



**GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF
THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE
OF GREECE**

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

BUILDING ACTIVITY

JULY 2009

The General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece publishes provisional data on the Building Activity, on the basis of the building permits issued from the Greek Town-Planning Offices during July 2009.

DECREASE OF THE TOTAL BUILDING ACTIVITY (PRIVATE-PUBLIC) DURING JANUARY - JULY 2009 IN COMPARISON WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 2008

During the period January - July 2009, the magnitude of the total Building Activity (private-public), in the whole Country, measured on the basis of building permits issued, amounted to 34.101 building permits, which correspond to 7.857,1 thousand m² of surface and 29.873,4 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 40.512 building permits that were issued during the same period of 2008 and corresponded to 10.572,7 thousand m² of surface and 40.717,7 thousand m³ of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 15,8%, in surface by 25,7% and in volume by 26,6%. The percentage contribution of the Public Building Activity in the total building volume, for the above period of 2009, is 4,5% (Table 1).

*Table 1. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the period
January - July of 2008 and 2009*

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January-July			January-July			January-July		
	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)
E. Makedonia and Thraki	1.869	1.706	-8,7	484,7	376,3	-22,4	1.946,8	1.401,0	-28,0
Central Makedonia	5.297	4.422	-16,5	1.771,9	1.201,2	-32,2	7.969,2	5.160,7	-35,2
Western Makedonia	668	626	-6,3	213,2	164,0	-23,1	866,9	636,5	-26,6
Thessalia	2.403	2.051	-14,6	711,8	531,2	-25,4	2.713,2	2.031,6	-25,1
Ipiros	1.396	1.182	-15,3	374,2	315,6	-15,7	1.355,9	1.180,2	-13,0
Ionian Islands	1.567	1.206	-23,0	308,0	215,1	-30,2	1.059,0	743,5	-29,8
Western Greece	2.740	2.583	-5,7	646,3	560,2	-13,3	2.432,1	2.093,4	-13,9
Central Greece	2.956	2.668	-9,7	777,5	685,3	-11,9	3.476,8	3.054,3	-12,2
Peloponnissos	3.370	2.828	-16,1	917,8	648,5	-29,3	3.207,3	2.240,8	-30,1
Attiki	12.098	9.862	-18,5	2.735,7	2.058,4	-24,8	9.848,3	7.617,1	-22,7
Northern Egeo	1.153	989	-14,2	189,1	117,5	-37,8	698,6	392,9	-43,8
Southern Egeo	2.293	1.797	-21,6	529,9	330,9	-37,5	1.808,8	1.070,3	-40,8
Kriti	2.702	2.181	-19,3	912,6	652,7	-28,5	3.334,8	2.251,2	-32,5
Greece, Total	40.512	34.101	-15,8	10.572,7	7.857,1	-25,7	40.717,7	29.873,4	-26,6

In July 2009 the magnitude of the total Building Activity (private-public), in the whole Country (Table 2), amounted to 6.519 building permits, which correspond to 1.500,7 thousand m² of surface and 5.563,5 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 7.846 building permits that were issued during the same month of 2008 and corresponded to, 2.005,6 thousand m² of surface and 7.651,4 thousand m³ of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 16,9%, in surface by 25,2% and in volume by 27,3%.

The magnitude of the Public Building Activity in July 2009, in the whole Country, amounted to 69 building permits, which correspond to 83,1 thousand m² of surface and 485,2 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 50 building permits that were issued during the same month of 2008 and corresponded to 45,5 thousand m² of surface and 205,2 thousand m³ of volume. The percentage contribution of the Public Building Activity in the total building activity, in July 2009, is 8,7%.

Table 2. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the month of July of 2008 and 2009

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	July		Rate of change (%)	July		Rate of change (%)	July		Rate of change (%)
	2008	2009		2008	2009		2008	2009	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	345	290	-15,9	83,7	62,0	-26,0	325,3	228,1	-29,9
Central Makedonia	935	779	-16,7	298,2	206,3	-30,8	1.384,6	776,2	-43,9
Western Makedonia	128	119	-7,0	40,2	38,1	-5,1	175,9	184,0	4,6
Thessalia	470	337	-28,3	130,7	81,9	-37,3	466,5	287,5	-38,4
Ipiros	229	191	-16,6	63,2	52,1	-17,6	255,9	189,3	-26,0
Ionian Islands	299	251	-16,1	50,5	47,2	-6,4	176,4	168,2	-4,7
Western Greece	467	525	12,4	118,7	101,0	-14,9	470,4	379,5	-19,3
Central Greece	605	510	-15,7	146,2	145,8	-0,2	605,5	716,9	18,4
Peloponnissos	713	530	-25,7	176,8	106,6	-39,7	614,0	375,5	-38,9
Attiki	2.574	2.146	-16,6	639,2	469,2	-26,6	2.257,4	1.652,0	-26,8
Northern Egeo	188	182	-3,2	32,3	18,4	-43,0	125,1	60,6	-51,6
Southern Egeo	422	331	-21,6	82,6	65,8	-20,3	278,0	214,0	-23,0
Kriti	471	328	-30,4	143,6	106,4	-25,9	516,2	331,7	-35,7
Greece, Total	7.846	6.519	-16,9	2.005,6	1.500,7	-25,2	7.651,4	5.563,5	-27,3

DECREASE OF THE PRIVATE BUILDING ACTIVITY DURING JANUARY - JULY 2009 IN COMPARISON WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 2008

As concerns the Private Building Activity in the whole Country, during the period January - July 2009, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 16,1%, in surface by 27,3% and in volume by 28,7%, as compared to the same period of 2008 (Table 3).

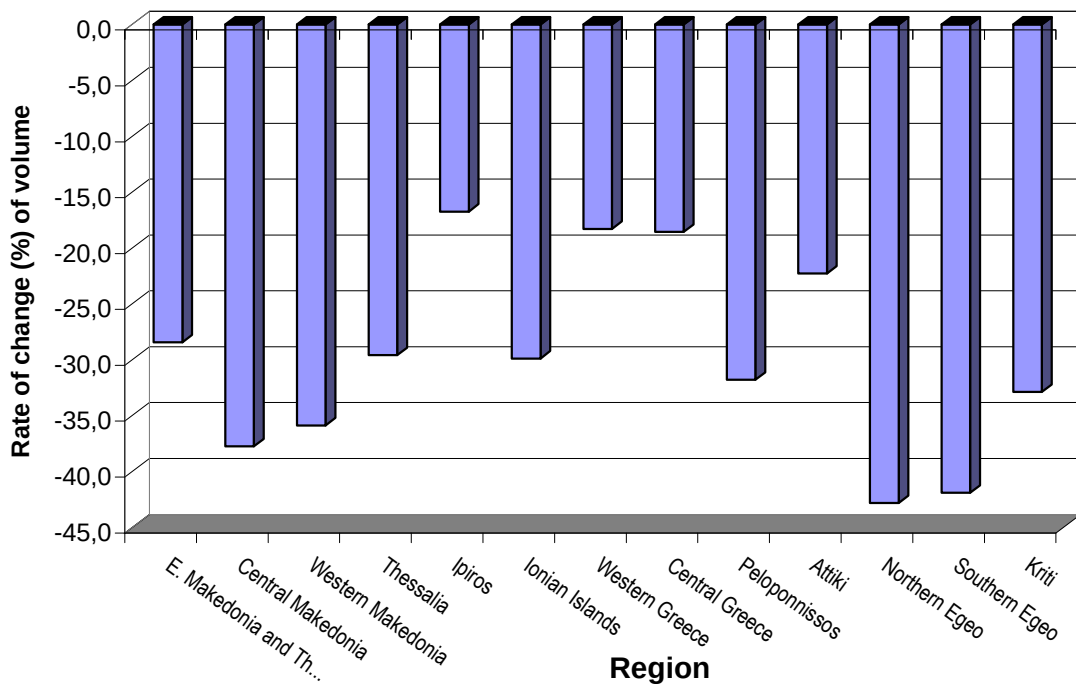
The building volume in the region of Attiki, during January - July 2009, has come up to 7.591,9 thousand m³, as compared to 9.769,3 thousand m³, of the same period of 2008 (decrease by 22,3%).

The building volume in rest of the Country, during January - July 2009, has come up to 20.945,5 thousand m³, as compared to 30.243,1 thousand m³, of the same period of 2008 (decrease by 30,7%).

**Table 3. Private Building Activity, by Region, for the period
January - July of 2008 and 2009**

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January-July		Rate of change (%)	January-July		Rate of change (%)	January-July		Rate of change (%)
	2008	2009		2008	2009		2008	2009	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	1.832	1.670	-8,8	464,2	355,9	-23,3	1.837,7	1.315,1	-28,4
Central Makedonia	5.226	4.333	-17,1	1.734,2	1.136,3	-34,5	7.825,6	4.872,0	-37,7
Western Makedonia	657	605	-7,9	209,4	145,6	-30,5	835,2	535,6	-35,9
Thessalia	2.356	2.022	-14,2	703,5	496,2	-29,5	2.677,5	1.885,2	-29,6
Ipiros	1.387	1.161	-16,3	366,6	297,3	-18,9	1.329,1	1.106,6	-16,7
Ionian Islands	1.561	1.197	-23,3	306,2	212,5	-30,6	1.049,0	735,4	-29,9
Western Greece	2.731	2.567	-6,0	634,4	524,1	-17,4	2.373,9	1.939,7	-18,3
Central Greece	2.941	2.634	-10,4	757,8	636,8	-16,0	3.367,6	2.742,8	-18,6
Peloponnissos	3.350	2.796	-16,5	912,4	633,2	-30,6	3.187,3	2.174,0	-31,8
Attiki	12.072	9.846	-18,4	2.716,7	2.054,5	-24,4	9.769,3	7.591,9	-22,3
Northern Egeo	1.149	979	-14,8	180,0	113,2	-37,1	660,0	377,4	-42,8
Southern Egeo	2.286	1.790	-21,7	525,0	323,9	-38,3	1.790,4	1.040,4	-41,9
Kriti	2.693	2.168	-19,5	905,6	645,6	-28,7	3.309,8	2.221,4	-32,9
Greece, Total	40.241	33.768	-16,1	10.416,1	7.575,1	-27,3	40.012,4	28.537,4	-28,7

Graph 1.Private Building Activity by Region
Rate of change (%) of building volume, by Region, for the period January - July, between 2008 and 2009

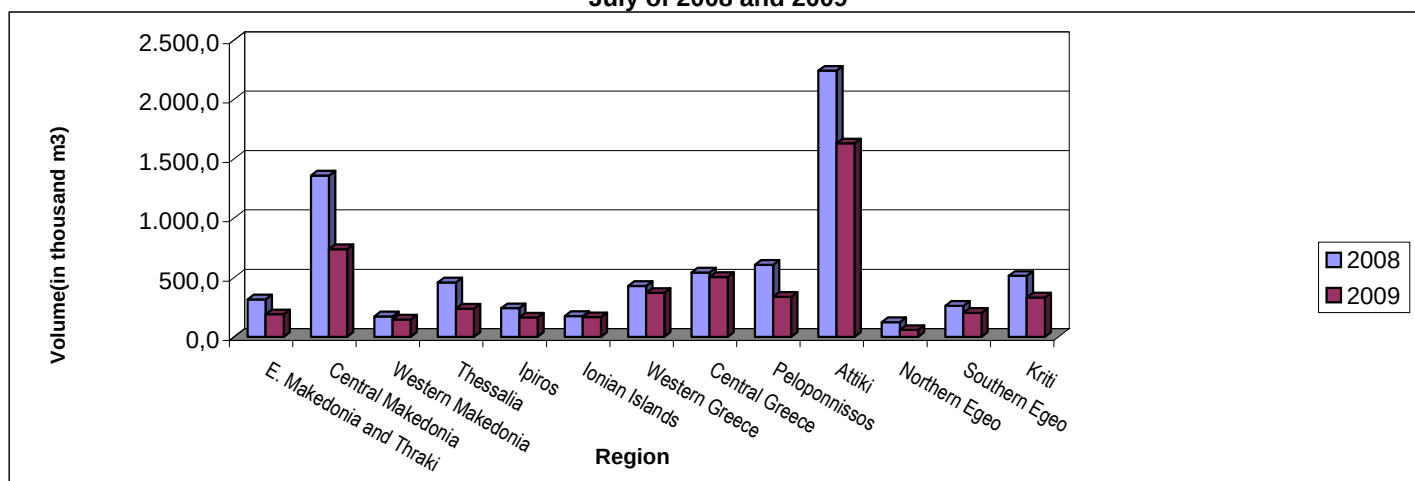


In July 2009 the magnitude of the Private Building Activity, in the whole Country, amounted to 6.450 building permits, which correspond to 1.417,6 thousand m² of surface and 5.078,3 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 7.796 building permits that were issued during July 2008 and corresponded to 1.960,1 thousand m² of surface and 7.446,2 thousand m³ of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 17,3%, in surface by 27,7% and in volume by 31,8% (Table 4).

Table 4. Private Building Activity, by Region, for the month of July of 2008 and 2009

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	July		Rate of change (%)	July		Rate of change (%)	July		Rate of change (%)
	2008	2009		2008	2009		2008	2009	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	339	278	-18,0	80,3	51,4	-35,9	315,2	190,5	-39,5
Central Makedonia	919	769	-16,3	292,1	197,1	-32,5	1.359,2	739,0	-45,6
Western Makedonia	127	114	-10,2	39,4	32,4	-17,8	173,1	146,9	-15,2
Thessalia	464	332	-28,4	128,8	69,4	-46,1	459,1	236,9	-48,4
Ipiros	225	185	-17,8	58,8	46,7	-20,6	241,9	163,3	-32,5
Ionian Islands	298	247	-17,1	50,5	46,1	-8,6	176,4	166,0	-5,9
Western Greece	466	523	12,2	110,1	99,9	-9,2	429,1	370,9	-13,6
Central Greece	604	504	-16,6	137,1	121,4	-11,5	542,0	504,8	-6,9
Peloponnissos	708	520	-26,6	175,0	98,7	-43,6	607,8	337,2	-44,5
Attiki	2.570	2.140	-16,7	635,1	466,1	-26,6	2.242,1	1.629,7	-27,3
Northern Egeo	188	181	-3,7	32,3	17,7	-45,4	125,1	58,3	-53,4
Southern Egeo	419	330	-21,2	78,2	64,2	-17,9	261,3	203,1	-22,3
Kriti	469	327	-30,3	142,5	106,4	-25,3	514,0	331,7	-35,5
Greece, Total	7.796	6.450	-17,3	1.960,1	1.417,6	-27,7	7.446,2	5.078,3	-31,8

Graph 2.Private Building Activity, by Region, for the month of July of 2008 and 2009



Summary metadata: The data above refer to the authorized building activity (public and private).

Specifically, the above results refer to data on building permits totally issued by the competent authorities. Such data are collected through a special monthly survey, the Building Permits Survey. The data are collected from administrative sources (Town Planning Offices). External engineers, simultaneously with the issue of a building permit, fill in the relevant questionnaire, properly designed for the survey.

A building permit is an authorization to start work on a building project. Thus, a building permit is the final stage of planning and building authorizations, prior to the start of work.

The legal basis of the survey is the Law 2396/96 (concerning the access of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece to administrative sources and archives and the regulation of issues regarding census surveys and statistical works) and the following STS Regulations:

- Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98 (concerning short-term statistics)
- Regulation (EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council No 1158/05 (amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98).

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