 54.2% and the gross building area - by 45.8%. The number of started administrative buildings was no change, while their gross building area decreased by 81.8%. The started other buildings rose by 14.5% and their gross building area - by 39.1%.

The construction of the highest number of new buildings were started in the following districts: Plovdiv - 120 residential buildings, 3 administrative buildings and 78 other buildings; Burgas - 121 residential buildings, 3 administrative buildings and 25 other buildings; Sofia (stolitsa) - 113 residential buildings, 3 administrative buildings and 16 other buildings; Varna - 95 residential buildings, 4 administrative buildings and 22 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 fourth quarter of 2016<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>1122</b>	<b>5348</b>	<b>679977</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>80113</b>	<b>1538</b>	<b>1053669</b>
Blagoevgrad	54	67	13643	-	-	113	34415
Burgas	88	306	43646	..	..	63	34385
Varna	133	1191	142775	4	4465	66	28532
Veliko Tarnovo	32	64	12090	..	..	54	29774
Vidin	3	3	342	-	-	14	10413
Vratsa	14	31	3960	..	..	20	6484
Gabrovo	11	28	3939	-	-	26	13615
Dobrich	34	59	6977	..	..	75	72723
Kardzhali	32	95	16607	-	-	42	26297
Kyustendil	10	25	3278	-	-	52	9261
Lovech	14	14	3119	-	-	37	15319
Montana	3	3	286	-	-	41	22087
Pazardzhik	54	124	19921	-	-	71	131994
Pernik	25	26	3611	..	..	30	9299
Pleven	7	7	1297	-	-	39	33425
Plovdiv	163	756	84438	7	5928	189	220349
Razgrad	6	7	836	..	..	27	18696
Ruse	21	82	11004	-	-	59	26165
Silistra	4	4	1023	..	..	35	25023
Sliven	18	29	3950	-	-	32	23342
Smolyan	5	6	1127	-	-	26	10517
Sofia	75	78	11557	..	..	66	45065
Sofia (stolitsa)	200	1974	251011	4	61110	47	32759
Stara Zagora	47	187	18419	..	..	126	49020
Targovishte	15	24	3164	-	-	20	16222
Haskovo	29	111	10890	4	824	67	40741
Shumen	14	27	4371	..	..	63	34949
Yambol	11	20	2696	-	-	38	32798

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



Table 2

Building construction started in the fourth quarter of 2016<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>720</b>	<b>3785</b>	<b>472837</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>11602</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>450393</b>
Blagoevgrad	26	44	7030	-	-	31	12159
Burgas	121	767	85958	3	4397	25	27449
Varna	95	1009	117587	4	3360	22	24098
Veliko Tarnovo	15	141	16015	-	-	26	27617
Vidin	-	-	-	-	-	5	2288
Vratsa	..	..	..	-	-	3	4132
Gabrovo	..	..	..	-	-	..	..
Dobrich	29	32	4984	-	-	32	38924
Kardzhali	27	105	19017	-	-	26	14102
Kyustendil	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
Lovech	11	11	1357	..	..	16	3063
Montana	..	..	..	-	-	13	6482
Pazardzhik	23	58	7392	-	-	27	11085
Pernik	8	9	1274	-	-	4	294
Pleven	4	4	554	..	..	19	11219
Plovdiv	120	309	37903	3	785	78	88364
Razgrad	3	3	307	..	..	13	3207
Ruse	4	29	3547	-	-	16	9211
Silistra	3	3	466	-	-	17	4050
Sliven	14	16	2790	-	-	18	11611
Smolyan	..	..	..	-	-	..	..
Sofia	28	29	4845	..	..	30	61625
Sofia (stolitsa)	113	951	114773	3	1432	16	12712
Stara Zagora	27	84	25583	-	-	28	10739
Targovishte	10	18	2751	-	-	7	8434
Haskovo	17	108	11676	-	-	29	14677
Shumen	6	6	1295	-	-	20	24951
Yambol	7	15	1860	..	..	12	12053

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