



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE



GENERAL SECRETARIAT  
NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE  
OF GREECE

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# PRESS RELEASE

## BUILDING ACTIVITY

MARCH 2008

The General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece publishes provisional data for the Building Activity, based on the building permits issued from the country's Town-Planning Offices during March 2008.

### DECREASE OF THE TOTAL BUILDING ACTIVITY (PRIVATE-PUBLIC) DURING JANUARY - MARCH 2008

In January - March 2008, Building Activity (private-public) in country total, summed up to 14.216 building permits, which relate to 3.760,9 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 14.295,9 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of building volume, as compared to 19.267 building permits, 4.835,0 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 18.263,7 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume, of the same period 2007. Therefore in January-March 2008 there was a decrease of 26,2% in the number of building permits, 22,2% in surface and 21,7% in volume.

It has to be noted that the percentage contribution of Public Building Activity in the total building activity volume in January - March 2008 is 1,6%.

**Table 1. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region  
January - March 2008 και 2007**

Region	Number of Building Permits			Surface (in thousands of m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousands of m <sup>3</sup> )		
	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007
E. Macedonia and Thraki	643	936	-31,3	154,6	234,5	-34,1	615,5	874,4	-29,6
Central Macedonia	1.879	2.439	-23,0	621,5	815,5	-23,8	2.642,9	3.492,3	-24,3
Western Macedonia	207	274	-24,5	69,8	72,5	-3,7	268,4	239,5	12,1
Thessalia	802	1.176	-31,8	230,3	318,2	-27,6	878,5	1.202,7	-27,0
Ipiros	469	571	-17,9	138,5	155,0	-10,7	509,6	549,2	-7,2
Ionian Islands	583	739	-21,1	118,3	155,7	-24,0	408,0	555,5	-26,5
Western Greece	952	1.254	-24,1	217,7	281,8	-22,7	758,6	1.036,3	-26,8
Central Greece	980	1.449	-32,4	280,8	371,6	-24,4	1.431,8	1.437,6	-0,4
Peloponnisos	1.172	1.594	-26,5	360,2	389,3	-7,5	1.256,5	1.352,3	-7,1
Attiki	4.123	6.240	-33,9	914,3	1.349,4	-32,2	3.214,9	5.022,4	-36,0
Northern Egeo	457	530	-13,8	80,3	88,4	-9,1	310,1	317,7	-2,4
Southern Egeo	851	856	-0,6	201,2	208,0	-3,3	682,4	740,4	-7,8
Kriti	1.098	1.209	-9,2	373,5	395,1	-5,5	1.318,6	1.443,6	-8,7
<b>Country Total</b>	<b>14.216</b>	<b>19.267</b>	<b>-26,2</b>	<b>3.760,9</b>	<b>4.835,0</b>	<b>-22,2</b>	<b>14.295,9</b>	<b>18.263,7</b>	<b>-21,7</b>

In March 2008, Building Activity (private-public) in country total summed up to 3.962 building permits, which relate to 947,8 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 3.552,6 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of building volume, as compared to 7.420 building permits, 1.905,2 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 7.247,7 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume of March 2007.

Therefore in March 2008 there was an annual decrease of 46,6% in the number of building permits, 50,3% in surface and 51,0% in volume.

The Public Building Activity in country total has come up to 24 building permits, which relate to 10,8 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 39,4 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume, as compared to 48 building permits, 27,0 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 110,1 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume, of March 2007. The percentage contribution of Public Building Activity in the total building activity volume, in March 2008 is 1,1%.

**Table 2. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region  
March 2008 και 2007**

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousands of m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousands of m <sup>3</sup> )		
	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007
E. Macedonia and Thraki	201	391	-48,6	50,7	104,3	-51,3	197,1	403,8	-51,2
Central Macedonia	524	966	-45,8	156,3	342,4	-54,4	749,3	1.452,1	-48,4
Western Macedonia	67	100	-33,0	19,8	31,0	-36,1	60,9	101,9	-40,2
Thessalia	202	479	-57,8	57,9	129,7	-55,3	209,8	475,2	-55,8
Ipiros	143	232	-38,4	43,2	65,9	-34,4	147,3	229,1	-35,7
Ionian Islands	187	311	-39,9	38,0	63,9	-40,6	125,9	213,3	-41,0
Western Greece	255	466	-45,3	57,4	104,7	-45,2	192,5	384,2	-49,9
Central Greece	300	613	-51,1	81,9	144,6	-43,4	361,5	536,5	-32,6
Peloponnisos	310	678	-54,3	68,3	163,8	-58,3	229,2	546,6	-58,1
Attiki	1145	2205	-48,1	224,9	485,3	-53,7	753,7	1.905,6	-60,4
Northern Egeo	109	205	-46,8	19,4	31,6	-38,5	75,2	114,4	-34,2
Southern Egeo	235	334	-29,6	51,0	78,5	-35,1	157,5	282,6	-44,3
Kriti	284	440	-35,5	78,9	159,4	-50,5	292,6	602,5	-51,4
<b>Country Total</b>	<b>3.962</b>	<b>7.420</b>	<b>-46,6</b>	<b>947,8</b>	<b>1.905,2</b>	<b>-50,3</b>	<b>3.552,6</b>	<b>7.247,7</b>	<b>-51,0</b>

### DECREASE OF THE PRIVATE BUILDING ACTIVITY DURING JANUARY - MARCH 2008

During the period January-March 2008, in Private Building Activity, in country total, there was a decrease of 26,3% in the number of building permits, 22,1% in surface and 21,7% in volume as compared to the same period of 2007.

In Attiki the building activity volume in January-March 2008, has come up to 3.204,6 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, as compared to 5.016,9 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of 2007 (decrease 36,1%).

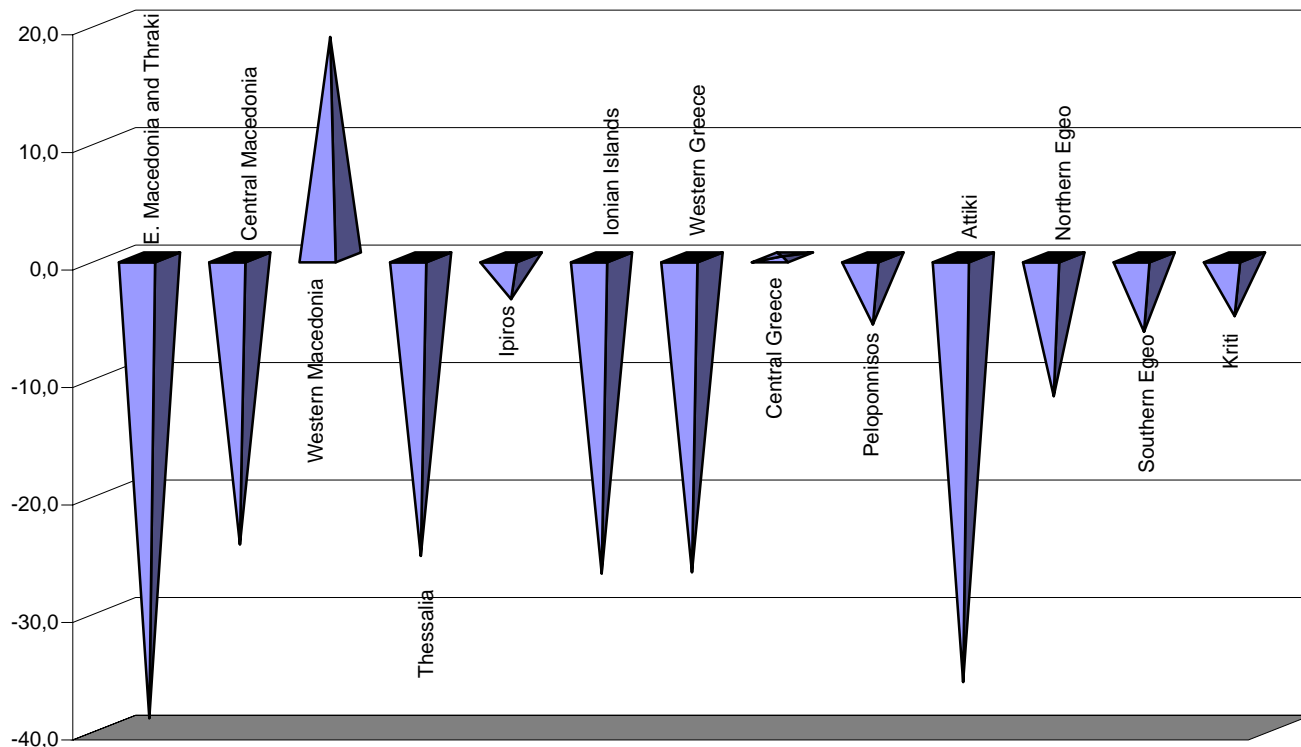
For the rest of the country the building volume has come up to 10.857,6 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, as compared to 12.951,9 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, of the same period of 2007 (decrease 16,2%).

The biggest decrease was observed in the Regions of E.Macedonia and Thraki (39,2%) and follow the Regions of Attiki (36,1%), Ionian Island (26,9%), Western Greece (26,8%), Thessalia (25,4%) and Central Macedonia (24,4%).

**Table 3. Private Building Activity by Region**  
**January - March 2008 και 2007**

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousands of m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousands of m <sup>3</sup> )		
	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007
E. Macedonia and Thraki	625	924	-32,4	140,0	233,2	-40,0	527,4	867,3	-39,2
Central Macedonia	1.856	2.420	-23,3	607,8	800,8	-24,1	2.592,3	3.428,7	-24,4
Western Macedonia	205	270	-24,1	69,3	68,9	0,6	267,3	225,1	18,8
Thessalia	767	1.155	-33,6	226,1	307,6	-26,5	860,9	1.154,0	-25,4
Ipiros	468	557	-16,0	138,5	150,5	-8,0	509,6	528,3	-3,5
Ionian Islands	580	733	-20,9	116,6	152,6	-23,6	398,3	544,8	-26,9
Western Greece	947	1.252	-24,4	216,3	279,5	-22,6	753,0	1.028,5	-26,8
Central Greece	977	1.443	-32,3	278,5	368,2	-24,4	1.424,3	1.422,9	0,1
Peloponnisos	1.165	1.582	-26,4	358,8	382,8	-6,3	1.251,0	1.326,4	-5,7
Attiki	4.109	6.230	-34,0	911,5	1.348,0	-32,4	3.204,6	5.016,9	-36,1
Northern Egeio	455	529	-14,0	73,1	88,2	-17,2	279,5	316,9	-11,8
Southern Egeio	849	850	-0,1	201,2	204,7	-1,7	682,4	728,6	-6,3
Kriti	1.094	1.195	-8,5	371,6	378,8	-1,9	1.311,5	1.380,4	-5,0
<b>Country Total</b>	<b>14.097</b>	<b>19.140</b>	<b>-26,3</b>	<b>3.709,2</b>	<b>4.763,8</b>	<b>-22,1</b>	<b>14.062,2</b>	<b>17.968,8</b>	<b>-21,7</b>

**Private Building Activity by Region**  
**January - March 2008 and 2007**  
**% of change of building volume**



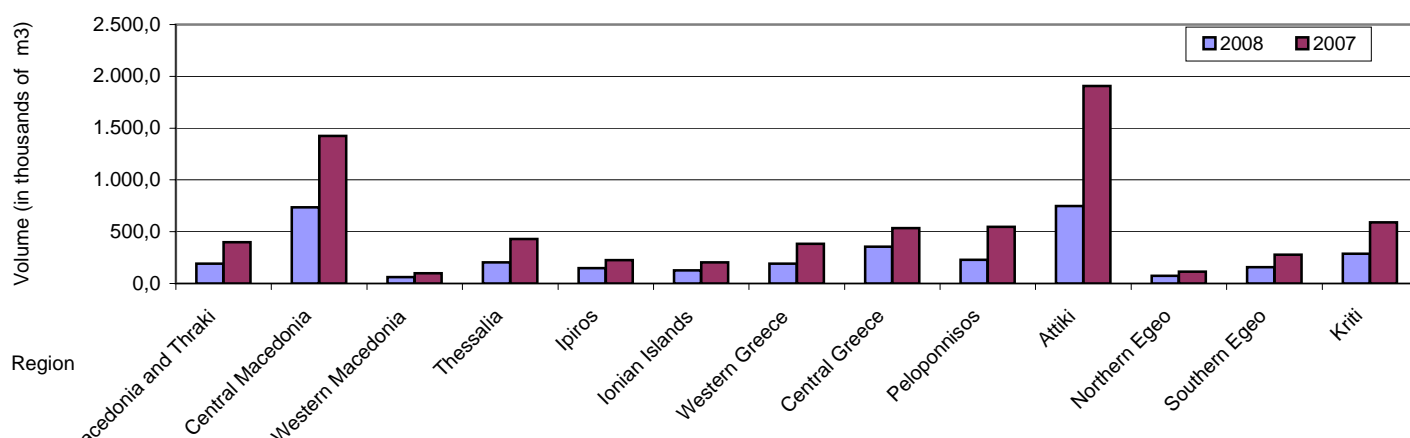
In March 2008 the Private Building Activity in country total summed up to 3.938 building permits, which relate to 937,0 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 3.513,2 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of building volume, as compared to 7.372 building permits, 1.878,2 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 7.137,6 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume of March 2007.

There was an annual decrease of 46,6% in the number of building permits, 50,1% in surface and 50,8% in volume.

**Table 4. Private Building Activity by Region  
March 2008 and 2007**

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousands of m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousands of m <sup>3</sup> )		
	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007	2008	2007	Change (%) 2008/2007
E. Macedonia and Thraki	195	388	-49,7	50,1	103,5	-51,6	192,8	398,4	-51,6
Central Macedonia	520	956	-45,6	152,2	335,1	-54,6	735,7	1.424,0	-48,3
Western Macedonia	66	98	-32,7	19,8	30,4	-34,9	60,8	100,0	-39,3
Thessalia	198	468	-57,7	56,6	120,1	-52,9	205,1	431,0	-52,4
Ipiros	143	227	-37,0	43,2	65,1	-33,6	147,3	226,8	-35,0
Ionian Islands	187	307	-39,1	38,0	61,2	-37,9	125,9	204,1	-38,3
Western Greece	254	466	-45,5	57,0	104,7	-45,6	190,8	384,2	-50,3
Central Greece	299	612	-51,1	80,2	144,5	-44,5	356,6	536,1	-33,5
Peloponnisos	310	675	-54,1	68,3	163,6	-58,2	229,2	545,8	-58,0
Attiki	1.142	2.203	-48,2	223,9	485,3	-53,9	749,3	1.905,6	-60,7
Northern Egeio	109	204	-46,6	19,4	31,4	-38,2	75,2	113,6	-33,8
Southern Egeio	233	332	-29,8	51,0	76,9	-33,7	157,5	277,9	-43,3
Kriti	282	436	-35,3	77,4	156,3	-50,5	287,0	590,2	-51,4
<b>Country Total</b>	<b>3.938</b>	<b>7.372</b>	<b>-46,6</b>	<b>937,0</b>	<b>1.878,2</b>	<b>-50,1</b>	<b>3.513,2</b>	<b>7.137,6</b>	<b>-50,8</b>

**Private Building Activity by Region  
March 2008 and 2007**



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

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

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

The legal basis of the survey is :- L. 2396/96 (concerning the access of the General Secretary of 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:

- EU Regulation 1165/98 (concerning short-term statistics)
- EU Regulation 1158/2005 (amending EU Regulation 1165/98).

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