

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2009¹

In the second quarter of 2009 the municipal authorities have issued building permits for construction of 1 832 residential buildings with 4 506 dwellings and 637 484 sq.m gross building area, of 79 administrative buildings/offices with 88 598 sq.m gross building area and 1 160 other buildings with 661 355 sq.m gross building area. As compared to the previous quarter of 2009 the building permits for residential buildings increased by 24.6%, but their dwellings fell by 31.0% and respectively gross building area dropped by 28.8%. The number of administrative buildings has not been changed, while the gross building area decreased by 33.8%. However, the other buildings rose by 18.6%, but their area fell by 7.0%.

As compared to the second quarter of 2008 issued building permits for new residential building decreased by 32.0%, and their dwellings - by 62.1%. The administrative buildings dropped by 26.9% and other buildings - by 24.3% (Fig.1). In all types of buildings a decline was registered in the gross building area, in the residential buildings - by 61.4%, in the administrative buildings - by 29.3% and in the other buildings - by 35.3% respectively (Fig.2).

In the second quarter of 2009 the highest number of building permits for new residential buildings has been issued in the following districts: Sofia (capital) - 241, Plovdiv - 219, Sofia – 182 and Burgas – 173. The dwellings in Sofia (capital) are 637, in Plovdiv - 611, in Varna - 589 and Burgas - 461 (Table 1).

¹The 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 a prognostic 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 purpose, 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

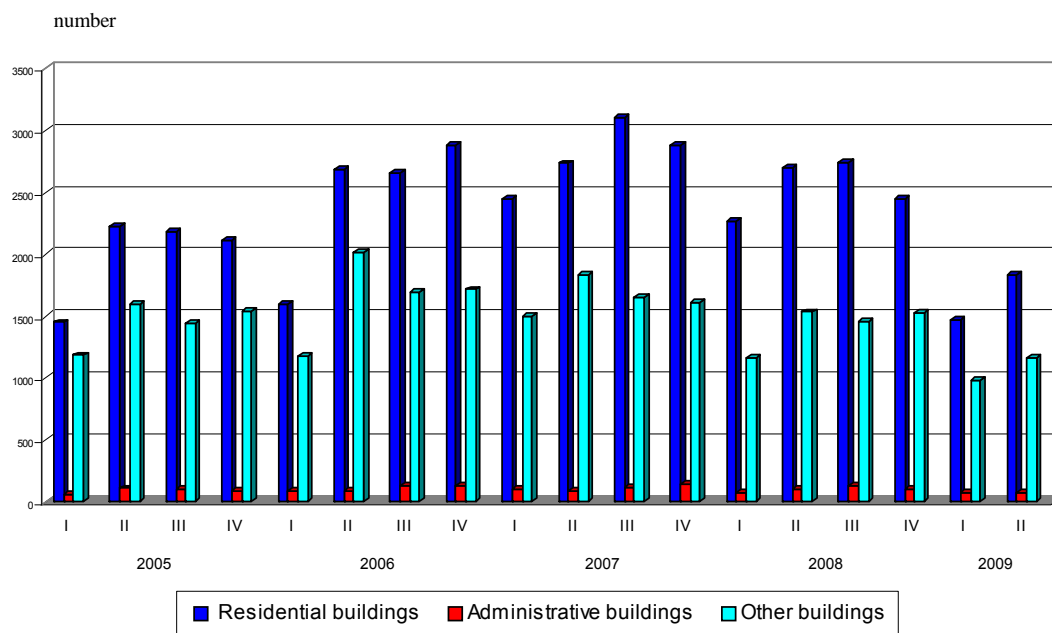


Figure. 2. Building permits issued for construction - gross building area by type of buildings

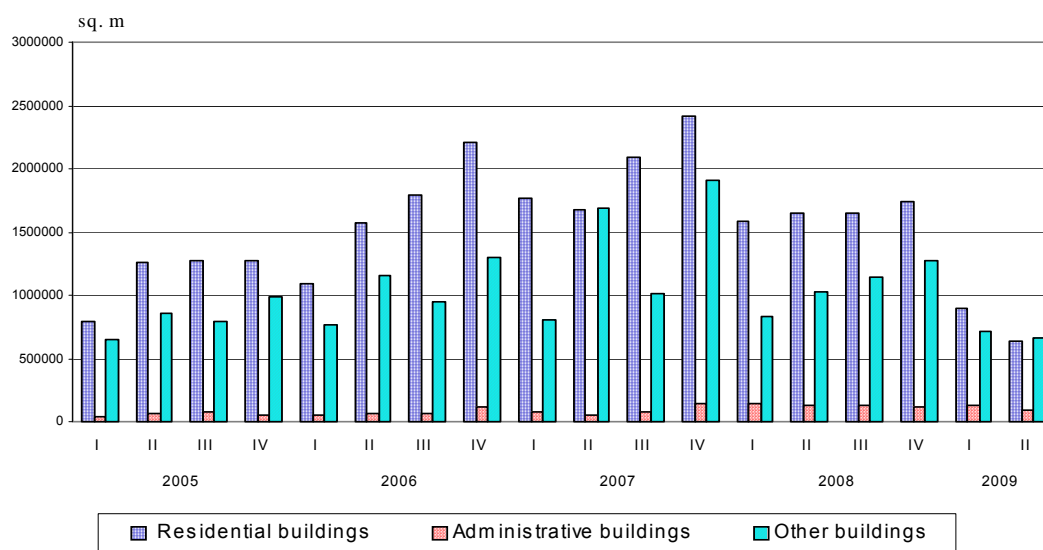


Table 1
Building permits issued for construction of new buildings in the second quarter of 2009²

Districts	Residential buildings		Administrative buildings		Other buildings		
	number	of which: dwellings	Gross building area-sq.m	number	Gross building area-sq.m	number	Gross building area-sq.m
Total	1832	4506	637484	79	88598	1160	661355
Blagoevgrad	105	343	38050	3	2003	54	12811
Burgas	173	461	70080	5	1065	78	178914
Varna	153	589	84517	7	46916	69	61374
Veliko Tarnovo	44	123	15967	4	1138	54	36707
Vidin	7	39	4103	-	-	4	474
Vratsa	15	45	6718	-	-	19	3792
Gabrovo	32	39	6275	..	..	16	6336
Dobrich	127	268	16638	11	10905	42	11486
Kardzhali	20	50	12844	..	..	23	4115
Kyustendil	22	50	4704	..	..	22	1122
Lovech	28	36	6056	..	..	11	2079
Montana	10	21	2593	-	-	20	6727
Pazardzhik	71	123	18210	..	..	45	17827
Pernik	54	62	11620	..	..	23	1990
Pleven	35	205	23864	4	3205	40	35696
Plovdiv	219	611	85358	13	6066	139	68913
Razgrad	15	22	3210	-	-	30	4993
Ruse	35	92	13298	3	3264	36	27476
Silistra	7	26	4776	..	..	15	8864
Sliven	33	41	7350	-	-	29	9525
Smolyan	22	33	5478	-	-	35	17849
Sofia cap.	241	637	101841	12	5709	26	15137
Sofia	182	207	36466	6	1042	110	46555
Stara Zagora	93	175	28428	..	..	94	31435
Targovishte	9	19	1894	..	..	18	2172
Haskovo	35	101	17567	-	-	38	9838
Shumen	29	64	6862	..	..	50	20064
Yambol	16	24	2717	-	-	20	17084

² ".." Confidential data