



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE



GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF  
THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE  
OF GREECE

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# PRESS RELEASE

## BUILDING ACTIVITY

FEBRUARY 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 February 2009.

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

During the period January - February 2009, the magnitude of the total Building Activity (private-public), in the whole Country, measured on the basis of building permits issued, amounted to 8.343 building permits, which correspond to 1.904,6 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 7.557,3 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume, as compared to 10.254 building permits that were issued during the same period of 2008 and corresponded to 2.813,1 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 10.743,3 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume.

Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 18,6%, in surface by 32,3% and in volume by 29,7%.

The percentage contribution of the Public Building Activity in the total building volume, for the above period of 2009, is 3,8%.

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

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume (in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	January-February		Rate of change (%)	January-February		Rate of change (%)	January-February		Rate of change (%)
	2008	2009		2008	2009		2008	2009	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	442	459	3,8	103,9	107,2	3,2	418,5	400,6	-4,3
Central Makedonia	1.355	1.054	-22,2	465,2	277,5	-40,3	1.893,6	1.414,1	-25,3
Western Makedonia	140	138	-1,4	50,0	28,1	-43,8	207,5	101,4	-51,1
Thessalia	600	464	-22,7	172,4	120,2	-30,3	668,7	429,8	-35,7
Ipiros	326	272	-16,6	95,2	75,5	-20,7	362,3	275,3	-24,0
Ionian Islands	396	267	-32,6	80,3	45,4	-43,5	282,1	156,7	-44,4
Western Greece	697	626	-10,2	160,3	174,9	9,1	566,2	703,0	24,2
Central Greece	680	669	-1,6	198,9	145,8	-26,7	1.070,2	748,6	-30,1
Peloponnissos	862	647	-24,9	291,8	151,5	-48,1	1.027,3	530,0	-48,4
Attiki	2.978	2.445	-17,9	689,4	487,0	-29,4	2.461,2	1.782,9	-27,6
Northern Egeo	348	244	-29,9	60,9	25,0	-59,0	234,9	87,2	-62,9
Southern Egeo	616	502	-18,5	150,2	93,6	-37,7	524,9	320,0	-39,0
Kriti	814	556	-31,7	294,5	173,0	-41,3	1.026,0	607,6	-40,8
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>10.254</b>	<b>8.343</b>	<b>-18,6</b>	<b>2.813,1</b>	<b>1.904,6</b>	<b>-32,3</b>	<b>10.743,3</b>	<b>7.557,3</b>	<b>-29,7</b>

In February 2009 the magnitude of the total Building Activity (private-public), in the whole Country, amounted to 4.508 building permits, which correspond to 1.064,1 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 4.255,8 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume, as compared to 5.308 building permits that were issued during the same month of 2008 and corresponded to, 1.495,3 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 5.786,0 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 15,1%, in surface by 28,8% and in volume by 26,4%.

The magnitude of the Public Building Activity in February 2009, in the whole Country, amounted to 46 building permits, which correspond to 53,6 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 233,9 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume, as compared to 56 building permits that were issued during the same month of 2008 and corresponded to 25,9 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 118,8 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume. The percentage contribution of the Public Building Activity in the total building activity, in February 2009, is 5,5%.

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

Region	Number of building permits			Surface ( in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume ( in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	February		Rate of change (%)	February		Rate of change (%)	February		Rate of change (%)
	2008	2009		2008	2009		2008	2009	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	249	253	1,6	60,0	56,0	-6,8	239,6	213,9	-10,8
Central Makedonia	705	561	-20,4	204,9	132,1	-35,5	812,7	576,4	-29,1
Western Makedonia	70	76	8,6	20,0	17,0	-15,1	74,6	66,7	-10,5
Thessalia	315	255	-19,0	99,1	70,7	-28,7	404,8	244,6	-39,6
Ipiros	175	155	-11,4	49,6	44,9	-9,5	180,1	155,4	-13,7
Ionian Islands	208	154	-26,0	46,8	26,8	-42,8	161,5	93,6	-42,0
Western Greece	389	329	-15,4	87,3	112,4	28,8	314,9	489,8	55,5
Central Greece	343	358	4,4	108,0	83,3	-22,9	609,0	505,5	-17,0
Peloponnissos	440	332	-24,5	187,6	82,2	-56,2	678,5	290,9	-57,1
Attiki	1473	1348	-8,5	366,3	289,1	-21,1	1.386,2	1.107,5	-20,1
Northern Egeo	152	133	-12,5	29,9	13,1	-56,1	112,4	46,4	-58,7
Southern Egeo	352	279	-20,7	75,2	49,3	-34,4	264,2	167,6	-36,6
Kriti	437	275	-37,1	160,6	87,1	-45,8	547,4	297,5	-45,7
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>5.308</b>	<b>4.508</b>	<b>-15,1</b>	<b>1.495,3</b>	<b>1.064,1</b>	<b>-28,8</b>	<b>5.786,0</b>	<b>4.255,8</b>	<b>-26,4</b>

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

As concerns the Private Building Activity in the whole Country, during the period January - February 2009, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 18,6%, in surface by 33,7% and in volume by 31,1%, as compared to the same period of 2008.

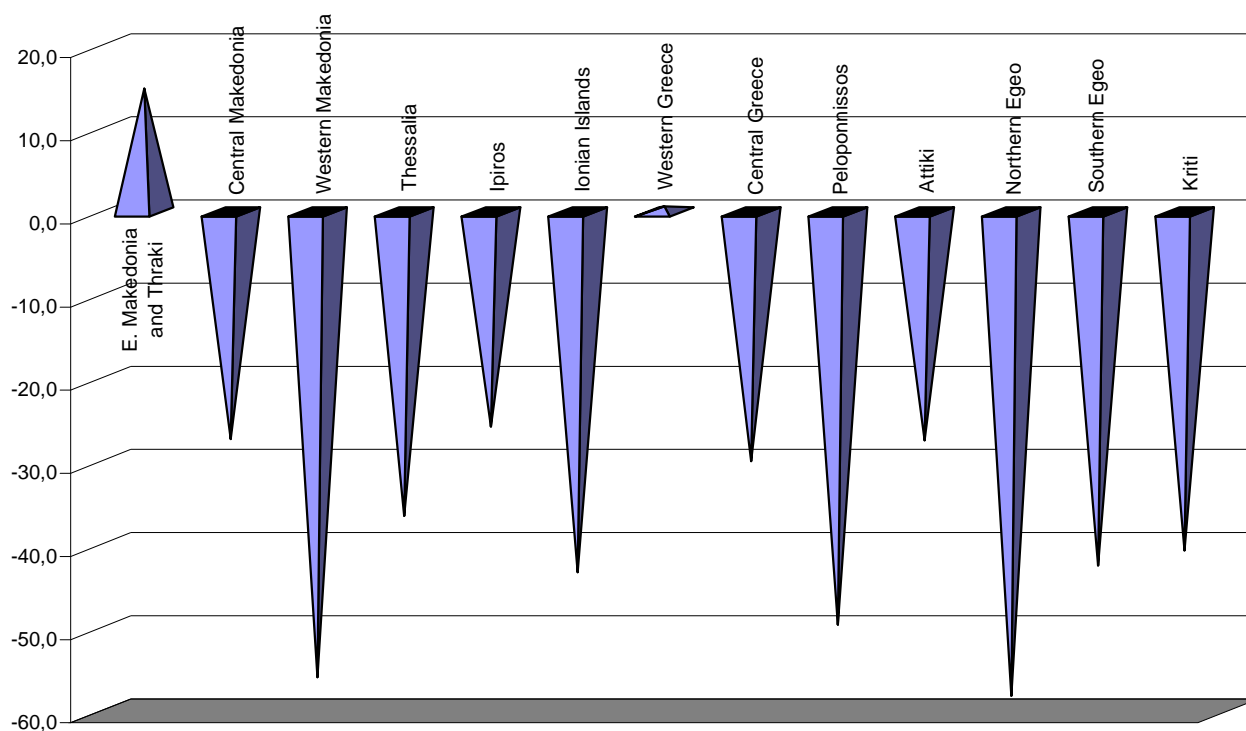
The building volume in the region of Attiki, during January - February 2009, has come up to 1.781,2 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, as compared to 2.455,2 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, of the same period of 2008 (decrease by 27,5%).

The building volume in rest of the Country, during January - February 2009, has come up to 5.486,8 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, as compared to 8.093,7 thousand m<sup>3</sup>, of the same period of 2008 (decrease by 32,2%).

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

Region	Number of building permits			Surface ( in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume ( in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	January-February		Rate of change (%)	January-February		Rate of change (%)	January-February		Rate of change (%)
	2008	2009		2008	2009		2008	2009	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	430	454	5,6	89,9	103,8	15,4	334,6	384,3	14,8
Central Makedonia	1.336	1.029	-23,0	455,7	264,9	-41,9	1.856,6	1.349,2	-27,3
Western Makedonia	139	134	-3,6	49,5	25,1	-49,3	206,5	91,0	-56,0
Thessalia	569	454	-20,2	169,5	116,8	-31,1	655,8	416,1	-36,5
Ipiros	325	269	-17,2	95,2	74,1	-22,2	362,3	268,7	-25,8
Ionian Islands	393	265	-32,6	78,6	45,0	-42,7	272,4	154,3	-43,3
Western Greece	693	622	-10,2	159,3	141,8	-11,0	562,2	566,1	0,7
Central Greece	678	668	-1,5	198,3	145,5	-26,6	1.067,8	747,7	-30,0
Peloponnissos	855	639	-25,3	290,4	147,8	-49,1	1.021,8	514,7	-49,6
Attiki	2.967	2.442	-17,7	687,6	486,6	-29,2	2.455,2	1.781,2	-27,5
Northern Egeio	346	237	-31,5	53,7	24,4	-54,5	204,3	85,4	-58,2
Southern Egeio	616	498	-19,2	150,2	88,3	-41,2	524,9	301,7	-42,5
Kriti	812	556	-31,5	294,3	173,0	-41,2	1.024,5	607,6	-40,7
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>10.159</b>	<b>8.267</b>	<b>-18,6</b>	<b>2.772,2</b>	<b>1.837,1</b>	<b>-33,7</b>	<b>10.548,9</b>	<b>7.268,0</b>	<b>-31,1</b>

**Private Building Activity by Region**  
Rate of change (%) of building volume, by Region, for the period January - February, between 2008 and 2009

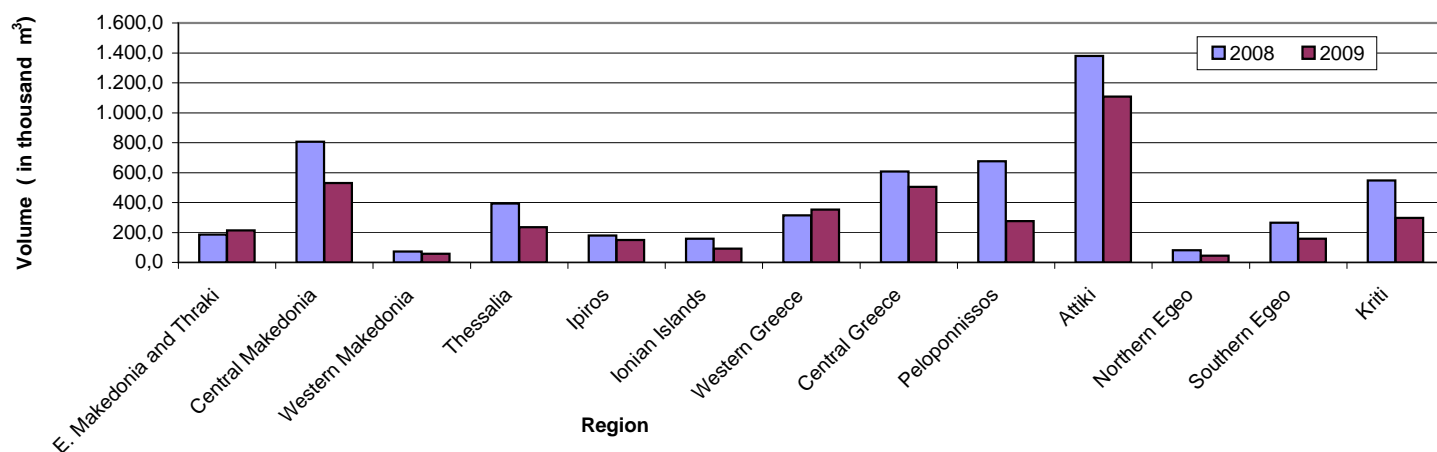


In February 2009 the magnitude of the Private Building Activity, in the whole Country, amounted to 4.462 building permits, which correspond to 1.010,4 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 4.021,9 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume, as compared to 5.252 building permits that were issued during February 2008 and corresponded to 1.469,4 thousand m<sup>2</sup> of surface and 5.667,2 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 15%, in surface by 31,2% and in volume by 29%.

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

Region	Number of building permits			Surface ( in thousand m <sup>2</sup> )			Volume ( in thousand m <sup>3</sup> )		
	February		Rate of change (%)	February		Rate of change (%)	February		Rate of change (%)
	2008	2009		2008	2009		2008	2009	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	241	252	4,6	49,1	56,0	14,0	185,1	213,9	15,5
Central Makedonia	698	544	-22,1	204,0	123,8	-39,3	807,0	529,6	-34,4
Western Makedonia	69	73	5,8	19,5	15,0	-23,2	73,6	58,5	-20,5
Thessalia	288	249	-13,5	96,6	68,7	-28,9	392,9	236,0	-39,9
Ipiros	175	152	-13,1	49,6	43,5	-12,3	180,1	148,8	-17,4
Ionian Islands	206	153	-25,7	46,2	26,5	-42,6	158,2	91,8	-41,9
Western Greece	387	325	-16,0	86,9	79,3	-8,7	313,4	352,8	12,6
Central Greece	342	357	4,4	107,4	83,1	-22,7	606,6	504,6	-16,8
Peloponnissos	437	330	-24,5	187,1	78,9	-57,9	676,5	276,8	-59,1
Attiki	1.470	1.347	-8,4	364,5	289,1	-20,7	1.380,3	1.107,5	-19,8
Northern Egeio	150	127	-15,3	22,7	12,7	-44,1	81,8	44,9	-45,1
Southern Egeio	352	278	-21,0	75,2	46,7	-37,8	264,2	159,2	-39,8
Kriti	437	275	-37,1	160,6	87,1	-45,8	547,4	297,5	-45,7
<b>Greece, Total</b>	<b>5.252</b>	<b>4.462</b>	<b>-15,0</b>	<b>1.469,4</b>	<b>1.010,4</b>	<b>-31,2</b>	<b>5.667,2</b>	<b>4.021,9</b>	<b>-29,0</b>

**Private Building Activity, by Region, for the month of February 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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