

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Building Activity Survey: February 2021**

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the provisional data, for the month February 2021, of the Building Activity Survey. More specifically:

- The Total Building Activity (private-public) in Greece, in February 2021 which is calculated on the basis of the number of issued building permits, amounted to 1,581. This figure corresponds to 359.0 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 1,460.9 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume, reflecting, respectively, a 3.2% decrease in the number of building permits, a 16.4% increase in surface and a 25.6% increase in volume, compared with the corresponding month of 2020 (Table 1).
- The building permits for the Private Building Activity issued in Greece in February 2021 amounted to 1,555. This figure corresponds to 342.8 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 1,387.3 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume. In comparison with the same month of 2020 there is a 4.0% decrease in the number of building permits, a 13.2% increase in surface and a 21.7% increase in volume (Table 2).
- The building permits for the Public Building Activity issued in Greece in February 2021 amounted to 26. This figure corresponds to 16.3 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 73.7 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume. Public Building Activity accounted for 5.0% of the total building volume in February 2021.
- In the last twelve months, from March 2020 until February 2021, Total Building Activity (private-public) in Greece, calculated on the basis of the number of issued building permits, amounted to 18,969. This figure corresponds to 4,191.6 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 17,943.3 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume. In comparison with the corresponding period from March 2019 until February 2020, there is a 2.7% increase in the number of building permits, a 4.8% increase in surface and a 3.3% increase in volume (Table 3).
- In the same period, from March 2020 until February 2021, Private Building Activity in Greece recorded a 2.3% increase in the number of issued building permits, a 4.2% increase in surface and a 2.7% increase in volume, compared with the corresponding period from March 2019 to February 2020 (Table 4). During the same period, Public Building Activity accounted for 2.6% of the total building volume.
- During the period January - February 2021, Total Building Activity (private-public) in Greece recorded an 1.4% increase in the number of issued building permits, an 11.0% increase in surface and a 16.1% increase in volume, compared with the corresponding period of 2020 (Table 5). During the same period, January - February 2021, Private Building Activity in Greece recorded an 1.0% increase in the number of issued building permits, an 8.7% increase in surface and a 13.3% increase in volume, in comparison with the period of January - February 2020 (Table 6).

**Information for methodological issues:**

Business Statistics Division  
Manufacture - Construction Indices and Industrial Products Section  
Head of the Section: Diamantaki Aikaterini  
Tel.: +30 213 135 2056  
E-mail: [a.diamantaki@statistics.gr](mailto:a.diamantaki@statistics.gr)

**Information for data provision:**

Tel: +30 213 135 2022, 2308, 2310  
E-mail: [data.dissem@statistics.gr](mailto:data.dissem@statistics.gr)

**Table 1. Total Building Activity, by Region (NUTS II), February 2020 and 2021\***

Region	Number of Building Permits			Surface (in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	February		Change (%)	February		Change (%)	February		Change (%)
	2020	2021		2020	2021		2020	2021	
Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki	70	74	5.7	12.4	17.6	42.0	38.9	93.9	141.3
Kentriki Makedonia	241	232	-3.7	43.8	72.7	65.9	193.2	338.9	75.4
Dytiki Makedonia	26	15	-42.3	3.6	5.2	43.7	14.1	22.9	62.2
Thessalia	92	87	-5.4	16.4	34.4	109.8	68.0	144.7	112.7
Ipeiros	56	69	23.2	13.9	26.9	93.2	66.0	122.8	86.0
Ionia Nisia	110	116	5.5	20.5	36.6	78.9	65.6	116.2	77.3
Dytiki Ellada	86	113	31.4	10.9	17.3	58.5	35.4	63.7	79.9
Stereia Ellada	67	79	17.9	15.0	8.3	-44.2	75.1	40.5	-46.1
Peloponnisos	123	145	17.9	16.6	21.7	30.5	62.9	84.3	34.1
Attiki	335	344	2.7	82.6	62.3	-24.5	298.7	219.7	-26.4
Voreio Aigaio	39	28	-28.2	4.1	4.6	12.1	13.5	20.2	50.3
Notio Aigaio	225	129	-42.7	35.2	23.5	-33.2	117.3	77.5	-33.9
Kriti	163	150	-8.0	33.5	27.9	-16.7	114.5	115.4	0.8
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>1,633</b>	<b>1,581</b>	<b>-3.2</b>	<b>308.4</b>	<b>359.0</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>1,163.3</b>	<b>1,460.9</b>	<b>25.6</b>

\*Provisional data for February 2021.

- It should be noted that the increase or decrease in the number of the issued building permits does not imply, necessarily, an increase or decrease in the underlying surface or volume. This is due to individual building permits involving big surface or volume or to building permits that do not concern surface or volume.

- Any delineation that may occur either between the sum of sub totals and the totals or in the change rates, is due to rounding.

**Table 2. Private Building Activity, by Region (NUTS II), February 2020 and 2021\***

Region	Number of Building Permits			Surface (in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	February		Change (%)	February		Change (%)	February		Change (%)
	2020	2021		2020	2021		2020	2021	
Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki	70	69	-1.4	12.4	12.4	0.4	38.9	56.8	45.9
Kentriki Makedonia	240	228	-5.0	43.8	71.5	63.1	193.2	335.4	73.6
Dytiki Makedonia	26	15	-42.3	3.6	5.2	43.7	14.1	22.9	62.2
Thessalia	91	86	-5.5	16.4	34.4	109.8	68.0	144.7	112.7
Ipeiros	55	66	20.0	13.7	25.9	88.4	65.5	119.3	82.1
Ionia Nisia	110	115	4.5	20.5	31.0	51.3	65.6	100.4	53.1
Dytiki Ellada	84	111	32.1	10.7	17.1	60.1	34.4	63.1	83.2
Stereia Ellada	65	79	21.5	14.9	8.3	-44.0	75.0	40.5	-46.0
Peloponnisos	122	142	16.4	16.1	21.4	32.5	60.4	83.2	37.6
Attiki	332	339	2.1	79.1	62.3	-21.2	285.5	219.7	-23.0
Voreio Aigaio	38	28	-26.3	4.0	4.6	16.8	12.8	20.2	58.1
Notio Aigaio	224	129	-42.4	34.2	23.5	-31.4	112.3	77.5	-31.0
Kriti	163	148	-9.2	33.5	25.2	-24.9	114.5	103.6	-9.5
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>1,555</b>	<b>-4.0</b>	<b>302.9</b>	<b>342.8</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>1,140.3</b>	<b>1,387.3</b>	<b>21.7</b>

\* Provisional data for February 2021.

- It should be noted that the increase or decrease in the number of the issued building permits does not imply, necessarily, an increase or decrease in the underlying surface or volume. This is due to individual building permits involving big surface or volume or to building permits that do not concern surface or volume.

- Any delineation that may occur either between the sum of sub totals and the totals or in the change rates, is due to rounding.

**Table 3. Total Building Activity, by Region (NUTS II), March 2019 – February 2020 and March 2020 – February 2021\***

Region	Number of Building Permits			Surface (in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	March – February		Change (%)	March – February		Change (%)	March – February		Change (%)
	2019-2020	2020-2021		2019-2020	2020-2021		2019-2020	2020-2021	
Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki	962	987	2.6	211.9	221.9	4.7	801.1	938.1	17.1
Kentriki Makedonia	2,741	2,668	-2.7	581.2	627.4	7.9	3,082.1	2,992.5	-2.9
Dytiki Makedonia	240	245	2.1	64.7	62.9	-2.8	369.5	310.8	-15.9
Thessalia	1,113	1,196	7.5	264.5	310.5	17.4	1,406.8	1,592.4	13.2
Ipeiros	644	703	9.2	171.7	207.3	20.7	726.1	926.1	27.5
Ionia Nisia	1,325	1,266	-4.5	241.7	282.6	16.9	791.8	960.2	21.3
Dytiki Ellada	1,124	1,286	14.4	193.3	212.9	10.1	806.4	898.1	11.4
Sterea Ellada	949	1,101	16.0	162.0	203.6	25.6	857.9	1,195.7	39.4
Peloponnisos	1,379	1,524	10.5	201.3	232.4	15.5	806.2	864.4	7.2
Attiki	3,850	4,059	5.4	1,044.7	1,107.6	6.0	4,613.3	4,695.7	1.8
Voreio Aigaio	467	411	-12.0	61.7	58.7	-4.8	224.4	212.1	-5.5
Notio Aigaio	1,967	1,768	-10.1	394.1	306.5	-22.2	1,366.1	1,031.6	-24.5
Kriti	1,713	1,755	2.5	407.9	357.4	-12.4	1,522.2	1,325.8	-12.9
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>18,474</b>	<b>18,969</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>4,000.7</b>	<b>4,191.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>17,373.7</b>	<b>17,943.3</b>	<b>3.3</b>

\* Provisional data for February 2021.

- It should be noted that the increase or decrease in the number of the issued building permits does not imply, necessarily, an increase or decrease in the underlying surface or volume. This is due to individual building permits involving big surface or volume or to building permits that do not concern surface or volume.

- Any delineation that may occur either between the sum of sub totals and the totals or in the change rates, is due to rounding.

**Table 4. Private Building Activity, by Region (NUTS II), March 2019 – February 2020 and March 2020 – February 2021\***

Region	Number of Building Permits			Surface (in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	March – February		Change (%)	March – February		Change (%)	March – February		Change (%)
	2019-2020	2020-2021		2019-2020	2020-2021		2019-2020	2020-2021	
Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki	955	972	1.8	210.2	199.9	-4.9	791.3	752.5	-4.9
Kentriki Makedonia	2,731	2,643	-3.2	567.6	622.1	9.6	2,946.3	2,968.4	0.8
Dytiki Makedonia	238	241	1.3	60.5	53.5	-11.7	353.9	270.7	-23.5
Thessalia	1,104	1,182	7.1	260.1	308.1	18.5	1,389.5	1,585.2	14.1
Ipeiros	638	695	8.9	170.1	203.0	19.4	720.1	907.1	26.0
Ionia Nisia	1,325	1,265	-4.5	241.7	277.0	14.6	791.8	944.3	19.3
Dytiki Ellada	1,116	1,271	13.9	178.6	207.1	16.0	748.8	870.0	16.2
Sterea Ellada	943	1,095	16.1	160.3	203.2	26.8	851.6	1,194.1	40.2
Peloponnisos	1,371	1,513	10.4	199.3	231.1	15.9	798.5	859.5	7.6
Attiki	3,825	4,026	5.3	1,031.3	1,100.9	6.7	4,553.4	4,660.3	2.3
Voreio Aigaio	465	408	-12.3	61.5	58.3	-5.2	223.7	207.4	-7.3
Notio Aigaio	1,963	1,754	-10.6	392.9	304.1	-22.6	1,360.3	1,024.1	-24.7
Kriti	1,701	1,732	1.8	402.7	335.8	-16.6	1,501.3	1,242.1	-17.3
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>18,375</b>	<b>18,797</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>3,936.8</b>	<b>4,104.0</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>17,030.4</b>	<b>17,485.6</b>	<b>2.7</b>

\* Provisional data for February 2021.

- It should be noted that the increase or decrease in the number of the issued building permits does not imply, necessarily, an increase or decrease in the underlying surface or volume. This is due to individual building permits involving big surface or volume or to building permits that do not concern surface or volume.

- Any delineation that may occur either between the sum of sub totals and the totals or in the change rates, is due to rounding.

**Table 5. Total Building Activity, by Region, January – February 2020 and 2021\***

Region	Number of Building Permits			Surface (in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	January – February		Change (%)	January – February		Change (%)	January – February		Change (%)
	2020	2021		2020	2021		2020	2021	
Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki	131	162	23.7	23.6	39.1	65.4	75.6	185.4	145.3
Kentriki Makedonia	425	416	-2.1	81.6	115.2	41.2	389.1	505.5	29.9
Dytiki Makedonia	37	29	-21.6	4.3	9.8	130.7	16.3	49.7	204.4
Thessalia	161	156	-3.1	33.1	44.7	35.2	168.1	217.8	29.6
Ipeiros	96	124	29.2	18.0	44.6	148.1	80.6	201.8	150.4
Ionia Nisia	230	219	-4.8	43.0	48.2	11.9	142.7	153.2	7.3
Dytiki Ellada	168	205	22.0	19.9	33.6	69.0	70.4	128.6	82.8
Stereia Ellada	134	168	25.4	31.9	17.7	-44.4	178.3	85.8	-51.9
Peloponnisos	228	259	13.6	32.4	32.3	-0.3	122.3	121.3	-0.8
Attiki	609	699	14.8	149.1	134.3	-9.9	526.2	506.7	-3.7
Voreio Aigaio	77	70	-9.1	7.7	8.6	10.5	26.1	33.8	29.5
Notio Aigaio	409	276	-32.5	64.6	48.5	-25.0	201.5	168.2	-16.5
Kriti	294	257	-12.6	59.6	54.5	-8.6	218.0	214.8	-1.5
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>2,999</b>	<b>3,040</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>568.7</b>	<b>631.1</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>2,215.2</b>	<b>2,572.7</b>	<b>16.1</b>

\* Provisional data for February 2021.

- It should be noted that the increase or decrease in the number of the issued building permits does not imply, necessarily, an increase or decrease in the underlying surface or volume. This is due to individual building permits involving big surface or volume or to building permits that do not concern surface or volume.

- Any delineation that may occur either between the sum of sub totals and the totals or in the change rates, is due to rounding.

**Table 6. Private Building Activity, by Region, January – February 2020 and 2021\***

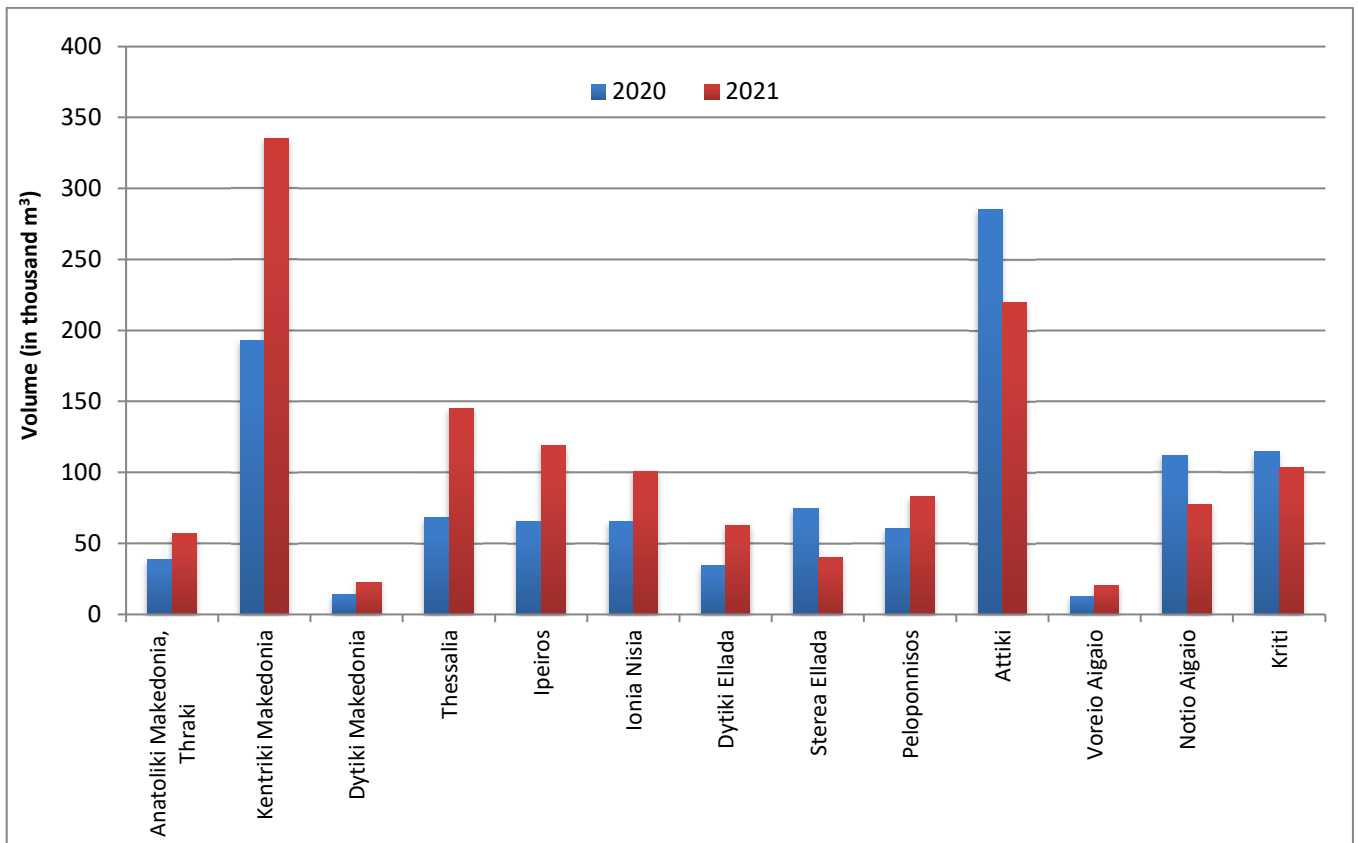
Region	Number of Building Permits			Surface (in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	January – February		Change (%)	January – February		Change (%)	January – February		Change (%)
	2020	2021		2020	2021		2020	2021	
Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki	131	156	19.1	23.6	32.8	39.0	75.6	143.5	89.9
Kentriki Makedonia	424	410	-3.3	81.6	113.3	38.8	389.1	500.0	28.5
Dytiki Makedonia	37	29	-21.6	4.3	9.8	130.7	16.3	49.7	204.4
Thessalia	158	153	-3.2	32.7	44.7	37.0	166.8	217.8	30.6
Ipeiros	94	120	27.7	17.8	41.1	130.9	80.0	185.8	132.1
Ionia Nisia	230	218	-5.2	43.0	42.5	-1.2	142.7	137.3	-3.8
Dytiki Ellada	163	203	24.5	18.9	33.4	77.0	67.0	127.9	90.8
Stereia Ellada	130	167	28.5	30.4	17.7	-41.7	172.9	85.8	-50.4
Peloponnisos	227	256	12.8	31.9	32.0	0.3	119.8	120.1	0.3
Attiki	602	691	14.8	145.0	134.3	-7.4	511.1	506.7	-0.9
Voreio Aigaio	76	70	-7.9	7.6	8.6	12.9	25.5	33.8	32.9
Notio Aigaio	408	275	-32.6	63.6	48.3	-24.1	196.5	167.6	-14.7
Kriti	292	253	-13.4	59.2	49.7	-16.1	215.9	192.5	-10.8
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>2,972</b>	<b>3,001</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>559.6</b>	<b>608.4</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>2,179.3</b>	<b>2,468.7</b>	<b>13.3</b>

\* Provisional data for February 2021.

- It should be noted that the increase or decrease in the number of the issued building permits does not imply, necessarily, an increase or decrease in the underlying surface or volume. This is due to individual building permits involving big surface or volume or to building permits that do not concern surface or volume.

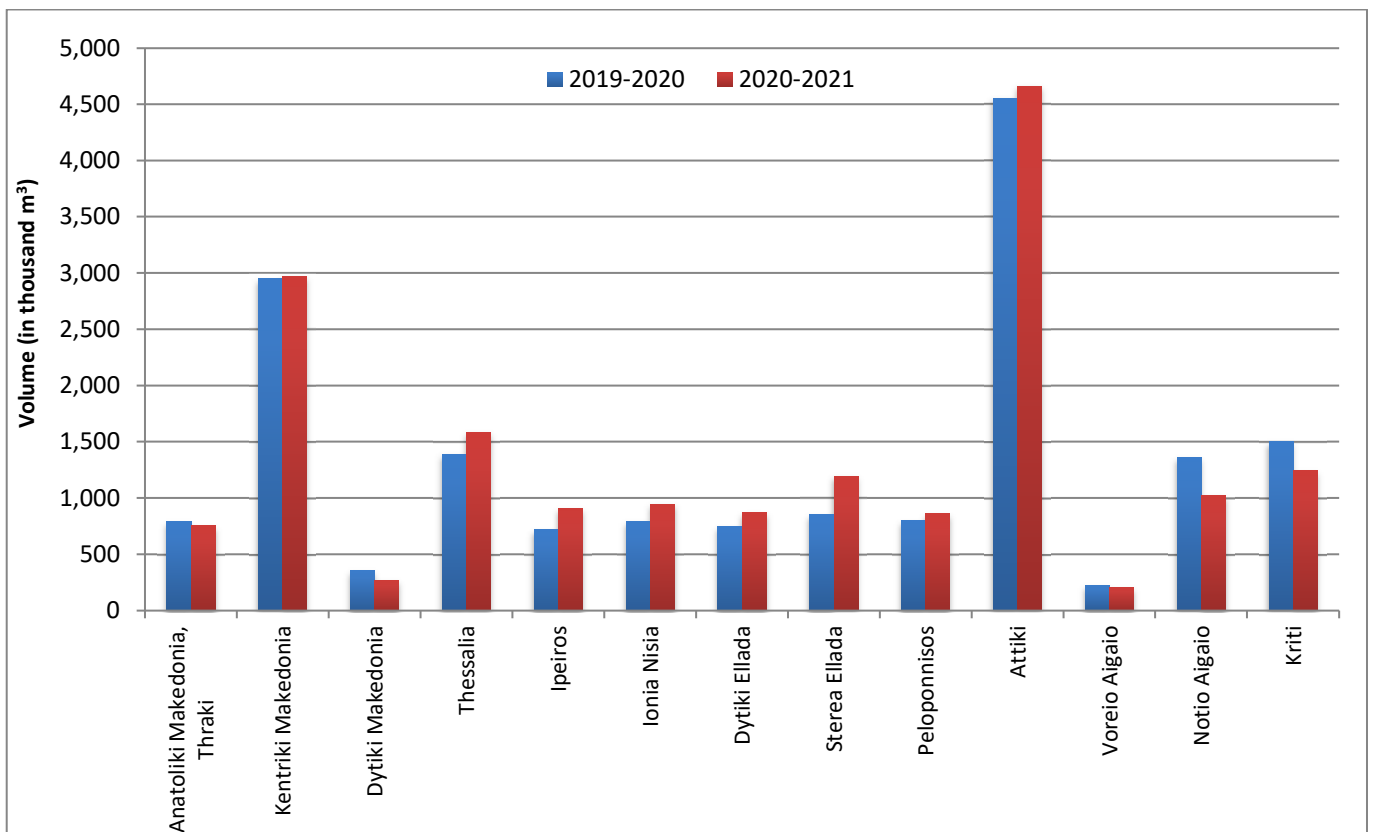
- Any delineation that may occur either between the sum of sub totals and the totals or in the change rates, is due to rounding.

**Graph 1. Private Building Activity (volume), by Region (NUTS II), February 2020 and 2021\***



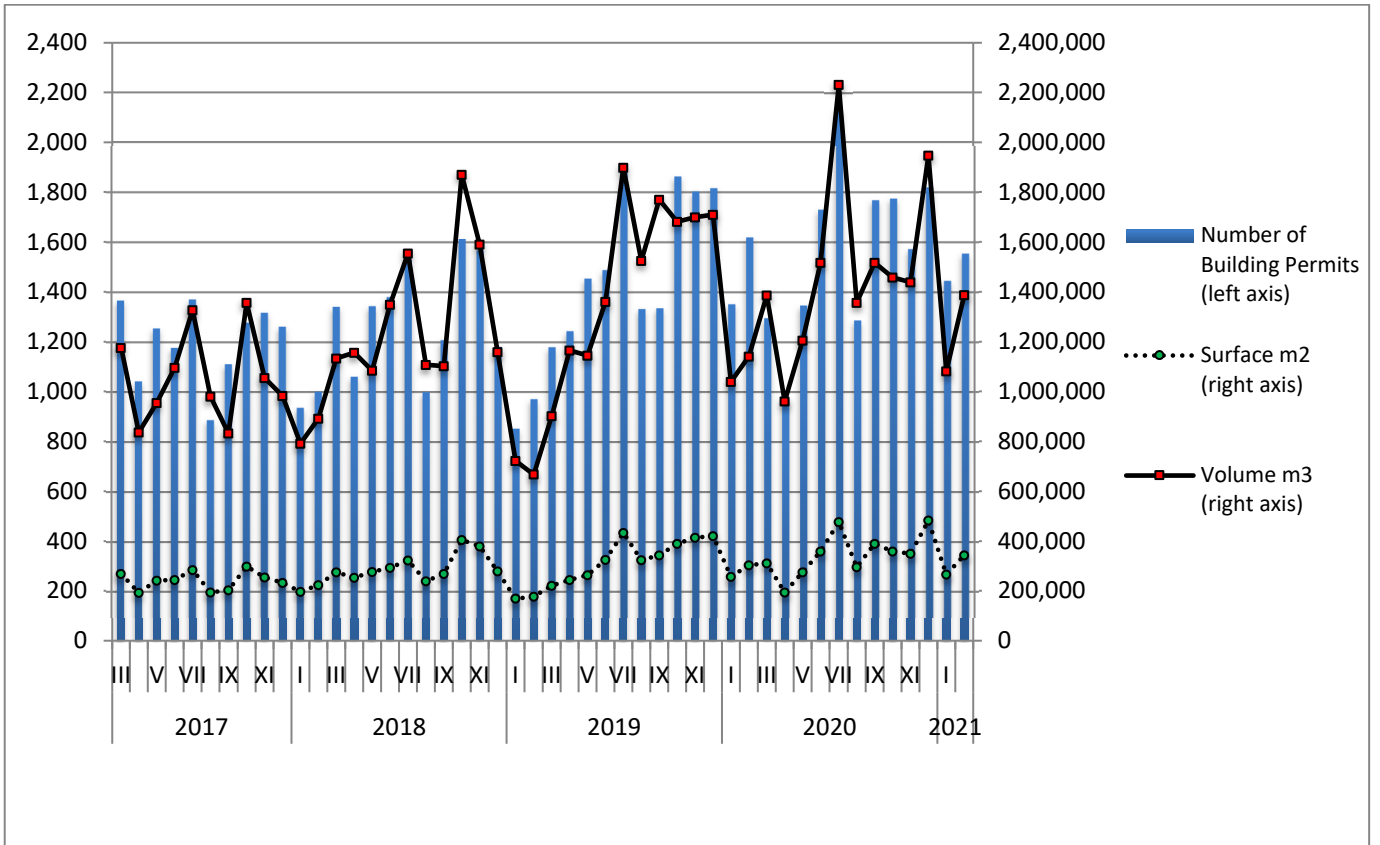
\*Provisional data for February 2021.

**Graph 2. Private Building Activity (volume), by Region (NUTS II), March 2019 – February 2020 and March 2020 – February 2021\***



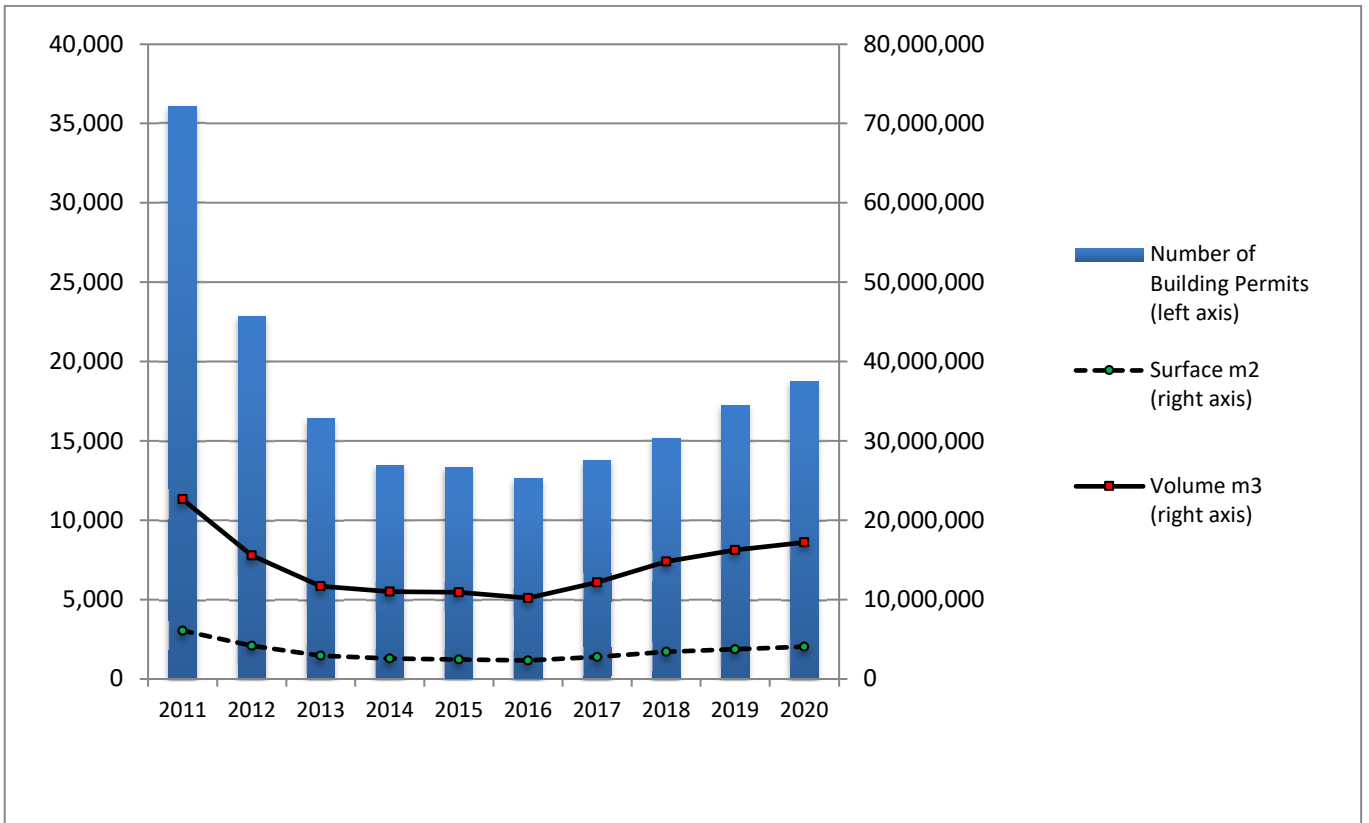
\* Provisional data for February 2021.

**Graph 3. Monthly Private Building Activity (March 2017 – February 2021\*)**



\*Provisional data for February 2021.

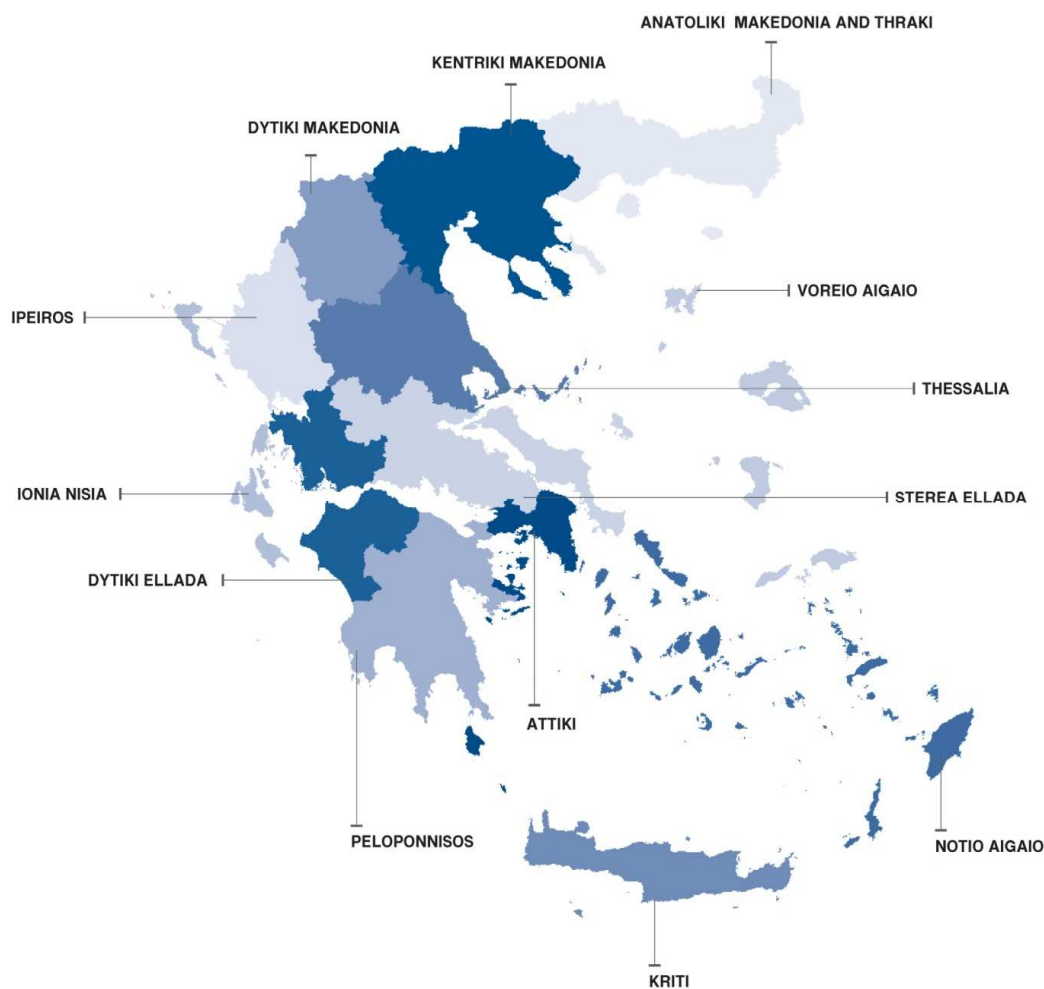
**Graph 4. Annual Private Building Activity (2011 - 2020)**



## EXPLANATORY NOTES

- Building Activity Survey** The Building Activity Survey has been providing exhaustive data on a monthly and yearly basis, since 1964. The purpose of this survey is to register the total number of building permits issued by the responsible administrative authorities, which are devolved to complete the questionnaire. The survey covers all the features of building activity, such as the type of building permit, the type of construction, the type and the characteristics of the building and its auxiliary spaces, as well as building usage, surface, volume and value.
- Legal Framework** The survey is fully harmonized with the European legislation. The primary legislative act is Regulation (EC) No 1165/1998, as it was amended according to Regulation (EC) No 1158/2005 and Regulation (EU) No 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics, as well as Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 2020/1197 laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 2019/2152.
- Reference Period** February 1, 2021 to February 28, 2021.
- Coverage** The survey is exhaustive and covers the total number of issued building permits across the Country.
- Geographical classification** The geographical classification is based on Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS).

Map of the 13 Regions (NUTS 2) of Greece



**Definitions** **Building Permit** refers to all types of building permits. These are permits for new buildings or permits for additions, repair, renovation, demolition, legitimization, amendment and modification of a building.

**The denotation of "built-property"** is equal to "building".

**Building** is every permanent and independent structure, which has walls and a roof and consists of one or more rooms and other complementary spaces. Normally, buildings feature four walls. However, a construction open from one or even two sides will be considered a building, as long as it has a roof.

**New building** is any built-property raised on an uncovered site or in the place of an old building that has been demolished.

**Building addition** is every construction that adds building volume (space) to an existing building, in terms of surface, height or both and creates a residence, a shop or both.

**Building volume** (the gross building volume) refers to the area that is included between the external surface of the external walls, the lowest level (the basement or the sub-basement, if it exists) and the roof of the building. If there is an open ground floor not enclosed within walls between the lower floor and the roof, its volume is taken into account. The relevant authorities calculate the volume of the building during the issuing of the building permit.

**Surface of new-built property** is considered to be the sum of each floor area along with the outer side of the outer walls, as well as other auxiliary spaces.

**Data collection and processing in the context of COVID-19 pandemic** No impact occurred to the completeness and the timely transmission of the data on the issued building permits from the competent administrative authorities.

**General Remark** Any delineation that may occur either between the sum of sub totals and the totals or in the change rates, is due to rounding.

**References** More information (tables, questionnaires, methodology) with regard to the Building Activity Survey is available on the website of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT):  
<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SOP03/->.