



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY**

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PRESS RELEASE

Decrease in the volume of Total building Activity by 35,0 %

Survey of Building Activity :

March 2010

According to provisional data published by the Hellenic Statistical Authority, in March 2010 total Building Activity (private-public), in the whole country, which is calculated by the number of building permits, amounted to 4.896. This figure corresponds to 846,8 thousand m² of surface and 2.978,6 thousand m³ of volume, which shows a slight increase of 3,8%, in the number of building permits, and a decrease of 29,7% in surface and 35,0% in volume as compared to the same month in 2009 (Table 1).

Private Building Activity, in the whole country, summed to 4.856 building permits, which correspond to 817,8 thousand m² of surface and 2.853,1 thousand m³ of volume. As compared to the same month of 2009 (Table 2), there is an increase in the number of building permits by 3,6% and a decrease in surface by 30,5% and in volume by 36,3% respectively (Table 2).

Public Building Activity in the whole country in March 2010, amounted to 40 building permits, which corresponds to 28,9 thousand m² of surface and 125,6 thousand m³ of volume. The contribution of Public Building Activity in the total building activity, in March 2010, is 4,2%.

In the last twelve months, from April 2009 until March 2010, the volume of total Building Activity (Private and Public) in Country Total, measured by the number of issued building permits amounted to 55,833. This figure corresponds to 12,642.2 thousands m² of surface and 46,622.8 thousands m³ in volume, which shows a decrease of 13.2 % in the number of building permits, 22.5% in surface and 26.8% in volume compared to the respective period April 2008 - March 2009 (Table 3).

In the same period from April 2009 to March 2010, Private Building Activity shows in Country Total, a reduction by 13,3% in the number of issued building permits, 23,3% in surface and 28,0% in volume in the whole Country, compared to the respective period April 2008 - March 2009 (Table 4). The contribution of Public Building Activity in the total building volume, for the same period, is 3,7%.

During the period January-March 2010, the total Building Activity (private-public) in the whole country, indicated a decrease of 2,8% in the number of building permits, 12,2% in surface and 20,9% in volume (Table 6).

Please, note that the applications and issuing of building permits are affected by amendments to the legislation regarding the building terms and conditions and to the General Building Code.

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Table 1. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, on March 2009 and 2010 *

Region	Number of building permits**			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	March		Change (%)	March		Change (%)	March		Change (%)
	2009	2010		2009	2010		2009	2010	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	249	213	-14,5	55,6	52,9	-4,9	219,7	193,4	-12,0
Central Makedonia	642	570	-11,2	172,2	96,3	-44,1	711,0	372,5	-47,6
Western Makedonia	82	83	1,2	18,1	27,4	51,5	59,6	104,5	75,5
Thessalia	314	313	-0,3	91,6	58,7	-35,9	343,0	214,4	-37,5
Ipiros	190	171	-10,0	45,1	38,4	-14,9	173,9	129,1	-25,7
Ionian Islands	160	180	12,5	26,4	32,2	22,1	89,7	110,8	23,6
Western Greece	332	438	31,9	66,8	87,6	31,2	244,8	310,6	26,8
Central Greece	321	427	33,0	74,2	75,7	2,0	259,6	250,4	-3,5
Peloponissos	393	548	39,4	136,1	74,8	-45,0	452,9	245,3	-45,8
Attiki	1.386	1.249	-9,9	365,7	169,1	-53,8	1.453,2	565,8	-61,1
North Egeo	128	115	-10,2	22,6	16,8	-25,5	71,3	59,1	-17,1
South Egeo	181	268	48,1	35,6	34,8	-2,4	118,6	128,0	7,9
Kriti	341	321	-5,9	94,1	81,9	-13,0	387,5	294,6	-24,0
Greece, Total	4.719	4.896	3,8	1.204,2	846,8	-29,7	4.584,9	2.978,6	-35,0

* Provisional data

** The issuing of building permits corresponds not only to new building construction but to building repair, renovation, demolition or amendment as well, so there is not necessarily implies the creation of surface and volume elements.

Table 2. Private Building Activity, by Region, on March 2009 and 2010*

Region	Number of building permits**			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	March		Change (%)	March		Change (%)	March		Change (%)
	2009	2010		2009	2010		2009	2010	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	248	204	-17,7	55,6	35,1	-36,8	219,7	116,1	-47,2
Central Makedonia	631	557	-11,7	161,3	94,4	-41,5	661,5	364,8	-44,8
Western Makedonia	78	82	5,1	17,5	26,9	53,9	57,5	103,0	79,3
Thessalia	310	308	-0,6	80,1	53,8	-32,8	306,3	190,8	-37,7
Ipiros	187	171	-8,6	43,5	38,4	-11,8	167,1	129,1	-22,7
Ionian Islands	159	180	13,2	25,4	32,2	26,9	86,0	110,8	28,8
Western Greece	330	436	32,1	66,8	86,4	29,4	244,8	304,8	24,5
Central Greece	320	427	33,4	72,9	75,7	3,9	253,3	250,4	-1,1
Peloponissos	389	544	39,8	135,0	74,0	-45,2	448,7	242,4	-46,0
Attiki	1.385	1.249	-9,8	365,7	169,1	-53,7	1.453,2	565,8	-61,1
North Egeo	128	115	-10,2	22,6	16,8	-25,5	71,3	59,1	-17,1
South Egeo	181	268	48,1	35,6	34,8	-2,4	118,6	128,0	7,9
Kriti	340	315	-7,4	94,1	80,2	-14,9	387,5	287,7	-25,8
Greece, Total	4.686	4.856	3,6	1.176,1	817,8	-30,5	4.475,7	2.853,1	-36,3

* Provisional data

** The issuing of building permits corresponds not only to new building construction but to building repair, renovation, demolition or amendment as well, so there is not necessarily implies the creation of surface and volume elements.

Table 3. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the period April 2008 - March 2009 and April 2009 - March 2010 *

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	April-March		Change (%)	April-March		Change (%)	April-March		Change (%)
	2008 -2009	2009 - 2010		2008 -2009	2009 - 2010		2008 -2009	2009 - 2010	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	3.255	2.871	-11,8	796,7	648,1	-18,7	3.062,1	2.353,0	-23,2
Central Makedonia	8.512	7.170	-15,8	2.658,0	1.866,2	-29,8	12.021,1	7.423,5	-38,2
Western Makedonia	1.221	1.036	-15,2	393,2	282,4	-28,2	1.628,0	1.146,8	-29,6
Thessalia	4.026	3.335	-17,2	1.189,9	804,3	-32,4	4.615,1	2.996,6	-35,1
Ipiros	2.222	2.033	-8,5	603,9	624,5	3,4	2.270,7	2.324,8	2,4
Ionian Islands	2.395	2.066	-13,7	472,1	373,0	-21,0	1.580,6	1.314,2	-16,9
Western Greece	4.439	4.433	-0,1	1.161,9	884,7	-23,9	4.614,3	3.181,1	-31,1
Central Greece	4.874	4.296	-11,9	1.115,4	1.027,9	-7,8	4.717,4	4.030,6	-14,6
Peloponissos	5.353	4.803	-10,3	1.378,6	1.004,1	-27,2	5.004,2	3.537,7	-29,3
Attiki	18.259	15.206	-16,7	4.097,5	3.229,1	-21,2	15.486,0	11.679,7	-24,6
North Egeo	1.818	1.591	-12,5	288,6	224,2	-22,3	1.011,2	746,1	-26,2
South Egeo	3.724	3.451	-7,3	808,1	607,3	-24,8	2.803,5	1.997,7	-28,7
Kriti	4.222	3.542	-16,1	1.345,7	1.066,6	-20,7	4.911,6	3.891,2	-20,8
Greece, Total	64.320	55.833	-13,2	16.309,5	12.642,2	-22,5	63.725,8	46.622,8	-26,8

* Provisional data

Table 4. Private Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the period April 2008 - March 2009 and April 2009 - March 2010 *

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	April-March		Change (%)	April-March		Change (%)	April-March		Change (%)
	2008 -2009	2009 - 2010		2008 -2009	2009 - 2010		2008 -2009	2009 - 2010	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	3.217	2.800	-13,0	784,8	595,3	-24,1	3.011,8	2.135,4	-29,1
Central Makedonia	8.371	7.037	-15,9	2.571,9	1.780,8	-30,8	11.687,9	7.054,0	-39,6
Western Makedonia	1.195	1.008	-15,6	381,2	256,3	-32,8	1.562,8	1.013,5	-35,1
Thessalia	3.922	3.299	-15,9	1.131,9	775,4	-31,5	4.348,1	2.857,2	-34,3
Ipiros	2.196	1.999	-9,0	588,1	598,4	1,7	2.207,9	2.221,2	0,6
Ionian Islands	2.385	2.050	-14,0	469,6	370,3	-21,1	1.570,6	1.304,3	-17,0
Western Greece	4.419	4.403	-0,4	1.112,7	870,8	-21,7	4.404,1	3.115,7	-29,3
Central Greece	4.854	4.249	-12,5	1.092,1	963,1	-11,8	4.584,1	3.671,5	-19,9
Peloponissos	5.312	4.761	-10,4	1.359,5	986,7	-27,4	4.930,4	3.472,5	-29,6
Attiki	18.231	15.186	-16,7	4.074,5	3.210,6	-21,2	15.389,8	11.594,2	-24,7
North Egeo	1.807	1.578	-12,7	286,8	224,1	-21,9	1.003,1	745,8	-25,6
South Egeo	3.711	3.443	-7,2	798,5	603,2	-24,5	2.765,4	1.980,3	-28,4
Kriti	4.202	3.505	-16,6	1.330,0	1.029,1	-22,6	4.841,4	3.723,3	-23,1
Greece, Total	63.822	55.318	-13,3	15.981,6	12.264,2	-23,3	62.307,5	44.888,9	-28,0

* Provisional data

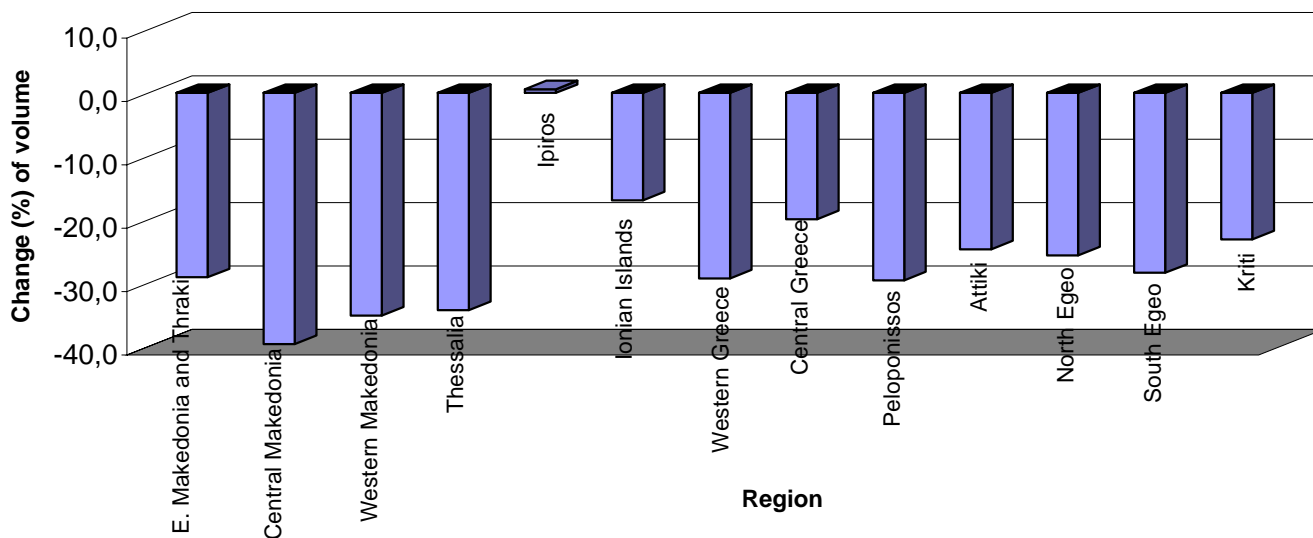
Table 5. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the period January- March in 2009 and 2010 *

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January-March		Change (%)	January-March		Change (%)	January-March		Change (%)
	2009	2010		2009	2010		2009	2010	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	708	621	-12,3	162	166	2,6	616	611	-0,8
Central Makedonia	1.696	1.523	-10,2	465	393	-15,5	2.375	1.422	-40,1
Western Makedonia	220	201	-8,6	46	57	24,6	160	236	47,6
Thessalia	778	786	1,0	215	187	-13,1	771	682	-11,6
Ipiros	462	455	-1,5	121	96	-20,5	445	327	-26,5
Ionian Islands	427	456	6,8	72	86	19,1	246	302	22,5
Western Greece	958	964	0,6	254	197	-22,2	1.026	689	-32,9
Central Greece	990	913	-7,8	211	189	-10,2	954	666	-30,3
Peloponissos	1.040	1.201	15,5	285	243	-14,6	984	838	-14,9
Attiki	3.831	3.690	-3,7	867	732	-15,6	3.269	2.533	-22,5
North Egeo	372	394	5,9	49	59	22,0	158	198	25,4
South Egeo	683	751	10,0	132	130	-1,1	444	416	-6,3
Kriti	897	735	-18,1	276	233	-15,5	1.009	940	-6,9
Greece, Total	13.062	12.690	-2,8	3.154,8	2.770,4	-12,2	12.458,7	9.858,7	-20,9

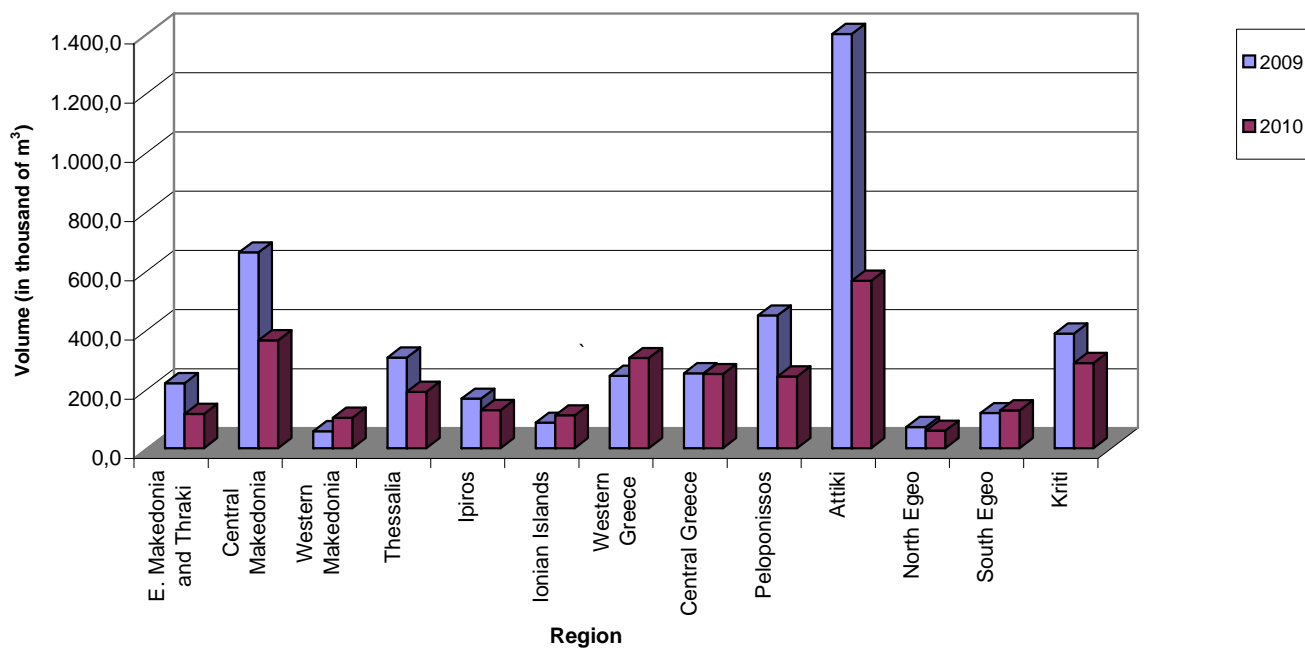
Table 6. Private Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the period January- March in 2009 and 2010 *

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January-March		Change (%)	January-March		Change (%)	January-March		Change (%)
	2009	2010		2009	2010		2009	2010	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	702	604	-14,0	158	141	-10,9	599	507	-15,4
Central Makedonia	1.660	1.495	-9,9	436	389	-10,8	2.240	1.408	-37,1
Western Makedonia	212	198	-6,6	42	54	29,1	147	227	54,0
Thessalia	764	777	1,7	200	180	-10,3	721	650	-9,8
Ipiros	456	448	-1,8	119	94	-21,2	437	316	-27,7
Ionian Islands	424	454	7,1	71	86	20,8	240	300	24,9
Western Greece	952	958	0,6	221	194	-12,0	890	676	-24,1
Central Greece	988	911	-7,8	206	189	-8,0	927	665	-28,3
Peloponissos	1.028	1.194	16,1	280	242	-13,8	966	833	-13,8
Attiki	3.827	3.686	-3,7	867	725	-16,4	3.268	2.513	-23,1
North Egeo	365	391	7,1	49	59	22,0	158	198	25,4
South Egeo	679	750	10,5	129	130	1,0	434	415	-4,3
Kriti	896	726	-19,0	276	224	-18,8	1.009	897	-11,1
Greece, Total	12.953	12.592	-2,8	3.054,8	2.708,3	-11,3	12.035,2	9.604,5	-20,2

Graph 1. Private Building activity. Change (%) of building volume, by Region, for the period April 2008-March 2009 and April 2009-March 2010



Graph 2. Private Building Activity, by Region, March 2009 and 2010



EXPLANATORY NOTES

Building Activity Survey	The Building Activity Survey provides data on monthly and yearly basis, since 1964. The purpose of this survey is to register the total amount of building permits issued by the relevant 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 complementary areas, as well as building usage, surface, volume and value.
Legal Framework	The survey is totally harmonized with the European legislation. The primary legislative act is Regulation (EU) 1165/1998, as it was amended according to Regulation (EU) 1158/2005.
Reference Period	01/3/2010 to 31/3/2010
Coverage	The survey is exhaustive and covers the total amount of issued building permits across the country.
Definitions	<p>Building Permit refers to all types of building permits. These are permits for new building or addition, repair, renovation, demolition, legalization, amendment and modification of a building.</p> <p>The denotation of built-property is equal to the building.</p> <p>Building is regarded as every permanent and independent structure, which has walls and a roof and consists of one or more rooms and complementary areas. As a rule, buildings feature four walls. However, a construction that is open from one or even two sides will be considered a building, as long as it has a roof.</p> <p>New building is any built-property raised on an uncovered site or in place of an old building that was demolished.</p> <p>Building Addition is considered to be every construction that adds building volume (space) to an existing building, be it in surface, height or a combination of both and creates a residence, a shop or both.</p> <p>Building volume (the net 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.</p> <p>Surface of new-built property is considered to be the sum of each floor space along with the outer space of the outer walls.</p>
General Remark	Any delineation that may occur between the sum of sub totals and the totals is due to rounding
References	More information (tables, questionnaires, methodology) with regards to the Building Activity Survey can be found in EL.STAT's web-site: www.statistics.gr , under the links: Statistical Themes à Building and Constructions à Building Activity or Constructions.